

THE OBSERVER/ ENTERPRISE

Serving Coke County

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Friday, May 9, 2003

May 3 local elections results announced

Voters headed to the polls Saturday, May 3, in the Bronte ISD and Robert Lee City Council elections.

Voters elected three members to the City Council. Five candidates were on the ballot for these offices. They included John Carver, Nita Stovall-Duncan, Kenneth Green, Jayson Treadaway, and Janie Munoz. Incumbents Nita Stovall-Duncan and John

Carver will retain their seats on the council. Joining them will be Jayson Treadaway.

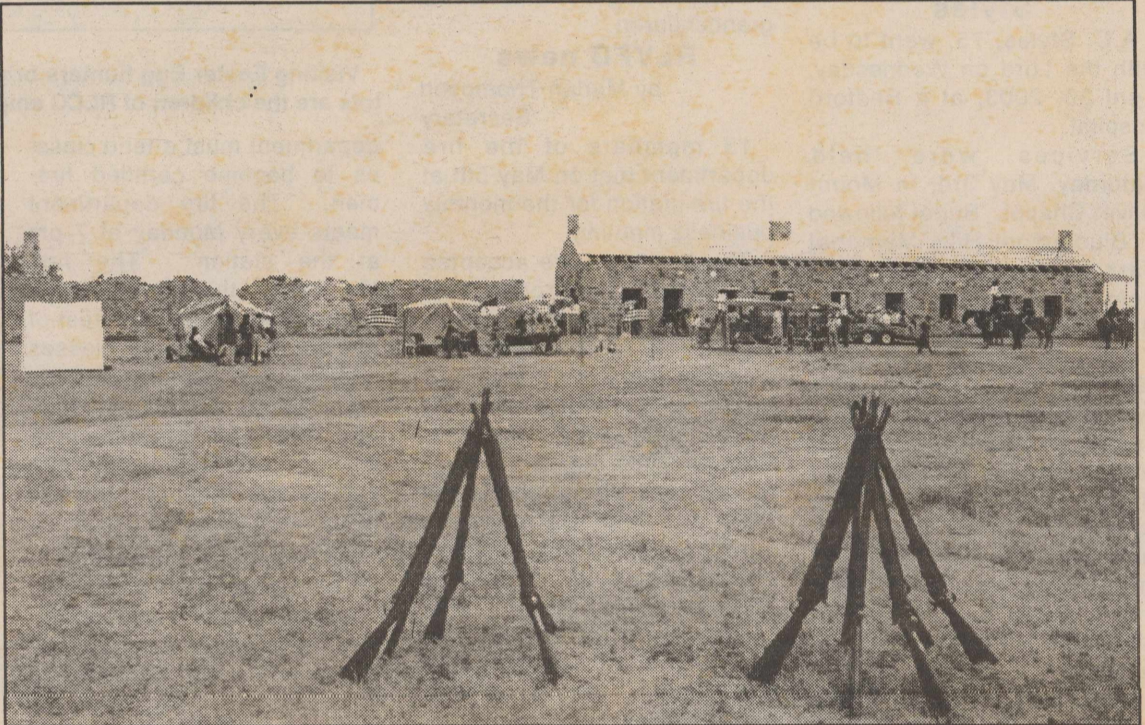
Three seats were up for election on the Bronte School Board. Incumbents Wayne Coalson, Bob Frazee and Jeff Schoenfield were joined on the ballot by Gary Acker, Paul Williams and Kenny White. All incumbents retained their seats.

FORT CHADBOURNE DAYS 2003 slated for May 17

Make sure you mark your calendar for May 17th, 2003, from 8 am to 5 pm. Come out to the fort for a fun-filled day! Activities will include: Texas Fiddlers, flag raising ceremony, 5K fun run at the fort, buffalo tours, re-enactments, fort tours, buffalo shooting and cattle working demonstrations, archeological dig, a giant slide and Blue's Clue's Bounce for the kids, Arts and Craft vendors, and all kinds of food. Admission is \$1.00 per person.

Living History Re-enactors representing several of the Texas Forts will be set up on the parade grounds. The Cavalry and Infantry will be in full dress performing military drills with live cannon fire. The new Fort Chadbourne Cavalry will be making their debut. Coke County, this is your fort, so feel free to wear your period attire to help with the atmosphere of the day.

Due to the success of last year's event, we welcome volunteers. If you are interested in a booth, or have any questions, be sure to give us a call at 473-5311 or 743-2555. All non-profit clubs



These "crossed guns" were on display at Fort Chadbourne. Fort Chadbourne Days is scheduled for May 17 at the Fort located 12 miles north of Bronte on Highway 277.

and organizations are welcome with no booth fee.

Graduation issues set

The Observer/Enterprise will publish the special editions dedicated to the Senior Classes of both Bronte and Robert Lee high schools during the latter part of May. The issue honoring the Robert Lee class is set for May 16, with the issue honoring the Bronte class being the following week, May 23.

In the near future, representatives from our office will be calling on local businesses and individuals to sponsor these seniors. If you would like to honor a senior by sponsoring them in either of these special editions, please call 453-2433.

Saturday night live at County park

A fund-raising, fine food, fun-filled fish fry will be held Saturday, May 10, at the Big Rec Hall in the Robert Lee County Park. A fried fish dinner with trimmings and homemade desserts will be served from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm.

Driftwood, the band that puts Robert Lee one step ahead of Nashville, will play country and gospel music for listening pleasure at the pavilion from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm.

The pre-sale of Bonita Copeland's story of the Old Jail and its sheriffs will be held on this evening, as well. This contribution to the history of Coke County is invaluable and will be in demand by generations to come.

All of this is being provided to those who attend for a donation to the Old Jail Restoration Project. A group

of volunteers have provided all the food, the hours necessary to accumulate and prepare the food, the hours necessary to set up - and clean up - and the sweat equity - just so the restoration project can go forward. The Old Jail will provide a historical destination for visitors to Coke County.

Saturday, May 10th at the Big Rec Hall in the Coke County Park - food from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm and country and gospel music from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm - is the time and place to set aside to enjoy the all-volunteer efforts of a dedicated group of Coke County folks.

Mother's Day bake sale

The Robert Lee Relay for Life teams will have a Mother's Day Bake Sale on Friday, May 9th starting at 9 am at the Robert Lee State Bank. Give mom a break and keep her out of the kitchen! You can get an entire meal at this year's bake sale because it will also include casseroles and hot rolls in addition to cakes, cookies and pies.

Relay for Life is sponsored by the American Cancer Society and will be held at San Angelo Stadium on June 6 and 7, 2003. It is an 18-hour event to honor cancer survivors and memorialize lost battles while raising money for research, education, programs and services offered by the local ACS office.

All cancer survivors are encouraged to walk the Survivor's Lap to open the Relay at 6 pm, Friday, June 6th. There is also still space

open to be on a team. If you're interested in either of these, making a donation or purchasing a luminaria in honor or in memory of someone, contact Dee Anna Harmon, 453-2804, Cindy Bessent, 453-2393 or Pam Millican, 453-4755. Luminarias can be purchased for a minimum donation of \$5 each.

Restricted watering in Robert Lee

The City of Robert Lee requests that residents restrict outside watering on a temporary basis until further notice due to equipment failure at Lake Spence.

The City Council will be discussing watering restrictions at the city council meeting May 12.

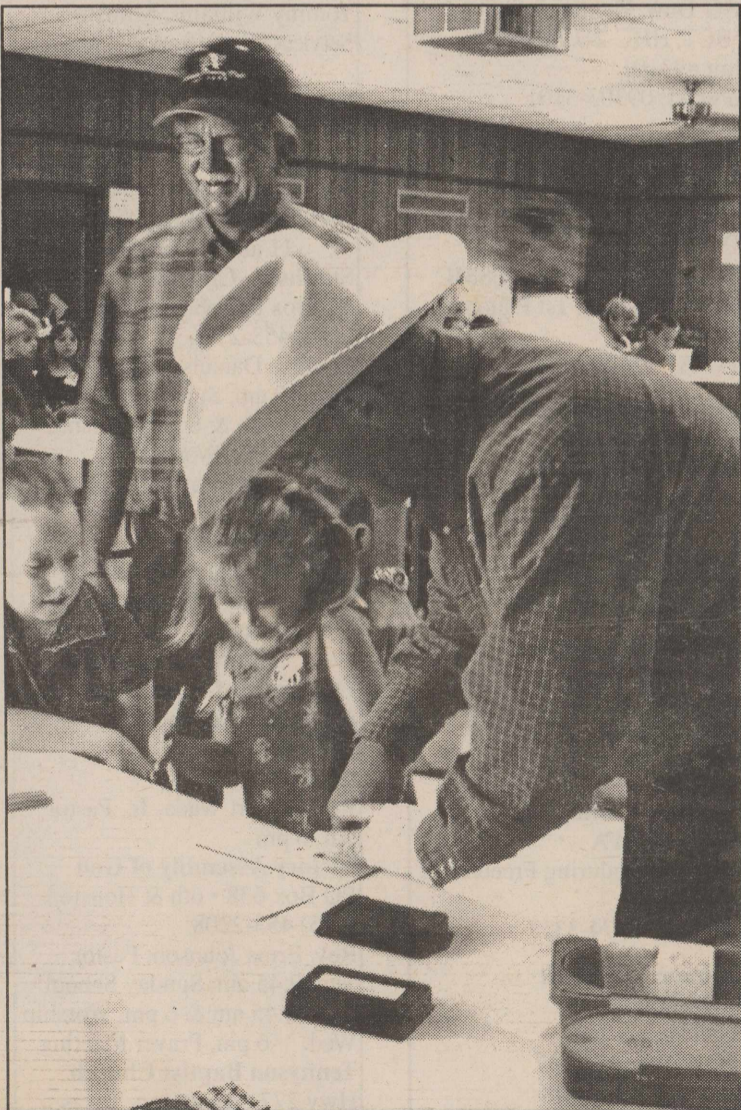
City Council meetings are open to the public and more information is available at City Hall.

Bronte Chamber displays ribbons

Yellow ribbons tied to utility poles can be seen as you drive through the city of Bronte. The Bronte Chamber of Commerce, with the help of Freddy Crumpler, is responsible for their display. The Chamber purchased the ribbons in order to honor the men and women who have chosen to "serve their country".

55 Alive defensive driving

55 Alive defensive driving will be held on May 19th & 21st at the Bronte Senior Center 615 E. Oliver in Bronte. For more information and to RSVP, call Dorothy Collins 473-6471.



Cooperative Extension Agent Tommy Antilley gets a big kick out of Coke County Sheriff Rick Styles fingerprinting a reluctant little one during the Health Fair held in Robert Lee May 6.

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Obituaries

Styles

A.C. Styles, 75, went to be with the Lord on Wednesday, April 30, 2003, at a Bedford hospital.

Services were held Saturday, May 3rd, in Mount Olivet Chapel. Burial followed in Bluebonnet Hills Memorial Park. Visitation was held from 6 to 8 pm Friday at Mount Olivet Funeral Home.

A.C. was born on May 1, 1927, in Baylor County. He owned and operated A.C.'s Barber and Style Shop for 35 years and was a member of Moslah Shrine Temple and Julian Field Lodge. A.C. served as a police officer for the City of Fort Worth and Chief of Police for Haltom City. He was preceded in death by his brother, Wesley Styles, and parents, Stella and Delmer Styles.

Survivors include his wife, Joyce Styles of Colleyville; sons, Rick Styles and wife, Kay, of Bronte, Farley Styles and wife, Lynn, of Austin; daughters, Dianne Welch and husband, Dan, of Baltimore, Md., Angela Adair and husband, Steve, of Colleyville; brothers, Gerald Styles and wife, Wanda, of Colleyville, Buster Styles and wife, Jackie, of Holliday, James Styles and wife, Henrietta, of Seymour; sister, Ila Mae Benson and husband, Kenneth, of Wichita Falls; grandchildren, Marti Aguirri, Stefanie Kanatzar, Lindsay Demchuk, Austen Adair, Brendan Styles, Drake Adair, Alexander Styles, Sterling Adair and Bailee Styles; and great-grandson, Mason Aguirri.

41-1tc

Pierce

Estelle Longbotham Pierce, 75, of Snyder, died Wednesday, April 30, 2003. Service was held at 4 pm Friday at the First Baptist Chapel with Rev. Tony Wofford and Keith Hackfeld officiating. Burial followed in Hillside Memorial Gardens under the direction of Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.

She is survived by one daughter and son-in-law,

Courtney

To a friend who had as much fun as the law would allow and wasn't afraid to help.

We're going to miss ya.

Don't get bucked off or miss that first loop and we'll see ya on the other side.

CCRC • J.M.

Cynthia & Billy Jack Hill of Independence, KS, formerly of Robert Lee. She is also survived by 3 sons, 2 sisters, 3 step-daughters and 13 grandchildren.

RLVFD news

by Marian Thompson
Secretary

13 members of the fire department met on May 5th at the fire station for the monthly business meeting.

The minutes were accepted as read. Dispatcher Bud Thompson gave the monthly report. 1 business meeting, 3 training classes, 105 1/2 hours of activities plus 20 hours volunteered by a non-fireman, Dee Kendall volunteered his equipment and his time to help Capt. Brian Hamrick paint truck 6, 5 fire department calls, 1 landing zone for WCCEMS, 1 traffic control for a MVA, 1 vehicle fire, 1 structure fire, 1 search and rescue. The group was at the station for a work night and heard and saw a military type airplane very close to the ground. 2 calls came in to 9-1-1 fearing that the plane had gone down. Several men stayed at the station and warmed up the fire trucks, while the remainder went in personal vehicles to try and locate the site. The Sheriff's office contacted the military posts in the Concho Valley and Abilene and discovered the plane was not in distress. A second plane (private), was observed flying low over the highway. It turned out that the plane was on its way to Ballinger. These were a good test for our Homeland Security. Our volunteers proved they are ready for different or difficult emergencies.

Chief Rick Drennan reported there was no need to buy a battery charger as Doc. Howell donated a new one to the department.

The fire department always need volunteers. Anyone interested in becoming a fireman, may contact any fireman or call Bud Thompson 453-4423. Members of the fire



Visiting Easter Egg hunters brightened Robert Lee Care Center residents' day April 18, 2003. The tots are the children of RLCC employees.

department must attend classes to become certified firemen. The fire department meets every Monday at 7 pm at the station. The first Monday of the month is the business meeting. The rest of the month is training classes and/or work nights. Cadets range from 16-18 years of age, must have parents consent, and will then receive fire and rescue training. Visitors are always welcome.

Runnels Baptist

Association to meet

Runnels Baptist Association will meet Monday, May 12 with emphasis on 'Partnership Missions' at First Baptist Church, Paint Rock, Texas.

No evening meal will be served. The meeting will begin at 6:30 pm.

The public is invited to attend.

Writers' Club news

The San Angelo Writers' Club will meet at 7 pm Tuesday, May 13, in the conference room at VistaCare Family Hospice, 940B Arroyo Drive, San Angelo. An informal social period will precede the meeting, beginning at 6:30 pm.

Anyone interested in writing, whether or not a published author, is invited to attend. For more information, call Barbara Barton at 949-7303.

WCC EMS Memorials for April 2003

Essie Childress

Mr. & Mrs. John L. Bruton

RLCC Activity Dept.

Donations/Memorials for April 2003

Donations

Family of Essie Childress

Memorials

Essie Childress

Mary Ellen & Royce

Johnson

Dr. & Mrs. Ronnie Sims
Gay & Tom Sawyer
Rosie & Garland Davis

RLCC Memorials for April 2003

Essie Childress

Gloria Ledbetter
Alta Bilbo Family
Bobbie Varnadore
Fran & Mike Lomas

Mivan Woodfin

Fran & Mike Lomas

MILITARY ADDRESSES

SGT Aldridge, William
3310 Amoroso Ct.
Ft. Mead, Maryland 20755

Bree Bolding
1014 ALPHA 156 ADA
Battery
Ft. Bliss, TX 79916

Justin Brickey
AFC 4/Fire Department
APO, AE 09311
BrickeyJ@k2.cjtf180.army.mil

SSG Dow, Dexter
1 BCT, HHC 2-7 IN (M) Scouts
Unit #93101
APO AE 09303-3101

Daniel Frasier
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Atlantic Beach, FL 32233
locksmith83@yahoo.com

CPL Johnson, Kevin A. USMC
Blt 2/1 Echo Co. 1st Platoon
UIC 39730
FPO-AP 96609-9730

Matt & Melissa Kazlauskas
PSC 76 Box 7655
APO, AP 96319-0055

SA Millegan, Matthew K
BEQ 831 Room 7511
320 A Dewey Ave
Great Lakes, IL 60088

SPC Parker, Jesse Lane
Unit: 46th Chemical-Company
c/o 2nd Chemical Battalion
Unit #: 92694
APO AE 09323-2694

Pv2 Soto, Santiago J.
C Btry 1-10 FA
Operation Enduring Freedom
Unit #93317
APO AE 09374-3317

Shannon VanVleck
Navigation Dept.
USS Harpers-ferry
FPO AP 96665-1737
VanVleck@Harpers-ferry.NAVY.Mil

SGT Wilkes, Jeffrey W.
51430-5 Tiguas St
Fort Hood, TX 76544

Happy Mother's Day

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

Robert Lee Baptist Church

PO Box 493 • 22 W. 11th
(915) 453-2724

Bro. Miller Robinson, Pastor
Sun. 9:45 am, Sunday School
11 am & 7 pm, Worship

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

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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Conservation Reserve Program sign-up ends May 30

A general CPR sign-up will be held beginning on May 5, 2003, and end on May 30, 2003. This program is designed to remove environmentally sensitive land from agriculture production for a period of 10 to 15 years in return for an annual rental payment. The land must be placed in a permanent grass cover with FSA cost sharing up to 50% of the eligible cost. The land must be planted in 4 of the 6 years 1996-2001. The land must also be physically and legally capable of being planted to an agriculture commodity. In the case of land that is currently enrolled in CRP that is expiring this fall and contains mesquite or other type trees or brush, the trees and brush MUST be removed prior to bidding the land into this CRP program. Producers must keep the mesquite and other trees removed and maintain the species of grass for the lifetime of the contract on any acreage enrolled in CRP. Land being bid in must meet the Erodibility Index for predominant soils of an average of 8.0 or greater to be eligible. A person must have owned the land for at least 12 months before the close of sign-up in order to be eligible to bid. Producers will be required to bid as to what rental rate they are willing to receive. The bids are then submitted to Washington for ranking and final acceptance.

If you have any questions please feel free to call the FSA office at (325) 453-2751 or come by the office in Robert Lee and visit with us about any questions you may have.

For more information about DCP or NAP you may visit the national website at <http://www.fsa/usda.gov>.

West Texas Deer Study Group

The "Sixth Annual West Texas Deer Study Group" is set for May 15-16. The first day's activities will be at the 4-H Center located 11 miles north of Brownwood on Highway 279. The second day's workshop sessions will convene at the ALT Ranch located southwest of Brownwood. Registration runs from 11 am to 1 pm May 15. The first day's program starts at 1 pm and the second day begins at 7:30 am.

For further information call 915/653-4576 or e-mail Dale Rollins d-rollins@tamu.edu.

Social Security news

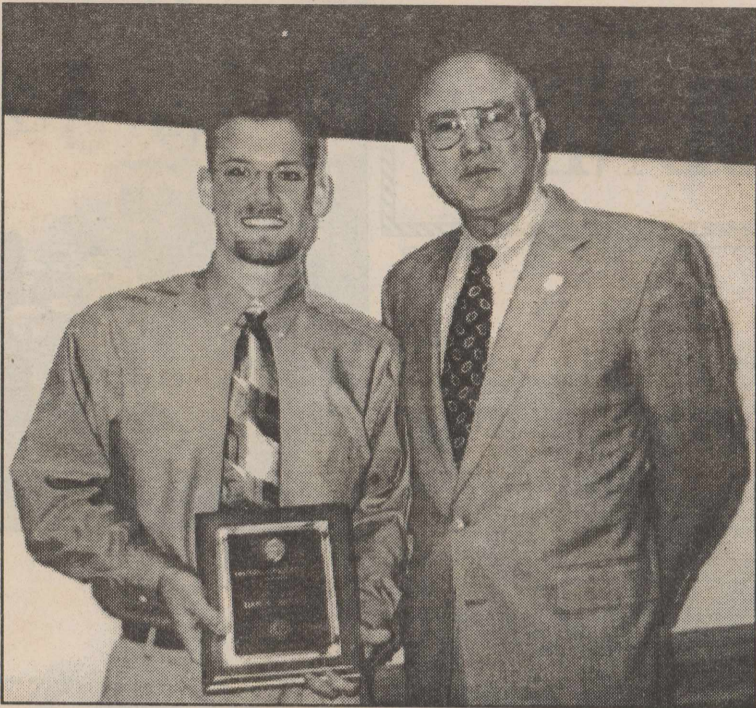
There are many things women should know about Social Security. But here are two of the most important Social Security messages every woman should know.

1. Nothing keeps you from getting your own Social Security benefit.

*If you've worked for at least 10 years and earned a minimum of 40 work credits, you are vested in the Social Security system.

*As soon as you reach age 62, you will be eligible for your own Social Security benefit whether you're married or not or whether your husband collects Social Security or not.

*Your retirement benefit is figured the same way a man's retirement benefit is figured. It's based on a percentage of your average monthly wage using a



Dan McCown (left) received "The Distinguished Student Award" from the College of Sciences at Angelo State University. He was nominated from the Mathematics department. Three other students were Distinguished Award recipients from other colleges within ASU. Dr. Hindman, ASU President, presented the award at a reception April 28.

Dan graduates from ASU with a Bachelors degree in Mathematics May 10. He will work for the Texas Baptist Missions/Texas International Mission Board at A & M for ten weeks during the summer.

Dan is a 2000 RLHS graduate. His parents are Sid and Kathy McCown of Robert Lee. Floyd and Shirley Farrington of Bronte and Viola McCown of Miles are his grandparents.

35-year base of earnings.

*If you become disabled before your full retirement age, you might qualify for Social Security disability benefits if you've worked and paid Social Security taxes in five of the preceding 10 years.

*If you also get a pension from a job where you didn't pay Social Security taxes (e.g., a civil service or teacher's pension), your Social Security benefit might be reduced.

2. There is no marriage penalty or limit to benefits paid to a married couple.

*If you are married and both

you and your husband have worked, you each will be paid your own Social Security benefit.

*A working woman is not limited to one-half of her husband's Social Security. (That is the spouse's rate paid to a woman who has not earned a higher benefit on her own work record.)

*So, for example, if you are due a Social Security benefit of \$1,200 per month and your husband is due a Social Security benefit of \$1,000 per month, together you will be paid \$2,200 per month in retirement benefits.

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the top drawer on the right.

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See us today about your peace of mind. You'll be glad you did.



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Selected Varieties 13.5 oz. bag
Doritos Tortilla Chips
Buy One Bag • Get One Bag **FREE!**

24 Oz. Squeeze Bottle
Del Monte Ketchup
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1 Lb. Clamshell Red Ripe
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Selected Varieties
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Hi-C Drinks - 128 Oz. Jug
Disney Coolers or Hi-C Drinks
Buy One • Get One **FREE!**

ROBERT LEE SCHOOL NEWS



The Robert Lee High School Boys Golf Team placed 3rd at the Regional Meet. The team includes (from left) Cody Bridges, Trey Sawyer, Stewart Millican, Josh Alexander and Evan Braswell. Stewart will advance to the State Golf Meet as an individual.

RL Band Concert scheduled

The Robert Lee Steer Band, the 5th Grade Band and the 6th Grade Band will be performing at the Spring Concert Thursday, May 15. The concert, held in the school auditorium, will begin at 7 pm.

RLHS enjoys pottery workshop

Robert Lee High art students enjoyed an interesting afternoon learning the ancient art of throwing pottery on a wheel under the guidance of Steve Apodaca, ASU art instructor. The group included Shannon Honse, Shawna Service, Sean Barnett, and Angelica Barrera. Even though none of the students

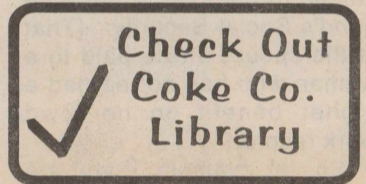
had ever used a pottery wheel before, each was able to take a pot back to class to finish.

Mr. Apodaca has been with Angelo State University for a number of years and now has his ceramic studio located at the San Angelo Museum of Fine Art. He has a master of fine art from the University of Arizona with a major in ceramics and a minor in metal arts/jewelry. His variety of experiences includes local and national exhibits, study in Central America, and reviews in both national and international publications. He had several public commissions for his works in the business world and many of his pieces are in public and private collections.

The day began with the fundamentals of pottery throwing. Steve gave a demonstration of the proper method of applying the clay to the wheel, how to center it, opening it up, and finally how to pull the sides up for a container. There were breaks for discussions, exploring ceramic books, ideas for projects, and a tour of the facilities. The students were exposed to new ideas, new skills, and a new way to think about art. At four thirty, the students gathered their works of art and headed for home tired but thrilled with what they had accomplished.

It seemed that the group had just arrived when it was time to leave.

Mr. Apodaca put forth a great deal of time and effort into this workshop and hopefully it will become an event that future students can attend.



The Coke County Library's summer reading program will begin on Tuesday, May 27th and end July 25th.

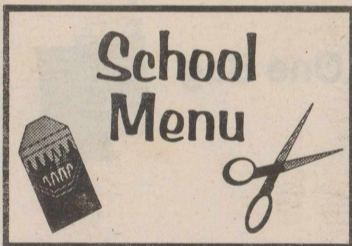
For every book returned during the summer, readers can put their names in the hat for a drawing that will be held each Friday. Prizes include drawing books and other summer-time goodies. There will be a grand-prize drawing on July 25th.

Also, the library will be providing a treat-of-the-week for everyone who visits during the summer. Adult readers are eligible for a treat-of-the-week, too.

Library hours are Tuesday, 8-12; Wednesday, 8-4; Thursday, 1-5; and Friday, 8-12. Books may be returned in Bronte to the Main Street Market and to the library book drop on a 24/7 basis.



Robert Lee High School art students learn pottery skills from Steve Apodaca, Angelo State University art instructor.



Breakfast

Monday, May 12

Juice, biscuit, sausage, cereal, milk

Tuesday, May 13

Juice, donut, cereal, milk

Wednesday, May 14

Juice, pizza, cereal, milk

Thursday, May 15

Juice, cinnamon roll, cereal, milk

Friday, May 16

Juice, muffin, cereal, milk

Lunch

Monday, May 12

Salisbury steak, corn on cob, scalloped potato, sliced bread, peaches, milk

Tuesday, May 13

Frito pie, corn, salad, fruit nut trail mix, crackers, milk

Wednesday, May 14

Chicken a la king, rice, egg roll, pineapple, milk

Thursday, May 15

Rib b ques, macaroni & cheese, green beans, roll, fruit, milk

Friday, May 16

Sub sandwich, chips, salad, strawberries, milk

WINK INSURANCE AGENCY



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Robert Lee Bands SPRING CONCERT

Thursday • May 15 • 7 pm

School Auditorium

5th Grade Band

6th Grade Band

Steer Band

Cathy's Flowers & Gifts

Congratulates the

Robert Lee High School

Class of 2003

Brandon Anderson

Alice Beach

Michael Brickey

Amber Brosh

Adam Caston

Sean Edging

Jaziel Gallegos

Kindra Johnson

Amie Kendall

Anson Lott

Kindra Matthews

Christina Middleton

Ashlee Millican

Stewart Millican

Jennifer Nesbit

Travis Pitcock

Cooper Riley

Alan Roe

Shelby Roe

Robert Sailer

Nicole Sanchez

Cristina Saucedo

Shawna Service

Krystal Soliz

Rebecca Welch

Billy Williams

Robert Lee seniors have made gift selections at

CATHY'S FLOWERS & GIFTS

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BRONTE SCHOOL NEWS



The Bronte Elementary 4th graders are showing their support of the troops in Iraq. They organized a bulletin board and had every student in elementary write on a red or white star a message to the troops. They then put these stars together to form a flag. Around the flag are larger stars with pictures of Bronte military heroes.



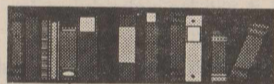
The Bronte Junior class traveled to Lubbock April 14 for college day at Texas Tech. Brian Arrott, a BHS teacher and Tech alumnus, helped sponsor the trip. Other teachers were Mrs. Gibbs and Mrs. McCutchen. David Bedford and Principal Rick Howell served as bus drivers. The students toured the large campus and persuaded the guide to let them see the Spirit Arena. Several of the class saw friends on the trip. Clayton Adams was determined to see Bobby Knight, but was told by his secretary that he wasn't in. BHS graduate Scott Graves and his friend, Kendall, explained the sorority and fraternity aspect of university life and the students were able to view those facilities. They were advised to live in the dorms in order to meet people and become involved in the various organizations. Students returned to Bronte with information, catalogs, and purchased from the Red Raider t-shirt shop.



Holly Huskerson demonstrates the way astronauts sleep. Mr. Bostic, NASA representative, give her instructions. Photo courtesy Bronte Longhorn Yearbook.



School Menu



Breakfast

- Monday, May 12**
Cereal, hashbrowns, toast, milk
- Tuesday, May 13**
Pancake and sausage on a stick, assorted juice, milk
- Wednesday, May 14**
Breakfast pizza, assorted juice, milk
- Thursday, May 15**
Sausage, assorted juice, biscuit, milk
- Friday, May 16**
Pop tarts, applesauce, biscuit, milk

Lunch

- Monday, May 12**
Chicken nuggets with gravy, creamed potatoes, sweet corn, rolls, brownies, milk
- Tuesday, May 13**
Taco salad with cheese, lettuce & tomato, refried beans, taco chips, pink panther cake, milk
- Wednesday, May 14**
Corn dogs, macaroni & cheese, tator tots, sliced peaches, milk
- Thursday, May 15**
Spud day, chili & cheese, steamed broccoli, potato (baked), crackers, jello, milk
- Friday, May 16**
Chopped B-B-Q sandwich, pinto beans, potato salad, pickle spears, bun, cinnamon roll, milk

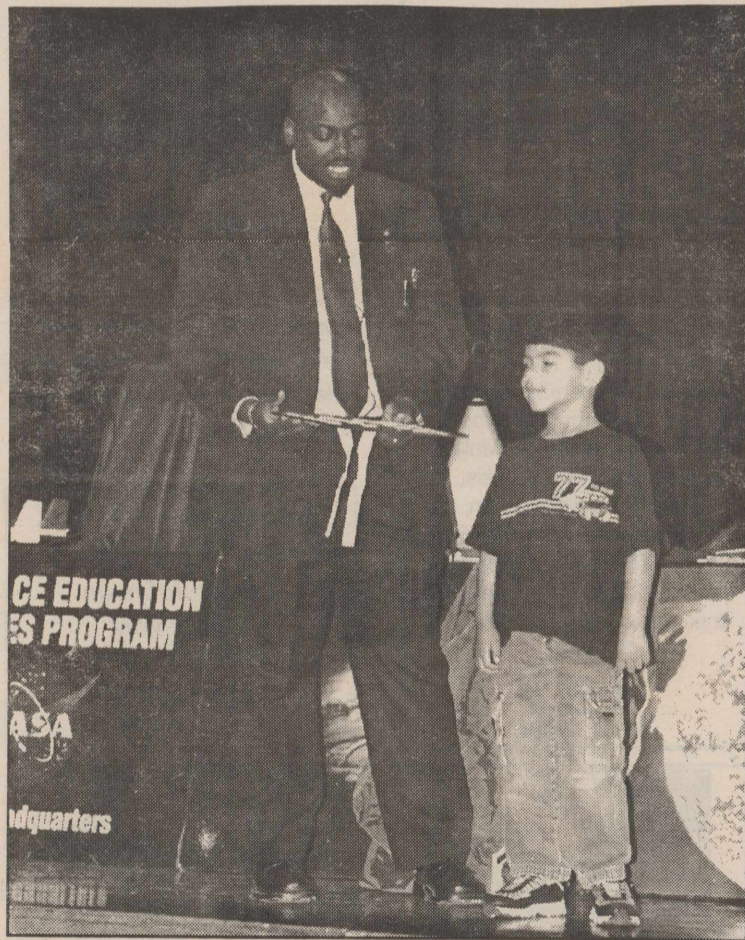


Dakota Hawls models the EVA suit as Mr. Bostic, NASA representative, goes over its features. Photo courtesy Bronte Longhorn Yearbook.

Bronte All Sports Banquet

The Bronte All Sports Banquet will be held Thursday, May 15, 2003. The meal will begin at

6:30 pm in the school cafeteria. All athletes will be served a steak dinner with all the trimmings. Awards will follow the meal in the school auditorium.



Carlos Fuentes pretends to eat food like the astronauts eat in space. Mr. Bostic, NASA representative, gives him guidance. Photo courtesy Bronte Longhorn Yearbook.

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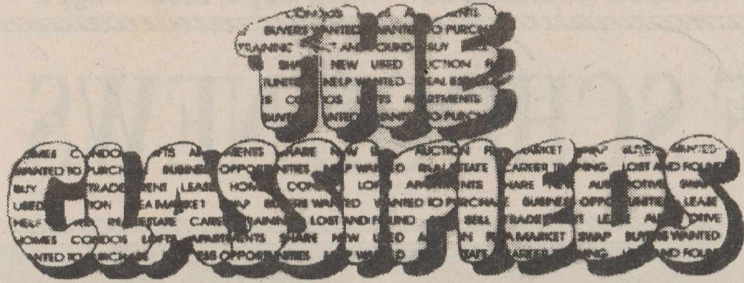
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PUBLISHER'S NOTICE:
 All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or 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.




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 41-6tp

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 Low \$200/mo. 3 BRM at 906 Childress, Robert Lee. For RENT or BUY. 655-9141.
 40-tnc

BUILDING FOR SALE
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 Mobile home, 2 BR, 1 1/2 baths. Price reduced. 817 Vicki St., Robert Lee, Tx. 453-2019.
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FOR SALE BY OWNER
 301 East 7th, Robert Lee. 453-4621. \$29,000.00 AS IS. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Large screened in porch, large carport, storm cellar, water softener, R.O. drinking water, fenced dog pen.
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A SPECIAL THANKS
 to all who sent cards, flowers, and for your prayers during my recent stay in the hospital.
 Mary Scott
 41-1tp

AL & I WANT
 to thank each of you for each prayer, for the beautiful flowers, phone calls, hospital visits and the meals that were prepared and brought to our home. May God Bless and keep each of you safe.
 Thank you,
 Al & Lillian Posey
 41-1tp

SINGING WINDS GOLF COURSE
 would like to thank all the businesses for their donations to the Noel Percifull Memorial Tournament. Robert Lee State Bank, Halls Super Save, Shalon's Floral Boutique, Main Street Market, Hometown Hardware, Town & Country Bronte, Glenn Bivins Insurance, Bronte First National Bank, The Barber Shop and a Special Thanks to Maxine Percifull! We appreciate all your support.
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NOTICES
NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS OF PROPOSED TEXAS HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT CONTRACTS
 Sealed proposals for highway improvement contracts will be received by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) until the date(s) shown below, and then publicly read.
CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE CONTRACT(S)
 Dist/Div: San Angelo
 Contract 0333-02-007 for REWORKING BASE, SURFACE TREATMENTS & PAV MARKINGS in STERLING County, etc will be opened on June 04, 2003 at 1:00 pm at the State Office.
 Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or Dist/Div Offices listed below. Bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project.

Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available from TxDOT's website at www.dot.state.tx.us and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor.
 NPO: 9801

State Office
 Constr./Maint. Division
 200 E. Riverside Dr.
 Austin, Texas 78704
 Phone: 512-416-2540
 Dist/Div Office(s)
 San Angelo District
 District Engineer
 4502 Knickerbocker Rd
 San Angelo, Texas 76904
 Phone: 915-944-1501

Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the rates will be part of the contract. TXDOT ensures that bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin.
 40-2tc

Community Network news
 There has been a request for another Power Point Basic class and it will be scheduled for May 12, 13, and 15.
 The Web Design class scheduled for June 2-5 has been canceled.
 The classes set for April are:
 *Internet Browsers (Netscape & Internet Explorer), April 28, 29, and May 1.
 If you are not enrolled please call 453-4555 to enroll in a class.

Angelo G&H Society to meet
 The San Angelo Genealogical and Historical Society will meet at 7:30 pm, Tuesday, May 6, in the Fellowship Hall of the Church of Christ, 901 North Main, San Angelo. This will be the last meeting before the summer break, and the September meeting will be announced at a later date.
 The annual G&H Society Garage Sale will be held from 7:00 am to 4:00 pm on Friday, May 9, and Saturday, May 10. The sale will be held at 2456 Douglas Drive, located off Johnson Street. For more information call 949-8870.

Military Info requested
 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.

FINANCIAL FOCUS

With Jim Woodruff
of Edward Jones

The stock market dropped every year from 2000 through 2002. And today, with increased global tensions, a struggling economy and mixed reports on corporate earnings, the market outlook remains uncertain. Consequently, you may have taken a time out from investing and "parked" substantial amounts of your assets in certificates of deposit, money market accounts or other investments in which your principal is generally protected. But how long should you keep this "parking spot"?

You may feel that putting your money in these kinds of vehicles is a safe way to "ride out" the turbulent markets. And, in the current political and economic environment, the stability of principal offered by CDs and money markets is indeed a factor to consider. And yet, you'll need to be careful not to keep too large a percentage of your funds in these types of investments for too long. Why? Because you could run into problems you may not have considered.

To begin with, keep in mind that the longer you park your money, the less safe it is from the threat of inflation. In today's low-interest-rate environment, many fixed-income vehicles offer returns that barely exceed the inflation rate - if they exceed it at all.

Your first thought might be that inflation isn't much of a threat today. And it's true that, over the past several years, inflation has been quite mild, especially in contrast to the period of the late 1970s and early 1980s. However, although inflation has been low, it hasn't disappeared entirely - and, over time, even a low rate of inflation can add up, eroding your purchasing power. For example, in just 20 years, an annual inflation rate of four percent would drive the value of a dollar down to \$0.44.

Clearly, you can't afford to tie up too many of your investment dollars in vehicles that won't keep you ahead of inflation. But there's also another danger of "parking" your money for too long - the "opportunity cost" you pay for staying on the investment sidelines. Every "bear" market in history has ended, sooner or later - and the biggest gains in stock prices have usually been recorded in the first few months of a recovery. (However, you must remember that what's happened in the past doesn't necessarily indicate future results.) If you are still parked in a money market accounts and CDs when the stock market turns around, you might miss out on growth opportunities.

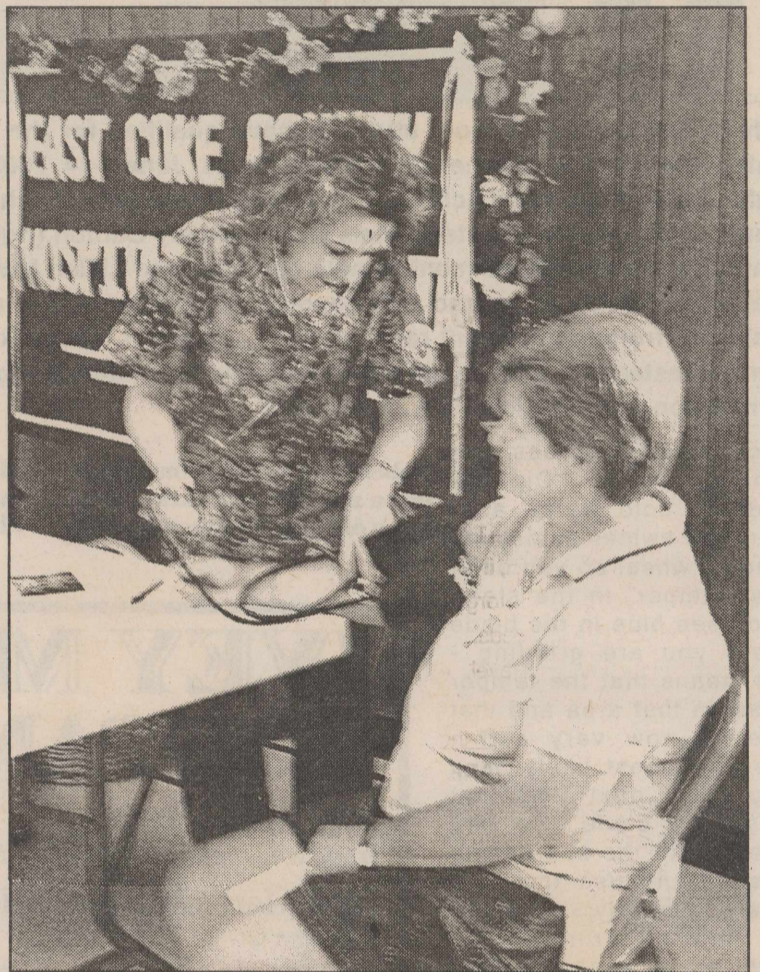
So, given the dual needs of staying ahead of inflation and staying invested in preparation for a recovery, when should you think about pulling out of the parking lot? After all, neither you nor anyone else can predict the future course of the financial markets.

Here's the answer: Don't park - diversify. By keeping your investment dollars in a wide range of high-quality stocks, bonds, money market accounts, CDs and government securities, you can reduce the effects of market volatility and give yourself more chances to succeed.

Of course, your exact mix of investments should be based on



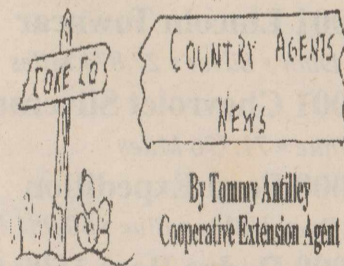
Competing at the District 4-H Round-up were (from left) Stacey Denton, Cody Denton, Johnathan Pagan, Clay Antilley, Michele Sanchez, Nicole Sanchez, Taylor Percifull, and Brody Dillard.



You could get your blood pressure checked at the East Coke County Hospital District Booth at the Health Fair in Robert Lee on May 6.

your risk tolerance, your long-term goals and your time horizon. But even if you are, by nature, a conservative investor, you still won't want to keep too large a percentage of your assets stuck in fixed-rate vehicles. To achieve your long-term objectives, such as a comfortable retirement, you will more than likely need some exposure to stocks - the only asset class that, over time, has significantly outperformed inflation.

So, look over your investments carefully. Make changes when you need to keep your portfolio properly balanced, according to your needs and goals - but don't get stuck in "park."



Brush control tips

Whoa! Not so fast. Sure, we have had some warm weather lately with the temperatures in the 90's, but it's still too early to leaf spray mesquite and prickly pear. Even with the Brush Buster's individual plant treatment, which has become so popular the last couple of years, the ground is still too cold and the plants are not fully developed to obtain adequate control of mesquite and prickly pear.

I have been getting several

calls on controlling brush species now that the mesquites have put out, but we must not forget that all important "window of opportunity" that can make or break a brush control project. For leaf spraying, whether by hand or plane, that window starts once all of the mesquite leaves have turned a dark green, and the soil temperature is at least 75 degrees at a foot to 18 inches deep - any time before that and you are wasting money - if you are interested in killing mesquite, that is. Even though our mesquites have put on leaves, they have not matured enough and the ground is still way too cold.

Now is also the worst time to treat prickly pear with herbicides, because the plants are moving carbohydrates upward to produce new pads and flowers. Herbicides applied too early won't be carried down the plant into the root system, a necessary step for good pear control.

The best time to treat pear aerially is in late summer until fall, when the pads are mature and the fruit is a dark red. Pear can be treated by hand with some success, but the optimum time to get more "bang for your buck" is still in late summer and fall.

If you have time between feeding livestock and praying for rain, now is a great time for treating small regrowth cedar with the Brush Busters leaf or soil spot spray methods. These treatments can be used

year round, but are most effective when we receive rain two to three weeks following treatment.

So, if you are after mesquite and prickly pear, better wait until the time is right or you may well be throwing good money out the window, and I'm sure it won't be the window of opportunity either.

If you wait until the time is right, using the Brush Busters treatment for pear and mesquite can obtain excellent results. We have had several demonstration plots around this area the last several years and have obtained almost complete control of small mesquite, cedar and pear.

For further information on brush control, especially the Brush Busters techniques, call the Coke County Extension office at 453-2461.

District winners at 4-H Roundup

Angelo State University played host to some 500 youth, their parents, adult volunteers, and Extension personnel during the annual District 7 4-H Roundup May 3, 2003.

Texas Cooperative Extension sponsors the annual activity for 4-H youth in the District's 23 counties. Roundup is the final step in a series of contests held in various disciplines across the District in recent months.

The event consists of 38 contests meant to test the skills of 4-Hers from 8 to 19 years old. Contest events ranged from shooting sports to public speaking. The annual event lets 4-Hers compare their skills with those of others and to their personal past performances.

Senior winners in the May 3 event qualify for Texas 4-H Roundup June 9-13 on the Texas A&M University Campus at College Station. To qualify for state, individuals or teams must have placed first or second in the District Senior Division for youths 14-19 years old. Juniors don't compete past the district level.

Winners in the senior and junior divisions from Coke County are: Seniors: Clay Antilley-Beef 2nd; Stacey Denton-Horticultural 1st; Nicole Sanchez-Consumer Life Skills-1st; Kindra Johnson-Vocal/Share the Fun 3rd; Michele Sanchez-Clothing 3rd.



Jamie Jo Alexander

Juniors: Johnathan Pagan & Brody Dillard-Natural Resources 2nd; Taylor Percifull & Cody Denton-Horse 2nd.

Alexander to graduate CHS

Jamie Jo Alexander will graduate from Central High School in San Angelo on May 31, 2003. She is the daughter of Kathy Alexander of San Angelo and Joe Alexander of Midland. Her grandparents are Bob and Jamie Boren of Robert Lee.

Jamie plans to attend Texas Christian University at Fort Worth this fall. She has been named a TCU Dean's Scholar in recognition of outstanding academic achievement and has accepted a four year scholarship of \$30,000. Jamie will participate in the TCU Honors Program.

Jamie attended elementary school in Kenedy, TX and Midland, TX. Her high school freshman year was at Midland Lee. Her sophomore year, she attended school at Vero Beach High School in Vero Beach, Florida. Jamie lived with her friend, Miranda Stone, and her parents, Rick and Jeanne Stone. Jamie and Miranda were both in the top ten percent of their class that year.

Jamie's junior and senior years have been at Central High School where she is a member of the National Honor Society. She has also been named to the National Honor Roll of Washington, D.C.

Jamie and her sister, Miranda Wauson, of Austin, recently returned from a trip to New York City. This was a graduation present from Miranda to Jamie.

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COUNTRY AGENTS
NEWS

By Tommy Antilley
Cooperative Extension Agent

Home lawn care

Site evaluation: Evaluate your lawn for high spots, low spots, and ruts made from equipment because these areas will most likely cause scalping. Take the time to level out the lawn surface with the addition of soil. To reduce rutting, lift the sod with a sharp spade and place topsoil underneath, then replace sod and keep that area moist for several days to a week to encourage a healthy root system redeveloping. Is your lawn smooth enough to mow with a reel mower? Is it smooth enough to mow at the optimal mowing height for your grass variety without continual scalping damage? Scalping will most certainly put the grass at a competitive disadvantage and eventually lead to the decline of the lawn's quality.

Selecting the right mowing height: It is essential that you mow your particular grass variety at or near the optimal mowing height because this will keep that grass the healthiest and most dense (highest number of shoot per unit area). Higher density means more soil surface shading, which severely restricts the germination of many annual grassy and broadleaf weeds. Maintaining a dense and healthy turf is the best weed control. Selecting the right mowing height also means selecting the right mower for the job. Do not put money into a high density Bermuda grass or zoysia grass hybrid variety and expect to mow it at 3 inches with a rotary mower and expect a high quality lawn. Many of the varieties available today require mowing height at or below 1 inch, which cannot be done effectively with a rotary mower.

Some general mowing height requirements of common grass species are given below in variety, the range of mowing height and the optimal mowing height.

Buffalo grass has a range of 2-4.5 inches and optimal height of 2.5 inches; Common Bermuda grass has a range of 1-2.5 inches and optimal height of 1.5; Hybrid Bermuda grass has a range of 0.75 to 2 inches and optimal height of 0.75 inches; St. Augustine grass has a range of 2.5 to 4 inches and optimal height of 2.5 inches.

How often do I mow? This question deserves an "it depends" answer. You will have to play it by ear for every different season, weather, nutrient availability change, etc...The best rule to follow is NEVER TAKE MORE THAN 1/3 OF THE LEAF BLADE OFF AT ANY ONE TIME. If you have piles of clippings left after each mowing, then you are mowing too infrequently. For a good example, consider a farmer's hay field, they go out there and remove close to 80% of the leaf surface of those grass plants and subsequently the grass left after the hay is baled turns a golden

tan color. This happens because the grass plants are not capable of recovering from that amount of stress for quite awhile. The small amount of leaf surface left is not enough to maintain the physiological activities (photosynthesis) for plant energy. Grass plants have a "growing point" where all of the leaves originate - and that growing point is near the soil surface when the grass is mowed frequently. When people let their lawns get really "hairy", that growing point begins to elevate from the soil surface and when the mower does finally come through - the growing point may be cut and removed with the rest of the clippings - this results in that plant's death. Frequent mowing, never removing more than 1/3 of the grass blade ensures that the growing point will stay near the soil surface and the turf will stay healthier and denser.

Blade sharpening: Maintaining a sharp mower blade, whether rotary or reel, is essential in maintaining turf health. A smooth, clean cut not only looks better for the lawn, but it also does much less damage to the grass plant. When you have a dull mower blade - you are "thrashing" or "beating" the tops of the grass blades off. This leaves a ragged top which becomes straw colored. This gives the lawn a "tannish" hue and leaves the grass wide open for insect and disease encroachment. These ragged tops are prime points of entry for many fungal pathogens (turf disease causers) and small turf insects.

Be sure to have your mower blade checked and sharpened frequently - at least once a year. You can adequately sharpen a rotary mower blade with a good bench grinder and a tub of cold water. Here are a few steps to take when sharpening. First of all - wear safety glasses when grinding. Try to keep the original angle on the mower blade by making smooth,



Three Bronte High School students have qualified for the Texas State High School Rodeo Finals that will be held in Abilene, Texas, June 9-14, 2003. Competing in Region II of the Texas State High School Rodeo Association and finishing in the top ten in their events to qualify for the state finals were: Ashley Denton (right) breakaway roping and goat tying; Natalee Reed (center) pole bending; and Lillian McMullan breakaway roping, goat tying, barrel racing, and pole bending. Contestants from all over the state of Texas, qualifying from ten different regions, will compete at the week-long event. Only the top four contestants in each event will advance to the National High School Rodeo Finals in Farmington, New Mexico, July 21-27, 2003.

quick swipes across the grinding wheel. Dip the blade in cold water after every few swipes across the grinding wheel so you don't lose "temper" in the steel. If you see blue in the blade where you are grinding - that means that the temper is lost in that area and that steel is now very soft - there will most likely be a chip there next time you check your blade. Be very careful with the sharpening process and use the cold water judiciously. After you are finished grinding the blade angle, test to see if the blade is properly balanced. Place the blade on a thin pole through the center hole of the blade. If it wants to fall to one side - that side is heavier. You will need to grind off some more steel on the heavy side to balance the blade. You don't need to grind more of the angle down - just grind a little steel off the back side or a corner of the blade. When you have the blade properly balanced - take a file and file off the burrs left behind by the grinder.

If you don't feel comfortable with grinding your own blades, check around for a service in your area that will do it for a few bucks.

Nobody grows old by merely living a number of years. People grow old only by deserting their

ideals. Years wrinkle the face, but to give up enthusiasm wrinkles the soul.

—Watterson Lowe

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