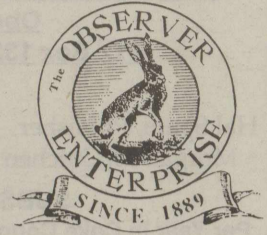


# THE OBSERVER/ ENTERPRISE

Serving Coke County

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

Vol. 113, No. 21

Friday, December 15, 2000

## Hometown businesses make special holiday service effort

The Coke County Christmas effort was undertaken to encourage hometown shopping at Christmas. The stores that strive to serve the community all year make a special effort to create a Christmas shopping experience. This effort can be rewarded by local citizens shopping at home first. These retailers are friends and neighbors who support our schools, churches and other activities in Coke County. Their pride in the communities is obvious by the effort they make all year and especially at Christmas.

The following retailers in Coke County participated and can fulfill many gift needs:

In Bronte, Celia's Antiques open Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 10-5 and by appointment; Hometown Hardware carrying all hardware items as well as Wrangler jeans and shirts; Main Street Market, a treasure trove of Christmas spirit; Shirley's new and consignment clothing with custom monogramming and sewing, and a drop service for cleaning; Shalon's Floral Boutique with flowers, gift baskets and collectibles; Madison's Avenue, a historic site filled with memories, gifts, and clothes for all ages; and Hall's Grocery.

In Robert Lee the following merchants participated: Super H Grocery open seven days a week to serve their customers; C & H Auto & Hardware for auto, plumbing,

fencing building needs plus a line of housewares; Robert Lee Care Center Gift Shop open from 2:00 to 4:00 Tuesday through Friday; Skinner's Grocery & Station where shoppers have a chance to win a famous Skinner smoked ham; Key Feed, serving Coke County for a long time and carrying the necessities for farming and ranching plus a few good Christmas gift ideas; Merle Norman Studio, a Gold Medallion Studio with cosmetics, jewelry, consultations and beauty needs; Waggoner's Hardware & Repair Shop with a growing stock of supplies; Coke County Pharmacy where besides medicine, magazines, cards and other gift items are available; Cathy's shop for clothes, wreaths, flowers, and special order foods; and Molly B's internationally famous original Grandmother's Shirt and all personalizing needs; and the Cracker Barrel.

### Community Christmas Service

The Robert Lee Community Christmas service will be this Sunday, Dec. 17th, at the Iglesia Nueva Vida at 7:00 pm on the corner of First and Houston. Everyone in the community is invited to the worship service sponsored by the Coke County Ministerial Alliance. A special offering will be taken to support the Coke County Food Closet. A community covered dish dinner



The Robert Lee Lady Steers brought the Hooptown 2000 trophy home in the Stanton Basketball Tournament held December 7-9.

will be held at 6:00 pm in the Fellowship hall of the church. Everyone is invited to bring their favorite dish and come join this special time together.

### Bronte holiday trash collection change

Trash collection for customers north of East Main and West Main will be changed from Christmas Day, Monday, December 25th to Saturday, December 23rd.

Trash collection for these customers will return to the regularly scheduled day on Monday, January 1, 2001, New Year's Day.

There will be no change in the collection day for customers south of East Main and West Main.

### Give the gift of life

United Blood Services will be at the Robert Lee Baptist Church Monday, December 18 from 3:30 until 7:00. Please give Becky Ross a call at 453-2724 to make an appointment.

Donors must be at least 17 years old, weigh more than 110 pounds and be in good health. You also need proof of identification and know the names of any medication you may have taken in the past 30 days.

Please try to make an appointment. It will help you get in and out in a timely manner.

### Angel tree

Bronte Health and Rehab Center is once again sponsoring an "Angel" tree for the residents. "Angels" may be picked up in the lobby of the facility. On the back of each Angel, a list of "wants" are listed for that person. As last year, the names of the residents are left off and only a number appears which corresponds with a master list. When you select an Angel, please let Mary Beth in the activities department, someone in the office or a charge nurse know which number you selected. Let's make this a wonderful time for our senior citizens. Please leave all gifts at BHRC by December 18th.

### Christmas Greetings set for Dec. 22

It is time once again for Christmas Greetings! The Observer/Enterprise would like to remind businesses and individuals wishing to place a Christmas greeting in the newspaper to call or stop by and choose your greeting for the Dec. 22nd paper.

Deadline for this year's greetings is Tuesday, December 19. For more information or to place an ad, contact the Bronte office at 473-2001 or 453-2433 in Robert Lee.

### Robert Lee Christmas program

On Thursday, December 14, 2000 at 7:00 pm, the Robert Lee School Christmas program will take place. Each student needs to be in place by 6:50 pm. The program will start with fourth grade recorders, fifth grade band, sixth grade band, and conclude with the Stompin-Steer High School band. The program will last till about 8:00 or 8:10.

Remember, it is impolite to go in and out while a group is performing. Please be quiet and still while each group is performing. Between performances is the time to move and whisper. Each performing group has worked very hard; so please be courteous and fair by following the above rules.

### Hospice care

An introductory seminar explaining hospice care and the special aspects of the dying patient will be presented at Myrtlewood Estates on Friday, December 29th. The program will start at 2:30 pm. There is no charge for the event.

For additional information call Gary Karschner at VistaCare Family Hospice in San Angelo at 486-8841.



Chase Roe, 11, of Robert Lee won the youth hunter weekend big buck contest with this nice 8 point buck that field dressed 146 pounds. B & K Processing in Bronte sponsored the contest.

**THE OBSERVER/ENTERPRISE**  
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 Hal Spain, Publisher Melinda McCutchen, Editor  
 Morgan McCutchen Pat Taft

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

**Death Notices**

**Estrada**  
 Hunter Lee Estrada, 3, of Ganado, died Monday, Dec. 4, 2000.  
 Survivors: parents, Eric and Jennifer Service Estrada of Ganado; sister, Tristan Estrada of Ganado; grandparents, Shirley Estrada of Ganado, Truda Service of Ganado, Johnny Service of Higgins and Robert and Frieda Estrada of Ganado; great-grandparents, J.W. and IdaBelle Service of Robert Lee and Eugene and Gloria Alexander of Ganado; and great-great-grandparents, Pearlle and Bob Hann of Canyon Lake and Gertrude Shaw of Ganado.

Services were held at the Assumption Catholic Church of Ganado with the Rev. Joseph Hybner officiating. Burial followed at Assumption Catholic Cemetery under the direction of the Ganado Funeral Home.

**North**  
 Doris Eastman North, 64, of Blackwell died Sunday, Dec. 10, 2000, in a Sweetwater hospital.

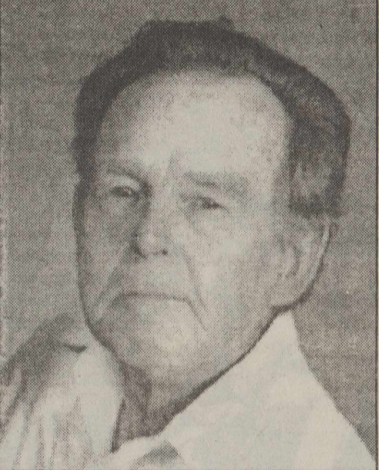
Graveside service was conducted at 2 pm Wednesday, Dec. 13 in Rosewood Cemetery in Achille, OK.

Survivors include her husband, Robert North of Blackwell; two sons, Ray Knight of White Settlement and Mark Loveday of Blackwell; two daughters, Margie Ford of Silver City, N. M. and Laura Colvin of Hobbs; a stepson James North of Odessa; two stepdaughters, Connie Renfro of Odessa and Becky Schwab of San Angelo; a brother, Bill Henry Eastman of Kansas City, Kan.; two sisters, Jennie Shipman of Wylie and Nite Eastman of Oro Valley, Ariz.; 19 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.



Robert Lee Elementary School fourth graders played their recorders for the residents at Robert Lee Care Center.

**Obituaries**



**E. A. "Dink" Lanier**

Edmond Abe "Dink" Lanier, 69, of Robert Lee passed away Monday, December 11, 2000, at his home.  
 Services were held at 2:00 pm Wednesday, December 13, 2000, at the Robert Lee Baptist Church. Burial followed in the Decker Cemetery in Nolan County. Services were under the direction of Shaffer Funeral Home.  
 Dink was born on March 4, 1931, in Blackwell, Texas, to Abe and Emma Lee Lanier. Graduating from Blackwell High School in 1951, he joined the U. S. Navy the same year. Dink married his wife of 44 years, Jackie Womack, on March 18, 1956, in Sweetwater. He was a Sweetwater City Policeman and later a Deputy Sheriff for

Nolan County. He moved to Robert Lee in 1969, where he was employed by CRMWD as Lake Patrol at E. V. Spence Reservoir. He had also received his private investigators license from the State of Texas.

He was a member of the Robert Lee Baptist Church, The Farm Bureau, and the Woodman of the World.

Dink's hobbies were his animals, antiques, music, his family, and good friends from Robert Lee.

Survivors include his wife, Jackie Lanier of Robert Lee; his mother Emma Lee Lanier of Bronte; one daughter, Vicki Bullard of Odessa; one son, Brad Lanier of San Angelo; two brothers, Bob Lanier of Snyder and Tom Lanier of San Angelo; three sisters, Virginia Harris of Blackwell, Rudy Thomas of Maryneal, and Patti Lanier of New Braunfels; three grandchildren, Tonya Thurby of Virginia Beach, VA., Vic Bullard of Tulsa, OK, and Bradly Lanier of San Angelo; and one great granddaughter, Chloe Bullard of Tulsa, OK.

21a-1tc

\*\*\*  
 The role of the writer is not to say what we can say, but what we are unable to say.

Anals Nin

**MADISON'S AVENUE**

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**Before Christmas Sale**

25% off ALL Women & Childrens Apparel

Large Selection of TOYS have just arrived.  
 Sign up for the Christmas Giveaway.

BRING THIS AD & RECEIVE 10% OFF ON TOYS.

New Hours! 10 am - 5:30 pm  
 Tuesday - Saturday

We accept all Major Credit Cards.  
 Layaway & Gift Certificates Available.

Always the very best in  
 Fashion • Gifts & Antiques

**Thoughts on the Scripture**

By Rev. Jim Reeves

**Hebrews 13:1**

*"Let brotherly love continue."*

In this Christmas season, let us get into the habit of loving one another as God has loved us, all year long.

May God bless each one of you.  
 Brother Jim

**Wishing Everyone  
 HAPPY &  
 HEALTHY  
 HOLIDAYS**

Jimmy, Staci, Jimmy Lynn  
 & Ashley Womack

**Franklin**

Joyce Leddy Franklin, 71, of San Angelo died Sunday, Dec. 10, 2000, in a local hospital.

She is survived by her children, Marie Robertson and husband, Jerry, Rusty Franklin and wife, Melanie, all of San Angelo, Wilson Franklin and wife, Martha, of Fort Worth and Beverly Allen and husband, Ricci, of Knickerbocker. Her grandsons, Jim Herring of Big Lake, Jason Herring of Sonora, Joel Herring of Marble Falls, Jim Morgan Franklin of Aledo and Jed and Casey Franklin of San Angelo, served as pallbearers.

She also is survived by two granddaughters and six great-grandchildren. Survivors also include a brother, Hollis Leddy and wife, Nancy.

Funeral service was held at 11 am Wednesday, Dec. 13, in Johnson's Funeral Home Chapel. Burial followed in Lawnhaven Memorial Gardens in San Angelo.

**Behavior is a mirror in which everyone displays his own image.**  
 Goethe

**Miniature Quilt Auction**

The Quilt Connection will be auctioning off a variety of hand made miniature quilts and wall hangings on December 16th starting at 3:00 pm and ending when all the quilts are sold. These unique quilts range in size from 12" to 40". The women of the Concho Valley and surrounding communities have donated these beautiful quilts and wall hangings for the auction, with all proceeds to benefit The Susan G. Komen Foundation for Breast Cancer Research. For more information call (915) 223-8334.

**Churches of Robert Lee**

- Invite You to Worship*
- Emmanuel Pentecostal**  
 PO Box 683 • 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**  
 PO Box 638 • Robert Lee  
 (915) 453-2208  
 Rev. Erma Johnson, Pastor  
 Sun. 9:45 am, Sunday School  
 10:45 am & 6 pm, Worship  
 Wed. 7 pm, Prayer Meeting

**Food Closet to make up baskets**

The Coke County Food Closet will be making up a number of Christmas baskets to give to those who may be experiencing difficulty in the Christmas season. In order to make up as many baskets as may be needed, the Food Closet is asking for help from the community. Following our giving of Thanksgiving baskets, the food closet is low in some critical areas, including: flour, sugar, cooking oil, canned meats, dry cereal, peanut butter, crackers, pasta products, cornbread mix, jellies, canned fruit products, dry beans, canned milk, macaroni and cheese, and other non-perishable food items. If you would like to donate any of these items to the food closet, you may bring them by the First United Methodist Church. In addition, cash donations may be made to: The Coke County Food Closet Fund at the Robert Lee State Bank.

**RLVFD memorials and donations**

- Memorials**  
 Jesse Eads, Jr.  
 O.B. Jacobs  
 Mr. & Mrs. Wilbern Millican  
 Maurice & Elna Duncan  
 Mike & Fran Lomas  
 J.W. & Ida Belle Service  
 J.C. & Jewell Wallace  
 Louise Walker  
 George & Thelma Lomas  
**Suzie Wilson**  
 J.W. & Ida Belle Service  
 Louise Walker  
 George & Thelma Lomas  
**Clarence Tinkler**  
 Joyce Roach  
 Mr. & Mrs. Wilbern Millican  
**Marilyn Smith**  
 Mr. & Mrs. Garland Davis  
 Louise Walker  
 Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy Bickley  
 Joe & Donna Ash  
 Maxine Post  
 Bob & Jamie Boren  
 Carroll & Amanda Wilkes  
 Ronnie & Sammie Jo Baker  
 Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Rasco  
 Maurice & Elna Duncan  
 Fay C. Roe & Family  
 Mr. & Mrs. Wilbern Millican  
 George & Thelma Lomas  
**Katherine Parris**  
 Louise Walker  
 George & Thelma Lomas  
**Martha Havins**  
 Louise Walker  
 George & Thelma Lomas  
**Troy Jordan**  
 George & Thelma Lomas  
**Donations**  
 Senior Class 2000  
 Joyce Roach  
 The 64 Study Club  
 Producers Livestock  
 The Caston Company

**Personal**

Robert Lee natives, Patricia Jones Watson of Rodeo, New Mexico and Tommie Jo Boyles of Midland, visited friends locally last week. While in the area, the pair left Christmas floral tributes to family members in Divide Cemetery and Robert Lee Cemetery.

**Sweetwater Christmas**

Over forty of Sweetwater and the area's finest retailers are joining together to offer the best Christmas shopping during this holiday season. There will be 8 days of great Christmas shopping December 16 - December 23. The Kaleidoscope of shopping will



Mr. Ratliff directs the Robert Lee Elementary students as they entertain the residents at Robert Lee Care Center.

be held in the Nolan County Coliseum Annex.

For more information call 915-235-8455.

**Letter to the Editor**

Just wanted to take a moment to recognize an outstanding citizen of Robert Lee. Everywhere I look this man is present or there is still a glow from the fact that he has been there. He is a man of deeds and not just words. His plan is definite and he definitely works the plan. He is a humble man and asks nothing in return for all the good he does, but I don't think God would mind if I bestow a little praise on one of his outstanding servants. Jim Reeves, keep up the good work because I for one appreciate all the good you are doing in the community. Surely your rewards will be great!

We appreciate you,  
 (Name withheld by request)

**Give a Present with a Future**



Give a gift that keeps on giving this holiday season, a high-quality investment. There's something for everyone on your list - stocks, bonds, mutual funds and much more.

**Happy Holidays!**

Jim Woodruff  
 719 Strong Avenue  
 Ballinger, Texas 76821  
 (915) 365-2505  
 www.edwardjones.com

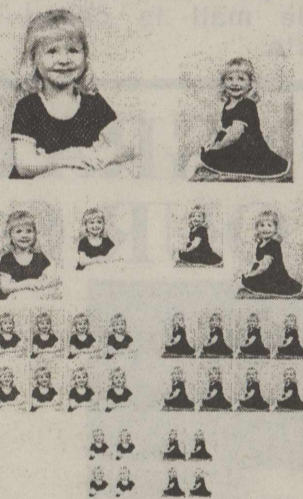
Member SIPC  
**Edward Jones**  
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\*\*\*  
 The U.S. Department of Agriculture reports that the average American eats 8.5 pounds of pickles a year.



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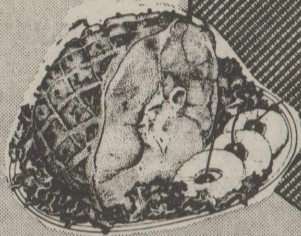
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Bone-In Cook's Shank Half Ham **.89** Lb.

Regular or Low Salt

**Bar S Bacon**

12 oz. pkg. **.99**



**IGA IGA Sugar**  
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Plain or Self Rising

**Gold Medal Flour**  
 5 Lb. Bag **.69**



Selected Varieties

**Folgers Coffee**  
 24-39 oz. can **\$4.99**



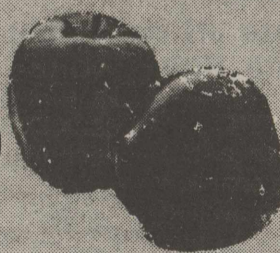
Large Sunkist Navel

**Oranges**

Large Washington Red Delicious



**Apples**  
 Lb. **.39**



**Coca-Cola or Sprite**  
 12 Pk, 12 Oz. Cans **\$2.69**



# Bronte School News

## Horns win tournament at Miles

The Bronte Longhorn basketball team took on Loraine recently, and walked away with an easy win, 80-16. Scoring for the Horns went like this: Brandon Gibbs, 17 points, 9 rebounds; Henry White, 2 points; Zeb Speary, 8 points, 4 assists, and 3 steals; Ryan McCorkle, 4 points, 5 rebounds, & 3 steals; Josh Schoenfield, 3 points; Tim Green, 5 rebounds, 4 assists; Steve Eldred, 20 points; Anthony Gibbs, 2 points, 6 rebounds; Clayton Acker, 14 points; Jeremy Silva, 2 points, 5 rebounds; Charlie Bettis, 6 points, 3 steals; and Dalton Graves, 2 points.

In the Miles tournament, the Longhorns first took on Veribest, winning 71-48. Scoring were: Brandon Gibbs, 16 points, 12 rebounds, and 4 steals; Henry White, 17 points, 8 rebounds; Zeb Speary, 12 points, 7 assists, and 4 steals; Ryan McCorkle, 4 points, 5 rebounds; Josh Schoenfield, 2 points; Tim Green, 2 points; Jeremy Silva, 1 point; Dalton Graves, 2 points; Steve Eldred, 13 points, 8 rebounds; Charlie Bettis, 2 points.

In the second game, the Horns beat the San Angelo "Sophomores" 70-31. Individual stats were: Brandon Gibbs and Henry White, 11 points each; Zeb Speary, 8 points, 7 assists, and 4 steals; Ryan McCorkle, 6 points, 4 assists, and 3 steals; Josh Schoenfield, 5 points, 4 assists; Tim Green, 4 points, 3 steals; Steve Eldred, 10 points, 8 rebounds; Clayton Acker, 3 points, 4 assists; Jeremy Silva, 2 points; Charlie Bettis, 10 points, 3 steals.

In the championship game, it was the Horns over Grape Creek 59-40. Individual stats were: Brandon Gibbs, 14 points, 10 rebounds, and 5 assists; Henry White, 16 points, 8 rebounds, and 5 assists; Zeb Speary, 7 points; Ryan McCorkle, 3 points, 5 rebounds, and 5 assists; Josh Schoenfield, 3 points; Steve Eldred, 8 points, 5 rebounds; Jeremy Silva, 2 points; Charlie Bettis, 6 points.

Henry White was named Most Valuable Player of the tournament, with Brandon Gibbs, Zeb Speary, and Steve Eldred named to the all-tournament team.

## Bronte JH boys split with Robert Lee

The Bronte Junior High boys split a couple with Robert Lee on December 4.

In the first game, the "B" boys lost to Robert Lee 10-28, with Zach White scoring 6, followed by Riley Coalson and Sherman Griffin with 2 each.

In the "A" game, the Bronte boys scored a tight win over Robert Lee, 28-27. High point for the boys was Blaine Dyess with 8; followed by Kinlee Hoyt with 6; Justin Frazee and Cory Cooper with 5 each; and Cody Moore with 4.

## Bronte JV boys basketball

In the first game of the Sterling City tournament, Bronte JV boys outscored Miles 32-31. Bronte scoring: BJ Hall 5; Cody Lee 3; Joel Webb 5; Garrett Fiveash 7; Scott Snyder 7; and Casey McKee 5.

In the second game, Bronte was defeated by Robert Lee by a score of 22-19. Bronte scoring: BJ Hall 6; Joel Webb 4; Garrett Fiveash 2; Scott Snyder 3; and Casey McKee 4.

Bronte was a winner in the third game against Sterling City by a score of 32-29. Bronte scoring: BJ Hall 11; Joel Webb 9; Garrett Fiveash 8; and Casey McKee 4.

The Bronte JV boys also finished in second place of the tournament.

## Bronte JV girls basketball

In the first game of the Sterling City JV tournament, the Bronte JV girls defeated Miles by a score of 48-33. Bronte scoring: Mindy Boyd 11 points, 9 rebounds, 2 assists; Heather Richey 7 points, 5 rebounds, 1 steal, 2 assists; Lindsay Springer 4 points, 4 rebounds, 2 steals, 1 assist; Joel Sefcik 3 rebounds; Britney McCutchen 3 points, 2

rebounds, 1 steal, 1 assist; Kanah Coalson 12 points, 3 rebounds, 1 assist; Brittany Eldred 2 points, 1 rebound; Ashley Denton 5 points, 2 rebounds, 1 assist; Natalee Reed 2 points; and Logan Acker 2 points and 1 rebound.

In game two of the tournament the Lady Horns came up short against Robert Lee by a score of 34-20. Bronte scoring: Mindy Boyd 6 points, 5 rebounds, 1 steal; Heather Richey 7 rebounds, 1 steal, 1 assist; Lindsay Springer 2 points, 1 rebound; Kayla Hilliard 2 rebounds, 2 steals; Kyla McGinnis 1 rebound; Britney McCutchen 5 points, 2 rebounds, 1 steal, 2 assists; Kanah Coalson 3 points, 3 rebounds, 1 assist; Ashley Denton 2 points, 1 rebound, 1 steal; Natalee Reed 1 rebound; Ashley Torres 2 points, 1 rebound; and Logan Acker 1 rebound and 1 steal.

In game three, Bronte came out on top against Sterling City by a score of 32-24. Bronte scoring: Mindy Boyd 4 points, 2 rebounds; Heather Richey 8 points, 6 rebounds, 2 steals, 1 assist; Lindsay Springer 4 points, 2 steals, 2 assists; Kayla Hilliard 4 points, 5 rebounds, 4 steals, 1 assist; Kyla McGinnis 1 rebound; Britney McCutchen 2 points, 1 rebound 3 steals, 1 assist; Kanah Coalson 8 points, 5 rebounds, 1 steal, 1 assist; Ashley Denton 2 points, 2 rebounds, 2 steals; Ashley Torres 1 rebound; and Kailey Howell 1 rebound.

The Bronte JV girls captured second place in the tournament.

A piece of undeliverable mail is called a nixie.

## Buying holiday gifts for children

Having a hard time deciding what gifts to buy children on your Christmas shopping list? What items top kids' wish lists?

Often, adults without children have a difficult time shopping for kids. With their exotic names and confusing descriptions, many toys and games leave adults baffled and frustrated. How do you decide what to buy?

Dr. Jo Ann Engelbrecht, professor of family sciences at Texas Woman's University, says shoppers should consider a child's needs and interest, safety and parents.

"When shopping, one of the basic things you want to think about is safety," she says. "Gifts with small or easily detachable pieces are not appropriate for younger children, toddlers or infants."

Engelbrecht also advises holiday shoppers to think of the child's parents when shopping. She says a drum set or other noise maker may not be appropriate for a child if she is limited to playing only indoors or in small spaces.

"In terms of space, we must think about whether there is enough room to store the gift when a child isn't playing with it," she says. "Many times we buy huge toys - large stuffed animals - and then there's no place to put it. It just takes up space."

Other helpful tips include:

\*Purchase open-ended gifts--gifts that allow for creativity. Gifts such as building blocks enable children to assemble the pieces in a variety of ways. Children are able to assemble anything from a house to a small city. Other examples: building sets and craft materials (markers, colored

pencils, drawing or construction paper).

\*A good book is always appropriate. Select books that kids can grow with and that can be read over and over again. For younger children, consider a book with nice pictures done by an artist. Shoppers also should check best-sellers lists for ideas.

Shopping for older children:

\*Encourage reading - books or magazines. Purchase a subscription to a magazine that is geared toward youths. If the child enjoys sports or has a hobby, consider purchasing a magazine subscription that deals with that sport or hobby.

\*Gift certificates for movies, music stores or a favorite department store. Shopping for older kids can be tough. Kids like choices.

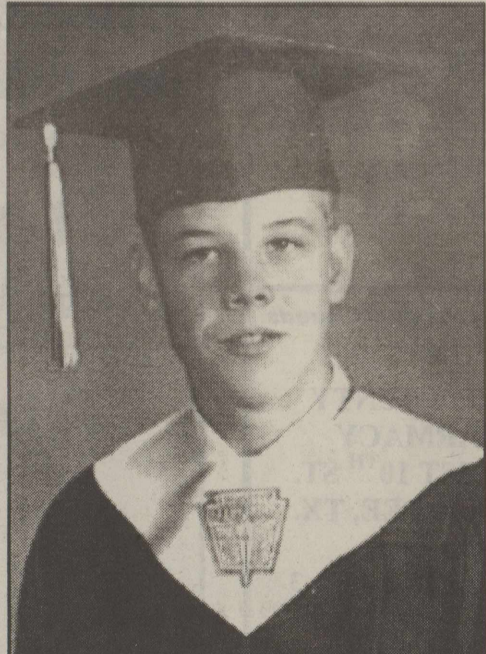
Shopping for more than one person in a family:

\*Purchasing gifts for more than one person in a household can be difficult and expensive. Instead, shop for one gift with the whole family in mind. Think of items that will allow for quality time for the family and interaction among all family members. Ideas: board games, restaurant gift certificates or family movies for home viewing.

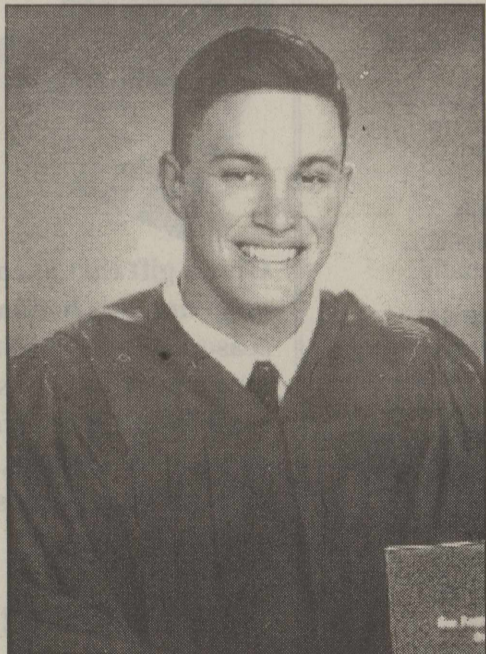


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**ATM** **CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR GRANDSONS** **T**



**Nicholas Edward Arrott, II**  
 Bachelor of Science in Kinesiology with  
 Specialty in Sports Management  
 December 16, 2000 • 9 am  
 Texas A & M University



**Chad Allen Duncan**  
 Bachelor of Business Administration  
 in Accounting  
 December 16, 2000 • 9 am  
 Texas Tech University

*LeDrew and Bobbie Arrott*

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

**GERMANIA**  
 SINCE 1896

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**CARWILE INSURANCE**  
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Robert Lee Elementary School students in Kindergarten through fourth grade serenaded the residents of Robert Lee Care Center.

# Robert Lee School News

bounds. Other scoring; Alexander 4; Freeman 6; Millican 6; Simpson 4; and Dickey 8.

The Lady Steers defeated Sands in the second round 48-43. Dickey scored 20 and Helwig had 13. Other scoring; Matthews 3; Millican 7; Simpson 3; and Sparks 2.

In the championship finals, the Lady Steers took on the host team, Midland Christian. In a close and high scoring affair, the Lady Steers took the title with a 76-66 win. Helwig led the scoring with 19 points with Dickey close behind with 18. Simpson, Millican, and Matthews also hit double figures with 10 points each. Alexander had 5 and Freeman rounded out the scoring with 4. The Lady Steers connected on 21 of 27 from the free throw line and hit several down the stretch to maintain their lead.

The Lady Steers will play Eldorado, here, Friday night and Irion County, there, next Wednesday afternoon at 3:00 to round out their pre-Christmas schedule. They will also play in the Sterling City Tournament December 28, 29, and 30, where they will play Water Valley in the opening round at 3:30.

### RL JV girls basketball

On December the 5th, the JV suffered a loss to Christoval by a close score of 44-42. Robert Lee scoring: Matthews 3; Brothers 13; Kendall 8; Soliz 7; Middleton 6; and Sanchez 5.

On December 7th, the JV

girls came on strong to win the Sterling City JV tournament.

In the first game, Robert Lee took a win over Sterling City by a score of 40-24. Robert Lee scoring: Matthews 2; Brothers 14; Kendall 6; Lott 4; Soliz 12; and Middleton 2.

The JV girls took their second game against Bronte by a score of 34-20. Robert Lee scoring: Brothers 10; Kendall 5; Rodriguez 2; Soliz 6; and Middleton 11.

The JV girls were fired up for the championship game and came away with a win over Miles by a score of 57-31. Robert Lee scoring: Matthews 2; Honse 6; Brothers 9; Kendall 4; Millican 2; Lott 4; Soliz 12; Middleton 12; Barron 2; and Wallace 4.

### RLJH girls basketball

On the 11th, the Robert Lee junior high "A" team girls took a win over Bronte by a score of 33-9. Robert Lee scoring: Wink 2; Riley 6; Eaton 7; Sanchez 14; and Roe 4.

The "B" team girls took their win over Bronte by a score of 13-8. Robert Lee scoring: Gallegos 2; Trejos 2; Millican 4; Medrano 2; Bagwell 2; and Vera 2.

### RLJH boys basketball

On the 4th, the 7th grade boys played a great game against Eden and came home winners by a score of 56-9. Robert Lee scoring: McClelland 3; Millican 18; Soliz 10; Martin 2; Hearn 11; Conner 10; and Ortega 2.

The 8th grade boys had good scoring but lost against Eden by a score of 50-33. Robert Lee scoring: Torres 11; Arledge 4; Saucedo 10; Mulkey 6; and Raney 2.

### Robert Lee Steers basketball

On November 28, the Steers traveled to Forsan and played a close game but lost by a score of 51-47. Robert Lee scoring: Jaziel Gallegos 3; James Gallegos 2; Riley 18; Saucedo 2; Pitcock 12; and Eubanks 10.

The Steers played their first game in the Irion County tournament against Christoval and lost by a score of 68-48. Robert Lee scoring: Jaziel Gallegos 7; James Gallegos 5; Riley 9; Sammy Minjarez 1; Pitcock 4; Eubanks 10; Samaniego 2; and Blair 10.

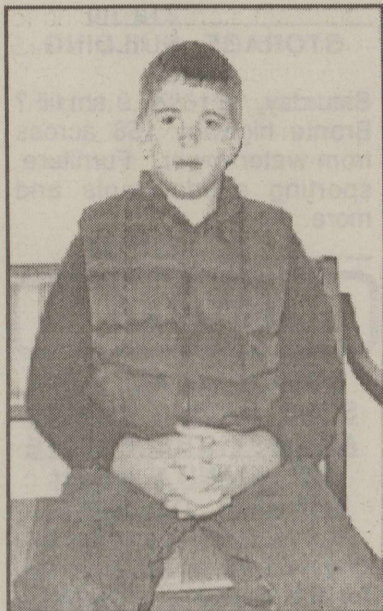
In the second game the Steers took on Miles and won by a score of 54-33. Robert Lee scoring: Jaziel Gallegos 3; James Gallegos 8; Riley 16; Sammy Minjarez 2; Pitcock 11; Eubanks 12; and Favian Minjarez 2.

The third game against Grape Creek was a very close game and Robert Lee took the victory by a score of 52-51. Robert Lee scoring: James Gallegos 10; Riley 18; Pitcock 10; Eubanks 8; and Blair 6.

\*\*\*

Pay attention to your enemies, for they are the first to discover your mistakes.

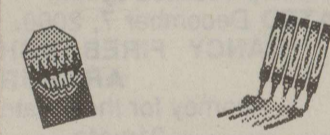
Antisthenes



Cody McCabe has reached the top level in the Accelerated Reading program at Robert Lee Elementary. To earn this level, he had to read books that are considered classics. Cody is the son of Diana and Mike McCabe of Silver. Reading is an important life skill, and we are very proud of the students for striving to reach their goals.

Eight United States Presidents were originally from Virginia.

### SCHOOL MENU



**Breakfast**  
**Monday, Dec. 18**  
 Orange juice, cinnamon rolls, cereal, milk  
**Tuesday, Dec. 19**  
 Orange juice, breakfast burrito, cereal, milk  
**Wednesday, Dec. 20**  
 Orange juice, donuts, cereal, milk  
**Thursday, Dec. 21**  
 Holiday  
**Friday, Dec. 22**  
 Holiday

**Lunch**  
**Monday, Dec. 18**  
 Beef, beans, and cheese burritos, salad, tator tots, fruit cocktail, milk  
**Tuesday, Dec. 19**  
 Tuna sandwiches, tator tots, peaches, rice krispie treats, milk  
**Wednesday, Dec. 20**  
 Corn dogs w/mustard, potato patty, applesauce, ice cream, milk  
**Thursday, Dec. 21**  
 Holiday  
**Friday, Dec. 22**  
 Holiday

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**BRYAN'S BARN**  
*this Holiday Season!*  
**Bell Auto Body Shop**

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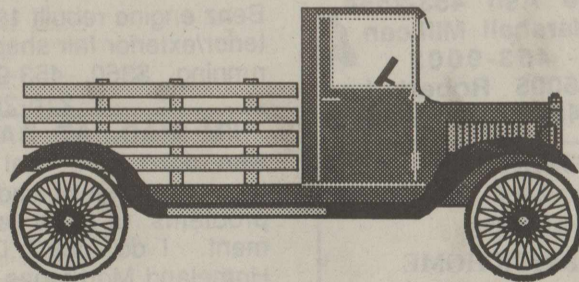
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3:00 pm to 5:00 pm

Monday through Friday



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# Coke County Christmas Business Profiles

## Cracker Barrel

Chris and Katy Ertresvaag have owned the Cracker Barrel in Robert Lee at 801 Commerce since 1986. They

## Grocery stickers will promote beef

Close to 2 million Texans will find out they're just a mouse click away from instant beef information thanks to the beef checkoff program and participating Texas grocery companies.

In early December, the Texas Beef Council (TBC) and nine Texas retailers began placing TBC web site stickers on 2 million fresh beef packages in meat counters across Texas. Each colorful sticker contains the web site address (www.txbeef.org) and the slogan: "got beef? get recipes."

"Research shows that most shoppers don't know what's for dinner when they shop the grocery aisles," says Russell Woodward, TBC's retail manager. "This sticker will remind them, right at the meat case, that delicious beef meal ideas are easily accessible day and night."

The www.txbeef.org site was designed by Texas beef producers for the consumer. It is an electronic treasure trove of information for consumers who are rushed to get a meal on the table or who have questions about beef preparation and cooking. Two of the most heavily visited sections of the site are the recipe database and Ask Anne, where consumers can ask TBC staff their most pressing cooking questions.

"The web site stickers on beef packages will show a huge number of Texas consumers that they have help nearby," says Clay Birdwell of Canyon, a beef producer who worked with TBC to develop the web site. "They no longer have to be confused on how to prepare a particular cut. They can use this site as one more tool to understanding the meat case."

have 18 employees and are open from 6:00 am to 9:00 pm Monday through Saturday. Luncheon specials are served Monday through Friday.

Chris and Katy also do catering for any size occasion, large or small. Their traditional bar-b-que dinners are well received and the peach cobbler is a real treat. Call 453-2375 for details.

Friday nights are all-you-can-eat fish fries. Chris says that they cook from 125 to 130 pounds of fish on any Friday. Chris has served people from every state in the union and from China, Brazil, Norway, and Austria well.

Now it's for sure his onion rings are the most famous in the world.

Chris' last name is Norwegian and he will spell it without being asked. Chris said he

## RL school board to hold public hearing

On December 18, at 6:30 pm, the Robert Lee ISD Board of Trustees will hold a public hearing for the purpose of discussing its Academic Excellence Indicator Report for school year 1999-2000. The hearing will be a part of the board's regular monthly meeting. The public is invited to attend.

The Texas Education Agency issues the Academic Excellence Indicator Report each year. It details each district's and campus' performance on statewide testing, attendance, dropout rate and other indicators. Each district is required to publish an annual performance report, which includes the information on the AEIS. This report will be available for public viewing at several locations after the public hearing.

For 1999-2000, the Texas Education Agency has rated Robert Lee ISD Exemplary. This is the highest rating that a school can achieve. Robert Lee Elementary and Robert Lee High School have also been rated Exemplary.

was too old to do much for fun, but ask him how many fish he caught last week in Mexico. The Ertresvaags have three children.

Gift certificates are available for Christmas and all occasions.

## Cold weather and holiday bring fire concerns

State fire control leaders remind everyone that good fire safety indoors and out will be needed to prevent an increase in fires during the cooler fall and winter months and during the upcoming holiday season.

Cold weather and the upcoming Christmas holiday season signal an increasing likelihood of accidental fires, according to Bobby Young, associate director for forest resource protection with the Texas Forest Service in Lufkin.

Cold weather frequently prompts unsafe efforts to heat homes, said Young, who noted that improperly using kitchen ovens for home heating and unwise placement of space heaters contribute to home fires every year. The former volunteer fire department chief added that the Christmas holiday season typically brings an increase in home fires due to overloaded extension cords, dry natural Christmas trees placed near heat sources and carelessness with holiday candles.

Noting that "it only takes one unsafe act to turn a joyous holiday celebration into a season of sorrow and personal tragedy," Young offered several suggestions to safeguard homes and property from needless fire tragedies.

Avoid overloading extension cords and wall electric outlets. Avoid using multiple plugs to extend the capacity of wall outlets. Don't use kitchen stoves or ovens for home heating. Keep natural Christmas trees well watered



Mrs. Stephens plays the piano for the residents at Robert Lee Care Center.

and away from heat sources such as candles, space heaters and fireplaces. Consider electric lights in place of candles for holiday lighting. When using candles, locate them away from flammable materials and place in containers wide enough to contain candles should they accidentally tip over. Purchase and install smoke detectors, and replace batteries in existing detectors.

Unsafe burning of wrapping paper, gift boxes and natural Christmas trees could spark outdoor fires, according to Mary Kay Hicks, fire prevention coordinator with the Texas Forest Service in Waco. She advises strict attention to outdoor fire safety precautions and recommends that people with natural Christmas trees should consider recycling their trees, rather than burning them. Hicks indicated that used Christmas trees may be ground up for mulch or used to help stabilize sand dunes, build structure for fish in a lake or pond, or provide shelter for birds and other wildlife.

The fire prevention leader suggested that most wildfires

can be prevented through proper outdoor fire safety.

Obey bans on outdoor burning. Keep all outdoor fires well away from dormant vegetation. Before burning leaves and brush, construct wide firebreaks around the material to be burned, and stay with every fire until it is completely out. Avoid burning on dry, windy days. Dispose of smoking materials properly by either putting them in your ashtray or by smothering them with bare mineral soil. When using spark-producing equipment outdoors, remove vegetation from the work area or wet it down prior to and during equipment operation.

If you plan to use fireworks, use them in areas cleared of dead grass and other debris. Read and follow label instructions on how to properly discharge fireworks. Keep tools and water nearby just in case a fire starts. Finally, never allow children to use fireworks without adult supervision.

"Please observe these precautions and help ensure a fire-free holiday for your family," Hicks implored.

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Ask For: **453-2715**

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## BRONTE HOLIDAY TRASH COLLECTION CHANGE

Trash collection for customers north of East Main and West Main will be changed from Christmas Day, Monday, December 25th, to Saturday, December 23rd.

Trash collection for these customers will return to the regularly scheduled day on Monday, January 1, 2001, New Year's Day.

There will be no change in the collection day for customers south of East Main and West Main.


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