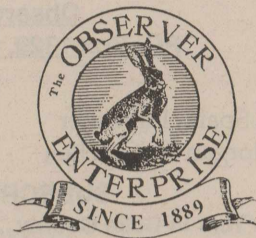


THE OBSERVER/ ENTERPRISE

Serving Coke County

(USPS 467-480)
(ISSN 8750-197X)

Vol. 113, No. 16

Friday, November 10, 2000

Early voting sets record for Coke County

The November General Election held Tuesday, November 7, 2000, set a new record in Coke County for the turnout in early voting. A total of 539 voters in Coke County cast their ballots during the early voting period. Coke County also enjoyed a majority turnout overall with 61% or 1,538 of the 2,518 registered voters going to the polls.

Unlike the voters in other states in the nation, Texas voters (including those in Coke County) had no problem casting their ballots to elect Governor George W. Bush as our 43rd President of the United States. The Bush/Cheney ticket picked up 1,137 votes in Coke County. Al Gore and Joe Lieberman received 365 votes, with Ralph Nader and Winona LaDuke receiving 14 votes, Harry Browne and Art Olivier receiving 5 votes, and Pat Buchanan and E. Foster receiving 3 votes. However, as of presstime, Gore was leading both the popular and the Electoral College vote with the result hinging upon the final calculations from Florida where Bush appears to have a narrow lead. Due to

an automatic recount law in Florida, national results are still too close to call on this crucial election.

Coke County voters agreed with the rest of the state and returned Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison to office with 1,104 votes. Gene Kelly received 320 votes, with Mary J. Ruwart receiving 22 votes and Douglas S. Sandage receiving 13 votes.

It was the same story with the United States Representative from District 17, Charles Stenholm. He received 1,004 votes in Coke County to 420 for Darrell Clements, 35 for Debra M. Monde and 2 for Pete Julia.

Coke County helped return State Representative Rob Junell to Austin with 1,127 votes to Betsy Johnson's 318.

The candidates for local office were all running unopposed. The totals for these officials include: County Attorney Nancy Firebaugh Arthur, 1,041; Sheriff Rick Styles, 1,160; Tax Assessor/Collector Kristeen Roe, 1,157; Commissioner, Precinct 1, Paul Burns, 283; Commissioner, Precinct 3,

Gaylon Pitcock, 254; Constable, Precinct 1, Kenneth Rasco, 607; and Constable, Precinct 2, Russell Johnson, 517.

Coke County hosts hunters

The general deer season began bright and early Saturday morning in Coke County, as well as the rest of the state. In spite of the severe drought, hunters were not disappointed. According to Kerry Hall of B&K Processing at Bronte, the deer brought in over the weekend were in "great shape", with a good amount of body fat. As to horn size and diameter, Hall related that he couldn't see a difference between this year and previous years, and stated that this first group of deer brought in on opening weekend had for the most part "normal horn development". As to numbers, Hall stated that they had checked in over 200 deer over the weekend, nearly as many as were checked in the first weekend of last year.

Bronte started off the free hunter barbecues in Coke County with a barbecue sandwich lunch on Saturday. The menu included deer barbecue sandwiches, smoked sausages, beans, and soft drinks. A total of between 400 and 500 hungry hunters went through the serving line at this year's barbecue.

West Coke County Community Development followed suit on Saturday evening with its 12th annual Hunter Appreciation Barbecue, complete with barbecue brisket and sausage, beans, potato salad, dessert, iced tea, and all the fixins. Just short of one thousand hunters went through the feeding line at this year's event, making it another very successful year. That is especially gratifying to all the volunteer cooks, meat cutters, servers, and WCCCD members, as it is the first year for the annual feed since the death of event organizer Bob Wrinkle. WCCCD members were in hopes that the community would respond to the challenge of putting on this great activity minus the leadership of Wrinkle. Gaylon Pitcock took on the task of directing this year's barbecue,



First Baptist Church in Bronte honored Dale and Ida Lee Ellis with an appreciation luncheon Sunday, October 29. Dale has served as music director there for thirty-two years. The couple was presented with symphony tickets as a token of appreciation for their many years of faithful service.

and the community has responded with their support and hard work. If community support is any indication, this annual event will be around for many years to come.

Clinic flu shots postponed

Due to an inability to receive flu vaccine, the Bronte Family Health Center and the Shamrock Clinic of Robert Lee will postpone any scheduled flu shot clinics until the vaccine is delivered, announced Irv Zeitler, D.O., Shannon Regional Services medical director.

"We are anticipating delivery of our vaccine in November," Dr. Zeitler said. "We do not want to schedule a definite day until the vaccine arrives. This delay is caused by the national shortage of flu shot vaccine."

RL PIPS to perform

Robert Lee PIPS will host their first performance Saturday, November 11th for residents and staff of the Robert Lee Care Center. The performance will begin at 1:30 pm. The public is invited to attend the premier performance of this dedicated group of athletes.

Poinsettia sale

The Coke County 4-H members will be selling Poinsettia plants for their annual fund raiser. These plants are from Magic Farms nursery and will have 5-6 blooms. Orders will be taken until November 20 and delivery will be during the first week of December. Contact any 4-H member in Bronte or Robert Lee to place an order or you may call the Extension office at 453-2461.

Fall Festival

The Blackwell United Methodist Church will be hosting a Fall Festival, Saturday, November 11, 2000.

Crafts and baked goods will be available for purchase during the day. A barbecue lunch will be served from 11:00 until 1:00. The festival is at the Blackwell United Methodist Church in Blackwell. For more information call Heather Sanderson at 282-2214.

RL City Hall closed

The Robert Lee City Hall will be closed in observance of Veteran's Day on Friday, November 10, 2000. The Robert Lee Landfill will be open for business on Saturday, November 11. Trash service will run as scheduled.



An employee Halloween Costume Contest was held at Robert Lee Care Center with the residents serving as judges. Winners included (top row, from left) Mari Rojas, Lynlee Owen, Della Alexander, Roger Alexander, (bottom row, from left) Mary Rodriguez and Brenda Cunningham.

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 Morgan McCutchen Pat Taft

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Per Year in Coke County.....	\$20.00
Per Year Elsewhere in Texas.....	\$22.00
Per Year Outside of Texas.....	\$25.00

4-H livestock projects due
 All Coke County 4-H members wishing to enter the major shows, Odessa, Ft. Worth, San Antonio, Houston or San Angelo with their animals must complete entry forms on Sunday, November 19, from 2:00 pm until 4:00 pm in the country courthouse. 4-H members and parents must be present to sign the entry forms and pay the entry fees to be eligible to compete in the major stock shows.



Robert Lee Headstart students entertained residents of Robert Lee Care Center with Halloween songs.

Cactus Jazz Series
 The Cactus Jazz Series will be held Friday, November 10 at the historic Cactus Hotel Lobby at 8 pm. It is to be presented by the San Angelo Cultural Affairs Council. For information and tickets call 915-653-6793.

Check out
 ✓ Coke Co.
 Library

Library closed for Veteran's Day
 Each Coke County Library book sale seems to bring on interesting weather. Friday and Saturday were no exception. In spite of, or maybe because of the rain, some regulars and some passers-by dropped in to browse and purchase. Several people donated generously to the cause. The money is being accumulated for a book drop.

Windbreak seedlings offered by SWCD
 Seedlings for conservation windbreaks are available through the Coke County Soil and Water Conservation District. Due to a limited supply, you should place your orders as soon as possible. Orders will be taken through January 29, 2001, with a delivery date of February 8, 2001. For more information, contact the SWCD office at 453-2623, ext. 3 or go by 214 E. 7th Street in Robert Lee.

WCC EMS Memorials for October 2000

Jessie Eads
 Olivia King, Donna & Joe Ash, Gina & Don Bell
Clarence Tinkler
 Chrys & Lawrence Higgins

WCC EMS Donations for October 2000

Senior Class 2000, '64 Study Club, Robert Lee ISD

Death Notices

Barger
 Juanita Keith Barger, 97, of Robert Lee passed away Wednesday, November 1, 2000, at Shannon Medical Center. Funeral services were held at 10:00 am Friday, November 3, 2000, at the Robert Lee Baptist Church. Burial followed at the Terry Memorial Cemetery. Services were under direction of Shaffer Funeral Home.

Survivors include her sister, Velma B. Lovell of Irving, TX; two nieces, Claudia Mosley of Denton and Sue Lewis of San Angelo; two nephews, Ray Barger and Jan Lovell, both of Irving.

Havins
 Martha Verfurth Havins, 89, of Robert Lee died Saturday, November 4, 2000, in a Robert Lee nursing home. Graveside service was held at 11:00 am Monday in the Valley View Cemetery. Arrangements were by Shaffer Funeral Home.

Survivors include one son, Bill Havins of Horseshoe Bay; one daughter, Kay Clay of San Angelo; eleven grandchildren, eighteen great grandchildren, three great great grandchildren; and one brother, Raymond Verfurth of San Angelo.

West Coke County Community Development would like to thank the cooks at the 12th Annual Hunters Appreciation Barbecue:

Curtis Walker	Wayland Drennan
Roy Tinkler	Rick Drennan
Clark Tinkler	Winton Milliff
Gaylon Pitcock	

We would also like to thank the meat cutters, servers, and those who helped with clean-up duties. These folks graciously give of their time and talents each year to contribute to the success of the barbecue.

Obituaries



Jewell Wallace of Robert Lee; a sister, Susan Millican and husband Troy of Sterling City; two brothers, Jacky Wallace and wife Pam of Abilene and Buddy Wallace and wife Kip of Gail; seven nieces, Lindsay Wallace, Cayla Millican, Kate Wallace, Susan Smith, Amy Hudgeons, Donna Smith and Julie Purdy; and five nephews, Tyler Wallace, Stephen Smith, Randall Smith, David Smith and Brian Flemmons. She was preceded in death by her sister Donna Morton June 5, 1996. 16a-1tc

Smith

Services for Marilyn Frances Wallace Smith, 50, of Shallowater will be at 2 p.m., Wednesday, November 8, at Northside Church of Christ in Robert Lee with Doug Wilkes and Clyde Dukes officiating. Burial will be in Robert Lee Cemetery under the direction of Shaffer Funeral Home in Robert Lee. A memorial was held at the Quaker Avenue Church of Christ in Lubbock on Monday, November 6 with Ellmore Johnson and David Langford conducting the service. She died Sunday, November 5, 2000, in Covenant Methodist Hospital after a brief illness. She was born November 25, 1949, in San Angelo. She married Jackie Smith on Aug. 7, 1970, in San Angelo. She graduated from Robert Lee High School and attended Abilene Christian University and Oklahoma State University before graduating from Tarleton State University. She was a member of the Quaker Ave. Church of Christ in Lubbock and currently was employed at Shallowater High School. Survivors include her husband, Jackie; a daughter, Jessica, and a son, Joel, both of the home; parents J.C. and

His journey's just begun
In memory of Jesse Eads III (9-18-00)
 Don't think of him as gone away, his journey's just begun. Life holds so many facets, this earth is only one. Just think of him as resting, from the sorrow and the tears. In a place of warmth and comfort where there are no days and years. Think how he must be wishing that we could know today how nothing but our sadness can really pass away. And, think of him as living in the hearts of those he touched...
 For nothing loved is ever lost--and he was loved so much.
 His Aunt & Uncle Bertie & Forrest Wanker Fairview, OK, 73737 16a-1tp

Winters arts & crafts show

The Winters Area Chamber of Commerce is having their annual Arts & Crafts Show Saturday, November 11, 2000, at the Winters Community Center and City Park. For more information, contact the Winters Chamber of Commerce at 915-754-5210.

Thoughts on the Scripture
 By Rev. Jim Reeves

Luke 12:32 "Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father is pleased to give you the kingdom."

Let us remember that all that we have is a gift from God, and it pleases God to take care of us.

May God bless each one of you.
 Brother Jim

Also appreciated are those who donated books for the sale. The Library will be closed Friday for Veteran's Day. Veteran's Day is actually on Saturday this year, but as a declared holiday it is being observed on Friday as well. Armistice Day was declared a holiday in 1938 to recognize the ending of World War I. In 1954 Dwight Eisenhower as President proclaimed the day to be called Veterans Day to "honor veterans...a day dedicated to peace." Library hours are Tuesdays, 8-12; Wednesdays, 8-4; Thursdays, 1-5 and Fridays 8-12. Story Hour is Tuesday at 10:00. Books may be returned in Bronte to the Main Street Market.

Churches of Robert Lee

Invite You to Worship

Emmanuel Pentecostal
 PO Box 609 • 1019 Colorado City Hwy
 (915) 453-2360
 Rev. Ray Aldridge, Pastor
 Sun. 10 am & 6 pm, Wed. 7 pm

First United Methodist Church
 PO Box 144 • 9th & Chadbourne
 (915) 453-2417
 Rev. Jim Reeves, Pastor
 Sun. 10 am Sunday School
 11 am Worship
 Wed. 7 pm Choir

Northside Church of Christ
 PO Box 388 • 9th & Chadbourne
 (915) 453-2619 or 453-2270
 Tommy Williams, Minister
 Services: Sun. 10 am & 6 pm;
 Wed. 7 pm

Pecan Baptist
 PO Box 542 • 12 W. Sterling City Hwy
 (915) 453-4645
 Rev. Dale Patterson, Pastor
 Sun. 10 am, Sunday School
 11 am & 7 pm, Worship

Southside Church of Christ
 PO Box 698 • 8th & Houston
 (915) 453-2176
 Frank J. Daniels, Preacher
 Sun. 10 am, Sunday School
 11 am & 6 pm, Worship
 Wed. 7 pm, Worship

Robert Lee Baptist Church
 PO Box 493 • 22 W. 11th
 (915) 453-2724
 Bro. Waide Messer, Pastor
 Sun. 9:45 am, Sunday School
 11 am & 7 pm, Worship
 Wed. 7 pm, Prayer Meeting

Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church
 601 W. 10th
 (915) 365-2687
 Rev. Hubert Wade, Jr., Pastor
 Sat. 6 pm

Victory Assembly of God
 6th & Houston
 (915) 453-2208
 Rev. Erma Johnson, Pastor
 Sun. 9:45 am, Sunday School
 10:45 am & 6 pm, Worship
 Wed. 7 pm, Prayer Meeting

RLVFD news

by Marian Thompson
Secretary

In the month of October 2000, the Robert Lee Volunteer Fire Department responded to 3 fire calls. On Oct. 6th at 2:44 pm a roadside grass fire was reported on 158 near the Old Indian Cemetery. The fire was out before the 7 firemen arrived. The area was wet down to prevent any further fires. Also on the 6th, at about 10 pm, Bronte got a Structure fire call on Hayrick Rd. They entered from the Bronte end and 13 Robert Lee Volunteers responded from the west end of Hayrick road. The RL trucks were on standby on the highway until the fire site could be found. It was seen from 158, after 2 hours of driving the back roads. It was determined that some hunters had a bonfire.

At 7:08 am on Oct. 30, a structure fire was reported at Cedar Cove at 225 Cherry Lane and 8 firemen responded. The structure was a total loss, not by fire, but by heat. The fire had been smoldering for some time. The firemen said it was so hot that everything in the house that was plastic melted. The State Fire Marshall was called to investigate.

On October 20th, Fire Department Secretary Marian Thompson and City Secretary Kay Torres went to Austin to school for the National Fire Incident Reporting System. These reports are filed each month.

The first meeting of November was held on the 6th and 13 members were present. President Larry Martin presided.

The previous minutes and treasurers reports were approved as read. Chief Rick Drennan reported, if all goes as planned the new Pumper Truck will be here in December. The group discussed having an Open House and a Hosing. A "Hosing" is a tradition that dates back to the early 1830's, in the United States. When a fire department received a new fire engine, the older apparatus or neighboring fire department engine would christen the new engine by "wetting down" or squirting water from an older apparatus onto the new apparatus.

The group discussed at length the fire at Cedar Cove. Dispatcher Bud Thompson talked about the siren going off. There was another short in the system.

The department is still making the 911 street number signs and selling raffle tickets for the handmade quilt which will be raffled off in December.

In October the firemen had 2 meetings, 1 training ses-



Ten year old Chris Blaylock of Odessa bagged this 8 point buck (his first deer) on the Blaylock Ranch north of Bronte. He is the grandson of Dabney and Frances Blaylock.

sion, and 1 work night. 43 man hours for drills and activities and 42 man hours for the 3 fire calls. November 20th will be the next meeting night.

Resources to Disabled Workers

A partnership between the Texas Workforce Commission and Advocacy Inc. is ensuring that Texans with disabilities are members of the statewide workforce.

Advocacy Inc. is a federally funded nonprofit corporation that protects and advocates for the legal rights of people with disabilities in Texas. Its Client Assistance Program (CAP) provides access to services that lead to employment and independent living. TWC is helping CAP reach that goal by ensuring that all services are accessible at Texas Workforce Centers in each workforce development board area, as well as through the Texas Rehabilitation Commission and the Texas Commission for the Blind.

"Everyone has something valuable to contribute to Texas' workforce," said TWC Executive Director Cassie Carlson Reed. "By combining the resources of TWC and the Client Assistance Program, we are ensuring that Texans with disabilities have access to as many employment opportunities as possible."

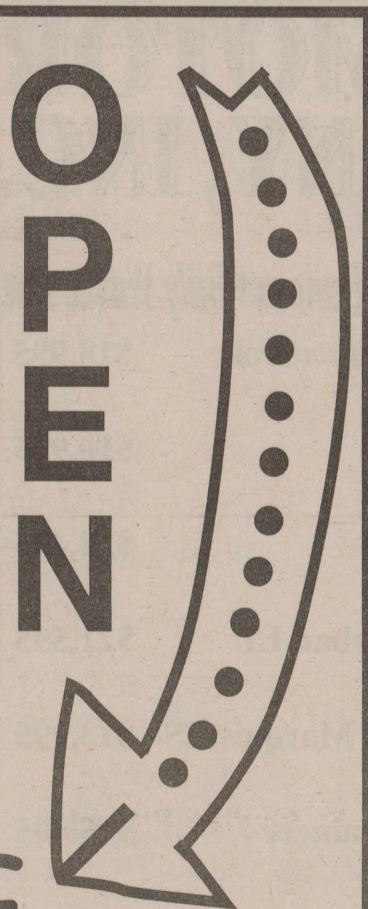
For the next year, TWC and CAP representatives will meet quarterly to evaluate the partnership and its delivery of services. They also will continue to explore ways to enhance those services.

"Creating partnerships of stakeholders invested in employment of people with disabilities will benefit everyone," Advocacy Inc. Executive Director Jim Comstock-Galagan said.

For more information about services in local workforce centers, call the TWC at (512) 463-8556, 1-800-735-2989 (TDD) or 1-800-735-2988 (Voice). For more information about CAP, call Advocacy Inc. at (512) 454-4816 (Voice/TDD).

San Angelo writers' club

Our final program of the year, this promises to be not only education but a most entertaining evening. Don't miss it! Tuesday, November 14th, at 7:00 pm at the Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, 3355 West Beauregard (behind HEB in San Angelo).



LONGBRANCH BAR-B-QUE

— Saturday & Sunday —
November 11th & 12th

At The Red Light In
BRONTE

LONE STAR CARDS WELCOME **Super H IGA** LIMIT RIGHTS RESERVED

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All Sizes
Butterball Turkeys
Lb. **.99**

California • New Crop
Navel Oranges
Lb. **.39**

Sliced IGA
Strawberries
10 oz. pkg. **.99**

Regular or Lite IGA
Whipped Topping
8 oz. tub **.69**

IGA Sugar
4 Lb. Bag **.99** Limit 1, Thereafter \$1.29.

Blue Bell Ice Cream
2 1/2 Gal. Round **/\$6.50**

Robert Lee School News

Steers win at home

by Bill Burns

The Sterling City Eagles invaded Griffith Stadium last Friday night, but the Steers sent them home with another mark in the loss column.

The Steer record went to 4-5 on the season and they can prevent a losing season with a win against Roby next Friday night.

The Steers have lost several starters during the season, but the remainder of the team is stepping up nicely and getting the job done.

1st quarter

The Steers received the opening kick but with 3 incomplete passes had to punt to the Eagles. The Steer defense went to work and quickly set the Eagles back for a 20 yard loss. Two more plays and the Eagles punted to the Steers. The second chance on offense proved good for the Steers as they marched down the field. Colby Eubanks picked up three yards and Anson Lott caught a pass for 32 yards. Stewart Millican gained 38 yards with the last 20 yards being a touchdown run. Clifton Bohannon kicked the extra point.

2nd quarter

The Steers held the Eagles for a total of 51 yards the second quarter.

Stewart Millican ran for a total of 15 yards in the 2nd quarter. Colby Eubanks caught 3 passes for a total of 58 yards, Beau Blair caught one pass for 27 yards and Bohannon kicked a 30 yard field goal to end the half. The score at the

half was Steers 10 - Eagles 0.
3rd quarter

The Eagles received the second half kick but Beau Blair intercepted an Eagle pass to give the ball to the Steer offense.

The Steers moved the ball down the field with Eubanks gaining 12 yards, Bret Ballew ran for 17 yards and caught a pass good for 21 yards, then Millican ran for 23 yards and a Steer touchdown. Bohannon kicked the extra point.

The Eagles next possession was a short one as Sean Edging came up with an Eagle fumble. Millican caught a pass that was good for a 26 yard gain, then Lott broke through for a 36 yard touchdown run. Bohannon was good once again on the extra point kick.

4th quarter

The Eagles got it going their way and scored three touchdowns.

The Steers had some offense of their own as Ballew gained 35 yards, Cole Flanagan ran for 10 yards and Lott ran for 7 yards and caught a 28 yard touchdown pass. With Bohannon's kick, the Steers won the game 31 to 20.

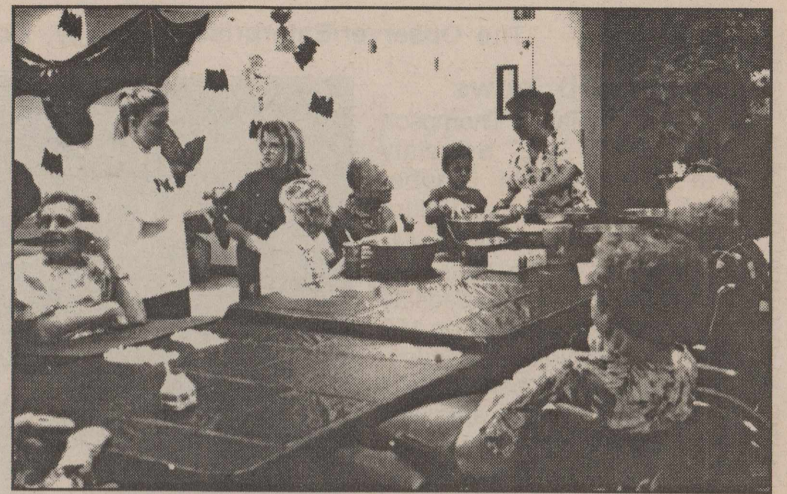
Great Game Steers!!! Beat Roby!!!!

RLISD Board has required training

The Robert Lee ISD Board of Trustees held a called meeting on Thursday, November 2. The special meeting was called for the express purpose of receiving board member training. The 3-hour training session was on the topic "Data Analysis for Quality Team Decisions". The session was taught by Judy Lisewsky and Linda Brannon, both staff members of the Region 15 Education Service Center in San Angelo.

Members of Texas school boards are required by state law to receive a minimum number of hours of training each year. Newly elected trustees must get 16 hours of training during their first year on the board. The hours must include an Orientation to the Texas Education Code, Team-Building training, and training on assorted other subjects identified by a needs assessment. In addition to the 16 hours of training new members must have an orientation provided by the local school district.

Experienced trustees are only required to receive 10 hours training yearly. They must have an Update to the Texas Education Code in



Robert Lee Elementary School Fourth Graders visited at Robert Lee Care Center last month where they helped make popcorn balls.

years that the legislature meets, the same Team-Building training that new members receive, and additional hours on various subjects.

State law forbids the delivery of school board training during a regular board meeting so training must be done at a meeting called for that purpose. School board members may travel to other locations outside the school district to receive training as long as school business is not discussed or deliberated. Several organizations provide board training on a regular basis, including the Education Service Centers, the Texas Association of School Boards, and other groups and individuals.

Robert Lee ISD superintendent Weldon Koepf stated, "The average person does not realize how much time school trustees devote

to this important responsibility. They spend many hours each year in monthly and special board meetings, receiving training, and in general working for the good of the students of this community. It is often a thankless job and I am grateful for the dedication of the members of the Robert Lee board. I would like to encourage every parent, student, and citizen of the community to say a personal thank you to your elected trustees. They deserve it."

The day was first divided into 24 equal parts that remain constant regardless of season or position on the globe-in 1330. This system was created by monks who needed to know what time to start their morning prayers.

SCHOOL MENU



Lunch

Monday, Nov. 13
Orange juice, French toast, sausage, cereal, milk

Tuesday, Nov. 14
Orange juice, muffins, cereal, milk

Wednesday, Nov. 15
Orange juice, breakfast pizza, cereal, milk

Thursday, Nov. 16
Orange juice, donut, cereal, milk

Friday, Nov. 17
Orange juice, blueberry pancake, sausage on stick, cereal, milk

Lunch

Monday, Nov. 13
Frito pie, corn, tator tots, crackers, gingerbread, milk

Tuesday, Nov. 14
Pigs in blanket, black-eyed peas, macaroni & cheese, fruit cocktail, milk

Wednesday, Nov. 15
Chicken nuggets, potato wedges, green beans, rolls, sliced apples, milk

Thursday, Nov. 16
Turkey, creamed potatoes, green beans, rolls, fruit salad, cranberry sauce, milk

Friday, Nov. 17
Hamburgers, lettuce, tomatoes, pickles, potatoes, ice cream, milk

BAKE SALE

All Proceeds Go To
PROJECT GRADUATION RLHS SENIOR CLASS 2001

Where: ROBERT LEE STATE BANK LOBBY

When: WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 9 AM - ?

*To order pumpkin or pecan pies or bread,
contact Jo Nell Blair at 453-4505 or 453-2825 or 453-2135.*

Many goodies including cakes, pies, cookies!

Just in time for your holiday needs!

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Ask For:

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1997 F-250 Crewcab Powerstroke \$18,995

1998 Taurus SE \$10,995
21,600 Miles

1998 Expedition XLT \$22,495
White • Great Condition

1999 Chevrolet Suburban LT \$21,595

1997 Mercury Grand Marquis LS \$13,995
23,000 miles

1997 Mercury Mountaineer \$15,495

1996 Lincoln Town Car Signature \$13,995

1999 Chevrolet Tahoe LS \$17,995

453-2715

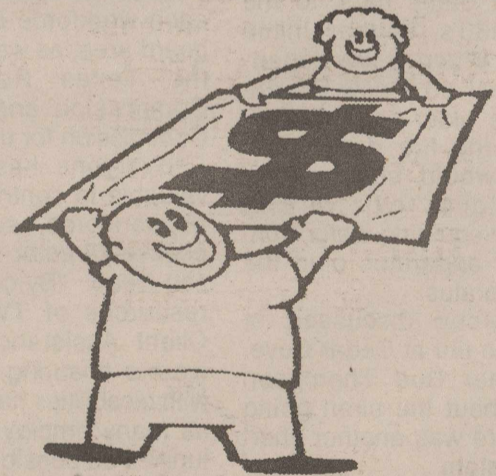
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Robert Lee, Texas

Phone 453-2545
Tele-Bank 453-2585

ROBERT LEE STEERS FOOTBALL

Friday, November 10
7:30 pm THERE

ROBERT LEE STEERS

vs.

Roby Lions

Shaffer Monument Company
Robert Lee-Silver Lions Club
Nancy Arthur

Attorney-At-Law

Waldon & Judy Millican
& Family

Coke County Judge

Jackie Walker

West Coke County
Community Development
Skinner's Gro. & Station

Jim & Geanette Skinner

W.E.B. Construction

Edwin, Wyndell & Family

Bell Auto Body Shop

Doug, Daryl & Jason

Waggoner's Hardware
Auto & Truck Repair
Ivey Motor Company, Inc.
Robert Lee State Bank

Member FDIC

S&S Printing & Supply

Bruce & Fran Sonnenberg

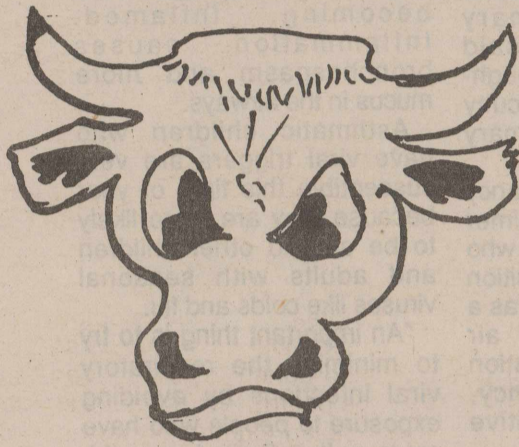
Robert Lee Care Center

Concho Realty

C & W One Stop #14

453-2047 • Backing the Steers

Jimmy's Automotive
& Tire Shop



				RL	
September 1	Bronte	Here	8:00	7	28
September 8	Water Valley	There	8:00	48	0
** September 15	Miles	Here	8:00	0	27
September 22	Eden	There	8:00	40	0
September 29	May	There	7:30	33	0
October 6	Open				
* October 13	Roscoe	Here	7:30	6	34
* October 20	Rotan	There	7:30	12	20
* October 27	Garden City	Here	7:30	7	21
* November 3	Sterling City	Here	7:30	31	20
* November 10	Roby	There	7:30		

* District 9A Games

** Homecoming

Wackenhut Corporation

Supports the Steers

Joan Davis

Key Feed Store

Cracker Barrel Restaurant

Paul Burns

Coke Co. Commissioner Prec. #1

The Best Connection

The Wayland Drennan Family

Ernest Clendennen, Inc.

Storage Rental & Sales & Vacuum Truck Services

Robert Lee

Therapy Clinic

Super "H" IGA

Dave & Betty Hughes

Coke County Pharmacy

Steve & Wanda Oleksiuk

Merle Norman Studios

Especially For You

Suzann Johnson & Debbie McCabe

Glenn-Bivins Insurance Co.

Marilyn, Mary, Lucretia, & Deanna

CJ&C Heating & Cooling

C & H Auto Parts

& Hardware

Diane's Chuckwagon

Gaylon & Kaye Pitcock

Coke Co. Commissioner Prec. #3

*Trout
me sale
#64*

5 #11

Maddy #79

Wilder 102

*Casper
Riley #53*

#5

Floyd Ballenger

Juanis #13

Chase #44

Bar #80

Alan Costa #65

*Phyllis
Randel #72*

*Janet
Barnum #3*

*Beau
Boxell #10*

David #60

Ben #85

Dean Elgert

*Brian
alder #40*

*Charles
alder #6*

*Curtis Bell
#52*

33

Bryts Baller #12

Colley Ewanks

*Juanis
Jansons #55*

#22

*Chase
Ra. number*

*Wackenhut
Millican
33*

Bronte School News

Bronte Longhorn football

The Bronte Longhorns lost a tough fought football game Friday night at Christoval, as the Cougars prevailed 30-13. The loss made the Longhorns record fall to 6-4 overall and 4-2 in District.

The Longhorns went in at the half trailing 6-0, then 14-7 in the middle of the third quarter, before Christoval rolled off 16 unanswered points. The game was fought hard in the trenches within the mud and the muck. The Longhorns moved the football up and down the field, outgaining the Cougars in total offense, but were unable to put the ball in the end zone enough.

Bronte gained 327 total yards on offense, 151 yards rushing and 176 yards passing. Jesse McClure led the rushing attack with 122 yards on 16 carries. Brandon Gibbs accounted for all of the passing yards and Ryan McCorkle caught 101 yards of receiving yardage.

The Longhorns appreciate the support of the community and school and hope that that support will continue throughout the school year.

Lingering cough can be indication of asthma

Many parents don't suspect asthma when their child has a nagging cough, but if the cough lingers or is

accompanied by wheezing, there is cause for concern.

The Children's Asthma Center at Texas Children's Hospital in Houston treats children with asthma that is either difficult to diagnose or to manage. Dr. Dan Seilheimer, medical director of the asthma center and Texas Children's Pulmonary Medicine Clinic, said persistent or recurring coughing, wheezing and difficulty breathing are the primary symptoms of asthma.

"Asthma can start in infancy or onset later," Seilheimer said. "It occurs in people who have a genetic predisposition and then something such as a virus or exposure to air pollution or toxic inhalation unmasks that tendency, which leads to sensitive airways."

Coughing may be most noticeable during the night as it keeps the child from resting. Wheezing is a high-pitched sound that asthmatic children sometimes make when breathing. The wheezing might only occur periodically. A child who is short of breath may complain that his or her chest feels tight, which can lead to breathing difficulties.

Identifying symptoms early can prevent more serious breathing problems or frequent asthmatic episodes. Early warning signs of an asthmatic episode include a runny, stuffy or itchy nose; paleness, dark circles under the eyes; a stomach ache or headache; crankiness or restlessness; poor appetite; sneezing; a sore throat; or an itchy chin, throat, or back.

At the Children's Asthma Center at Texas Children's, parents learn to avoid the triggers that can make asthma worse. Triggers, which are different for each child,

include irritants such as smoke, strong odors and sprays, weather and pollution, exercise, dust mites, animal dander, pollen, molds and viruses.

Asthma usually is treated with anti-inflammatory medication. These medicines keep the child's airways from becoming inflamed. Inflammation causes bronchospasm and more mucus in the airways.

Asthmatic children who have viral triggers are very susceptible this time of year because they are more likely to be around other children and adults with seasonal viruses like colds and flu.

"An important thing is to try to minimize the respiratory viral infections by avoiding exposure to people who have colds or flu," Seilheimer said.

More to marriage than romantic notions

The idea that "love conquers all" may be a Hollywood standard, but in reality, a successful marriage needs much more to go on than just romantic feelings, says a Texas A&M University sociology professor who instructs a class on marriage.

Lisa Matthews has studied the sociology of marriage throughout her career and believes it takes more than just romantic notions for a marriage to be successful.

"For a lot of people, about 95 percent of what goes into a marriage comes after they've actually married; it's the work that is put into the marriage."

Matthews believes many couples make the mistake of thinking their marriages will flourish on love alone because of a tendency to idealize the concept of marriage. This idealization, Matthews

explains, can be partly attributed to America's industrialization period, which made the population mobile. With a mobile population, traditional social networks, which were based on proximity, weakened, and spouses were expected to fill all of an individual's needs for intimacy and companionship, she adds.

These expectations are part of the idealism prevalent today, idealism that can overshadow reluctance, Matthews

said. For example, though it is common knowledge that society's divorce rate is near 50 percent, people still aren't deterred about entering a marriage, she says.

It is this idealism that leads Matthews to question recently proposed marriage laws intended to strengthen a couple's commitment by, among other things, requiring a couple to observe a two-year waiting period before finalizing a divorce.

It's Never Too Late to Find Old Classmates

NewsUSA

(NU) - How often have you wondered what ever happened to your friends from high school? Have you pondered the whereabouts of those who seem to have fallen off the face of the earth?

If you've tried to track down the old gang, you may have had some luck, but decades, geography and married names likely slowed your search considerably.

Now there's a service that can help you find long lost loves and forgotten friends. Seattle-based ClassMates.Com is an online high school alumni community that already lets users find and reunite with old friends online.

Anyone can register on the site for free, and registration also allows people to browse through the alumni directory and look for familiar names. Members are listed within their high school graduation class list.

Once registered, people can choose to become members for \$25 for two years. Membership allows complete access to the database, which lets people e-mail each other directly and upload personal photos and bios. More than 30,000 North American high schools are already registered.

"It's extremely gratifying to know that our Internet services are linking old friends together, regardless of the miles or boundaries that may separate them," says Randy Conrads, president and founder of

ClassMates.Com. "We're able to literally create thousands of reunions every day."

Last year, a woman named Laura stumbled across ClassMates.Com and spotted the name of Scott, an old classmate. She e-mailed him not knowing if he would remember her, and she received a reply the next day. After hours of reminiscing over high school memories, they agreed to meet, and now they're engaged.

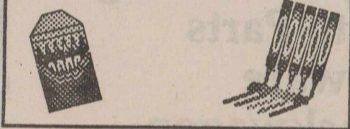
The vast directory service also enables members to locate old army buddies, lost family members and others who have fallen out of touch. Many members report connecting with people they haven't seen in more than 30 years only to find out that their old friends live in neighboring towns.

ClassMates.Com also offers the Internet's largest collection of alumni message boards, online yearbooks, Celebrity High School Yearbooks and Then & Now photograph pages. Plus, Decades Pages offer five vertical channels of nostalgia-driven entertainment content featuring pop culture from the last five decades.

Each area includes a variety of proprietary and licensed content and e-commerce opportunities, including associations with Amazon.com, Art.com and Billboard.com.

So take advantage of technology that didn't exist when you were in high school. Find those old friends at www.ClassMates.Com.

SCHOOL MENU



Breakfast

Monday, Nov. 13

Cereal, apple sauce, blueberry muffins, milk

Tuesday, Nov. 14

Pancake & sausage on a stick, grape juice, biscuit, milk

Wednesday, Nov. 15

Scrambled eggs, potato wedges, biscuit, milk

Thursday, Nov. 16

Sausage, apple juice, pancake, milk

Friday, Nov. 17

Breakfast pizza, sliced pears, biscuit, milk

Lunch

Monday, Nov. 13

Chicken strips with gravy, creamed potatoes, sweet corn, rolls, milk, banana pudding

Tuesday, Nov. 14

Beef taco pie, tossed salad, pinto beans, Spanish rice, milk, apricot cobbler

Wednesday, Nov. 15

Cheese burgers, French fries, lettuce, tomato, pickle, bun, milk, teddy grams

Thursday, Nov. 16

Sliced turkey with gravy, creamed potatoes, green beans, rolls, dressing, milk, pumpkin pie

Friday, Nov. 17

Sliced bar-b-que sausage, macaroni & cheese, baked beans, tossed salad, rolls, milk, chocolate chip cookies

I would like to thank the citizens of Coke County for their continued support.

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COKE COUNTY CONSTABLE

Precincts 2, 4, & 5

Pd. Pol. Adv. by Russell Johnson

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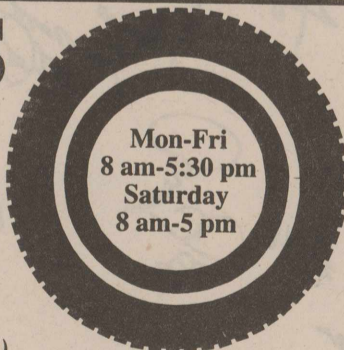
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B & K Processing and Hall's Super Save Grocery at Bronte

would like to thank the following individuals for all their help during Saturday's Hunter Barbecue:

Doyle Calder
Denny Braswell
Paul Williams
Kenny White

Roger Graves
Scotty McCorkle
Jerry Parker
Don Bunnell

We would also like to thank the Bronte community for donating desserts, and the entire Hall family for all their hard work.

Kerry Hall

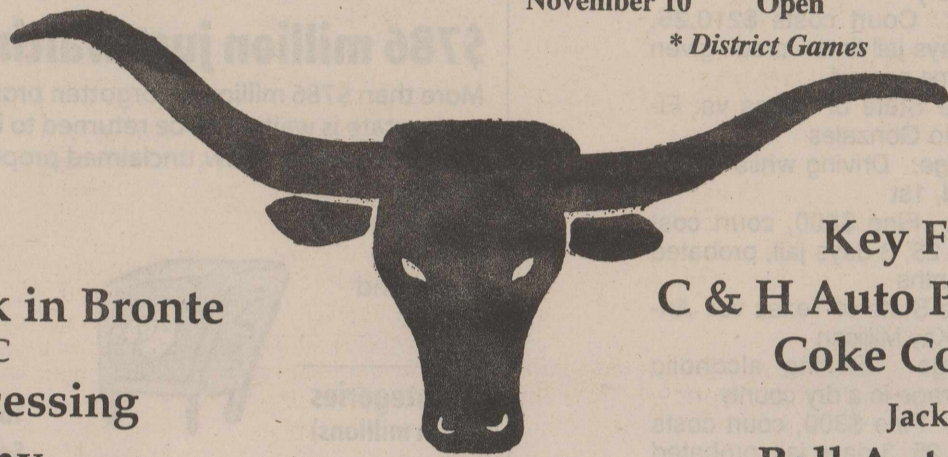
BRONTE LONGHORNS FOOTBALL

				BHS
September 1	Robert Lee	There	8:00	28 7
September 8	Santa Anna	Here	8:00	20 14
September 15	Rankin	There	8:00	7 42
** September 22	Roby	Here	8:00	40 41
* September 29	Irion County	Here	7:30	33 24
* October 6	Miles	There	7:30	7 26
* October 13	Water Valley	Here	7:30	53 7
* October 20	Eden	There	7:30	34 6
* October 27	Menard	Here	7:30	21 0
* November 3	Christoval	There	7:30	13 30
November 10	Open			

* District Games

** Homecoming

OPEN



First National Bank in Bronte

Member FDIC

B&K Deer Processing
& Taxidermy

Hall's Super Save Foods

Nancy Arthur

Attorney-At-Law

Wayne McCutchen

Coke Co. Commissioner Pct. 2

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Coke Co. Commissioner Pct. 4

Wackenhut Corrections

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Delton Graves #33
Brandon #15
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Brandon #63
James Graves
James #32
Coach #28
Coach #65
Coach #30
Coach #66
Coach #50
Coach #79
Coach Pauls
Coach #52
Coach #70
Coach #12
Coach James
Coach Rhodes #79
Coach Pauls
Kevin Huddleston #22

Arrest/Charges filed October 2000

Jason Lee Blackstock of Bronte, Texas - Driving while intoxicated 1st, 10-01-00

Jose Avalos of Merkel, Texas - Driving while intoxicated 1st, 10-01-00

Ruben Duran of Robert Lee, Texas - Disorderly conduct (discharging firearm in a public place) 10-05-00

Lorenzo Cabrera Fuentes of Ballinger, Tx. - Assault causes bodily injury - 10-07-00

Dora Alicia Mayo of Lovington, N.M. - Criminal trespass 10-00-00

Dora Alicia May of Lovington, N.M. - Criminal Trespass of a habitation - Motion to revoke probation 10-11-00

Jeremy Ortega of San Angelo, Tx. - Driving while license suspended/minor in possession of alcohol 10-14-00

Jesse Wade Percifull - Burglary of a habitation - Motion to revoke probation 10-19-00

Ryan Cordell Crouser of San Angelo, Texas - Driving while license suspended/invalid - 10-20-00

Nicholas Zacherieh Trumbley of Merkel, Texas - Possession of drug paraphernalia - 10-24-00

Michael Paul Angley of Merkle, Texas - Possession of drug paraphernalia - 10-24-00

Stanley Shane Dijulio of Merkel, Texas - Possession of drug paraphernalia - 10-24-00

Lorenzo Cabrera Fuentes of Bronte, Texas - Assault causes bodily injury/release of surety - 10-26-00

Thomas Moore Moffett of Missouri City, Texas - Public Intoxication - 10-26-00

Karla Clark of Bronte, Texas - Theft Class B - 10-27-00

Russell Dean Coleman of Sterling City, Texas - Theft by check - 10-27-00

Linda Trevino of Robert Lee, Texas - Public intoxication - 10-28-00

Beau Ellis Boxell of Silver, Texas - Violation of noise ordinance - 10-29-00

Out of County Warrants Served

Remmers, Randall Scott

Contempt of court disobedience of court order DeWitt County warrant 10-08-00

Coke Count Court Dispositions October 18, 2000

The State of Texas vs: Toni Lynn Rainwater

Charge: Selling alcoholic beverage in a dry county

Plea: \$210.00 court costs, \$300 fine

The State of Texas vs: Phillip Charles Meroney

Charge: Assault causes bodily injury

Plea: Court costs \$210.25, 15 days jail time - credit given for time served

The State of Texas vs: Fidencia Gonzales

Charge: Driving while intoxicated, 1st

Plea: Fine \$600, court cost \$210.25, 3 days jail, probated 6 months

The State of Texas vs: Angela Kay Millican

Charge: Selling alcoholic beverage in a dry county

Plea: Fine \$300, court costs \$210.25, 3 days jail, probated 6 months

The State of Texas vs: Israel A. Rivera

Charge: Possession of marijuana

Plea: Fine \$750.00, court costs \$210.25, 7 days jail, probated for 12 months

The State of Texas vs: Gilberto Ruben Pena

Charge: Cruelty to animals

Plea: Fine \$750.00, court costs \$210.25, 7 days jail, probated for 12 months

The State of Texas vs: Michael Dean Gibbs

Charge: Assault causes bodily injury

Plea: 1 year deferred adjudication, court costs \$210.25, fine \$300, 20 hours community service

The State of Texas vs: Dora Alicia Mayo

Charge: Criminal trespass

Plea: Court costs \$210.25, 15 days in jail, credit given for time served

Coke County 51st District Court Disposition October 24, 2000

State of Texas vs: Richard Lorentz

Charge: Unauthorized use of a motor vehicle

Plea: 1 year state jail, probated for 4 years, \$500 fine, \$97.00 restitution

State of Texas vs: Tommy Joe Estes III

Charge: Unauthorized use of a motor vehicle

Plea: 2 years state jail, probated for 5 years, \$750.00 fine, \$708.00 restitution

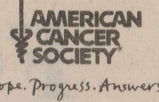
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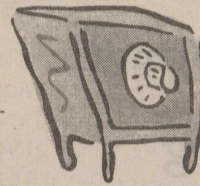
Internet at <http://www.cancer.org>



Keeping an Eye on Texas

\$786 million just waiting to be claimed

More than \$786 million in forgotten property that has been turned over to the state is waiting to be returned to its rightful owner. Besides the categories listed below, unclaimed property also includes the contents of abandoned safe deposit boxes as well as stocks and bonds.



From Our VAULT To Yours

To find out if some of this is yours:

Search our online database at <http://www.window.state.tx.us/up/>

E-mail unclaimed.property@cpa.state.tx.us

Write Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts Unclaimed Property Section P.O. Box 12019 Austin, Texas 78711-2019

Call 1-800-654-3463

Categories (in millions)

Uncashed checks	\$133.0
Wages	\$26.5
Bank accounts	\$96.3
Insurance	\$105.9
Royalties	\$43.8
Utility refunds	\$12.0
Other	\$364.3

SOURCE: Carole Keeton Rylander, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts (www.window.state.tx.us)

WCCCD 12th Annual Hunter's Appreciation Barbecue has been made possible by the following businesses and individuals:

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How to fry the perfect turkey

Tired of the same old baked turkey at Thanksgiving every year? With this holiday right around the corner, Dr. Sarah Birkhold, poultry specialist with the Texas Agricultural Extension Service, said deep-frying your turkey may be one alternative.

First, she said, choose your bird. A high quality 8- to 11-pound turkey is ideal for deep frying, or chickens or quail can also be cooked.

"You can deep fry just about anything," she said.

The most important point to remember is to remove the giblets - located under the flap of skin at the front of the turkey - from the body cavity before cooking, she said. Trim the skin flap to allow good oil flow through the bird.

Equipment needed is a propane burner and a cooking pot large enough to hold the turkey and oil. The amount of cooking oil depends on the size of the pot. A wire basket for the fryer, or a wire wrapped around the legs and a dowel, will help with the removal of the bird after cooking.

"As far as seasonings, you can use whatever you like. Anything from making your own to buying the seasons is fine," Birkhold said.

A heavy rub can be applied to the bird, both inside and outside.

Marinades also can be injected into the muscle before cooking.

When cooking, oil should be heated to 375-390 degrees F before lowering the bird into it. Once the bird is immersed, the oil temperature should drop to 350 degrees.

"You can use a thermometer to get the temperature right," she said.

Also, using a timer will help ensure the turkey is done. A turkey should fry 3.5 minutes per pound. For example, a 10-pound bird will need to be cooked for 35 minutes at 358 degrees F. If the oil gets to 375 degrees F, cooking time

may be reduced to 2.5 to 3 minutes per pound, she added.

"If you cook this right, it won't be greasy," Birkhold said.

Birkhold had a few words of caution going out to anyone using the frying methods of cooking.

"When preparing food in hot oil, particular attention should be paid," she said. Adults should be careful to avoid spilling or splashing the oil onto themselves or others. Children and pets should not be allowed near the hot oil.

When cooking is complete, carefully remove the bird from the oil and drain on a clean platter. When carving meat, make certain it is completely cooked. All juices should run clear, with no blood.

RL Elementary hosts insurance information session

On Thursday, November 16, Lupe Chappa, Chip Outreach Coordinator at La Esperanza Clinic will present an information session for the Robert Lee PTO. The meeting will begin at 6:30 pm and will be held in the Robert Lee School Cafeteria.

Ms. Chappa will explain how to apply for the TexCare Partnership Insurance. She will also answer questions regarding health insurance for children.

If you need childcare or additional information about this PTO meeting, please call Janet Wallace at 453-4555 by Monday, November 13.

Christmas in Miles

The residents of Miles would like to invite everyone to come and join them as they celebrate their annual Christmas in Miles. The two-day event will be held on Saturday, Nov. 25, from 9 am to 5 pm, and on Sunday, Nov. 26, from 12 pm to 4 pm at the Weatherby Hall in downtown Miles.



Robert Lee High School students Travis Taylor (left) and Dixie Simpson (right) each placed 8th at the District 16 Cross Country Meet at Cross Plains October 21 and qualified for the Regional Meet. Nicole Sanchez and Monica Rodriguez also participated for RLHS while Vincent McClelland and Brandon Soliz represented Robert Lee Junior High School. At the Region II Meet November 4 in Arlington, Taylor placed 55th out of over 200 runners in the Varsity 1A Boys Division and Simpson placed 77th in the Varsity 1A Girls Division, also in a field of over 200.

RL cross country goes to regional

Robert Lee high school cross country team members, Dixie Simpson and Travis Taylor, competed in the re-

gional meet held in Arlington, Texas, on Nov. 4th. Both runners did well as Dixie was near the top 1/3 of over 200 participants and Travis finished near the top 1/4 of over 200 runners.

When faucets were originally created, there was no hot water faucet. Cold water spigots were placed on the right of the basin since most people are right-handed.

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46a-tnc

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16a-1tp

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14b-tnc

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16a-1tp

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45b-tnc

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34b-tnc

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37a-tnc

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05a-tnc

Bob Frazer's 944-0010 473-6603

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MESQUITE FIREWOOD

\$85 a cord, delivered and stacked. Call 665-8465.

14a-3tp

THE "BARBER" SHOP

Debora England, 223 N. Lombard, Bronte. 473-4026. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, 9 am-5 pm, Saturday, 9 am-12 pm.

02b-tnc

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED

CNAs needed for all shifts. Full time and part time. Competitive pay. Contact Sarah Lee, DON, Senior Citizens Nursing Home, Winters. Phone 754-4566.

36b-tnc

COKE COUNTY SHERIFF'S

Department is currently accepting applications for Teclose certified Deputy. Apply in person at 13 E. 7th St., Robert Lee, Mon-Fri 8-5. Experience Preferred.

15a-2tc

ROBERT LEE CARE CENTER

is in need of a full-time janitor, part time janitor, part time housekeeper, and part time in laundry. Contact Johnny Elam 453-2511.

15a-2tc

RN/LVN's

FULL TIME 2-10 SHIFT AND PART TIME 10-6 SHIFT. Competitive salary with an evaluation in 90 days, attendance bonus, travel pay if over 20 miles, shift differential, paid holidays, vacation, personal days, and sick pay. Apply in person Bronte Health & Rehab, 900 S. State St., Bronte, TX 76933 or call 915/473-3621. EOE.

15b-2tc

George Washington's annual salary as president was \$25,000.

CONCHO VALLEY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

Now accepting applications for Executive Director. For an application and job description contact Norma Cummings at (915) 944-9666. P.O. Box 60050, San Angelo, Texas 76906. Beginning salary \$60,000 depending on experience. Application deadline: November 27th at 5:00 pm. The Concho Valley Council of Governments is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

16a-2tc

GIRLING HEALTH CARE, INC.

Home Care Attendants needed in Bronte and surrounding areas to help with housekeeping and personal care. For more information call 1-800-665-4471 or 1-915-643-5604.

16b-2tc

CARD OF THANKS

OUR GRATEFUL APPRECIATION

to all who made our Mother and Granny's life fulfilling, our thankfulness to those who made her passing more gracious. For the food, the comforting words, the compassion you showed, Thank You.

The Martha Havins Family

16a-1tc

GARAGE SALES

GARAGE SALE

Saturday only 8:00 am to 3:00 pm. Multi position exercise machine, storage bins, clothes, stand up freezer and kitchen items. 901 Euel, Robert Lee.

16a-1tp

GOT RAINED OUT!!!

Rescheduling yard sale at the Wheat's house. 509 W. 12th St., Robert Lee (on corner across from football field). Saturday, Nov. 11, 2000 from 8 am -?? Baby clothes, baby items, kids clothes, misc. Come check it out!! (Weather permitting)

16a-1tp

NOTICES

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

To the public and William E. "Bill" Brosh, Pursuant to Section 59.44 of the Texas Property Code, notice is hereby given of the sale of the contents of Unit 26-A of the storage facility located at the southeast corner of Chadbourne Street and West 8th in Robert Lee, TX. The storage unit is held in the name of Bill Brosh, and the contents will be sold to satisfy a contractual landlord's lien. The contents will be sold no sooner than Dec. 15, 2000.

E.A. Clendennen

16a-2tc

Medicare coverage expands

Fredi Franki, Manager of Social Security Social Security disabled beneficiaries who are working or thinking about working should know that they can now work with less concern about losing their Medicare coverage. As of October 1, they may be eligible for at least 93 months after the end of their trial work period, an additional 4 1/2 years, accord-

ing to Fredi Franki, Social Security Manager in San Angelo, Texas.

"This will mean many disabled beneficiaries may not have to decide between working and keeping the health care coverage they need to survive," stated Franki. "The extended coverage should make it possible for them to make the transition to the workplace without risking the health care coverage they need."

Franki said when the extended Medicare coverage runs out, beneficiaries will be able to purchase the coverage at a price substantially less than a private policy would cost, if one were available.

The change is the first provision to become effective in the Ticket to Work and Work Incentive Improvement Act of 1999 signed by the President in December 1999. The act is one of the most substantial increases in work opportunities for disabled beneficiaries in recent years. It also expands coverage for Medicaid recipients, provides for increased vocational rehabilitation assistance, establishes work incentives specialists in Social Security offices, and calls for community involvement in helping disabled beneficiaries who wish to work.

"Under the law, States may provide Medicaid coverage to people who are not too disabled to work even if their incomes are above 250 percent of the federal poverty level. People receiving Supplemental Security Income (SSI) from Social Security should check with their state Medicaid offices for availability of the coverage in their areas.

*Beginning January 1, disabled Social Security and SSI beneficiaries will receive a "ticket" they may use to obtain vocational rehabilitation and other employment support services from an approved provider of their choice. The program will be phased in nationally over a three-year period.

Other provisions of the law make it easier for beneficiaries to get back on the rolls if their work attempt fails and postpones disability reviews while a person is using the ticket.

Franki said the law also calls for Social Security to establish work incentive experts in field offices to provide accurate and ready information to beneficiaries, caregivers, community groups, and other interested parties. The specialists, called "employment support representatives," are being tested in 32 offices.

"Employment support representatives provide a focal point for our work incentives delivery system and should make a real difference in how well we can help people take advantage of the benefits under the new law," Franki said.

"For more information, visit our Internet website, Social Security Online at www.ssa.gov/work or call our toll-free number at 1-800-772-1213."

It was once customary to bake a cake with a bean in it on January 6th. Whoever got the slice with the bean was supposed to have good luck the rest of the year.

Credit repair scams

by John Cornyn
 Attorney General of Texas
 Q: Several years ago, I had trouble paying my credit card bills. This wound up in my credit report, and it's making it hard for me to get a car loan now. A credit repair business has offered to fix my credit rating for a fee. Is this a good idea, or just a scam?

A: Good credit is one of the most valuable 'assets' a consumer can have. It is difficult to qualify for a home mortgage or a car loan without having a good credit rating. Consumers who are desperate to restore their damaged credit rating make good targets for a credit repair scam.

Credit repair and credit improvement companies promise to fix your credit and 'erase' negative items from your credit report. They charge a fee ranging up to \$500. Unfortunately, while they keep the fee, these companies often are unable to deliver on their promise to repair your credit rating.

Typically, a legitimate credit improvement company will write to a credit bureau, asking to have inaccurate or false items corrected or removed. You can do the same thing yourself for free. Under the Federal Fair Credit Reporting Act, consumers have the right to have inaccurate information on their credit reports corrected. By law, the credit reporting agency is not allowed to charge for correcting the information in your file.

A disreputable credit repair firm may simply take your fee and do nothing. Or, it may try to look effective by exploiting the procedures used to verify credit information. For example, suppose your car was repossessed several years ago. This negative item still appears on your credit report today. The credit repair outfit writes to the credit bureau asking to have the repossession erased. The credit bureau contacts the person or company that repossessed the car for confirmation. If the repossession is slow to respond, the item may temporarily disappear from your credit report. This makes it look like the credit repair has been successful. However, the negative mark will reappear on your report as soon as the credit bureau gets confirmation from the repossession.

Q: Where can I go for help with restoring my credit rating?

Many communities have non-profit consumer credit counseling services that can review your situation and help you create a strategy for restoring your credit rating. Check the business listings in your telephone book under 'Credit' to see if this service is available where you live. In addition, the Office of Consumer Credit Commissioner (OCCC), a state agency, provides general information about consumer credit in Texas. You can reach the OCCC at (800) 538-1579 or on the Internet at www.occc.state.tx.us.

Experian, Equifax and Trans Union, the three largest credit reporting agencies, are required by law to give you one free copy of your report if you have been denied credit. You should request a copy of your credit report from each agency to ensure that it is ac-

curate. Experian can be reached at (800) 392-1122; Equifax at (800) 685-1111; and Trans Union at (800) 851-2674.

There is no easy, one-step method for fixing bad credit. The only effective way to restore a good credit rating is to pay off old debts, pay current bills in full and on time, prepare a realistic budget and stick with it, and plan future spending carefully.

SSI and Other Income

By Fredi Franki

Did you know that you can qualify for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) even if you have other income? Likewise, if you are currently receiving SSI benefits you can receive other income as well. How your benefits are affected depends on the type and amount of the additional income.

For SSI purposes, we look at your monthly income. For unearned income (like Social Security, unemployment, worker's compensation or insurance payments), we do not count the first \$20.00 you receive each month. So, if you get a check for \$200, only \$180 would be counted as income for SSI purposes. After the exclusion, the remaining money counts dollar-for-dollar against your SSI money. So in this example, \$180.00 is deducted from the base amount of your SSI check.

If your only other income besides SSI is earned income (e.g., wages or self-employment) and there is no unearned income, we do not count the first \$20 of your earned income. In addition, we exclude an additional \$65 per month of earned income. Then we deduct one-half of the remainder. This means that your total exclusion for earned income would be \$85 plus one-half of the remainder per month.

If you earned \$200 from work in one month, only \$57.50 would be counted as income. Thus, even though you worked and earned \$200, your SSI base amount would only be reduced by \$57.50.

It is important to remember that we use your gross income, not your net, to compute the monthly amounts. Also, there are some kinds of income that we do not count, such as food stamps, food from churches and soup kitchens and shelter you receive from most private, non-profit organizations. We also exclude most home energy assistance.

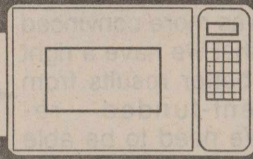
If you are over 65, or blind or disabled and want to apply for SSI but are not sure whether or not you qualify, the best way to find out is to contact Social Security.

...Thank you for caring so much and not treating us like paperwork, but like people.

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 453-2522



cooking

BREAKFAST CASSEROLES

the microwave way

(DM)—When planning a special breakfast or brunch menu, overnight casseroles are always a plus. Some of the pre-cooking and most of the assembly are done ahead and the casserole is chilled until morning. The microwave recipe for Egg and Sausage Bake has another benefit. It is micro-baked in about half the time needed by many of the oven-baked versions. Whirlpool Corporation home economists suggest serving fresh sliced fruit and mini cinnamon muffins as accompaniments.

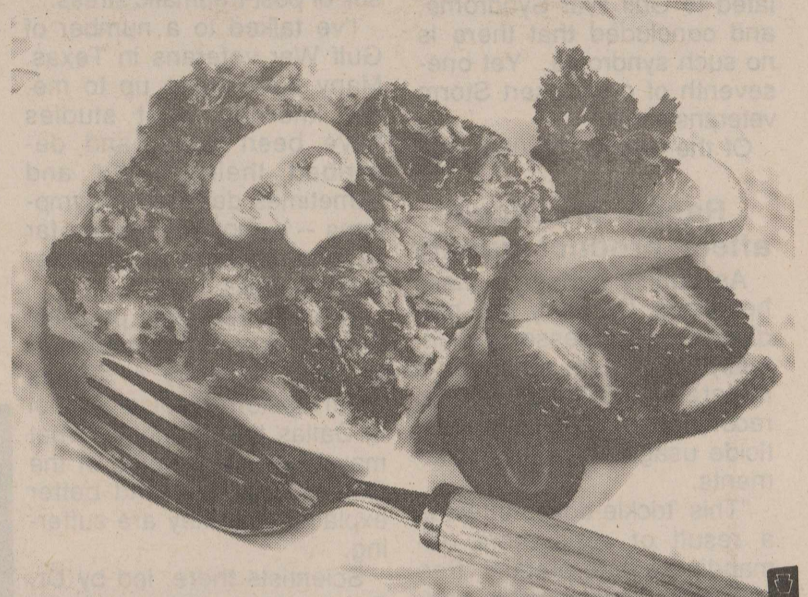
EGG AND SAUSAGE BAKE
 (6 servings. Total cooking time: 42 minutes)

- 1/2 pound bulk sausage
- 4 slices bread, cubed
- 3/4 cup shredded cheddar cheese
- 3/4 cup shredded mozzarella cheese
- 3 eggs
- 1 cup milk
- 1/2 teaspoon dry mustard

- 1 can (4 oz.) sliced mushrooms, drained
- 1 can (10 3/4 oz.) condensed cream of mushroom soup
- 1/3 cup milk

1. Crumble sausage into medium microwaveable bowl. Microwave at HIGH (100%) for 4 minutes, stirring occasionally, or until fully cooked. Drain well.

2. Place bread cubes in 8 x 8 x 2 inch glass baking dish. Sprinkle evenly with cheeses. Top with



drained sausage. Set aside.

3. Beat eggs slightly with the 1 cup milk and mustard. Pour over top of mixture in baking dish. Cover and refrigerate 6 hours or overnight.

4. Before cooking casserole, sprinkle evenly with mushrooms. Stir together condensed soup and the 1/3 cup milk. Pour evenly over top.

5. Microwave at HIGH for 2 minutes. Then microwave at MEDIUM (50%) for 36 minutes or until set. Let stand about 10 minutes before cutting into squares to serve.

Nutrition Information (per serving): 301 calories, 17g protein, 20g fat, 174mg cholesterol, 15g carbohydrates, 915 mg sodium.

Whirlpool TimeSmart Tip

FLUFFY SCRAMBLED EGGS: For 1 or 2 eggs, use a cereal bowl or 10-ounce custard cup. Combine eggs with milk (1 tablespoon milk per egg). Add butter or margarine (1 teaspoon per egg). Microwave at MEDIUM HIGH (70%), stirring once or twice. 1 egg: 45 to 75 seconds; 2 eggs: 1 minute, 45 seconds to 2 minutes, 15 seconds.

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Another look at Gulf War Syndrome

Kay Bailey Hutchison
U.S. Senator
U.S. Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison made the following statement regarding Gulf War syndrome research recently:

To date, the federal government has spent more than \$150 million on research related to Gulf War Syndrome, and concluded that there is no such syndrome. Yet one-seventh of our Desert Storm veterans are ill.

Of the nearly 700,000 U.S.

Ranch practices affect product quality

As quality concerns make headlines, Dr. Jerry Bell predicts food processors eventually will require ranchers to maintain individual animal records on vaccinations, pesticide usage and other treatments.

"This 'trickle-down' effect is a result of consumers demanding a safe product, free of chemical and microbial contamination. Processors are realizing the need to prove not only the origin of animals, but also the treatments received while still at the farm," said Dr. Bell, food safety specialist for the Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC), the state's livestock health regulatory agency.

Some European trading partners now accept imported products that can be traced back to the farm, Dr. Bell said. And, that trend is expected to grow, he noted.

Dr. Bell urged ranchers to consider the pros and cons of individual animal identification, versus the more simple premise identification concept. Among the identification devices available are numbered or electronic eartags (or brucellosis eartags, if the animals are vaccinated or tested), or microchips that can be implanted in or near the ear. (Records should include microchip implant site information, to insure the device is removed during processing.)

Dr. Bell said brands are acceptable to identify the herd, but fire brands should be placed high on the tailhead of the animal, to avoid damaging the value of the hide. Other points to consider:

*Be sure to follow the specified withholding periods after treating animals with pesticides, antibiotics or other products. Each product will provide specific information on the label of the package insert regarding withholding intervals or other restrictions. Residues can cause meat to be unusable.

*If the product allows, administer injected medications or vaccines, subcutaneously, or just under the skin. Intramuscular "shots" can damage meat, and if this method is required, place injections in the neck area, rather than the hip, where the cuts of meat are more valuable.

*Products administered to cows also can affect unborn or nursing calves.

"Slaughter buyers may not immediately pay higher prices to ranchers who follow these practices, but at some point, they may penalize ranchers who don't," Dr. Bell said.

military personnel who served in the Persian Gulf in 1990 and 1991, more than 100,000 have complained of an array of symptoms that include muscle and joint pain, chronic fatigue, memory loss, sleep disorders, depression and concentration problems, among others. The official government position is that their symptoms are a result of post-traumatic stress.

I've talked to a number of Gulf War veterans in Texas. Many have come up to me, not knowing what studies have been done, and described their painful and sometimes debilitating symptoms -- symptoms that go far beyond the usual physical results of stress.

There is, however, privately funded research conducted at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical School in Dallas that pinpoints what may have made some of the Gulf veterans ill, and better explains why they are suffering.

Scientists there, led by Dr. Robert Haley, the center's chief of epidemiology, have shown that veterans born with low levels of an enzyme that destroys chemical toxins are more likely to suffer brain damage from such exposure. This may explain why some who served in the Gulf became ill and others did not.

On October 12, Dr. Haley was among the scientists and Pentagon officials who testified at a Senate hearing that focused on these Gulf War Syndrome questions. This hearing was convened at my request because I share the concern of many veterans groups that the Pentagon has failed to organize the kind of independent studies necessary to find the causes of and treatments for the symptoms our veterans are experiencing.

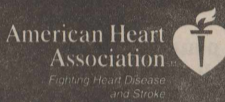
I would like to see the research expanded to look for preventive measures to keep such illnesses from happening again. While this is critical to the well being of our men and women in uniform, such research could also shed light on the risks taken by people who work with chemicals in everyday life, such as chemists and medical workers, farmers and many of those in the energy industry.

As we witnessed in the Tokyo subway attack a few years ago, civilian terrorists can use Sarin gas (or hundreds of other toxic substances) to threaten and kill. Chemical warfare is one of our country's very real security concerns. We should be

working to find ways to prevent and treat the damage it can do.


At the end of the Senate hearing I was more convinced than ever that we have a right to expect better results from government-funded research. We need to be able to diagnose and treat Persian Gulf War veterans for the symptoms they're experiencing, not tell one in seven of those who served that they are "stressed" and leave them to their own devices.

"We need to admit that there is something to their complaints, and determine if there is a linkage to their service in the Gulf. We owe it to those who've served, and those who will serve in the future."



JOIN THE FIRM.
EXERCISE.

People are always blaming their circumstances for what they are. I don't believe in circumstances. The people who get up and look for the circumstances they want and if they can't find them, make them.
George Bernard Shaw.



Keeping an Eye on Texas

If Texas were a nation...

Gross National Product, 1998 (in billions)

United States*	\$7,902
Japan	\$4,089
Germany	\$2,180
France	\$1,465
United Kingdom	\$1,264
Italy	\$1,157
China	\$923
Brazil	\$767
TEXAS**	\$592
Canada	\$580
Spain	\$555
India	\$427
Korea	\$398
The Netherlands	\$389
Australia	\$387
Mexico	\$368
Russia	\$331
Argentina	\$290
Switzerland	\$284

* Includes Texas
** If Texas were a nation

The total value of goods and services produced in Texas in 1998 was \$592 billion, which ranks the state 9th when compared with the Gross National Product of countries around the world.

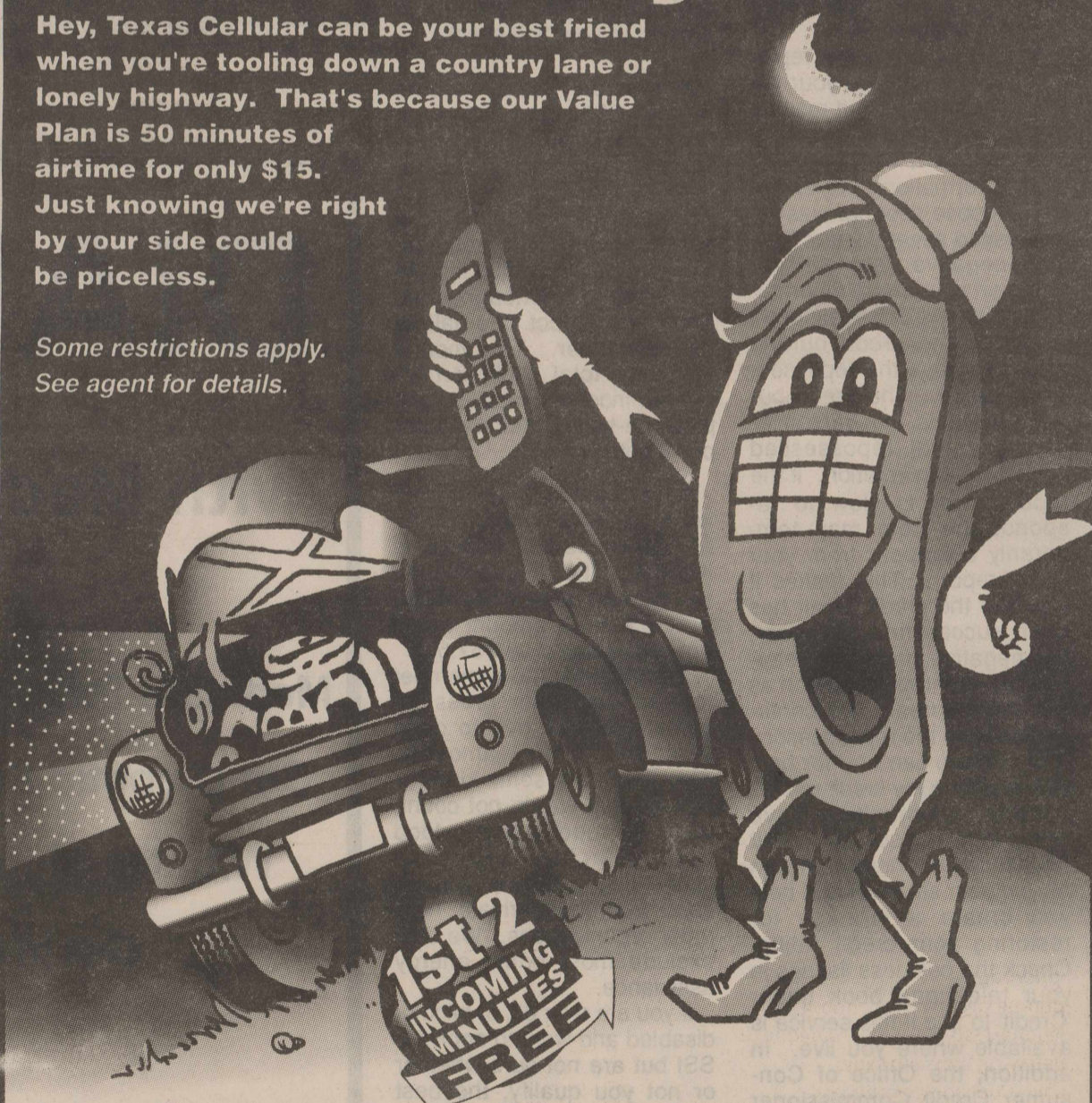


SOURCES: Carole Keeton Rylander, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts (www.window.state.tx.us), The World Bank Atlas and U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis.

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2403 West 25th Street
915-573-2424

IN SWEETWATER:
Sierra Communications
1901 Bristol
915-235-4377

College night set at ASU

Angelo State University will host a "Concho Valley College Night" Tuesday, Nov. 28, for area high school students and their parents to meet with representatives of some 50 colleges, universities and technical schools.

The free program is scheduled 7-8:30 pm in the C.J. Davidson Conference Center in the Houston Harte University Center on the ASU campus.

For additional information, contact Wendy Owen at 800-946-8627 or in San Angelo 942-2185, ext. 230.