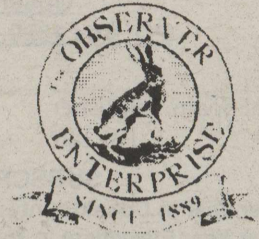


THE OBSERVER/ ENTERPRISE

Serving Coke County

Single Copy 35¢



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Friday, March 19, 2004

Filing ends for May 15th local elections

The city of Robert Lee will have to fill two council seats currently held by Beth Prather and Bonita Copeland. Both council incumbents have filed for re-election. Mayor Garland Davis' term is also expiring. Filing for the office of Mayor are Kenneth Green, Joe White and Kimble Middleton.

The city of Bronte will have to fill three 2 year council seats currently held by Martha Ratliff, Charles Sonnenberg, and Leslie Rolls. All incumbents have filed to retain their seats on the Council. Challenging them will be Scott Graves. Mayor Martin Lee's term is also expiring and he has filed for re-election.

West Coke County Hospital District will have three vacancies. The terms of Joan Cantrell, Rick Sanchez, and Gayland Hurst are expiring. Since there were no filings, a board meeting will be held Tuesday, March 23. The board will consider cancelling the election and possibly appointing interested parties to fill the vacancies.

East Coke County Hospital District will have three 2 year terms on the ballot. The terms of Ed Cumbie, Billy Joe Lockett, and Mark Duncan are expiring. All incumbents have filed for re-election.

Bronte ISD has two vacancies

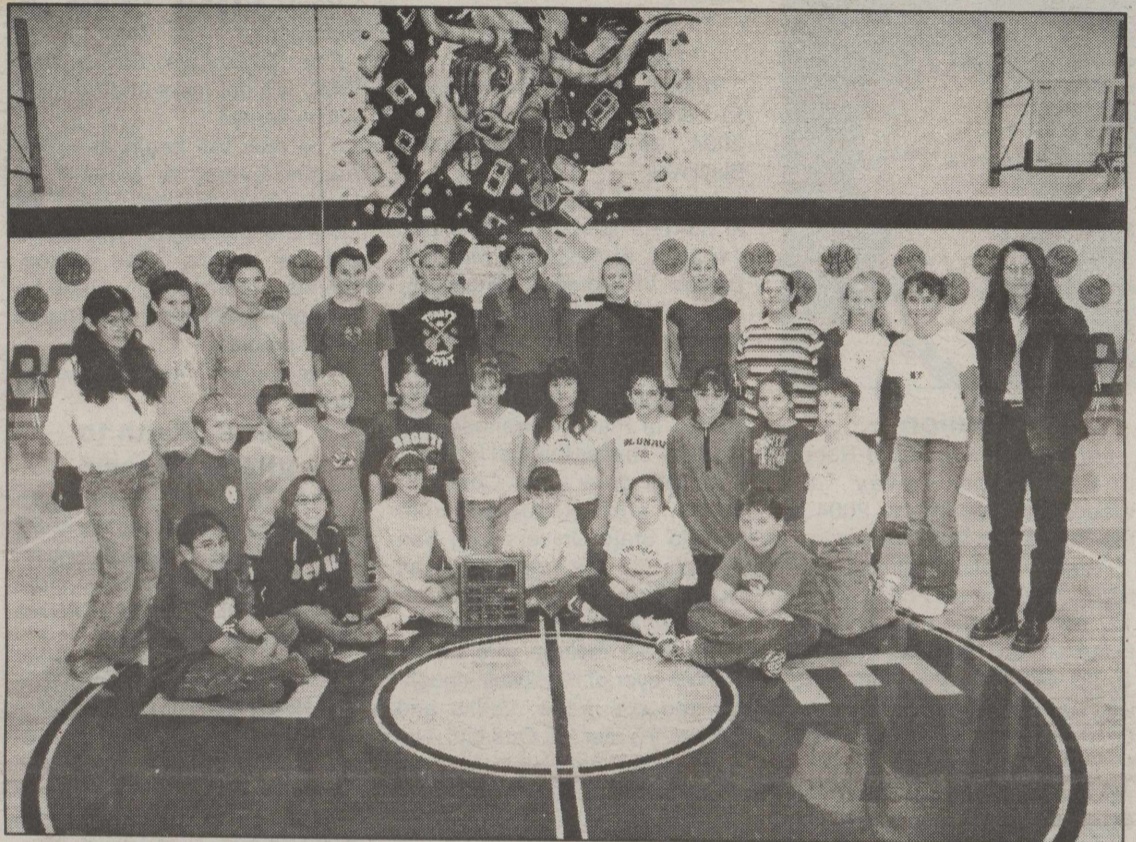
to fill for full 3 year terms. Positions open are currently held by Terry Charles and Gary Acker. Terry Charles and Gary Acker have filed to retain their seats on the Board. Due to spring break, any filings made just prior to the filing deadline cannot be included in this article.

Two places on the Robert Lee ISD Board of Trustees are coming open. These places are three year terms. The terms of Darrell Pitcock and Bill Burns are expiring. Darrell Pitcock has filed for re-election. New candidates filing include Kevin Roe and Gayle Bolding. Due to spring break, any filings made just prior to the filing deadline cannot be included in this article.

RLVFD fund-raiser to help match grant

The Night-On-The-Town raffle being offered by the Robert Lee Volunteer Fire Department includes dinner for two at Zentner's Daughter Steak House and two tickets to the Southwest Plaza movie theatre. Tickets are \$1 for a full night of food and fun.

Tickets are available at City Hall, the library, and from any member of the fire department. Mayor Davis has said that if he wins, he will give his winnings to the person who sells the most tickets.



Mrs. Heather Lee's Bronte Elementary 6th grade class was named the Outstanding Class of 2003 in the Coke County Soil and Water Conservation District Poster Contest. A related story is on page 3 of this issue.

The funds will be used to help match a \$45,000 grant from the San Angelo Health Foundation to construct a new fire station at the intersection of Highways 158 and 208 in Robert Lee. The roof collapsed on the old filling station being used to store equip-

ment. Building a new station is a high priority situation. Reaching the goal is becoming more urgent with the advancing prices of metal.

The RLVFD fire station fund at Robert Lee State Bank is receiving funds for the station. Checks may also be sent to City Hall.

Memorial funds can be dedicated to this drive as well.

Find a Volunteer Fireman, tell him thanks for serving the community and get a raffle ticket for a Night-on-the-Town for two. The drawing will be held Monday, April 5, 2004.

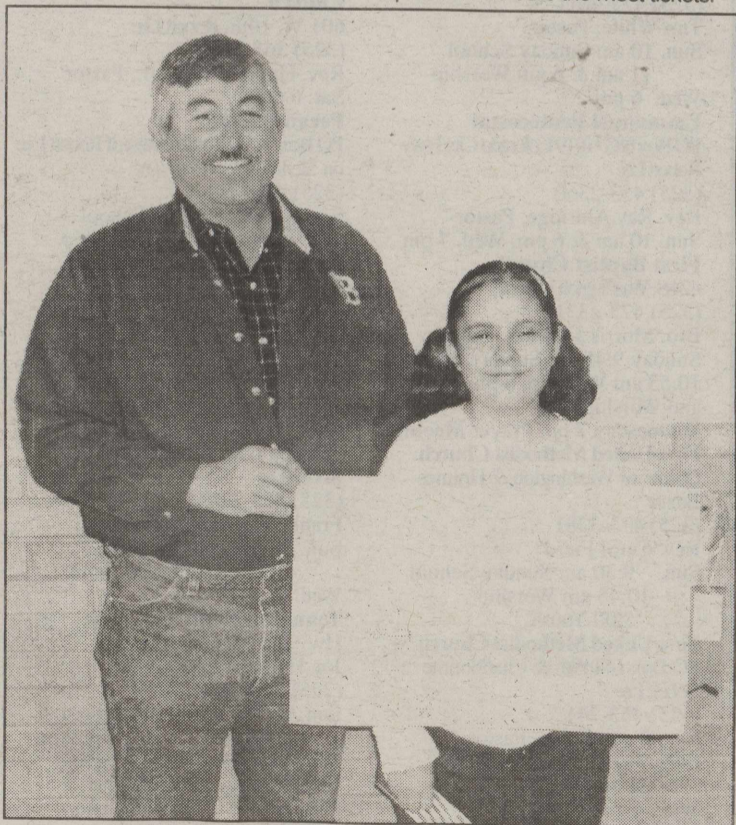
Bird sites report new arrivals

Members of the Caliche Loop Bird and Wildlife Association have reported the arrival of both brown and white pelicans in the area.

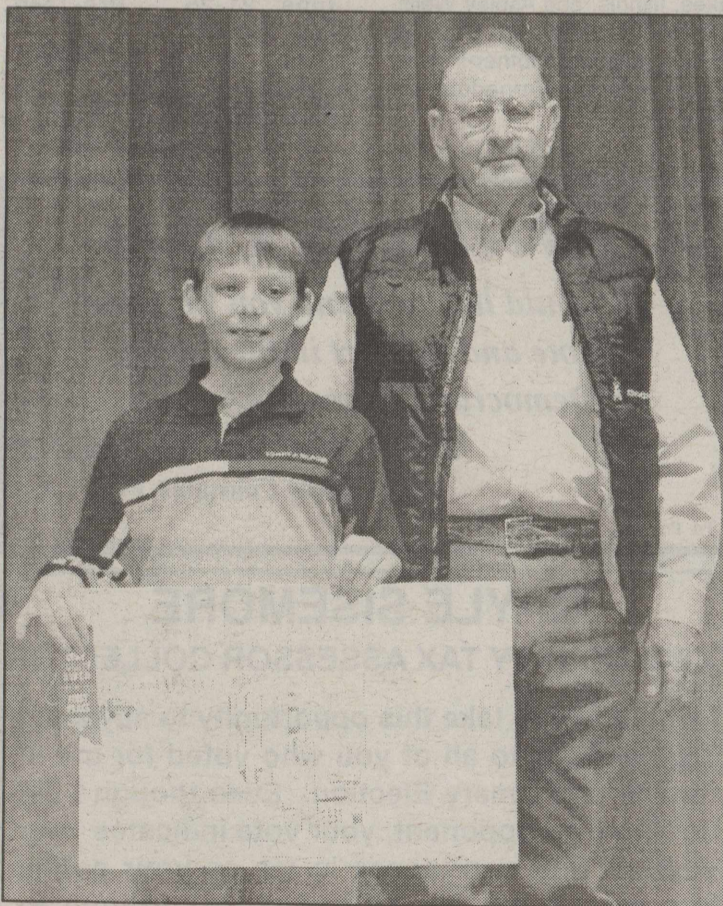
It was noted that the two species, while similar in appearance and behavior, have different feeding practices. The brown pelican flies over water and then folds its wings and dives into the water after fish it has seen. The while pelicans swim in the water and seem to "round up" schools of fish and then dive into the school to feed.

Grasses and grains have been planted at the Red Canyon bird site and with the rains and the weather, it is reported that the plantings are thriving. These grains and grasses will seed out and sustain themselves for years. With more grain available, the birds will stay longer, and more species will be attracted to the area.

The bird sites in the Robert Lee area are expected to bring tourists who are reported to spend some \$175 a day in pursuit of their hobby. Tourism is an area of income for the city that is being promoted. The Caliche Loop organization reports receiving calls almost daily about the bird sites since the bird and wildlife map of the Panhandle/Plains area has been released.



Bronte Elementary student Ally Franco was named the District Winner in the Coke County Soil and Water Conservation District Poster Contest. Shown with Ally is Mike Arrott, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Coke County SWCD. A related story is on page 3 of this issue.



Robert Lee Elementary student Haden Dillard was named the District Runner-up in the Coke County Soil and Water Conservation District Poster Contest. Shown with Haden is Joe Ash, Director of the Coke County SWCD. A related story is on page 3 of this issue.

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Per Year Outside of Texas.....\$25.00

Obituaries



Harmon

LaRue Harmon, 89, of Robert Lee passed away on Wednesday, March 10, 2004 at the Robert Lee Care Center.

Family visitation was held from 6:00 - 8:00 pm on Friday, March 12, 2004 at the funeral home. Funeral service was held at 10:00 am Saturday, March 13, 2004 at the Robert Lee Baptist Church officiated by Dale Patterson and Mike Burson. Burial followed in the Paint Creek Cemetery. Services were under the direction of Shaffer Funeral Home.

LaRue was born September 22, 1914 to Joe and Eva McAuley Field of Robert Lee. Her mother passed away when she was five years old and she was raised by her step-mother, Virginia "Jenny" Field. She married Finis Harmon June 11, 1936 in Robert Lee. They were married for 58 years.

LaRue was a native of Robert Lee and spent most of her life here except for a short stay in Sterling City while Finis worked on a ranch. LaRue's roots run deep in Coke County. Her grandfather, GC Field started the first Methodist Church in Robert Lee many years ago.

She was well known for her work in food service, working at the Water Valley Schools, the Green Mountain Schools, the Robert Lee Schools, and then for the Robert Lee Nursing Home. There are some students that can swear they can still smell her peanut butter cookies baking.

LaRue was a long time member of the Pecan Baptist Church.

She is preceded in death by her parents and her husband, Finis Harmon.

LaRue is survived by her son, William Joe Harmon and wife, Julia Ann of Southlake, Texas and two grandsons, Joey Harmon and wife, Dee Anna and Ronnie Harmon and wife, Cari. She is also survived by numerous nieces and nephews that she loved so dearly.

The family would like to say Thank You to the Robert Lee Care Center for the special care and love that was shown to LaRue during her stay there. In lieu of flowers, dona-

tions can be made to the American Cancer Society, Pecan Baptist Church, Robert Lee Care Center, or VistaCare Hospice Foundation, 940B Arroyo, San Angelo, TX 76903.

34-1tc

Barkemeyer

William Nathan Barkemeyer, 51, died Thursday, March 11, 2004, at his residence near Blackwell.

A memorial service was held at Barrett Ranch Sunday, March 14, 2004, at 12:30 pm with Tom Barrett of Ardmore, Oklahoma, officiating. Mr. Barrett was assisted with the service by Charles Ingram of Cloudcroft, New Mexico, and Shannon Barrett of Plano. Arrangements were by Shaffer Funeral Home.

William grew up in Coleman, Texas, and graduated from Angelo State University in San Angelo. He was employed as an instructor at American Commercial College in Abilene.

Survivors include wife Leane Barkemeyer of Blackwell; daughter and son-in-law, Letitia and Kenan Palmer of Odessa; two sons and their wives, Michael and Cathey Barkemeyer of Coleman, and Gregory and Megan Barkemeyer of Great Lakes, Illinois; step-daughter and husband, Cassi and Jason Jackson of Cloudcroft, New Mexico; step-son, Charles Ingram of Cloudcroft, New Mexico; sister and brother-in-law, Barbara and Rick Lane of Woodbury, Minnesota; grandchildren, Cassandra and Josh Barkemeyer of Coleman, Justin and Alana Barkemeyer of Great Lakes, Illinois, and Ashley Wells of Odessa; niece, Kim Lane of Abilene; and his mother-in-law, Bobbie Barrett Varnadore of Blackwell.

34-1tc

Lowrance

Funeral services for David H. Lowrance were held on Monday, March 15, 2004, at Johnson's Funeral Home in San Angelo. Interment followed at 3 pm in Robert Lee Cemetery.

Mr. Lowrance, 94, of San Angelo died on Saturday, March 13, 2004, in Shannon Memorial Hospital. He was a longtime resident of Coke County.

He is survived by a sister, Alta Stoval of San Angelo; two sons, Keith Fausnacht and his wife, Cheryl of Troy, Texas, and John Fausnacht and wife, Janna, of Abu Dhabi, U.A.E. and a number of grandchildren, nieces, and nephews.

Runnels Baptist Association to meet

The Runnels Baptist Association will meet Wednesday, March 24, 2004, for an evangelism rally at Seventh Street Baptist Church in Ballinger.

The Executive Board and WMU will not meet and no meal will be served.

The rally will begin at 7 pm. Austin Evers, a student at Hardin-Simmons University, will bring the message. The music will be led by Wes James. Morris Johnson, Mission Evangelism Director, is in charge of the program.

The public is welcome to attend.

RLBC Youth to attend concert

The Youth of Robert Lee Baptist Church will attend the FREE Jamie Slocum Christian Concert, Saturday, March 27th. For more information, contact Cory DeVivo, Youth Minister, at 453-2724.

RL Baptist Church upcoming events

March 27th - Youth attending Jamie Slocum Christian concert

April 4th - Laying of the Palms Service

April 9th - Shadows of the Cross Service

April 11th - Easter Sunrise Service

April 23-25 - Youth Disciple NOW

May 23rd - Graduation Senior Sunday & Baccalaureate

June 7-11 - Vacation Bible School

June 21-25 - Pre-Teen Camp

June 26th - 100th Celebration

June 29th - Blood drive

July 12-16 - Youth Camp

ECC ambulance runs for February 2004

02-04 - 11:23 - Trauma transport
02-07-13:20 - Medical transport
02-12 - 01:17 - Trauma transport
02-15 - 19:25 - Medical transport
02-24 - 07:35 - Medical transport
02-26 - 16:30 - Medical transport
02-27 - 04:00 - Motor vehicle accident

Memorials

Geneva Minnick
Mr. & Mrs. Leslie Rolls & family

BVFD runs for February 2004

02-17 - House fire
02-27 - 04:00 - Motor vehicle accident

RLVFD

Contributions told Memorials

Hulsey
Joe & Marilyn White
Iris Standefer
Betty Barrett
Coleta Fenley

James Franklin Lane
Courthouse employees & elected officials

Allen Bloodworth
Mr. & Mrs. Bobby Walker
Terry & Cathy McGinley
Mr. & Mrs. Wilbern Millican

Jack Brewer
Coleta Fenley
Joe & Marilyn White
Betty Barrett

Ben Boykin
Mr. & Mrs. Wilbern Millican
Jamie & Robert Boren
Clayton & Pansy Bloodworth
D.J. & Nelia Walker
Joe & Donna Ash
Bob & Polly Large

Hawley Fields
Mr. & Mrs. Wilbern Millican
Zera & Don Fields and Troy Wimberley

Peggy Boone Warren
Pat Fowler Taft

Bobby Cowley
Pat Fowler Taft (RL Class of

1960)

John Conley
Terry & Cathy McGinley
D.J. & Nelia Walker
Nita Stovall-Duncan
Mr. & Mrs. James Royce Smith
Robert & Mona Mathers
Wallace & Billie Ross
Perry & Jo Kehrer
Mr. & Mrs. L.E. Higgins
Ruth Beal
Mr. & Mrs. Wibby Millican
Jimmie & Patty Byrne
Joe & Dee Anna Harmon
Mike & Fran Lomas
Mrs. Oscar Jackson, Jr.
Bill & Bobbie Allen
Clifford & Melba Wilson
Jerome Hanna
Ava Lou Davis
Jim & Geanette Skinner
Mr. & Mrs. Shane Kelton
Mr. & Mrs. Billy J. Blair
Inez & Kenneth Harper
Fred & Mary Williams
Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Rasco
Mary Parkey
Dot Starling
J.L. & Charlotte McKnight
Mr. & Mrs. Winton Milliff
Joe & Marilyn White
Paul & Joan Burns
Beth Prather
Allen & Carole Clendennen
Maxine Post
Les & Bonita Copeland
Clayton & Pansy Bloodworth
Morris Wallace & Janet Wallace

Phyllis & Neil Calder
Joe & Donna Ash
Carlton Fields
Mrs. Jack Brewer
Joe & Donna Ash
Auntie Fields and Don, Troy, & Max

D.E. Chesshir
Mrs. Jack Brewer
Joe & Donna Ash
Bob & Jamie Boren
Bob & Polly Large

Donations
Jim & Cathy Waltz
Marian Bird
Glenn Bivins Insurance
Donations from Rural Water billing customers
Donations from City Water billing customers

Churches of Coke County

Invite You to Worship

Bronte Church of Christ
PO Box 346 • 118S. Jefferson
Bronte
(325) 473-3291
Preacher John V. Driggers
Sun. 10 am & 6 pm, Wed. 7 pm
Central Baptist Church
324S. Franklin • Bronte
(325) 473-4811
Tim White, Pastor
Sun. 10 am Sunday School
11 am & 6 pm Worship
Wed. 6 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
424S. 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 ar. 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. 9:45 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

Thank You

*I would like to thank you for your
vote and support in the recent
Democratic Primary Election.*

Kenneth Rasco
Coke County Constable, Pcts. 1 & 3

Pd. Pol. Adv. by Kenneth Rasco

GAYLE SISEMORE

COKE COUNTY TAX ASSESSOR COLLECTOR

**I would like to take this opportunity to say a big
THANK YOU to all of you who voted for me in
the March Primary Election. Even though I did
not have an opponent, your vote indicates your
support and confidence in me as your public
servant. It will be an honor to continue to
serve you in the capacity of Tax Assessor
Collector.**

Pd. Pol. Adv. by Gayle Sisemore, PO Box 952, Robert Lee, TX 76945.

Franco wins Coke County SWCD poster contest

Ally Franco of the Bronte 5th grade is the winner of the conservation poster contest for students in the 5th and 6th grade for 2003-2004. Mrs. Lisa Dyess is her teacher. The contest is sponsored by the Coke County Soil and Water Conservation District. In addition to a ribbon and certificate, Ally received a \$100 U.S. savings bond and will be honored at an awards banquet in Wall on March 25, 2004. Ally is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Sergio Franco of Bronte.

Haden Dillard of Mrs. Patti Byrne's Robert Lee 5th grade was the district runner-up and the recipient of a \$50 savings bond. Haden is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Keith Dillard of Robert Lee.

The top four places in each class were: Bronte 5th grade (Mrs. Lisa Dyess); 1st - Ally Franco, 2nd - Chase Harris, 3rd - Joshua Hargrave, 4th - Heath Richey; Bronte 6th grade (Mrs. Heather Lee); 1st - Stephanie Frasier, 2nd - Chelsea Meek, 3rd - Jacob Scott, 4th - Dannie Martinez; Robert Lee 5th grade (Mrs. Patti Byrne/Mrs. Cynthia Bessent); 1st - Haden Dillard - 2nd - Kacee Roberts, 3rd - Logan Philley, 4th - Heidi Austin; Robert Lee 6th grade (Mrs. Linda Burns); 1st - Briana Brisbin, 2nd - Blake Millican, 3rd - Emily Arellano, 4th - Olivia Trejo.

Every student who submitted a poster received a certificate from the Natural Resources Conservation Service in appreciation for the thought, effort and publicity on the need and worth of soil and water conservation that the posters depicted. The posters will be displayed at the Robert Lee State Bank and the First National Bank in Bronte.

In 1995 an award was instituted as a result of the growing response from teachers and students. A rotating trophy plaque with a space for engraving the class name and year was presented to the class with the most outstanding posters. This Outstanding Class award went to Mrs. Heather Lee's Bronte 6th grade for the second year in a row.

Three posters done by Ally Franco, Haden Dillard and Kacee Roberts were entered in the Texas Area II Contest which includes 52 counties.

Pupils could choose any phase of resource conservation that is part of the work of the local soil and water conservation district. This year's theme was "Food for the Future" with emphasis on the need and worth of soil and water conservation by the farmer in preparing crops for harvest in order to meet the needs of our country.

Response from teachers and students was excellent and posters submitted were outstanding, both in art work and content. Each year choosing only four winners per class and two overall becomes more and more difficult for the board of directors.

Contributions from the Kickapoo Creek Water Control and Improvement District, the First National Bank in Bronte, and the Robert Lee State Bank made the contest possible and helped pay for the awards. Without their support and the enthusiastic participation by the schools, the contest could not have been successful.

C-S FSA announces closing dates

The Coke-Sterling County FSA office will be closed all day Wednesday, March 24th and Thursday, March 25th. All office employees will be at a training session for these two days.

The office will be open for business Friday, March 26th at the usual time. Thank you for your patience and cooperation.

For more information call us at (325) 453-2751 or come by the office.

Concho Valley RC&D announces matching grants

The Concho Valley Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Area, Inc. has announced the availability of \$3,000 in the 2004 Matching Grant Program. Roy Blair, Coke County Board member, says "Our goal is to make these funds available to the communities and organizations in our thirteen county area for local projects."

The RC&D program is authorized by USDA and administered by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). The individual RC&D councils direct the program to the needs of the local communities.

The RC&D council or Board of Directors must approve the submitted grant application. Grants will require an equal match of local contributions or donations and will be limited to \$500. Applications will be due in the Concho Valley office by June 30, 2004.

Blair says "We feel that this is an excellent way to leverage federal dollars and improve our communities." Congress appropriates funding yearly for the RC&D program. Blair also says, "Our U.S. Senators and Representatives have been tremendous supporters of the RC&D program. Congress appropriated over \$52 million for the RC&D program in fiscal year 2004. This is a \$1.5 million increase in two years."

For more information and to obtain grant applications, contact your local USDA-NRCS office, or RC&D Board member or by calling the Concho Valley RC&D office at (325) 597-4666.

Coke County Trappers Association dues

For interested landowners that would like to join the Coke County Trappers Association that helps fund the Coke County trapper, you can contact the Coke County Extension office at 453-2461 or come by the courthouse. Dues for the Association are figured on seven cents per acre per year. These can be mailed to Coke County Extension office, Box 170, Robert Lee.

Having an animal damage control officer (trapper) for the county is very important, not only for the livestock producer but also for wildlife enthusiast. Predation of wildlife, our deer, quail and turkeys can cause a major reduction in these species besides what livestock animals are predated on each year. It is in the best interest of all landowners, whether you run livestock or own the land for wildlife, to be able to manage predators through animal damage control.

Our county trapper, Javan Vosburg, can be reached at 653-7452. We also have an area trouble shooter that can assist Javan during peak predation problems.

FSA producer sign up for DCP slated

Producers who wish to participate in the farm program (DCP) for the 2004 crop year are encouraged to visit the office and sign up. Producers who signed up for 2002 and 2003 MUST sign up for 2004. This will be an every year sign up until the DCP program ends in 2007. Sign up will be much quicker than last year so hopefully producers won't have to spend as much time in the office to complete sign up.

Producers who did not sign up for 2002 or 2003 but, who have a base on qualifying crop may also sign up for 2004.

Producers must have an approved CCC-502 (pay limit form), and 1026 before any payments can be issued.

Be sure to make an appointment. For more information call 453-2751 or come by the office.

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 3/17 Thru 3/23
LIMIT RIGHTS RESERVED

Fresh "Boston Butt"
Pork Roast
Lb. **\$.99**

Red Globe
Grapes
Lb. **\$.69**

Assorted
Blue Bunny Ice Cream
5 qt. pail **\$3.99**

Preferred Trim • Boneless Beef
Chuck Roast
Lb. **\$1.69**

Town Talk
White Bread
2 24 oz. loaves **/\$1**

Reg./Light Mayo or Miracle Whip
Kraft Spreads
2 32 oz. jar **/\$4**

Red Ripe
Strawberries
1 Lb. Pkg. **\$1.99**

Please Join Us

Saturday
March 27, 2004

to
Celebrate the Birthdays
of

R.T. Caperton—March 30, 1919
and
Matthew Caperton—March 4, 1926

2-5 p.m.
Community Center
(located in the Park)
Bronte, Texas

No gifts please

BRONTE SCHOOL NEWS

BHS set to host UIL One-Act Play Contest

Bronte High School will host the West Zone UIL One-Act Play Contest on Thursday, March 25, in the school's auditorium. After a 12:30 pm early release for all Bronte students, plays will begin at 1:00 pm and continue until all six plays in the zone have performed. Two plays from the zone contest will advance to the district contest in Brownwood on March 29.

All companies are limited to 40 minutes for the performances. Plays and approximate performance times are as follows:

- Eden - 1:00 - "The Neighbors"
- Bronte - 1:45 - "The Lights Are Warm and Coloured"
- Irion County - 2:30 - "Find Me"
- Christoval - 3:15 - "The Last Night of Ballyhoo"
- Menard - 3:45 - "Crimes of the Heart"
- Miles - 4:30 - "Dearly Departed"

Setup and strike times and actual running times of plays may affect the time each play begins, making it slightly earlier or later than the time anticipated. To be sure that you get to see the shows that interest you, come a few minutes early. Audience members will not be seated after a show begins.

Green returns from Iraqi deployment

Army Spec. Timothy G. Green is a member of the 82nd Airborne Division who has returned to Fort Bragg, Fayetteville, NC, after being deployed to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Operation Iraqi Freedom is the official name given to military operations involving U.S. and

coalition forces efforts to disarm and end the current Iraqi regime. Active duty, reserve, and national guard members from all branches of the U.S. armed forces are participating in the operation. The focus of the mission is to liberate the Iraqi people, preserve Iraq as a unified state, keep its territorial integrity intact, and help the Iraqi people begin the process of economic and political reconstruction.

Green is an infantry mortarman with three years of military service. He is the son of Joyce M. Green of Bronte and Henry C. Green Jr. of High Point Blvd., McKinney, Texas.

The specialist is a 2001 graduate of Bronte High School.

ASU "College Days" slated April 3

Angelo State University is inviting prospective students to participate in "College Days" April 3 for a close look at various aspects of university life, ranging from academic programs to social and cultural opportunities.

In addition to sampling the various academic and extracurricular programs available at the university, students and their families will also be treated to lunch compliments of the university and offered complimentary tickets to a Rambelle softball doubleheader against Texas Woman's University.

Activities will begin at 9:30 am with check-in at the C.J. "Red" Davidson Conference Center in the Houston Harte University Center at 1910 Rosemont. The program will begin at 10 am in the Davidson Center with a welcome by ASU President James Hindman. Tours of the campus will then be conducted, including a stop at the Food Service Center for the complimentary lunch.

After lunch students and their families will return to the Davidson Conference Center for the ASU Expo, where information will be available on academic programs, student organizations, extracurricular activities, financial aid, Carr Academic Scholarships, residence halls and other areas of interest to prospective students and their parents.

Special information sessions will also be presented for students interested in a variety of ASU programs, including education, nursing, physical therapy, pre-law and pre-health professions.

Throughout the event ASU faculty, staff and students will be available to welcome guests to campus and to answer their questions about all aspects of student life at ASU.

College Days coordinator Bonnie Stennett said the event is a great opportunity for prospective students to get acquainted with ASU, its faculty and the educational experience it offers.

For more information, contact the ASU Office of Admissions at (325) 942-2058.

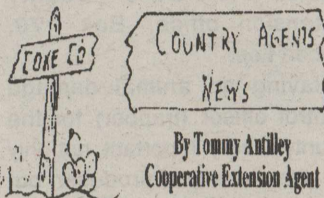
Amateur poetry contest open to Coke County and area residents

The Talent Literary Guild is sponsoring an amateur poetry contest, free to everyone. There are 50 prizes in all, including a \$1,000.00 grand prize.

To enter, send one entry of 21 lines or less to: Free Poetry Contest, 1257 Siskiyou Blvd.,

PMB 4, Ashland, OR 97520, or go to www.freecontest.com.

Poems may be written on any subject, using any style. The deadline for entering is March 27, 2004. The Editors reserve the right to publish the winning poems.



By Tommy Antilley
Cooperative Extension Agent

Liability facts for Outdoor Recreation Activities

If you are involved in any type of outdoor recreation activities on your land, you might be interested in a program that will be presented outlining the liability laws, insurance, etc. associated with having the general public on your property. This program will be held on Friday, March 26, 2004 at the Eden Multi-Purpose Center located at 319 West Blanchard in Eden.

The program will begin at 8:30 a.m. with registration followed by programs on: The Evolution of Wildlife Economics and Landowner Liability in Texas, presented by Kirby Brown, Texas Wildlife Association; Landowner Liability and Equine Liability, presented by Judon Fambrough, Real Estate Law Texas A&M; Bed and Breakfast Liability, also by Fambrough; Agritainment - The Insurance Perspective and Summary by Terry Caffey of Comanche Springs Ranch. Breaks and lunch will be available during the meeting.

Lawn and Garden Checklist

Perennials & Annuals - Soil building is an important ingredient to success with flowers. Take advantage of any respites from the spring rain to build your soil in preparation for future plantings. Mix several inches of compost into the soil to improve structure and to provide a bank account of nutrients. Build up raised beds in any areas prone to waterlogging or poor drainage. A second key to success is to provide the appropriate light exposure. Most blooming things need full sun or close to it. There are, however, exceptions, including impatiens, ginger and

hydrangeas.

Take advantage of the gardening fever of spring to revamp your landscape color beds. Plant warm season flowers now to provide color on into summer. Some good choices include petunias, cosmos, coreopsis, begonias, impatiens, and zinnia.

Periwinkles should not be planted until things really warm up a lot more to lessen problems with the devastating phytophthora aerial blight which can devastate them and which is much more prevalent in cool, wet conditions. Geraniums on the other hand can take a little cold and will thrive in a full sun location in the spring. Be prepared to move them to a semi shade area when it gets hot.

There are so many new varieties and series of bedding plants each season that it is hard to keep up. Remember that when you are planning that showplace it is best to use large swaths of color if the area is to be viewed from a distance. If you are planting a patio area or garden pathway where the individual blooms can be noticed and appreciated, a mix of colors and species works fine.

Trees, Shrubs & Vines - Now that winter is past, the time to plant bare root trees and shrubs has likewise passed. However, there is still time to plant container grown or balled and burlapped woody ornamentals if you don't delay. Set the plants at the same depth they were growing in the container and firm soil in around the root ball. Water it in well.

Any trees or shrubs that still need pruning should be pruned as soon as possible. Spring blooming shrubs need to finish their bloom cycle before you trim them. Hedges can be sheared now to shape them properly.

The key is to keep the base wider than the top so light reaches all areas of the shrub. That way the hedge will remain densely foliated all the way from top to bottom. Hedges tend to grow "top heavy" over time and require regular trimming to prevent the tops from overgrowing the bottom.

When choosing shrubs, look for species and varieties that will not grow too tall for the space provided. We now have a number of great choices that are dwarf and won't be as likely to overgrow their space. If you

have an older shrub that is now scraping the eaves or otherwise appears to be trying to get in touch with its inner sequoia, there are a couple of options. One is to replace it with a tidy, compact shrub. The other is to cut it way back below the desired height and then be ready to trim it every month or so as it regrows to reform a compact, attractive shrub.

Newly planted trees and shrubs can be damaged when salt based fertilizers are placed in the planting hole. They really do not need any additional feeding until they become established and begin to put on new growth. Wait about a month after planting to begin feeding new transplants. By then they will be able to use a light application of fertilizer to support good vigor and health.

During the first year it is important to keep the soil moist and provide a light dose of nutrients every month or so from spring through late summer. This will encourage development of an extensive root system and promote excellent growth.

Don't be alarmed when leaves drop from live oaks, southern magnolias or other evergreens during the early spring. This is a normal transition of the seasons as new growth appears and the older leaves are cast off.

Lawns & Groundcovers - Winter weeds are entering their prime time now. They are the reason most folks have had to fire up a lawnmower because our warm season turfgrasses are still asleep in all the far southern portions of the state. It is too early to fertilize in most of Texas. Fertilizing early benefits weeds, but won't make the turf take off and grow, at least not until temperatures warm up.

It is too late to control those winter weeds so just mow them regularly and plan on growing a dense healthy lawn this year. That way in early fall when those weeds would germinate from seeds and grow again the turf will be too thick and dense for them to get off to a good start.

Groundcovers that came out of winter looking bad may benefit from being mowed back now. They will return quickly with fresh new growth that will look much better. Turf areas that are just too shady may need to be transitioned into a shade loving groundcover or even to mulched areas.

School Menu



Breakfast

Monday, March 22

Cereal, diced pears, toast, jelly, milk

Tuesday, March 23

Breakfast burrito, assorted juice, milk

Wed., March 24

French toast sticks, assorted juice, syrup, milk

Thurs., March 25

Scrambled eggs, hash browns, toast, jelly, milk

Friday, March 26

Peanut butter and jelly sandwich, assorted juice, milk

Lunch

Monday, March 22

Chicken strips, gravy, creamed potatoes, green beans, roll, rice krispie bars, milk

Tuesday, March 23

Taco salad with cheese, lettuce & tomato, pinto beans, Spanish rice, corn chips, chocolate cake, milk

Wed., March 24

Bar-B-Q sausage, macaroni & cheese, blackeyed peas, roll, peach cobbler, milk

Thurs., March 25

Chicken spaghetti, corn on the cob, tossed salad, orange half, bread sticks, milk

Friday, March 26

Hot dogs, chili & cheese, tator tots, baked beans, bun, sugar cookies, milk

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Robert Lee girls golf tournament results

The Robert Lee Orange team (Julie Riley, Cara Eaton, Lindsey Roe, Kyla Millican, Kelsy Duncan) won 1st place with a score of 395. The Robert Lee Black team placed 6th with a team score of 548.

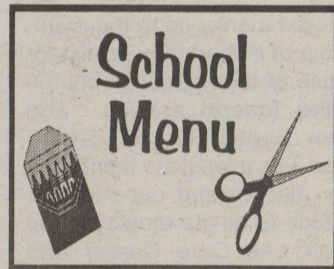
Medalist: 1st - Julie Riley - 91 - 3rd (tie) Lindsey Roe & Cara Eaton - 101 - 5th - Kyla Millican - 102 - 6th (tie) Kelsy Duncan - 104.

RL 2004 Project Graduation to host late night lock-in

Project Graduation 2004 is hosting a late night lock-in at Mr. Gatti's on March 26, 2004. Members are inviting the students of Robert Lee ISD, their families, their friends, and citizens of Robert Lee who would like to support the Seniors of RLHS. The purpose is to raise money for the project. There will be a cover charge, and for this you will receive the All You Can Eat Buffet, 16 tokens, free bumper car rides, and movie screenings. It will last from 10:00 pm until 1:00 am. Sponsors of Project Graduation will attend.

The catch is that there must be at least a hundred people. Everyone is asked to sign up and pay the cover charge by the 23rd. Advance tickets are for sale from Project Graduation sponsors, Seniors, Mrs. Wallace or Mrs. Service at the school. If for any reason the lock-in does not occur, then all monies will be refunded in full. A list of names and information will be kept.

Come and enjoy an evening of food and fun while supporting the Robert Lee Seniors of 2004.



Breakfast

Monday, March 22
Juice, cinnamon roll, cereal, milk

Tuesday, March 23
Juice, muffin, cereal, milk

Wed., March 24
Juice, pancake & sausage on stick, cereal, milk

Thurs., March 25
Juice, biscuit, sausage, cereal, milk

Friday, March 26
Juice, breakfast pizza, cereal, milk

Lunch

Monday, March 22
Burrito, salad, tator tots, peaches, milk

Tuesday, March 23
Corn dog, broccoli & carrots with ranch dip, French fries, fresh fruit, milk

Wed., March 24
Oven fried chicken, creamed potatoes, English peas, bread, pears, milk

Thurs., March 25
Pizza, corn, applesauce, cookie, milk

Friday, March 26
Sub sandwich, turkey & cheese, salad, chips, pickles, fruit cocktail, milk

RLHS Exes to have planning meeting

A meeting will be held Thursday, March 25th at 5 pm at Nana's to organize a reunion for anyone who attended the classes that graduated from 1950 through 1970.

The date for the reunion has been set for August 7th at the Holiday Inn in San Angelo.

The main focus of the meeting will be obtaining correct addresses for all those classmates. Other items to be discussed are announcements, program, meal planning, fee charges, and color scheme.

For more information please contact Fran Lomas at 453-2894.

Robert Lee Powerlifting

For the boys, Omar Saucedo placed 8th at the Regional Powerlifting meet held at Lubbock, March 13, 2004.

For the girls, Julia Cruz and Stacey Denton will be competing at the State Powerlifting Meet Saturday, March 20, 2004. The meet will be held at the Killeen Convention Center. Lifting will begin at 9:00 am, Saturday.

Robert Lee JH track results

Robert Lee won the boys division of the Shorthorn Relays held in Bronte, Thursday, March 11, 2004.

Field events:

Pole vault - 1st - Taylor Percifull - 3rd - Jesse Braswell

High jump - 2nd - Cameron Hodge - 6th - Josh Gallegos

Discus - 4th - Ronald Shaw

Shot put - 4th - Ronald Shaw - 5th - Chris LaRue

Long jump - 3rd - Josh Gallegos - 6th - Cameron Hodge

Triple jump - 2nd - Brody Dillard - 6th - Taylor Percifull

Running events:

2400 M run - 2nd - Chris LaRue - 3rd - Corbin Martin

400 relay - 1st - Taylor Percifull, Josh Gallegos, Brody Dillard, Cameron Hodge

110 M hurdles - 1st - Cameron Hodge - 2nd - Landry Gunter

100 M dash - 5th - Taylor Percifull

800 Relay - 2nd - Landry Gunter, Taylor Percifull, Brody Dillard, Chase Roe

400 M dash - 1st - Josh Gallegos - 6th - Jesse Braswell

300 M hurdles - 1st - Cameron Hodge - 5th - Landry Gunter

200 M dash - 3rd - Chase Roe - 4th - Brody Dillard

1600 M run - 2nd - Chris LaRue - 6th - Corbin Martin

1600 M relay - 1st - Jesse

Braswell, Chris LaRue, Chase Roe, Josh Gallegos
Team results - 1st - Robert Lee boys 181.33 - 3rd - Bronte A - 74.0 - 7th - Blackwell - 38.33

The next meet will be held March 25th at Water Valley.

The Robert Lee JH girls place 5th in the Shorthorn Relays with 55 points.

100 M dash - 2nd - Percifull - 13.47

800 M run - 5th - Hopson - 3:07.27

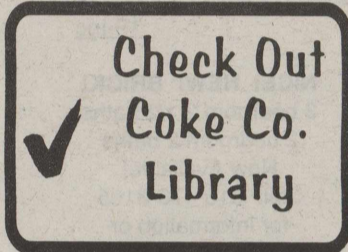
400 M relay - 4th - Percifull, A. Rojas, Millican, Pineda - 58.99

800 m relay - 3rd - Percifull, Rojas, Skinner, Pineda - 2:09.48

Long jump - 2nd - Percifull - 14' 2 3/4"

Discus - 1st - Burns - 72' 7"

High jump - 2nd - Percifull - 4' 2"



The Coke County library has received a copy of a video entitled Aging Successfully: It's Your Choice which was produced by The Texas A&M Health Science Center and Scott & White Hospital. The video was donated to the library by Fay Roe and the '64 Study Club and is available for check out.

The library also has received an order of refrigerator magnets with the library hours, address and phone number. These magnets were purchased with funds raised during the Robert Lee Street Affair last year. Contestants in the Dessert Cook-Off donated their entries for sale by the piece after the contest. Thanks to the cooks and the purchasers, the library can supply a permanent reminder of library hours with these magnets. The color of the magnets will assure that they can be seen among a whole collection of refrigerator art. The color was a big surprise; a return was considered; but on reflection, it was decided that perhaps the color would assure that the library magnet would not get lost in a crowd.

The Easter Egg Hunt at the Courthouse is the next greatly anticipated event for Story Hour and Head Start children and first and second graders in Coke

County. The Courthouse lawn will be covered with eggs and prizes on Tuesday, April 6.

Mountain Creek golf club schedule announced

The Mountain Creek Board of directors has set up this year's schedule of tournaments and promise to have some spectacular outings sure to make Coke County proud. This year in order to kick off the upcoming golf season the Mountain Creek golf club will run a New Member Special that will last from April 1st through April 30th. With your three month pre-paid dues, the initiation fee will be waived. If you have any questions please call the clubhouse at 453-2317.

This year the course will again sand the greens on the 21st of April and will have a workday to make improvements on the course on the 24th of April followed by an ABC Scramble.

April 17th - Project Graduation

May 15th - Adult/child
June 12th - Ladies only
June 19th-20th - 4 person
July 17th-18th - 4 person
August 7th - Suzie Wilson - 3 person
August 21st - Casey Eubanks Memorial - 3 person

Sept. 18th -19th - Coke County Couples

Oct. 9th - 10th - Club Championship

Other tournaments will be announced during the year. Get ready to have a chance at some very valuable hole-in-one prizes that will be available on select tournaments this year. Everyone grab your clubs and plan on having some awesome fun at the course this year.

Send your news in through the internet.

Email: CokeCoObserver@aol.com

Please send articles in the body of the email and photos as a jpeg attachment.

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- 2003 Ford F-150 Crew Cab** \$16,995
White • 4 Door • XLT
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White • 4 Door • XLT • Powerstroke
- 2003 Mercury Grand Marquis LS** \$19,495
White • 17,000 Miles • Leather
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Arizona Beige • 16,000 Miles • Leather
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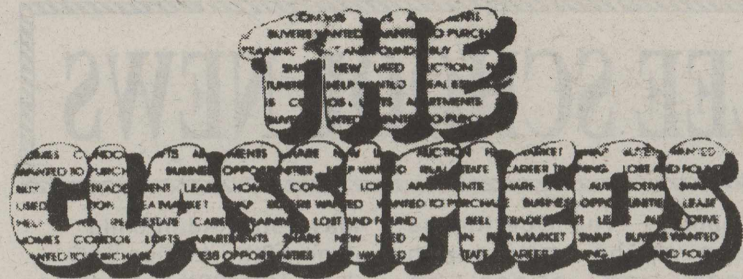
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All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or 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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22-tnc

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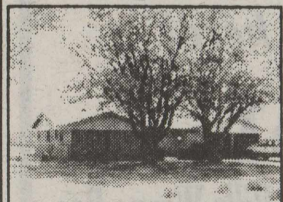
33-tnc



Concho Realty

Office 653-4535
Home 453-4748

Becky Clendennen

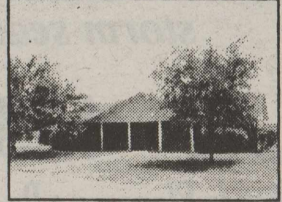


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Political Calendar

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.

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COMMISSIONER
PRECINCT 1
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Montgomery

FOR SALE

full and twin beds complete \$65, workout equipment 30 and up. Gas heaters, antique sewing machine 125. Dressers \$20. Call 453-2726.

34-1tp

FOR SALE

\$800 down payment, WAC, on a nice 4 BR, 2 bath home located at 801 S. Jefferson in Bronte. Call Lupe for more details at (325) 277-3545.

34-1tc

NICE HOME

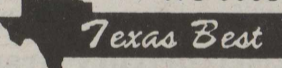
in Robert Lee with trailer furnished for sale cheap. \$25,000 cash. Fenced back yard, carport and storm cellar. 944-8990.

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has small office for rent at 206 W. Main Street. Please contact Donna Scott, Housing E.D., 473-3541. 31-4tc

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MESSAGE BY DEAN

1st and 2nd Mondays of each month at Main Street Hair Salon in Bronte. 473-3202. 32-4tp

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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

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Price reduced, 2 BR, 1 bth, CA/CH, sunroom or 3rd BR, large kitchen, single garage, over 1800 sf, large storage/shop

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Lake Spence Area, 2 BR, 1 BA, Ceramic tile, sundeck, guest quarters.

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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.

147 +/- AC. All Pasture. Convenient to Robert Lee. Flat to rolling terrain. Good hunting.

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93 +/- AC. Highway frontage, water well, 81 ac. CRP income.

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GARAGE SALE
This Saturday, March 20th. 703 E. 5th, Robert Lee. 34-1tc

HELP WANTED

BRONTE ISD

is accepting applications for the Superintendent's Secretary. For applications contact the Superintendent's Office - 325-473-2511, PO Box 670 Bronte, Texas 76933. Position open until filled. BISD is an EOE. 34-2tc

NOTICE IS HEREBY

given that Coke County is now accepting applications for a Senior Citizen Coordinator in Bronte, Texas. Applications for this position may be picked up in the Coke County Judge's Office at the Robert Lee Courthouse. Applications will be taken through April 2, 2004. Coke County is an Equal Opportunity Employer. 34-2tc

WANTED

Full time evening cook 11:00 - 7:30 pm shift. Experience required in long - term care. Bronte Health and Rehab Center E.O.E. 325-473-3621. 900 S. State St., Bronte, TX 76933. 33-2tc

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CARD OF THANKS

WE THANK YOU

for the telephone calls, cards, visits and your prayers received while Fred was in the hospital. Fred and Alice Beaty 34-1tp

DEAR FRIENDS,

Our hearts were comforted at the homegoing of our dear Mother and Grandmother, LaRue Harmon, by the many thoughtful expressions of sympathy and kindness through your prayers, cards, visits, flowers, memorial gifts and many delicious food dishes brought to her home and luncheon at Pecan Baptist Church.

Special thanks go to the membership of Robert Lee Baptist for the use of their beautiful church for the funeral service and Pecan Baptist Church where LaRue was a longtime member.

We also extend our heartfelt gratitude to all the employees at Robert Lee Care Center and Vista Care Hospice for their tender love and care. There are many others too numerous to mention individually but we appreciate all of you.

The family of LaRue Harmon,
William Joe and Julia Ann
Joey and Dee Anna
Ronnie and Kari
34-1tc

NOTICES

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

To the public and, See Listing Below, Pursuant to Section 59.044 of the Texas Property Code, notice is hereby given of the sale of the contents of Units, See Listing Below, of the storage facilities located at the southeast corner of Commerce Street (TX 158) and East 6th Street, the northwest corner of Bishop Street and West 10th Street (TX 208) and the southeast and northeast corners of Chadbourne Street and West 8th Street. The contents of the units will be sold to satisfy a contractual landlord's lien. The sale will be conducted no sooner than 2 April 2004. Charity Elam - 146 34-2tc

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325/365-5766 Phone
325/365-5449 Fax

NOTICES

ORDINANCE # 1132

AN ORDINANCE MAKING APPROPRIATING RESOURCES FOR THE SUPPORT OF THE CITY OF ROBERT LEE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING APRIL 1, 2004 AND ENDING MARCH 31, 2005; AND ADOPTING THE ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF ROBERT LEE FOR THE 2004-2005 FISCAL YEAR. PASSED AND APPROVED this the 15th day of March, 2004.

APPROVED:
Garland Davis,
Mayor
ATTEST:
Kay Torres,
City Secretary
34-1tc

ORDINANCE NO. 366

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR AN ELECTION TO BE HELD FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF A PROPOSITION AUTHORIZING THE BRONTE 4A ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION TO TRANSFER FUNDS TO THE BRONTE 4B ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION TO BE USED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE RENOVATION OF THE PARK SWIMMING POOL AND PAVING OF CITY STREETS ON THE THIRD SATURDAY OF MAY, 2004, IN THE CITY OF BRONTE TEXAS.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 11th day of March, 2004, by the following recorded vote: Councilmembers Voting "AYE": Boyd, Rolls, Sandusky and Sonnenberg
Councilmembers Voting "Nay": None

Martin Lee,
Mayor
ATTEST: Pat Martindale,
City Secretary
34-1tc

PUBLIC NOTICE

The City Council of the City of Bronte, Texas, posts this notice in compliance with 28 C.F.R. 51.28 (g) as follows:

On March 11, 2004, at a duly called Council meeting, the City Council ordered a Special Election to be held on May 15, 2005. The Special Election will be to authorize the Bronte 4A Economic Development Corporation to transfer funds to the Bronte 4B Economic Development Corporation to be used to participate in the renovation of the park swimming pool and paving of city streets. As required, the Election was submitted on March 17, 2004, to the United States Attorney General for preclearance consideration. Copies of the Order of Election and preclearance submission are available for public review during business hours at the City Hall located at 114 South Washington, Bronte, Texas. Any Persons wishing to make comments for consideration of the United States Attorney General may submit such comments to:

Chief, Voting Section
Civil Rights Division
Room 7254-NWB
Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530
34-1tc

Send your news in through the internet.

Email:
CokeCoObserver@aol.com

Please send articles in the body of the email and photos as a jpeg attachment.

NOTICIA PUBLICO

El ayuntamiento de la Ciudad de Bronte, Tejas, anuncia esta nota de acuerdo con 28 C. F. R. 51.28 (g) de la siguiente manera:

En el 11 de marzo de 2004, en un llama debidamente el Concilio la reunion, el ayuntamiento ordeno que una Eleccion Especial ser tenida en el 15 de mayo de 2004. La Eleccion Especial sere de autorizar el Bronte 4A la Corporacion Economica del Desarrollo a transferir los fondos al Bronte 4B la Corporacion Economica del Desarrollo para ser utilizada para tomar parte en la renovacion del piscina del parque y pavimentar de calles de ciudad. Como requerido, la Eleccion se sometio en el 17 de marzo de 2004, al Ministro de justicia de Estados Unidos para la consideracion de preclearance. Las copias de la Orden de la sumision de la Eleccion y preclearance esten disponibles para la revision publica durante horas de negocio en el municipalidad localizo en 114 Washington del sur, Bronte, Tejas. Cualquier persona que desea hacer los comentarios para la consideracion del Ministro de justicia de Estados Unidos pueden someterse tan comentarios a:

El jefe la Seccion Electoral la Division Civil de Derechos se Aloja el Departamento de 7254 NWB de la Justicia
950 Avenida de Pennsylvania,
NO Washington, DC 20530
34-1tc

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Invited to Attend 2nd Stakeholders, Meeting on TMDL Project on April 12, 2004 in Ballinger

This 2nd stakeholders' meeting will provide citizens of Coke and Runnels counties with an opportunity to be informed and offer input on the current Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) project.

A 66-mile portion of the Upper Colorado below E.V. Spence Reservoir has high concentrations of chloride and total dissolved solids. The state environmental agency - the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) - has contracted EA Engineering, Science & Technology, Inc. (EA) to initiate the TMDL study.

A public meeting on the project will be held on Monday April 12, 2004, from 7-9 pm in the Council Chambers at City Hall 700 Railroad Avenue, Ballinger, Texas. At the meeting, EA and their subcontractor Louis Berger Group, Inc will review the sources assessment and discuss the technical approach to modeling. A data results presentation will be given and an overview of the next phase will be discussed. The TCEQ and EA will formally discuss the data results and modeling with the Stakeholder Group, and encourage comments and input from the public.

Keep Colorado City Beautiful

The Keep Colorado City Beautiful Committee (KCCB) Home and Garden Show 2004 is attracting extraordinary attention from both vendors and area residents. "With vendors coming from as far away as Skitook, OK, Houston, TX, and various points in between, we see success on the horizon," says Ms. Dakan, Vice President of KCCB. "We believe the purpose of this show, to make individuals aware of products that are available for upgrading and beautifying their property, is the key. On-site sales are not the goal - disseminating information is. Most merchants will not have items for delivery at

the show but will be there to show their products and discuss ideas and problems facing homeowners as well as the options available for their resolution."

The show will be open from 9 am to 6 pm on Saturday, March 20th and again from 12 noon to 5 pm on Sunday, March 21st at the Railhead Building in downtown Colorado City.

There will be between 50 and 60 participating vendors at Home and Garden Show 2004 which is strong evidence of the vendor interest.

"Vendors with everything that you may need for your home from the time you decide to purchase or rent a home until you have sold it or moved out have been invited. For instance, you may need assistance in purchasing the home: lenders will be present. You may need to make repairs at various times: roofing, plumbing, electrical, paint, etc., vendors will have displays. If you want to undertake larger projects, interior decorators will be present to help with decorating ideas and suggestions. If your yard a concern? Visit the landscape firms, seed companies, nurseries, etc., and ask for ideas and guidance on plant selections.

There will be six door prizes. Tickets will be available at the KCCB information booth at no cost. Winners need not be present to win.

Ms. Dakan stressed that the "show is being presented in an effort to help beautify Colorado City, Mitchell County and neighboring towns. We simply want people to take the time to come and discuss ideas for improving their property. As these ideas are implemented, the appearance of our area will benefit. We do not expect overnight results. It will take time, but I believe an effort now by a few will inspire efforts by many."

Proclamation

WHEREAS the week of March 14 to 20, 2004 is National Agriculture Week in Texas, as proclaimed by Texas Agriculture Commissioner Susan Combs, and

WHEREAS, agriculture starts with the growing and harvesting of food and fiber and ends with almost everything we eat, wear and use, and

WHEREAS, we all must appreciate the role agriculture plays in providing a safe, abundant and affordable food, horticulture and fiber supply now and for years to come, and

WHEREAS, increased knowledge of agriculture and nutrition allows us to make healthier food choices for ourselves and for our families; and

WHEREAS, Texas agriculture is not just producing abundant food, horticulture and fiber, but is producing higher quality items that continue to meet the ever-increasing needs of consumers throughout Texas and around the world, and

WHEREAS, Texas agriculture produces wholesome nutritious foods that give us a multitude of healthy menu choices and access to fresh meat, grains and produce, and

WHEREAS, Texas agriculture builds upon centuries of progress by making constant advances in science, research, technology, production and marketing to meet changing consumer demands, and

WHEREAS, the Lone Star State leads the nation in the number of farms and ranches, with almost 80 percent of the land involved in some form of agricultural production - including livestock, crops, aquaculture,

horticulture and forestry, and WHEREAS, Texas agriculture produces large quantities of high quality food and fiber, and plays a major role in health and nutrition as well as in water conservation, rural economic development, global trade and the preservation of the environment, and

WHEREAS, an awareness of the impact that agriculture has on our daily lives helps us understand the vital stake that we all have in Texas' second-largest industry, and

WHEREAS, agriculture plays a key role in the lives of everyone in this county. Now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the County Judge of Coke County declares this National Agriculture Week in Coke County, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County Judge urges everyone in our area to learn more about the role of agriculture here, share that knowledge with the young people in our area, and recognize the farmers, ranchers and their families who contribute so much to this county, this state, this nation and the world.

THEREFORE, IN OFFICIAL RECOGNITION WHEREOF, I, the undersigned do hereby affix my signature this 16th day of March, 2004.

Roy Blair,
Coke County Judge
Appreciation

by Mary Williams

I had a startling insight recently. Happiness is not dependent on what or how much we have. Happiness is dependent on how much we appreciate all that we have. I came to this insight after trying to figure out why I am happier in Robert Lee than I have been anywhere else. We left a fine home, wonderful family and dear friends in San Angelo to move here. It could have been devastating, but it wasn't. For me, it has been a life altering uplifting experience. My only explanation for this is that at some moment in the process of moving, somehow I was given, the unique and precious gift of being able to appreciate so many wonderful qualities this town holds, things like the warmth and kindness of the people here, the school, the church, the mountains, the wildlife, the sunsets, the Sanco Loop, and the night sky. The list could go on and on.

Psychologist Dr. Wayne Dyer says that if we do not appreciate everything we have we will lose it. I would take it a step further. I believe that if we do not show our appreciation for what we have, we are in danger of losing it. (That may be why I write these articles!) So many relationships have fallen by the wayside because appreciation was

not shown. So much time has been wasted because we fail to appreciate every moment of our lives. Dreams go unrealized because we fail to appreciate them as visions.

There are so many ways to show appreciation. One way to show appreciation for our possessions is by caring for them. Changing out the oil shows we appreciate having a vehicle that runs. Polishing fine wood shows that we appreciate the beauty of the grain. But more important is how we show appreciation for one another. One of the first phrases we teach our children is "Thank you", and yet sometimes I feel perhaps we do not use it enough ourselves. Try telling your spouse or children "I appreciate you!" and see what happens. Words very often fall short though, and real appreciation can be shown best in the form of actions. The actual act of counting our blessings shows that we realize and appreciate how truly blessed we are. A hug is an example (my favorite) of a very basic and wonderful show of appreciation. But sometimes it takes more than a hug, or a simple thank you, sometimes it takes a positive show of support.

It is true of possessions, and in relationships and even with politics. If we do not make the effort to show appreciation for what we have, we sometimes lose what is most important to us. The words of Joni Mitchell's song "Big Yellow Taxi" sum it up quite well. "Don't it always seem to go that you don't know what you've got 'till it's gone!"

Looking back on my life, this has been a recurring theme, like a piano lesson that has to be played over and over again to get it right. Maybe this time, with the gift I was given in moving to Robert Lee, maybe this time I have learned the lesson and can get it right.

Texas Folklife Festival slated for June

What better way to travel the world in four days than to visit the 33rd annual Texas Folklife Festival! Mark your calendar for June 10-13, 2004, at the Institute of Texan Cultures in downtown San Antonio; savor authentic international cuisine, delight in the music and colorful costumes of the finest entertainers, and browse through the arts and crafts market.

The Festival runs 5-11 p.m., Thursday, June 10, and Friday, June 11; noon-11 p.m., Saturday, June 12; and noon- 9 p.m., Sunday, June 13.

Group and other discounts are also available. To order advance tickets (May 1-June 1) visit www.texasfolklifestival.org, or write to Texas Folklife Festival, 801 S. Bowie St., San Antonio, Texas, 78205-3296, or for more information call 210-458-2390.

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Exciting history of Fort Chadbourne told in novel by local writer

The exciting history of Fort Chadbourne has helped create an exciting tale. Karla Aldridge - Hamrick has blended fiction with history and family legacies in her first novel, *From Captive to Captain*. Captain Gemes Blair commands the fort in the pre-Civil War era while his brother, Jeff, acts as a U.S. scout. A unique and ironic relationship develops between a Comanche Chief, Red

Horse, and the entire Blair clan, including Gemes' daughter, Rebecca.

This work of fiction targets the whole family as an audience; so don't miss it.

Orders are now being taken for this book at 453-4780 or 473-5311. The book will be released May 14th.

Abilene Arts & Crafts Festival set March 20-21

The 13th annual Abilene Arts and Crafts Festival will be held March 20th and 21st

in the Abilene Civic Center. Artists and crafters from throughout the Southwest will fill the foyer and main exhibit hall with original art, limited edition prints and handcrafted items. Hours for the festival are Saturday from 10 am to 6 pm and Sunday from noon to 5 pm. There is no admission charge.

City Wide Garage Sale scheduled

The Sorosis Study Club will be sponsoring the City Wide Garage Sale Saturday, May 1st. It has been a huge success in

years past, and we would encourage everyone to participate in the City Wide Garage Sale.

If you are planning to have a garage sale on May 1st, you need to call Pat Martindale at City Hall 473-3501, or Marilyn Bivins At 473-6791.

If you have a few items that you would like to donate to the Sorosis Club's Garage Sale, we would truly appreciate it. All of our proceeds goes to Friends Of The Pool and to high school scholarships. Remember to mark your calendars for May 1st.

Pancake Supper set for Sterling City

A Pancake Supper, with donations benefiting the Sterling City Senior Citizens Center, will be held Saturday, April 3, 2004, from 6 to 8 pm at the Sterling Community Center.

Other activities set for the event include Bingo from 3 to 6 pm; a Pancake Eating Contest at 5:30; and presentation and raffle drawing at 8 pm.

Music will be provided by D. J. Tracey Potcox of Brady. On the griddle will be the "Pancake Kid", Wesley Turner.

Call Nell Castro at 325-277-9137 or 325-378-4400 for more information.

1:27 p.m. Friday



Weathering another storm together.

Thanks west Texas! AEP wants to thank the electric consumers in our service territory and supply you with some important facts about the recent storms that swept through our area. AEP crews restored power to over 22,000 electric consumers following the recent storms and, in doing so, repaired or replaced over 85 transmission structures (the big ones) and nearly 100 distribution poles (the smaller ones). Most of the repairs were completed and consumers back in power within 24 hours.

Thank you to those who put in long hours! AEP is grateful for the dedication shown by our employees, contractors and their families. From the start, dozens of AEP employees and contractors worked long hours to support the restoration effort. We appreciate their resolve in getting the job done swiftly and, more importantly, safely.

Most of all, thank you to the electricity consumers in our service area! As always, we greatly appreciate your patience, understanding and kind words. Outages such as these can be very trying for everyone, but you can rest assured AEP is committed to providing you with safe, reliable electric service.

AEP employees – your friends and neighbors for years – have the know-how, experience and resources to get any size job done! No matter whom your Retail Electric Provider is, AEP is there to deliver your electricity, as well as maintain and repair the electric system when Mother Nature decides to act up.

When it comes to restoring your power, **AEP is there, always working for you.**

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For more information
visit aepcustomer.com.