

THE OBSERVER/ ENTERPRISE

Serving Coke & Sterling Counties

Single Copy 50¢



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

Vol. 117, No. 18

Friday, November 19, 2004

Sterling and Coke Counties blessed with the wet stuff

by Hal Spain, Publisher

Following several years of drought, it seems like Coke and Sterling Counties are trying to make up for it all in the same year.

We have not reported on the good rains the past several weeks due to the variability of the amounts in different locations. However, with the rainy spell that began this weekend, everybody has been blessed with the wet stuff.

A slow moving low pressure system coming from the west and southwest has deposited a general three inch rain over a period of several days, as of presstime Tuesday.

Additionally, we have at least one report from Bronte of over 40 inches of accumulated rainfall this year to date, which is more than double our annual total of 18 or so inches. Some of the eastern parts of the county may have received even more, but we have not received any other reports of rainfall totals to date.

I suspect that the west side of the county and Sterling County are somewhere in the 30-35 inch total to date, but as we stated previously, I have no confirmed totals so far to support those figures.

If you have any credible rainfall totals for your part of Coke or Sterling County, give us a call at 453-2433, let us know, and we'll print them in succeeding issues.

Whatever the totals are in your area this year, they can only be described as "wonderful". As I sit at my computer on a rainy Tuesday, I can't think of a thing this might be hurting. We do have a few cotton acres in the county, and some of the big farmers south of us in Tom Green County and to the east are worrying about when they're going to get their cotton out. This may be the year they have to do what we did when I was a kid and wait for Mother Nature to send us a hard freeze. In fact, I can remember during the days of limited cotton

trailers, that you would start stripping after the first freeze and fill up what cotton trailers you had, then wait to get them back from the gin so you could strip another trailer load. Sometimes cotton stripping season lasted into February during the good old days before module builders replaced the cotton trailer.

The only downside to these excellent rainfall reports is that the county lakes have to date gained no significant runoff to increase their very meager lake levels. Hopefully, we'll get some more running water during this spell and have some good news to report next week concerning lake levels.

Sterling County Hunter's Appreciation Dinner

The annual Sterling County Hunter's Appreciation Dinner will be held on Saturday, November 20, 2004, at 6:00 pm. The event will be held at the Sterling County Community Center. A brisket fajita supper with all the trimmings will be served. The cost will be \$5.00 per plate, and the public is encouraged to attend.

One dollar raffle tickets will be sold for the chance to win 25 guns. Guns will be raffled that evening, but you do not have to be present to win.

Local and area businesses will also have booths available. For more information contact the Sterling County Extension Office at (325) 378-3181.

Bronte and Sterling City post District 10-A all-district selections

The District 10-A all-district football picks have been announced by the coaches, and are included below:

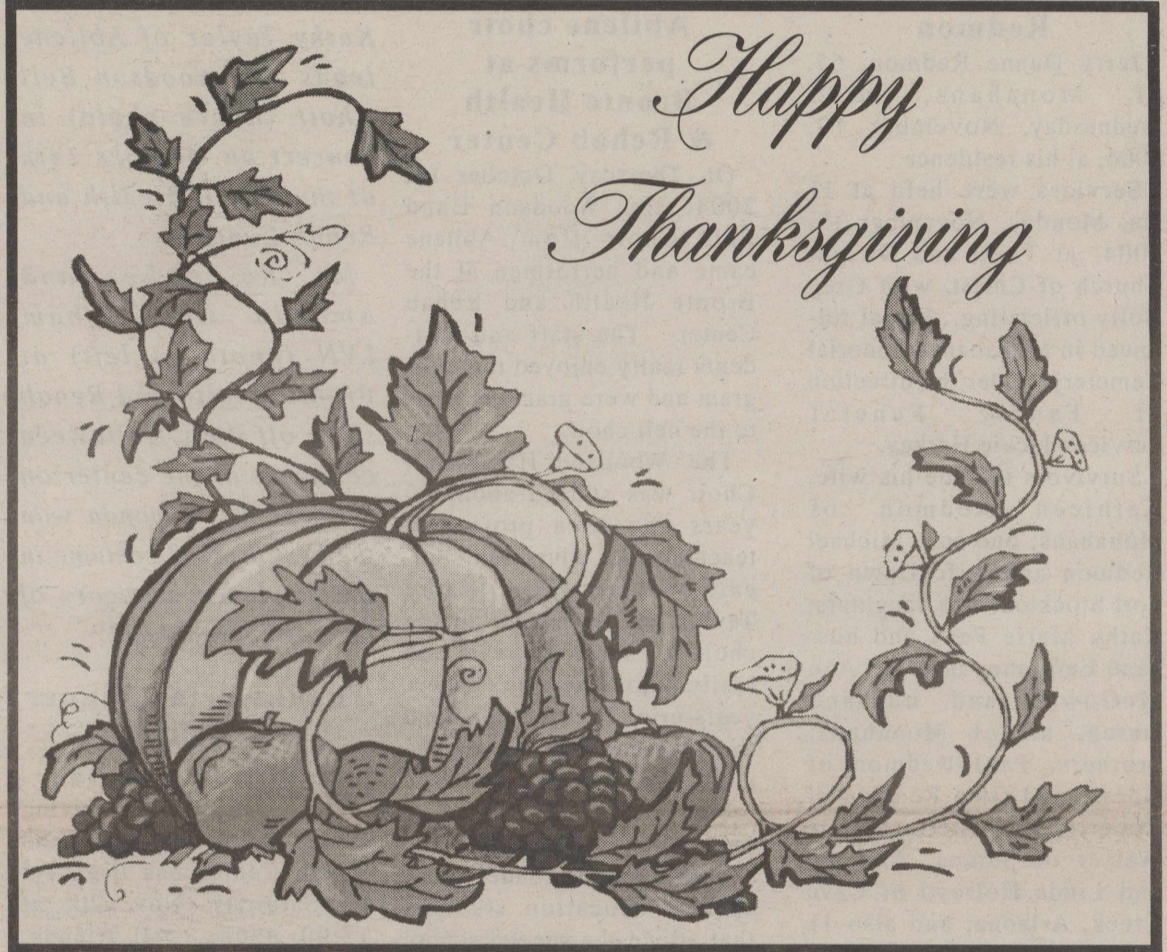
Sterling City

First Team Offense - Chris Crooks, Utility Back

Second Team Offense - Joshua Fitchett, Quarterback; Brian Crooks, Utility Back; Colton Long, Tackle

First Team Defense - Cole Hord, Safety; Colton Long, End

Second Team Defense - Caleb Gressett, Lineman; Seth Havlak, Linebacker



Honorable Mention Defense - Haven Martin, Newcomer; Joshua Fitchett, Linebacker; Chris Crooks, Linebacker

Honorable Mention Offense - Cole Hord, Wide Receiver

Bronte

Offense - Newcomer of the Year - Logan Rawls, Soph.

Second Team Offense - Jaylon Saunders, Jr. Running Back; Cody Moore, Sr. Fullback; Garrett Jackson, Sr. Wide Receiver; Justin Frazee, Sr. Lineman

First Team Defense - Jaylon Saunders, Jr. Secondary

Second Team Defense - Blaine Dyess, Sr. Lineman; Curtis Moore, Jr. Linebacker; Garrett Jackson, Sr. Secondary

Congratulations to these outstanding young men and their success during the just completed football season.

Blackwell Fall Festival slated

The Blackwell United Methodist Church will be hosting a Fall Festival, Saturday, November 20, beginning at 9:00 am. Baked goods and crafts will be for sale.

Barbecue with all of the

fixings will be served from 11:00 - 2:00. They will also have chances for a queen size handmade quilt with the drawing at 2:00 that day. The festival is at the Blackwell United Methodist Church in Blackwell. For cost of barbecue or other information, call Heather Sanderson at 282-2214.

Early Deadline

The Observer/Enterprise will print early next week; so everyone local will have their paper by at least Friday. That means that all ad copy and news items will have to be in our office by Monday, November 22

The newspaper office, as usual, will be closed Thursday and Friday for the Thanksgiving holidays. We hope you and yours have a wonderful Thanksgiving weekend.

Bronte Community Thanksgiving Service

The Ministerial Fellowship in Bronte is sponsoring this year's Community Thanksgiving Service. This service will be held Sunday, November 21, at the Central Baptist Church. The service will begin at 7:00 p.m. Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend and par-

ticipate in this special time of coming together as a community to worship and give thanks to God. Central Baptist pastor, Tim White, will bring a Thanksgiving message. The program will also include congregational singing, special music, and Scripture reading. A report will be given concerning the work and ministry of the Community Chest Fund. An offering will be taken for the Community Chest. Following the service a time of informal fellowship and refreshments will be available in the church's fellowship hall.

Holiday Closings announced

The Robert Lee, Sterling City, and Bronte City Halls will be closed Thursday and Friday, November 25-26, in observance of the Thanksgiving Holiday. Also closed next Thursday and Friday are the Coke and Sterling County Courthouses. The Robert Lee landfill will be closed Saturday, November 27. Friday trash service in Robert Lee will run as scheduled. Robert Lee customers who need assistance during the holiday may call the City Hall to reach the answering service.

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.**

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Per Year in Coke & Sterling Counties.....\$20.00
Per Year Elsewhere in Texas.....\$22.00
Per Year Outside of Texas.....\$25.00

Death Notices

Redmon

Jerry Duane Redmon, 65, of Monahans, died Wednesday, November 10, 2004, at his residence.

Services were held at 11 am, Monday, November 15, 2004, at Third and Dwight Church of Christ, with Greg Holly officiating. Burial followed in Monahans Memorial Cemetery, under the direction of Family Funeral Services/Jackie Harkey.

Survivors include his wife, Kathleen Redmon of Monahans; one son, Michael Redmon and wife Dawn of Fort Stockton; two daughters; Kathy Marie Pena and husband Emiliano, and Jerri Ann McGowan and husband Daren, all of Monahans; brothers, Paul Redmon of Odessa and Glen Redmon of Robert Lee; sisters, Myrtle Weiser of Tempe, Arizona, and Linda Holroyd of Cave Creek, Arizona; and also 11 grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Taylor

Idos Parrish Taylor, 81, of San Angelo, died Tuesday, Nov. 9, 2004, in Robert Lee Care Center. A memorial service will be held Friday, November 19, at 10:30 am at Chadbourne North Church of Christ in San Angelo.

Survivors include daughters Connie Motley of San Angelo and Patricia McCrohan of Lockhart; and sisters Maggie Prentice of Abilene and JoAnn Hays of Clovis, New Mexico.

Service was under the direction of Shaffer Funeral Home.

Baker

Boyd Allen Baker, 66, of Bronte died Wednesday November 10, 2004, at his residence. Graveside services were held at 2 pm Wednesday, November 17, at Fairview cemetery in Bronte. Visitation was held from 7 pm to 8 pm Tuesday, November 16, at Shaffer Funeral Home. Arrangements were by Shaffer Funeral Home.

Survivors include his five stepchildren; Marion Muller of Germany, Thomas Harves of Oak Creek, Colorado, Michael Harves of Port Arthur, Texas, Shannon Harves of Enid, Oklahoma,

and Terry McQueen of Bronte, Texas. He is also survived by one brother and one sister.

Abilene choir performs at Bronte Health & Rehab Center

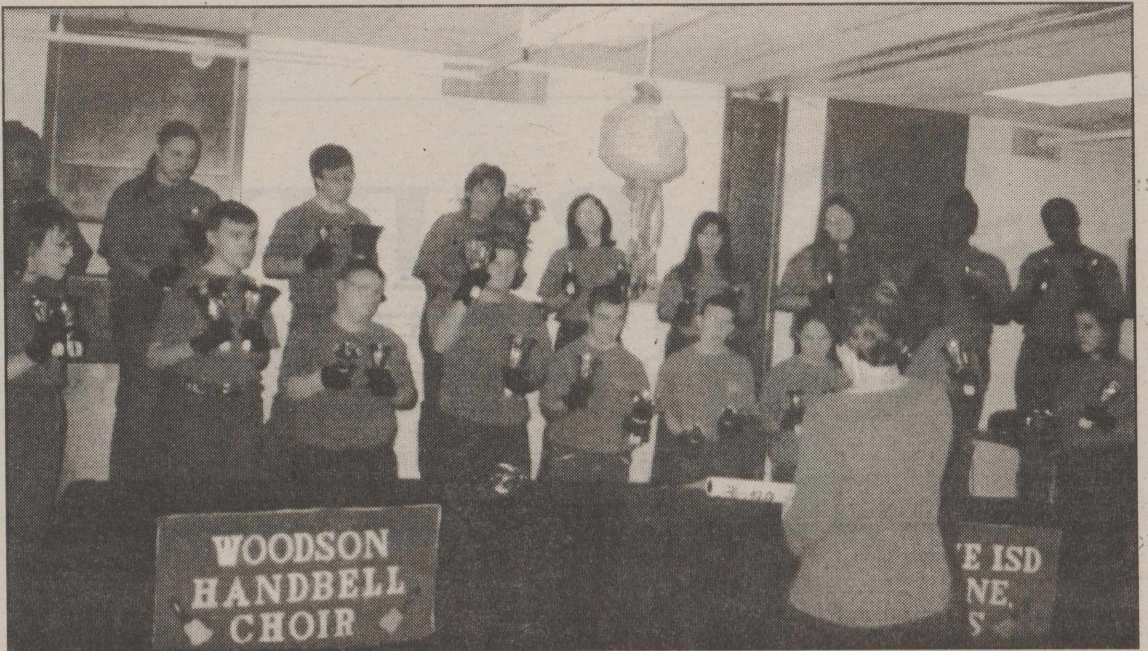
On Thursday, October 14, 2004, the Woodson Hand Bell Choir from Abilene came and performed at the Bronte Health and Rehab Center. The staff and residents really enjoyed this program and were gracious hosts to the bell choir.

The Woodson Hand Bell Choir was started about 25 years ago as a project to teach special education students music. Mrs. Kathy Taylor has been leading the choir for some 18 years and really enjoys her job. A few years prior to that she helped the original founder of the choir and just fell into the job as director after the original teacher retired.

This choir is made up of special education students that attend the special school in Abilene called the Woodson Skill Center. Students go to school half a day and then job coaches take them to different job sites and help them to learn skills to be more able to better themselves in life and help them to successfully be able to apply, get and perform a job upon graduating from high school. These students are allowed to stay in school through the age of 22, however, the choir consists of students as young as 13.

You may wonder how Mrs. Kathy Taylor is able to teach these students to play such good music, like the theme song of the 1970's movie Ice Castles. Well, the teachers have composed long strips of vinyl with a series of letters on the sheet. These letters are all different colors to help the students to best know what note to play and when it is time to play their bell.

Finally, the students put in many long hours of practice each week and thus play excellent music. Our nursing home residents felt as if they were in a large concert hall such as the San Angelo City Auditorium or the Bass Hall in Ft. Worth. It was absolutely wonderful.



Bronte Health & Rehab Center Activities! Mrs. Kathy Taylor of Abilene leads the Woodson Bell Choir (above photo) in concert on October 14th at the Bronte Health and Rehab Center.

Mr. Royce Lee and Amanda Cunningham LVN (photo at left) at Bronte Health and Rehab show off their Halloween costumes at the center on October 29. Amanda won the best dressed costume in the employee category of the costume contest.

Thanksgiving Dinner set for Bronte Health and Rehab

The annual Thanksgiving Dinner for Bronte Health and Rehab Center has been set for Saturday, Nov. 20, at 12:00 noon. All friends, family members, and volunteers are cordially invited to attend.

All guests are asked to bring a side dish or dessert.



Area Churches
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

Central Baptist Church
324 S. 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
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. Larry Tianen
Sun. 10:00 am Sunday School
11:00 m 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
Rev. Richard Easterling, Pastor
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
(325) 453-2208
Rev. Irene Ford, Pastor
Sun. 9:45 am, Sunday School
10:45 am & 6 pm, Worship
Wed. 6 pm, Prayer Meeting

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2.70% APY

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Minimum deposit \$5,000

* Annual Percentage Yield (APY)
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McCutchen named to Red River All-Conference Team

College freshman setter Britney McCutchen of Bronte has been named to the all-conference first team for volleyball. McCutchen attends the University of Texas of the Permian Basin.

Diva for a Day update

Robert Lee businesses are reporting that they are beginning to receive nominations for the Diva for a Day Contest. The Diva will be named on Friday, December 3, which is the Christmas Open House Day in Robert Lee. It has been reported that Santa Claus will also stop over at the Courthouse on Friday afternoon after school.

Nominations for Diva for a Day will be received until November 24. To nominate a favorite female, clip the coupon from the Observer/Enterprise and attach to it a 250 word nomination and present the nomination to a participating Robert Lee business. All Coke County residents are eligible to be nominated.

The Diva will receive breakfast, a massage, beauty treatments, lunch, a basket full of treasures from Robert Lee businesses, dinner, Bryan's Barn, and coffee and cheesecake at the end of the day. She will be escorted about in a car from Ivey Motor Company.

Shopping at home is a way to express appreciation to local business folks who are called upon daily to support events held by local schools, churches, and organizations. They do so graciously and frequently. The Diva for a Day Contest is no exception to the many times that local businesses contribute to the quality of life experienced in rural communities.

Shalon Gibbs gives Sorosis Club program

Shalon Gibbs of Shalon's Gifts & Flowers gave the November program to the members of the Bronte Sorosis Club. Shalon had Debra England to help her in the presentation. The club members enjoyed the decorating ideas that Shalon presented as well as the gift ideas. Traditions are important to a family at Christmas time.

The Sorosis Club will help with the Bronte School Book Fair which will be the week of Dec. 6-10. Also, the Sorosis Club will help the Chamber of Commerce with Christmas in Ole Bronte in the evening of Dec. 6. Mrs. Lawhon will read Polar Express to the pajama clad children in the lobby of the Bronte Bank. Club members will serve hot chocolate to the children.

The Christmas Party for the club will be on December 9 in the Fellowship Hall of the First Baptist Church. Food and presents were discussed.

The Coke County Food Bank sent a nice Thank You note to the



New Ballinger City Commissioner! Darlene Gower, right, is administered the oath of office as a City Commissioner, Single Member District #3, by the Ballinger City Secretary. Darlene was appointed to fill out the term at a special meeting of the City Council Friday, November 5. Darlene is the daughter of Bessie Brice of Robert Lee.

Sorosis Club thanking them for their donation of money.

Refreshments were served to: new member Janet Hickman, visitors: Kay Styles, Glenda Draper, Shalon Gibbs, and Debra England. Members that were present were: Swan Archinal, Marilyn Bivins, Celia Bowden, Jean Fancher, Mary Frances Glenn, Mary Glenn, Joan Lightfoot, Diane Lockett, Earline Moore, Fredna Moore, LouAnna Peters, Charlotte Tounget, Jane Wheat and Janet Wommack.

Bronte students compete at HSU

On Saturday, November 6, Bronte Math and Science students traveled to Hardin-Simmons University in Abilene for a practice contest.

The following students competed, with the results posted below:

Stephen Tomes-Calculator; Alonzo Martinez-Science; Juston Taylor-Calculator; Cody Wallace-Science; Paul McConnell-Math, Science; Beth Sanchez-Number Sense, Calculator; Gus Saunders-Calculator; Israel Cecilio-

Math; Crystal Minjarez-Calculator; Matt Allen-Math, Science; Kimberly Womack-Math; Eddie May-Math; Bill Miller-Number Sense, Math, Science; Jacob Scott-Science; Shelbi Waller-Calculator, Science; Rob Rosson-Science; 10th grade Science-Alonzo Martinez-7th place; 10th grade Calculator-Juston Taylor-9th place; 7th grade Science-Bill Miller-10th place.

Central Baptist continues series

Central Baptist Church in Bronte is continuing the Celebrate Recovery program with eight sermons on spiritual growth and recovery from hurts, habits and hangups. The sermons are being presented each Sunday morning during the 11 am worship service.

Volunteers who are familiar with 12-step programs are needed to be trained as leaders in a 12-step program focusing on Jesus Christ as the Higher Power. The Celebrate Recovery meetings will begin in December.

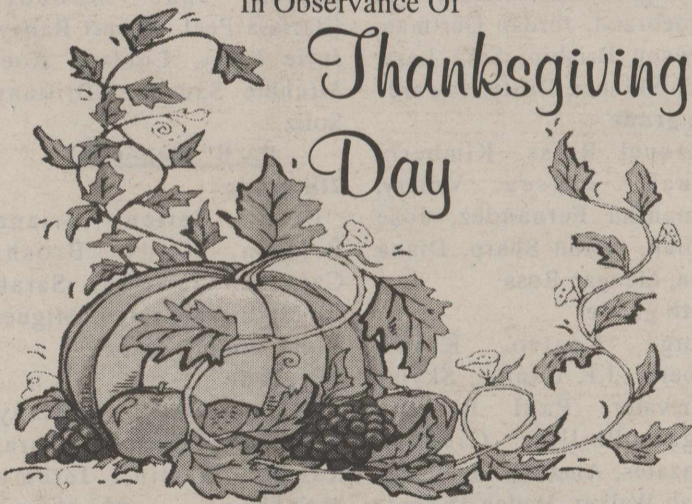
For more information, call Pastor Tim White at 473-4811.

HOLIDAY CLOSING NOTICE

All facilities of these banks will be **CLOSED Thursday, November 25.**

In Observance Of

Thanksgiving Day



Please plan your banking requirements during regular banking hours to avoid any inconvenience.

Robert Lee State Bank
First National Bank in Bronte

Member FDIC
453-2545
Robert Lee, TX

Member FDIC
473-2911
Bronte, TX

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 11/17 Thru 11/30
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Grade A
Premium Quality
Moist & Juicy
w/PopUp Timer

Shurfine Turkey

Lb. **\$.39**

Limit 1
First one at 39¢/lb.
with an additional \$15
purchase (excludes tobacco
products).
Thereafter 59¢ Lb.

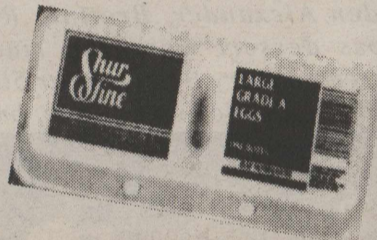
Corn King Boneless
Whole Ham

4 Lb.
Net
Weight **\$4.99**

Shurfine Grade A

Large Eggs

1 1/2
doz.
ctn. **\$.99**



Gold Medal All Purpose

Flour

5 Lb.
Bag **\$.79**



Garden Fresh

Crisp Celery
3/\$1

Select Group Oven Fresh
Cherry, Peach, Pumpkin or Apple

Sara Lee Pies

2 ³⁷⁻⁴⁰ / \$4
oz.

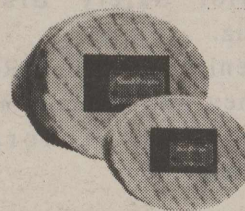


Brown'n Serve Rolls
12 ct. **\$.79**

Shank Portion • Bone In

Cook's Ham
Lb. **\$1.19**

Butt Portion • \$1.39/Lb.



ROBERT LEE SCHOOL NEWS



Robert Lee FCCLA! The Robert Lee Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America had a busy time during October. They began by hosting the October birthday party at Robert Lee Care Center (above photo). Members wore their Halloween costumes and served punch and cookies to the residents. They enjoyed visiting with the residents and entertaining them. Their sponsor is Sheri Millican. RLCC residents shown include Augusta Higginbotham, Mary May Wylie, Mable Lynch, and Sylvia Tinkler.

Next was the annual trick-or-treating for canned goods and other food items. Members went door to door collecting items to give to the Coke County Food Bank. After collecting these items, members returned to the school for pizza and gross goodies. They also enjoyed a few contests. The winner of the guessing game was Kyla Millican. Best Costumes were Brettanie Reed, Stacey Denton and Dixie Johnson. Winners of most food items were Becca Skinner, Jaden Alexander, Brettanie Reed, Ashley James, and Sarah Philley. The best gross dessert was dirt, made by Dixie Johnson. The next day the FCCLA presented Mary Bessent over 500 items for the food bank (photo below). The members enjoyed the trick-or-treating, but it was our community who made it a success!



District 8-A Sixman All District selections announced

Robert Lee High School Freshman Cameron Hodge was named District 8-A Sixman Newcomer of the Year.

The only other Steer named to the First Team was Junior Brandon Soliz as quarterback.

Offensive Second Team selections included Senior Running Back Omar Saucedo and Junior Tight End Josh Conner.

Defensive Second Team selections included Junior Lineman Lance Millican, Freshman Cornerback Cameron Hodge, and Junior Safety Brandon Soliz.

Senior Tight End Robert Raney was selected as All District Honorable Mention.

Robert Lee School awards 2nd Six Weeks Perfect Attendance

Kindergarten

Gabriel Abalos, Asya Mazmanyman, Kandace Skipworth, Meghan Bohannon, Nicole Jones, Casey Scruggs

1st grade

Brady Clawson, Brandon Torres, Bailey Hooten, Ben Allen, Chris Ford, Hunter Hamrick, Blaine Yanez, Justice Saucedo, Ryan Paterson, Sandra Hubbard, Hayden O'Neil, Rani Coppedge, Julia Madrid, Jesus Landeros

2nd grade

Tristen Hildebrand, James Roberts, Bridger Netting, Jaden Aldridge, Daria Tinkler

3rd grade

Sydney Sheldon, Jacob Torres, Taylor Sheldon, Efrain Olguin, Ciera Millican, Hanna Hamrick, Alexis Mendoza, Kevin

Saucedo, Berenice Fabian, Shelby Davis, Will Howard

4th grade

Zachary Sanchez, Cooper Hinderliter, Makenna Netting, Justin Gartman, Sean Hildebrand, Jordan Gartman, Dawson Brisbin, Sara Lara, Zach Skinner, Dusty Howard

5th grade

Raquel Rojas, Kimberly Roach, Linsey Vallery, Samantha Fernandez, Jose Fabian, Aaron Sharp, Diana Vera, Meagan Ross

Sixth grade

Jorge Rostro, Kacey Roberts, J.P. Conner, Skyler Rainwater, Paul Pineda, Logan Philley, Gregory Gonzales, Amanda Mendoza, Sarah Walker, Haden Dillard, Luke Sheldon, Connie Saucedo, Heidi Austin, Dustin Brown

Honor Roll

3rd grade

Hanna Hamrick, William Howard, Ciera Millican

4th grade

Jordan Gartman, Justin



Coke County 4-H Food Show! The Coke County 4-H food show was held recently. Those participating were: Intermediate: Emilee Yanez, Senior: Ashley Sawyer, Juniors: Meagan Ross and Megan Yackley. These 4-H'ers will represent Coke County at the district food in Abilene.

Gartman, Patty King, Zachary Sanchez, Ashlie Wheat

5th grade

Linsey Arellano, Kimberly Roach, Raquel Rojas, Meagan Ross

6th grade

Heidi Austin, Haden Dillard, Kacey Roberts, Luke Sheldon

7th grade

Emily Arellano, Aaron James, Stetson Nesbit

8th grade

Holly Austin, Kaden Duncan, Mason Ross, Cori Torres

9th grade

Molly Burns, Chase Roe, Anna Rojas, Kasie Skinner

10th grade

Katie Bessent, Kelsy Duncan, Dixie Johnson, Cody McCabe, Casey Nesbit, Erica O'Neil, Sarah Philley, Brettanie Reed, Rosa Rojas, Rebecca Skinner

11th grade

Amanda Thurman, Stephanie Trejo, Carolina Vera, Cassidy Wink

12th grade

Cody Bridges, Kayli Dickey, Ashley James, Pablo Juarez, Jake McCabe, Clarissa Peel, Robert Raney, Julie Riley, Lindsey Roe, Michele Sanchez, Brittany Soliz

"A/B" Honor roll

7th grade

Devin Batten, Briana Brisbin, Cody Brosh, Cayetano Carrera, Sarah Jones, Erika Percy, Miguel Perez, Emilee Yanez

8th grade

Garrett Blair, Brittany Cleveland, Prescilla Lara, Kelsey Martin, Jeremy Martinez, Michael Rodriguez, Norma Rojas, Jimmy Womack

9th grade

Cody Denton, Brody Dillard, Briana Longoria, Megan Percifull, Taylor Percifull, Andrea Pineda

10th grade

Jaden Alexander, Tony

Munoz, Eleazar Vera

11th grade

Cara Eaton, Christan Kelly, Kyla Millican, Lance Millican

12th grade

Wade Arledge, Veronica Cerritos, Stacey Denton, Yolanda Olguin, Shelby Sailer

Perfect attendance

7th grade

Emily Arellano, Jennifer Barrett, Cayetano Carrera, Molli Hinderliter, Sarah Jones, Piedad Juarez, Nancy Landeros, Blake Millican, Erika Percy, Colton Reed, Rebecka Saucedo, Emilee Yanez

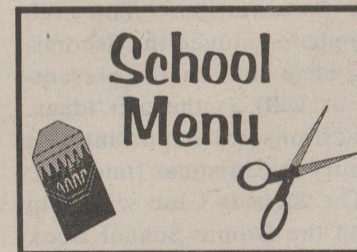
8th grade

Holly Austin, Kaden Duncan, Kelsey Martin, Jeremy Martinez, Arrin Minjarez, Olga Perez, Michael Rodriguez, Jodi Shelton, Cori Torres

9th grade

Brody Dillard, Briana Longoria, Taylor Percifull, Megan Percifull, Andrea Pineda, Michael Roe, Anna Rojas, Kasie Skinner

Continued on Page 5



School Menu

Breakfast

Monday, Nov. 22

Juice, muffin, cereal, milk

Tuesday, Nov. 23

Juice, burrito, cereal, milk

Wed.-Friday, Nov. 24-26

Holidays

Lunch

Monday, Nov. 22

Pizza, corn, salad, applesauce, teddy grahams, milk

Tuesday, Nov. 23

EARLY RELEASE - Chicken patty on bun, tator tots, pickles, fruit cocktail, milk

Wed.-Friday, Nov. 24-26

Holidays



New Twins! Jesus and Gracie Sosa are proud to announce the birth of their twins, born Monday, October 18, 2004. Fernando Francisco Sosa weighed 7 1/2 pounds and was 18 1/2 inches long. Myrka Giselle Sosa weighed 6 pounds, 3 ounces, and was 17 1/2 inches long. Also welcoming the twins home were their brothers, Reben and Alex Sosa of Big Lake. Proud grandparents are Jesus and Fernanda Sosa of Big Lake and Jorge and Frances Mendoza of Robert Lee. Great-grandmother is Robert Lee resident Josephina Rocha and Sotera Galvan, also of Robert Lee, is their great-great-grandmother.

... Robert Lee awards
(Continued from Page 4)

10th grade

Jaden Alexander, Kelsy Duncan, Kevin Honse, Dixie Johnson, Cody McCabe, Johnathan Pagan, Sarah Philley, Eleasar Vera

11th grade

Argentina Arellano, Clayton Austin, Cara Eaton, Lance Millican, Kyla Millican, Brandon Soliz, Amanda Thurman, Stephanie Trejo, Carolina Vera, Cassidy Wink

12th grade

Cody Bridges, Stacey Denton, Ashley James, Juan Juarez, Julie Riley, Michele Sanchez, Brittany Soliz

Getting your Goat - Volunteer guides two generations of 4-H'ers

(Reprinted with permission from the Texas A&M Lifescapes magazine.)

Texas Cooperative Extension's 4-H youth development program depends heavily on a strong volunteer foundation.

"Quite frankly, we could not do our jobs without volunteers," says Tommy Antilley, Texas Cooperative Extension's agriculture agent in Coke County.

Antilley and Jan Yanez, Coke County family and consumer sciences agent, share the plight of Extension agents in many rural Texas counties. Extension programs, especially 4-H, are a traditional way of life in small-town Texas. Their popularity dictates major time commitments for agents with no local backup other than their volunteers. Luckily, the 4-H program has a rich tradition of volunteerism.

"With good volunteers you can get a lot more done," says Antilley. "Ernest Ybarra is one of the best I've had the privilege of working with over my 25-year career.

Ernest first came to my rescue back when the San Angelo Stock Show came on the heels of the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo. We agents would still be in Houston when we needed to be helping parents and kids fit and haul their livestock projects to San Angelo. We had to depend on Ernest and others to get the kids and their animals ready. Without Ernest, a lot of these kids would have never made it.

"The great thing about Ernest is he's remained heavily involved even though he no longer has a child in 4-H and hasn't for a while. He's the only guy I've seen who will voluntarily take a week's vacation to put on a county stock show. He checks in at the office every Monday morning to see what needs to be done and who needs help. No matter what the circumstances, we can always depend on Ernest."

Yanez agrees. "He's the one person we can call on and say 'I need your help...NOW! Whether it's the goat's sick, the pig's down,' I know all I have to do is call Ernest, no matter how simple or tough the assignment. He's truly an outstanding volunteer. He's every agent's dream."

Ybarra, a Robert Lee native, has made his living the past 22 years as a truck driver hauling crude oil for Sunoco. He grew up around ranches and tagged along as a boy with his grandfather and his uncle, who had shearing crews.

Though never a 4-H'er himself, Ybarra got involved as a "4-H daddy" when his daughter joined a decade ago. "We just started with a 4-H project and stuck with it," he says. "As we became more involved in 4-H, it didn't take long to see needs. A stock show, for example, takes a lot of work. You've



Coke County 4-H Volunteer Recognized! Ernest Ybarra helps 4-H members Briana and Dawson Brisbin select Boer goats to raise for projects.

really got to get with the program, so that's what I did. I got involved, just doing what I could do."

Ybarra says 4-H livestock projects helped his daughter learn responsibility. Having to manage and care for goats "just as stubborn as she was" helped her develop a more patient attitude and "a better view of things."

Ybarra says, "One thing I've noticed about 4-H is it just gets bigger and better as we go. There's more and better competition now, which I think is good. The more competition, the more effort the kids put into it."

Another plus is that the Coke County 4-H group has

members from a variety of backgrounds.

"They're all mixed together here," he says. "They can all learn something from each other."

"You know how it is these days," Ybarra continues. "We've got a lot of working parents who just don't have the time or know-how to deal with a 4-H project. I've got a good job where I'm off or can get off, which makes it easier for me to help these kids. I try to do whatever it takes to

get kids involved and help them stay involved."

Ybarra says he hopes to have grandchildren involved in 4-H someday.

"But whether I do or don't, that's not the point," he says. "The object is helping the kids. A lot of them need help out here. The parents are there, but they work long hours, so somebody's got to help these kids. They can't do it alone. That's what I do. I'm here to fill in the gaps, you might say."

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DIVA for a DAY Contest

Diva Nominee: _____ Age: _____

Address: _____ Phone #: _____

Nominator's Name: _____

Address: _____ Phone #: _____

Bring form and nomination letter by Wednesday, November 24, 2004, to one of the following: DJ's Merle Norman, This 'N That, Super H Grocery, Ivey Motor Co. Inc., Massage by Darrell, C & H Hardware, Frankie's Salon, Designs by Toni, Cindy's BBQ & Grocery, Tropical Shaved Ice, Cathy's Flowers & Gifts, Nana's Restaurant, Skinner's Grocery or Coke-Sterling Farm Bureau.

BRONTE SCHOOL NEWS



First Baptist Church Thanksgiving Supper! Cody Waller enjoys a turkey leg at the annual Bronte's First Baptist Church Thanksgiving Supper on November 14. A delicious meal of ham, turkey and dressing, and all the good holiday fixings was enjoyed by more than 100 people. Several persons were also blessed by receiving take-out plates from the meal. Following the meal there was a time of sharing blessings and a hearing of a report by Pastor Morris Johnson on his recent trip to Winona, Minnesota. He showed several pictures from his trip and shared about the opportunities for people from Bronte to be involved in ministry and mission work there next summer.

Bronte State FCCLA president and advisor plan for busy year

State President Ashleigh Kelly and her advisor Linda Farrington have been preparing for a busy year for FCCLA. Their year started with an Executive Council meeting and Officer Training Seminar June 6-11. Ashleigh presided over all meetings and helped work on plans for the State meeting. Ms. Farrington was in charge of the advisor's session. Ms. Farrington took Ashleigh to

the airport in Austin, where she left for Washington D.C. where she joined the Texas Youth Tour. After the youth tour, Ashleigh attended Officer Training in New Braunfels for a week of leadership training. Ashleigh and Ms. Farrington left for Chicago, Illinois for the National FCCLA Meeting. Ms. Farrington attended the Advisor to Advisor session and was the Texas voting delegate.

The summer ended with the Professional Teachers Conference in Corpus Christi where Ms. Farrington was in charge of the round table session for FCCLA. Ashleigh brought greetings to all the Texas FCS teachers and helped with the FCCLA exhibits.

The next event attended was the State Officers Meeting and State Fair of Texas. Ashleigh presided over the meeting and gave a thank you speech at a banquet given in honor of the State Presidents of FCCLA, FFA, and 4-H. Ashleigh was presented with a belt buckle from the Texas State Fair and a personalized autographed football from Drew Pearson of the Dallas Cowboys.

The rest of 2004-2005 will consist of Regional Executive Council Meetings, State Executive Council Meetings, FCCLA Board of Directors Meetings, two Regional FCCLA Meetings and the State FCCLA Meeting.

Lady Longhorns post win, loss

The Bronte Lady Longhorns won their game against Blackwell 51-29. Points scored: Megan Gibbs 11 (one 3 pointer); Katie Cooper 10; Rebecca Rawlings 12; Holly Huskerson 10; Marcy McMorris 2; Stephanie Lores 4 and Melissa Palmer 2.

The Lady Longhorns lost to Coleman on Friday night, November 12th, by a score of 16-60. Points scored: Basquez 2; Gibbs 4; Cooper 4; Rawlings 2 and Huskerson 2.

Volunteers needed

The Bronte band is desperately needing parents to help in the concession stand during our home basketball games. The money earned is helping send the band to contest in South Padre Island this spring.

So please, if you have a child in the band or just want to spend a fun evening supporting our wonderful school, join us. A sign up sheet will be posted in front of the concession stand in the commons area, or you can call Kathy James, 473-6034.

The junior high games are generally on Mondays & Thursdays beginning at 5:30 while the JV & varsity games are usually on Tuesday & Friday with JV beginning at 4:00 followed by the varsity.

This could make for some long evenings if left up to only a few individuals. We do not expect you to work through all the games or when your child is playing, but any help at any time



FCCLA State President! Ashleigh Kelly and the Bronte FCCLA advisor, Linda Farrington, have attended or are planning to attend numerous events this year.

would be greatly appreciated. Many of you may not be off work by this time but come on by and help when you can. Your band members will be very thankful.

The home games are as follows:

Jr. High - Sat.-Nov. 20; Mon.-Nov. 22; Mon.-Dec.13; Mon.-Dec. 29 and Mon.-Jan. 10
JV & Varsity - Fri.-Nov. 19; Tue.-Dec 14; Tue.-Jan 4; Fri.-Jan. 7; Sat.-Jan. 8; Tue.-Jan. 11; Fri.-Jan 21; Tue.-Jan. 25; Tue.-Feb.1; Tue.-Feb. 8; and Fri.-Feb. 11.

Bronte School Awards 2nd Six Weeks "A" Honor Roll

12th grade
Calli Johnson, Ashleigh Kelly, Jasmine Kresta, Stephen Tomes

11th grade
Garrett Acker, Lilly McMullan, Rebecca Rawlings, Bailey Saunders

10th grade
Jonathan Marrs, Philip Rawlings, Logan Rawls

9th grade
Estephania Flores, Casey Harris, Holly Huskerson, Gus Saunders

8th grade
Mathew Allen, Ariel Coalson, Jessi England, Samuel Rawlings

7th grade
Chelsea Cook, Emily Fiveash, William Miller

"A/B" Honor Roll

12th grade
Cory Cooper, Monica Delagarza, Blaine Dyess, Justin Frazee, Sherman Griffin, Romana Hoover, Garrett Jackson, Vanessa

Lange, Ryan Martinez, Desiree Mirelez, Ashley McCutchen, Cody Moore, Terence Scottt, Salena Soto
11th grade

Lindsey Butler, Ambra Cole, Megan Gibbs, Curtis Moore, Melissa Palmer, Jayon Saunders, Cheyenne Webb

10th grade
Katie Cooper, Johnathan Ehl, Eric Hendrickson, Alonzo Martinez, John Paul Martinez, Heather Mitchel, Juston Taylor, Crystal Wallar
9th grade

Emily Austin, Kyler Lee, Terrah Macon, Lora Martinez, Savannah Martinez, Miranda Parks, Cody Wallace

8th grade
Geoffrey Ehl, Cory Glover, Tiffany Halfacre, Eddie May, Johnnye Michael, Nicole Reed, Miranda Riney, Reece Springer

7th grade
Katelyn Aguirre, Samantha Coffey, Stephanie Frasier, Crawford James, Louie Martinez, Chelsea Meek, Tyler Riney, Rob Rosson, Jackson Rowan, Jacob Scott, Shelbi Waller, Kimberly Womack, Wesley Suter

BISD trustees meet in regular session

The Bronte ISD Board of Trustees held a regular meeting on November 11, 2004, at 7:00 pm. Those in attendance were Wayne Coalson, Terry Charles, Jeff Schoenfield, Bob Frazee, Kendall Gibbs, Scott Frasier, Gary Acker and Superintendent, Alan Richey. Also present were Rick Howell, Terry Marrs, Michael Bohensky and Terri Rowan.

(Continued on page 7)

School Menu

Breakfast

- Monday, Nov. 22**
Cereal, apple sauce, toast, jelly, milk
- Tuesday, Nov. 23**
Breakfast burrito assorted juice, milk
- Wed., Nov. 24**
Holiday
- Thurs., Nov. 25**
Holiday
- Friday, Nov. 26**
Holiday

Lunch

- Monday, Nov. 22**
Chicken nuggets, gravy, creamed potatoes, green beans, diced pears, roll, milk
- Tuesday, Nov. 23**
Spaghetti, tossed salad, corn, sliced peaches, bread sticks, milk
- Wed., Nov. 24**
Holiday
- Thurs., Nov. 25**
Holiday
- Friday, Nov. 26**
Holiday

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Central Baptist continues series

Central Baptist Church in Bronte is continuing the Celebrate Recovery program with eight sermons on spiritual growth and recovery from hurts, habits and hangups. The sermons are being presented each Sunday morning during the 11 am worship service.

Volunteers who are familiar with 12-step programs are needed to be trained as leaders in a 12-step program focusing on Jesus Christ as the Higher Power. The Celebrate Recovery meetings will begin in December.

FMI, please call Pastor Tim White at 473-4811.

... BISSD Board Meeting
(Continued from page 6)

The meeting was opened with prayer by Rick Howell.

Terry Marrs, Elementary Principal, Rick Howell, Secondary Principal, and Michael Bohensky, CCJJC Principal, gave their reports.

The board approved the campus and district improvement plans, the annual drug performance program, and the Special Ed Shared Service agreement. The board agreed to sell the portable building built by the Building Trades Class.

Alan Richey, Superintendent, gave a construction update, an update on the bus fleet, and discussed the 2002-2003 Financial Report. The regular Board Meeting in December will be moved to Wednesday, December 15, at 7 pm.

The meeting was adjourned by the President at 9:45 pm.

Bronte School Awards
2nd Six Weeks

Kindergarten

Super Longhorn

Christopher Powell, Kayla Arthur, Brittany Bedford, Whitney Boyd, Hannah Brackeen, Ismael Cecilio, Haley Brazeal, Blaine Jacobs, Ryan Jones, Tristin Minjarez, Kendra Robinson, Alejandro Rosales, Sarah Smith

1st grade

Met Accelerated

Reading Goal

Sarah Sanchez, Kellie Thorn, Kyler Richards, Payton Cutting, Austin Parker, Chris James, Jayden Baumann, Ean Ward, Tucker McMullan, Cami White, Reighlyn Baken, Kevin Charles, Chase Wynne, Zachary Rosales

Achieved Ready

Reader Certification

(accumulated at least 5 points on the Accelerated Reading program)

Jayden Baumann, Hailey Bennett, Payton Cutting, Chris James, Cambri Kelso, Austin Parker, Kyler Richards, Sarah Sanchez, Kellie Thorn, Ean Ward

Super Citizen

Hailey Bennett, Ashley Betts, Kylie Brazeal, Jerica Davis, Cambri Kelso, Tucker McMullan, Kyler Richards, Zachary Rosales, Rafael Ruezga, Sarah Sanchez, Kellie Thorn, Katelynn Tijerina, Ean Ward, Chase Wynne

Perfect Attendance

Reighlyn Baken, Jayden Baumann, Hailey Bennett, Payton Cutting, Jerica Davis, Dakota Kelly, Austin Parker, Kellie Thorn, Ean Ward, Cami White, Chase Wynne, Brant Smith

2nd grade - Angela Davis

Super Longhorn

Citizenship Awards

Mercedes Eckert, Maria Franco, Madison Harris, Joshua Puentez, Jensen Reed, Kyndall Reynolds, Esmeralda Ruezga, Jared Scott

Reading Goal Met

Maria Franco, Dalton Ogle, Jensen Reed, Esmeralda Ruezga, Tyler Mayo, Joshua Puentez, Kyndall Reynolds

A Honor Roll

Maria Franco, Jensen Reed, Esmeralda Ruezga

B Honor Roll

Mercedes Eckert, Carlos Fuentez, Madison Harris, Tyler Mayo, Jared Scott, Joshua Puentez

Perfect Attendance

Savannah Arthur, Maria Franco, Dalton Ogle, Jensen Reed, Jared Scott, Jacob Baken, Tyler Mayo, Joshua Puentez, Esmeralda Ruezga

2nd grade - Mrs. Rawls

A Honor Roll

Kolby Lee, Stacia Emfinger

Super Citizens

Jessica Arthur, Moriah Royall, Stacia Emfinger

Met A/R Reading Goal

Dakota Arthur, Jessica Arthur, Kolby Lee, Oscar Pena, Addie Rosson, Stacia Emfinger

Perfect Attendance

Dakota Arthur, Jessica Arthur, Amber Betts, Sydney Breeding, Kourtney Kelton, Kolby Lee, Joshua Means, Oscar Pena, Dakota Pullen, Addie Rosson, Moriah Royall

3rd grade

AR Reading Goal

Stetsen Emfinger, Kaleb Edwards, Tammie Halfacer, Lyndsay Hargrave, Ty Lee, Bear McDonald, Marisa Sanchez, Courtney Wyatt, Megan Yackley

All "A" Honor Roll

Ty Lee, Johnathan Moore, Megan Yackley

Super Citizen

Trinity Demry, Stetsen Emfinger, Kaleb Edwards, Tammie Halfacer, Brandon Harris, Ty Lee, Coby Malone, Bailey McGlothlin, Johnathan Moore, Kaleb Reyes, Nathaniel Rosales, Marisa Sanchez, Courtney Wyatt, Megan Yackley

Perfect Attendance

Lauren Allen, Fred Arthur, Kaleb Edwards, Cecil Flores, Lyndsay Hargrave, Ty Lee, Coby Malone, Johnathan Moore, Christina Nichter, Shanyia Parker, Kaleb Reyes, Mason Stevens Smith, Courtney Wyatt, Megan Yackley

4th grade

A Honor Roll

Brooke Bedford, Carson James, Erika Puentez, Caleb Rosson, Ethan Sedden, Jael Williams

A-B Honor Roll

Thoren Charles, Cindy Davila, Mario Delarosa, Nathan Fillman, Tomas Flores, Brooke Gage, Erika Hargrave, Kyle Kelton, Brayde Knight, Paige Royall, Zachary Taylor

Super Longhorns

(Citizenship)

Brooke Bedford, Nathan Fillman, Clinton Head, Ethan Sedden, Cindy Davila, Erika Puentez, Zachary Taylor

Perfect Attendance

Brooke Bedford, Erika Hargrave, Clint Head, Kyle Kelton, Brayde Knight, Easton Mayo, Erika Puentez, Thomas Reyes, Caleb Rosson, Ethan Sedden, Zachary Taylor, Jael Williams, Thoren Charles, Nathan Fillman, Tomas Flores, Brooke Gage

Met A/R Goal

Brayde Knight, Jael Williams, Paige Royall, Erika Hargrave, Erika Puentez, Caleb Rosson

5th grade - Mrs. Strack

A Honor Roll

Katie Austin, Harley Wallace

A-B Honor Roll

Maria Fuentez, Logan McGlothlin, Creed Coalson, Austin Mertz, Jordan Baumann, Jill Scott, Jonathan Reyes

Super Citizen

Leticia Pena, Brent Kelly

AR Goal

Katie Austin, Harley Wallace

Perfect Attendance

Creed Coalson, Maria Fuentez, Rani Parks, Brent Kelly, Austin Mertz, Leticia Pena, Jill Scott, Vaughn Stilley, Harley Wallace

5th grade - Mrs. Lee

A Honor Roll

Mackenzie Gibbs, Kimber Lee

Super Citizens

Kassie Fillman, Mackenzie Gibbs, Amy Godinez, Leah Jones, Kaitlin Moore

Met Accelerated

Reader Goal

Beau Grigg, Kimber Lee

Perfect Attendance

Randon Eubanks, Kassie Fillman, Beau Grigg, Mackenzie Gibbs, Kim Lee, Ashley Reyes

6th grade

A Honor Roll

Chase Harris, Arlis McMullan, Heath Richey

Super Longhorn

Kendyl Adams, Cheyenne Boyd, Ginny Caston

Perfect Attendance

Ginny Caston, Peyton Eubanks, Heath Richey, Terron Charles, Shandee Vaughn, Chase Harris, Joshua Hargrave, Ally Franco, Dakota Rawls, Kimberly Nixon, Hadley Holland, Cheyenne Boyd, Kendyl Adams, Skyler Ellis-York, Kelsey Sedden

TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY



NOTICE OF RECEIPT OF APPLICATION AND INTENT TO OBTAIN A WATER QUALITY PERMIT RENEWAL

PERMIT NO. WQ0010390001

APPLICATION. City of Bronte, P.O. Box 370, Bronte, Texas 76933-0370, has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) to renew wastewater disposal Permit No. WQ0010390001 to authorize the disposal of treated wastewater at a volume not to exceed a daily average flow of 150,000 gallons per day via evaporation and surface irrigation of 26 acres, with provisions to land apply sewage sludge for beneficial use on the same 26 acres. The domestic wastewater treatment facility and disposal site are located approximately 2,100 feet southeast of the intersection of U.S. Highway 277 and State Highway 158 in Coke County, Texas. This application was submitted to the TCEQ on April 9, 2004. The permit application is available for viewing and copying at the Bronte City Hall, 114 South Washington Street, Bronte, Texas.

The TCEQ executive director has determined the application is administratively complete and will conduct a technical review of the application. After completion of the technical review, the TCEQ will issue a Notice of Application and Preliminary Decision.

PUBLIC COMMENT / PUBLIC MEETING. You may submit public comments or request a public meeting about this application. The purpose of a public meeting is to provide the opportunity to submit comments or to ask questions about the application. The TCEQ will hold a public meeting if the executive director determines that there is a significant degree of public interest in the application or if requested by a local legislator. A public meeting is not a contested case hearing.

Written public comments or requests for public meeting must be submitted to the Office of the Chief Clerk, MC 105, TCEQ, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, TX 78711-3087.

ADDITIONAL NOTICE. After technical review of the application is complete, the executive director may prepare a draft permit and will issue a preliminary decision on the application. **Notice of the Application and Preliminary Decision will be published and mailed to those who are on the county-wide mailing list or the mailing list for this application. That notice will contain the final deadline for submitting public comments.**

OPPORTUNITY FOR A CONTESTED CASE HEARING. After the deadline for public comments, the executive director will consider the comments and prepare a response to all relevant and material, or significant public comments. **The response to comments, along with the executive director's decision on the application, will be mailed to everyone who submitted public comments or who requested to be on the mailing list for this application. If comments are received, the mailing will also provide instructions for requesting reconsideration of the executive director's decision and for requesting a contested case hearing.** A contested case hearing is a legal proceeding similar to a civil trial in a state district court.

A contested case hearing will only be granted based on disputed issues of fact that are relevant and material to the Commission's decision on the application. Further, the Commission will only grant a hearing on issues that were raised during the public comment period and not withdrawn. **The TCEQ may act on an application to renew a permit for discharge of wastewater without providing an opportunity for a contested case hearing if certain criteria are met.**

MAILING LIST. In addition to submitting public comments, you may ask to be placed on a mailing list to receive future public notices mailed by the Office of the Chief Clerk. You may request to be added to: (1) the mailing list for this specific application; (2) the permanent mailing list for a specific applicant name and permit number; and/or (3) the permanent mailing list for a specific county. Clearly specify which mailing list(s) to which you wish to be added and send your request to the TCEQ Office of the Chief Clerk at the address above. Unless you otherwise specify, you will be included only on the mailing list for this specific application.

INFORMATION. If you need more information about this permit application or the permitting process, please call the TCEQ Office of Public Assistance, Toll Free, at 1-800-687-4040. General information about the TCEQ can be found at our web site at www.tceq.state.tx.us.

Further information may also be obtained from City of Bronte at the address stated above or by calling Ricky Royall, Director of Utilities, at 325-473-3501.

Issued: July 20, 2004



by Jan Yanez
Cooperative
Extension Agent

Have a Guilt-Free Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving's coming and we all know what that means: too much food and too many parties cropping up, from now until New Year's Eve. But a big holiday dinner doesn't have to leave you feeling like a stuffed sausage or signal the beginning of the end of your weight loss.

It's important to remember that Thanksgiving is just one day, not a whole week. One large meal won't pile on the pounds. But if you are the type who feels guilty after just one sliver of pie and uses this slip-up as an excuse to go on a week-long binge perhaps it's time to rethink your strategy.

The Game Plan

Decide which foods you want to enjoy at your Thanksgiving meal before you sit down to eat. It is suggested that you imagine yourself sitting down to Thanksgiving dinner. Visualize the spread and decide how you'll fill up your plate. Be sure to include a few items you love so that you don't feel deprived, which can often lead us to retaliate by eating everything else in sight.

Here are some additional pointers for getting through the big meal:

Decide how much of a favourite food will satisfy you. If you cannot conceive of eating just a small piece of Aunt Millie's famous pumpkin pie, cut something else out to

account for the larger slice.

Select foods you don't normally eat so that you can easily eliminate several of the dishes. After all, do you really want sweet potatoes topped with melted marshmallows plus an ordinary baked spud?

Practice creative ways to say "no" in case you get pressured by others to take seconds (or thirds).

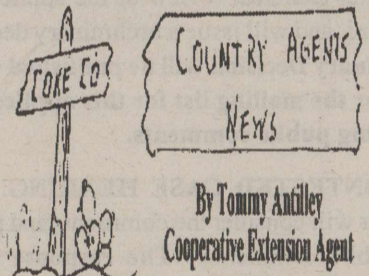
If you're hosting the meal, remember that there is always tomorrow and leftovers. But if you won't be able to sleep knowing that there's half a pie in the kitchen, freeze leftovers immediately or give your guests doggie bags to take home.

Push yourself away from the table when you're full. If you're not sitting within arm's length of the cookies, you'll be less likely to overindulge.

Acknowledge that all foods have benefits. Pumpkin pie, for example, is loaded with vitamin A (important for proper vision) and beta-carotene (a potentially powerful antioxidant). And that green bean casserole and stuffing contain lots of folic acid (a B vitamin linked to the prevention of birth defects and, possibly, heart disease).

Try to broaden your focus so that the holiday is not just about food. Concentrate on what you're thankful for, like wearing a smaller dress size, more comfortably crossing your legs or feeling more confident about yourself.

And if, despite all your efforts, you end up feeling like you're off the mark, put it all in perspective: Don't worry about it, just move on. Tomorrow's a whole new day.



Numerous CEU Programs Offered

For producers who have a Pesticide Applicators license and need continuing education units (CEU's), there will be several opportunities over the next several weeks to get numerous hours. License holders must get 15 hours of CEU's within the five year span of your license renewal. Listed below are the places, dates and contacts for these various programs.

On November 30, a five-hour CEU course will be held at Eldorado. This training is being hosted by the Schliecher County Extension office and TDA. For more details and to register for the meeting call Scott Edmonson at (325) 853-2132.

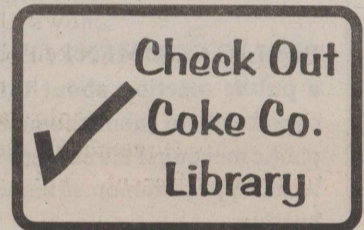
On December 7, a five-hour CEU course will be held at the Texas Agriculture Research and Extension Center in San Angelo. This training is being hosted by

TDA and Tom Green County Extension office. The target audience is Right-Of-Way certified applicators and producers. Registration can be made by calling the Tom Green Extension office at (325) 659-6522.

On Wednesday, December 15, Taylor County Extension will present a CEU seminar at the Taylor County Extension office, located on the grounds of the Taylor County Exposition Center in Abilene. The program will begin at 8:00 am and will be worth 5 hours of CEU's. Pre-registration received by Friday December 10 will be \$15 and \$25 after this deadline. You can contact the Taylor County Extension office at (325) 672-6048.

We will also be giving a 5 or 6 hour CEU course in February hosted by Coke, Sterling and Tom Green counties but we have not finalized a date as of yet.

There are several opportunities to get needed CEU hours over the next couple of months. Some of these courses will have pre-registration fees at a reduced rate, so you need to contact the sponsors early for additional information and meeting times and places.



The custom of an annual celebration of thanksgiving began in 1621 following a hard year for the Pilgrims. With enough crops to put away for the winter, Governor William Bradford proclaimed a day of thanksgiving that was to be shared by all the colonists and the neighboring Native American Indians. The custom was celebrated thereafter following the harvest. In 1863 President Abraham Lincoln appointed a national day of thanksgiving. Since then each president has issued a Thanksgiving Day proclamation, usually designating the fourth Thursday of each November as the holiday.

This information is on a WEB site at holidays.net/thanksgiving. The library will be closed Thursday and Friday. It is said that the average person consumes 4500 calories on Thanksgiving Day. It is not too late to begin getting in practice for the Thanksgiving Day meal.

Library hours are Tuesdays, 8-12; Wednesdays, 8-4; Thursdays, 1-5; and Fridays, 8-12. Story Hour for children three to five years old is Tuesday at 10:00 am. Story Time for the Head Start program is Wednesday at 9:30. Books may be returned to the 24/7 book drop on the porch of the library and in Bronte

at the Main Street Market.

Production of Nutcracker 2004 set

The San Angelo Civic Ballet is pleased to announce its production of Nutcracker 2004 returning to the San Angelo City Auditorium for one weekend only. Dates for the ballet are: Fri., Dec. 3 - 8 pm; Sat., Dec. 4 - 2 & 8 pm; Sun., Dec. 5 - 2 pm.

Tickets are on sale at the following San Angelo locations:

The San Angelo Civic Ballet office, 15 W. Beaugard; The Angelo Civic Theater, 1936 Sherwood Way; Kid Shoes, 2021 Knickerbocker Rd.

Please join us at the San Angelo City Auditorium, this December, in welcoming the holiday season with this Christmas celebration.

Holiday festival kicks off Concho Christmas celebration

El Paseo de Santa Angela and the Concho River area in downtown San Angelo come alive with a spectacular array of Christmas lights each year during the month of December. Additionally, a holiday festival the first weekend of December, "Christmas at Old Fort Concho," kicks off the lighting and holiday celebration.

Each year brings new additions to the brilliant holiday lighting display. Flickering campfires, soldiers on horseback; Santa riding in a stagecoach led by prancing reindeer; and towering tin soldiers are just a few of the many spectacular lighting

fantasies that lure visitors to this Texas winter wonderland every year. More than 4.5 million Christmas lights illuminate the celebration in the downtown area daily from dusk until midnight from Dec. 3 through Dec. 31.

Complimentary maps mark the 2.5 mile driving tour where millions of bulbs illuminate the displays along the Paseo, River Walk and River Drive. The route takes visitors along the river, through the Historic District to the Paseo across from Fort Concho. While the tour is free, donations are accepted.

Mason's Arts & Crafts show

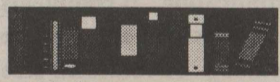
The Mason Arts & Crafts Guild's nineteenth annual Tannenbaum Time Arts & Crafts Show takes place Saturday, November 27, 9 am to 5 pm.

Kicking off Mason's Christmas "Light Up Our Town" festivities, the show will be held at the Fort Mason City Park Community Building. This is a wonderful Christmas shopping experience, with many booths of outstanding handcrafted items made by talented crafters from Mason and all over Texas. There will be stained glass, iron works, jewelry, needlecraft items, wreaths, ornaments, toys, t-shirts, wooden items and lots more!

Santa Claus will visit from 2 pm - 4 pm and photographs with Santa will be available free of charge.

For addition information, please call Welda Armour at 325-347-0482 or Doreen Cardenas at 325-265-4302.

School Menu



Sterling City ISD Menu

Breakfast

Monday, Nov. 22

Poptarts, cereal, pears

Tuesday, Nov. 23

Breakfast burrito, cereal, applesauce

Wed., Nov. 24

Thanksgiving Holiday

Thurs., Nov. 25

Thanksgiving Holiday

Friday, Nov. 26

Thanksgiving Holiday

Lunch

Monday, Nov. 22

Turkey noodles, mashed potatoes, peas, hot rolls, orange

Tuesday, Nov. 23

Chicken fry, mashed potatoes, cooked carrots, hot rolls

Wed., Nov. 24

Thanksgiving Holiday

Thurs., Nov. 25

Thanksgiving Holiday

Friday, Nov. 26

Thanksgiving Holiday

GAS UTILITIES DOCKET NO. 9530 PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to Gas Utilities Docket No. 8664, dated November 25, 1997, Atmos Energy Corporation (successor to TXU Gas Distribution-Transmission) was ordered by the Railroad Commission of Texas to file a prudence review every three years to demonstrate that its gas costs are reasonable and necessary. On September 24, 2004, Atmos Energy Corporation, in order to comply with the requirements set forth in Gas Utilities Docket No. 8664, filed the required gas cost prudence review for the period of November 1, 2000 through October 31, 2003. All residential and commercial sales customers of Atmos Energy Corporation formerly served by TXU Gas Company are potentially affected by this proceeding.

Persons with questions or who want more information about this filing may contact Atmos Energy Corporation at (214) 875-6738. A copy of Atmos Energy Corporation's filing is available for inspection during normal business hours, at the Company's business office located at 300 S. St. Paul, 8th Floor, Dallas, Texas, 75201. Persons who wish to intervene in this proceeding should contact the Railroad Commission of Texas, Office of General Counsel, Docket Services, P.O. Box 12967, Austin, Texas 78711-2967. The deadline for intervention in this proceeding is December 10, 2004.

En el 24 de septiembre, 2004, Atmos Energy Corporation (sucesor a TXU Gas Distribution-Transmission), para cumplir con los requisitos propuestos en el Sumario de Causa Núm. 8664 de Utilidades de Gas, solicitó ante la Comisión de Ferrocarril de Texas (Railroad Commission of Texas) el requerido repase de prudencia del costo del gas por el periodo del 1 de noviembre, 2000 hasta el 31 de octubre, 2003. Todos los clientes residenciales y comerciales de venta de Atmos Energy Corporation, y anteriormente servidos por TXU Gas Company, son afectados potencialmente por este procedimiento. Personas quienes quieren intervenir en este procedimiento deben ponerse en contacto con la Comisión de Ferrocarril de Texas, Oficina del Consejo General, Docket Services, P.O. 12967, Austin, Texas 78711-2967. La fecha de vencimiento para intervenir en este procedimiento es el 10 de diciembre, 2004. Si usted tiene alguna pregunta con respecto a esta solicitud, por favor llame a Atmos Energy Corporation al (214) 875-6738.

FINANCIAL FOCUS

With Jim Woodruff
of Edward Jones

Own a small business? Consider these retirement plans

When you own a small business, you're absorbed in the "here and now." But you still must think about life after your working years - so you'll need to put a good retirement plan in place.

Fortunately, you can choose from a variety of quality retirement plans. These plans typically offer three key features:

***Tax-deferred earnings** - When you invest in a "tax-qualified" retirement plan, you'll pay no taxes on your earnings until you start taking withdrawals.

***Pre-tax contributions** - You generally put in "pre-tax" dollars to your retirement plan, so your contributions may lower your adjusted gross income.

***Variety of investment options** - You can fund your retirement plan with an array of investments: stocks, bonds, government securities and more.

Now, let's look at some common small-business retirement plans:

If you have no employees

If your business has no employees except your spouse, you may want to choose from among these plans:

***SEP IRA** - With a SEP IRA, you can contribute up to 25% of your compensation into the plan, up to a maximum of \$41,000.

***Owner-only 401(k)** - If you have an "owner-only 401(k)," you can put up to 25 percent of your compensation plus \$14,000 (in 2005). If you're 50 or older, you can add an additional \$4,000 in "catch-up" contributions. (However, you can't contribute more than \$41,000 per year if you're under age 50, or \$44,000 annually if you're 50 or older.) Owner-only 401(k) plans also can permit larger contributions if your spouse works for the business.

***Owner-only Defined Benefit** - This plan may be appropriate for you if you earn more than \$100,000 annually from your business, you are over age 40, you can commit to contribute for at least three years, and you desire much larger contributions than possible with the SEP or the owner-only 401(k).

If you have employees

If you have employees, you may want to consider one of these plans:

***SIMPLE IRA** - A SIMPLE IRA is easy to set up and inexpensive to administer. In 2005, you and each of your employees can contribute up

to \$10,000 to a SIMPLE IRA (or \$12,500 if age 50 or over). Your business is generally required to match both your and your employees' contributions, dollar for dollar, up to three percent of their salary, unless you decide to put in two percent of each eligible employee's compensation.

***Safe Harbor 401(k)** - A Safe Harbor 401(k) offers the same features of a traditional 401(k), but the amount you can defer from your salary is not limited to whether your employees contribute or not. You, as the business owner, benefit because you can contribute up to the annual maximum (\$14,000 in 2005 or \$18,000 if you're 50 or older), regardless of how much your employees contribute.

***Safe Harbor 401(k) with Age Enhanced Profit Sharing** - Your business can make additional profit-sharing contributions to a Safe Harbor 401(k) plan. If you are older than most of your employees, you can structure your plan so that the contributions going to your account, and to those of your key employees, are much higher than the percentage going to most employees.

Pick the plan that fits

Before choosing a retirement plan for your business, meet with your tax advisor and your investment representative. Take the time to choose the plan that fits your individual needs.

Christmas at Old Fort Concho slated

Shoppers and visitors step back in time to the 19th century and experience life on the frontier with ongoing period entertainment. One hundred merchants and artisans, soldiers and Native Americans, shopping and dining, and children's programs are just a few of the activities that combine Old West style with Yuletide magic. During the festival, Fort Concho is transformed into a frontier fantasyland guaranteed to educate and entertain visitors.

Traditional favorites of the winter rendezvous include Pancakes with Santa, Santa's Workshop, Miss Birdie's Tea Party, Young Soldiers Camp, Christmas Jubilee, Rotary Barn Raising and the Cowboy Campfire Concert. Several hundred living history soldiers and civilians will keep the parade field full of activity with drills and demonstrations, while food vendors feed the hungry. The festival supports the ongoing education and preservation projects at Fort Concho.

The festival hours are: Dec. 3, 3:00 pm to 9:00 pm, Dec. 4, 10:00 am to 8:00 pm, and Dec. 5, 11:00 am to 5:00 pm. For admission information or additional information call 325-481-2646 or see www.fortconcho.com.

For additional information on "A Concho Christmas" and "Christmas at Old Fort

Concho," contact the San Angelo Chamber of Commerce at (800) 375-1206 or see www.sanangelocom.

Celebrate the Arts at ASU

The upcoming theatre production of Amadeus, will be held on Nov. 18-20 at 8 pm at the ASU's Modular Theatre in the Carr, Education/Fine Arts building at the corner of Dena and Rosemont Drives in San Angelo. Call 942-2000 (2-6 pm, weekdays) for reservations.

Kickapoo Water Board sets election

Coke County Kickapoo Water Control and Improvement District #1 will hold an election January 11, 2005, for the purpose of electing three directors.

Directors filing for re-election to the board are Gerald Sandusky, Ronnie Robbins, and Elton Moore. The election will be held at Bronte City Hall.

For further information concerning the election, contact President Gerald Sandusky by 5 pm Monday, November 29, 2004.

Capitol Comments

By Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison

An Agenda for the Future

There are elections in which everyone knows that "the people have spoken" but they don't always know exactly what the people have said. This November's election was different. Not only did the people speak, they spoke clearly. They supported President George W. Bush and want Congress to do the people's work without political obstruction.

We have important tasks ahead of us. First, we have the War on Terror. President Bush believes this war is not a localized matter confined to a single country. It is a worldwide struggle. We are battling fanatics who kidnap and behead civilians and shoot fleeing children in the back. There can be no dialogue with such people, and the American people understand this. The War on Terror not only involves providing our troops with everything they need, it also involves making needed reforms to our security agencies to help us defend our homeland.

The voters in this election also delivered a verdict on domestic policies. They decisively rejected obstructionism because they desire Republicans and Democrats to work together.

For instance, the Senate should take action on the President's judicial nominees. For years, qualified candidates have been denied a vote for confirmation despite having the support of a bipartisan majority in the Senate. I will work with my colleagues to ensure these nominees get a vote.

The American people want Congress to make family tax relief permanent. Texans also want us to make the state sales tax deduction permanent. Eliminated 18 years ago, I and my colleagues were able to restore it for 2004 and 2005 and save the average Texas family of four more than \$928 in federal taxes each year.

Tax simplification is also on the agenda. One proposal is the Flat Tax to replace our present multi-tiered system with a single rate. Another option is to adopt a National Sales Tax in place of income and payroll taxes.

Our country also hungers for leadership to ensure the long-term survival of our Social Security system. With 70 million baby boomers in this country on the verge of retirement, we need to take action to shore up the system. President Bush's proposal guarantees those who have already retired, or are close to retirement, will receive the benefits they have been promised. His plan will also let Americans voluntarily choose to deposit part of their Social Security payments in private accounts which have historically yielded higher returns than payments into the Social Security program.

In this uncertain world, Americans want to see our nation move to reduce our dependence on foreign energy by encouraging domestic exploration and production.

This will spur the growth of our economy and create jobs. Efforts to move in this direction were blocked in the past, but now we have a chance to move forward.

Another issue of special interest to me is achieving greater fairness in the federal funding of our highway systems. Highway construction is largely funded by the federal fuel taxes we all pay when we fill up our cars and trucks. Unfortunately, federal highway funding has traditionally provided far greater funds to states in the Northeast than in the Southwest, making states like Texas "donor" states because we get back less in highway funds than we send to Washington. Over the past 47 years, Texas drivers have contributed \$5 billion to other states so they can build their highway networks. This is not fair, and makes less sense than ever, because our state has more highway miles than any other state.

When I first came to Washington, Texans only received 76 cents out of every dollar paid on fuel taxes. By increasing that level to 90.5 cents, we gained an additional \$1.23 billion for Texas. If we are successful in pushing the share up to 95 cents, Texas will gain over \$160 million per year additional highway funding.

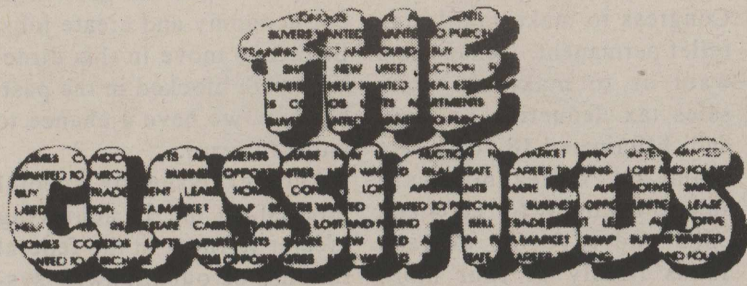
While Congress and the President still have a great deal of work to do, I am confident we will make progress.

IVEY MOTOR COMPANY, INC.

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| 2003 Ford Explorer XLT <i>Estate Green • 20,000 Miles • PW/PL/CD Power Seat • Excellent Condition!</i> | \$18,995 |
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| 2004 Ford Freestar SEL Minivan <i>Laser Red • Quad Captains Chairs • 4 Door</i> | \$19,995 |
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| 2002 Ford F-150 Super Cab XLT <i>White • 5.4 V8 • 7,700 GVW Package • 70,000 Miles Really Nice Truck!</i> | \$13,995 |
| 1997 Ford F-250 Super Cab XLT <i>White • 460 V8 • 51,000 Miles • Extra Nice!</i> | \$ 7,995 |
| 2004 Mercury Grand Marquis LS <i>Spruce Green w/Tan Leather • 16,000 Miles</i> | \$19,995 |
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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



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 Adorable home at 214 W. 10th in Robert Lee. (972) 841-5352.
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Compare rent prices to the **LOW, LOW** Payment you may have if you **BUY!!!**

CUSTOM HOME with Formal Living & Dining Rooms! Beautiful Landscaping and mature Trees! **PRICE REDUCED!!!**

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TAKING APPLICATIONS for one, two & three bedroom apartments. Contact Housing Authority of Robert Lee, 710 N. Bishop, 453-2912. Equal Housing Opportunity.
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NICE! NEW! BRICK!
 3 bedroom 2 1/2 baths
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 Now Available!
 Call: 915-473-3105 for information or 915-473-9548
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MISCELLANEOUS

ORDER PAMPERED CHEF
 gifts for Christmas. Call Roberta McCrea at 378-2034 by December 1. Give a gift she will use all year!
 18-1tc

FREE DRIED WOOD CHIPS
 and large logs for firewood.
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FOR SALE
 Very well kept 3 bedroom, 2 bath property. 202 S. Randall, Bronte. Nice yard + 24'x24' game room. Corner lot. Low maintenance exterior.
 \$77,500.00. Please contact Jim Kerbow (325) 234-3115.

Bob Fragee's 944-0010 473-6603

Texas Best

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24 hr. Emergency Water Damage Service

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 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

CARD OF THANKS

MY HUSBAND AND I want to thank the community for the kind expressions of sympathy bestowed on us following the death of my grandfather, Cumbie Ivey, Sr. All the cards, calls, food, flowers, memorial tributes, visits, and hugs are greatly appreciated and will always be remembered. Thank you all for being such dear friends and for taking such good care of us.
 Sincerely,
 Patti Lynn Ivey-Petersen
 18-1tc

NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE
 Notice is hereby given that Coke County Commissioners will receive sealed bids until 9:00 am on Monday, December 13, 2004, in the Coke County Clerk's office for the following:
 Robert Lee Park: 2 desks-contact Curtis Walker 453-2714
 Courthouse: Computer, key board, hard drive, copier, Hyundai monitor dictaphone
 Bronte Park Caretakers House - Contact Jason Wilson 473-8506
 1 tub/shower enclosure
 1 shower/tub glass door
 1 medicine cabinet
 9 interior doors w/hwd
 9 door frames
 1 mailbox with stand
 1 fireplace screen with tools
 1 double stainless steel sink with faucets
 kitchen cabinets
 Misc. items: Windows, brick paneling, shelves, plumbing connections, etc.
 Coke County Commissioners reserve the right to reject any and or all bids.
 Stover Taylor,
 County Auditor
 18-2tc

HANDYMAN CONSTRUCTION
 LICENSED ELECTRICIAN • INSURED & BONDABLE ANY TYPE OF JOB
TOMMY WILLIAMS
 ROBERT LEE, TX
 325-453-4477
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 CNAs • 2-10 Shift
 Contact Paula at 309 E. 5th or 378-2134.

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Bronte
Brick home with 2+/- ac., 3 BR, 3 BA, 2 Living Areas, Fireplace, Workshop and orchard
3 BR, 1 BA home. Beautifully painted interior, ceramic tile and hardwood floors, 16 x 32 shed with pens
Extra Nice 3 BR, 1 1/2 BA, 1470 +/- sq. ft. on four lots with water well
Oak Creek Lake 3 BR, 1 BA, Nice lake house, Possible owner finance
Robert Lee
New Listing! Brick Home with over one half acre, 3 BR, 1 1/2 Bath, Ceramic Tile floors, CA/CH, Metal roof, attached 2 car carport & Workshop.
New Listing! 3 BR, 2 Bath home with CA/CH, Hardwood floors, Metal roof and 2 car carport with privacy fence.
Beautiful Austin Stone home, 2556 sq. ft. 3 BR, 2 BA, 2 Living Areas or 4th BR. Large attached single garage, 12 x 25 workshop with 1/2 bath, 14 x 25 partially enclosed carport, beautiful lawn w/sprinkler system.
On Lake Spence, with scenic views from this two story 3 BR, 2 BA lake home with a 2 car garage.
Watch the wildlife from the front porch, 2 BR, 1 BA Brick veneer home with metal carport, \$20's
3 BR, 2 BA home with screened-in porch with view, Possible Owner Finance \$20's

Nice 2 BR, 1.5 BA mobile home, carport and storage building, large trees.
Very Nice Office Building Prime location. Landscaped with additional lots.
Downtown Robert Lee
Original Building, Barber Shop Business with furniture and fixtures
Acreage
1263 +/- Acres, Large Metal Barn, 4 tanks, water well, wildlife food plots. Great Hunting
1129 +/- Acres, All pasture and flat to rolling terrain with deep creeks and rough headers, 3 water wells and electricity, excellent deer hunting with turkey and quail
320 +/- AC. Secluded, rolling terrain with hills and mountainous views, older rock home. Two water wells, crossed fenced. Good hunting.
314 +/- AC. Live Oak trees on Yellow Wolf Creek, good water well, 230 ac. cultivation, good hunting.
147 +/- AC. MAKE OFFER! All Pasture. Convenient to Robert Lee. Flat to rolling terrain. Good hunting.
93 +/- AC. **SOLD** tage, water well, 81 ac. Clear income.
80 +/- Acres, Very nice ranch style home with 3 BR, 2 BA 2 Living Areas. All Steel Horse and Cattle Pens. 3 Large Barns.
12 +/- Acres, High bluff creek with scenic views, water well & electricity, Excellent home site, Great deer & turkey hunting

Other Listings Available

BIDS TAKEN
 on an 8x12 wood frame building with metal roof. Built on skids by Building Trades Class at Bronte High School. Deadline to submit a bid is November 23. 1:00 pm, \$1500 minimum bid. For more information or to submit a bid, call Bronte High School at 473-2511.
 17-2tc

THE POWER OF CHOICE
 Every time you make a purchase, you're exercising your power of choice in a way that has a powerful impact on your community. When you spend your money at an independent business, you're choosing to reinvest in your community and contribute to a strong local economy. Supporting locally owned businesses is a choice that leads to a higher quality of life for your family, your friends and your neighbors. It's a choice for distinctive community character, diversity and individuality.
 Spending money at a national chain store, however, is a choice for undermining the local economy by draining our community's wealth to benefit distant corporate executives and shareholders.

It's a choice for absentee ownership, limited selection, a homogenous culture and ignoring the consequences of our actions on future generations.

The choice is yours. You have the power to strengthen and enrich our community. A healthier hometown and a better home for your family begins with the simple decision to shop locally.

10 Reasons to Shop Locally
 Do you know all the advantages of shopping locally? Just consider a few of the many benefits of supporting your community-based businesses:

- *When you shop with a locally owned business, your money is re-circulated in the local economy at a much higher rate than a purchase made with a chain store.
- *For every two jobs that national retailers bring to a community, three jobs are lost as a result of local businesses closing.
- *Independent businesses reinforce the standard of living in your community through a variety of ways, such as utilizing the services of other local businesses and carrying locally made products.
- *National chains often are given unfair advantages over local competitors through sweetheart deals such as tax subsidies granted by local governments starved for sales tax revenues.
- *Shopping at a local merchant is like doing business with your neighbor. Shopping at a chain store is like doing business with a corporation that informs its shareholders that it's adding more than 50 million square feet of new retail space this year, but doesn't mention the hundreds of stores it has abandoned across the United States as it skipped out on

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 Bronte, Texas 76933
 (325) 473-3621
 FAX (325) 473-2423
 Del Morrisette,
 R.N., D.O.N.
 EOE

(Continued on Page 11)

...Shopping Locally

(Continued from Page 10)

*They don't have Bluelight Specials on hometown pride.

*Locally owned businesses offer diverse selections that are tailored for local preferences, including many unique goods and services that you won't find anywhere else. Bland box stores offer cookie-cutter inventories with severely limited selections.

*Independent businesses provide service with a personal touch. Chain stores treat their customers like sheep with credit cards.

*Chain stores use their economic leverage to drive local competition out of business. Predatory business practices have allowed national chains to establish virtual monopolies in many communities. And since when is a monopoly a good thing for consumers?

and a Half Dozen Ways You Can Make a Difference

As a consumer, whenever you make a purchase with an independent business, you're casting a vote for a healthy hometown. You can help to make a difference in your community by taking a few simple steps:

*Whenever you shop, make an effort to patronize a locally owned business. If you're not able to shop locally this time, promise yourself to do so the next time.

*When you dine out, choose an independent restaurant rather than a chain restaurant. You'll not only be contributing more to the local economy, you'll also be treating yourself to a much more unique and personal dining experience.

*Avoid the temptation to shop online unless it's on the Web site of a local business. Online shopping may be convenient, but it doesn't contribute a dime to the local economy.

*Spread the word by telling your friends about the benefits of shopping your community-based businesses.

Independent Thinking

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."

- Margaret Mead

Farmers and Ranchers help the hungry

A project to help the hungry will be a special focus as farmers and ranchers across Texas gather in San Antonio for Texas Farm Bureau's 71st annual convention, Dec. 4-6.

A special project of TFB's Young Farmer & Rancher Committee, food has been collected from across the state and delivered to San Antonio for America's Second Harvest, the nation's largest charitable hunger relief organization, which distributes a billion pounds

of food annually. The result will be a presentation to the Food Bank in San Antonio on noon, Dec. 6.

"Even with the abundance produced by America's farmers and ranchers, there are still families that go hungry every night in the United States," said Mark Sustaire, chairman of the Young Farmer & Rancher Committee. "This project demonstrates TFB members' concern for the hungry and at the same time, demonstrates the quality, safety and affordability of food in America."

The adoption of the organization's policy book, which lays out Texas Farm Bureau's vision for the coming year, is the most important business of the upcoming convention, according to Kenneth Dierschke, Texas Farm Bureau president.

"Water will be of critical importance as we get into the next Texas legislative session; taxes should be a big concern on the national level," Dierschke, a cotton and grain farmer from San Angelo, said. "Getting our policy in shape for a new legislative session and a new Congress is of critical importance to the organization."

The 2004 convention begins at 9 a.m. on Saturday, Dec. 4, with the Free Enterprise Speech Contest. Finalists, selected from 13 district winners, will compete for the high prize of a \$4,000 scholarship.

Starting at 1 p.m. will be the Discussion Meet Contest, a valuable forum that provides an opportunity for young farmers and ranchers to discuss issues of importance to agriculture.

Youth contests will be completed on Saturday with winners named for the Talent Find and Miss Texas Farm Bureau contests.

The convention continues on Sunday, Dec. 5, with a presentation on the progress of a two-year study, conducted by the American Farm Bureau Federation that looks at the future of U.S. agriculture policy.

Following will be various awards including Farm Bureau Pioneers, Membership and Young Farmers and Ranchers, and addresses by U.S. Sen. John Cornyn at 1:30 p.m. and TFB President Dierschke at approximately 2 p.m. Texas Gov. Rick Perry will address the delegates on Monday at 1 p.m. Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison will speak Monday at 1:30 p.m.

The business session, where Farm Bureau delegates will debate, discuss and adopt policy, will be held Monday. The convention will conclude that evening following the election of the TFB President and state board members from even numbered districts.

All events will be held at

the Marriott Riverwalk or Marriott Rivercenter Hotels.

Capitol Comments

By Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison

With the Elections Over, Americans Must Pull Together

This November, our nation held an extraordinary election. Voters turned out in record numbers across the country to cast their ballots for the President of the United States, their representatives in Congress, state and local officials and countless ballot initiatives. Every state and territory, from Maine to California, saw voters set new records for turnout. President Bush received 59,246,889 votes while Sen. Kerry received 55,710,448.

The elections were just as important to Texans as they were to other Americans. The office of the Texas Secretary of State reports 7,357,837 ballots were cast on November 2, up almost a million from the 2000 presidential election in which Texans cast 6,407,637 votes.

When the smoke of battle cleared, we saw that President Bush won a second term in office. As is the case with most elections in our great democracy, we are left with a clear winner and a gracious runner-up. There will be time in the days ahead to examine the results, but what we need to do today is come together as a nation to work for the common good.

America still faces serious challenges. An implacable and fanatical foe still seeks to kill Americans and to deny 53 million Iraqis and Afghans liberty and self-government. We have planted democracy in those countries and President Bush said he will continue to nurture its growth as we fight and destroy the terrorists who mean all free people harm.

As part of this effort, President Bush has called for passage of legislation to overhaul the nation's intelligence apparatus. This will improve national security and help our forces find and destroy our enemy.

President Bush has outlined an ambitious domestic agenda as well. We must continue to improve our education system, create jobs and grow our economy, and work toward greater energy independence.

He also boldly called for Congress to join him in an effort to strengthen the Social Security system, saying "the cost of doing nothing ... is much greater than the cost of reforming the system today."

Social Security will soon face tremendous strains when 77 million baby boomers begin to retire. This was an important election issue because Americans know we

cannot afford to wait until a financial crisis occurs. The President has proposed allowing taxpayers to voluntarily set some of their payments aside into personal savings accounts, while ensuring current and near-retirees receive the benefits they were promised.

The President has also announced his intention to continue his program of tax reform, with the goal of simplifying the system and reducing its burden on America's families. Two of the leading proposals are the "Flat Tax" which would replace numerous deductions and tax rates with a single established tax rate, and the "National Sales Tax" which would replace payroll and income taxes with a national sales tax. Both systems have some advantages, and deserve study.

By any measure, we have a great deal to do. To reach the best solutions, we will need the thoughtful input and cooperation of both Republicans and Democrats.

This means we have to set aside the passions which often flare up in tough campaigns. One of the most important lessons of this election was the public's rejection of politicians who resort to obstructionist partisan tactics. We are sent to Washington to get a job done. On November 2nd, the public said putting politics before the nation's business is not acceptable. This does not mean we should discard our beliefs or surrender efforts to promote our visions for America. Nobody wants all Americans to think alike. We are a nation of lions, not sheep.

While we may disagree on certain issues, we share the same goal and responsibility of making this nation a better, safer place.

With his generous concession speech, Sen. Kerry noted, "In an American election, there are no losers, because whether or not our candidates are successful, the next morning we all wake up as Americans... In the days ahead, we must find common cause. We must join in common effort, without remorse or recrimination, without anger or rancor. America is in need of unity and longing for a larger measure of compassion."

This is a good beginning: a fresh start for the new term for our re-elected president.

Forest Service offers windbreak trees

Seedlings for conservation windbreaks are now available for order through the Coke County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD). Landowners in Coke County are encouraged to purchase the one-year-old seedlings before preferred stock is sold out.

Available species for Coke County include afghan pine, redcedar, italian stone pine,

arborvitae, aromatic (skunk-bush) sumac, black cherry, catalpa, desert willow, four-winged saltbush, green ash, hackberry, honeylocust, lacebark elm, nanking cherry, osage orange, redbud, russian olive, sandcherry, sand plum, sawtooth oak, shumard oak, and smooth sumac. The hardwoods are sold in multiples of 50 seedlings per species. They are very inexpensive and can be divided among your neighbors.

Wildlife packets for habitat establishment also are available. Each of the four wildlife packets contain 100 bare-root trees and shrubs which cater specifically to the habitat needs of quail and pheasant, deer, turkey or squirrel.

Orders will be taken through January 31, 2005, and will be delivered on February 10, 2005.

To order windbreak trees, contact the Coke County SWCD at 214 East 7th Street in Robert Lee or call 325-453-2623, ext. 3.

FSA office taking ewe lamb applications

Producers that have retained ewe lambs during the period of August 1, 2003, to July 1, 2004, may be eligible for the Ewe Lamb Replacement and Retention Program.

Ewe lambs are lambs that turned 18 months sometime during the program period, were not bred until after the animal was 18 months old and did not have parrot mouth, foot rot or scrapies. All ewe lambs must be retained for 1 complete lambing cycle.

To apply for the program producers must provide the number of ewe lambs retained and month of birth, provide purchase receipts, if bought and scrapie flock certification number, when making an application.

At this time there is no end date for signup. Producers may come by the office or call (325) 453-2751 for additional information. the communities that were left to deal with these massive white-elephant edifices.

*Independent businesses are unique enterprises that contribute to the character of our community. Chain stores are homogenous, formula-driven institutions completely stripped of individual character.

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.



Again, THSRA Region II had beautiful weather conditions to complete its two-day rodeo competition in Ozona, Texas, this past weekend. Again, Coke County rodeo competitors proved to be quite a talented bunch of athletes. Off the "injured reserved" list, Lance Millican quickly let it be known that he had some catching up to do in the calf roping event. On Saturday, Lance would have won the day's competition if it had not been for a broken barrier. As a result of the penalty, Lance managed to place 9th which earned him some much needed points towards his region standings. Lance also placed 4th in the team roping event with his partner, Cody Dan Jordan, from Hobbs, New Mexico. Lance came back in Sunday's competition to win 2nd place in the calf roping.

Senior Jake McCabe not only placed 4th in the Saturday competition of calf roping, but he did it on a young horse that he has been training for the last year or so and grooming him for rodeo competition. He again demonstrated his consistency on Sunday by placing 4th in the calf roping on the same young horse. This is definitely an accomplishment for any competitor to be able to compete on an inexperienced horse against other more experienced equine athletes! Jake is definitely demonstrating not only his talent as an experienced roper but also as a very competent horse trainer!

Lillian McMullan, a junior from Bronte, placed consistently throughout the weekend finishing 7th in the barrels, 4th in breakaway roping, and 4th in pole bending for Saturday. On Sunday, she finished 1st in the goat tying, 6th in breakaway roping and 5th in the pole bending events. Robert Lee sophomore Cody McCabe ended his weekend by placing 9th in the calf roping event on Sunday.

Ft. Stockton, Texas, will be the site of the next Region II rodeo. It will be held November 13 and 14. A cutting event will be held in Ft. Stockton November 20-21 that will conclude all of Region II's fall semester of competition. Spring semester competition will resume in early March and conclude the first part of April 2005. All high school rodeo competitors must earn a qualification by placing

first through tenth place in their region in order to compete at the Texas State High School Rodeo Finals to be held in Abilene, Texas, in early June.

FSA announces program deadlines EWE Lamb Program:

Producers that have retained ewe lambs during the period of August 1, 2003 to July 1, 2004, may be eligible for the Ewe Lamb Replacement and Retention Program.

Ewe lambs are lambs that turned 18 months sometime during the program period, were not bred until after the animal was 18 months old and did not have parrot mouth, foot rot or scrapies. All ewe lambs must be retained for 1 complete lambing cycle.

To apply for the program producers must provide the number of ewe lambs retained and month of birth, provide purchase receipts, if

bought and scrapie flock certification number, when making an application.

At this time there is no end date for signup.

NAP Coverage on Native and Improved Grass:

The final date to purchase a NAP policy on native and improved grass is December 1, 2004. The final date to have the grass certified by is December 15, 2004 for NAP purposes.

Producers may come by the office or call (325) 453-2751 for additional information.

64 Study Club meets

On Tuesday, November 9, 2004, 51 members and guests of The 64 Study Club assembled together at the Rec Hall in Robert Lee for an annual Thanksgiving Banquet. Special guests from San Angelo were Gary Karschner, "Cowboy Poet," and Ken and Carol Eggemeyer. Carol is the new Donor Relations Director for West Texas Rehab.

Winton Milliff gave the invocation and the feasting began. President Della Alexander called a short business meeting. Johnetta Lawrence reminded the members that the club was to host the Robert Lee Care Center November Birthday Party November 16.

Christmas plans for December were discussed. The Christmas Banquet will be December 14, 2004, at the Rec Hall at 6:30 pm. December 9 is the deadline for purchasing the tickets from Peggy Davis.

It was decided that the club would bring food and/or money for the Coke County Food Closet as a Christmas project. It was announced that the sign-up sheet for volunteers to participate at Bryan's Barn was available. Jackie Walker noted the San Angelo Civic Ballet will be presenting The Nutcracker the first weekend in

December and her granddaughter will be in the production. This concluded the meeting.

Carolyn Long introduced Cowboy Poet Gary Karsner. Gary presented an informative and very humorous program entitled "The American Cowboy." His efforts were thoroughly enjoyed by all.

Della Alexander recognized the veterans present and read an article, "My Dream for America," written by her 12 year old niece. She thanked the ladies that decorated the hall.

The "Birthday Belles" for November were Johnetta Lawrence, Trish Rowe, and Reba Tabor. The evening ended with the awarding of three door prizes. The winners were Joe McKnight, Ken Harlan, and Jackie Walker. The wonderful food combined with the fellowship of friends and the essence of peace and thanksgiving made the affair a special night.

Stay Alert!

The natural gas industry has an excellent safety record and TXU Gas* works very hard to keep it that way.

It's important that our customers and community residents know what to do in the unlikely event of a natural gas leak. The presence of natural gas can be detected in three ways.

- SMELL:** A distinctive "rotten egg" odor is added to make natural gas detectable
- LISTEN:** An unusual hissing sound near gas appliances or a blowing sound near gas lines
- LOOK:** Blowing dirt, bubbling creeks or ponds, dry spots in moist areas or dead plants surrounded by green live plants near gas lines

If you suspect a gas leak in your home or outside, follow these safety rules:

- LEAVE the area IMMEDIATELY.
- DO NOT turn any lights on or off, smoke or use a cell phone. DO NOT operate any vehicle or equipment that could cause sparks.
- CALL TXU Gas from a safe distance at 1-800-817-8090.
- DO NOT attempt to turn natural gas valves on or off.

TXU Gas will send a trained service technician immediately to investigate any gas emergency.

*As of October 1, 2004, Atmos Energy acquired the operations of TXU Gas. Atmos Energy employees are the same people you trust today to provide you with safe, reliable natural gas service.

If you smell gas, call 1-800-817-8090.