

THE OBSERVER/ ENTERPRISE

Serving Coke County

Single Copy 35¢



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

Vol. 116, No. 27

Friday, January 30, 2004

Saturday's Fish Fry to raise funds for RLVFD

The fund-raising fish-fry to benefit the Robert Lee Volunteer Fire Department fire station fund will begin a fun-filled evening at the Coke County Rec Hall and Show Barn on Saturday, January 31, from 5:00 to 8:00 pm.

The fish-fry dinner will be prepared by Paul Burns and his faithful fish fixing followers and they will begin culinary duties at 3:00 pm in the show barn. Serving will begin at 5:00 pm for donations beginning at \$5.00 a plate.

The serving line will be operated by slaw-with-a-smile, bread-with-a-beam, tea-with-tingle, brownies-with-a-backslap crew of fired-up, fish-dishing folks.

At 5:30 pm a demonstration of the RLVFD pumper truck's water cannon will be held in front of the Rec Hall. This demonstration will illustrate how powerful the water pressure is and how it cannot be utilized without professional training. It is advised that no one should make any of the firemen mad before this demonstration is held.

A once-in-a-lifetime cake auction will be held at 6:00 pm in the Rec Hall. Never have some of the best cooks in Robert Lee had their creations available at the same time. Included in the sale are award-winning, crave-killing cakes, better-than-Betty-Crocker pies, light as a feather

cream puffs, and hot rolls that will be baked Saturday so they will be so fresh they will hurt. An experienced, creative and inspiring auctioneer will handle the sale. Bidders are encouraged to come early to preview the creations.

The drawing for the 20" Schwinn bike donated by the Concho Bike Shop will be held at 7:45 pm. Must be present to win. Tickets will be given at the door to those purchasing dinners. One ticket for each person will be provided.

All evening long, the air carnival will be available to test young high-jumpers' and air-grabbers' skill for \$1.00 a session. Also, a pin-the-hat-on-the-fireman contest will be going on with prizes for participants. There will be a couple of other surprise activities for kids as well.

All musicians and entertainers are encouraged to perform at the open mike which will be provided and manned by Brandi Ramon. A really good donation to the Fire Station Fund might encourage Brandi to sing too. Anyone who wants to sign up early can call Brandi Ramon at 453-2831. Otherwise, performers may just step up to the mike when the inspiration strikes.

A silent auction has created enthusiasm among the business owners of Robert Lee. No one

Don't Miss The

FISH FRY

Saturday • January 31 • 5 to 8 pm
Big Rec Hall • Robert Lee

**ALL PROCEEDS TO
RLVFD FIRE STATION FUND!**



Cindy Brown (left) and her husband, Ron Brown, of Cindy's Grocery in Robert Lee have been staunch supporters of the Coke County Stock Show, purchasing the Grand Champion Steer the past three years. This year's winner, Clay Antilley shows his appreciation to Cindy by presenting her with his 2004 Grand Champion Steer Buckle.

will want to be without the goods that they have donated to help raise funds for the fire station. Crafts people have also donated items that will be on everyone's wish list.

The RLVFD personnel will be on hand to set-up, take-down, pour the tea, fetch napkins, pull out the chairs, and help start the car; but they won't do windows.

This event has been put together by volunteers who are enthusiastic in their support of the RLVFD fire station project. The Robert Lee Volunteer Fire Department and the Robert Lee EMS are two of the most dedicated volunteer units in Robert Lee. One way to express appreciation to these volunteers is to support activities held in their behalf. The fish-fry being held Saturday, January 31st beginning at 5:00 pm will give everyone a chance to participate and offer support.

Sheriff reports deputies hired, drug arrest made

Coke County Sheriff Rick Styles recently announced the hiring of two new deputies. Randall Jacks, who was formerly a peace officer in Stratford, Texas, has signed on with the sheriff's office, as well as Brian Albertson, who was formerly with the Big Spring Police Department. Both deputies will be living in Robert Lee, and will begin work on February 1, 2004.

In other action, Sheriff Styles reported that Steven Wayne Smith was arrested in a drug lab bust last Tuesday, January 20, 2004. DPS Officers, the Coke County and Tom Green Sheriff's Department officers, and officers from the Rio Concho Drug Task Force entered Smith's ranch pro-

perty about 10 miles south of Robert Lee. Officers found methamphetamines and drug making equipment, according to Sheriff Styles.

Smith was not at the ranch at the time of the search. He was arrested later in Robert Lee following surveillance by Coke County Deputy Adam Richter. The defendant was charged with manufacture and delivery of a controlled substance, possession and transportation of chemicals with intent to manufacture a controlled substance, possession of a controlled substance, and unlawful possession of a firearm. It has also been alleged that Smith was in possession of counterfeit money, a charge that Sheriff Styles indicated will be investigated by the Treasury Department.

As of presstime, Smith remains in the Tom Green County Jail in lieu of posting \$60,000 in bonds.

Important dates for March 9th Primary

Last day to register to vote - Feb. 9

First day to apply for a ballot by mail - Jan. 9

Last day to apply for a ballot by mail (received not postmarked) - March 2

First day of early voting - Feb. 23

Last day of early voting - March 5

Election day - March 9

Early voting will be conducted in the County Clerk's office from 8:00 - 5:00. The County Clerk's office will be open during the lunch hour. Branch early voting will take place in Bronte at the Coke County Annex (the old El Rancharo Bldg.) on February 24th, 25th and March 2nd & 3rd

from 9:00-1:00.

You should have received your new blue voter registration cards by now. If you have not, please contact the Tax A/C office at 453-2614 or come by the courthouse. Remember to sign the card and keep in a safe place as you will need the cards when you go to the polls to vote. It is very important to present your card to the poll workers.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call the County Clerk's office at 453-2631 or come by to see us at the courthouse.

Gospel Singing set for Sunday

The regular monthly community gospel singing will be held Sunday, February 1, from 2:00 to 4:00 pm at the Central Baptist Church in Bronte. Everyone in the area is invited to come and enjoy this fellowship time together.

Sky Weather training slated

The National Weather Service will be having a Sky Weather training class on February 9th at the City Hall in Bronte. The class will be from 7:00 pm until 9:00 pm. This class is open to the public and everyone is encouraged and welcome to attend.

Red Hat Society meeting slated

The Coke County Red Hat Society, newly named the Red Hat Mamas, will meet at 11:00 am on Tuesday, February 3rd 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.

THE OBSERVER/ENTERPRISE

Published Weekly Except Christmas
707 Austin (325) 453-2433
email: CokeCoObserver@aol.com

Periodical Rate Postage paid at Robert Lee, TX.

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

STAFF

Hal Spain, Publisher Melinda McCutchen, Editor
Pat Taft Wayne McCutchen

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

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

Obituaries

Jones

Robbie P. Jones, 97, of Robert Lee, died Saturday, January 24, 2004, in the Yellow Rose Christian Home in Midland.

Funeral service was held at 2:00 pm on Wednesday, January 28, at the Southside Church of Christ with Mr. J.C. Wallace and Mr. Jerry Horne officiating. Burial followed in Robert Lee Cemetery. Arrangements were by Johnson's Funeral Home.

Mrs. Jones was preceded in death by three brothers and one sister. Survivors include two sons, Decatur B. Jones and wife, Linda of Ballinger and Danny C. Jones and wife, Jennifer of Midland; one daughter, Paula J. Adams and husband, Craig of Midland; two sisters, Daisey Talley of San Angelo and Hank Chafin of Knox City; eight grandchildren; nineteen great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Dean

Juanita Dean, 89, of Big Spring, Texas, and formerly of Robert Lee, died Monday, January 19, 2004, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. Funeral Services were at 2 pm Thursday, January 22, 2004, at the First Baptist Church of Robert Lee with Rev. Roy Epperson, of Ballinger, officiating. Burial was in Robert Lee Cemetery under the direction of Myers and Smith Funeral Home.

She is survived by her husband: Arthur "Bull Creek" Dean of Big Spring; two daughters: Betty J. Griffith and her husband Royce of Big Spring, and Barbara Tilley and her husband Marshall of Amarillo; three sons: Jerry Dean and his wife Pennie of Big Spring, Randy Dean and his wife Sydney of Perryton, and Ricky Dean and his wife Lana of Winslow, Indiana; eleven grandchildren: Veanda Jones and her husband Bill, Terry Tilley, Rhonda Orr and her husband Dan, Annisa Dominguez and her husband Anthony, Genifer Corley and her husband Allan, Tracey Smith and her husband Bob, Randal Dean, Holly Leal and her husband Mike, Christopher Dean and his wife Mary, Jason Dean and his wife Sarah and Kelly Joh Dean; twelve great grandchildren; one great great grandson; two brothers: Bill Roe of Robert Lee and Donnie Roe of Abilene; one sister: Bobbie Lee of San Angelo.

She was preceded in death by her parents: Georgia and Drue Roe; four brothers: Hiram Harm Roe, Ollie Roe, A. J. "Snooky" Roe, and Jerlin Roe; and one sister: Gladys Slaton.

Burn Workshops to be offered

Rangeland burning classes have been scheduled for February 19-21 and March 4-6 at the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station near Sonora.

Prescribed burn programs have been an effective, affordable method of controlling unwanted plant sources on rangeland. They can also enhance forage growth that benefits both livestock and wildlife.

Fire characteristics, fire equipment, benefits, burn planning and other topics will be part of the educational program.

Participants will develop a burning plan and participate in different activities during practice burns, said Ray Hinnant, one of the instructors for the academy and senior research associate with the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station.

They will observe a wide variety of rangelands, either depleted or covered by unwanted brush, Hinnant said, as well as view



Two Bronte ISD students from Blackwell were injured in a vehicle roll-over Monday, January 19, 2004. The girls lost control of their vehicle approximately 2 miles north of Bronte on Highway 277.

areas that are in the process of being restored, and rangeland that has been restored by fire and management.

Most of the workshops will be spent in the field learning and observing in small groups. "People attending this workshop will come away learning about the many benefits of prescribed burning as a range management tool," Hinnant said.

Cost for each three-day workshop is \$395. Lodging and meals will be provided. Space is limited and available on a first-come, first-serve basis. Separate

sleeping arrangements will be available for men and women, with limited space available for couples.

Other instructors include Dr. Charles "Butch" Taylor, director of the Sonora Station; Dr. Mort Kothmann, professor at Texas A&M University; and Kent Mills, manager and consultant with Ezell Key Grain Co. Inc. in Snyder.

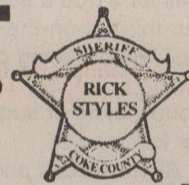
For more information, go to the Web at <http://range-web.tamu.edu/arm> or phone (979) 845-5580.

Churches of Coke County

Invite You to Worship

- Bronte Church of Christ**
PO Box 346 • 118 S. Jefferson
Bronte
(325) 473-3291
Preacher John V. Driggers
Sun. 10 am & 6 pm, Wed. 7 pm
- Emmanuel Pentecostal**
PO Box 683 • 1019 Colorado City Hwy
Robert Lee
(325) 453-2360
Rev. Ray Aldridge, Pastor
Sun. 10 am & 6 pm, Wed. 7 pm
- First Baptist Church**
424 S. Washington • Bronte
(325) 473-2331
Bro. Morris Johnson, Pastor
Sunday 9:45 am Sunday School,
10:55 am Worship, 6 pm Youth
and Worship
Wednesday 7 pm Prayer Meeting
- First United Methodist Church**
Corner of Washington & Holmes
Bronte
(325) 473-3281
Rev. Carol Fiero
Sun. 9:30 am Sunday School
10:45 am Worship
5:00 Youth
- First United Methodist Church**
PO Box 144 • 9th & Chadbourne
Robert Lee
(325) 453-2417
Rev. Steve Rowe, Pastor
Sun. 10 am Sunday School
11 am Worship
Wed. 7 pm Choir
- Iglesia Bautista Bethel**
101 Houston • Robert Lee
(325) 453-5003 • 453-2296
Pastor: Basilio Esquivel
Sun. 9:45, 11:00, & 11:30 am
& 6 pm, Wednesday 7 pm
- Northside Church of Christ**
PO Box 388 • 9th & Chadbourne
Robert Lee
(325) 453-2619 or 453-2270
Tommy Williams, Minister
Services: Sun. 10 am & 6 pm;
Wed. 7 pm
- Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church**
601 W. 10th, Robert Lee
(325) 365-2687
Rev. Hubert Wade, Jr., Pastor
Sat. 6 pm
- Pecan Baptist**
PO Box 542 • 12 miles West of Robert Lee
on Sterling City Hwy
(325) 453-2004
Sun. 10 am, Sunday School
11 am & 7 pm, Worship
- Robert Lee Baptist Church**
PO Box 493 • 22 W. 11th
(325) 453-2724
Bro. Mike Poye, Pastor
Sun. 9:45 am, Sunday School
11 am & 7 pm, Worship
Wed. 7 pm, Prayer Meeting
- Southside Church of Christ**
PO Box 698 • 8th & Houston
Robert Lee
(325) 453-2176
Frank J. Daniels, Preacher
Sun. 10 am, Sunday School
11 am & 6 pm, Worship
Wed. 7 pm, Worship
- Tennyson Baptist Church**
Hwy 277 • Tennyson
Joe Hodges, Pastor
(325) 468-0014
Sun. 10:00 am, Sunday School
11:00 am & 6 pm, Worship
Wed. 6:00 pm Prayer Meeting
- Victory Assembly of God**
PO Box 638 • 6th & Houston
Robert Lee
(325) 453-2208
Rev. Irene Ford, Pastor
Sun. 9:45 am, Sunday School
10:45 am & 6 pm, Worship
Wed. 6 pm, Prayer Meeting

Peace Officer or Arrest Officer?



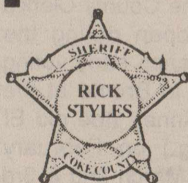
was the title of an article written in the Sheriff's Association of Texas newsletter recently by Sheriff David Medlin of Oldham County. The newsletter, directed to Law Enforcement Officers, asked them to consider if they were Peace Officers or Arrest Officers. Sheriff Medlin and I agree that during our law enforcement careers there have been many changes in the law enforcement business - some for the better, but other changes or trends haven't always been in the best interest of our citizens. In some instances, we have moved from peace officers to arrest officers, misplacing our use of common sense along the way.

"Is an arrest always the best solution to a problem?" is the question we need to ask ourselves. There are many people out there who need to be arrested and prosecuted for the crimes they commit. I am not talking about them. I'm referring to the otherwise good, productive citizen who stubs his toe and needs a little guidance back on the right path. Fortunately, the large majority of Coke County's population are good, productive citizens.

I feel the Sheriff and his Deputies would better serve the citizens of Coke County by enforcing the laws of the State of Texas in a fair and just manner, protecting and serving its citizens in a professional and courteous way.

**RE-ELECT
Rick Styles
Sheriff**

Pd. Pol. Adv. by Rick Styles



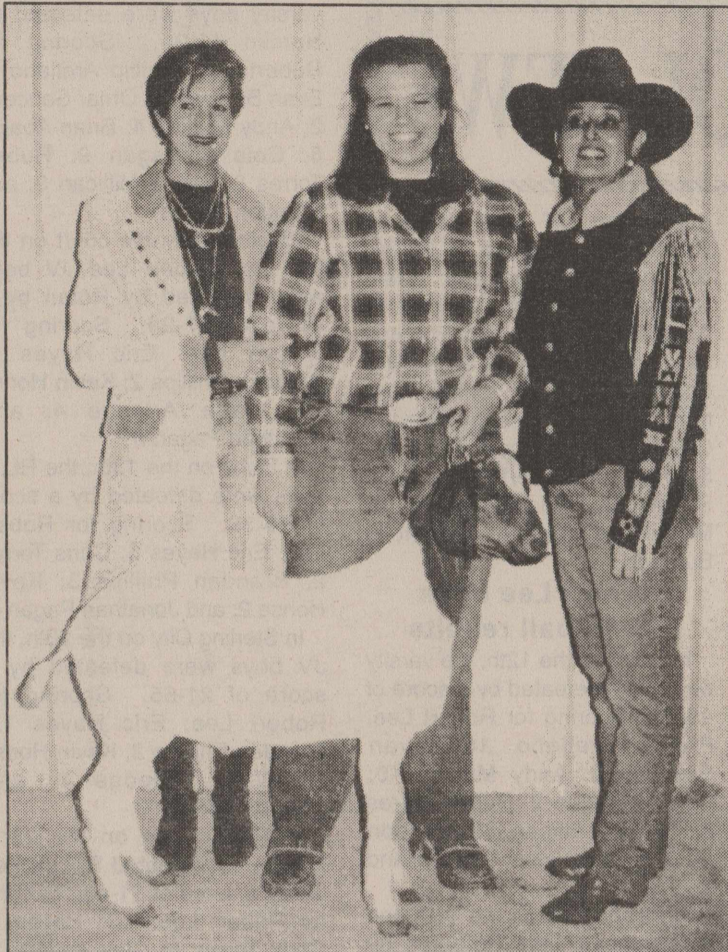
To help pay for the construction of a fire station for the Robert Lee Volunteer Fire Department, the Robert Lee City Council has passed a resolution to add a temporary surcharge of \$2.00 to the Water Department billing. This will generate approximately \$1250.00 a month for the fire station fund. The surcharge will remain in effect until July when it will be reviewed based on the funds raised by then.

The City has fortunately been granted \$45,000 by the San Angelo Health Foundation toward the construction of the fire station. The building cost is \$92,000, which will include two truck bays, a training room, an office and restrooms. Many volunteer hours have been given toward readying the site. The Caston Company has helped tear down the old filling station and removed the rubble. The volunteer firemen have given much of their time to clearing the site. The old concrete will have to be removed as pouring a slab on top of old concrete is not cost effective.

Efforts to reach absentee land and other property holders have raised about \$10,000. Businesses operating in Robert Lee, but having corporate offices in other cities, have also been contacted for donations. Efforts to reach absentee property holders continue. Grant searches have been made, but capital fund drives are seldom supported by state or federal agencies.

The "E" insurance rating available to the property owners in the city is due to the fact that there is a trained and active volunteer fire department. Without the RLVFD, insurance rates would be considerably higher. The RLVFD and the Robert Lee Emergency Medical Service are crucial to the well-being of this community. Volunteers who serve without money and often without recognition allow all citizens to live with a sense of security. Not all communities are so fortunate.

When the roof collapsed on the old filling station where equipment was stored, the volunteer firemen had to move everything into the metal building where the trucks are stored. Because of the crowded condition existing now, a new building is a necessity.



Fredda McCabe (right) purchased Stacey Denton's (center) goat at the 2004 Coke County Stock Show. Ms. McCabe made the purchase in memory of her father, Wayne McCabe.

Citizens invited to walk about at Bird and Wildlife Refuge

The Caliche Loop Bird and Wildlife Refuge at Red Canyon just outside Robert Lee will be available for hiking, birdwatching, and walking. The area is still primitive and has no formal walkways, but citizens are invited out to walk about.

Some of the species of birds that can be seen are the migrating ducks: mallards, widgeons, redheads and teals. Also, kinglets, wrens, quail, mockingbirds, roadrunners and many other species inhabit the canyon. No pets are allowed on the

paths for obvious reasons. The gate will be open during daylight hours. Guided tours are available. For more information or to schedule a guided tour, call City Hall at 453-2831.

The last day to register to vote in the March 9th primary election is February 9, 2004!

All Texas Grubbing Inc.
 * Reclaim your pastures and ponds
 * Our methods cause far LESS surface damage

Brush Control with RESULTS!
 325-453-2879
 or toll free @ 1-866-TEX-GRUB

SUPER H

Texas Lotto Tickets Sold Here
 WIC Cards Welcome
 ATM Available

501 Commerce - Robert Lee, TX
 Store Hrs: Mon.-Sat. 8-8 Sun. 8-6
SPECIALS GOOD 1/28 Thru 2/3
 LIMIT RIGHTS RESERVED

Pilgrim's Pride
 Grade A
Whole Fryers
 Lb. **\$.59**

Salad Size
Avocados
3/\$1

Shurfine or Shur Saving
 Premium Quality Homogenized or Lowfat
 All Varieties
Milk
 Gal. Jug **\$2.19**

Assorted Lay's or Wavy Lay's
 Reg. \$2.99
Potato Chips
 2 13 oz. bag **/\$4**

Del Monte Tomato
Ketchup
 24 oz. bottle **\$.89**

Boneless, Skinless, Previously Frozen
Chicken Breast
 Lb. **\$1.99**

Assorted
Jeno's Pizzas
 7.2-8.1 oz. box **\$.69**

Fresh, Meaty • Pork Shoulder • Family Pack
Country Style Pork Ribs
 Lb. **\$.99**

We accept
OTHER FUNERAL HOMES
pre-arranged policies.

You may not be locked into your current funeral policy.

Please call for an appointment for a free consultation.

SHAFFER FUNERAL HOME
(325) 473-3131 • 453-2424

ROBERT LEE SCHOOL NEWS

PTO News

The deadline to turn in recipes for the PTO cookbook has been extended to Wednesday, February 4, 2004. Every student is asked to bring 1-3 recipes. Our goal for the cookbook is 300 recipes. If your child wants their name in the cookbook they must turn in recipes. If you need more recipe forms or would like to order cookbooks, your child may pick them up at school or contact Katie Drennan (453-2343) or Laura Bell (453-9104).

Please have your child bring their recipes to school or mail them to: PTO, 1323 Hamilton, Robert Lee, TX 76945.

TTU Honors list for the fall semester of 2003

Among the 5,000 Texas Tech University students to make the Dean's List, were Shelby Roe and Samuel Schiwart of Robert Lee.

Nesbit, Pitcock inducted in National Honor Roll

Robert Lee seniors Jennifer Nesbit and Travis Pitcock qualified for induction into the Spring 2003 National Honor Roll.

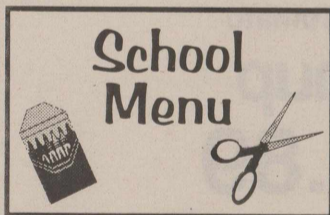
The National Honor Roll recognizes high-achieving high school and middle school students.

Robert Lee Powerlifting results

In the Lakeview Powerlifting meet held on January 24th, the Robert Lee girls placed 6th overall. Results for the Robert Lee girls: Lindsey Roe placed 3rd in 148 wt. class; Carolina Vera placed 5th in 181 wt. class; and Stacey Denton placed 2nd in 220 wt. class.

The Robert Lee boys placed 12th overall. Results for the Robert Lee boys: Omar Saucedo placed 2nd in the 132 wt. class and Brandon Soliz placed 4th in the same weight class.

The Robert Lee Powerlifters will be competing in the Cisco Powerlifting Meet on Saturday, the 31st.



School Menu

Breakfast

Monday, Feb. 2

Juice, donut, cereal, milk

Tuesday, Feb. 3

Juice, muffin, cereal, milk

Wednesday, Feb. 4

Juice, pancake & sausage on stick, cereal, milk

Thursday, Feb. 5

Juice, pop tart, cereal, milk

Friday, Feb. 6

Juice, breakfast pizza, cereal, milk

Lunch

Monday, Feb. 2

Pizza, potato patty, applesauce, teddy grahams, milk

Tuesday, Feb. 3

Chicken spaghetti, salad, carrots, roll, pineapple, milk

Wednesday, Feb. 4

Chili, cheese, crackers, corn, French fries, cookie, milk

Thursday, Feb. 5

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

Friday, Feb. 6

Hamburger, pickles, salad, chips, fruit cocktail, milk

Robert Lee girls basketball results

On the 20th in Sterling City, the varsity girls were defeated by Sterling City by a score of 36-50. Scoring for Robert Lee: Jessica Fluhmann 2; Monica Rodriguez 1; Julia Cruz 5; Tyler Lott 4; Julie Riley 4; Cara Eaton 9; Cassidy Wink 7; and Kayli Dickey 4.

The junior varsity girls were defeated by Sterling City by a score of 28-36. Scoring for Robert Lee: Kyla Millican 1; Becca Skinner 6; Katie Bessent 2; Christan Kelly 6; Brettanie Reed 8; and Kelsy Duncan 3.

On the 23rd in Robert Lee, the varsity girls were defeated by Hamlin by a score of 26-50. Scoring for Robert Lee: Jessica Fluhmann 1; Julia Cruz 7; Tyler Lott 4; Julie Riley 4; Cara Eaton 7; and Cassidy Wink 3.

The junior varsity girls won their game over Hamlin with a score of 40-28. Scoring for Robert Lee: Kyla Millican 3; Becca Skinner 7; Katie Bessent 2; Christan Kelly 2; Brettanie Reed 14; Sarah Philley 6; and Kelsy Duncan 6. The junior varsity has a present record of 14-3 with a district record of 3-1.

On the 19th at Garden City, the RLJH "A" girls lost by a score of 20-30. Scoring for Robert Lee: Kasie Skinner 2; Allison Millican 2; Anna Rojas 4; Megan Percifull 2; Andrea Pineda 4; and Molly Burns 6.

The RLJH "B" girls lost a close game against Garden City by a score of 19-20. Scoring for Robert Lee: Kelsy Martin 2; Arrin Minjarez 13; and Olga Perez 4.

On the 24th in the Garden City "A" Tournament, the RLJH "A" girls placed 2nd. In the 1st

game, the "A" girls defeated Roscoe by a score of 38-30. Scoring for Robert Lee: Kasie Skinner 4; Allison Millican 8; Anna Rojas 6; Megan Percifull 11; and Molly Burns 9. In the 2nd game of the tournament, they were defeated by Garden City by a close score of 16-18. Scoring for Robert Lee: Kasie Skinner 4; Allison Millican 3; Megan Percifull 6; and Molly Burns 3.

Robert Lee boys basketball results

In Roby on the 12th, the varsity boys were defeated by a score of 45-34. Scoring for Robert Lee: Phillip Arellano 10; Evan Braswell 2; Andy Mulkey 10; Cole Flanagan 2; Ruben Torres 2; Lance Millican 3; Brandon Soliz 3; and Vincent McClelland 2.

In Robert Lee on the 16th, the varsity boys were defeated by Roscoe by a score of 38-34. Scoring for Robert Lee: Phillip Arellano 2; Evan Braswell 2; Andy Mulkey 3; Cole Flanagan 15; Ruben Torres 3; Lance Millican 2; Brandon Soliz 2; and Vincent McClelland 5.

On the 19th in Robert Lee, the varsity boys were defeated by Rotan by a score of 34-50. Scoring for Robert Lee: Evan Braswell 3; Omar Saucedo 2; Andy Mulkey 11; Cole Flanagan 11; Lance Millican 5; and Brandon Soliz 2.

In Sterling City on the 20th, the varsity boys were defeated 54-34. Scoring for Robert Lee: Phillip Arellano 1; Omar Saucedo 1; Andy Mulkey 5; Cole Flanagan 12; Ruben Torres 1; Josh Conner 1; Lance Millican 3; Brandon Soliz 6; and Vincent McClelland

4.

In Robert Lee on the 23rd, the varsity boys were defeated by Hamlin 42-34. Scoring for Robert Lee: Phillip Arellano 3; Evan Braswell 2; Omar Saucedo 2; Andy Mulkey 4; Brian Abalos 8; Cole Flanagan 9; Ruben Torres 2; Lance Millican 3; and Brandon Soliz 1.

Playing on home court on the 9th, the Robert Lee JV boys were defeated by Rotan by a score of 57-29. Scoring for Robert Lee: Eric Hayes 6; Brandon Phillips 2; Kevin Honse 11; Wade Arledge 4; and Jonathan Pagan 6.

In Roby on the 13th, the RLJV boys were defeated by a score of 15-39. Scoring for Robert Lee: Eric Hayes 6; Chris Torres 2; Brandon Phillips 3; Kevin Honse 2; and Jonathan Pagan 2.

In Sterling City on the 20th, the JV boys were defeated by a score of 21-65. Scoring for Robert Lee: Eric Hayes 12; Brandon Phillips 2; Kevin Honse 2; Wade Arledge 2; and Jonathan Pagan 3.

In Robert Lee on the 23rd, Hamlin JV defeated Robert Lee JV by a score of 21-48. Scoring for Robert Lee: Eric Hayes 7; Chris Torres 6; Clay Antilley 3; Kevin Honse 2; and Jonathan Pagan 3.

The Robert Lee Dogie's "A" team competed in the Garden City tournament this past weekend. In the first game the boys saw their first loss of the year to Roscoe 27-37. Scoring for Robert Lee: Hodge 4; Larue 2; Dillard 6; Gunter 2; Percifull 3; Gallegos 10; and Thurman 2. The Dogies regrouped and played the host team in the third place game where they released some tension and played a good game defeating the Bearcats 38-28. Scoring for Robert Lee: Braswell 4; Hodge 3; Larue 6; Dillard 2; Gunter 2; Percifull 4; Gallegos 10; and Roe 6.

The Dogie "B" team will be in action this Saturday at the Robert Lee tournament.

Check Out
Coke Co.
Library

The new computer library system will be installed at the Coke County Library on Thursday, January 29, 2004. Bar code labels must be put on all the books in the library so it will be a while before the system is fully operational. Meanwhile, it will be business as usual, with some books being checked out the "old" way and some being checked out - and in - on the computer. This will be a learning opportunity for all.

When the collection at the Coke County Library is on-line, it will become part of the Inter-library Loan System so that researchers and historians can access from other areas of the country.

With all the discussions about weight control, there are several books in the library that will help readers make up their own minds about the controversies. Outsmarting the Female Fat Cell by Debra Waterhouse; Low-Fat Living by Robert Cooper; Atkins for Life by Robert C. Atkins; Good Fat, Bad Fat by William Castelli; and the final word on weight control, the Mayo Clinic on Healthy Weight in which "much of what Mayo Clinic doctors and dietitians use day in and day out in caring for people who come seeking assistance with weight control."

Library hours are Tuesdays, 8-12; Wednesdays, 8-4; Thursdays, 1-5; Fridays, 8-12. Story Hour is Tuesday at 10:00 am and Head Start Story Hour is 10:00 am on Wednesdays. Books may be returned in Bronte to the Main Street Market. The 24/7 book drop on the porch of the library is always available for returns.

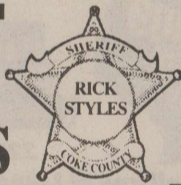
WINK INSURANCE AGENCY



Home • Auto
Life • Commercial

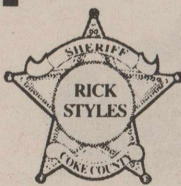
715 Austin • 453-4551

RE-ELECT Rick Styles Sheriff

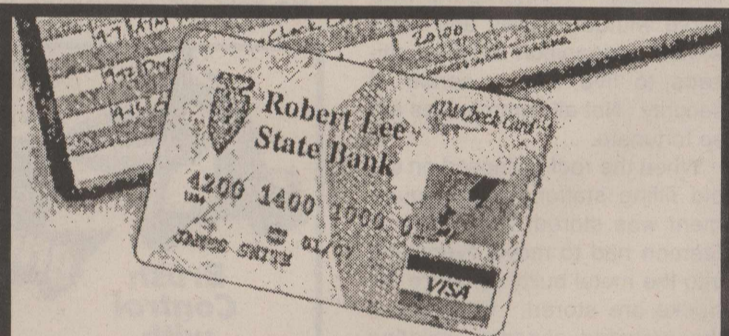


For A Sheriff's Department To
SERVE and PROTECT
the **CITIZENS With**
Professionalism and Courtesy

**Enforce The Laws In A
Fair And Just Manner
And To Be More Of A
PEACE OFFICER
RATHER THAN JUST AN
ARRESTING
OFFICER**



Pd. Pol. Adv. by Rick Styles



Faster & easier than a check!

Now you can have the convenience of making purchases without cash and without writing a check with the Robert Lee State Bank Visa Check Card. Use it to purchase goods and services and amount of your purchase is automatically deducted from your Robert Lee State Bank checking account, just as if you had written a paper check. You can also use it to get ATM cash anywhere you see the TransFund, Pulse or Cirrus logo at thousands of locations all over the world.

Call or stop by the Bank today for an application!



Robert Lee State Bank

621 Austin Street • Robert Lee, Texas

453-2545



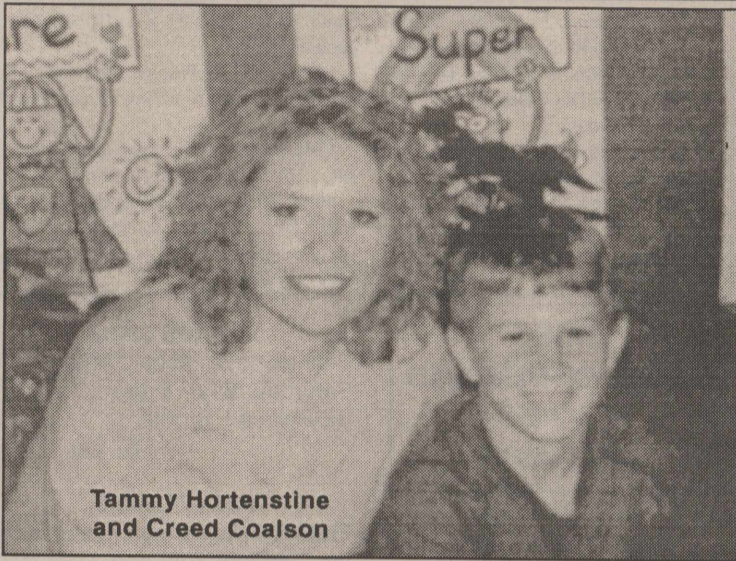
EQUAL HOUSING
OPPORTUNITY

MEMBER
FDIC

BRONTE SCHOOL NEWS



Alisa Webb and Conner Clark



Tammy Hortenstine and Creed Coalson

Bronte 4th Graders interview teachers

Alisa Webb

by Conner Clark

Mrs. Webb teaches Pre-K four and five year olds. She lives in Bronte, Texas and attended Bronte High School. While attending Angelo State University, she majored in early childhood education. Her family includes Shane, her husband; Joel, who's 19; and Cheyenne, who's 15. She has a dog named Blue, a cat named Sherlock, and 13

horses. She likes her job because she gets to be around little children, and she gets to help children get ready for school. Not having enough time is something she finds frustrating.

Her favorite hobbies are scrapbooks and reading. If she wasn't in the school system, she would be working at a hospital. Volleyball is her favorite sport. Her first choice was to go eat at Red Lobster. She likes to teach kids reading. The most favorite part about Pre-K is she gets to be around little kids. She had one wish for her students and that is being safe, healthy, and loved. The unique thing about her is she is very neat and clean.

Tammy Hortenstine

by Creed Coalson

Mrs. Hortenstine teaches ACC, which means Alternative Curriculum Classroom. She grew up in Coahoma, Texas and her high school was Coahoma High School. Her college was Angelo State University, and her major was Special Education and Kinesiology.

Mrs. Hortenstine has a baby named Hunter, he is 18



Gloria Allen and Randon Eubanks

months old; and she also has a husband named Lee. She has pets named Bandy and Bosco, and they are Jack Russell Terriers. She likes her job because she liked the kids. What is frustrating about her job is people not understanding how to work with these kids.

Her hobbies are Special Olympics, hunting, and fishing. Her favorite sport is basketball. Her favorite restaurant is Ichiban.

If she weren't in the school system, she would be working with Special Olympics or trying to open a camp for handicapped individuals. Mrs. Hortenstine's favorite class to teach is Special Education. Her favorite thing about teaching in Bronte is the kids, the faculty, and the parent support. Her wish for her students is to gain lifelong experiences. One unique thing about herself is that she has the patience to work with children with disabilities more than children who do not have disabilities.

Gloria Allen

by Randon Eubanks

Mrs. Allen is an English as a Second Language teacher. She teaches Seventh through Pre-Kindergarten. Mrs. Allen lived in Coleman, Texas. She attended Coleman High School. Her family's names are Donny; son Matthew, 12; and daughter Lauren, 8. She has one dog, J.D. She likes being with children, running and spending time with family. If she weren't in the school system, she would be working as court interpreter. Track is

assists; and Chase Williams 5 points.

Bronte boys varsity defeated Miles by a score of 40-33. Scoring for Bronte: BJ Hall 14 points, 8 rebounds; Cody Lee 4 points, 5 rebounds; Tyson Baker 5 assists; Garrett Fiveash 6 points, 8 rebounds; and Logan Rawls 16 points, 5 rebounds.

On Tuesday, Jan. 20th, the Irion County JV defeated Bronte JV 56-20. Scoring for Bronte: Phillip Rawlings 1; Jonathan Marrs 9; Garrett Jackson 6; Sherman Griffin 2; and Eric Hendrickson 2.

On Friday, the 23rd, Miles JV defeated Bronte JV 32-25. Scoring for Bronte: Phillip Rawlings 7; Jonathan Marrs 2; Sherman Griffin 10; and Eric Hendrickson 6.

The last day to register to vote in the March 9th primary election is February 9, 2004!

Vote For Experience
Over 26 Years of Law Enforcement in Coke County
Elect
MARSHALL MILLICAN
For Sheriff of Coke County

Pd. Pol. Adv. by Marshall Millican

NANA'S
'Hometown Cooking At Its Best'
500 Commerce Street in Robert Lee
325-453-4457

WE ARE PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE
THAT WE HAVE A NEW
"LUNCH" COOK AND "DINNER" COOK.

Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday:
6 am to 9 pm
Friday, Saturday, & Sunday
6 am to 9 pm
Breakfast served
every morning from
6 am to 10:30 am

Stop In For Some Hometown Cooking.
You'll Be Pleased You Did!!

GLENN-BIVINS INSURANCE



See us for your auto insurance.

123 W. Main

Bronte

473-6791

Happy Birthday Chelsea



Love,
Nana
& Papa

School Menu



Breakfast

Monday, Feb. 2

Cereal, sliced peaches, toast, jelly, milk

Tuesday, Feb. 3

Sausage rolls, assorted juice, milk

Wednesday, Feb. 4

Donut, apple sauce, teddy grams, milk

Thursday, Feb. 5

Scrambled eggs, assorted juice, toast, jelly, milk

Friday, Feb. 6

Blueberry muffin, assorted juice, biscuit, milk

Lunch

Monday, Feb. 2

Bar-b-que sausage links, macaroni & cheese, blackeyed peas, sliced peaches, roll, milk

Tuesday, Feb. 3

Oven fried chicken, gravy, creamed potatoes, sweet corn, roll, rice krispie bar, milk

Wednesday, Feb. 4

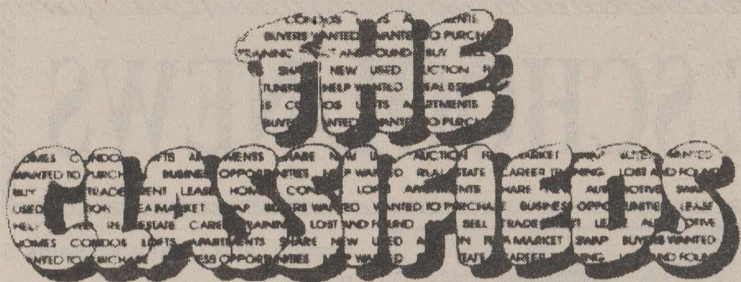
Taco salad with cheese, lettuce & tomato, pinto beans, Spanish rice, taco chips, pink panther cake, milk

Thursday, Feb. 5

Spud day, chili & cheese, potato (baked), steamed broccoli, crackers, jello, milk

Friday, Feb. 6

Cheeseburgers, lettuce & tomato, pickle, French fries, bun, brownies, milk



BUY IT! SELL IT! FIND IT!

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING RATES
 Rates when paid in advance.
 First Insertion
 20¢ Per Word
 \$3 Minimum
 Subsequent Insertions
 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 2 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.

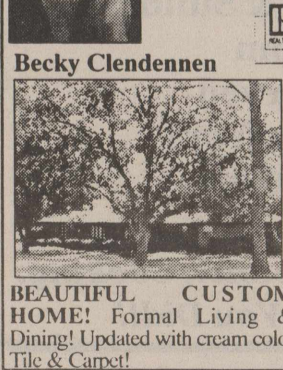


FOR SALE

HOUSE FOR SALE
 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 living areas, central heat & air. Stucco with tile roof. New paint & carpet. \$59,900 or owner carry with 20% down. 201 Jones, Bronte. 325-439-1051.
 11-tnc

COMPUTERS
 New and Used. Repairs, upgrades, internet service. Ed Martindale, 473-3004.
 22-tnc

Concho Realty
 Office 653-4535
 Home 453-4748



BEAUTIFUL CUSTOM HOME! Formal Living & Dining! Updated with cream color Tile & Carpet!

Political Calendar

The Observer/Enterprise

has been authorized to make the following announcements for the political offices in Coke County. Each candidate or the campaign treasurer has paid for his or her announcement. All political advertising, announcements, and printing is cash in advance.

COKE COUNTY SHERIFF
 Rick Styles
 Marshall Millican
COMMISSIONER PRECINCT 1
 Troy Gene
 Montgomery

HOME FOR SALE
 4 BR/2 BA home w/central air & heat and is close to amenities. Located on Jefferson St. in the Bronte area. Low down pmt. & financing available to qualified buyers. Call Jared Duncum @ 800-766-1167.
 25-3tc

PERMOBILE WHEELCHAIR
 Used 3 yrs. Cost 22,000. Sell 6,000. 2 ramps, never used. Cost 150.00, sell 90.00. 453-4677.
 25-4tp

OWNER FINANCE
 Robert Lee
 3 BR, Central A/C & Heating, new carpet and paint inside. Easy terms. Call Jim @ 325-518-8128 or Teri @ 325-660-2122.

Bob Frazer's 944-0010 473-6603
Texas Best
 Deflooding & Carpet Cleaning
 24 hr. Emergency Water Damage Service



HILLCREST ADDITION! Shaded by Huge Pecan Trees! 3 Bedroom Brick Home with Apartment!

TOWNVIEW ESTATES!
 Approximately 3 Acres! Brick Home! Huge Den with Fireplace & French Doors! Inground Pool!

FOR SALE OR RENT
 Mobile homes & property for sale or rent. Cell phone (432) 425-9041, home phone (432) 684-6706.
 27-2tp

FOR SALE
 Pre-Spring Price on 4 BR/2BA corner home with huge attic w/windows & New Country look. Will sell "as is" or finish to buyer specs. See at corner of West 9th & Childress, Robert Lee. 655-9141.
 24-tnc

HOUSE FOR SALE OR LEASE
 2 BR/2BA, living room, large den/dining room, new carpet, new paint inside. 514 S. State, Bronte (across from old hospital). Lease \$375/month, (need good references). Would consider selling and carrying note for qualified party. 325-691-0690 (Abilene).
 24-tnc

HOUSE FOR SALE
 201 Jones, Bronte. 3 BR/2 BA, 2 living areas. CH/CA. Stucco with tile roof. Over 2,000 sq. ft. Priced to sell at \$59,900. New loan or owner carry with 20% down. Call 325-439-1051.
 13-tnc

FOR RENT

FOR RENT
 Clean 2BR/1BA, mobile home. Appliances furnished. Carport. \$150 deposit, \$300 rent. 423 Chadbourne, Robert Lee. 453-4359.
 24-tnc

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

TAKING APPLICATIONS
 for one, two & three bedroom apartments. Contact Housing Authority of Robert Lee, 710 N. Bishop, 453-2912. Equal Housing Opportunity.
 29-EOW

NICE! NEW! BRICK!
 3 bedroom 2 1/2 baths
 2 bedroom 2 baths
 Now Available!
 Call: 915-473-3105 for information or 915-473-9548
Santa Fe Crossing Duplexes
 320 SE Railroad
 Bronte, Texas 76933
 44-51tp

MISCELLANEOUS

LOST
 "Jackson" Jack Russell/Rat Terrier Cross. 15 month old male - white with dark tan markings. Last seen approximately 3 miles north of Bronte on Saturday, January 24. Please call 473-3201.
 27-2tc

FREE PECANS
 You gather and they are yours. 453-4488.
 27-1tp

"CUSTOM MAID"
 professional cleaning done your way! Don't delay, call us today! 473-2143.
 26-1tc

LOOKING FOR WORK
 sitting with elderly or youth. Clean houses, cook, run errands. No job too big or too small. (325) 450-0762 or (325) 473-2297.
 26-3tp

ASH-MILlican-CARSON REAL ESTATE
 453-5144 OFFICE • 5 E 6TH STREET • ROBERT LEE, TX
 JOE ASH www.amcwesttexasranches.com MARSHALL MILlicAN
 473-0164 MOBILE • 453-2554 HOME 473-0437 MOBILE • 453-9002 HOME

Bronte
 2BR, 1BA Nice starter home, close to school
 Extra Nice 3 BR, 1 1/2 BA, 1470 +/- sq. ft. on four lots with water well
BLACKWELL - 2 BR, 2 BA, on 7 acres, city water, barns, highway frontage
Robert Lee
 New Listing on 2 acres, Very nice 4 BR, 2 BA, 2 car garage, fireplace & room with hot tub
 New Listing, 2 BR, 1 1/2 BA Brick home, fireplace, single garage, close to school
Riverview Dr, 2 BR, 1 BA Brick veneer home, \$20's
Price Reduced Brick Home on 8 Acres with 2 BR, 2 BA, 2 Living Areas, Office or 3rd BR, Large Barn & Pens
Office Exclusive. 3 BR, 3 BA, 2570 +/- sq. ft., Spacious Kitchen and Dining Area, Hardwood Floors, Fireplace, Beautiful Yard with Large Trees, Detached 17' x 17' finished game room
Priced to Sell, 4 BR, 2 bth, large den with second living area. CA/CH over 2100 sq. ft.
Price reduced, 2 BR, 1 bth, CA/CH, sunroom or 3rd BR, large kitchen, single garage, over 1800 sf, large storage/shop
 Other Listings Available

3 BR, 2 BA home with screened-in porch, Possible Owner Finance \$20's
Lake Spence Area, 2 BR, 1 BA, Ceramic tile, sundeck, guest quarters.
Acreage
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
567 +/- Acres, All pasture, good water well, nice hunting cabin
315 +/- AC. with 1/2 Mile of Colorado River frontage, 4 Stock Tanks, Pens and Barn. Choice Hunting.
314 +/- AC. Live Oak trees on Yellow Wolf Creek, good water well, 230 ac. cultivation, good hunting.
248 +/- AC. Highway frontage, good water well, pens, 81 ac. CRP income, good dirt tank.
147 +/- AC. All Pasture. Convenient to Robert Lee. Flat to rolling terrain. Good hunting.
130 +/- AC. Convenient to Bronte. 3 BR, 2 BA home with 30x40 Shop.
80 +/- Acres, Very nice ranch style home with 3 BR, 2 BA 2 Living Areas. All Steel Horse and Cattle Pens. 3 Large Barns.

TREES PRUNED OR REMOVED
 453-2450
ADD DAVIS.

WHAT IS YOUR PURPOSE IN LIFE?
 Only in God do we discover our origin, our purpose, our significance, and our destiny. "The only accurate way to understand ourselves is by what God is and by what He does for us" (Romans 12:3, a paraphrase). May we help you look for your place in God's plan? Private study, your place or ours. Call John, 473-3291.
 26-3tc

KENNETH'S CONSTRUCTION
 General contractor for composition & metal roofing, custom building & fabrication, exterior & interior painting, carports, driveways, curbing, sidewalks, patios, plumbing, electrical, tree removal & pruning, haul off unwanted cars, pickups, motorcycles, and batteries. Call after 6 pm. 453-2339.
 23-4tc

GARY'S BACKHOE, INC.
 For your backhoe, motorgrader, dozer and dump truck needs. Sand - Gravel. 450-2418 Gary Hubbard.
 27-tnc

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

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

GARAGE SALES

GARAGE SALE
 Saturday only, 8:30-5:00. Riding mower, furniture, dishes, tool boxes, tools, computers, printers, VCR, TV, etc. 620 E. Holmes, Bronte.
 27-1tc

GARAGE SALE
 1724 Eucl, Saturday, 10-4. We have added more furniture & clothes.
 27-1tp

GARAGE SALE
 Clothes, toys, dishes, and more. Saturday, 31st, 8 am - ?. 512 SE Railroad, Bronte.
 27-1tp

ESTATE SALE
 Friday & Saturday, 7 am to 1 pm, January 30th and 31st, 107 N. Washington, Bronte. Furniture, antiques, clothing, dishes, kitchen items and much more.
 26-2tp

CARD OF THANKS

THERE ARE NO WORDS to describe the appreciation we feel for all the loving kindness which the Community of Robert Lee freely gave to John Conley and his family. Your prayers, cards, calls, visits, memorials, flowers, plants, food and attendance at his celebration of life service (to specify a few) were absolutely overwhelming. When asked by someone, why would anyone want to retire in Robert Lee, they were told - "If you don't know, we can't tell you." If for some reason, we have not thanked you personally for your tributes, please know that it is an oversight.

Maudie Conley
 Gayle, Bobby, Bree and Brady Quinn, Brenda, Daisy, Cara & Ande Jackie, Lee, Jenny and Jonathan Mike, Sam & Stacie
 27-1tp

THANK YOU
 to the person who returned my lost wallet at the Coke County Livestock Show.
 27-1tc

THE OBSERVER/ENTERPRISE
 Serving Coke County
 P.O. Box 1329 Robert Lee, TX 76945
 (915) 453-2433

drop box is located at
HOMETOWN
HARDWARE
in Bronte.

...More Classifieds

NOTICES

**CITATION BY PUBLICATION
CLERK OF THE COURT
MARY GRIM
P.O. BOX 150
ROBERT LEE, TEXAS 76945
ATTORNEY FILING CAUSE
CHAD M. ELKINS
P.O. BOX 460
ELDORADO, TEXAS 76936
THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY COURT OF COKE
COUNTY, TEXAS
ESTATE OF LEX KENT COLE,
DECEASED
CAUSE NO. 1641
TO: ALL UNKNOWN HEIRS OF
LEX
KENT COLE**

Your are hereby commanded to appear before the Honorable County Court of Coke County, Texas at the Courthouse in Robert Lee, Texas, before 10 o'clock am on the first Monday next after the expiration of ten days from the date of publication of this citation, the same being the 9th day of February, 2004, by filing a written answer to the application of **KATHEY COLE** filed in said Court on the 29th day of December, 2003, in Cause No. 1641, styled:

**IN THE MATTER OF THE
ESTATE OF LEX KENT COLE,
DECEASED**

Said application requests that: The Court determine heirship and for the Issuance of Letters of Administration, that no other action be required other than the return of an inventory, appraisal and list of claims of this Estate.

**GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND
THE SEAL OF SAID COURT** at my office in Robert Lee, Texas, this the 22nd day of January, 2004.

Mary Grim, Clerk
Coke County, Texas
27-1tc

**County & District
clerks take part in
education seminar**

County/District Clerk Mary Grim joined over 400 clerks' office personnel for the 32nd Annual County and District Clerks' Continuing Education Seminar at the Hilton College Station and Conference Center on January 12-15, 2004.

The annual continuing education seminar at College Station is sponsored by the V.G. Young Institute of County Government, which is part of Texas Cooperative Extension. The Institute provides elected county

officials with information and technical assistance and helps officials complete their state-mandated, minimum continuing education requirements.

The theme of this year's seminar was: "The Voice of Experience...A Priceless Treasure." Included in the program were workshops on the appeals process, bond forfeiture, confidential records, unusual processes and filings, cash bonds, implementing the Help America Vote Act, identifying and understanding criminal fees and ethical behavior for county officials.

Mary Grim stated that with all the new laws and fees handed down by the 78th legislature, it was very important to attend the seminar in order to get a better understanding of what is expected of you as an elected county official. To comply with the Help America Vote Act, enacted by congress on October 29, 2002, every election jurisdiction in the United States must have in use by January 1, 2006, a system which enables alternative language, visually-impaired, and physically handicapped voters to independently cast their ballots. This is a federal law. The seminar enabled Ms. Grim to check out the machines from some vendors that will be cost effective for Coke County. Mr. Rick Rigsby with the Impact World Group of College Station was the motivational speaker. "If you ever have the opportunity to hear Mr. Rigsby speak, it will be well worth your time", stated Ms. Grim.

"Texas is one of a small number of states that requires all elected county officials to earn continuing education credits," explained Richard O. Avery, Director of the Institute. "The Institute provides education to county commissioners, judges, treasurers, tax assessor-collectors and county and district clerks through programs conducted in College Station and across the state."

Clerks who attended all of the sessions during the seminar received 17 hours of credit. County/District Clerks are required to get 20 hours each year. Ms. Grim received 14 of these hours at College Station.

**Tax filing
season begins**

Start early, take your time, and try e-filing. That's the advice of the Internal Revenue Service as another tax filing season gets underway.

Most Texas employers are working hard to meet a January 31 deadline of getting Forms W-2 "Wage and Tax Statement" to

their employees. Some employers have already provided W-2 income information to their workforce. Early receipt of this income information allows employees to quickly file their tax returns and receive their tax refund. By law, employees need to receive Form W-2 and Form 1099, "Statement for Miscellaneous Income," by January 31.

Employees who do not receive their Form W-2 need to contact their employer to find out if and when the W-2 was mailed. If it was mailed, it may have been returned to the employer because of incorrect or incomplete mailing address. Employees need to allow a reasonable amount of time for their employers to re-mail or to issue the W-2.

Taxpayers who still do not receive their W-2 by February 15 can contact the IRS for help by calling toll free 1-800-829-1040. When calling, employees should have the following information.

1. The employer's name and complete address, including zip code, the employer's identification number (if known), and telephone number.

2. Your name, address, including zip code, Social Security number, and telephone number; and

3. An estimate of the wages you earned, the federal income tax withheld, and the dates you began and ended employment.

Taxpayers who misplace their W-2 should contact their employer and be prepared with the information listed above. Employers can replace the lost form with a "reissued statement." Be aware that employers are allowed to charge a fee for providing a new W-2 to employees.

Tax information, forms and publications are available on the IRS Web site at www.irs.gov.

**Residents urged to
help neighbors in need**

TXU Gas recently urged residents of Robert Lee and Bronte to help keep their neighbors healthy and warm by supporting Project HAP'N which pays the heating bills of those in need.

January bills from TXU Gas contain information about this easy way to help elderly, ill and disabled residents who are at risk from the cold. Contributors may add to their monthly gas bill, or they may request that a one-time contribution be included on their next bill. Contributions to TXU Gas Project HAP'N are tax-deductible.

"Every winter, some of our neighbors put their health at risk



Corby (left) and Dawn Kelso of Bronte purchased Chelsea Meek's 5th place hog at the Coke County Stock Show Premium Sale held January 17.


by failing to keep their home warm because they are worried about the cost," said Burnett, TXU Gas manager. "Through the generosity of TXU Gas customers, Project HAP'N has helped many disadvantaged Texans avoid that risk over the past 20 years. We hope that everyone who is able to contribute will heed the message in their January bill and join us in this great community

partnership." Social service agencies screen potential recipients and make direct bill payments for those who qualify. Funds from TXU Gas Project HAP'N are distributed in the geographic area where the donations were made, so contributors are assured that their money stays close to home. Visit www.txugas.com for more information about TXU Gas Project HAP'N.

**IVEY MOTOR
COMPANY, INC.**

- 2001 Ford Mustang Coupe** \$12,495
Red with Tan Cloth • 27,000 Miles
- 2001 F-150 Super Crew XLT 4x4** \$16,995
Chestnut w/Arizona Beige Trim • 5.4 V8
- 2003 Chevy C2500 HD Crew Cab** \$22,995
White • Silverado Package • Replacement Front Bumper • Rhino Liner • Gooseneck • 11,000 Miles
- 2003 Lincoln Towncar** \$28,995
Signature Series • White • 19,000 Miles
- 2003 Ford F-350 Crew Cab XLT** \$23,495
Powerstroke • Automatic • White with Tan Cloth
- 2003 Ford F-150 Crew Cab** \$16,995
White • 4 Door • XLT
- 2002 Ford F-250 Crew Cab** \$20,495
White • 4 Door • XLT • Powerstroke
- 2001 Ford F-150 Super Crew Lariat** \$16,995
Red w/ Tan Leather • Excellent Condition • Grill Guard
- 1998 Mercury Grand Marquis LS** \$ 5,995
White • One Owner • Great Condition!
- 2003 Mercury Grand Marquis LS** \$19,495
Arizona Beige • 16,000 Miles • Leather
- 2002 Ford Taurus SES** \$10,995
*Red w/Leather Interior • 15,000 Miles
Power Seats • CD Player • Excellent Condition!*
- 2003 Ford Mustang Coupe** \$13,995
V6 • Auto • Red Fire • 14,000 Miles • Extra Nice!
- 1999 Ford Expedition** \$15,995
Eddie Bauer • Estate Green • One Owner, 50,000 Miles
- 2002 Ford Explorer XLT 4x4** \$18,995
Black • Excellent Condition

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


**NOTICE OF
PUBLIC HEARING**
Trans-Texas Corridor
The Texas Department of Transportation will hold a public hearing to discuss the Trans-Texas Corridor.
Date: February 9, 2004
Place: Coke County Courthouse
13 E. 7th Street
Time: 11 am
Purpose: To provide the public an opportunity to submit comments on potential routes of the Trans-Texas Corridor.
Project Description: A new type of transportation network that includes roads, rail, and a utility zone designed to move people and goods faster and safer, keep hazardous material out of populated areas, and improve air quality.
For more information about the public hearing, contact Public Information Officer Patsy Rainwater-Maddux at 325-947-9205.

Don't Miss The
FISH FRY
Saturday • January 31 • 5 to 8 pm
Big Rec Hall • Robert Lee
 **20" Schwinn Bicycle
Door Prize**
**ALL PROCEEDS TO
RLVFD FIRE STATION FUND!**
Minimum \$5 Donation for Meal
**Silent Auction • Cake Auction • Fun Jump For Kids
Music • Drawings • Door Prizes • Raffles
Awesome Water Cannon
Demonstration • Wild & Crazy
Servers & MORE!**

Bronte elementary to host book fair

Bronte Elementary will host a Scholastic Book Fair the week of February 2-6. This will be a fun-filled book sale and literary event geared to excite children about reading and learning. The Scholastic Book Fair will offer the most popular books and educational products for all ages, including the newest titles, award-winners, classics, and interactive products from more than 150 publishers. Parents, children, teachers, and the entire community are invited to "Dig Up Great Books!" at the Treasure Hunt, the theme of the Fair.

The Scholastic Book Fair will be open each day from 8:00 am until 4:00 pm. And - avast ye hearties! On Tuesday, February 3 from 6:00-8:00 pm, the Book Fair will feature a special Family Event with special read alouds, activities, and refreshments.

Great photo opportunities are available as pirates and swabbies will have the opportunities to hear stories, guess the number of seashells in a jar, participate in a treasure hunt, and dig for buried treasure.

One of the Book Fair's primary goals is to help teachers build classroom libraries. Visitors to the Fair can check each teacher's Classroom Wish List, then purchase and donate the requested book, helping teachers develop a rich array of learning resources for community children. In addition, Bronte Elementary will use funds raised at the Book Fair to purchase essential classroom resources and support school projects.

Can You Picture This?

[Editor's Note: The following was sent to The Outdoor Wire by one of our Law Enforcement readers who felt we sometimes forgot that it wasn't the celebrities that brought us the rights and privileges we enjoy. It had quite an impact on us, and we hope

you'll find it helpful to remember that we are "all in this together."]

I want you to close your eyes and picture

in your mind the soldier at Valley Forge, as he holds his musket in his bloody hands.

He stands barefoot in the snow,

starved from lack of food, wounded

from months of battle and emotionally

scarred from the eternity away from his family surrounded by nothing

but death and carnage of war. He stands tough, with fire in his eyes and victory on his breath. He

looks at us now in anger and disgust and tells us this...

I gave you a birthright of freedom

born in the Constitution and now

your children graduate too illiterate

to read it. I fought in the snow barefoot to give you the freedom

to vote and you stay at home because it rains.

I left my family destitute to give you

the freedom of speech and you

remain silent on critical issues,

because it might be bad for business.

I orphaned my children to give you

a government to serve you and it

has stolen democracy from the people.

It's the soldier not the reporter who gives

you the freedom of the press. It's the soldier not the poet

who

gives you the freedom of speech.

It's the soldier not the campus organizer

who allows you to demonstrate.

It's the soldier who salutes the flag,

serves the flag, whose coffin is draped with the flag that

allows

the protester to burn the flag!!!

"Lord, hold our troops in your

Two Bronte Elementary School students participated in the Miss San Angelo pageant January 3, 2004. McKenzie Arrott (left), 4 year old daughter of Brian and Kandace Arrott of Ballinger, was crowned 2004 Petite Miss San Angelo.



She was also awarded Most Photogenic and Best Party Dress in the 4-6 year old category. McKenzie is the granddaughter of Tim and Lucretia Arrott of Bronte and Gail Adams of Ralls. Her great-grandparents include J. B. and Martha Arrott of Bronte, Norma Bryan of Ballinger, Milton Bryan of Norton, Check and Thelma Ward of Idalou, and Cordelia Adams of Ralls. McKenzie is in Pre-K at Bronte Elementary.

Stacia Emfinger, daughter of Steve and Stephanie Emfinger of Tennyson, also competed in the 4-6 year old division. Stacia was awarded 2004 Most Beautiful Petite Miss San Angelo. She also received crowd favorite, 2nd Runner-up, and collected the most cans for the food drive. Stacia is a first grader at Bronte Elementary.

loving hands. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need. Amen."

Editorial & Advertising Deadline is 2 pm on Tuesday preceding publication.

THE OBSERVER/ENTERPRISE
Serving Coke County
P.O. Box 1329 Robert Lee, TX 76945
(915) 453-2433

I would appreciate your vote and support in the upcoming Democratic Primary Election.

James Royall
Candidate for
Coke County Commissioner
Precinct 1

Pd. Pol. Adv. by James Royall

ROBERT LEE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2003

| Data Control Codes | 10 General Fund | Other Funds | Total Governmental Funds |
|--|-----------------|-------------|--------------------------|
| REVENUES: | | | |
| 5700 Total Local and Intermediate Sources | \$ 1,826,814 | \$ 21,557 | \$ 1,848,371 |
| 5800 State Program Revenues | 976,072 | 305,551 | 1,281,623 |
| 5900 Federal Program Revenues | 10,464 | 197,387 | 207,851 |
| 5020 Total Revenues | 2,813,350 | 524,495 | 3,337,845 |
| EXPENDITURES: | | | |
| Current: | | | |
| 0011 Instruction | 1,619,111 | 389,883 | 2,008,994 |
| 0012 Instructional Resources & Media Services | 106,183 | 28,660 | 134,843 |
| 0013 Curriculum & Instructional Staff Development | 475 | 3,904 | 4,379 |
| 0021 Instructional Leadership | 1,986 | 1,982 | 3,968 |
| 0023 School Leadership | 195,717 | 4,058 | 199,775 |
| 0031 Guidance, Counseling & Evaluation Services | 52,981 | 1,732 | 54,713 |
| 0033 Health Services | 15 | - | 15 |
| 0034 Student (Pupil) Transportation | 73,638 | 1,958 | 75,596 |
| 0035 Food Services | 2,058 | 122,139 | 124,197 |
| 0036 Cocurricular/Extracurricular Activities | 126,908 | 878 | 127,786 |
| 0041 General Administration | 245,704 | 3,439 | 249,143 |
| 0051 Plant Maintenance and Operations | 469,488 | 4,154 | 473,642 |
| 0053 Data Processing Services | 54,018 | 792 | 54,810 |
| Intergovernmental: | | | |
| 0093 Payments to Fiscal Agent/Member Districts of SSA | 177,323 | - | 177,323 |
| 6030 Total Expenditures | 3,125,605 | 563,579 | 3,689,184 |
| 1100 Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures | (312,255) | (39,084) | (351,339) |
| OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES): | | | |
| 7915 Transfers In | - | 39,084 | 39,084 |
| 8911 Transfers Out (Use) | (39,084) | - | (39,084) |
| 7080 Total Other Financing Sources (Uses) | (39,084) | 39,084 | - |
| 1200 Net Change in Fund Balances | (351,339) | - | (351,339) |
| 0100 Fund Balance - September 1 (Beginning) | 1,071,371 | - | 1,071,371 |
| 1300 Increase (Decrease) in Fund Balance | 30,651 | - | 30,651 |
| 3000 Fund Balance - August 31 (Ending) | \$ 750,683 | \$ - | \$ 750,683 |

FREE INVESTMENT REVIEWS

JIM WOODRUFF
719 Strong Avenue
Ballinger, TX 76821
(915) 365-2505
1-800-995-1252
www.edwardjones.com

Edward Jones
Serving Individual Investors Since 1871
Member SIPC

Raising Responsible Kids

FREE Parenting Classes

Become a "Love & Logic" Parent!

Find positive answers & actions for difficult moments during child-rearing.

Beginning Monday, February 9, 2004, 7 weekly sessions will be held at 7 pm in Robert Lee!

FMI: Barbara Jameson at 453-2939
Childcare provided!