

# THE OBSERVER/ ENTERPRISE

Serving Coke County



(USPS 467-480)  
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Friday, March 29, 2002

## Hostage situation ends peacefully in Robert Lee

The small town quiet of Robert Lee was broken Tuesday morning when an armed man took two hostages following a domestic dispute. As area children hunted Easter eggs on the courthouse lawn, a few blocks away Frank Ontiveroz was fighting with his former girlfriend, Cassandra Munoz, in the front yard of her parents' home on Highway 208. A passing motorist contacted the Coke County Sheriff's Department and when Sheriff Rick Styles and Chief Deputy Marshall Millican arrived on the scene at 9:30 am, Ontiveroz produced a pistol and forced Munoz and their eight month old daughter into the trailer house. He then, according to a KLST Channel 8 representative, called a San Angelo television station and advised them to "get out here in a hurry because he was about to start killing people."

Within minutes, on-duty Coke County Sheriff's Deputies Wayne McCutchen and Adam Richter arrived at the scene and were shortly joined by off-duty officers, Jim and Lockie Sailer. Jim is a Coke County Sheriff's Deputy and Lockie is a Lieutenant in the Tom Green

County Sheriff's Department. Members of the Robert Lee Volunteer Fire Department began erecting road blocks on Highway 208 and connecting streets to divert traffic away from the scene.

Officers from Texas Department of Public Safety, Texas Parks and Wildlife, the Texas Rangers, and Tom Green County Sheriff's Department came to assist local law enforcement. Law enforcement was advised that Ontiveroz had access to three weapons - a 30-30 deer rifle, a shotgun and a .38 handgun.

Ontiveroz requested police bring in a friend of his, a DPS officer from the Midland area, for the negotiation process. Just before noon, the officer arrived by helicopter. Negotiations continued throughout the afternoon while officers maintained their positions, sweltering in the bullet proof vests under the hot sun. Tensions were high with the danger to the hostages inside and to the officers, firemen and news people surrounding the perimeter.

At approximately 4 pm, Ontiveroz emerged from the

trailer house with Munoz and their child and was immediately taken into custody by the Coke County Sheriff's Department. He was then transported by Deputy Wayne McCutchen to the Reagan County Jail. As per the agreement reached in negotiations, the Midland DPS officer accompanied him to the Big Lake facility. (Coke County has an agreement with Reagan County to house their long-term prisoners.)

Ontiveroz has been charged with two counts of aggravated assault on a peace officer.

Further charges will be filed through District Attorney Steven Lupton's office.

Sheriff Styles wishes to express his appreciation to all the Coke County citizens and area law enforcement officers who assisted with this incident. He stressed how important it is to Coke County that we continue with two deputies on the east side of the county and two deputies on the west side of the county. "At the best of times, our local law enforcement is stretched to the limit trying to cover a county that includes two towns, two lakes and unfortunately is vulnerable to the same maladies which affect larger communities with much larger law enforcement numbers," stated Sheriff Styles.

### WCCHD & RLISD forced to appoint

West Coke County Hospital District and Robert Lee Independent School District are facing an unusual situation. Neither governing entity have enough people running to fill the vacant offices.

West Coke County Hospital District had one person, Joan Cantrell, file to be placed on the ballot for the May 4 election. WCCHD has three terms expiring that should have been filled by this election. The 2 year terms of Winton Milliff, Linda Burns and Patty Byrne are expiring.

The Robert Lee Independent School District has two 3 year terms and one 1 year term

expiring. These offices are currently held by Jim Gray, Mark Riley and Jess Williamson, respectively. Only Mark Riley and Jim Gray filed to be placed on the ballot for the two 3 year terms. No one filed for the one year term.

The entities' options include the following:

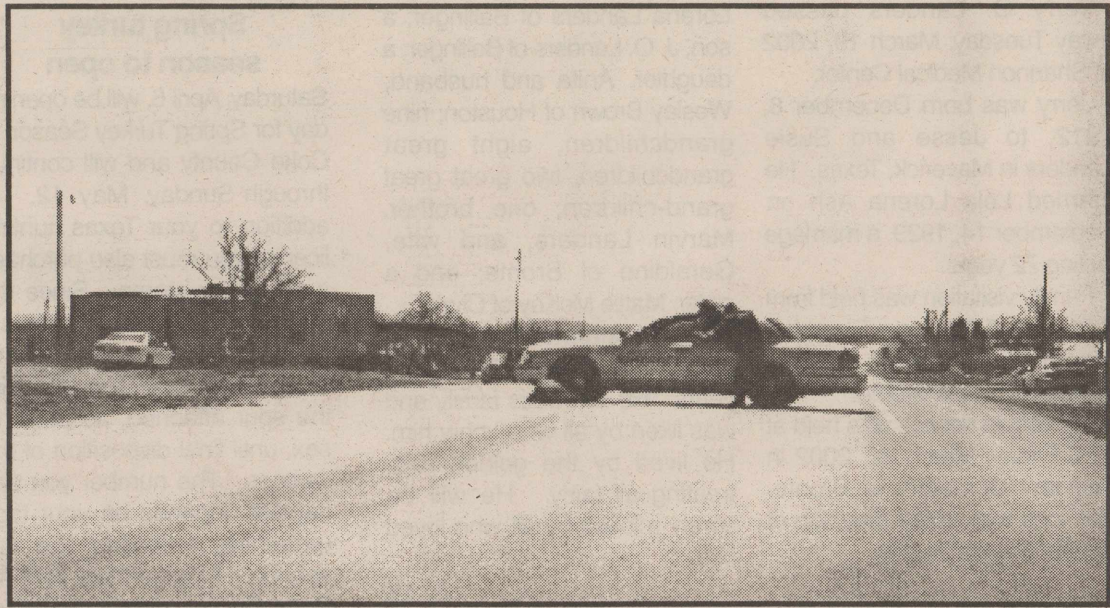
Following the May 4 election, one (or more) current board members could volunteer to be appointed by the remaining members of the board.

The board could appoint a registered voter residing within the district who would be willing to serve on the board.

The West Coke County Hospital District includes the Robert Lee Care Center, a top-notch 83 bed nursing home. It also handles indigent health care for the west side of Coke County.

Robert Lee Care Center employs more people than any business or entity in West Coke County. The Robert Lee Independent School District is the second leading employer with 55 employees and approximately 300 students. The combined economic impact of these two West Coke County entities is extremely important to the Robert Lee area.

If you're interested in being appointed to one of these boards, contact either Robert Lee Independent School District Superintendent Weldon Koepf at 453-4555 or West Coke County Hospital District Administrator Roger Alexander.



Coke County Sheriff's Deputy Jim Sailer uses his car as a shield during the hostage situation on Highway 208 in Robert Lee Tuesday morning, March 26, 2002. Lockie Sailer, Jim's wife and a member of Tom Green County Sheriff's Department, is the marksman shielded by the car's front tire.



These three children take a break and sample the goodies they gathered during the Easter Egg Hunt at Coke County Courthouse Tuesday morning, March 26. The annual event for Coke County children is sponsored by area businesses and individuals.



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 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

---- **Obituaries** ----

**Landers**  
 Jerry O. Landers passed away Tuesday, March 19, 2002 at Shannon Medical Center. Jerry was born December 8, 1912, to Jesse and Susie Landers in Maverick, Texas. He married Lela Lorena Ash on September 14, 1929, a marriage lasting 72 years. Family visitation was held from 5:00 to 7:00 pm Thursday, March 21, 2002 at Shaffer Funeral Home in Bronte. Graveside service was held at 2:00 Friday, March 22, 2002 in Fairview Cemetery in Bronte. Services was under direction of Shaffer Funeral Home.

He is survived by his wife, Lorena Landers of Ballinger; a son, J. O. Landers of Ballinger; a daughter, Anita and husband, Wesley Brown of Houston; nine grandchildren, eight great grandchildren, two great grand-children; one brother, Marvin Landers, and wife, Geraldine of Bronte; and a sister, Mattie McKoy of Clyde. He stockfarmed in Runnels and Coke County for many years. He loved his family and was liked by all who knew him. He lived by the golden rule, treating all fairly. He will be sorely missed by all who loved him.

35-1tc

-- **Death Notices** --

**Torres**  
 Ross Torres, Sr., 61, of Robert Lee died Tuesday, March 19, 2002, in a local hospital. Services were held at 10:00 am on Friday, March 22, 2002, at Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church. Burial followed in the Robert Lee Hispanic Cemetery. Arrangements were by Shaffer Funeral Home. Survivors include his wife, Olga Torres of Robert Lee; one son, Ross Torres, Jr. of Robert Lee; two daughters, Tracy Torres and Cori Torres both of Robert Lee; four brothers, Sebastian Torres of Robert Lee, Julian Torres of Robert Lee; Paul Torres of San Angelo, and Alvin Torres of Robert Lee; one sister, Estolia Barron of San Angelo; and three grandchildren.

**Lafon**  
 Flossie Lafon, 72, of Robert Lee, Texas, died Wednesday, March 20, 2002, in Shannon Medical Center. Funeral services were held at 10 am Monday, March 25, at Turrentine-Jackson-Morrow Funeral Chapel in McKinney, Texas. Burial followed in Wilson Chapel Cemetery in Lowery Crossing, Texas. Survivors include three sons, Michael and wife, Cathy Welborn of Fort Worth, Robert and wife, Vickie Welborn of Trenton and Doug and wife, Jan, of San Angelo; 10 grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; two sisters, Grace Johnson of Arkansas and

Mae Zachary of Celeste, Texas; and two brothers, Frank Brown of Arizona and Jessie Lee Brown of McKinney.

**Coke County courthouse to close**  
 The Coke County courthouse will be closed on Friday, March 29, Good Friday, in celebration of the Easter Holiday. It will be business as usual on Monday, April 1.

**Runoff primary election set for April 9**  
 Coke County will hold a runoff primary election on April 9, a Tuesday. Although no county elections will be on the ballot, state and federal con-tests will be decided. Early voting for the runoff election will start on Monday, April 1 and continue through business hours on Friday, April 5, in the county clerk's office, Coke County courthouse, in Robert Lee. Polling locations for the runoff primary election April 9 will be as follows: Republican Party voters (precincts 1,2,3,4) will cast their ballots in the county courthouse; Democratic Party voters - precincts 1 and 3 will vote in the county courthouse while precincts 2 and 4 will cast ballots at the Depot/Hayrick Lodge in Bronte.

**Spring turkey season to open**  
 Saturday, April 6, will be opening day for Spring Turkey Season in Coke County and will continue through Sunday, May 12. In addition to your Texas hunting license you must also purchase a \$5 turkey stamp. Since the spring season has a gobblers only bag limit, your kill is required to have one leg, with the spur attached, as proof of sex, until final disposition of the carcass. The number you can harvest depends on your tags remaining following the fall season. Original bag limit for Coke County turkeys was four allowed. Most of the other TPW regulations are the same: shotguns or other legal means; decoys, baiting, and calls are allowed; no shooting of roosting turkeys; fill out tags - cut out month and date before attaching securely; and legal hours are 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset.

**Trapper's Assn. dues**  
 Dues for the Coke County Trappers Association will be 7 cents per acre, per year. These dues are needed for us to be able to keep the county trapper in cooperation with Coke County and Texas Animal Damage Control. Without support from the landowners, we would lose our trapper and we can't let that happen. Predation of livestock alone would be devastating to our agricultural economy. Just look north of us, most of the sheep and goat people have gone out of business because they have lost their trapper. Besides livestock losses, predation of our valuable wildlife resources is reason enough to control predators. We would lose a lot more than 7 cents an acre if we couldn't lease our land for hunting. Keeping a county

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**Economic development meeting slated**  
 An economic development meeting is scheduled for Thursday afternoon, March 28, at 5:00 pm in the Robert Lee City Hall. Judy Fort of the Texas Department of Agriculture will be here to discuss re-cent changes in the state economic development pro-grams. She will discuss plans for city improvements and how best to utilize the state programs. She will be available to answer questions following the meeting. Refreshments will be served. Anyone interested is welcomed to attend this meeting. The more people who are aware of the implications of economic development, the better off the city will be. Rural Texas is a minority situation. An informed population can be forceful. The voices of rural people will have to be informed to be heard.

**"Spring forward"**  
 Daylight Savings Time will begin at 2 am on April 7, the first Sunday of the month. Texas will join the rest of the nation as we "spring forward" and turn clocks forward one hour.

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trapper is important to every landowner, whether you run livestock or not. Our county trapper is Bill Davis and can be reached at (915) 484-2490. Please don't hesitate to call him. Dues for 2002 can be sent to: Coke County Trappers Association, PO Box 170, Robert Lee, TX 76945. If you have any questions, call (915) 453-2461.

**BVFD works to eliminate address confusion**  
 As an emergency responder, it is important to locate the emergency as soon as possible. However, many people have failed to present identifiable markings at their residence. There is a big difference between knowing the address and finding the address. Improper addressing could result in delays and be deadly to residents. To eliminate this addressing problem, the Bronte Volunteer Fire Department is initiating a program involving the sale of reflective address signs. These signs are made of fade resistant reflective material highly visible day or night. These signs may be purchased from the Bronte VFD for a nominal charge. Place your order today and help eliminate the problem with address confusion. To place your order call 473-2105.

**St. Mary, Star of the Sea, Ballinger, Texas  
 and the Catholic Churches of Coke County  
 invite you to join us for Holy Week services.**

**Wednesday of Holy Week, March 27th**  
 6:30 pm Seder Meal, St. Mary, Ballinger - Reservations required

**Holy Thursday, March 28th**  
 7:00 pm Mass and Liturgy of Holy Thursday, St. Mary

**Good Friday, March 29th**  
 12:00 pm From the Cross to the Church, St. Mary  
 7:00 pm Good Friday Veneration of the Cross, St. Mary

**Holy Saturday, March 30th**  
 8:00 pm Easter Vigil, St. Mary

**Easter Sunday, March 31st**  
 8:45 am Easter Mass, St. Mary  
 10:00 am Easter Egg Hunt, St. Mary  
 11:15 am Easter Mass, St. Mary  
 5:00 pm Easter Mass, Bronte

**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 & 6 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 • 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



**Gosney - Rieber exchange vows**

Wedding vows uniting Alyssa Rochelle Gosney, M.D. and Daniel Wayne Rieber, both of Houston, Texas, were spoken in an evening ceremony March 23 at the Central Congregational Church, Houston. Reverend John Crimmins officiated.

Parents of the bride are Dr. and Mrs. Michael C. Gosney, Muscle Shoals, Alabama. Her grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. E.S. Herring, Maryneal, Texas, and Mr. and Mrs. Billy C. Gosney, Junction, Texas. The late Mrs. Otis Smith was her great-grandmother.

The bride was given in marriage by her father.

Kimberlee Michelle Gosney, Auburn, Alabama, sister of the bride, was made of honor. Bridesmaids were Susanna Clare Trabue, Nashville, Tennessee; Robin Laura Parker, Houston, Texas; Hillary Graham Stine, Birmingham, Alabama; and Annette Nicole Nielsen, Orlando, Florida.

Christopher Wade Rieber, Houston, Texas, brother of the groom, was best man. Groomsmen were Matthew Lee Parker, Houston, Texas; Matthew Conrad Gosney, Auburn, Alabama; Brady Michael Okes, Bozeman, Montana; and Craig William Aubrey, Fairfield, California.

Ushers were Jeffrey Paul Williams, Austin, Texas; Gregory



Mrs. Daniel Wayne Rieber

Reed Ferris, Houston, Texas; and Derrick Gnam, Austin, Texas.

Soloist was Kimberly Michelle Nesbitt, Auburn, Alabama. The readers were Stacy Bryant Hooper, Birmingham, Alabama and Paul Brian Wise, Houston, Texas. Jodi Lynn Sheppard,

Lubbock, Texas, and Jamie Dean Sheppard, San Angelo, served as registrars.

A reception was held at the Magnolia Ballroom.

After a wedding trip to Zihuatenejo, Mexico, the couple will be at home in Houston.

**---- Upcoming Events ----**

**Region F Water Planning Group meeting slated**

The Region F Water Planning Group will meet on Thursday, March 28, 2002, at 10:30 am or upon adjournment of the public meeting to take comments on the scope of work at the offices of the Colorado River Municipal Water District at 400 East 24th Street in Big Spring, Texas.

**Spring Chicken Affair**

An old fashioned chicken dinner and toe tappin' family entertainment will be "served up" Sunday, April 21st under giant tents at the annual Spring Chicken Affair benefiting West Texas Rehabilitation Center.

Special this year will be the observance of the 20th anniversary of this popular event which originated in 1983 when Bill Brooks, who was owner of Southern Sea Restaurant as well as a member of the Rehab Center Board of Directors, invited neighboring Southwest Bank (now San Angelo National Bank) to "team up" and stage the event.

Tickets for the event - to be held from 11 am to 2 pm - are available in advance at the

Rehab Center and at two of the sponsoring businesses - San Angelo National Bank and H-E-B Food Store. They'll also be available at the event which will be held be-hind SANB at 3453 Knickerbocker Road.

The third sponsor of the event - San Angelo Restaurant Association - is providing the expertise and personnel to prepare and serve the Sunday-after-church chicken dinner with all the trimmings. (SARA & H-E-B both came on board in 1997.) And as always, there'll be live musical entertainment that's fun

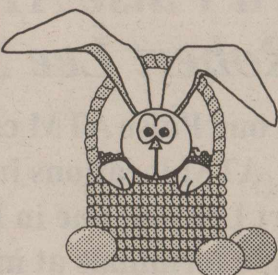
for the whole family.

In 19 years, the Spring Chicken Affair has raised more than \$380,000 for the Rehab Center, thanks to the generous support of sponsors, vendors and the more than 4,000 people who attend each year. Also the event is supported by those who have other activities on that Sunday but stop by to get take-out orders.

West Texas Rehab Center is a non-profit organization which provides outpatient rehabilitation care each year to more than 20,000 children and adults.

**THE KIDS OF COKE COUNTY**

Say THANKS to Coke County businesses and organizations. You provided us with an Easter Egg Hunt that we will not soon forget. You make growing up in a rural county wonderful.



- Silver/Robert Lee Lions Club
- Coke County Courthouse Employees
- Robert Lee City Hall Employees
- Debbie McCabe/Merle Norman
- Rock Sold Communications
- Cathy's Flowers & Gifts

- Key Feed Store
- Wackenhut
- Super H
- Especially For You
- Robert Lee State Bank
- Texas Gamebirds

- Ben Bessent Chevrolet
- Carwile Insurance
- Adams Abstract
- Skinner's Grocery
- Beth Prather
- Russell Johnson

& a very special thank you to the Easter Bunny!

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



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CARWILE INSURANCE 453-2522

LONE STAR CARDS WELCOME



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501 Commerce - Robert Lee, TX

Store Hrs: Mon.-Sat. 8-8 Sun. 8-6

SPECIALS GOOD 3/27 Thru 4/2

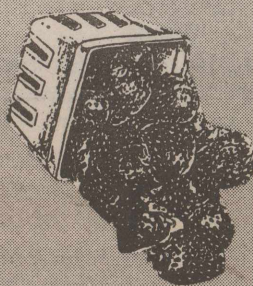
**Cook's Butt Half Ham**  
Lb. **\$1.09**

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

Whole In The Bag

**Whole Brisket**

Lb. **.89**



California

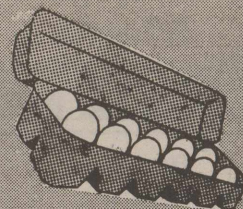
**Strawberries**

Lb. **\$1.49**

Grade "A" IGA Medium

**Eggs**

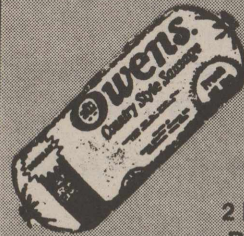
2 12 Ct. Pkg. **/\$1**



Regular or Hot

**Owens Roll Sausage**

2 Lb. Roll **\$2.98**



**C & H Sugar**

4 Lb. Bag

**.99**

Limit 1, Thereafter \$1.29



Selected Varieties

**Gandy's or Country Charm Ice Cream**

2 1/2 Gal. Ctn. **/\$6**



# ROBERT LEE SCHOOL NEWS

## Varsity girls track results

In the Sonora track meet on March 16, the Robert Lee varsity girls placed 7th as a team with 51 points.

Shot put - 2nd - B. Sparks - 33' 5.75

Discus - 2nd - B. Sparks - 103' 11"

Pole vault - 1st (tie) S. Wojtek - 6' 6", 3rd - V. Cerritos - 6' 6"

Triple jump - 1st - S. Wojtek - 32' 6"

400 relay - 4th - B. Soliz, K. Soliz, S. Wojtek, R. Wallace - 55.98

200 relay - 5th - S. Wojtek - 28.54

In the Eden track meet on March 23, the varsity girls placed 2nd with a score of 119.

Shot put - 1st - B. Sparks - 30' 9.75

Discus - 1st - B. Sparks

Pole vault - 1st - V. Cerritos - 7' 0", 2nd - S. Wojtek - 6' 6"

Triple jump - 1st - S. Wojtek - 33' .5", 5th - B. Soliz - 26' 9"

Long jump - 6th - B. Soliz - 13' 6"

High jump - 3rd - K. Soliz - 4' 10"

3200 - 4th - N. Sanchez - 14:05.2, 5th - M. Rodriguez - 14:27.3

400 relay - 4th - B. Soliz, K. Soliz, R. Wallace, S. Wojtek - 54.62

100 hurdles - 5th - T. Lott - 19.15

800 relay - 2nd - B. Soliz, K. Soliz, T. Lott, S. Wojtek - 1:57.66

400 - 3rd - R. Wallace - 67.17

200 - 1st - S. Wojtek - 28.64

1600 - 4th - N. Sanchez - 6:32.3, 5th - M. Rodriguez - 6:32.8

1600 relay - 4th - C. Middleton, R. Wallace, L. Roe, A. Parker - 4:55.61

## RL Jr. High track results

On March 21st, the junior high track team traveled to Christoval for their track meet. The running events were called off because of the weather but field events totaled 66 points and are as follows.

### A-girls

Triple jump - 2nd - Kyla Millican - 24' 9 1/2", 3rd - Sarah Philley - 24' 1 1/4", 4th - Jaden Alexander - 23' 4 1/2"

High jump - 1st - Cara Eaton - 4' 8", 3rd - Kelsy Duncan - 4' 2"

Shot put - 1st - Tasha Aguirre - 24' 8 1/2", 2nd - Carolina Vera - 24' 4 1/2", 5th - Tiffany Bagwell - 21' 10 1/2"

Long jump - 2nd - Brettie Reed - 11' 8 1/4", 4th - Andra Braswell - 11' 3/4", 5th - Cassidy Wink - 10' 11 3/4"

Discus - 2nd - Tasha Aguirre - 66' 3 1/2", 3rd - Carolina Vera - 62' 7", 4th - Tiffany Bagwell - 59' 3 1/2"

### B-girls

Shot put - 1st - Becca Skinner - 23' 9 1/2", 3rd - Dixie Johnson - 21', 6th - Rosa Rojas - 19' 1 1/2"

Discus - 3rd - Becca Skinner - 48' 6 1/2", 4th - Rosa Rojas - 47', 5th - Katie Bessent - 39' 1/2"

Robert Lee varsity boys track results  
In the Eden Bulldog Relays held on March 23, the Robert Lee varsity boys were team champions with 186 points.

400 M relay - 1st - Stewart Millican, Bret Ballew, Taylor Clendennen, Anson Lott - 44.99

110 M high hurdles - 2nd - Anson Lott - 16.39, 3rd - Brian Abalos - 18.89

800 M run - 2nd - J. J. Reyes - 2:14.8

100 M dash - 4th - Taylor Clendennen - 11.56

400 M dash - 1st - Bret Ballew - 51.04, 3rd - Colby Eubanks - 54.55

300 Int. hurdles - 1st - Anson Lott - 42.52

200 M dash - 5th - Taylor Clendennen - 24.50

1600 M run - 3rd - Andy Mulkey - 5:47.59

1600 M relay - 1st - Stewart Millican, Colby Eubanks, J. J. Reyes, Bret Ballew - 3:38.45

3200 M run - 3rd - Andy Mulkey - 12:26

Long jump - 4th - Bret Ballew - 18' 10", 5th - Anson Lott - 18' 4"

High jump - 2nd - Colby Eubanks - 5' 10"

Shot put - 1st - Cooper Riley - 44' 4 3/4", 3rd - Charles Abalos - 43' 5 3/4", 4th - Adam Cates - 42' 10 1/2"

Discus - 2nd - Cooper Riley - 126' 5", 3rd - Sean Edging - 121' 3", 4th - Charles Abalos - 120' 1"

Pole Vault - 1st - Stewart Millican - 12', 2nd - Travis Pitcock - 10'

Triple jump - 3rd - Colby Eubanks - 37' 6", 4th - Brian Abalos - 36' 5"

## RL boys golf results

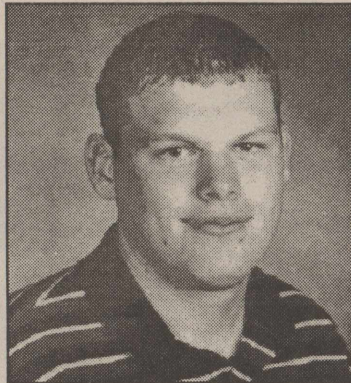
In the Merkel Invitational Tournament held March 11th, Robert Lee finished in 5th place out of an 11 team field.

Team Scores: 1st - Merkel - 299, 2nd - Abilene High JV - 309, 3rd - Clyde - 316, 4th - Anson - 325, 5th - Robert Lee - 329

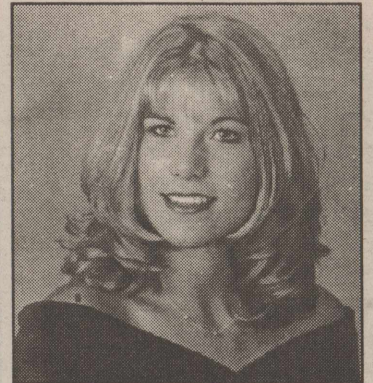
Robert Lee Scores: Stewart Millican 78, Saloman Saucedo 79, Josh Alexander 85, Evan Braswell 87, Omar Saucedo 87, Cody Bridges 102, Alan Roe 114.

Robert Lee won their own Invitational Tournament on March 20, shooting a team score of 340, twelve shots ahead of 2nd place Eldorado (352) and 15 ahead of third place Ballinger (355). Other team scores included: (tie) 4th - Coahoma & Irion County - 359, 6th - Cross Plains - 372, 7th - Forsan - 375, 8th - Bronte - 377, 9th - Eden - 378, 10th - Rankin - 383, 11th - Roby - 413, 12th - Miles - 418, 13th - Christoval - 436.

Saloman Saucedo won the medalist honors with the lowest round of the day with a 76. Stewart Millican won a five-way playoff for the third place medal



Cooper Riley



Whitney Millican

with an 83.

Other Robert Lee scores: Josh Alexander 97, Omar Saucedo 88, Evan Braswell 93, Cole Flanagan 93, Cody Bridges 100.

## Millican, Riley named to All West Texas super teams

Two Robert Lee basketball stars have been named to the San Angelo Standard Times All West Texas Basketball Super Team. In addition to Jodee Helwig being named the MVP for the girls' team (reported last week), Cooper Riley was named to the boys' team, and Whitney Millican was listed on the girls' squad.

Cooper, a junior post for the Steers, averaged 13.9 points per game during the season and 7.6 rebounds. He also averaged 2.5 shot blocks/game per playoff team.

Whitney, a senior post for the Lady Steers, averaged 15.4 points/game during the season and 5.2 rebounds.

Congratulations to these outstanding athletes.

## RL girls golf results

On March 12th, the Robert Lee girls shot a 417 at San Saba, finishing 6th out of eleven

teams. Baird girls won the tournament with a 356.

Robert Lee scores: Whitney Millican 93, Shanna Wojtek 101, Amber Brosh 110, Lindsey Roe 113, Julie Riley 117.

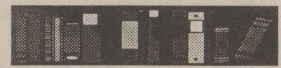
The Robert Lee Girls Tournament (March 19) was canceled due to the recent rains.

## Seniors making career decisions

Mr. Jim Glossbrenner, representative of Panhandle-Plains Student Loan Center, will meet with Robert Lee High School Seniors at 9:30 am on April 9, 2002. Mr. Glossbrenner served as Director of Counseling and Career Services at ASU for many years. He will speak to the students about choosing a college, making the most of financial aid, determining a career direction, and selecting an academic program that supports the career objective.

Mr. Glossbrenner will also present a financial aid program for parents at 6:30 pm in the high school library. At that time, he will present a thorough financial aid overview and answer questions. A small scholarship will be awarded to one of the students whose parents attend the presentation.

## School Menu



### Breakfast

#### Monday, April 1

Orange juice/apple juice, cinnamon roll, cold cereal, milk

#### Tuesday, April 2

Orange juice/apple juice, pizza, cereal, milk

#### Wednesday, April 3

Orange juice/apple juice, burrito, cereal, milk

#### Thursday, April 4

Orange juice/apple juice, muffins, cereal, milk

#### Friday, April 5

Orange juice/apple juice, donut, cereal, milk

### Lunch

#### Monday, April 1

Pizza, corn, salad, chocolate pudding, milk

#### Tuesday, April 2

Chicken O's, macaroni & cheese, peas, rolls, pears, milk

#### Wednesday, April 3

Baked potato, chili, crackers, broccoli, fruit cocktail, milk

#### Thursday, April 4

Steakfingers, gravy, creamed potatoes, green beans, bread, peaches, milk

#### Friday, April 5

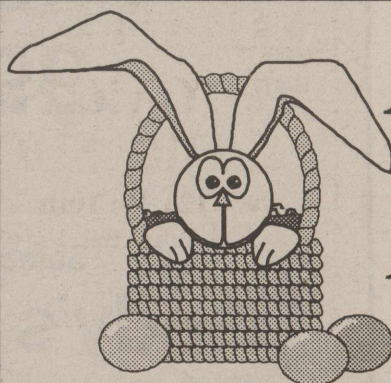
Hamburger, salad, pickles, onion, tator tots, applesauce, milk

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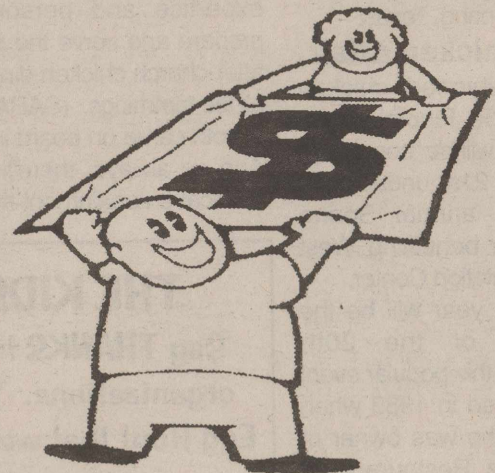
# Happy Easter

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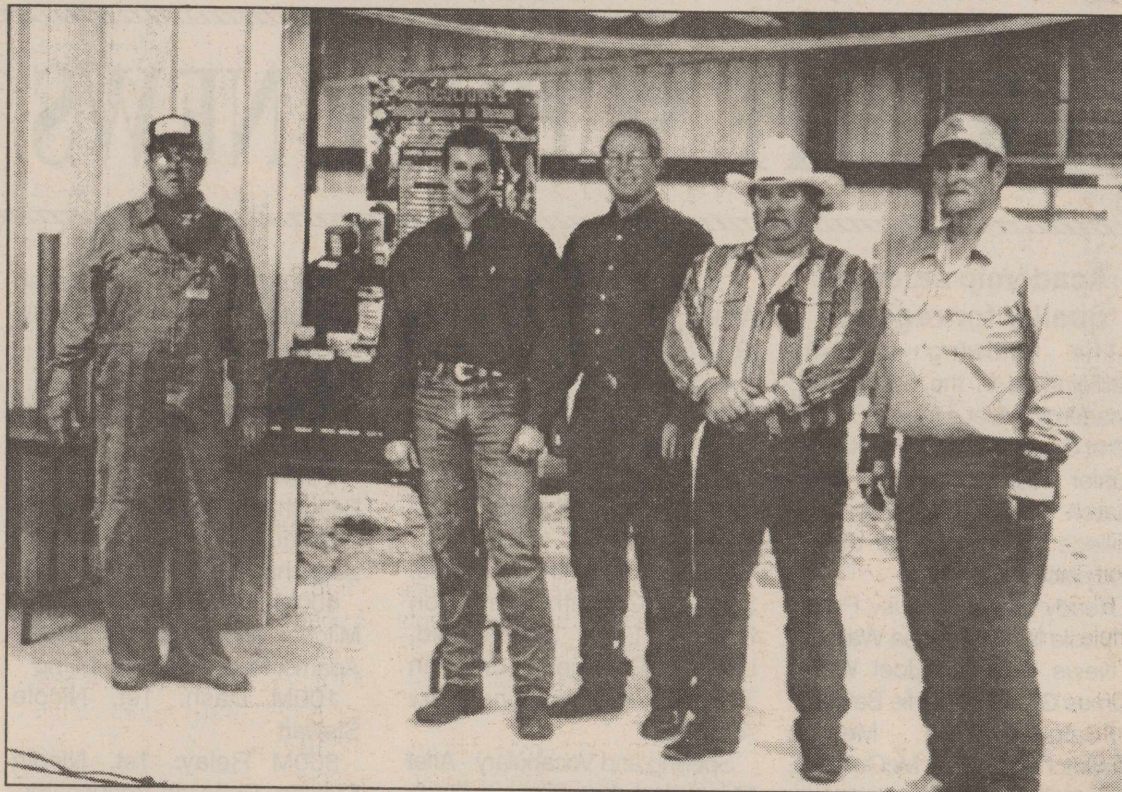
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Bobby Roberts, President of Coke-Sterling Farm Bureau, and Jeffie Roberts demonstrate butter making to Bronte, Robert Lee and Sterling City 4th grade students at the Ag Day held March 21 at the Sterling Lindsey Memorial Building in Robert Lee. Approximately 86 students, teachers, administrators, directors, demonstrators and guests attended the event sponsored by Coke-Sterling Farm Bureau.

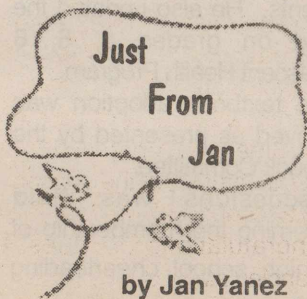


Coke-Sterling Counties Farm Bureau sponsored an Ag Day March 21 at the Sterling Lindsey Memorial Building in Robert Lee. Organizers of the event include (from left) Bobby Roberts, Sutton Page, Russell Davis, Jeff Eubanks and John Stephens.

**RL Junior varsity track results**

Shot put - 1st - Chris Eubanks - 35' 2 1/2", 6th - Robert Sailer - 31' 2 3/4"  
 Discus - 1st - Chris Eubanks - 108' 3", 4th - Robert Sailer - 95' 9"  
 400 M dash - 3rd - Adam Caston - 1:01.39, 5th - Shelby Sailer - 1:09.35

Story Hour is Tuesday at 10:00. Head Start story time is Wednesday at 9:30. Books may be returned in Bronte to the Main Street Market.



by Jan Yanez  
 Cooperative Extension Agent

**Easter eggs safe handling**

Eggs have long been a part of Easter feasts and spring festivals - a good reason to ensure egg hunts remain fun and safe for children as well as adults.

Questions often arise concerning safety of Easter eggs and their consumption after the egg hunt. These guidelines can help consumers in selecting, storing, preparing and handling of eggs before and after the hunt:

\*When purchasing eggs, choose cartons that have no cracked eggs. Use eggs within four to five weeks after purchase.

\*Keep fresh eggs stored in the original carton and in the coldest section of the refrigerator, never on the door where drafts can create fluctuation in temperature.

\*Hard-cooked eggs have a recommended maximum storage time of five to seven days. Plan to hard-cook and color eggs only a day or two



Robert Lee 4th grade students and teachers were among those watching as John Stephens discusses farm machinery at the Coke-Sterling Counties Farm Bureau Ag Day held March 21 at the Sterling Lindsey Memorial Building in Robert Lee.

before the event. To hard-cook eggs safely, place eggs in a single layer in a pan. Add water to cover eggs at least an inch. Cover pan and bring to a rapid boil. Turn off heat or reduce heat to maintain a gentle simmer. Let eggs remain in the pan for 15 to 20 minutes to assure doneness. When done, run cold water over eggs to cook quickly.

\*Once eggs are hard-cooked, store in the refrigerator. Don't leave at room temperature.

\*If you plan to eat eggs that have been decorated, use only food coloring or specially made food-grade egg dyes.

\*Don't color or hide cracked eggs. The cracks allow contamination of eggs from an outside source such as dye or dirt.

\*Consider hiding places carefully. Avoid places that may come into contact with pets or

other animals, lawn chemicals or insects.

\*Refrigerate eggs after hidden and found, if you plan to eat them. Follow the two hour rule. Eggs to be eaten should not remain out of the refrigerator for more than two hours.

\*A good practice is to wash Easter eggs that have been in the hunt before eating them.

\*Avoid handling eggs as much as possible. Each step in handling provides an opportunity for contamination.

**Youth and tobacco**

Did you know that nicotine is an addictive as alcohol, cocaine,

and heroin? Cigarette smoking is the most common form of drug addiction and it causes more death and disease than all other addictions combined.

It is also proven that the younger a person starts to smoke the more likely they are to become addicted to nicotine, and 40% of teenagers who smoke daily have tried to quit and failed.

If you haven't started - stay smart. If you already smoke and would like to quit, there are places to get help. For more information call the Mesquite Country Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse (915) 235-8955.

**Check Out**  
  
**Coke Co. Library**

The Easter egg hunt on the courthouse lawn Tuesday, March 26, was enjoyed by all the Story Hour children. Those responsible for the event are to be congratulated on another great treat for little ones. Memories are made from occasions such as these.

Story Hour graduation has been set for Tuesday, April 30, at 10 am in Bryan's mini park. Each child will receive a hat and a diploma signifying a year's participation in the story hour program at the Coke County Library.

Several boxes of books have recently been donated to the library. The donations are appreciated. Many readers enjoy looking over the donations and choosing reading materials from the do-nations before the books are put on the shelves.

Library hours are Tuesdays, 8-12; Wednesdays, 8-4; Thursdays, 1-5; Fridays, 8-12.

**THANK YOU ...**  
 To all those who supported me in the Coke County Democratic Primary, I sincerely appreciate your thoughts and prayers.  
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 Pd. Pol. Adv. by George Brickey

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# BRONTE SCHOOL NEWS

## Academic students qualify for regional

The following students participated in the District UIL Academic Meet either on March 19 at Early, Texas, at the Ranger Junior College Campus, or on March 22 in Ranger on the college campus. The events and placings follow:

Ready Writing - Daisy Porter, Chrissie Israel, Melissa Walker

News Writing - Joel Webb, James Graves, Charlie Bettis

Feature Writing - Morgan McCutchen, Ashley McCutchen, Jeremy Sanchez

Editorial Writing - Ariel Marrs, Morgan McCutchen, Jeremy Sanchez

Headline Writing - Morgan McCutchen (placed 3rd, will advance to regional contest in Abilene on April 20), Ariel Marrs (6th), Katy Frazee

Number Sense - Logan Acker, Garrett Jackson, Casey McKee, Lacy Schoenfield

Current Events and Issues - Anthony Flores, Jenna Herold, Brandon Poehls (6th), Jeremy Sanchez

Poetry Interpretation - Ariel Marrs, Ashleigh Kelly

Prose Interpretation - Anthony Flores, Amy Morgan, Ashley Torres

Computer Applications - Corin Garcia (7th), Ashley Denton, Ashley Torres

Calculator Applications - Ashleigh Kelly, Heather Richey (9th), Scott Snyder, Joe'l Sefcik

Accounting - Britni Adams, Stormy White, Natasha Reed, Mindy Boyd (4th), (team of Mindy Boyd, Stormy White, and Britni Adams placed 3rd, 2nd alternate)

Science - Anthony Flores, Shawn Gilbreth, Brandon Poehls, Lacy Schoenfield, Lindsay Springer, Jonathan Tomes (7th, Top Chemistry Alternate)

Spelling and Vocabulary - Ariel Marrs (1st), Katy Frazee (2nd), Amy Morgan (3rd), Lindsey Williams (4th, Alt.). As a team, they were the 1st Place Spelling Team and will advance to regional on April 20.

Social Studies - Kelly Cooper, Britney McCutchen, Codi Monsey, Chrissie Counts

Mathematics - Jasmine Kresta, Jonathan Tomes, Lacy Schoenfield, Ashleigh Kelly

## Bronte varsity girls' tracksters post placings at Eden

Listed below are the varsity girls' placings at the Eden Track Meet on March 23:

400 Relay - Reed, Williams, McCutchen, Monsey - 1st, 52.66

800 Meters - Kresta, 3:18, Acker, 3:29

100 Meters - Johnson, 2nd, 13.70; Springer, 5th, 14.57; Graves, 15.03

400 Meters - Monsey, 1st, 63.46

300 Hurdles - Richey, 1st, 55.31

200 Meters - Johnson, 6th, 32.14; Springer, 32.42

1600 Meters - Howell, 6.46

3200 Meters - Howell, 14:04.82, 3rd

Long Jump - Monsey, 1st, 16'4"

High Jump - Monsey, 2nd, 5'0"

Triple Jump - Kresta, 26'10"; Sefcik, 24'8"

Shot Put - Springer, 2nd, 28'10 1/2"; Kelly, 4th, 27'7 3/4"; Reed, 5th, 26'9 1/2"

Discus - Schoenfield, 4th, 87'; Kelly, 5th, 79'2"; Springer, 6th, 78'9"

Bronte Jr. High girls' track results at Eden

8th Grade

High Jump: 1st, Lillian McMullan; 4th, Katie Cooper

Long Jump: 1st, Lillian McMullan; 2nd, Christan Kelly

Triple Jump: 1st, Sarah Basquez; 3rd, Cheyenne Webb

Discus: 3rd, Melissa Palmer; 4th, Rebecca Rawlings

1600M Relay: 1st, Sarah Basquez, Megan Gibbs, Katie Cooper, Rebecca Rawlings

## 7th Grade

High Jump: 2nd, Sarah Adams

Shot Put: 1st, Rebekah Beauchamp, 6th, Lauhren White

Discus: 1st, Rebekah Beauchamp, 6th, Lauhren White

400M Relay: 2nd, Heather Mitchel, Nicole Stewart, Sarah Adams, Rebekah Beauchamp

100M Dash: 1st, Nicole Stewart

800M Relay: 1st, Nicole Stewart, Rebekah Beauchamp, Sarah Adams, Heather Mitchell

200M: Heather Mitchell; 4th, Crystal Wallar

## Bronte JH boys post results from Eden

The Bronte Shorthorns ran well at the Eden Track Meet this past Thursday, finishing third overall. Standouts in the boys "A" division were Logan Rawls, placing 1st in the 800, Jaylon Saunders placed 1st in the high jump, and Zach White placing 2nd and 3rd in the disc and shot.

In the boys "B" division Philip Rawlings placed first in both the long and triple jump. Eric Hendrickson placed second in the triple jump, and Jonathan Ehl placed second in the 800 meter run.

Bronte ISD school board news

The Bronte ISD Board of Trustees held its regular meeting on March 21, 2002, 7:00 pm. David Scott, Doug Hoyt, and Bob Frazee were absent from the meeting.

Principals' reports were given by Rick Howell, Secondary Principal, Terry Marrs, Elementary Principal, and Byron Griffin CCJJC. Mr. Howell's report included TAAS testing results, one act play, UIL participation, and track meets on March 28th and April 5th. Mr. Marr's report included a current enrollment of 181, TAAS testing and the parent's TAAS testing meeting. Mr. Griffin's report



Bronte High School students advancing to the regional competition include (from left) Brandon Poehls, Ariel Marrs, Jonathan Tomes, Morgan McCutchen and Katy Frazee.

included a current enrollment of 197 and the GED testing results.

Alan Richey, Superintendent, presented a survey from the Health Advisory Committee that will be given to the high school students. He also updated the board on grades 4, 5, 6 Adolescent Health Program.

The textbook adoption was approved as presented by the Textbook Committee.

Discussions was held concerning the membership of the high school cheerleading squad.

The board nominated by resolution Charles Sonnenberg to fill the vacancy on the Coke County Appraisal District Board. Votes were cast for the ESC Region XV board of directors.

The board approved amending the 2001-2002 budget on Special Education Funding, changing the board meeting dates in April and May to April 9th - 7:00 pm and May 8th - 8:00 pm and paying the February 2002 bills.

Approval was also given by the board to offer contracts to Certified Personnel for the 2002-2003 school year. Auxiliary personnel were reviewed.

Alan Richey, Superintendent, updated the board on the

facilities/construction. The Site-Based Retreat set for Saturday, April 13, 2002, was discussed.

The next regularly scheduled board meeting will be April 9 at 7:00 pm.

## Tomes participates in Beach Reach mission

Bronte resident Trey Tomes recently took part in a Beach Reach mission trip sponsored by Hardin-Simmons University's Baptist Student Ministry. From Thursday, March 9, through Friday, March 16, a group of 19 HSU students was in South Padre Island, Texas, witnessing to the crowd of an estimated 50,000 college students that pass through there for spring break.

Throughout the week, HSU's mission team provided free van rides to and from various locations on the island, passed out sunscreen lotion, provided a free breakfast, and held a sand castle building contest. Each of these services was designed to open up opportunities for witnessing to the individuals the team members came into contact with. The main goal of the entire trip was to use these services as a vehicle for sharing the Gospel.



## Breakfast

Monday, April 1

NO SCHOOL

Tuesday, April 2

Cereal, apple sauce, trail mix, toast, milk

Wednesday, April 3

French toast sticks, orange juice, milk

Thursday, April 4

Sausage, grape juice, biscuit, milk

Friday, April 5

Breakfast pizza, sliced peaches, milk

## Lunch

Monday, April 1

NO SCHOOL

Tuesday, April 2

Chicken nugget with gravy, creamed potatoes, sweet corn, rolls, rice krispie bars, milk

Wednesday, April 3

Lasagna, tossed salad, corn on the cob, bread sticks, jello, milk

Thursday, April 4

Grilled cheese sandwich, beef & vegetable soup, carrot sticks, corn bread, chocolate cake, milk

Friday, April 5

Chopped bar-b-que sandwich, French fries, pinto beans, pickle spears, bun, sugar cookies, milk

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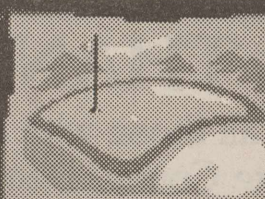
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COUNTRY AGENTS NEWS

By Tommy Antilley  
Cooperative Extension Agent

Managing for high quality hay

Hay is the most common source of stored food used in livestock operations. Producing high quality hay should be one of the producer's highest concerns. Hay harvested at the proper stage of plant growth and undamaged by weather provides nutrients at a minimal cost compared to other high quality supplemental feeds. Whether you are raising legumes, such as alfalfa, forage sorghums or grass hay, special attention is required to details and constant management to produce high quality hay.

High quality hay is palatable dry forage, highly digestible, with sufficient nutrients to meet the nutritional needs of livestock. High quality hay requires a minimum of or no additional supplementation, if baled at a moisture level to prevent spoilage yet moist enough to prevent shattering losses, and is free of foreign matter, weeds and molds. Determination of high quality hay is a combination of both physical factors and the nutritional status.

The most important factors that determine high quality hay include stage of maturity at harvest, soil fertility, nutritional status of the plant, available moisture during the growing season, season of the year, ratio of leaves to stems and stem size, weed control, foreign matter and harvesting. Of all the factors that influence hay quality, stage of maturity or age of the plant at harvest is the most important. More than 70% of the quality of hay is determined by stage of maturity at harvest. As a plant matures toward heading, flowering and seed formation, the growth pattern changes from vegetative state (production of leaves and growth) to reproductive state (production of hard stem and seed head). During the vegetative state, all of the nutrients the plant takes in goes to production of leaves and sugars. Once the plant begins to mature and goes into reproductive state, all of the nutrients go to development of hard stem cells and seed head production. As plants produce more hard stem cells, the digestibility goes down rapidly. This is caused by increased production of lignin (cells that increase rigidity of the plant but are indigestible and similar to wood fibers). A 1% increase in digestibility of a warm season forage results in a 5% increase in animal production.

The proper stage of growth for harvesting forages is the time when the greatest amount of total digestible nutrients per acre may be obtained. This usually represents the best compromise between quality and yield. The younger the plant is the more quality or digestibility it has and the more mature a plant is it

becomes less digestible but increases in yield.

Research has shown that forage is higher quality in spring and fall and lower in mid-summer. Also, hay harvested in late afternoon has proven to be more palatable and preferred by livestock over hay cut in the morning.

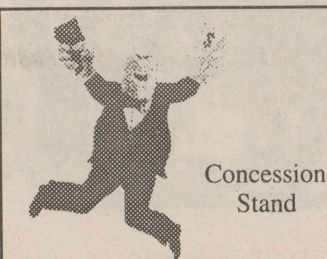
There have been several varieties, crosses, hybrids, etc. developed over the last several years. Some of the newest innovations in forage varieties include Brown Mid-Rib or BMR varieties. These varieties are characterized by the mid-rib in the leaves being a brown tinge, but the most important fact about these varieties is that they produce much less lignin or hard stem cells making them more palatable for livestock. Trials have proven, the BMR varieties are more readily grazed, in fact preferred by livestock and cattle grazing these actually gained 37 more pounds per acre than standard hybrid grazers. Another new innovation is both hay grazers and millets that have a photosynthesis gene bred in them making them more productive during the summer and fall. These varieties will "wait" for rain so to speak. If available moisture is not present, unlike most other grazers that put up seed heads and are basically finished, these new varieties won't change to the reproductive stage until the daylight hours become shorter in the fall.

All in all, hay quality can be determined by several factors, such as beginning with a good quality seed or variety, hopefully getting enough rain and most importantly, harvesting when the plant is in the most nutrient rich, palatable and digestible stage of growth. Do not wait until it begins to harden and put out seed heads, because the digestibility is already gone. For additional information on hay quality, contact the Cooperative Extension Service office.

RLVFD memorials and donations

Memorials

- Louise Clendennen  
Winnie Pitcock
- Bea Patterson  
Winnie Pitcock  
Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Rasco
- Evelyn McKinley  
Winnie Pitcock  
Bobby & Joyce Walker  
Wanda Caulder  
Donald Walker



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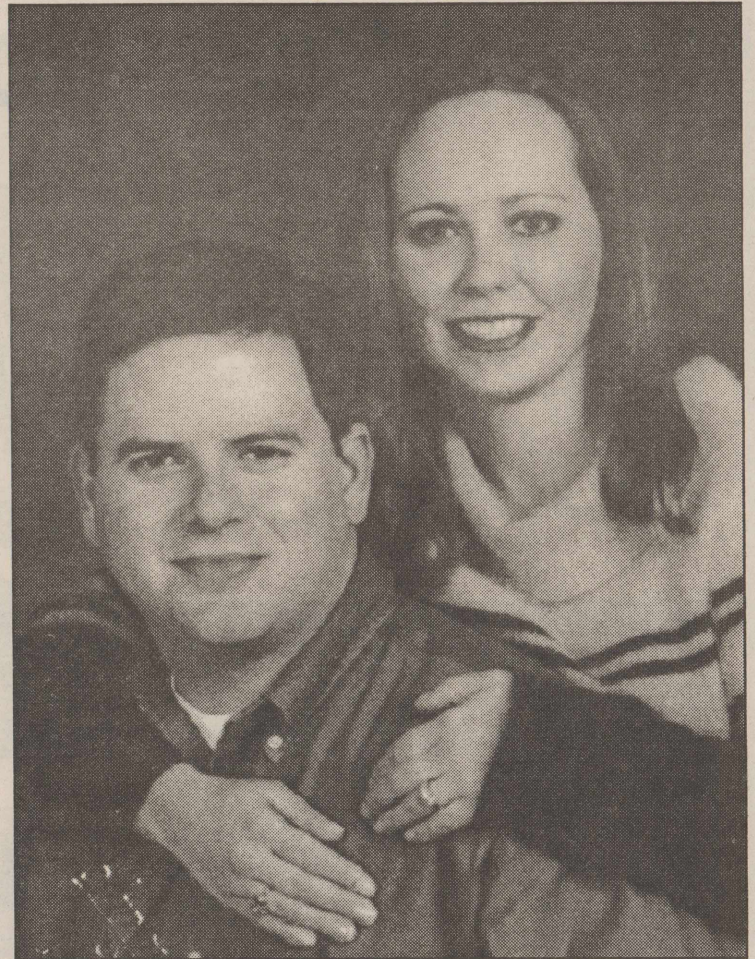
McDaniel - Davis announce engagement

Alicia Lynn McDaniel and Copie Davis, both of Austin, Texas will be married on June 8, 2002, at the First Baptist Church in Longview, Texas.

Parents of the engaged couple are Mr. and Mrs. Richard L. McDaniel, Jr. of Longview and Mr. and Mrs. Garland Davis of Robert Lee.

Miss McDaniel is a 1997 graduate of the University of Texas at Austin with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Spanish.

Mr. Davis is a 1994 graduate of Angelo State University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Communications.



Copie Davis and Alicia Lynn McDaniel

- Clarine Kennedy  
Mike and Fran Lomas
- Donna Wallace  
Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Rasco
- Wilton Scott  
Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy Mathis
- O. B. Jacobs  
Wanda Caulder  
Bobby & Joyce Walker  
Donald Walker  
Debbie McCabe  
Wilberm & Charlotte Millican

- Wayne McCabe  
Carroll & Amanda Wilkes  
Mrs. Vaughn Davis  
Clayton & Pansy Blood-worth  
Maurice & Elna Duncan  
Debbie McCabe  
Joe & DeeAnna Harmon  
Winton & Virginia Milliff  
Wilberm & Charlotte Millican  
Mr. & Mrs. Bill Blair

- Wes Kinsey  
Wilberm & Charlotte Millican  
Mr. & Mrs. Bill Blair

- Lucile Bryan  
Mary May Wylie  
Priscilla Davis & family  
Mike & Fran Lomas

- Omelia May Thompson  
Mr. & Mrs. Phillip Latronica

- Cotton Beasley  
Tommy & JoAnn Clifton
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Lee Chapter 187  
Gladys Middleton

Bronte Sorosis club news

The Sorosis Club of Bronte met March 14 in the home of Diane Luckett. It was time for our silent auction and there were many items to choose from. Some "good natured" bantering went on throughout the evening as we tried to out bid each other on our favorite items.

Marilyn Bivins read a letter that was sent to the Bronte City

Council from the Sorosis Club regarding the digging of a trench for a water pipe. We volunteered to help with food, drinks and clean up if this becomes reality.

Mary Frances Glenn said we needed to decide if we want to screen paint t-shirts at our next meeting. Ron Cooper will help us with that. The ones who wanted to ordered t-shirts. We decided that we will wear the t-shirts when we appear as a group for public events.

Fran Crumpler, a guest, spoke to us about the Bronte swimming pool. She had a flyer that told the sad state it is in and what we can do about it. The club voted to put an ad in the paper supporting the renovation. We will also assist by writing letters to the editor and putting flyers in businesses, etc.

We discussed having a part in the city-wide garage sale on May 4. We will set up tables on the bank parking lot.

Janet Wommack presented a Texas Trivia program. We divided into three groups and

competed to see who knew the most about our wonderful state. We decided we needed to brush up on Texas history. Everyone got a prize. It was a Texas shaped candy dish with Easter grass and chocolate malt eggs.

Celia Bowden won the Chinese auction.

Our next meeting will be in Ron Cooper's studio where he will make a presentation and help us screen paint our t-shirts.

While the members enjoyed refreshments, Swan showed them The Cloth which we will use for a fund raising project. It is a miracle fiber cloth that has countless uses including: housecleaning, personal care, car washing, and too many others to list here. Come to the garage sale and see what all it can do.

Members present were: Marilyn Bivins, Diane Luckett, Doris Sims, Celia Bowden, Jean Fancher, Earline Moore, Mary Glenn, Mary Frances Glenn, Janet Wommack, Fredna Moore, Swan Archinal and our guest Fran Crumpler.

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Peppers	Begonia	Petunia
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	Ganzinia	
	Petunias & More	

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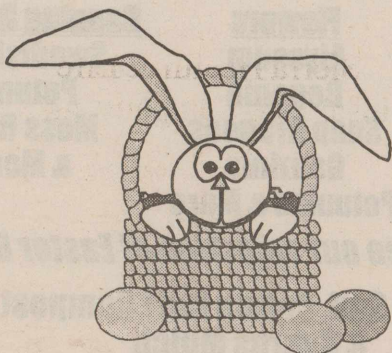
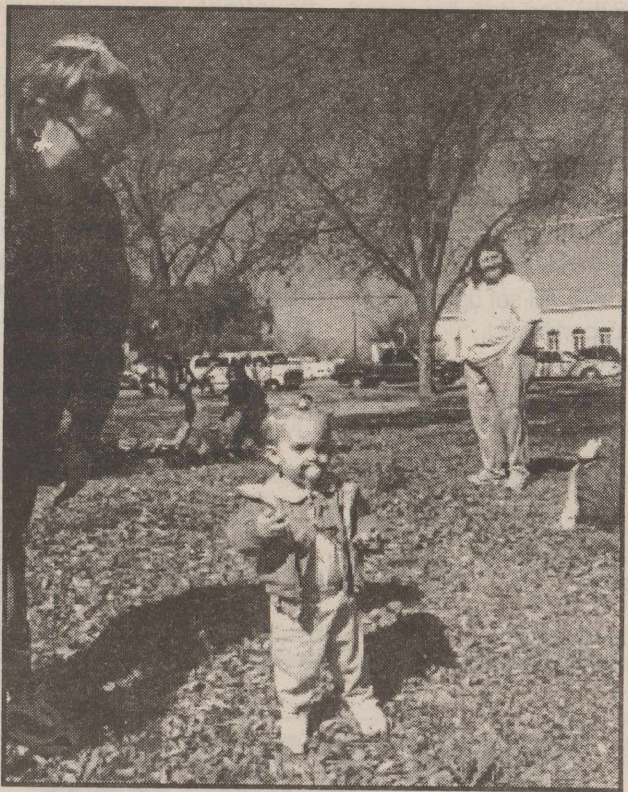
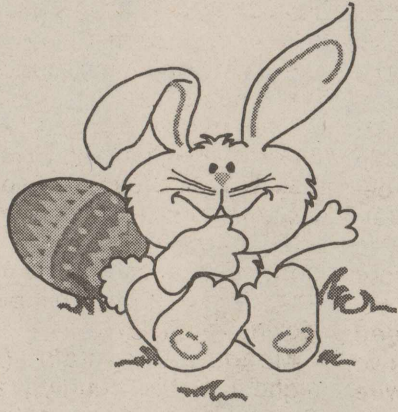
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# 2002 Coke County Easter Egg Hunt





The following was written in 1979 for a Folklore Class at Angelo State University.

### Oral history of West Coke County

by Bonita Copeland

Robert Lee came into existence as the Coke County seat in 1890. It was after a battle involving intense rivalry and political maneuvering. The County was first organized in 1889 and Hayrick, near the mountain that bears that name, was selected as the county seat. There it remained for about a year.

Mr. Eugene Cartledge, a son-in-law of L. B. Harris and then a young lawyer in San Angelo, wanted Robert Lee to be the county seat. He contested the election on the grounds that Hayrick was not the center of the county, and the water supply at Hayrick was insufficient. Mr. Cartledge urged the people now living at Hayrick to move to a site located on the Colorado River where there would be adequate water. This land was owned by Mr. Harris, who offered to donate the town-site and give every citizen of Hayrick who owned a house there, a lot on which to move.

Those who opposed said that the removal would destroy the value of their homes. It would disrupt the school term. A contract for a new brick courthouse "had been let and could not be canceled."

Mr. Cartledge did not give up easily however, and waged a campaign to have the county seat moved. He got out an injunction against building the brick courthouse at Hayrick pending the proposed election to move the county seat.

District Judge J. W. Timmins ruled against Cartledge, but he appealed once more. The injunction was dissolved, but not until it became apparent that nothing would be done toward building the new courthouse until after the removal election.

Cartledge backed H. L. Adams to oppose Judge G. W. Perryman as county judge. Adams pledged that if he were elected he would call a special election. Perryman said if he were elected he would refuse to call a removal election. Adams was elected.

At the next election Robert Lee won by a majority of 48 votes. Mr. Harris gave a lot to every family who lived at Hayrick, the moving began and Robert Lee was born.

Before the removal election, the courthouse (at Hayrick) burned, destroying most of the records. There had been much talk concerning misappropriations of filing fees, which people had paid to file on their homesteads. There was an inquiry called to investigate, but was dismissed for lack of evidence.

The remaining few records were moved into a small house at Robert Lee, and two weeks later that building also burned. Soon after this fire, a lawyer named Billups, who had been investigating the remnants of the unburned records, was found drowned in a shallow water hole in Mountain Creek. "A heavy rock was wired to his neck, and his feet were wired together." An inquest was held and a verdict of suicide was rendered. It is not known who

held the inquest.

People fraudulently settled on Harris's land. Cartledge filed twenty-one suits at one time in the Justice Court. Conditions were unsettled those first years.

The County was named in honor of Richard Coke who was both senator and governor for the state of Texas.

Robert Lee was named after the Civil War rebel general. Lee came to Texas before the war as a federal cavalry officer on duty against the Indians. Since he had scouted the Colorado River Valley, he already bore an identity with the area, and was honored widely by West Texans.

An important point of historical interest in Coke County is the Butterfield Overland Mail route which moved approximately 35 miles across the county. It entered the county near the site of old Ford Chadbourne, followed a southwesterly direction to a point on Grape Creek, thence until it crossed the county line. The entire trip for the stage one way, from Memphis, Tennessee, to San Francisco, California, totaled twenty-four days of continuous driving.

John Butterfield had admonished his drivers to "remember boys, nothing on God's earth must stop the U. S. Mail." In spite of Indians and outlaws, drought and death, heat, hell and sometime high water, the mail was usually ahead of time.

There are two stations on the Butterfield Trail in Coke County, the well known station at Fort Chadbourne on the east side, and the station on Grape Creek, the site of which has been lost. There are those who believe that this lost site was actually on Yellow Wolf Creek, some 15 or so miles west of the site of the station near Fort Chadbourne. There seems to be some evidence of the burned out log station. Yellow Wolf Creek may have been called Grape Creek at that time.

Mr. J. Q. McCabe, who had settled in the southwest part of the area in 1882, was one of several citizens who helped build the first store buildings in Robert Lee.

Mrs. Mark Chumley, 84 years of age and daughter of Mr. McCabe, told that her family put down roots near Wildcat Springs. This was a beautiful and resourceful spot. In later years pipe was plumbed into the wall of the creek bank to aid the natural flow for the family needs.

Mrs. Chumley related that an uncle, James McCabe was a government scout in the area, and stationed at Fort Chadbourne in the 1860s. He was only 17 years old when he first worked on the detail.

Mrs. Chumley and several brothers and sisters attended Simpson School, one of the first schools in the county, which was located some miles to the south and west from their home. They commuted in a one horse buggy. She said that teachers usually sent children home early if weather conditions threatened. She remembered that on one occasion the teacher was late sending the children home and her younger brother and sister were lost in a snow storm before reaching home.

Fortunately the children were found before it was too late.

There were Indian parties traveling through the country at this time, no longer hostile but looking for horses to buy, trade for or steal. Mrs. Chumley said "horse stealing was as serious a crime as killing a man."

Two U.S. marshals showed up uninvited, at the wedding of a young couple in the community. The occasion was festive, the bride beautifully arrayed, with all the friends and neighbors attending. The marshals were there to apprehend the bride's two brothers for stealing horses.

Mrs. Chumley told tales of youthful mischievousness taking place in the town of Robert Lee, during her early years. Some of the young men loved to ride their horses down the sidewalks of the new town and shoot their guns. Two or three of these fellows completely cleaned out the kitchen of an important lady of the town, just before she was to serve dinner at a large social function meeting in her home.

Some remember the sheriff taking drastic action after a time and shot the horse from under one of the young gentlemen to stop some of the foolishness for good.

When ranchers first settled the country, it was considered open range territory. They brought their herds in and occupied a site under the well known early-day system of "range rights". The early cattlemen had a sort of "gentlemen's agreement" or unwritten law concerning range rights. It seems that the "first-come-first-serve" rule prevailed, and the first to arrive had first claim to the range. The range was unfenced and very few men had any real or legal claim to the land grazed by his herd. One early day Texas rancher is said to have owned 50,000 cattle and 11 acres of land.

Barbed wire and cedar posts made their appearance. However the "fencing war" of the 1880s began soon. The war lasted several years. It seemed to be a common occurrence for a man to build fences all day, and when he

returned to his job the next day he would find that someone had cut the wire and pulled up the posts during the night. Many times it was burned by "organized fence-cutting mobs".

L. B. Harris had 12 sections of land on the Colorado River. One night in the fall of 1883, the fence cutters cut some forty miles of his fence between every post. The Harises were getting ready to fence some land about four miles west of Robert Lee. The wire cutters burned 10,000 cedar posts and two box-car loads of barbed wire that were stacked and ready for use.

Ranchers began to organize themselves. The Cattleman's Association came into being. Texas Rangers were sent to the area to quell the disturbances. Ben Warren was hired to investigate difficulties. Warren was shot and killed. Governor John Ireland called a special session of the legislature which passed a law making fence cutting a felony. (It is still against the law to carry wire cutters). The Warren killing just about put an end to fence cutting in the Coke area, and things had settled down considerably before homesteaders began to arrive in large numbers. But the really old-time cowman never learned to like fences, his dislike is expressed poetically by Charles Badger Clark, Jr.

"Let the cattle rub my tombstone down

And coyotes mourn their kin,

Let howses paw and tramp the moun',

But don't you fence it in!"

The old-time cowboy rides the range no more. He was picturesque, a hard-riding, gun-toting, happy-go-lucky fellow. He was a bronzed figure in high-heeled, narrow-toed boots, chaps, and a ten gallon hat. He would be surprised to know that present day cowboys ride the range in a pickup truck most of the time.

Ranching has always been the most important industry found in the country. Farming is important, and until 1947 these were the basic economic resources. Income

from oil since that time has been important.

Parts of the Colorado River Valley are gently rolling, while other areas are divided by mountains. The 931 square mile area of Coke County, for the most part, has mountainous boundaries.

One of the largest tributaries of the Colorado River is Yellow Wolf Creek, named for a Comanche Indian Chief who led a band of Indians in the area, and according to legend, is buried on a hill overlooking the valley.

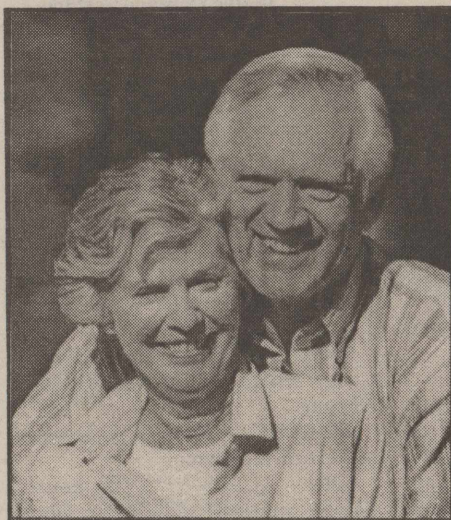
Meadow Mountain (the highest in the county), and Stepp Mountain are notable mountains in the northwest area of the county. Goat Mountain is a little farther west. Important is Silver Peak (though not so high), where there is a post office and a community named for it. Silver Peak is the object of a legend which concerns a lost silver mine. Many years ago a man supposedly passed through the area and found an old silver mine. He went home to raise the money for a mining project but died before he got back to the mine. Years later his brother, using the former's map, came in search of the mine, but never found it. This story has almost been forgotten since the discovery of black gold in the area.

Panther Gap is also on the northwest. It is marked with a historical marker noting it as a landmark on an ancient Indian trail and early route of travelers and military, west of Fort Chadbourne, before the Civil War. It is literally a gap through the mountains. Highway 208 passes through it now. It was named Panther Gap, legend has it, for the panthers which once roamed the region, and probably still do.

Another story is told about Panther Gap. A woman was separated and lost from her wagon train in the area. Some say her screams can be heard late at night, still. Whether it is her screams or that of a panther might be hard to determine.

On the north side of the county are two notable moun-

(cont'd. on page 12)



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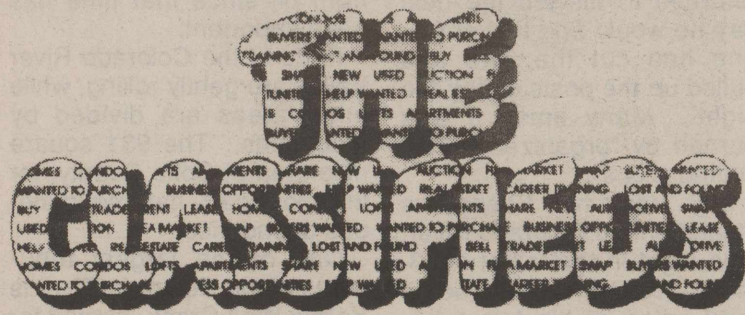
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Legal Notices:  
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**ADVERTISING DEADLINE**  
Tuesdays at 5 pm

**PUBLISHER'S NOTICE:**

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention, to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination, call HUD toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.



**FOR SALE**

**I'M MAD...**  
at banks who don't give house loans because of bad credit, problems or new employment. I do, Call L.D. Kirk, Homeland Mortgages, (254) 947-4475.

**FOR SALE OR RENT**  
Mobile home 2 bdrm, 1 1/2 bath, screened in porch, car-port, Wildcat Marina. \$4,000 or \$300/mth for rent-(915) 559-8191.

**FOR SALE**  
8 lots (whole block). Ross addition. Tennyson townsite. Hwy 277, Tennyson, Texas. 915-473-2305

**HOUSE FOR SALE**  
4 BR, 2 BA brick w/2 acres of land. 24 x 24 storage bldg. Bronte. Contact Kerry Hall 473-2065 or 473-0137.

**COOKWARE**  
Save time/money! Cook tastier, healthful food! Heavyweight, seven-ply surgical stainless steel! Cleans easily. Lasts forever! Low-heat, waterless set! Retail \$1659.00, now only \$395! Vaposeal.com or 1-800-434-4628!

**I'M MAD...**  
at banks who don't give house loans because of bad credit, problems or new employment. I do, call L.D. Kirk, Homeland Mortgages, (254) 947-4475.

**FOR RENT**  
**FOR RENT**  
Trailer house completely furnished with central heat in Robert Lee. 944-8990.

**NICE! NEW! BRICK!**  
3 bedroom 2 1/2 baths  
2 bedroom 2 baths  
Now Available!  
Call: 915-473-3105 for information or 915-473-9548

**Santa Fe Crossing Duplexes**  
320 SE Railroad  
Bronte, Texas 76933

**RUIDOSO CABIN/ HOME FOR RENT**  
\$150/night weekends and holidays, \$100/night (off-peak), plus a \$50 cleaning fee. 2 couple/1 family - 6 guests

**Concho Realty**  
Office 653-4535 • Home 453-4748  
1-800-530-4242



**Becky Clendennen**



**NEW LISTING!!! HILLCREST ADDITION** 3 Bedroom, Corner Lot! Updated paint & carpet! Vinyl Siding, Huge Double Garage, Covered Patio! \$60's!!!

**NEW LISTING!!! CIRCLE DRIVE LEADS** to this Majestic Brick 3 Bedroom Home with Oversized Den or Gameroom! Fireplace & Beautiful Built-in Cabinets in Formal Living Room! \$80's!!!

**NEW LISTING!!! NEAR LAKE SPENCE!** 3 Bedroom 2 Bath with Central Heat & Air! Approx. 2 acres with Out Buildings & Carport! Priced \$40's!!!

**LOW DOWN PAYMENT!!!** Approx. \$325/month! Approx. 3 Years Old!!! 4 Bedroom 3 Bath with 2 Living Areas! New Berber Carpet! 2 Lots with Sprinkler system & Carport! \$40's!!!

**2 STORY AUSTIN STONE ON ACREAGE!** 4 Bedrooms 2.5 Baths with 2 Living Areas and 2 Fireplaces! Many French Doors throughout! Huge covered Patio for cookouts!!!

**240+ ACRES PASTURE,** Remote with Excellent Hunting!!!

**640+ ACRES** Mountain Views, Remote with Excellent Hunting!!!

maximum capacity. Call Bud Johnson @ 915-473-2039 for availability.

**FOR RENT**  
Bronte Mini Storage has storage buildings for rent. Call 473-2221.

**MISCELLANEOUS**  
**REPAIR**  
mowers, chain saw, weed eaters. 305 E. 3rd, Robert Lee, 453-2363.

**HOUSE OF BARGAINS**  
moved to 602 Commerce in Robert Lee. We are now open for business. Hope to see you. Thursday - Saturday.

**WOULD LIKE TO TRADE**  
new PC 900 MHZ, 128 RAM, 56XCD, 20 gig drive, 15" monitor for a dual axle trailer. 651-7968.

**Bob Fragee's 944-0010 473-6603**

**Texas Best**  
Deflooding & Carpet Cleaning

24 hr. Emergency Water Damage Service

**CUSTOM MAID**  
473-9634. Call us for professional cleaning done your way! We specialize in residential, commercial and construction cleaning. Call today.

**CREATIVE MASONRY**  
Brick block, glass block & stone. 473-9634.

**TREES TRIMMED**  
topped or removed. Call 453-9902 after 6 pm.

**Free DIRECTV!\***  
Only \$31.99/month for over 105 channels! Free HBO, Starz!, & Cinemax for 3 months! Call 754-1487. \*When you sign up for one year.

**THE "BARBER" SHOP**  
Debra England, 223 N Lombard, Bronte. 473-4026. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday. 9 am - 5 pm.

**ANNIE G'S ARTISAN CRAFTS**  
gifts, art, antiques, kites and t-shirts. 119 West Main, Bronte. 473-2324.

**PROFESSIONAL DOG GROOMING**  
Call Susan 473-2515.

**MAIN STREET HAIR SALON**  
121 W. Main, Bronte. 473-3202. Open Monday - Friday, 8-5. Early & late appointments. Saturday by appointment.

**PARKER PLUMBING**  
Residential & Commercial. All types plumbing repair - new construction, remodeling, fixtures, and sewer service. Licensed Master Plumber. 473-2131, Bronte.

**Hiring LVNs & CNAs**  
All shifts, full time, part time and PRN. Contact Rhonda or Larry

**Runnels County Rehabilitation and Nursing Center**  
1800 N. Broadway  
Ballinger, Texas  
915-365-2538

**ASH-MILLICAN-CARSON REAL ESTATE**  
453-5144 OFFICE • 5 E 6TH STREET • ROBERT LEE, TX

JOE ASH www.amcwesttexasranches.com MARSHALL MILLICAN  
473-0164 MOBILE • 453-2554 HOME 473-0437 MOBILE • 453-9002 HOME

**Bronte**  
New Listing! Brick home, 2 BR, 1 BA, 2 Living Areas or 3rd BR, CA/CH  
4 BR, 2 BA, Fenced Backyard, \$20s

**Robert Lee**  
New Listing! 3 BR, 2 BA, Brick, Storm Basement  
New Listing! 3 BR, 2 BA, CA/CH, Fireplace, Workshop/Storage  
Priced reduced, 4 BR, 2 bth, large den with second living area. CA/CH over 2100 sq. ft. Priced to sell  
3 BR, 2 bth, replace on one acre overlooking Lake Spence.  
Priced reduced, 2 BR, 1 bth, CA/CH, sunroom or 3rd BR, large kitchen, single garage, over 1800 sf  
2 BR, 1 1/2 bth, m, Brick, Garage  
Edge of town, 2 BR, 2 bth, CA/CH brick home.  
3 BR, 1 bth, 2 Lots  
3 BR, 2 BA, 1998, 16 x 76 ft Mobile home, Excellent Condition  
Commercial building, Highway 158 in Robert Lee, 5054 SF Display

Area, 1947 SF Garage, 1125 SF Storage, 2 floor jacks  
837+/- AC. Rough Cedar Hills, Mountainous Area, 2 Water Wells, Choice Hunting  
500+/- AC. Deep Creek, rolling Cedar Hills, Rural Water, Great Hunting  
448+/- AC. electricity, good water and excellent hunting.  
320+/- AC. 5 bth house. Scenic m... Good hunting.  
335+/- Wolf Creek, Excellent  
320+/- AC. highway and county road access. Choice building site. Convenient to Bronte. Seller will divide.  
160+/- AC. 2 BR home, Bu...  
159 AC., near Br... BR, 2 bth home. Fil...  
110+/- Acres, waterwell, view of Lake Spence.

**Other Listings Available**

**Political Calendar**  
The Observer/Enterprise

has been authorized to make the following announcements for the political offices in Coke County.

Each candidate or the campaign treasurer has paid for his or her announcement. All political advertising, announcements, and printing is cash in advance.

**U. S. CONGRESSMAN 17TH DISTRICT**  
Charles Stenholm  
**COKE COUNTY JUDGE**  
Roy Blair  
**JUSTICE OF THE PEACE PRECINCT 1**  
D. Joan Davis  
**JUSTICE OF THE PEACE PRECINCT 2**  
Jack G. Moore  
**COMMISSIONER PRECINCT 2**  
Bill Wheat  
**COMMISSIONER PRECINCT 4**  
George Snapp

**COMPUTERS**  
Complete systems, repairs, upgrades, internet. Call Ed @ EMCO Computers, 473-3004.

**GOLF TOURNAMENT**  
Sponsored by Coke-Sterling Farm Bureau  
4 Man ABC Tournament  
Saturday, April 13 - 9 am  
Mountain Creek Golf Course  
Robert Lee  
\$25 per man - CASH PRIZES  
All proceeds will benefit Coke & Sterling County Livestock Shows  
FMI: Call 915-453-4505

**HELP WANTED**

**COOK**  
Need PRN cook to work one day per week from 11 am to 7:30 pm. Contact Nellie Gloria, Dietary Supervisor at 915-473-3621 or apply in person at Bronte Health & Rehab Center, 900 S. State Street, Bronte, Texas 76933. E.O.E.

**Coke County Juvenile Justice Center**  
Come join our winning team!  
SIGN ON BONUS OFFERED!  
Immediate opening for a Monday through Friday 2-10 and 3-11 Licensed Vocational Nurse in a 200 bed male juvenile detention facility. Clinical setting in a pleasant, secure environment. No bedpans. No Bed baths. No Heavy Lifting. Yearly uniform allowance, 401K plan, Paid vacation, sick pay, 8 paid holidays, and Medical and dental insurance. E.O.E.  
Please call or submit resume to  
**Barbara Smith RN H.S.A.**  
4 E. Hwy 277 South  
Bronte, Texas 76933  
(915) 473-5700  
Fax (915) 473-5029



**CNA'S NEEDED**  
for full-time & part-time hours. Friendly, caring environment. Sr. Citizens Nursing Home, Winters, Texas. Contact Sarah Lee RN at 754-4566.

**28-tnc**  
**IMMEDIATE OPENING**  
for full time LVN. 6A - 6 P. Contact Sarah Lee at Senior Citizens Nursing Home in Winters, 754-4566.

**50-tnc**  
**RN/LVN/CNA'S**  
Administrative, RN full-time needed. LVN 6-2 full-time. CNA's all shifts, full-time/part-time positions available. Apply in person or call 915/473-3621, Del Morrisette, Bronte Health & Rehab Center, 900 S. State St., Bronte, Texas 76933. E.O.E.

**34-2tc**

**GARAGE SALES**

**GARAGE SALE**  
211 SE Railroad, Bronte. Friday, 8-4, Saturday, 8-12 noon. Linens, clothes, furniture, appliances, pickup, TV's, & much more.

**35-1tc**

**CARD OF THANKS**

**CARD OF THANKS**  
We want to thank each of you for your cards, calls and concern at our loss of Jerry Landers.

Marvin, Snooky & Paula  
**35-1tc**

**LORENA LANDERS & FAMILY**

thanks all of Jerry's friends for their support and sympathy. You have our deepest gratitude and thanks again.

**35-1tc**

**WE WOULD LIKE**

to express our sincere gratitude to everyone for their kind words, prayers and many other acts of kindness that were sent our way during Andrew's recent hospital stay. Please know that every act of love was, and continues to be, deeply appreciated.

Andrew McCabe & Family  
**35-1tc**

**THE COKE COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT**

would like to thank the organizations, businesses, citizens and volunteers that donated time, food, drinks and their help during the hostage situation on Tuesday. Your assistance was greatly appreciated by our department.

Rick Styles  
Coke County Sheriff  
**35-1tc**

**FINANCIAL FOCUS**

**With Jim Woodruff of Edward Jones**

**Don't wait to diversify 401 (k)**

All of us want sufficient income to live the type of retirement lifestyle we've envisioned. That's why it's so easy to empathize with those Enron employees who lost vast percentages of their 401 (k) accounts. And if you have a 401(k), you may be asking yourself a rather chilling question: Could it happen to me?

**NOTICES**

**ORDINANCE #1120**  
AN ORDINANCE MAKING APPROPRIATING RESOURCES FOR THE SUPPORT OF THE CITY OF ROBERT LEE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING APRIL 1, 2002 AND ENDING MARCH 31, 2003; AND ADOPTING THE ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF ROBERT LEE FOR THE 2002-2003 FISCAL YEAR. PASSED AND APPROVED this the 18th day of March, 2002.

APPROVED:  
Garland Davis,  
Mayor  
ATTEST:  
Kay Torres,  
City Secretary  
**35-1tc**

Probably not. After all, the Enron case is an extreme example of what can go wrong with a 401(k). But you don't want to stake your future on the word "probably." Fortunately, there are steps you can take to help safeguard your 401(k).

And you won't be totally alone. The Bush Administration and members of Congress have proposed legislation designed to help protect 401(k) investors in the future. Some of these laws would make it easier for employees to sell company stock in their 401(k) plans, while other changes would cap the amount of company stock that can be held in 401 (k)s.

These and other proposals will be debated and go through the political process. Ultimately, some changes will likely be enacted, and they may be helpful to you. But you can't depend on new laws alone to protect your 401(k) savings - you've got to take action on your own. And the best time to do that is right now.

To begin with, look at just how much company stock you have in your 401(k). Are your investment decisions being influenced too much by company loyalty? If so, you're not alone: Almost 30 percent of the \$71 billion in assets in 1.5 million 401(k) plans are invested in company stock, according to a 2001 study by benefits consulting firm Hewitt Associates. And the figure is much higher at some firms: In pre-crash Enron, about 62 percent of individuals' 401(k) assets were invested in Enron stock.

Even if your company is doing well, it's still not a good idea to overweight your 401 (k) plan with company stock. Reversals of fortune can happen quickly in the business world, and if just one stock dominates your 401(k) portfolio, you're taking on too large a risk, particularly if you're nearing retirement.

That's why it's essential that you diversify your 401(k) investments. Spread your contributions among the various accounts available in your 401 (k) plan: growth, growth-and-income, bonds, money market, government securities, etc. By

diversifying your 401 (k) dollars, you'll expand your opportunities for success, while reducing the possibility that you'll be hurt by downturns affecting just one type of as-set - such as your company stock.

Thus far, we've only talked about the contributions that you make to your 401(k). If you're lucky, your employer will also match your contributions, up to a certain point. And many employers make these matches with company stock - which gives you even more incentive to put your contributions into the various other options. Your goal should again be diversification. If, for example, your company stock is considered a "growth" stock, then you may want to spread your other 401(k) dollars among the other types of asset classes available.

Your employer is the source of your current income. But when it comes to accumulating retirement funds in your 401(k), you need to look beyond the confines of your company. So start diversifying today - it's your best chance for long-term success.

**APRIL PROCLAIMED FAIR HOUSING MONTH**

WHEREAS Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, as amended, prohibits discrimination in housing and declares it a national policy to provide, within constitutional limits, for fair housing in the United States; and

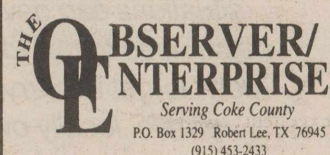
WHEREAS The principle of Fair Housing is not only national law and national policy, but a fundamental human concept and entitlement for all Americans; and

WHEREAS The anniversary of this National Fair Housing Law, provides an opportunity for all Americans to recognize that complete success in the goal of equal housing opportunity can only be accomplished with the help and cooperation of all Americans.

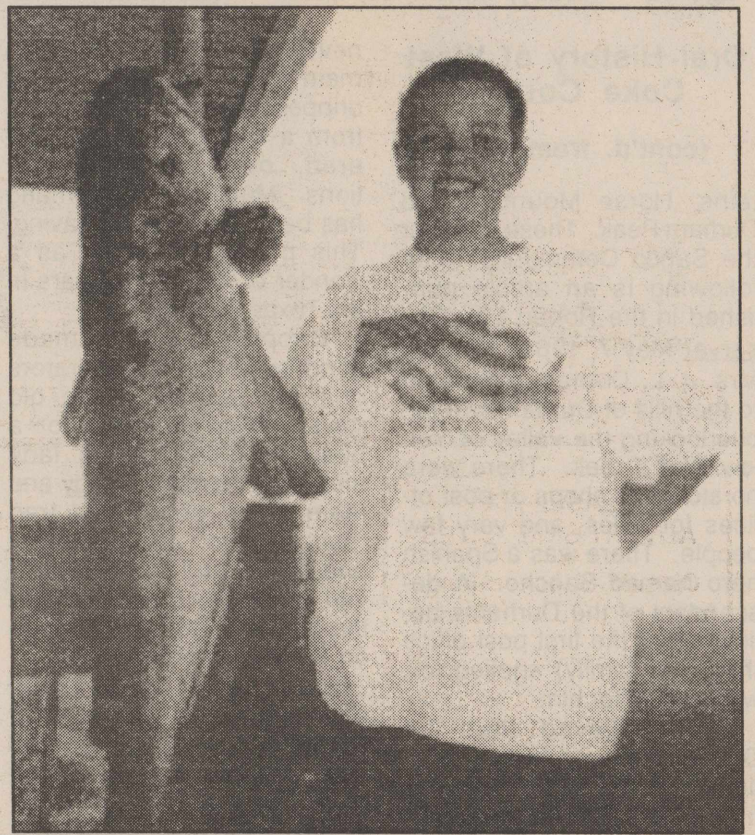
NOW, THEREFORE, WE, the City Council of the City of Robert Lee, do proclaim April as Fair Housing Month in the City of Robert Lee, and do hereby urge all the citizens of this locality to become aware of and support the Fair Housing law.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF we have affixed our signatures and seal on this the 18th day of March, 2002.

Garland Davis  
City of Robert Lee  
Witness:  
Kay Torres  
City Secretary



drop box is located at  
**HOMETOWN HARDWARE**  
in Bronte.



Luke Thurman of Robert Lee landed this huge blue cat March 24, 2002, at the Paint Creek boat dock at Lake Spence. He caught the 36 1/2 pounder using shrimp as bait.

*Keeping an Eye on Texas*

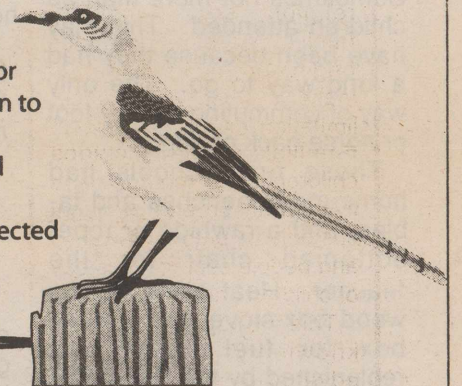
**To hear a mockingbird**

Although the state's official bird, the Northern, or Common Mockingbird, can be seen in the state year-round, its songs are more often heard in the Spring and early Summer.

The mockingbird has been the state bird of Texas since 1927. Its scientific name *Mimus polyglottos*, is translated as "many-tongued mimic" and highlights the mockingbird's amazing talent for mimicking the songs of more than three dozen bird species.

In *To Kill A Mockingbird*, author Harper Lee wrote that it is "a sin to kill a mockingbird."

According to Texas Parks and Wildlife, it is also against the law—mockingbirds are a protected songbird in the United States.



SOURCES: Carole Keeton Rylander, Texas Comptroller ([www.window.state.tx.us](http://www.window.state.tx.us)) and <http://www.wildtexas.com/wildguides/mockingbird.htm>.

**IVEY MOTOR COMPANY, INC.**

**1999 Chevy Suburban LT \$ 16,495**

Pewter w/Tan Leather • Excellent Condition  
Local Vehicle

**2001 Ford Crown Victoria LX \$ 16,995**

Toreador Red w/Gray Interior • Driver & Passenger  
Electric Seats • 21,000 Miles • Keyless Entry

**2001 Ford Taurus SES \$ 13,995**

White • Power Windows & Locks • CD  
Keyless Entry • 12,000 Miles

**1997 Eddie Bauer Expedition \$ 16,995**

4x4 • One Owner • 54,000 Miles  
Excellent Condition • White w/Gold Trim

**1998 Chevy Z-71 Ext. Cab \$ 14,995**

4x4 • Pewter w/Tan Cloth • 350 V8  
One Owner • Very Clean

**2001 Lincoln Town Car \$ 23,995**

Royal Blue • 20,000 Miles  
On the Show Room Floor

**2000 Ford Mustang \$ 11,495**

V6 • Excellent Condition • Dark Blue • Power  
Windows • CD • 29,000 Miles

Ask For: **453-4561**  
Randy Flanagan • Buck Duncan • Billy Wayne Roe



## Oral History of West Coke County

(cont'd. from page 9)

tains, Horse Mountain and Durham Peak. These are near the Sanco Community. The following is an article published in the Robert Lee Observer May 7, 1964. Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Durham pioneered to the hills of Durham's Peak, overlooking the valley of Yellow Wolf Creek. There were no stores or shops or post offices for miles, and very few people. There was a Spanish hero named Sancho. A descendant of the Durhams believes that the first post office they (her family) applied for, was named for him.

It is believed that the Durhams moved to this location in 1878, which was the first year the Indian raids ceased. There was also an Indian Chief, Saneco, who ranged in the country at that time. Many people believe that the post office and community were named for him.

Mr. Durham was perhaps the first rock mason in the area. He cut live oak to make a fire hot enough to make his own lime for mortar from native limestone and his home-made kiln (a remnant of it) is still at the foot of Durham Peak.

There were at one time some 30 or 31 schools scattered over the county. Sometimes not more than 20 children attended. This may have been because they had a long way to go. The only way of commuting was by foot or horse back or buggy.

Those first schools had home-made benches and tables, and a rawhide or rope-bottomed chair for the teacher. Heat came from a wood box-stove and a wood box for fuel which was replenished by the "big boys" as it was needed.

It meant real sacrifice on the part of parents and children to support these pioneer schools. Now there are only two schools, one in Robert Lee and one in Bronte.

The Methodist Church in Robert Lee was the first church building in the area. Several other congregations met there as well as Methodists for some time. Mrs. Cortez Russell, now 88 years of age, served this church as organist for more than 50 years. She came to Robert Lee in 1901 when she was 10 years old. Her father, W. K. Simpson was pastor. He preached once a month at Robert Lee, and once a month, as circuit preacher, at Hayrick, Sanco, and Bronte churches.

Dripping Springs was a favorite haunt of early day young people, and the scene of many gatherings, picture making parties, picnics, and family outings. It is almost a mile north of old Edith, just below the crossing on Salt Creek. Edith was the site of the first post office in Coke County and is 8 miles west of Robert Lee. Mrs. Ralph Garvin told me that Edith was named by one of the first school teachers for his lady friend.

In the memory of the oldest old-timer even in the driest years, Dripping Springs has

never ceased to drip. The main spring formerly ran or dripped in many fine streams from a cluster of moss covered, overhanging formations. Much of the overhang has been lost through caving. This place was listed as a wonder of nature for years in the Texas Almanac.

"Dripping Springs made good business for operators of livery stables in the old days. A favorite way for a beau to entertain his lady friend was to rent a buggy and team, or a rubber-tired trap "built for two" and pulled by one horse, and join the caravan of buggies that often took the crowd to Dripping Springs on Sunday afternoons."

Young people of the 1940s and 1950s also gathered at Dripping Springs for parties and picnics. The mode of travel had changed, however. In this area now there is a community of lake homes and week end houses. This new growth was stimulated by the building of Lake Spence, not very far from Dripping Springs.

Some of the old school houses, after consolidation, became community centers. Club meetings, quilting parties, and forty-two parties were now held in these places. They were the scenes of the fruit suppers, box and pie suppers. Many times fund raising affairs were held in the old school houses. Country musicals and singings were special affairs held there.

(History of West Coke County to be continued next week.)

### New health care references now available

Current easily understood, educational health care guides are as close as the local library, thanks to a Texas Department of Health (TDH) grant made to the Concho Valley Health Partnership Project recently. The \$1200.00 grant enabled Jan Yanez, Texas Cooperative Extension Family and Consumer Sciences agent for Coke and Sterling Counties, to outfit the library here and in Sterling County with 50 volumes each. The books offer factual, science-based information on all facets of health care. Books that are available:

Low-fat, Low-Cholesterol Cookbook-Second Edition, Low-Fat & Luscious Desserts, The New American Heart Association Cookbook, American Heart Association - Low Salt Cookbook, Forbidden Foods - Diabetic Cooking, The New Family Cookbook for People with Diabetes, Meals in Minutes Cookbook - Quick & Easy Low-fat Recipes, Quick & Easy Cookbook - Healthful Recipes Prepared in Minutes, Kids' Cookbook.

Asthma Guide for People of all Ages, American Heart Association's Your Heart-An-Owner's Manual, Taber's Cyclopedic Medical Dictionary, What to Expect When You're Expecting, Davis's Drug Guide for Nurses w/Davis's Drug Guide for Nurses (pocket companion), Controlling Cholesterol the Natural Way, Success with Heart Failure, Mayo Clinic on High

Blood Pressure, Mayo Clinic on Arthritis, Mayo Clinic on Healthy Weight, Mayo Clinic on Prostate Health, Mayo Clinic on Chronic Pain, Mayo Clinic on Digestive Health, 365 Ways to Get Out The Fat, Fitting in Fitness, Sports Nutrition Guidebook, Alzheimer's - A Caregiver's Guide and Sourcebook, The 36-Hour Day-Guide to Caring for persons with Alzheimer Disease, Related, Dementing Illnesses, and Memory Loss in Later Life, Healthwise Handbook - A Self-Care Guide for You, The Merck Manual of Medical Information, Arthritis 101, Family Guide to Stroke, La Salud En Casa (2).

When Diabetes Hits Home, Type 2 Diabetes - Your Healthy Living Guide - 3rd Edition, 101 Foot Care Tips for People with Diabetes, 101 Tips for Improving your Blood Sugar, 101 Tips for Staying Healthy with Diabetes, 101 Nutrition Tips for People with Diabetes, 101 Medication Tips for People with Diabetes, Managing Diabetes on a Budget, Diabetes Meal Planning Made Easy - 2nd Edition, 12 Things You Must Know About

Diabetes Care Right Now!, American Diabetes Association Complete Guide to Diabetes, Diabetes A to Z, The Uncomplicated Guide to Diabetes Complications, Women & Diabetes - 2nd Edition, The Diabetes Problem Solver.

"We are pleased to finally have some solid references that are so readily available to everyone, said Yanez. Education is the key to preventing many health problems, both minor and major. Unfortunately, too often, good, concise information is hard to come by. Thanks to the TDH grant, we have been able to place health-related knowledge within easy grasp of anyone in this area. Our hope is that these materials will empower people by letting them take control of a situation before it becomes a major health concern. The references also outline the best avenues available if a serious problem does arise.

To find the books, just ask the librarian to direct you to the health information center.

Yanez said the two counties she serves are among a growing number of rural West Texas areas plagued by

dwindling health care providers and facilities. Those hardest hit are usually low income, uninsured persons or those who are under-served for a variety of reasons.

The Concho Valley Health Partnership Project consists of a number of agencies, including Texas Cooperative Extension. The TDH-funded Project group focuses on regional solutions aimed at improving public health.

For further information concerning the new health reference materials or the Concho Valley Health Partnership Project, contact Jan Yanez at (915) 453-2461.

The health books will become available at the Coke County Library on March 27, 2002. Stop by and see the new collection of books.

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