

# THE OBSERVER/ ENTERPRISE

Serving Coke County

Single Copy 35¢



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

Vol. 115, No. 35

Friday, March 28, 2003

## Filing period ends for May 3, 2003 elections

March 19, 2003, was the last day to file for inclusion on the ballot for the May 3 local elections.

West Coke County Hospital District would have had two 2 year terms on the ballot. However, incumbents Judy Williams and Doug Wilkes were the only ones to file for the election. An election for this entity is no longer necessary.

East Coke County Hospital District will have two 2 year terms on the ballot. The terms of Jesse Sims and Keith Fletcher are expiring. Doris Sims and Alonso Robbins have filed for these seats. With no opposed races, the election may be cancelled. The city of Robert Lee will have to fill three council seats currently held by Johnny Carver, Nita Duncan, and Kenneth Green. Jayson Treadaway and Janie Munoz have filed for the election. The incumbents have also filed for re-election.

The city of Bronte will have to fill two 2 year council seats currently held

by Marty Boyd and Gerald Sandusky and one 1 year unexpired term, currently held by Martha Ratliff. All incumbents have filed for re-election. However, the filing deadline for the 1 year unexpired term is April 2. If no one else files for this position, the election may be cancelled.

Three 3 year terms will be on the ballot for the Bronte Independent School District Board of Trustees. Incumbents Wayne Coalson, Bob Frazee, and Jeff Schoenfield have filed for re-election. They will be joined on the ballot by Kenny White, Gary Acker and Paul Williams.

The Robert Lee Independent School District Board of Trustees would have had to decide on three 3 year terms. Incumbents Freda McCabe, Ron Hill, and Wes Washam were the only ones to file and therefore, the election has been cancelled.

Early voting for the May 3 election begins Wednesday, April 16, and continues through April 29.

## 915 area code to split April 5 - new to be 325

On April 5, 2003, area code 915 will split three ways. The split will add two new area codes to the area now served by area code 915. The 325 area code will serve residents in the eastern region, and 432 will serve the central region of the current 915 territory. Those in the western region will retain the 915 area code.

All of Coke County, including Bronte, Blackwell, Robert Lee, Silver, and Tennyson will be using the new 325 area code, along with San Angelo, Abilene, Snyder, Eden, Miles, Rowena, Sterling City, Water Valley,

Carlsbad, Mertzon, Ozona, Paint Rock, Sonora, Winters, Brownwood, Zephyr, Bangs, Coleman, Comanche, Gustine, Blanket, Goldthwaite, Brady, Kingsland, Mason, Llano, Tow, Junction, and London.

New area code 432 will cover Midland, Odessa, Seminole, Pecos, Fort Stockton, Fort Davis, Alpine, and Van Horn. El Paso, Dell City, and Fabens will retain the 915 area code.

Permissive dialing, which allows you to dial with seven or ten digits, will begin on April 5, 2003. Mandatory dialing, which requires you to dial the



Not only does the calendar say it's spring, but these bluebonnets are attesting to that fact as well. Bluebonnets and other wild flowers are sometimes premature in their announcement of spring's arrival. Mesquite trees are the most reliable indicator of the change in seasons and Coke County mesquites are also beginning to proclaim that winter is over.

area code and seven-digit phone number to place a call from one area code to another, will begin October 4, 2003.

To plan for the area code split, you are urged to start programming speed dial equipment, check security systems, confirm Internet dial-up numbers, reprogram fax machines, and update advertising, business cards, and stationery. Also, don't forget to notify family and friends of the new number in order to avoid any inconvenience. Another important point is to remember that 9-1-1 is still the number to call for emergency assistance.

### Robert Lee "City-Wide Spring Clean-Up"

The "City-wide Spring Clean-Up" event is scheduled for the first and second Saturdays of April. As always it is sponsored by the City of Robert Lee and Trashaway services. This clean-up allows residents of the city a chance to get rid of clutter from around their homes and businesses.

Residents with a Tuesday trash pick-up will be serviced on Saturday, April 5, 2003. Residents with a Friday trash pick-up will be

serviced on Saturday, April 12, 2003. Trucks will begin at 7:00 am.

Residents are encouraged to haul brush, tree limbs, shingles, bricks, and lumber materials to the City Landfill on Saturdays from 9:00 am to 12:00 noon.

Trashaway personnel will not pick up loads stacked on trailers, or household trash, tires, batteries, chemicals or wet paint. Please be available to help load anything over 50 pounds. If you have any questions please contact City Hall at 453-2831.

### Super H Grocery earns 4-Star Rating

Super H Grocery Store, owned and operated by Dave and Betty Hughes in Robert Lee, has been awarded a Four-Star Rating by the IGA System of locally owned grocery stores.

Super H was the only Four-Star store in the Lubbock-based Fleming Product Supply Center area, and one of only four stores in Texas to receive this rating. There were only three five-star stores in the United States.

IGA affiliated stores are located across the United States and in Australia,

England, Japan, China and other foreign countries.

The ten page assessment covers such areas as exterior (windows, entries, machines, appearance); the scanning system; store conditions; IGA brand promotion; produce preparation and sales; meat preparation and sales; dairy; frozen foods; back rooms; restrooms; pest control; video department and safety. Sanitation is a requirement in all areas of assessment. Dave Hughes said that the print-out of the assessment is about a half an inch thick.

The inspector who conducted the Super H assessment makes over 4,000 IGA inspections each year. Having a four-star rating assures shoppers of high quality goods and services.

### Rabies Clinic set

Coke County 4-H clubs will be sponsoring a Rabies Clinic on Saturday, March 29, 2003 from 2 to 4 pm at the south end of the show barn located in the Robert Lee park. Pets 4 months of age or older should be vaccinated for rabies annually. A veterinarian will be in charge.

For more details, call the Coke County Extension office at 453-2461.

**THE OBSERVER/ENTERPRISE**

Published Weekly Except Christmas  
707 Austin (915) 453-2433

(USPS 467-480) (ISSN 8750-197X)  
Periodical Rate Postage paid at Robert Lee, TX.

**POSTMASTER: Please send address changes to  
Observer/Enterprise  
PO Box 1329, Robert Lee, TX 76945.**

**STAFF**

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**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**

**Earwood**

Elwin C. "Clem" Earwood, 83, of Robert Lee, died Saturday, March 22, 2003, at a local hospital. Graveside service was held at 10:00 am Monday, March 24, 2003, at Paint Creek Cemetery. Arrangements were by Shaffer Funeral Home.

Survivors include his wife, Helen L. Earwood of Robert Lee; two daughters, Sherlyn Johnson of Port Arthur and Ann Aguirre of Robert Lee; one brother, Gene Earwood of Corpus Christi; one sister, Vivian Griffith of Big Spring. Granddaughters, Joani Wofford and Tasha Aguirre of Robert Lee, Toni Williams of Centerville, Tx and Dawn Johnson of Port Arthur.

Grandsóns, Joseph Xavi and Josh Aguirre of Nevada and Dwayne Johnson of Little Rock, AR. Great-grandchildren, Cisco Moreno, Dustin Moreno, Jacob Moreno and Jerry Wofford of Robert Lee, and Kim and Geoff Williams of Centerville, Tx and Colton and Caleb Johnson of Little Rock.

**White**

Elma White, 78, died Wednesday, March 19, 2003, at his residence in Pittsburg. Graveside service was held at 3 pm Saturday, March 22, in Robert Lee Cemetery in Robert Lee. Arrangements were by Erman Smith Funeral Home.

Survivors include his wife, Dorothea White of Pittsburg; son, Norman Butcher of Snyder; daughter Bonnie Stalker of League City; and sister Zelma Howard of San Angelo.

**Van Zandt**

Allie Florine Van Zandt, 87, of Blackwell died Friday, March 21, 2003, in the Bronte Therapy Center. Graveside service was conducted at 2 pm Monday, March 24, in Blackwell Cemetery in Blackwell. Arrangements were by Shaffer Funeral Home.

Survivors include daughter, Glenda Joyce Van

Zandt Stroud of Houston; brother, James Howard Saunders of Blackwell; and sisters, Eula E. Fitzgerald of Reno, Nev., Evelyn McRorey of San Angelo and Francis Vae Sneed of Benbrook.

**Spring turkey season opens April 5**

by Joan Davis

Spring turkey season will open in Coke County on Saturday, April 5, and continue through May 11. Bag limit for that season is 4, depending on how many birds a hunter took in the fall season. As always, the spring hunt will be gobblers only.

Prospect for the hunting period is good. Fresh small green feed is plentiful, as well as late fall seeds, and water is available. Toms are together and good numbers are visible now. Most of the gobblers seen have been mature birds and appear to be large and in good shape.

**Bronte Pipeline update published**

Work on the City's Pipeline Project is expected to begin April 21st. The work will be done by volunteers. Donations of soft drinks for the volunteers can be left at the City Hall.

More information regarding the Pipeline Project will be upcoming.

**Bronte ladies' Bible study to begin**

A new ladies' Bible study will begin Wednesday, April 2, from 5:30-7:00 in the First Baptist Church of Bronte library. It will begin the 12-week Beth Moore study, Beloved Disciple: The Life and Ministry of John.

Please contact class

facilitator Susan Graves at 473-7521 or the church office at 473-2331 for more information or to pre-register.

**Coalition discusses pharmacy needs**

During the most recent meeting of the Coke County Alliance, pharmacy needs for Coke County were at the top of the list in the discussion. The Coalition was formed to find ways for prescriptions to be made available to Coke County citizens.

There is no pharmacy in Bronte, and with the impending closure of the Coke County Pharmacy in Robert Lee, many of Coke County citizens have expressed some concerns about how to get prescription services.

Pharmacies have been contacted in San Angelo to gather information about pharmacy service options for our citizens:

\* The Family Health Center of Bronte is proposing a plan for weekly delivery of prescriptions from Shannon Pharmacy.

\* East Coke County Hospital District has offered Bronte Health and Rehab Center to be a repository.

\* A Robert Lee resident has proposed assisting in delivery of prescriptions to Robert Lee from Walgreen Pharmacy.

\* Other pharmacies such as Medical Arts Pharmacy and Community Pharmacy have expressed interest in a prescription delivery plan.

County residents are encouraged to contact Mary Ann Choat, member of the Coke County Coalition, to express their pharmacy needs. The larger the number of participants in a pharmacy prescription delivery plan, the better chance of a reasonable delivery fee, or maybe a free delivery service could be offered. Please understand that the logistics have not yet been defined.

For more information, questions, comments, etc., concerning the prescription delivery plan, contact Mary Ann Choat at 473-3621.

**BHRC celebrates Deficiency Free Annual Survey**

During the first week of

March, staff members, residents, and their families celebrated a Deficiency Free Annual Survey, which was conducted by the Texas Department of Human Services. A "Let's Celebrate Luncheon" was prepared by Mary Beth Drennan, Activity Director, and Mary Ann Choat, Administrator. Staff members, residents, and some family members enjoyed fajitas with all the fixings.

Since February, BHRC has been participating in a transportation pilot project. This is a combined effort between the Concho Valley Rural Transit District, Coke County, and BHRC to provide van transportation for the community's citizens and facility's residents. The project is progressing well.

In addition to our facility's dietary staff preparing the meals for the Bronte Senior Citizens' Center, our facility is now assisting the home delivery of meals by providing our facility van.

Come by 900 State Street in Bronte and experience our Multi-Sensory Environment (MSE) room.

**Red Hat Society to meet April 7th**

The Coke County Red Hat Society will meet at 11:00 am on Monday, April 7 at Hidalgo's, Hwy. 277 in Bronte. You are welcome to join this group where there is fun after fifty (and before) for women of all walks of life. We believe silliness is the comedic relief of life, and, since we are all in it together, we might as well join hands and go for the gusto together. Underneath the frivolity, we share a bond of affection, forged by common life experiences and a genuine enthusiasm for wherever life takes us next. There are no official rules, although we have some rather strong suggestions, the first of which regarding red hat

attire. Of course, to be a red-hatter, one should wear a red hat and a clashing purple ensemble at all meetings to keep up the spirit and purpose of the organization. We also suggest rather strongly that women under 50 stick to a pink hat and lavender attire until THE BIRTHDAY. This adds an element of fun to aging, which we think is invaluable to women in our society who have learned to dread aging and avoid it at all costs. We believe that aging should be something anticipated with excitement, not something to dread.

The main responsibility is to have fun! We see this group as an opportunity for those who have shouldered various tasks in the home and in the community their whole lives, to say goodbye to burdensome responsibilities. If you plan on attending the April 7 meeting, please RSVP to Janet Wommack at 743-2087 or Marilyn Bivins at 473-3691 by April 5. Hope to see you there.

**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. Steve Rowe, 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

Dr. Kenneth G. Patrick, Int. 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. 6 pm, Prayer Meeting  
**Tennyson Baptist Church**  
Hwy 277 • Tennyson, Texas  
(915) 482-0663

Rev. Rickey D. Green, Pastor  
Sun. 10:00 am, Sunday School  
11:00 am & 6 pm, Worship

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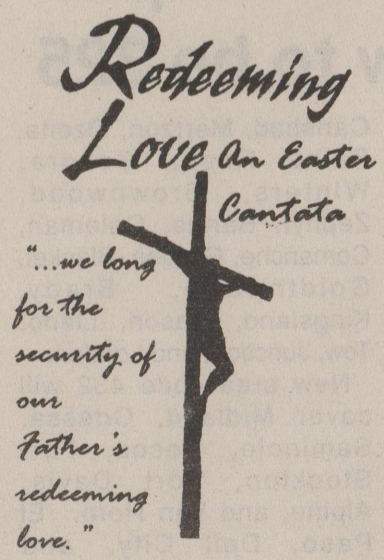


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Please join us....

**Sunday, April 13th  
10:45 AM**

**Robert Lee Baptist Church**

**Bolding graduates basic training**

Army Spec. Bree A. Bolding has graduated from basic military training at Fort Leonard Wood, Waynesville, Mo.

During training, the trainee received instruction in drill and ceremonies, weapons, rifle marksmanship, map reading, tactics, military courtesy, military justice, physical fitness, first aid, and Army history, core values and traditions.

Bolding's parents are Bobby and Gayle Bolding of Robert Lee. Her grandparents are John and Maudie Conley, also of Robert Lee.

In 1998, she graduated from Robert Lee High School and in 2001, received a bachelor's degree from McMurry University in Abilene.

**Info requested on military**

The Observer/Enterprise will begin a special section in the next few weeks that contains information on local residents and those related to local residents who are currently serving in the military.

Please turn in the names, addresses, and email addresses for these military personnel to the Observer/Enterprise office in Robert Lee or to the O/E drop box at Hometown Hardware in Bronte.

**FCCLA Operation Care Package**

The Robert Lee FCCLA would like any addresses and pictures of local servicemen and women from Robert Lee. FCCLA would like to send letter and packages to these brave heroes. If you have an address please come up to the school and write the address on the address list or call Sheri Millican at the school and leave a message at 453-4555, or call Nicole Sanchez at 453-2131. FCCLA will appreciate these addresses, and the servicemen and women will surely appreciate the letters and packages from home. Help us make this project a big success.

**Quilt display at County library**

A rag, patchwork quilt and an antique Singer Sewing Machine are on display at the Coke County Library. Both the quilt and the sewing machine belong to Joan Burns. The quilt was made entirely on a sewing machine, and according to Burns, is very easy to make.

Beginning Thursday, April 17th at 6:30 pm, Joan Burns will offer lessons on making the quilts. Two more sessions will be held Thursday, April 24th and Thursday, May 1st. The first session will be a demonstration on selection of material, cutting, sewing, and quilting. Supply and

instruction handouts will be distributed the first evening.

Tables will be available for setting up sewing machines during the following sessions so that a finished product can be accomplished during the course.

See the quilt at the library during regular hours and plan to sign up for a spring learning experience.

**Inmates to work at Bronte Cemetery**

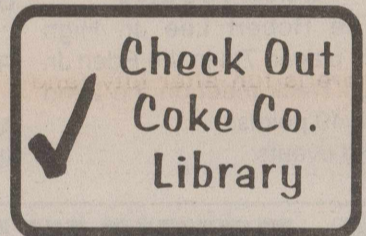
The City of Bronte will have the inmates working at the cemetery two or three days, from April 1 - April 4.

Anyone wishing to donate soft drinks can bring them by the City Hall.

The work done by the inmates is a great benefit to the community and is greatly appreciated.

**Bell receives scholarship funds**

Erin Bell of Water Valley has recently been named the recipient of The George Vogel and Rebecca Lynn Vogel Scholarship at Texas Lutheran University in Seguin, Texas. This year's scholarship was presented at the annual Spring Banquet to recognize academic excellence in students and to express gratitude to scholarship donors.



The donated books that are put in the Coke County Library book-drop box are very much appreciated. The drop box is proving to be a very important part of the library operation. Proof of patron's use of the drop-box is a regularly full basket of returned books. Several patrons have expressed appreciation for the convenience of being able to return books after library hours.

Some dates to note regarding library activities are the Easter Egg Hunt for children through the



**E-7 Philip M Thompson, in Kuwait, before moving into Iraq. Philip is the son of Bud and Marian Thompson of Robert Lee. He is stationed at Fort Campbell, Kentucky, where he lives with his wife, Deanna, and daughter, Megan. Thompson is a Platoon Sergeant with 8th Battalion C company, with the 101st Airborne Support unit, which is an Apache Longbow unit.**

first grade on Tuesday, April 15, at the Coke County Courthouse and organized by the courthouse staff. It will start at 10:00 am and refreshments and prizes are on the agenda. Thursday, April 17th will be the first Rag Quilt sewing session; following sessions will be Thursday, April 24th and Thursday, May 1st. The lessons will begin at 6:30 in the evening.

Story Hour graduation is scheduled for Tuesday, April 29, at 10:00 at the gazebo. Story Hour and Head Start Story Hour children will receive certificates and refreshments. Parents and caregivers are welcome.

For spring gardeners, the library has a copy of Neil Sperry's Complete Guide to Texas Gardening and Perennial Gardens for Texas by Julie Ryan for help plan for a West Texas garden. Other gardening books are available.

Library hours are Tuesdays, 8-12; Wednesdays, 8-4; Thursdays, 1-5; Fridays, 8-12. Story Hour is Tuesday at 10:00; Head Start Story Hour is Wednesday at 9:30. Books may be returned in Bronte to the Main Street Market and to the 24/7 book-drop and to the main desk at the library.

**Massage & Fitness by Darrell**

**Massages:**  
15 min: \$10.00  
30 min: \$20.00  
1 hour: \$30.00

**NEW!!**  
**Detoxification & Cellulite Massage:**  
LOSE up to 8-10 Inches 1st session  
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**NEW!!**  
**SPA FACIALS**  
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**Fitness:**  
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Selected Varieties  
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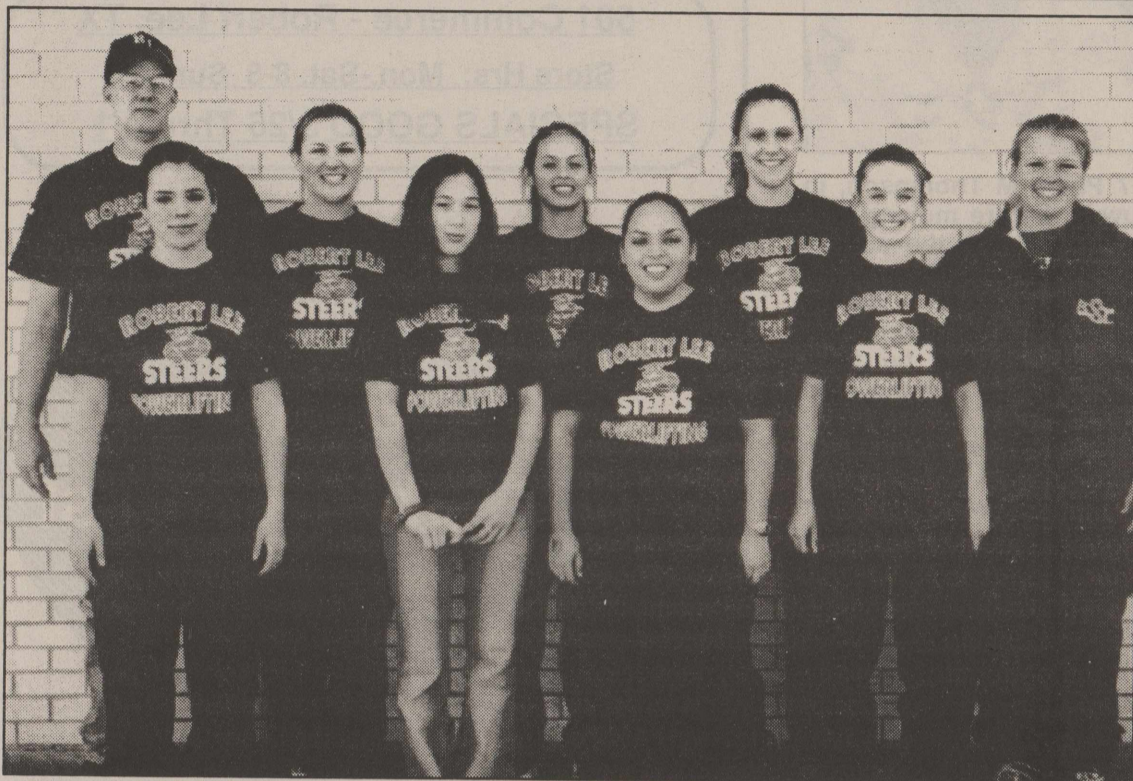
Selected Varieties  
**Patio Dinners**  
10.6 - 13 oz. cntr. .79

**Strawberries**  
1 Lb. Ctn. \$1.79



Selected Varieties  
**IGA Milk**  
Gal. \$1.99

# ROBERT LEE SCHOOL NEWS



Representing Robert Lee High School at the Regional Powerlifting competition at Plainview March 7 were (front row, from left) Bridgette Barnett, Analy Gallegos (manager), Carolina Vera, Andra Braswell, (back row, from left) Coach Fryar, Lindsey Roe, Brittany Soliz, Shannon Honse (manager) and Stacey Denton.

## Robert Lee girls golf results

The Robert Lee girls golf team hosted their annual tournament last Wednesday and took the team championship with a 420 score. Midland Christian was second at 441 and Garden City was third at 506. Medalist honors went to Paige Smith of Bronte with 82. Cara Eaton of Robert Lee was third medalist with a 101. Other Robert Lee

scores were: Lindsey Roe 105, Julie Riley 106, Krystal Soliz 108, Kyla Millican 113, and Kindra Matthews 123.

## RLISD early release date

The administration of Robert Lee ISD has set Friday, April 4, 2003 as an Early Release school day. Students will be dismissed at 12:30 pm. Buses will run at 12:30 pm. If you have any questions regarding this, please contact the school office at 453-4555.

## RL PTO to host Book Fair

The Robert Lee PTO will host a book fair on March 31 - April 3. Family Night will be full of surprises and treats on April 1 from 5:00 - 7:00 pm beside the Elementary Library.

Come shop, eat, and have a good time. For more information, contact Karla Hamrick at 453-4780.

## RLISD board of trustee election unnecessary

Robert Lee ISD announces that three individuals signed up to run for the three available places on the Robert Lee ISD Board of Trustees. Wes Washam, Fredda

McCabe have signed up. Ron Hill who was appointed to fill an unexpired term has also signed up. At this time, it appears that a Robert Lee ISD Board of Trustee election will not be necessary in May 2003.

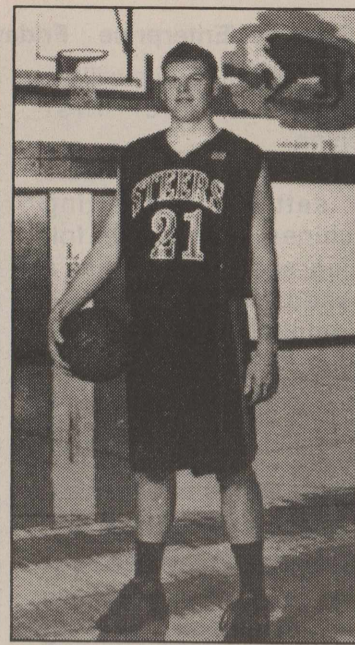
## Steers track results

The Robert Lee Steers won the Sterling City track meet last week with a total of 220 points.

The 400 meter relay team (Colon, Flanagan, Abalos, and Lott) won 1st place. The 1600 meter relay team, (Caston, Soliz, Pitcock, and Colon) won 2nd place.

The individual performances were:

- Travis Pitcock - high jump - 1st, 400 - 2nd, triple jump - 2nd, pole vault - 2nd
- Anson Lott - 110 hurdles - 1st
- Stewart Millican - pole vault - 1st
- Sam Edging - discus - 1st, shot put - 2nd
- Cooper Riley - shot put - 1st, discus - 2nd
- Adam Caston - 400 - 4th
- Brian Abalos - 300 hurdles - 1st, triple jump - 3rd, 110 hurdles - 3rd
- Chris Torres - 3200 - 3rd, 1600 - 3rd



Cooper Riley, RLHS Senior, was once again selected to the Class 1A All West Texas Basketball Team. Cooper is a 6'3" post who averaged 20 points, 12 rebounds, 4 blocks, 2 steals, and 2 assists per game. He is the son of Mark and Cindy Riley of Robert Lee.

Brandon Soliz - 800 - 2nd, triple jump - 5th, long jump - 4th

Mark Colon - shot put - 3rd, discus - 3rd

Cole Flanagan - long jump - 2nd, 100 - 3rd, 200 - 3rd

Josh Conner - 200 - 5th

Shelby Sailer - 3200 - 4th, 1600 - 4th

Vincent McClelland - 300 hurdles (JV) - 2nd

## RL Jr. High

### track results

The Robert Lee Jr. High girls placed 7th in the Eden Jr. High Track meet on the 22nd with 40 points.

Field events:



Lindsey Roe, RLHS student, recently campaigned for a regional office at the FCCLA Region II meeting held at Fossil Ridge High School. She was elected Vice President of Projects and Community Service and will be serving during the 2003-2004 school year. Lindsey is the daughter of Kevin and Tammy Roe.

High jump - 5th - Kelsy Duncan - 4' 6"

Shot put - Tasha Aguirre - 1st - 29' 7 1/4", 5th - Katie Bessent - 25' 7 1/2"

Long jump - 2nd - Brettanie Reed - 13' 11"

Discus - 3rd - Becca Skinner - 65' 8"

Running events:

400 m relay - 6th - Percifull, Fryar, Duncan, Pineda - 57.27

100 m hurdles - 3rd - Kelsy Duncan - 18.76

300 m hurdles - 6th - Kelsy Duncan - 58.92

200 m dash - 4th - Brettanie Reed - 29.09

1600 m relay - 6th - Alexander, Fryar, Pineda, Reed - 4:58.81



## School Menu

### Breakfast

**Monday, March 31**  
Juice, cinnamon roll, cereal, milk

**Tuesday, April 1**  
Juice, donut, cereal, milk

**Wednesday, April 2**  
Juice, pancake w/sausage on a stick, cereal, milk

**Thursday, April 3**  
Juice, breakfast pizza, cereal, milk

**Friday, April 4**  
Juice, cinnamon roll, cereal, milk

### Lunch

**Monday, March 31**  
Steakfingers, gravy, creamed potatoes, green beans, bread, milk

**Tuesday, April 1**  
Chicken O's, macaroni & cheese, green beans, bread, peaches, milk

**Wednesday, April 2**  
Fajitas/cheese, salad, ranch beans, Spanish rice, applesauce, milk

**Thursday, April 3**  
Barbecue wieners, French fries, pork & beans, bread, pudding/cookie, milk

**Friday, April 4**  
Hamburger, salad, tator tots, pickles, pears, milk

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&

## Volunteer Agencies!

## Bell Auto Body Shop

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453-2640

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Partner plans for only \$20.

Speed dial and 1000 Mobile To Mobile minutes save you time and money.

Regional and Nationwide plans available.

Some restrictions apply. See store for details.

Highway 277, just north of Main 743-2134

**Results of Bronte District UIL**

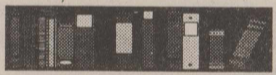
Bronte students traveled to Brownwood on Tuesday, March 18 and Friday, March 21 to participate in the District UIL Academic contest. The results are as follows with those advancing to Regional in Abilene on April 11 & 12 indicated.

Headline Writing - Ariel Marrs - 2nd - Regional Qualifier  
 Feature Writing - Ariel Marrs - 4th  
 Editorial Writing - Ariel Marrs - 5th  
 Poetry Interpretation - Ariel Marrs - 2nd - Regional Qualifier  
 Accounting - Jenna Herold - 2nd - Regional Qualifier; Logan Acker - 6th  
 3rd place Accounting team - Jenna Herold, Logan Acker, Lindsay Springer  
 Current Events & Issues - 3rd place team - Jenna Herold, Garrett Acker, Reese Braswell  
 Spelling and Vocabulary - Ariel Marrs - 2nd - Regional Qualifier; Lindsey Williams - 3rd - Regional Qualifier  
 1st place Spelling team - Regional Team Qualifiers - Ariel Marrs, Lindsey Williams, Monica Whipple, Stephen Tomes

**District Writing Name List**

Participants on Tuesday, March 18th: Tyson Baker, Charlie Bettis, Kanah Coalson, James Graves, Kayla Hilliard, Calli Johnson, Ariel Marrs, Ryan Martinez, Rebecca Rawlings, Bailey Saunders, Salena Soto,

**School Menu**



**Breakfast**

**Monday, March 31**  
 Cereal, mixed fruit, biscuit, milk  
**Tuesday, April 1**  
 Sausage rolls, apple juice, milk  
**Wednesday, April 2**  
 Breakfast pizza, grape juice, milk  
**Thursday, April 3**  
 French toast sticks, orange juice, milk  
**Friday, April 4**  
 Donut, apple sauce, teddy grams, milk

**Lunch**

**Monday, March 31**  
 Hot dogs, chili & cheese, tator tots, pork & beans, bun, banana pudding, milk  
**Tuesday, April 1**  
 Frito pie with cheese, pinto beans, tossed salad, corn chips, oatmeal cookies, milk  
**Wednesday, April 2**  
 Chicken nuggets with gravy, creamed potatoes, green beans, rolls, apple crisp, milk  
**Thursday, April 3**  
 Spaghetti, tossed salad, sweet corn, sliced peaches, bread sticks, milk  
**Friday, April 4**  
 Cheeseburgers, lettuce, tomato, pickles, French fries, bun, ice cream cups, milk

Cheyenne Webb and Joel Webb. Sponsors were Brian Arrott, Ronnie Merriman and Terri Rowan.

**UIL Academic District Name List**

Participants on Friday, March 21st; Garrett Acker, Logan Acker, Sarah Basquez, Reese Braswell, Ashley Denton, Josh Eubanks, Corin Garcia, Sherman Griffin, Jenna Herold, Jesse Herold, Kailey Howell, Joseph Israel, Garrett Jackson, Ashleigh Kelly, Jasmine Kresta, Jayci Malone, Ariel Marrs, Britney McCutchen, Casey McKee, Cody Moore, Rebecca Rawlings, Natalee Reed, Heather Richey, Jaylon Saunders, Joe'l Sefcik, Scott Snyder, Lindsay Springer, Jonathan Tomes, Stepheh Tomes, Ashley Torres, Melissa Walker, Monica Whipple and Lindsey Williams. Sponsors were Missie Pittman, Lisa Gibbs, Sherri Marrs, Lloyd Walker, Jerita Taylor and Keith McCutchen.

**Upcoming Bronte track meets**

On Friday, March 28th, Bronte will hold the Longhorn Relays and on Tuesday, April 1st, the Junior High District track meet will be held in Bronte.

**Bronte girls track results**

At the Irion County track meet on March 7th, individuals placed in the following events:

100 m hurdles - 1st - Lillian McMullan  
 100 m dash - 6th - Calli Johnson  
 800 m relay - 5th - Ashley Denton, Britney McCutchen, Kanah Coalson  
 200 m - 5th - Kanah Coalson  
 1600 m relay - 5th - Britney McCutchen, Lilly McMullan, Becca Rawlings, Ashley Denton  
 Long jump - 4th - Chris Kelly  
 High jump - 4th - Lilly McMullan  
 Disc - 3rd - Ashleigh Kelly  
 Shot put - 4th - Ashleigh Kelly

On the 22nd at the Eden track meet, the girls team placed first. Placing in events were:

3200 m - 3rd - Becca Rawlings  
 Shot put - 2nd - Lindsay Springer  
 Discus - 1st - C.J. Macon; 3rd - Ashleigh Kelly  
 Long jump - 3rd - Christian Kelly  
 High jump - tie for 6th - Kailey Howell, Britney McCutchen  
 400 m relay - 4th - Chris Kelly, Calli Johnson, Britney McCutchen, Kanah Coalson - 55.  
 100 m - 4th - Calli Johnson - 13.9  
 800 m relay - 2nd - Britney McCutchen, Lindsey Butler, Calli Johnson, Kanah Coalson - 1:55  
 400 m - 3rd - Kailey Howell -

**BRONTE SCHOOL NEWS**

65.1; 6th - Sarah Basquez  
 300 m hurdles - 5th - Heather Richey - 56.  
 1600 m run - 3rd - Kailey Howell - 6:32  
 1600 m relay - 6th Chris Kelly, Heather Richey, Sarah Basquez, Becca Rawlings 4:50

**BISD trustees meet in regular session**

The Bronte ISD Board of Trustees met in regular session on Thursday, March 20, at 7:00 pm in the board room. Minutes from the previous meeting were read and approved.

Terry Marrs, Elementary Principal, reported an enrollment of 188. Joy Malone has been hired as an elementary special ed aide. Third grade TAKS test went well. Rick Howell, Secondary Principal, reported no changes in enrollment. The One Act Play will present their play for the public on Monday at 7:30 pm. Michael Bohensky, CCJC Principal, reported an enrollment of 188. They have had three to graduate from high school. Mr. Bohensky shared art work and poems that the students at CCJJC had completed in class.

George Tomes, Band Director, updated the board on the band program and the band instrument needs. The board approved the proposal presented to overhaul the band instruments.

The board approved the school calendar for 2003-2004, the Campus/District Leaver Audit Data Quality Manual, to extend the bank depository contract through 2005, and to pay the February 2003 bills.

Other board action included

accepting a proposal for a new kitchen stove and oven, approval to purchase video cameras, and approval to repair a bus.

The time for the April and May regular board meeting was set for 8:00 pm.

Superintendent Alan Richey gave a legislative and financial update and presented a new summary of finance. Discussion was held on the status of the insurance claims on the CCJJC equipment and appeal of property values by LCS Production. Roofing needs were also discussed.

Personnel items included the offering of contracts to certified personnel and the reviewing of auxiliary personnel.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be April 10 at 8:00 pm.

**Fitness Center closed**

The Bronte Fitness Center will be closed Tuesday, April 1, due to the Junior High District Track Meet.

**Proclamation of April as 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 Councils of the Cities of Bronte and Robert Lee, do proclaim April as Fair Housing Month in the City of Bronte and Robert Lee, and do hereby urge all the citizens of these localities to become aware of and support the Fair Housing Law.

In Witness Whereof, we have affixed our signatures and seal on this the 20th and 13th days of March, 2003, respectively.

Martin Lee, Mayor  
 City of Bronte  
 Garland Davis, Mayor  
 City of Robert Lee  
**Arts & crafts festival set for March 29, 30**

The All American Spring Arts and Crafts Festival will be held March 29th and 30th in the Concho Pavilion at the San Angelo Coliseum Complex. Artists and crafters from throughout the Southwest will fill the building with original art, limited edition prints and handcrafted items. Hours for the festival are Saturday from 9 am to 5 pm and Sunday from noon to 5 pm. There is no admission charge.

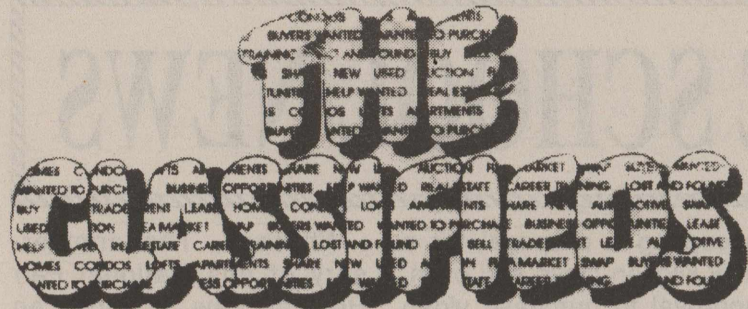
**All American**  
**\* Spring \***  
**Arts & Crafts Festival**  


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**MARCH 29-30, 2003**  
**SAT: 10AM-6PM SUN: 12-5PM**  
**CONCHO PAVILION**  
**SAN ANGELO COLISEUM COMPLEX**  


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**FREE ADMISSION**  
**Under the Direction of Mel Prather**



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 Rates when paid in advance.  
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 \$3 Minimum  
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 16¢ Per Word  
 \$2.50 Minimum  
 Additional 50¢ charged for  
 Blind Ads  
 Legal Notices:  
 25¢ Per Word  
 A service charge will be  
 added to all ads which  
 must be billed.  
**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**

**FOR SALE**  
 Mobile home, 2 BR, 1 1/2 baths. Price reduced. 817 Vicki St., Robert Lee, Tx. 453-2019. 35-6tp

**FOR SALE**  
 1978 Jayco pop-up camper. Needs work. \$350.00 OBO. 1990 Leer camper shell. \$100.00. 509 W. 12th St., Robert Lee. 453-2011. 35-1tp

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 201 East Oliver, Bronte. 2 BR, 1 BA. \$16,000, \$2,000 down. (915) 486-8869 or 650-5900. 30-tnc

**LEASE/BUY**  
 This nice 3 BRM home at 906 Childress, Robert Lee. \$365/month. 34-tnc

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**TOWNVIEW ESTATES** with Acreage! This 4 Bedroom Brick Home has 2 Living areas! Updates include paint & Berber type carpet! Shop bldg and Mobile home for Guesthouse!

  
**AUSTIN STONE** 2 Story! 4 Bedroom, 2.5 Bath with 2 Living areas & 2 fireplaces! Updates include Hardwood floors and carpet! Pipe fencing & Barn all on 6+ Acres!!!



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 Home 453-4748

**JIMMY'S MOWING YARDS AND LOTS**  
 453-4752  
34-4tp

**REWARD**  
 for information regarding 3 ornamental deer taken from 224 Cumbie, Bronte. Please call 915-473-5201. 34-2tp

**LOST**  
 Small Sheltie collie, sable & white. No collar. Her name is Little Girl. Offering \$150 reward. No questions asked. Was seen picked up by a later model white Ford pickup. Call 915-728-9247. 33-4tc

**PRAYER CONFERENCE**  
 with Rev. Tom Thompson, Saturday, April 5th, 9 am - 4 pm. Everyone welcome, United Methodist Church, Bronte. FMI 473-3281 33-4tc

**TREE TRIMMING AND REMOVAL**  
 Add Davis  
 453-2450  
33-4tp

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 223-1108 or  
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**Texas Best**  
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**POSSIBLE 3 BEDROOM 2 Living Areas or 4 BR, 2 Bath Brick Home** on acreage. Accommodations for horses!

  
**AUSTIN STONE HOME ON ACREAGE!** 3 Bedroom, 2 Bath. Vaulted ceilings with built-in shelves & cabinets around fireplace! Large kitchen with walk-in pantry! Hurry!!!

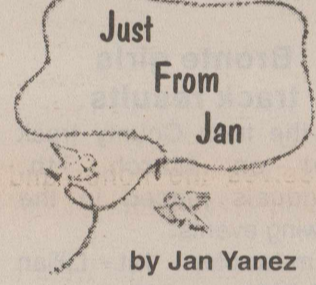
  
**132 SANCO ROAD** 3 Bedroom, 2 Bath Home with Garage/Worshop on acreage! Updated kitchen cabinets & ceramic tile! Oversized Den with open floor plan! 40's!!!

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<b>Bronte</b> 2BR, 1BA Nice starter home, close to school 2 Story Home with 3 BR, 2 BA, 2 BARNs on 2 Acres 4 BR, 2 BA Brick Home, over 2100 sq. ft. in a good location Blackwell 3 BR, 2 BA, 1 car garage, shop and 16 x 36 enclosed RV building, lots of extras 3 BR, 2 BA, extremely nice 11 yr old brick home, single garage, storage building, very nice storm cellar Robert Lee Brick Home on 8 Acres with 2 BR, 2 BA, 2 Living Areas, Office or 3rd BR, Large Barn & Pens 3 BR, 1 1/2 BA, Under Contract home, 2 lots, Carport, Storage building Priced to Sell, 4 BR, 2 bth, large den with second living area. CA/CH over 2100 sq. ft. Priced reduced, 2 BR, 1 bth, CA/CH, sunroom or 3rd BR, large kitchen, single garage, over 1800 sf 3 BR, 1 BA, good starter home	<b>2 BR, 1 BA, 2 Living Areas, Close to School</b> Lake Spence Area, 2 BR, 1 BA, Ceramic tile, sundeck, guest quarters. <b>Acreage</b> 1022 +/- Acres, Excellent hunting, rolling terrain located in a mountainous area. Some live oak trees, 3 water wells, 1 dirt surface tank, 1 large barn with electricity 740 +/- Acres. Live water creek with pecan trees, rolling hills, excellent livestock pens, choice hunting 834 +/- AC. On the Colorado River. Scattered live oak trees. Excellent hunting. 448 +/- AC. Excellent water and excellent hunting. <u>Under Contract</u> 320 +/- AC. Price Reduced. highway & county road access. Choice building site. Convenient to Bronte. Good hunting. 292 +/- Acres, very nice 1 yr old brick home, bar, <u>SOLD</u> setup for goat operation, scenic mountain area 122 +/- Acre. <u>Under Contract</u> Lake Spence. 80 +/- Acres. Very nice ranch style home with 3 BR, 2 BA 2 Living Areas. All Steel Horse and Cattle Pens. 3 Large Barns.
--	---

**THE "BARBER" SHOP**  
 Debora England, 223 N Lombard, Bronte. 473-4026. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday. 9 am - 5 pm. 33-tnc

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 by Jan Yanez  
 Cooperative Extension Agent

**Healthy eating on the run**  
 Increasingly, consumers want fast, easy, and good tasting foods to fit a busy lifestyle. Whether it's fast food, take out, or a sit down restaurant, eating out has become part of the American lifestyle. Today, food is available almost everywhere we go - schools, businesses, drugstores, convenience stores, bookstores, supermarkets, vending machines, sports and cultural events and recreation centers. The following tips will help you make wise food choices for "Healthy Eating, Healthy You."

1. Take time to look over the menu and make a careful selection.
2. Choose fried foods only sometimes - go for grilled, broiled, or steamed foods more often.
3. Order the regular or kid-size portion. Mega-sized servings are probably more than you need.
4. Make milk or a low-fat shake your beverage for an extra calcium boost.
5. Try a side salad instead of fries.
6. Split your order. Share your fries or an extra large sandwich with a friend.
7. Boost the nutrients in all kinds of sandwiches by adding tomato, peppers and other

- vegetables.
8. In place of fries or fried onion rings, order corn on the cob, green beans or baked beans, or rice.
9. A baked potato offers more fiber and fewer calories than fries, just go easy on the sour cream and butter. Top your potato with broccoli, a small amount of cheese or salsa.
10. At the deli or sub shop, choose lean beef, ham, turkey, or chicken on whole grain bread.
11. For a lighter meal, order an appetizer for your entree.
12. Go easy on condiments, special sauces and dressings on sandwiches and salads. Ask for mustard, catsup, salsa or low-fat spreads and dressings.
13. Enjoy ethnic foods such as Chinese stir-fry, vegetable-stuffed pita or Mexican burrito. Go easy on the sour cream, cheese and guacamole.
14. At the salad bar, pile on the dark leafy greens, carrots, peppers and other fresh vegetables. Lighten up on mayonnaise-based salads and high fat toppings.
15. Restaurant portions too large? Take home half the main course for another meal.
16. Order salad with dressing on the side so you can control how much is added.
17. Eat your lower-calorie food first. Soup or salad is a good choice.
18. Pass up all-you-can-eat specials, buffets and unlimited salad bars if you tend to eat too much.
19. If you do choose the buffet, fill up on salad and vegetables first. Take no more than two trips and use the small plate which holds less food.
20. Try a smoothie made with juice, fruit and yogurt for a light lunch or snack.
21. For dessert, choose fresh fruit or a container of fruit chunks if available. Or, share dessert with a friend.
22. Load up your pizza with vegetable toppings. If you add meat, make it lean ham, Canadian bacon, chicken or shrimp.
23. Look for a sandwich wrap in a soft tortilla. Fillings such as rice mixed with seafood, chicken or grilled vegetables are usually low in fat.
24. For the fastest breakfast of

### ... Eating on the run

all, go with dry cereal and milk. Make the cereal whole-grain or bran and you'll get fiber along with B vitamins and complex carbohydrates.

25. Build a better breakfast sandwich - replace the bacon or sausage with Canadian bacon or ham and order your sandwich on an English muffin, bagel or bun.

26. Instead of a doughnut, order an English muffin, bagel or a plain soft baked pretzel. Lightly spread the cream cheese or margarine - or just use jam or jelly.

27. Refrigerate take-out or leftovers if the food won't be eaten right away. Toss foods kept at room temperature for more than two hours.

28. Be sizewise about muffins, bagels, croissants and biscuits. A jumbo muffin has twice the fat grams and calories as the regular size.

29. Look for yogurt and fruit for a quick on the run breakfast to start your day.

30. Tuck portable, nonperishable foods in your purse, briefcase or backpack for on-the-go snacking. For example, crackers and peanut butter, small boxes of cereal, dried fruit, pretzels, or plain popcorn.

31. Fresh fruit is already packaged to go. Try a variety of seasonal fruits.

### C. City plans Home & Garden Show

Keep Colorado City Beautiful announces its second annual Home and Garden Show on April 12 and 13, 2003. The event takes place in the historic Railhead Building on the corner of Elm and First streets in downtown Colorado City. Local and area merchants will display products and services for home improvement, maintenance, landscaping, and beautification.

The "Bridal Event" offers an additional area of interest for this year's Home and Garden Show. All types of items associated with weddings will stimulate the imagination of those planning marriage ceremonies.

Seminars are planned on several topics related to home maintenance, interior decorating, yard care, landscaping, and gardening. For more information, contact Cindy Fisher at (915) 728-8646.

### Letter to the Editor

A California mother whose son is right now in Kuwait (or Iraq, by now), poised to knock Saddam's block off, wrote her son asking how he would feel if she joined other relatives of service members in an anti-war demonstration in Hollywood last month. After reading her son's response, she elected not to participate. The following is her son's response as it was printed in the Las Vegas Review Journal.  
Dear Mom,

It's really your decision to march if you want to or not.

You are the one who has to decide if what we are doing out here is right or not. My opinion is not yours. I do, however, have things I would like for you and Grandma and everyone else at home to know.

I am a United States soldier. I was sworn to defend my country against all enemies, foreign and domestic. People may not agree with the things we are ordered to do. I would like to address those people by telling them that terrorism is not only a threat to us as Americans, but to many other innocent people in the world. What type of country would we be if we didn't defend the rights and freedoms of others, not because they're Americans, but how about just because they're human?

We live in a country where people feel secure with their daily lives. They do business as usual and don't worry about the thought of terrorism actually happening to them. The people of 9-11 thought the same thing. We now know that it can happen to anyone at any time. Yet as Americans we're afraid of losing our soldiers to defend our security. I can only speak for myself when I say that my life is an easy expense to ensure that my family and friends can live in peace. I strongly believe in what we are doing and wish you were here to see for yourselves the honor and privilege that American soldiers aboard this ship are feeling, knowing that we are going to be a part of something so strong and so meaningful to the safety of our loved ones. Then you would know what this potential war is about. We will stand tall in front of terrorism and defeat it.

We as soldiers are not afraid of what may happen. We are only afraid of Americans not being able to understand why we are here. I ask for your courage as Americans to be strong for us; I ask for your understanding in what we believe is right. I ask for

your support in what we are sworn to do: defend our country and the life of all. We will succeed in our task and will end the threat of terrorism in our back yard. We will also end the threat of terrorism in our neighbors'.

We have to remind ourselves of what this country stands for: life, liberty, and justice for all. In order to maintain those rights, we have to stop the threat of terrorism. I am proud to be here. I will be coming home, but not until I know that it is going to be safe for all Americans and for everyone I love. My family is first. My country is where they live. I will defend it.

Lonnie J. Lewis  
Navy corpsman  
C Co. 1/4 WPN PLT  
UIC 39726  
FPO AP 966139726

P.S. Mom, please send this to everyone who has a hard time understanding why we are here. Ask the paper to put what I've said in a column so that others will know why we are here and what we are here for. I love you all and will be home soon. I left my address so that if anyone feels like writing to let me know how they feel, they can.

### Personal

About forty family members, friends, and neighbors gathered to watch Jordan Nichols "perform" at his 1st birthday party. Kelly and Mendy hosted the celebration at their home in Crane. The guests enjoyed a supper of brisket, ribs, and great beans and salads outdoors on a beautiful evening. For dessert a huge birthday cake and ice cream were served. Birthday Boy showed little interest in the gifts but he gobbled into the cake with hands. Finding it sticky and messy, he tried to sling that off, causing guests to dodge for cover.

Jordan was a sick little guy after his arrival last year and everyone was delighted to see him fit and pretty feisty. It was a great

### The Observer/Enterprise Friday, March 28, 2003 Page 7

party. Attending from Robert Lee were Suzann Johnson, Kenneth and Inez Harper, Mike and Curtis Bagwell, Thelma Jo Hinnard and Joan Davis.

### Wine, Food Festival set for San Angelo

The 19th annual Texas Wine and Food Festival has been set for April 11 & 12, 2003, in San Angelo. This year's event will feature Chef Alan Lazarus of Vespaio Restaurant, Austin, Texas.

The event begins with a gourmet dinner and auction at Bentwood Country Club on Friday, April 11, at 7:00 pm. A Cooking Class has been scheduled on Saturday, April 12, from 10:00 am until noon at Bentwood. The Wine, Brew, & Food Tasting Finale will be held on Saturday, April 12, from 6:30 until 9:30 pm at the Pavilions at El Paseo de Santa Angela.

Tickets are on sale now. For more information contact (915) 653-6793.

### Get ready for tax time

Typically around this time of year, many individuals begin a scavenger hunt for all those financial documents they need to file their taxes. For the disorganized, that makes tax season a major undertaking.

Marked as a national event, Get Ready For Tax Time Month, is time to get your papers in order for filing taxes. As an extra measure, it's a good investment of time to update and organize your financial paperwork so tax time doesn't have to be so taxing the next time around.

Cyndi Seidler, author, columnist, and organizing expert, offers these tips in

organizing financial papers: \*Establish a "drop off" place for receipts. Empty receipts from pockets, purses, or shopping bags into this receipt holding place each day.

\*Do regular maintenance to process receipts. On a weekly or monthly basis, file the receipts into a categorized accordion file. If computerized, enter the expense receipts into your money management program, and then file the receipts away in an Expense Receipts file.

\*Set up finance files together in a filing cabinet or file drawer. Keep receipts, paid bills, credit card statements, bank statements, income records, and any other financial documents in clearly labeled files.

\*Don't keep what you don't need. Discard receipts that are not related to taxes, and toss ATM receipts after your bank statement balances.

\*Implement a paper management system to manage your flow of mail and financial papers. Set up stacking tray baskets to receive mail, hold pending papers, and to put papers in for filing. Use a vertical file holder for active files, like a "Bills to pay" file.

\*House your important, valuable documents safely. Store such documents as deeds and mortgage papers, birth and marriage certificates, insurance policies, legal agreements, essential investment records, tax returns, and property inventory in a fireproof box or safe deposit box.

\*Consider free tax assistance. IRS offers a tax help line at 800-829-1040. Many post offices and libraries carry the most widely requested forms and instructions.

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1997 Subaru Outback Legacy \$ 8,995


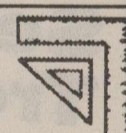

All-Wheel Drive • Red w/Gray Leather • Great Condition!

2002 F-250 Crew Cab XLT \$25,995

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## FINANCIAL FOCUS

With Jim Woodruff  
of Edward Jones

### "Recovery Plan" can keep you moving toward financial goals

Over the past couple of years, we've had a long bear market and a period of low interest rates. Consequently, it's been tough for stockowners and income-oriented investors. If you fall into either of those groups - and most people do - you may be wondering what to do. You can't control market volatility or the movement of interest rates. But you can create a "recovery plan" that will allow you to make the best of your situation - and, in the process, make progress toward your financial goals.

What specifically can you do? Here are some suggestions.

**Put your losses to work** - Your investment losses are tax-deductible, to a point. You can use your capital losses to offset any capital gains you have, plus up to \$3,000 of other income, including earned income. So, for example, if you realized a \$1,000 capital gain this year from selling stocks or other appreciated investments, you could write off up to \$4,000 in losses. And you can carry forward any "excess" losses to future years.

**Rebalance your portfolio** - Your investment portfolio may have become "unbalanced" - and you might not even be aware that it happened. For example, if your stocks have declined sharply, then bonds or other fixed-income instruments may now make up a larger percentage of your portfolio's total value than you had originally intended. Consequently, you could be losing out on growth opportunities - which is why you'll need to rebalance your holdings to match your individual risk tolerance, goals, and time horizon. (Keep in mind that there may be tax consequences associated with one's rebalancing strategy).

**Stabilize your investment income** - What should you do with your bonds or certificates of deposit that mature when market interest rates are low? You could "park" the funds in a money market account until interest rates rise again, but that might take a while - and, in the meantime, you will have almost certainly missed out on some better opportunities. You may be better off

by building a "bond ladder". To create a bond ladder, you invest in an array of short, intermediate, and long-term high-quality bonds. When rates are rising, you use the proceeds from your maturing bonds to buy new bonds at the higher levels. When market rates are falling, you'll continue to benefit from the highest rates offered by your longer-term bonds. Over time, a well-structured bond ladder can help you stabilize the income you receive from your fixed income portfolio.

**Swap for quality** - Over the long term, high-quality investments - such as stocks of well-run companies with solid business plans - will reward investors more than investments that run "hot" and "cold". Look through your portfolio for opportunities to replace lower-quality investments for higher-quality ones that may now be attractively priced.

**Be a "tax-smart" investor** - Taxes can significantly erode your overall investment returns. That's why you need to look for tax-advantaged vehicles. Take full advantage of tax-deferred instruments, such as your 401(k) and traditional IRA. You can get tax-free earnings growth from a Roth IRA, provided you meet certain conditions. Depending on your tax bracket, you may also be able to benefit from municipal bonds, whose interest is exempt from federal income taxes, and may be exempt from state and local taxes as well. However, municipal bonds may incur the alternative minimum tax.

Clearly, you've got many opportunities to create a recovery plan that can help keep you on track toward your long-term financial goals. Start exploring these possibilities soon.

### "Ranchers' Resources" short course offered

Texas Cooperative Extension is sponsoring a three-night "Ranchers Resources" short course series April 7, 14, and 21. The course sites are Abilene Auction (April 7), Ben Richey Boys Ranch (April 14), and the Sears Ranch (April 21).

A total of four Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) continuing education units (CEUs) will be available for persons completing the series.

Gary Bomar, Taylor County Extension agent and a program coordinator, said the short course is designed to provide producers with the latest technical knowledge available. "We'll have everyone from feedlot operators to wildlife folks here to address just about any scenario a West Texas rancher could imagine," said Bomar. "We've tried hard to put together a quality program to really meet the

needs of our region's cattlemen. It'll be tough to find a program anywhere with as much practical information as this one offers. We're sure proud of the finished product"

The Abilene Auction located on Interstate 20 North will concentrate on marketing. Speakers and topics include a beef cattle outlook by Stan Bevers, Vernon-based Extension economist, and Randy Carson, Abilene Auction owner. Rex Bland, owner of Cal-Texas Feedyard at Trent, will join Carson for a quality and price live cattle evaluation session that will round out the evening.

The Ben Richey Boys Ranch, located on Loop 322, will feature Dr. Allan McGinty, Extension range specialist at San Angelo. He will offer a hands-on brush control demonstration entitled "Back to Basics of Range Herbicide Management."

Speakers for the final session on the Sears Ranch, located on Highway 277 southwest of Abilene, are Dr. Dale Rollins, Extension wildlife specialist at San Angelo, and Billy Henderson, local TDA inspector. Rollins will share his thoughts on livestock and wildlife interactions and Henderson will offer CEUs

in herbicide laws and regulations.

The program is being sponsored by the Extension offices in Taylor, Callahan, Jones, Shackelford, Nolan and Fisher Counties.

Pre-registration prior to April 1 is \$25 per person for the three-session short course and \$35 for late registrants and at the door.

For further information contact Gary Bomar at (915) 672-6048.

### Walk to Cure Diabetes slated for March 29

San Angelo's "Walk to Cure Diabetes" benefiting the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation is set for Saturday, March 29, 2003, at the El Paseo in San Angelo. Registration is at 9:00 am, and the Walk will start at 10:00 am. If your life, or the life of someone you love, has been affected by this devastating disease -- come join the walk and make a difference!

There will be a children's area and activities for kids, prizes, music, and entertainment. If you are interested in joining the walk,

or raising money to help find a cure for diabetes, please call for more information: Linda Horwood at 378-8401, or Joy Brandon at 651-7727.

### 1st phase of DCP sign-up ends April 1, 2003

April 1st is the last date for producers who want to sign up in the DCP program and select crop bases under option 4. After April 1st, the crop bases under option 4 will be deleted by the computer. The only crop bases left will be those under the old AMTA program, the 7 year program that just ended.

If you were not in the 7 year PFC program or you have increased your crop bases the last 4 years, April 1st is your last shot at saving those bases and using them in the DCP program.

For those only wishing to use option 1, which are the crop bases you had in AMTA, the final date for sign up is June 1st.

For more information call (915) 453-2751.

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