

# THE OBSERVER/ ENTERPRISE

Serving Coke & Sterling Counties

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Vol. 117, No. 29

Friday, February 11, 2005

## County approves beer and wine sales proposal

Coke County voters approved a measure during Saturday's special election to legalize the sale of beer and wine for off-premise consumption. The final tally shows the measure passed by a margin of 58% for to 42% against. (Complete election results by precinct are included on page 8 of this issue).

A total of 871 votes were cast, with the majority of favorable votes coming from the west side of the county. Voter turnout was 36% of the approximate 2453 registered voters in the county.

The measure was placed on the ballot as a result of a petition drive which yielded 450 signatures. The minimum number of signatures required to hold the election was 425, which is 35% of those who voted in the most recent gubernatorial election.

According to Mary Grim, County/District Clerk, the votes will be canvassed on February 14. If the totals remain unchanged, her office will certify to the state and to the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission that the measure has passed, and the legalization of the measure will take effect at the time the results of the election are officially canvassed.

Mike Horton, with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission in San Angelo, indicated that businesses may download forms off the internet and apply in person

for licenses at his office, which is located at 622 S. Oakes, Ste. P, in San Angelo. In approximately four to six weeks, the license will be mailed to business owners from the Austin office. At that time the businesses may sell beer and wine for off-premise consumption legally in Coke County.

Fees for the licenses, according to Horton, include a \$60 state fee, along with a \$147 surcharge, for a total of \$207 total per year for the license. He also indicated that the city and county may collect one-half of the state fee each year, which would amount to \$30 for each entity, should they choose to charge said fees.

Horton also stated that the county would be required to place a legal notice in the local newspaper for a period of two weeks (two issues), to announce the implementation of the new measure.

### Robert Lee Street Affair organizers set meeting

A meeting of the Robert Lee Street Affair organizers will be held Thursday, February 10, at 5 pm at the Coke County Library.

The meeting was set following the wrap-up meeting last year after discussion of the need for an early start to make the next Street Affair an organized and exciting event.



**Disgruntled Constituents!** Over 60 county residents attended the very lengthy public hearing concerning the county's new regulations on septic systems, held Tuesday, February 8, 2005. The three hour marathon included a laborious question and answer session led by TCEQ (Texas Commission on Environmental Quality) rep Mark Finch. The bottom line is this: The Coke County Commissioners Court will on Monday morning, at their regular meeting, adopt regulations and fee schedules on new septic systems that are more restrictive than those regulations adopted by the state. The new regs will include inspections and oversight by DR's (designated representatives) of the county.

All this is being done in spite of the concern that most attending Tuesday night's meeting conveyed to the court. Oak Creek resident Lee Wommack also presented the court with a petition containing 81 signatures of county residents who were against implementing these new regs.

Commissioners were polled as to how they were going to vote on the issue, and Gaylon Pitcock, Gene Montgomery, and Bill Wheat indicated they would vote for the measure on Monday, with George Snapp the only one indicating a no vote on the controversial issue.

All participants in the 2004 Street Affair are encouraged to attend this meeting to make big plans for October.

### Local publisher receives statewide award

Harold "Hal" Spain was awarded the 2004 Excellence in Journalism Award for a city or market of under 50,000 population at the Texas Farm Bureau Leadership Conference in Austin on February 1, 2005.

The Coke-Sterling County Farm Bureau nominated Spain. The county addressed Spain's constant desire as a publisher to provide news impacting rural and agricultural interests in The Observer Enterprise.

"Hal always wants the news from the school, 4-H and any county activities," said the Board of Directors of the Coke-Sterling County Farm Bureau.

This award is given in recognition of high journalistic ethics in reporting agriculture, Farm

Bureau and rural news in a fair and balanced manner.

Spain is the President of the Coke County Roping Club, and has been a member since 1982. He is a former county agricultural extension agent, and serves on the board of the Coke County Foundation. Spain has also raised registered Corriente cattle and currently raises registered American Quarter Horses.

### Runnels Baptist Assn. to meet February 20

Runnels Baptist Association will meet Sunday, February 20, for a Music Festival. The Music Festival will be held at 4 pm at First Baptist Church, Ballinger.

The executive board and the W.M.U. will not meet. A meal will be served following the festival.

Dales Ellis, Association Music Director, is in charge of the program. Churches that have individuals, ensembles, instrumentalists, or choirs that would like

to sing or play, may contact Dale Ellis at: P.O. Box 564, Ballinger, TX 76821 or phone 365-2830.

### Bird & Wildlife Association slate meeting

The Caliche Loop Bird and Wildlife Association will meet Wednesday, March 2, 2005, in San Angelo. The meeting will be held at the Cotton Patch restaurant in San Angelo at 7 pm. Each attendee is responsible for the cost of their meal.

Tally sheets for the February 18-21 bird count are available at Robert Lee City Hall.

### BH&R to host local artist

Bronte Health and Rehab has the pleasure of hosting local Christian Artist Julie Eustis on Thursday, February 24, at 3 pm. All residents of Coke County and surrounding areas are invited to join the residents and staff for this event.



**State Award Winner!** Observer/Enterprise publisher Hal Spain accepts the plaque as a Farm Bureau state-wide award winner for promoting agriculture in Coke County. Presenting the award is Texas Farm Bureau President Kenneth Dierschke (far right). Also on hand for the presentation were Spain's wife Kim (center), and Bobby and Jeffie Roberts, representing Coke-Sterling Farm Bureau.

**THE OBSERVER/ENTERPRISE**

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**Obituaries**

**Copeland**

Albert Leslie (Les) Copeland passed from this life to a better one, February 6, 2005. He was 77 years old, born May 7, 1927, to Nivia E. and Preston B. Copeland. They lived in Arch, Roosevelt County, New Mexico.

Les went to school in Portales and was drafted into the service of WWII the summer before he finished his senior year. He was in the Navy a year. The following year he came to Coke County to visit an uncle, Ezell Moore, who lived at Silver. He loved the area, the terrain, the ranching and farming that was prevalent to the county. He went to work for the Buryl Austins who lived at the foot of Meadow Mountain near Silver. He lived with them for awhile, learning the ranching business.

Les came to the Robert Lee Baptist Church with the Austins on a regular basis. He met Bonita Childress and they with another couple led the music for the church service. In 1950 they were married. They continued to serve in the music department at church. He became active as a deacon.

In 1954, Les started to work for Perkins Prothro Oil Company. Les and Bonita and 6 week old daughter, Gaye, moved to Silver where his work was. They lived in a camp with other employees. Their son, Daryl was born two years later. Les worked for the same company for 40 years.

Les is survived by Bonita, his wife of 54 years. Daughter Nita Gaye Williams and husband Gary and son Daryl and wife Myna Kay, all of Robert Lee.

Les leaves four grandchildren, John Williams and wife Laurie of Winston Salem, North Carolina. Jerrod Copeland and wife Karen, Holly Copeland and fiancée, Ryan Crutcher, and Tiffany Copeland, all of Lubbock. There is one great-grandchild, Amelia Hope Williams.

Les is also survived by sisters-in-law, Carolyn Braswell and husband Eddie of College Station and

Juanice Herr and husband Len of Collierville, TN. Also, nieces and nephews, Becky Molpus and husband John, Danny Sheppard, Ginger Williams and husband Matt, Van Braswell and wife Stacey, Sterling Braswell and Gentry Braswell.

Les was the last of his siblings to pass on. These were Lela May and Talmage Copeland, and Alma Copeland Stokes, all who lived in the Lubbock area.

Alma's children are Myrna Scholein, Vernon Stokes, Helen Ellison, Elaine Winn and Nola Jennings. These, with their spouses and children have been very near and special to Les.

Les is also survived by many great-nieces and nephews.

Les has always followed the interests of his children and grandchildren in their school and college studies and especially their sports activities. He has stayed active in church, school and community affairs for many years.

A memorial service was held at 1:30 pm, Tuesday, February 8, 2005, at the Robert Lee Baptist Church. Services were under the direction of Shaffer Funeral Home.

The family wishes that any memorials be made to the Robert Lee Baptist Church, Robert Lee Fire Department or Hospice of San Angelo.

*29-1tc*

**Conley**

Doris Alexander Conley went to be with the Lord on Monday, February 7, 2005. She was surrounded by family and went very peacefully.

Graveside services were held on Wednesday, February 9, 2005, at 2 pm at the

Fairview Cemetery in Bronte with the Rev. A. J. Kennemer officiating. The Central Baptist Church of Bronte, at 324 S. Franklin, sponsored a luncheon prior to the service from 11:30 to 1:30.

Doris is survived by her daughter, Linda Conley, of Austin; three brothers, J.L. Alexander of Bronte; Eddie Alexander and wife Earlene of Bronte; Billy Alexander and wife Rena of Irving; two sisters, Montie Sanker of Ozona; and Mary Webster of Ozona. She is also survived by her two grand-nieces, Jayden and Jennifer Alexander of Robert Lee, and Josh Alexander of Bronte, who regarded "Aunt Doris" as their second grandma. She is preceded in death by her parents, Monroe and Martha Alexander of Bronte; a sister, Juanita Alexander of Bronte; and a brother, Norman Alexander of Bronte.

Doris was born October 20, 1924. She was the third of eight children and graduated from Bronte High School. Shortly after graduating, she began her career at San Angelo National Bank, where she retired in 1986 after working in various positions for 41 years. She was active with the bank retirees and attended their luncheons and other functions.

Doris raised her daughter as a single parent and taught her to be strong, kind, and independent. Her daughter was with her every day in the last weeks of her life and will treasure those moments forever.

The family wishes to thank Hospice of San Angelo and the Bronte Nursing Home for their special care. Memorials may be sent to Hospice of San Angelo.

*29-1tc*

**Williams completes Doctorate of Science in Nursing**

Jackie Williams, daughter of J. Q. and Beatrice Counts of Robert Lee, completed a Doctorate of Science in Nursing through the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston in 2004.

Dr. Williams is a professor of nursing at New Mexico State University, and practices as a Family Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner and Clinical Nurse Specialist at Memorial Medical Center

and the Southern New Mexico Family Medicine Program in Las Cruces. She studies adolescents and family functioning in health care situations and presented research at the American Public Health Conference in Washington, DC, and the National Hispanic Nurses Association in Las Vegas, NV, during 2004. She is scheduled to present further research in the Western Institute of Nursing Conference in Victoria, Canada, during 2005.

Jackie graduated from Robert Lee High School in 1968, and has been living in Las Cruces since 1989 with her husband, retired Army Lieutenant Colonel Gary Williams, and their six children.

**Turner named MCNC resident of the month**

Robbie Turner, Robert Lee native and former resident, was named as January's Resident of the Month at Meadow Creek Nursing Center in San Angelo.

Robbie was born to Will and Elizabeth Bell in Robert Lee on December 3, 1909. She was the youngest of nine girls. Robbie graduated from Robert Lee High School in May 1926. In December of 1926, she married Marcus Turner of Norton. Marcus was a farmer and they lived on a farm in Runnels County until 1942. At that time, Marcus joined the Air Force and Robbie moved to Robert Lee to live with her recently widowed mother. She worked at several jobs in Robert Lee: the Rationing Board, Conservation Office and the office of County Judge Bob Davis. Marcus trained at Goodfellow Air Base as a parachute packer



**Robbie Turner**

and was sent overseas to India.

Marcus returned home in 1945 and they continued to live in Robert Lee until he went to work for Pool Well Service in San Angelo in 1951. They bought a home on Iris Street. Marcus died in 1982 and Robbie lived in their home until 1997. At that time, she moved to the tenth floor of Rio Concho Manor where she enjoyed her view of San Angelo until September, 2001. She now lives at Meadow Creek Nursing Center.

Gladys Jenkins, director of activities at the center, says "Robbie is an incredible lady. When you see her in the halls, she always has pretty clothes on and a beautiful smile."

Robbie and Marcus enjoyed square dancing and spectator sports for many years. She still enjoys watching all sports on TV. Robbie celebrated her 95th birthday in December.

**WCC EMS donations for January 2005**

Horace Scott  
'64 Study Club

**RLCC donations for January 2005**

Judy Nickles

**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 Tienen  
Sun. 10:00 am Sunday School  
11:00 am Worship  
5:00 Youth  
**First United Methodist Church**  
PO Box 144 • 9th & Chadbourne  
Robert Lee  
(325) 453-2417  
Rev. Steve Rowe, Pastor  
Sun. 10 am Sunday School  
11 am Worship  
Wed. 7 pm Choir  
**Iglesia Bautista Bethel**  
101 Houston • Robert Lee  
(325) 453-5003 • 453-2296  
Pastor: Basilio Esquivel  
Sun. 9:45, 11:00, & 11:30 am  
& 6 pm, Wednesday 7 pm

**Northside Church of Christ**  
PO Box 388 • 9th & Chadbourne  
Robert Lee  
(325) 453-2619 or 453-2270  
Tommy Williams, Minister  
Services: Sun. 10 am & 6 pm;  
Wed. 7 pm  
**Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church**  
601 W. 10th, Robert Lee  
(325) 365-2687  
Rev. Hubert Wade, Jr., Pastor  
Sat. 6 pm  
**Pecan Baptist**  
PO Box 542 • 12 miles West of Robert Lee  
on Sterling City Hwy • (325) 453-2004  
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  
Joe Hodges, Pastor  
(325) 468-0014  
Sun. 9:45 am, Sunday School  
11:00 am & 6 pm, Worship  
Wed. 6:00 pm Prayer Meeting  
**Victory Assembly of God**  
PO Box 638 • 6th & Houston  
Robert Lee  
(325) 453-2208  
Rev. Irene Ford, Pastor  
Sun. 9:45 am, Sunday School  
10:45 am & 6 pm, Worship  
Wed. 6 pm, Prayer Meeting

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**Graves interns in Washington, D.C.**

Scott Chester Graves is a senior in the Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources College of Texas Tech University. Scott was awarded an internship for the Spring 2005 semester with the House Agriculture Committee in Washington DC.

Applications for state and federal internships were screened by a Texas Tech faculty committee. Criteria included written communication skills, leadership and personal skills, extracurricular activities, agricultural and natural resources background and GPA. Selected students then participated in an interview with a faculty committee and staff members of congressional offices. Criteria for selection to different internships include interpersonal skills, oral communication skill, level of maturity, understanding of the internship and knowledge of agricultural sciences and natural resources.

Scott's first choice of internships was to intern with the House Ag Committee. Scott arrived in Washington January 5 and began working January 6. He had the privilege of attending several inaugural events. The experiences that Scott is gaining during his internship will be invaluable to his future.

Scott is planning to graduate from Texas Tech in May and then attend graduate school. Scott is the son of Susan and Jerry Graves of Bronte.

**Local election filing continues**

Monday, February 7, 2005, was the first day a candidate could file an application for a place on the ballot for local elections to be held in May.

Applications for the city councils may be picked up at either City Hall. Filing deadline ends at 5 pm March 7, 2005. The City of Robert Lee will be conducting an election for City Council positions for three (3) full-term members. Those members' terms expiring are: Nita Stovall-Duncan, Jayson Treadaway, and John Carver. The City of Bronte will be conducting an election for City Council positions for two (2) full-term and one (1) one-year due to a vacancy. Those members terms expiring are Gerald Sandusky and Elton Moore.

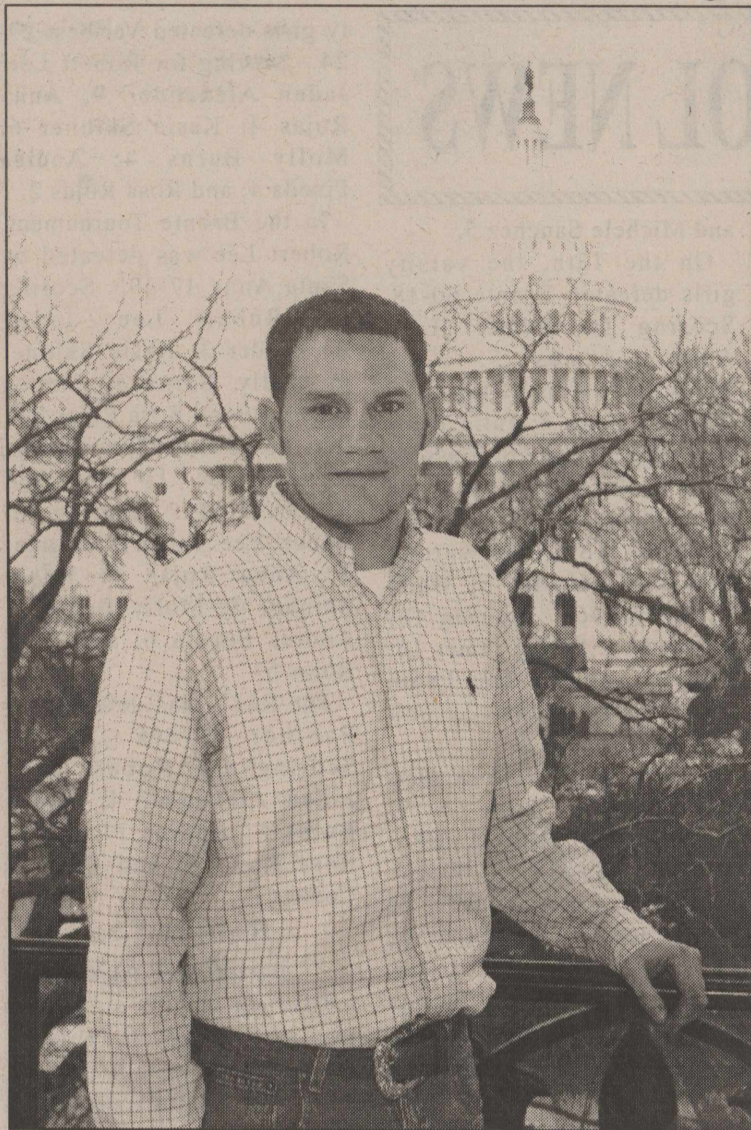
Robert Lee ISD will need to elect three trustees. The 3 year term of Mark Riley is expiring, as are the two 3 year unexpired terms with 2 years remaining currently held by Tom Sawyer, Jr., and Tod Reed.

Bronte ISD will elect two 3 year trustees. These offices are currently held by Kendall Gibbs and Scott Frasier.

Applications may be filed in the school administration offices.

Two 2 year terms currently held by Doris Sims and Alonzo Robbins are expiring in the East Coke County Hospital District. Filing will be held in the administration office of Bronte Health & Rehab Center.

West Coke County Hospital District will also need to elect two trustees for 2 year terms. These offices are currently held



Scott Graves

by Doug Wilkes and Judy Williams. Interested candidates may pick up and file their application in the administration office of Robert Lee Care Center.

of a hairy experience the animal was destroyed. There is nothing as sad as a beautiful animal with rabies in the last stages. Skunks, fox, racoons and a porcupine had been spotted doing strange things.

Guns were left out there and kept in a place according to Texas Laws. There were concerns for the two elderly neighbors that have to unlock gates to enter their land.

We wish the very best for Jennie Lee and her dog. Thanks to you too, Hal, for your informative comments.

Wanda Smith  
Robert Lee



**Letters to the Editor**

Dear Mr. Spain,

I enjoy your section of the Observer newspaper. I especially enjoyed your comments on the three-day closing of the county courthouse as this has inconvenienced many of us.

This week, I especially related to your story on Roy and Jennie Lee Tinkler's rabid bobcat story as almost the same thing happened at the Smith Place. A rabid fox got after our son and his dog. After about two hours



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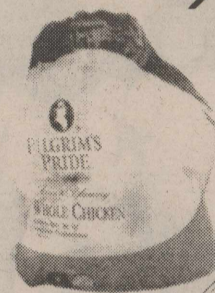
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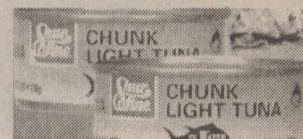
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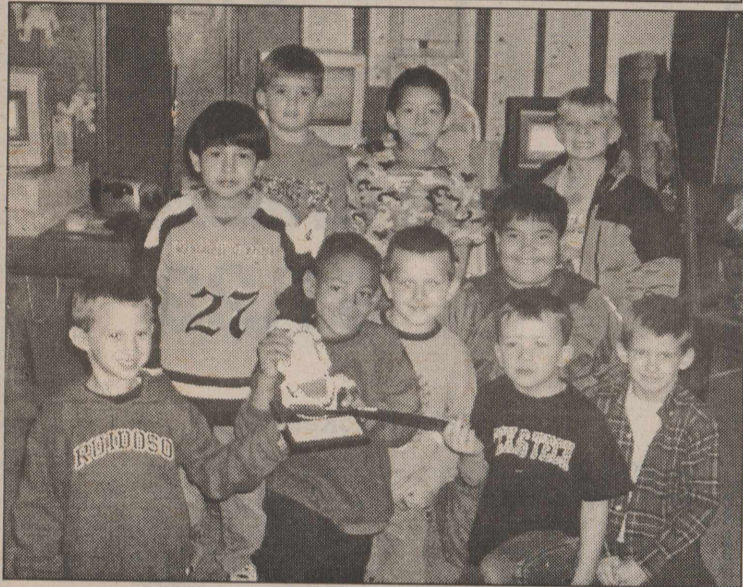
**3** 10 oz. bag **/\$5**

**Coca Cola, Sprite or Dasani Water**

**3** 12 pk. 12 oz. cans **/\$10**



# ROBERT LEE SCHOOL NEWS



**Good Dental Hygiene!** Mrs Payne's Robert Lee 1st grade class has been busy studying about dental care. Family and Consumer Science Agent Jan Yanez presented a program on Mr Clean and Mr Dirty Mouth. She focused on tobacco free mouth. She stressed the importance of having healthy teeth. Her program consisted on How to Brush your teeth with Mr. Big Toothbrush.

## Steers basketball results

February 1, the Robert Lee Steers were defeated by



### Breakfast

- Monday, Feb. 14**  
Juice, muffin, cereal, milk
- Tuesday, Feb. 15**  
Juice, cinnamon roll, cereal, milk
- Wed., Feb. 16**  
Juice, pigs in blanket, cereal, milk
- Thurs., Feb. 17**  
Juice, pancake & sausage on stick, cereal, milk
- Friday, Feb. 18**  
Juice, pop tart, cereal, milk

### Lunch

- Monday, Feb. 14**  
Barbecue wieners, mac & cheese, green beans, roll, pineapple, milk
- Tuesday, Feb. 15**  
Bean chalupa, cheese, salad, tamale, fresh fruit, milk
- Wed., Feb. 16**  
Oven fried chicken, creamed potatoes, peas, sliced bread, peaches, milk
- Thurs., Feb. 17**  
Meatballs, corn, salad, roll, applesauce, milk
- Friday, Feb. 18**  
Hot dog, chili & cheese, tator tots, pears, milk

Versibest by a score of 37-48. Scoring for Robert Lee: Andy Mulkey 15; Taylor Percifull 2; Omar Saucedo 8; Jake McCabe 4; Ruben Torres 5; and Josh Conner 3.

On the 4th, the Steers defeated Santa Anna by a score of 52-44. Scoring for Robert Lee: Andy Mulkey 7; Omar Saucedo 7; Kevin Honse 8; Jake McCabe 7; Ruben Torres 7; Lance Millican 9; and Brandon Soliz 7.

## RL girls basketball results

On Jan. 7th, the girls varsity basketball team defeated Veribest 49-28. Scoring for Robert Lee: Ashley James 5; Kelsy Duncan 1; Christan Kelly 3; Brittany Soliz 3; Julie Riley 8; Cara Eaton 12; Cassidy Wink 4; Becca Skinner 2; Veronica Cerritos 2; Sarah Philley 3; Brettne Reed 2; and Michele Sanchez 4.

On Jan. 11th, the varsity girls defeated Santa Anna 68-48. Scoring for Robert Lee: Ashley James 13; Kelsy Duncan 4; Christan Kelly 2; Brittany Soliz 6; Julie Riley 8; Cara Eaton 4; Cassidy Wink 12; Becca Skinner 6; Veronica Cerritos 4; Sarah Philley 2; Brettne Reed 2;

and Michele Sanchez 5.

On the 13th, the varsity girls defeated Bronte 60-18. Scoring for Robert Lee: Ashley James 5; Kyla Millican 2; Kelsy Duncan 4; Brittany Soliz 4; Julie Riley 12; Cara Eaton 10; Cassidy Wink 8; Becca Skinner 8; and Sarah Philley 7.

On the 18th, the varsity girls were defeated by Water Valley 38-46. Scoring for Robert Lee: Ashley James 16; Brittany Soliz 5; Cara Eaton 12; Cassidy Wink 3; and Michele Sanchez 2.

On Jan. 21, the varsity girls defeated Paint Rock 66-19. Scoring for Robert Lee: Ashley James 5; Kelsy Duncan 4; Christan Kelly 3; Julie Riley 2; Cara Eaton 15; Cassidy Wink 3; Becca Skinner 8; Veronica Cerritos 5; Sarah Philley 14; Brettne Reed 2; and Michele Sanchez 5.

On the 25th, the varsity girls defeated Novice 63-22. Scoring for Robert Lee: Ashley James 6; Kyla Millican 3; Kelsy Duncan 7; Christan Kelly 11; Brittany Soliz 2; Julie Riley 3; Cara Eaton 15; Cassidy Wink 2; Becca Skinner 6; Veronica Cerritos 2; Brettne Reed 3; and Michele Sanchez 3.

On the 28th, the varsity girls defeated Panther Creek 60-25. Scoring for Robert Lee: Ashley James 11; Kyla Millican 5; Kelsy Duncan 2; Brittany Soliz 7; Julie Riley 2; Cara Eaton 8; Cassidy Wink 3; Becca Skinner 7; Sarah Philley 9; Brettne Reed 4; and Michele Sanchez 2.

On Feb. 1st, the varsity girls defeated Veribest 66-39. Scoring for Robert Lee: Ashley James 16; Kyla Millican 3; Kelsy Duncan 2; Brittany Soliz 2; Julie Riley 3; Cara Eaton 8; Cassidy Wink 4; Becca Skinner 7; Veronica Cerritos 6; Sarah Philley 13; and Michele Sanchez 2.

On January 11th, in overtime, the junior varsity girls were defeated by Santa Anna 34-38. Scoring for Robert Lee: Jaden Alexander 3; Anna Rojas 1; Kasie Skinner 4; Molly Burns 7; Andrea Pineda 13; Rosa Rojas 4; and Chelsea Conner 2.

On January 13th, in overtime, the RL junior varsity were defeated by Bronte 22-23. Scoring for Robert Lee: Jaden Alexander 5; Kasie Skinner 2; Molly Burns 8; Andrea Pineda 5; and Rosa Rojas 2.

On the 18th, the junior varsity girls were defeated by Water Valley 29-39. Scoring for Robert Lee: Jaden Alexander 2; Kasie Skinner 4; Molly Burns 2; Andrea Pineda 12; and Rosa Rojas 9.

On the 28th in the Bronte Tournament, the junior varsity

girls defeated Veribest 29-24. Scoring for Robert Lee: Jaden Alexander 9; Anna Rojas 4; Kasie Skinner 6; Molly Burns 4; Andrea Pineda 4; and Rosa Rojas 2.

In the Bronte Tournament, Robert Lee was defeated by Santa Anna 17-49. Scoring for Robert Lee: Jaden Alexander 3; Kasie Skinner 4; Molly Burns 4; Andrea Pineda 4; and Rosa Rojas 2.

In the Bronte Tournament, Robert Lee JV defeated Roscoe 20-15. Scoring for Robert Lee: Jaden Alexander 3; Anna Rojas 2; Kasie Skinner 2; Molly Burns 2; Andrea Pineda 6; and Rosa Rojas 5.

The RLJV was defeated by Panther Creek 23-25. Scoring for Robert Lee: Jaden Alexander 4; Molly Burns 4; Andrea Pineda 8; Rosa Rojas 5; and Chelsea Conner 2.

## Robert Lee baseball news

Fifty-seven kids signed up to play baseball on February 7th. If you forgot to sign your child up to play, the deadline has been extended to February 15th. You may register your child or find out

registration fee by contacting Scotty Jackson or Frankie Gartman. They must be 4 years old by April 1st to play.

A parent meeting will be held February 21st at 6:00 pm at Robert Lee Elementary.

## Abalos named Honor Roll student

Texas A&M University-Kingsville has released the names of students who made the Honor Roll for the 2004 semester.

Charles Glenn Abalos of Robert Lee made the Honor Roll which requires a grade point average of 3.5 while taking at least 12 semester hours.

## TFB scholarships available

Farm Bureau is offering three scholarships for high school students who have not yet graduated.

Applications for these scholarships can be found on the TFB website at <http://www.txfb.org> by clicking on Youth Activities.

Interested students can contact their school counselor at Bronte, Robert Lee, or Sterling City for help; or contact Brenda at Coke-Sterling Farm Bureau at 453-4505 for additional information.

## WINK INSURANCE AGENCY



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**2003 Chevy C-2500 Silverado LS \$27,995**

White • 4x4 • Duramax Diesel • Auto • Excellent!

**2001 Chevy Suburban LT 4x4 \$15,995**

Gold w/tan Quad Captains Leather Chairs • Moon Roof

**1999 Ford F-250 Super Cab Lariat \$13,995**

White w/Tan Accent • Short Bed • Powerstroke Automatic • One Owner • Great for Towing!

**2002 Ford Explorer Sport Trac \$16,995**

Silver w/Gray Interior • Cargo Cage • 36k • CUTE!

**2002 Ford F-250 Super Cab XLT \$22,995**

Silver • Powerstroke • Auto • 57,000 Miles • Great!

**2000 Ford F-150 Super Cab XLT \$10,495**

Toreador Red • 5.4 V8 • Automatic • 94,000 Miles

**2002 Ford F-150 Super Cab XLT \$13,995**

White • 5.4 V8 • 7,700 GVW Package • 70,000 Miles

**2003 Ford F-150 Super Crew XLT \$17,995**

White w/tan interior • 55,000 Miles • Nice Truck!

**2003 Ford F-150 Super Cab XLT 4x4 \$16,995**

White w/Gray Cloth Interior • 5.4 V8 • Automatic

**2002 Ford Windstar SE \$12,995**

Spruce Green w/Tan Cloth Interior • Quad Captains Chairs • PW/PL/CD • Rear Air • 43,000 Miles

Ask For: **453-4561**

Randy Flanagan • Buck Duncan • Billy Wayne Roe

### Bronte boys basketball results

The Bronte Longhorn varsity team took a victory from Santa Anna by a score of 55-35. Stats for Bronte: Sherman Griffin 13 pts., 3 steals; Garrett Jackson 3 pts.; Riley Coalson 18 pts., 6 rebounds, 4 assists; Logan Rawls 16 pts., 8 rebounds, 4 assists, 7 steals; Eric Hendrickson 2 pts., 5 assists, 3 steals; and Brett Wills 3 pts.

The Bronte Longhorns won by a large margin against Novice 63-28. Stats for Bronte: Sherman Griffin 16 pts., 8 rebounds; Garrett Jackson 6 pts.; Riley Coalson 13 pts., 11 rebounds; Logan Rawls 13 pts., 8 rebounds; Eric Hendrickson 11 pts., 8 rebounds; and Brett Wills 4 pts.

The Bronte 8th grade basketball team lost to Christoval 16-20, on Jan. 27th. Scoring for Bronte: Springer 6; Allen 4; May 3; and Cecilio 3.

On the 29th, the 8th graders lost another close game to Sterling City 20-22. Scoring for Bronte: Mackey 5; Rawlings 2; Springer 5; Allen 6; and Cecilio 2.

On the 29th, Bronte 8th graders lost to Winters 16-17. Scoring for Bronte: Mackey 2; Rawlings 1; Springer 7; Allen 5; and Cecilio 1.

On the 31st, the Bronte 8th graders won against San Angelo Home School by a score of 26-23. Scoring for Bronte: Mackey 2; Springer 8; Allen 12; and Cecilio 4.

## Longhorn Country

### School Menu



#### Breakfast

**Monday, Feb. 14**

Cereal, diced pears, toast, jelly, milk

**Tuesday, Feb. 15**

Breakfast burrito, assorted juice, milk

**Wed., Feb. 16**

French toast sticks, assorted juice, syrup, milk

**Thurs., Feb. 17**

Cheese toast, apple sauce, milk

**Friday, Feb. 18**

Breakfast pizza, assorted juice, milk

#### Lunch

**Monday, Feb. 14**

Chicken nugget, gravy, creamed potatoes, green beans, mixed fruit, roll, Pink Panther cake, milk

**Tuesday, Feb. 15**

Spud day, chili & cheese, potato (baked), broccoli, sliced peaches, crackers, milk

**Wed., Feb. 16**

Lasagna, corn on the cob, tossed salad, apple sauce, bread sticks, milk

**Thurs., Feb. 17**

Frito pie with cheese, pinto beans, tossed salad, corn chips, apple crisp, milk

**Friday, Feb. 18**

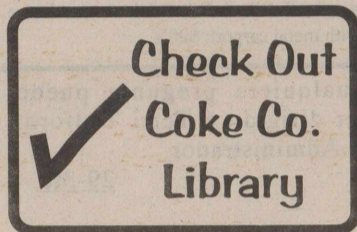
Sloppy Joe, tator tots, ranch style beans, bun, sugar cookies, milk

### Whipple takes top rating in UIL competition

In the UIL Vocal Solo and Ensemble Contest, held Saturday at Howard Payne University in Brownwood, Bronte High School senior Monica Whipple took a Division I (Superior) rating and medal on her class I vocal solo and qualified for state. Class 1 indicates a high difficulty level.

This is Monica's second time to qualify for state. In her sophomore year, she took Division I ratings in both the regional and state competitions.

The Texas State Solo and Ensemble Contest will be held on the campus of Texas State University in San Marcos, on May 28 and 30.



There are three popular authors who write mysteries with no graphic violence and with believable characters, plots, and locations. Mary Daheim writes of mysteries solved from the character in a bed and breakfast series and of mysteries solved from a small-town newspaper office.

Jill Churchill writes mysteries with "zany, witty and wacko suspects." Carolyn Hart's heroine is Agatha Christy and her mystery-solving heroine is a 60-something sleuth who "drives fast, thinks faster, and isn't afraid of the dark."

These authors will get you through a sleepless time of the night, or a rainy afternoon, or an evening of really bad television. Reading will also keep the brain cells working.

The Coke County Library receives many donated books which keep the light, popular reading paperback collection interesting.

Library hours are Tuesdays, 8-12; Wednesdays, 8-4; Thursdays, 1-5; Fridays, 8-12. A drop-box on the porch of the library is available 24/7 and books may be returned in Bronte to the Main Street Market. Story Hour is Tuesday at 10:00 am and Head Start Story Time is 9:30 am on Wednesday.

### Discover ASU schedule set for Spring

Angelo State University's Admissions Office will host four Saturday sessions of "Discover ASU" this spring to allow high school seniors and others considering college careers to get a closer look at what ASU has to offer in the way of programs, scholarships, housing, financial aid and extracurricular activities.

Discover ASU programs

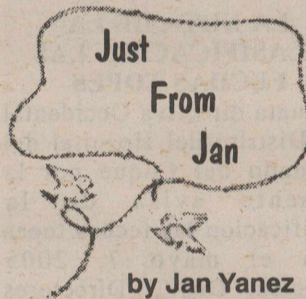
# BRONTE SCHOOL NEWS

are scheduled for Feb. 12, March 5, April 9 and April 23 on the Angelo State University campus in San Angelo. Each program will begin with registration at 8:30 am, followed at 9:15 am with a welcome from ASU President James Hindman and an overview of the university. Tours and a special program will follow the opening session. The university will provide a complimentary lunch for students and their families.

The Feb. 12 and March 5 programs will be in the Houston Harte University Center at 1910 Rosemont Drive. The April 9 and April 23 sessions are planned for the Center for Human Performance, 2050 S. Johnson St.

General information will be available on financial aid, Carr Academic Scholarships, student organizations, residence halls and extracurricular activities. Special sessions will cover academic and pre-professional programs.

For more information on Discover ASU, which was previously known as "College Days," contact the ASU Admissions Office at (325) 942-2058 or visit the university Web site at [www.angelo.edu](http://www.angelo.edu).



### by Jan Yanez Cooperative Extension Agent Healthy Valentine's Day Dining

On Valentine's Day, we spend time with loved ones. And what better way to do that than with a nice dinner out? With a little planning and these six easy tips, you can take control and treat yourself to a special night.

1. Relax. Don't approach the dinner with trepidation. You're not denying yourself anything. You're making choices about your life. And you're sharing a meal with those you love, whether that is your honey, your family, or a group of friends. How could it get any better than that?

2. Ask for what you want.

\* Scan the menu to create your own dinner. If you want the fish, but don't want the cream sauce, ask for it to be served with the salsa that comes with the chicken, or the fresh herbs from the pasta. If you want veal but don't want it drenched in butter, ask for it with lemon juice

and herbs. Fancier restaurants prepare dishes to order, so it's no problem \* less fancy dining establishments are often willing to make changes, too. There's no harm in asking!

\* The same goes for the sides. That shrimp dish you want might come with potato gratin, but the roast chicken comes with grilled asparagus. Just ask for the shrimp with asparagus.

\* Tell the chef not to "finish" the sauce. Chefs sometimes swirl butter into a sauce before it's served. Ask if the sauce can be plain, fresh and bright, not "finished."

\* If the chef cannot accommodate you, ask your waiter to recommend an alternative lighter preparation. But ask for what you want the way you want it. That's taking control of your life!

3. Order simpler food prepared light. In terms of calories, grilled is usually better than fried; baked is better than braised.

4. Ask for your meal to be divided. Meals these days are often served in enormous portions. Ask the waiter to divide yours before it's served and put one half in a take-home bag that's reserved for you in the kitchen. That way you'll have dinner the next day, too.

5. Cut things out during the meal.

\* Forego the cocktail, which can be loaded with

sugar, and have a glass of red wine instead.

\* Ask for lemon juice or vinegar on the salad.

\* Ask for cocktail sauce or chutney on your baked potato, rather than butter and sour cream.

6. Share. You can split an appetizer, a salad or a dessert. It's so romantic to share a dish with someone you love.

### TFB scholarships available

Farm Bureau is offering three scholarships for high school students who have not yet graduated.

The Young Farmer & Rancher scholarships are for enrolled college students who are pursuing degrees in agriculture and who have completed a minimum of 45 hours of college credit. Each of these scholarships must be postmarked no later than March 31, 2005. Every attempt will be made to announce the recipients by May 2, 2005.

Applications for each of these scholarships can be found on the TFB website at <http://www.txfb.org> by clicking on Youth Activities. Also available on our website are links to other scholarship and financial assistance opportunities.

Interested students can contact their school counselor at Bronte, Robert Lee, or Sterling City for help; or contact Brenda at Coke-Sterling Farm Bureau at 453-4505 for any additional information.

## GLENN-BIVINS INSURANCE



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123 W. Main

Bronte

473-6791

## Massage By Dean

### Valentine's Day Sweetheart Special

Buy One \$50 Massage Gift Certificate  
• Get the 2nd One Half Price!

#### NOTICE:

Beginning February 12,  
we will be accepting Saturday  
appointments.

Saturday: 1-6 pm

473-3202

Main Street Hair Salon  
121 W. Main • Bronte



**Stenholm appreciation dinner set in Winters**

A dinner to honor Charlie and Cindy Stenholm will be held on Saturday, February 12, at 7 pm at the Winters Community Center.

Congressman Charles Stenholm served the Texas 17th District for 26 years in the United States House of Representatives. The event will bring together people from the Winters area and surrounding counties to say "thank you" to the Stenholms for their years of dedication to West Texas.

Tickets for the dinner are available by calling 325-754-4542 or e-mail wabic@winters-texas.us. Tickets will not be available at the door.

Proceeds from the dinner and donations will benefit the Stenholm Library Fund in Stamford, where the records and memorabilia of Stenholm's years in Washington will be housed.

Charlie Stenholm will continue to live and serve in Washington, working for organizations to help formulate agricultural policy.

**Sign-up period for 2005 EQIP funding to end March 18**

The USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in Texas announced that farmers and ranchers wishing to be considered for 2005 funding in the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) must sign up by the close of business Friday, March 18, 2005.

EQIP was reauthorized in the 2002 Farm Bill to provide a voluntary conservation program for farmers and ranchers that promotes agricultural production and environmental quality as compatible national goals. EQIP offers financial and technical help to assist eligible participants install or implement structural and/or management practices on eligible agricultural land.

In 2005 Texas will receive approximately \$64 million in EQIP financial assistance funds and approximately \$5.5 million in Ground and Surface Water EQIP funds.

"These funds will help farmers and ranchers improve the natural resources on private working lands in Texas," said Dr. Larry Butler, Texas NRCS State Conservationist. "They will be used to solve locally identified resource problems in each county and will also fund special statewide concerns recommended by the Texas State Technical Committee such as water quantity, water and air quality, wildlife habitat, and treatment of invasive species. This program offers cost share and incentives payments to producers applying approved conservation measures."

Butler explained, "Using national and state EQIP priorities, counties working through a Local Work Group chaired by the local Soil and

Water Conservation District recommended local resource concerns to be addressed, eligible practices, and cost-share rates and/or incentive payments. This group also recommended cost-share rates for beginning farmers. In 2005, producers who meet the criteria as a Limited Resource Farmer or Rancher can receive 90 percent cost share for eligible practices. The group also recommended an application ranking process to prioritize applications for funding. We have reviewed and concurred in all of their recommendations."

Beginning immediately after March 18, 2005, all applications will be ranked and those selected for funding will be approved. A conservation planner will develop a contract and conservation plan for each contract that is approved. Producers who have been awarded contracts can then begin implementing the approved conservation practices this year. Local NRCS field offices have complete details for their county.

Additional information and access to ranking criteria, practices, and cost share rates for EQIP can be found at [www.tx.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/](http://www.tx.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/)

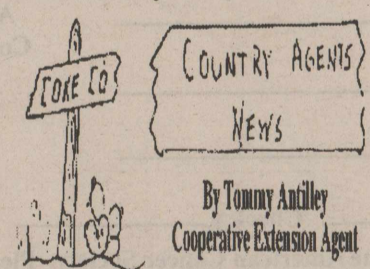
**TxDOT announces service awards**

Fourth quarter Texas Department of Transportation service awards have been announced, honoring 21 employees in the San Angelo District.

Ron Waggonner was recognized for five years of service to the state's transportation system. He is the mechanic for the local maintenance section.

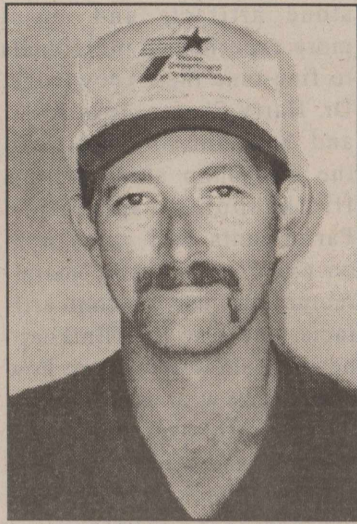
The Outstanding Team of the Year has also been announced, recognizing the Sterling City Maintenance Section as the top team for 2004. The nomination described these employees as a group demonstrating "the true meaning of teamwork on a daily basis" during regular work hours or hours dedicated to emergency situations.

The Sterling Maintenance Section employees are responsible for maintenance of state roadways in Sterling and Glasscock Counties and the safety rest area located in Coke County on US 87.



**Concerns with Late Planted Wheat**

\* Late maturity: Late emerged wheat will mature later subjecting the wheat to higher temperatures and drought stress during grain fill. Disease organisms will usually be present at higher levels during the latter part of the growing season, causing more risk to the maturing



**Ron Waggonner**

crop from wheat leaf rust and/or stem rust.

\* Poor Root System Development: Seedlings which emerge in December and January have a weak, shallow root system. The root system will not have the potential for moisture and nutrient uptake that wheat planted in the optimum time frame would. Hot, dry conditions at flowering and during grain fill would result in a significant yield reduction.

\* Tiller numbers: Wheat grows very slowly at low temperatures and is essentially dormant below 40 degrees. Late emergence dates subjects the wheat to cooler temperatures which results in very few tillers being produced prior to winter dormancy. Higher seeding rates are commonly used to offset this reduction in tillering. If soil moisture is limited, then emergence can be poor and/or tiller survival may be limited.

\* Phosphorus inefficiency: Phosphorus availability is low in cold soils. Phosphorus moves by diffusion from the soil solution to the root surface, and diffusion rates are inversely related to soil temperature. Root system expansion is slower in cold soils which results in lower phosphorus uptake by the plant. Phosphorus is an important nutrient in the development of the root system and ultimately a healthy plant.

\* Vernalization: Winter wheat undergoes two important physiological changes in the fall. The processes that bring about these changes are known as vernalization and cold acclimation. Vernalization is required before heading will take place the next spring. If seeding takes place after the optimum date, vernalization will be affected and maturity delayed. Cold acclimation is necessary before plants can survive the low temperatures of winter. Vernalization and cold acclimation require growth when minimum morning and maximum afternoon soil temperatures are below 45 and 50°F, respectively. Winter wheats require a number of chilling hours to stimulate the formation of reproductive growth. These chilling hours are usually considered those above freezing but below the temperature at which wheat growth goes dormant from the cold (bet-



**Top Team!** San Angelo Outstanding Team of the Year employees include (front row, from left) Joe Rodriguez, Mary Alice Brown, Alberto Estrada, Tim Sims, Daniel Martinez, (back row, from left) Supervisor Shorty Radde, Courtney Strube, Wayne Halfmann, Guillermo Resendez, Gary Maricle, and Kenneth Schniers (back row).

ween 40 and 32 degrees). Wheat varieties vary somewhat with respect to vernalization requirements. Late planting reduces vernalization on wheats, which may be significant, particularly in southern growing areas of District 7. Optimum planting dates for wheat grown for grain production in our area is between October 15 and November 15. Yield reductions can be expected when wheat emergence occurs after November 20, however, weather conditions will be a major influence to the extent of the reduction.

\* Reduced Plant Vigor: Four to five weeks growth at temperatures higher than those required for vernalization and cold acclimation is necessary to ensure that plants have sufficient energy reserves available for a quick start in the spring. Seeding when maximum afternoon soil temperature is approximately 64°F usually allows sufficient time for this growth and development to take place. Seeding later, when temperatures were lower, resulted in delayed germination, slow plant emergence and reduced rate of subsequent plant growth. This usually translates into a higher risk of winterkill, lower yield and delayed maturity.

When should a second application of nitrogen be made to wheat to be harvested as grain? Only a small portion of the total nitrogen used by the crop is required prior to jointing (usually around 20 to 30%). Topdress nitrogen is best utilized if applied prior to jointing. Evaluate fields as growth begins in the spring. If tiller numbers are low, producers will want to apply the fertilizer early. The amount to apply should be based upon amount of nitrogen present in the field and yield potential. Ungrazed wheat will use about 1.7 pounds of nitrogen per bushel of yield. Base rates on projected yield considering: 1) the crop condition, 2) availability of moisture, 3) residual nitrogen at planting (from soil test), and 4) amount of fertilizer applied

pre-plant. Source of nitrogen has little to do with yield response. Apply the source that can be most efficiently and economically applied. To reduce leaf burn with high rates of liquid applicator, consider using dribble nozzles.

By late February, the wheat will reach a stage of growth where nutrient and water uptake is increasing. If producers intend to get the most from the dollars invested in fertilizer, they need to apply nutrients just before winter dormancy ends. Soil nutrient levels need to be at a high level when the formation of the head occurs. If the head can be found above the soil surface the producer has lost the opportunity to impact the number of spikelets per head and the number of seeds per spikelet. The only other variable of production remaining that can be influenced by the nitrogen applied in the spring is seed size.

What should I do to control Wild oats that emerged late in wheat? To improve the level of weed control producers are advised to: 1) check the weather forecast and make sure that night time temperatures will be above 40 degrees for two days prior and following the application, 2) have adequate soil moisture at the time of application, 3) read and follow the herbicide label, 4) apply at least 15 gallons of water per acre, and 5) apply herbicides to young unstressed weeds. For more information about Wild oats and its control please read this linked publication <http://sanangelo.tamu.edu/agronomy/wheat/wild oat.htm>.

**Backyard bird count slated Feb. 18-21**

Participation is easy and every bird enthusiast in North America is encouraged to count the birds.

All you need is basic knowledge of bird identification and access to the Internet at home, a friend's house, local library, school, or anywhere you can get access to the Web. Website is <http://www.birdsource.org/gb/bc/index.html>.

# Election Results

Provided as a public service by

**THE OBSERVER/ENTERPRISE**  
Serving Coke & Sterling Counties  
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(325) 453-2433 • FAX (325) 453-4643  
CokeCoObserver@aol.com

## "The Legal Sale of Beer & Wine for Off-Premise Consumption"

Precinct	For	Against	Total Votes
Precinct 1	174	118	292
Precinct 2	75	74	149
Precinct 3	175	57	232
Precinct 4	82	116	198
<b>Total Votes</b>	<b>506</b>	<b>365</b>	<b>871</b>



**Brent Gibbs**

### Citizens Bank elects Gibbs CEO

The Board of Directors of Citizens Bank has elected R. Brent Gibbs as Chief Executive Officer of the Levelland Banking Center. Brent is a 1991 graduate of RLHS. He is the son of Bill and Judy Gibbs, of Robert Lee.

Gibbs comes to Citizens Bank from FirstBank Southwest, N.A. in Hereford, Texas. He graduated from Texas Tech University with a bachelors and a masters degree in Interdisciplinary Agriculture. Gibbs is also a graduate of the acclaimed Ranch Management program at Texas Christian University. While in Hereford, he has been President of Hereford AMBUCS, Treasurer of the Kiwanis Club, a director of the Hereford YMCA, Chairman of Business Retention for the Deaf Smith County Chamber of Commerce, a volunteer for the United Way of Hereford, an Elder in the First Presbyterian Church and a director of the West Texas Reining Horse Association. Gibbs is married to the former Amanda Mann, a Lubbock native and a sixth grade teacher. Gibbs stated, "I am very excited about the future of Citizens Bank. The people in Levelland have been great to Amanda and me, and we are looking forward to making this community our home."

Sammy York, President and CEO of Citizens Bank stated, "I am excited to have Brent Gibbs join our bank. He brings a strong background in agriculture and commercial lending and an outstanding history of communi-

ty involvement. Brent will be a great addition to Citizens Bank and the Levelland community."

Citizens Bank is a \$215 million independent community bank with eight banking centers located in Center, Carthage, Humble, Kilgore, Kountz, Levelland, Sour Lake and Yorktown.

### FSA Holding Lamb Referendum

The Lamb Checkoff Program Referendum will be held from January 31, 2005, through close of business February 28, 2005. To be eligible to participate, persons must certify and provide documentation, such as sales receipt or remittance form, that show they have been engaged in the production, feeding or slaughtering of lambs during the period January 1 through December 31, 2004.

Beginning January 31, 2005 and continuing through February 28, 2005, persons may obtain form LS-86 to vote in the referendum from the County FSA Offices. Forms may also be obtained via the Internet at <http://www.ams.usda.gov/lsg/mpb/rp-lamb.htm>.

Persons will vote in the referendum at the County Office where their administrative farm records as maintained. All ballots must be received in the appropriate County Office before close of business February 28, 2005. Form LS-86 and documentation returned by mail must be postmarked no later than February 28, 2005, and received in the County Office by March 7, 2005.

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

### Lithics workshop set for February 26-27

The Texas Archeology Society (TAS) will present a two-day workshop on "Lithics", set for February 26-27, 9 am-4 pm in the Carr Building, Angelo State University. Hosted by the Concho Valley Archeology Society (CVAS) and ASU, the workshop is designed to give beginners the basics of

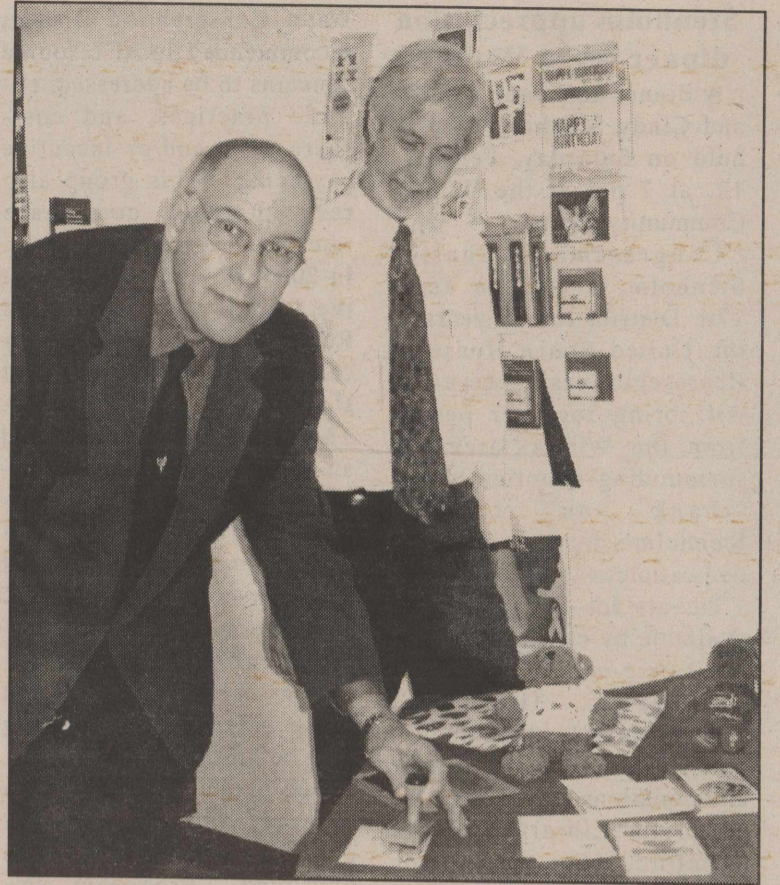
stone artifacts and assist more experienced individuals to fine-tune their knowledge. Dr. Harry Shafer, Texas A&M and San Antonio, will lead the workshop along with a flintknapping specialist. Participants will get hands-on experience on the manufacture and use of stone artifacts, and also the flintknapper will show the group how to recognize wear-use patterns.

Registration fee will cover morning and afternoon break snacks, lunch and a CD. Professional development credits for teachers will also be available. For registration information, contact CVAS members Brownie Roberts (325-949-1073) or Claude Hudspeth (325-949-9077), call TAS at 800-377-7240, or go to their website, [www.txarch.org](http://www.txarch.org), and click on About Archeology, Archeology Academy. Deadline for registration is February 17.

### Farm Bureau Celebrates Food Check-Out Day

America's farmers and ranchers are the most productive in the world, which creates affordable prices at the marketplace for American consumers. As a result, the Coke-Sterling County Farm Bureau is celebrating February 7th as a Food Check-Out Day.

On average, American families spend approximately 10 percent of their income for food. Applying the 10 percent statistic to the calendar-year shows the average household will have earned enough income for its annual food supply in about 40 days. The positive message is glaringly visible when you consider Tax Freedom Day is not celebrated until mid April - about two months later, to commemorate when the average household will earn enough money to pay for



**Special Cancellation!** County Judge Roy Blair was on hand at the Robert Lee Post Office to kick off the special Valentine cancellation on Tuesday, February 8, 2005. Postmaster Harrell Johnston provided the postcards, as Judge Blair cancelled the first few ceremonial cards of the day. Thanks to postal clerks Kim and Neva, the office was decorated in traditional Valentine red with plenty of cookies and punch for participating customers.

local, federal, and state taxes.

"I find it amazing the American people can pay their yearly food supply about two months earlier than it would take them to satisfy their tax burden," Bobby Roberts said. "Not only is America's food supply the world's safest, but it's also the most affordable."

Thanks to modern farming techniques such as biotechnology, global positioning satellites and conservation tillage, America's farmers and ranchers are producing more food on fewer acres. However, farmers and ranchers only receive 19 cents out of every dollar spent on food at home and away from home. The rest goes for costs beyond the farm gate:

wages and materials for production, processing, marketing, transportation and distribution. In contrast, America's farmers and ranchers received 31 cents in 1980. Bobby Roberts hopes Americans will come to understand that the high-quality, affordable food they enjoy is "a product of our successful food production and distribution system, as well as America's farmers retaining access to effective and affordable crop protection tools."

To celebrate February 7 as Food Check-Out Day, the Coke-Sterling County Farm Bureau has donated \$25 to the local food pantry to provide food for families in financial need.

## AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY RELAY FOR LIFE

### Luminaria Order Form • Suggested Donation of \$5 each

Please print and Check the correct box

In Memory

In Honor

Name \_\_\_\_\_



\_\_\_\_\_

Please print

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail this form to:

Address \_\_\_\_\_

American Cancer Society  
Coke County Relay For Life  
PO Box 352  
Bronte, Texas 76933

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Total amount enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Check \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Cash \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make Checks payable to the American Cancer Society. Please copy form as needed.

### Use your feet ... and your heart.

Form a team and join the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life. Join your community in an overnight fight against cancer! The American Cancer Society's Relay For Life will be held **June 17, 2005, 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 a.m. at the Bronte Track Field.**

Relay teams will take turns walking, running, or even strolling around the track. The teams consist of individuals representing corporations, churches, clubs, organizations and families. During the Relay For Life, team members may enjoy games, food, music, and camaraderie while camping out on the surrounding grounds. If you are a CANCER SURVIVOR, we want you to join us in the Survivor's Victory Lap. Please call Julie Springer @ 325/473-7018.