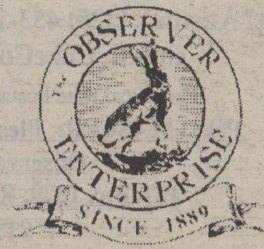


Single Copy 50¢

THE OBSERVER/ENTERPRISE

Serving Coke & Sterling Counties



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

Vol. 121, No. 17

Friday, November 7, 2008

McCutchen wins write-in campaign for Coke County Sheriff

In the only locally contested race in the 2008 general election, Wayne McCutchen was elected to the sheriff's post Tuesday night with a total of 740 votes. Randall Jacks garnered a total of 514 votes, and George Brickley had 313 votes in the hotly contested sheriff's race. Jacks had previously defeated incumbent Rick Styles in the democratic primary election. This is the first time a candidate has won a write-in race in Coke County since 1992 when Jackie Walker did the same, running for the county judge's position.

Coke County voters set another record, with a total of 1623 voters casting their ballots in the general election. Total voters in the county is somewhere around 2500, making voter turnout in the general election a whopping 65 percent. Other areas of the nation had similarly high voter turnouts, as the country elected a new president.

Our similarities with the rest of the country ended with the high turnout, as Coke County voters chose John McCain over Barack Obama, 1252 to 297. Obama won the presidential election with somewhere around 62% of the vote nationwide.

In other state races, county voters posted 1194 votes for U.S. Senator John Cornyn, and 229 votes for his opponent, Rick Noriega. Incumbent State

Representative Mike Conaway received 1260 votes locally, with his opponent John Strohm receiving 134 votes. State Senator Robert Duncan received 1168 votes locally, and his opponent Smitty Smith received 121 votes. State Representative Drew Darby received 1256 votes locally over his opponent Dennis Higgins, with 121 votes.

In locally uncontested elections, County Attorney Nancy Arthur received 971 votes; County Tax Assessor-Collector Josie Dean garnered 1135 votes; County Commissioner, Precinct 1 Gene Montgomery received 342 votes; and County Commissioner, Precinct 3 Gaylon Pitcock received 273 votes.

In the uncontested constable's races, Precinct 2 Constable Marty Boyd garnered 459 votes, and Precinct 1 Constable Marshall Millican received 625 votes.

According to County/District Clerk Mary Grim, these numbers have not yet been certified, as a total of 10 provisional ballots were cast in the county. These ballots will be investigated, and if certified, added to the totals for each candidate.

Three old coots retire from hunter barbecue

After twenty years and plenty of "burnt barbecue", the three amigos are finally throwing in the towel (the



Retirement! The three old "coots" retiring from the annual hunter barbecue in Robert Lee are (left to right) Roy Tinkler, Gaylon Pitcock, and Wayland Drennan.

barbecue towel, that is). It doesn't seem possible, but the annual hunter barbecue has been going on for twenty years in Robert Lee. And Roy Tinkler, Gaylon Pitcock, and Wayland Drennan have been cooking for the annual affair for exactly twenty years.

Some of the newcomers to Robert Lee may not know how this annual event got started. Back in 1989, local businessman and community servant Bob Wrinkle (who is now deceased, God rest his benevolent soul) had the idea to offer a free barbecue to area hunters. The cost for the annual event would be subsidized by landowners and hunting lease managers purchasing tickets for their hunters, as a way to offer our appreciation to our hunters

and their economic impact on Coke County.

Wrinkle asked these three gentlemen to help, and of course, they stepped up and took on the formidable task of feeding over 1,000 hunters on opening day of deer season. It should be noted that in the beginning, they were assisted by Fred Beaty (now deceased) and Winton Milliff.

Over the years, they have worked a bunch and had a lot of fun. As many as 90+ briskets have been "burnt" by these guys for the annual event. Recently though, the intense smoke of the barbecue pits has gotten to be too much of a problem affecting their health.

Not to worry, though. The annual barbecue is in capable hands with the addition of Marshall Millican, Clark Tinkler, and any of the other recruits that Marshall can muster.

Gentlemen, for this and other services to the community, we salute you. And be sure and don't be a stranger. There will always be an extra plate and a kind word for the efforts you have made in the continuation of this annual event.

Kickapoo Water Board sets election
Coke County Kickapoo Water Control and Improvement District #1 will hold an election on January 13, 2009, 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 on Friday, November 28, 2008.

RLBC Operation Christmas Child deadline set

The Operation Christmas Child shoebox campaign will soon be drawing to a close. The deadline to turn in boxes at the Robert Lee Baptist Church will be Friday, November 21, 2008.

Please bring the shoeboxes you have filled to the kitchen door behind the church between the hours of 3:30 pm to 5 pm on Wednesday, November 19, Thursday, November 20 or Friday, November 21. The boxes will then be taken to San Angelo Christian Church on Saturday, November 22, 2008. From San Angelo the shoeboxes will be loaded and sent on to the Collection Center in Abilene.

There are shoeboxes available at the Robert Lee Baptist Church for your use as well as brochures with labels. If you have questions about the Operation Christmas Child shoebox ministry please contact Peggy Coppedge at (325) 453-4637. Your participation is appreciated.

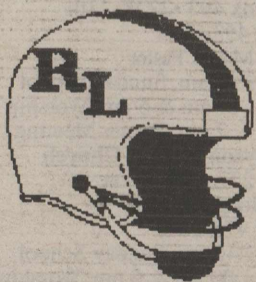
Coke County Football

ROBERT LEE STEERS

vs.

Eden Bulldogs

7:30 pm • Friday
November 7 • Robert Lee

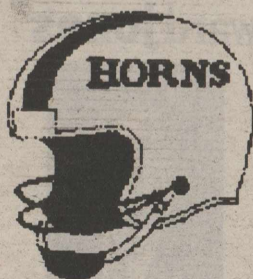


BRONTE LONGHORNS

vs.

Albany Lions

7:30 pm • Friday
November 7 • Albany



THE OBSERVER/ENTERPRISE

Published Weekly Except Christmas
 707 Austin (325) 453-2433 • (325) 453-4643 FAX
 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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 Melinda McCutchen Pat Clement Wayne McCutchen

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Per Year in Coke & Sterling Counties.....\$25.00
 Per Year Elsewhere in Texas.....\$30.00
 Per Year Outside of Texas.....\$32.00

Death Notices

Leathers

Carrol V. Leathers of Odessa, formerly of Bronte, passed away October 30, 2008, at age 84.

He is survived by his wife, Dorothy; son John Leathers and wife Kay of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; daughter Anne Cardon and husband Joe of Odessa; three grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

A graveside service was held at Ector County Cemetery, Odessa Garden at 10 am on Monday, November 3. Service was entrusted to Frank W. Wilson Funeral Directors.

O/E sets

early deadline

The Observer/Enterprise will have an early deadline of Monday, November 10 at 2 pm, due to the Veteran's Day holiday. Be sure to have your news in by Monday to have it included in the November 14 edition.

Holiday Closings

Several Coke County offices and businesses will be closed Tuesday, November 11, in observance of Veteran's Day. They include the Coke County Courthouse and Bronte City Hall. The Robert Lee City Hall will be also be closed and trash service will run as scheduled.

BH&RC Auxiliary to meet

The Bronte Health and Rehab Center Auxiliary will meet at 1 pm on Thursday, November 13, in the living room at Bronte Health and Rehab Center. This is a week earlier than the usual meeting. It's time to begin planning for the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. Everyone is welcome to join this group to lend support to residents and their activities. Lunch will be served for a nominal fee. For more information call Janet Wommack at 473-5388 or Lanette Fletcher at 473-6791.

Windbreak seedlings on sale now

Seedlings for conservation windbreaks are available through the Coke County Soil

and Water Conservation District. Order your seedlings now through Monday, January 26, 2009. Delivery is set for February 5, 2009.

For more information and availability, contact the SWCD office at 453-2623, ext. 3 or come by 214 E. 7th Street in Robert Lee.

Coke County dance slated

The monthly dance for Coke County will be held from 6:30 pm to 9:30 pm Thursday, November 13, at the Robert Lee Community Center. Everyone is invited to take this opportunity for some fun.

There will be a break from dancing and for the band to rest awhile. During this time there will be food galore, coffee, tea, and water available.

Everyone always has a great time and it's a good way to get your exercise and meet and talk with friends and also make new friends.

Dancers come not only from Robert Lee, but from surrounding areas. You don't even have to know how to dance because there will always be someone there to teach you. It is always a very friendly bunch.

For more information call 453-2678. There is a charge for the dance but it is worth it to have a good time. Hope to see you there.

Win a turkey!

There will be a 27 hole, 2 person, select shot golf tournament on November 15, 2008, at the Singing Winds Golf Course in Bronte. Tee off time is set for 9 am. For more information, call (325) 473-2156.

CEU's Offered

The Turf, Pest and Ag Expo will be held Friday, November 21, 2008, at the ASU Agricultural Dept. MIR Center, off Highway 87 North, with late registration and breakfast beginning at 7 am.

Five (5) hours of CEU's for the TDA and 6 hours of CEU's for the SPCS will be offered. For more information and to register visit www.TPAEXPO.com. You may also contact Bes-Tex at 325.653.1300. Early registration is \$35, which includes lunch. Registration at the door will be \$50.

Volunteer at Christmas in Old Fort Concho

Fort Concho in San Angelo will be hosting Christmas at Old Fort Concho on Dec. 5, 6, and 7. They are asking for volunteers to come and help with the celebration. Students, ages 16 and above as well as adults are encouraged to volunteer. Students younger than 16 years old may volunteer so long as a guardian also volunteers. The Fort is asking people to sign up on or before November 14. Interested individuals may call Mary at 658-7495 for more information or to sign up.

Abilene to host Veterans Parade

The Veterans Day Parade will be held on November 15, 2008 at 11 am in Abilene, Texas. It was not scheduled for November 8 because of unforeseen problems. We can still use some floats and other entries to honor the men and women who gave their all to give us our freedom. The theme is "Proud To Be An American". If you would like to enter or have any questions please call the Taylor County Veterans Service Office at 325-674-1328.

FSA accepting applications

The Farm Service Agency (FSA) is now accepting applications for Emergency Farm Loans resulting from damages and losses caused by high winds, hail, lightning, and a tornado on June 5, 2008 through June 17, 2008 and also caused by drought that occurred on January 1, 2008 and continuing.

Coke County has been named a contiguous county where eligible farmers may qualify for FSA EM loan assistance. Farm Loan Manager, Justin B. Holland, asks farmers who want to apply for emergency loans to submit their applications as soon as possible. The deadline for applications is 6/10/2009, but if farmers wait too long, a backlog will develop and cause delays. Generally, farmers who



102! Virdis Fancher celebrated her 102nd birthday with a party at the Bronte Health and Rehab Center on October 15.

have lost 30 percent of their production due to designated disaster are eligible for emergency loans. The FSA office is located at 103 W. Florida Avenue in Sweetwater, Texas.

Frank Caraway Sporting Clays Classic set

West Texas Rehab Center's annual Frank Caraway Sporting Clays Classic is scheduled for November 8 at the San Angelo Claybird Association.

*100 targets per shooter

*A random drawing for Beretta 391 shotguns, \$600 gift certificates from the Outdoorsman in San Angelo, and \$500 cash

*Lunch catered by Kenny Blanek

*A plaque for the top scorer
 *A gift for each shooter from the Rehab Center

There will be two rotations - 8:30 am and 12 noon. The event will also feature shooting games and both a silent auction and a fast-paced live auction. Entry forms can be secured from West Texas Rehab Center, 3001 S. Jackson, at the Claybird Association office-or by going to

www.rehabclayshoot.com to print the registration for and required release document to complete and mail to Rehab.

For more information, contact Ellen Brown (325) 223-6312.

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

Dale Patterson, 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. Corey Cornutt, 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. David Bailey, Pastor
 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. George Bradley, Pastor
 Sun. 10 am Sunday School
 10:50 am Worship
 Wed. 6 pm Choir

Iglesia Bautista Bethel
 101 Houston • Robert Lee
 (325) 763-9208 • 320-1354
 Sun. 10 am • Worship
 11 am & 6 pm • Service
 Wed. 7 pm

St. James Catholic Church
 215 N. Washington, Bronte
 (325) 365-2687
 Rev. Hubert Wade, Jr., Pastor
 Sun. 5 pm

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
Northside Church of Christ
 PO Box 508 • 9th & Chadbourne
 Robert Lee

(325) 655-9784 or 453-2685
 Portis Ribble, Minister
 Services: Sun. 10 am & 1:30 pm;
 Wed. 6 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) 453-2482

Jim Dominey, Pastor
 Sun. 10 am, Sunday School
 11 am & 7 pm, Worship

Wed. 7 pm, Prayer Meeting
Tennyson Baptist Church
 Hwy 277 • Tennyson

Joe Hodges, Pastor
 (325) 473-2040
 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. Irving Smith, Pastor
 Sun. 9:45 am, Sunday School
 10:45 am & 6 pm, Worship

Wed. 7 pm, Prayer Meeting

Tommy E. Neal, AAMS
 Financial Advisor

Edward Jones



2412 College Hills Boulevard
 Suite 102
 San Angelo, Texas 76904-8475
 Bus. (325) 223-8244 Toll free (877) 223-8244
www.edwardjones.com

MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

**County employees
Thanksgiving
luncheon set**

The Coke County Courthouse will be closed on Thursday, November 13, from 12 noon until 2 pm in order for the county employees to have time to have a special Thanksgiving luncheon together.

**Relay for Life
Kickoff set**

The Coke County Relay for Life will have their kickoff during the Bronte/Robert Lee basketball game on Tuesday, November 25, 2008. A fundraiser to "Paint the Gym Purple" will be going on by selling purple T-shirts and encouraging everyone to wear them in support of the Relay for Life. Watch for more details in next week's paper!

**Want to be a
San Angelo Stock
Show & Rodeo
Ambassador?**

Here is your opportunity to become a member of the San Angelo Stock Show & Rodeo Ambassadors.

The tryouts will be held on November 15 at the San Angelo Stock Show Cattle Barn (South of Spur Arena). Registration will begin at 9 am and Parent and Participant meeting will start at 9:30 am. Tryouts will begin at 10 am. The age requirement is 14-20.

Participants must provide a personally owned horse (not borrowed), current coggins on every horse brought to arena (owner's name listed), and own equipment.

For more information call Leanne at (325) 656-6506.

**Bronte VFD
Memorials and
Donations**

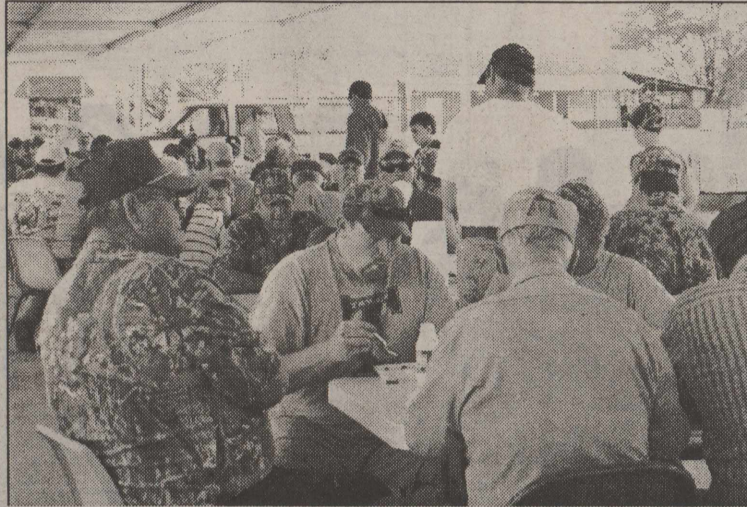
Donations
John Jackson, Sr.
Heart of Texas RA Camp
Mule Creek Ranch
Connie McCarty
Mr. & Mrs. Sid Eubanks
Kerry Rawlings
Patti Ivey Peterson

Memorials
Gary Hubbard
Roy Blair
Janet Walker
Percifull family

**Help a family
in need this
holiday season**

Food banks across the nation are facing a dire situation, one that finds more families in need of assistance but community donations being far less because of the current economic upheaval.

In Texas, the situation is no different. Hurricane Ike saw Texas food banks jump into action to provide meals to displaced families and individuals at emergency shelters. This assistance now finds food banks low on supplies. This is where H-E-B is giving its customers an opportunity to help. Beginning October 29, Texans can visit their



Hunters Barbecues! The warm weather and a faltering economy had an effect on this year's hunter barbecues in Coke County. But those who did attend were treated to some really good eating at the annual events. Final figures are pretty sketchy, but the numbers for lunch at Bronte (left photo) were somewhere around 250 and between 450 and 500 at Robert Lee that evening.

neighborhood H-E-B and participate in the 2008 H-E-B and Procter and Gamble "Stock Up and Give" promotion.

With each purchase of Bounty, Cascade, Charmin, Crest, Duracell, Downy, Febreze, Folgers, Gain, IAMS, Luvs, Pantene, Pringles, Swiffer or Tide products, a \$1 donation will be made to the local area food bank servicing the area where the donation is collected, up to \$50,000.

In most instances, for every \$1 donated, meals can be provided to feed a family of up to six people - a meal that certainly will be most welcome during the approaching holiday season. The promotion runs through December 2, 2008 at all Texas H-E-B stores.

"So many in our community will be in need of assistance this holiday season and while our Texas food banks are doing what they can, they need our help," said Danny Flores, Manager, H-E-B Public Affairs. "We invite our customers to participate in Stock Up & Give and make a difference one purchase at a time."

**Live Oak Trade
Days held**

On the crisp, clear morning of October 25, the gates opened for Live Oak Trade Days. About a dozen booths were set up on a plot of land on the west side of Hwy. 87 S, just north of the Hwy. 71 turnoff to Austin. The monthly trade day events promote the Brady/McCulloch County area and provide a source of wholesome family entertainment, including live music.

The annual Biketoberfest

was held Oct. 25 also. The motorcyclists from the Iron Horse Riding Club had a fun run to raise money for the Helping Hands Toys for Tots campaign. There was a drop box for canned goods which will benefit Helping Hands Thanksgiving food drive.

The next Trade Day event will be held at the outdoor location, November 22. (The Saturday before Thanksgiving.) There will be two trade days in December; December 13 and December 27. These will be held at the Ed Davenport Civic Center on Hwy. 87, just west of Brady. Y'all come out.

**Check Out
Coke County
Library**

The Coke County Library sale held on Friday and Saturday of last week was a success thanks to all the folks who bought up some good books. Thanks also goes to the patrons who bought some books and made a generous donation. The funds are used for prizes for the summer program and to support the Inter Library Loan program.

New books have been added to the shelves recently with grant monies from the Loan Star Library distribution of federal funds. Gary Soto's fiction *The Afterlife* is about a teen whose life changes dramatically after being stabbed in the ribs. *Amazing Rubber Band Cars* shows how to build wind-up racers, models and toys. The cover shows a car made with rubber bands and old CD's. Also,



the Internet Resource Directory is available for K-12 students and teachers. The Barron's Educational Series has put out a Guide to Distance Learning with information on colleges in the US and Canada offering distance learning and degrees.

Library hours are Monday, 8-12; Wednesday, 8-4; Thursday, 1-5; and Friday, 8-12. Call 453-2495 for information.

**ACT and SAT
Registration**

Any student wanting to take the December 13 ACT test must register by today, Friday, November 7 in order to avoid late fees. Students wanting to take the December 6 SAT test may late register through November 18. Registration packets are available in the high school counselor's office or online at www.act.org for the ACT test or www.collegeboard.com for the SAT test. Please remember that students who are on free or reduced lunches may take each test two times for free. Please see Mrs. Timmerman, BHS counselor, for fee waiver form.

**Scholarship
Opportunities**

The Goss-Michael Foundation is offering a scholarship to a graduating senior in Texas who is planning on pursuing a fine arts degree. Scholarship applications are available online at www.gossmichaelfoundation.org or in the counselor's office at Bronte High School.

The Ayn Rand Institute is offering scholarships to students in graders 8 through 12. Students in grades 8 through 10 must read the Ayn Rand book *Anthem* and write an essay to a prescribed topic. The deadline to apply for this scholarship is March 20, 2009. Students in grades 11 and 12 must read *The Fountainhead* and answer one of the topics mentioned in the application. The deadline to apply for this scholarship is April 25, 2009. For contest information and essay topics, please go online to www.aynrand.org/contests or see the scholarship bulletin board outside the counselor's office at BHS.

Students and parents, also please remember to visit www.collegeguidanceconsultants.com to access many more scholarships.

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

drop box is
**HOMETOWN
HARDWARE**
in Bronte.

*Thank You Coke County
for your vote of support!
I promise to be the best
sheriff that I possibly can be.*

*Thank You,
Wayne McCutchen*

Pd. Pol. Adv. by Melinda McCutchen, Treasurer, PO Box 554, Bronte, Texas 76933

**All Coke County
Veterans are invited
to a brunch
at Bronte High School!**
Tuesday, November 11
Commons Area of Middle Gym
Immediately following
Veterans Day Presentation
in the Auditorium
Hosted by the
Bronte High School
Teen Leadership/PALS class



Trick or Treat! All these little lions (above photo), princesses, action heroes and other characters (right photo) paraded around downtown Robert Lee on Halloween morning hoping to fill their buckets with candy from the local businesses.



Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership Seminar

Any sophomore interested in attending the Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership Seminar in May 2009 may now apply. The HOBY seminars provide great networking and leadership skills development as well as a focus on community service for future leaders. One sophomore student from Bronte High School will be selected by a committee from the applications turned in. The deadline to apply is November 21. For more information please visit www.hoby.org/students or see Mrs. Timmerman, counselor, Bronte High School.

Make-a-Wish Foundation

The Make-a-Wish Foundation of North Texas, West Texas Regional Office, wants to share the power of a "wish" by reaching out to the 42 counties in the West Texas region. It is the desire of the foundation to reach every child who might qualify to receive a wish.

Children are eligible for a wish if they are between the ages of 2 1/2 and 18 years of age and have a life-threatening medical condition that has been certified by their attending physician. Contrary to popular misconception, a child does not have to be terminally ill to be eligible for a wish. The Foundation grants the wishes of children who have been diagnosed with progressive, degenerative or malignant conditions that have placed the child's life in jeopardy.

Children are eligible to receive only one wish and cannot have received a wish from another wish granting organization. There are no other qualifications based on sex, race, religion, socioeconomic status or any other demographic category.

Parents, medical professionals, social workers or the child themselves can make a referral for a wish by calling the West Texas Regional office at (432) 683-9474 or toll free (800) 257-9474. They may also go to www.northtexaswish.org and make a referral online. If a

medical professional or social worker is making a referral, it is important that the family has been notified that their child is being referred for a wish from the foundation.

For more information about the Make-A-Wish Foundation, please contact the office at (432) 683-9474 or toll free at (800) 257-9474.

Holiday Precautions

by Ross Torres, RLVFD Asst. Chief

The holidays are a busy time for anyone, without the worries of an in-home fire. With Thanksgiving around the corner, and Christmas soon to follow, fire safety must be a top priority.

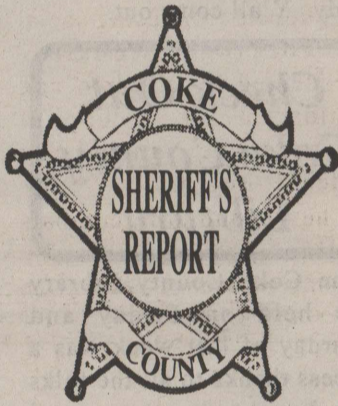
Too many times in-home fires during the holidays could have easily been prevented if simple precautions had been taken. The following precautions promote fire safety.

1. Constantly check your fire alarms, and replace old batteries with fresh batteries.
2. Be sure that all space heaters are away from drapes or any other hanging cloth, as they may become too hot and catch fire.
3. Check all electrical outlets to be sure that they are not overloaded. Never overload a socket.
4. Know where all fire extinguishers are, and know how to use them. Not knowing where or how to use fire extinguishers in the case of a fire renders them useless.
5. Check that all electrical plugs near Christmas trees, skirts, or any other cloth items, are moved away as the plugs could spark and catch any of the items on fire.
6. Never leave food on the stove unattended, even for a few minutes. If you must leave, even for a short period of time, turn off the stove. If a fire breaks out and grease

is involved NEVER use water or flour to attempt to put out the flames, as this will only increase the fire and could cause injury or death.

7. Keep ABC type extinguishers in or near the kitchen, and take the time to learn how to use them.

8. If an oven fire starts turn off the heat and close the door if possible to prevent the flames from getting on to you or your clothing. If the fire does not go out, get out of your home and call the fire department.



Arrests and Dispositions October 2008

Davis, Colby Ray, Assault Family Violence, 10-19-08; Larue, Christopher Lee, Assault Family Violence, 10-23-08; Mercer, Danny, DWI 1st, 10-24-08.

County Court Dispositions 10-15-08

The State of Texas vs. Esteban Garza, Charge: Assault Family Violence, Plea: 12 Months Probation, Fine \$1000.00, Court Cost \$253.00, 80 Hours Community Service;

The State of Texas vs. Bannon Roe, Charge: Theft by Check >\$20 <\$500, Plea: Reduced to Issuance of Bad Check, Fine \$1.03, Court Cost \$223.00, Restitution

\$255.97;

The State of Texas vs. Little Joe Reyes, Charge: Theft by Check >\$20 <\$500, Plea: 2 Days Jail, Court Cost \$223.00, Restitution \$70.00;

The State of Texas vs. Johnathan Eads, Charge: Burglary of a Habitation, Plea: One Year County Jail, Probated 2 Years, \$1000.00, Fine, Charge Reduced to a Class A Misdemeanor.

District Court Dispositions 10-29-08

The State of Texas vs. Cynthia Rhodes, Charge: Possession of Controlled Substance >1g <4g - MTR, Plea: 3 Years TDCJ;

The State of Texas vs. Cynthia Rhodes, Charge: Possession of Controlled Substance <1g, Plea: 274 days State Jail, \$140.00 Restitution;

The State of Texas vs. Alfredo Amaro, Charge: Possession of Controlled Substance <1g, Plea: 450 days, Probated 3 Years, \$1000.00 Fine, \$140.00 Restitution.

Winds of change blowing in Texas

By Shawn St. Clair, Partner, McGinnis, Lochridge & Kilgore, L.L.P. in Austin, Texas. Wherever the wind blows in Texas, power lines are sure to follow. On August 15, 2008, the Public Utility Commission of Texas approved a plan to construct more than 2,000 miles of high voltage power lines connecting wind farms in the Panhandle and West Texas to the Dallas/Fort Worth metroplex and Central Texas.

These power lines may be built faster than you can say "competitive renewable energy zone."

Utility industry observers expect applications and approvals to build power lines will be moving twice as fast as usual. As early as February 2009, the Public Utility Commission will decide which companies will build these new lines. Once selected, those companies will provide public notice and hold public meetings to provide information about the power lines they intend to build. This is known as the "route selection process," and there may be little time between the notification and the deadline to participate in the process.

For landowners, that means it's time to keep an eye on the mailbox for public notices about where those power lines may go.

On top of the gale force regulatory process, utility companies are proposing ambitious timelines for construction. Some companies are selecting routes even before their projects are approved. Although the PUC will not divvy up the projects until 2009, utility companies are preparing their applications now. Landowners can monitor the current process at the Public Utility Commission Web by going online to <http://www.puc.state.tx.us/interchange/index.cfm>.

Utility companies are often reluctant to modify their preferred route to accommodate communities or individual landowners. Early participation in the route selection process is the best way to influence where a power line goes.

Ranch Land Co.

Leon Nance, Broker
Sunni Gothard, Agent
(325) 234-2507 Cell
(325) 658-8978 Office
San Angelo, Texas



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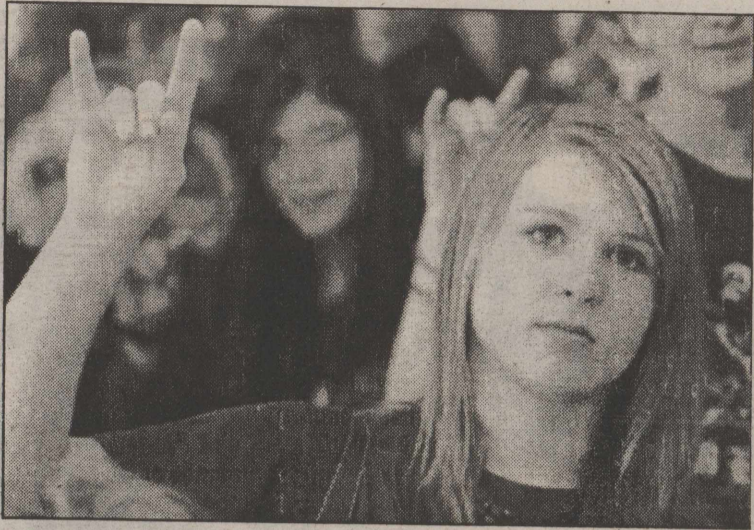
Coke County

I appreciate your friendship, prayers and support for me during campaigns for the Coke County Sheriff's race.

Thank You,

Randall Jacks

Pd. Pol. Adv. by Ronny Brown, Treasurer, PO Box 423, Robert Lee, Texas 76945



Hook 'Em Horns! Katie Austin, a student at Bronte High School, helps support the Bronte Longhorns this past Friday, October 31.

Obtaining changes after a company files for a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity (known as a CCN application) almost always requires some landowner participation in the hearing process. Given the PUC's hastened approval process for this project, it may be harder to get concessions after a CCN application is filed.

In the coming year, the PUC will be processing many CCN applications at the same time, which may lead to "rocket dockets" with quick deadlines, restricted discovery, and brief hearings. Should the normally brisk procedural schedules be further compressed, it will be more important than ever for landowners to follow procedural rules and requirements in order to be heard.

So, watch that mailbox.

Comprehensive Approach to Keep our Kids Safe from Online Threats

By U.S. Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison

The Internet has revolutionized the way we communicate, learn, and conduct business in the 21st century. Although these advancements have significantly benefited our society, they are also accompanied by a host of dangers that pose the greatest threat to our nation's children. The Internet can be a hunting ground for sexual predators seeking minors to exploit. It has also become a marketplace for pornography - 20 percent of which, disturbingly, involves children. Furthermore, when children and teens go online, odds are they will be exposed to sexual material. A London School of Economics study found that nine in 10 children under age 16 have unintentionally accessed sexually-oriented websites, often in the process of doing homework or by entering a seemingly innocent term into an Internet search engine.

On September 15, Oprah Winfrey used her daytime

talk show to spotlight the issue and generate public support for Senate legislation that I cosponsored to address child exploitation. The Protect Our Children Act was swiftly passed in both chambers of the Congress and President Bush signed it into law on October 14.

Passage of the Protect Our Children Act will help ensure that sex offenders are brought to justice. The bill establishes a task force at the U.S. Department of Justice that will coordinate the efforts of state and local officials to address online enticement of children, child exploitation and pornography. It also directs the Attorney General to establish a National Internet Crimes Against Children Data System to support the investigation and prosecution of child exploitation crimes. Finally, the bill makes significant changes to federal criminal law by allowing expanded prosecution of crimes involving child exploitation, selling or buying children, material involving sexual exploitation of minors or containing child pornography, and obscene visual representations of the sexual abuse of children.

However, that bill alone is not a complete solution. Two other critical pieces of legislation that I cosponsored will help us tackle every aspect of the issue. Both were also signed into law in October.

The Keeping the Internet Devoid of Sexual Predators (KIDS) Act mandates that convicted sex offenders register their email addresses, instant messaging screen names, or other identifiers used to communicate over the Internet. It also requires the



Tournament Champions! The Bronte 8th Grade Lady Shorthorns finished their volleyball season recently that included a tournament championship in Colorado City. The Lady Shorthorns finish the season with an overall record of 10-5. Team members are Brooke Bedford, Kaitlyn Braswell, Cindy Davila, Brayde Knight, Erika Puentez, Michelle Rhodes, Paige Royall, and Jael Williams.

Attorney General to maintain a system that will enable commercial social networking sites to identify users who are listed in the National Sex Offender Registry. These measures will deter deviant individuals from using social networking websites frequented by children and builds on the successful efforts of the National Sex Offender Registry.

The second bill combats online exploitation by raising awareness of online risks and promoting safe use of the Internet. The Protecting Children in the 21st Century Act creates an Online Safety and Technology Working Group that will assess current parental control technology, blocking and filtering software, and age-appropriate labels for content. The bill also requires schools receiving funding from the federal Universal Service program to offer age-appropriate online behavior education in the classroom. The goal is to help school-aged children safely navigate the Internet. Lastly, the legislation calls on the Federal Trade Commission to carry out a nationwide program to raise public awareness.

In the 21st century, it is neither practicable nor constructive to keep our children out of the expanses of cyberspace. Therefore, it is critically important for

legislators, law enforcement officials, educators, and parents to continue to work together to keep the Internet a safe space where our children can benefit from its valuable communication capabilities and limitless information resources. Parents must have an open dialogue with their children about safe Internet usage and encourage kids to report dangers they encounter online. It is equally important that parents share information with local officials, law enforcement agencies, and advocacy groups. Together, we can protect our children and stay ahead of savvy predators and changing technology.

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.

HOLIDAY CLOSING NOTICE

All facilities of this bank will be
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Tuesday, November 11

In Observance Of

Veterans Day



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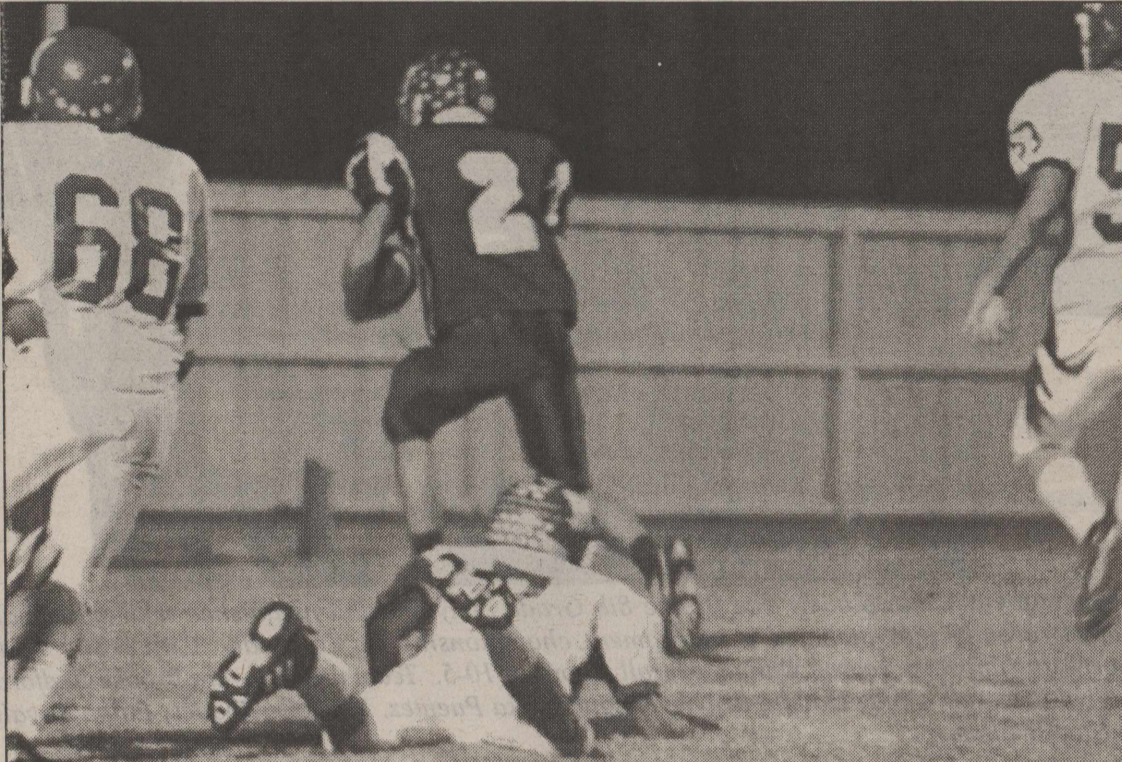
Robert Lee, TX

Thank You
for your support
in the General Election.

Marty Boyd
Constable, Pct. 2

Pd. Pol. Adv. by Marty Boyd, PO Box 391, Bronte, Texas 76933

BRONTE SCHOOL NEWS



Longhorn Football! Dakota Rawls (#2) goes for a touchdown against the Miles Bulldogs this past Friday night, October 31.

Longhorns win playoff ticket

By Coach Kevin Burns

The Bronte Longhorns punched their ticket to the football playoffs by defeating the Miles Bulldogs this past Friday night by a score of 35-13. Miles elected to receive the kick to start the game and the Horns defense forced a three and out and set up the

offense at midfield. Bronte scored on their first possession when Dakota Rawls connected with Lahne Burns on a 36 yard pass. Ernesto Casillas PAT made the score 7-0.

Another three and out gave the Horns good field position inside Bulldog territory and the Horns scored when Rob Rosson ran in from four yards out to make the score 14-0.

Midway through the second quarter Rawls scored on an option keeper from 32 yards to draw the half to a close to 21-0. The Horns defense was the story of the first half in limiting the Bulldogs to just two first downs and 3 yards rushing. Miles completed just three passes in the first half for 37 yards and no points. It was by far our best defensive effort in the first half in quite some time.

On the third play of the second half, Dakota Rawls hooked up with his brother Kerwin for a nifty 68 yard catch and run. Dakota hit Kerwin in stride on a slant pattern and Kerwin split the two defenders for the touchdown. Casillas PAT gave the Horns a 28-0 lead.

At the end of the third quar-

ter Dakota polished off a nice 60 yard drive with a one yard run around the left side of the line to make the score 35-0.

The Bulldogs were able to score twice in the second half when August Huckabee scored on a 54 yard pass and run and again on the last play of the game on a 65 yard run.

Tonight the Horns travel to Albany for the final district game. This game will decide the district championship. Although both teams are in the playoffs, it is still undecided who plays who in the first round. Miles and Winters still have opportunities to make the post season and their game, along with the Horns' game will decide who goes where. See you in Albany.

4th grade to hold dinner November 9

The 4th grade at Bronte Elementary will have a Chicken Carry-Out Dinner Sunday, November 9, from 11 am to 1:30 pm. Plates may be purchased in front of the Bronte School.

Each plate will consist of 1/2 smoked chicken, potato salad, beans, and a slice of bread.

The 4th grade is raising money to attend HEB Camp in May. HEB Camp is an outdoor education program that is located in the Hill



Lady Longhorns! Chelsea Meek (from left to right), Johnnye Michael and Kasey Baker are ready at the net during the district championship volleyball game against Sterling City recently.

Country. There, the students will participate in archery, canoeing, bird watching, gun safety, archeology, water resources, fishing, etc.

Come, eat, and support the 4th grade HEB Camp!

Veteran's Day essay contest slated

Students in grade 7-12 are encouraged to write an essay about what Veteran's Day means to them. There will be prizes awarded for the top two submissions.

The essays should be approximately 250 words and should be submitted no later than Friday, November 7 to the high school office. The winners will be announced at the Veteran's Day presentation on November 11. The winners will also have the opportunity to read their essays at the Veteran's Day program.

Area Veterans and the public are invited to attend the Veteran's Day program at 9:40 am in the school auditorium. Veterans and the community are also invited to attend the flag-raising ceremony at 8 am in front of the school on Tuesday, November 11.

Bronte Junior Chamber of Commerce

The Bronte Chamber of Commerce is enacting a Junior Chamber of Commerce organization for Bronte community area high school age students to join. The organization will work in conjunction with Chamber officials to promote the city of Bronte through volunteer activities. Students in grades 9 through 12 may sign up in the Bronte High School

office. For more information, please contact Mrs. Don-Ann Wheeler, Chamber member at 245-8686.

College financial aid night planned

Bronte ISD will host a free college financial aid orientation on Tuesday, January 27 at 6 pm in the school library. The program, presented by a representative from the Panhandle-Plains Student Loan Center and Angelo State University will last about an hour and will cover the steps in completing the general application form (FAFSA), stress the importance of grants and scholarships, and explain the nature of student and parent loans. Pizza and drinks will be served.

Although the presentation will focus on seniors, all students and parents are welcome and would benefit from the session. A drawing will be held for a \$200 scholarship for attending seniors or those represented by a parent.

For more information, please call Mrs. Timmerman, Bronte ISD counselor, at (325) 473-2521.

7th grade

Lady Shorthorns wrap up season

The Bronte Junior High 7th grade Lady Shorthorns completed their volleyball season with a win in Grape Creek. The Lady Shorthorns finished their season with a 10-5 overall record and a tournament runner-up trophy in Grape Creek. Team members include Mikayla Fraune, Megan Yackley, Courtney Wyatt, Trinity Demry, Rachel Everheart, Bailey McGlothlin, Candice Sutton, Deedra Harkin, Rebecca Dugan, and Myranda Keeney.

School Menu



Breakfast

Monday, November 10

Cereal, applesauce, toast, jelly, milk

Tuesday, November 11

Sausage roll, assorted juice, milk

Wednesday, November 12

Breakfast pizza, assorted juice, milk

Thursday, November 13

Peanut butter and jelly sandwich, assorted juice, milk

Friday, November 14

Scrambled eggs, assorted juice, toast, jelly, milk

Lunch

Monday, November 10

Pizza, tossed salad, corn, frozen peach cup, apple crisp, milk

Tuesday, November 11

Spud day, chili & cheese, potato (baked), baby carrots w/ranch, fresh fruit cup, Texas toast, milk

Wednesday, November 12

Nacho grande, refried beans, lettuce & tomatoes, assorted fruit, nacho chips, Spanish rice, milk

Thursday, November 13

Hamburgers, baked chips, lettuce, tomatoes, pickles, apple, buns, milk

Friday, November 14

Corn dog, tator tots, pork & beans, apricot cobbler, milk

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Chicken Dinner

Sunday • November 9

11:30 am to 1 pm

Carry-out Only. Plates may be picked up in front of Bronte School.

Smoked Chicken • Potato Salad
Beans & Bread

\$6 per plate

Proceeds go toward 4th graders attending HEB Camp in May.

BRONTE LONGHORNS FOOTBALL

				BHS	
August 29	Junction	Here	7:30	10	21
September 5	Roby	There	7:30	35	0
** September 12	Rotan	Here	7:30	26	22
September 19	Irion County	There	7:30	32	26
September 26	Hamlin	There	7:30	42	21
October 3	OPEN				
* October 10	Baird	Here	7:30	35	13
* October 17	Winters	There	7:30	21	13
* October 24	Cross Plains	Here	7:30	44	12
* October 31	Miles	Here	7:30	35	13
* November 7	Albany	There	7:30		

* District Games • ** Homecoming

Friday
November 7
7:30 pm
Albany



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Albany Lions

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- Coach Burns
- Paul Kirby #11
- Beau Grigg #3
- John Burr #22
- Jamie Martin #12
- Emesto Casillas #5
- Kc Barber #45
- Jonathan Danaher #75
- Coach Moore
- Alvin Bracken #71
- Coach Miller
- Coach Paul
- John Peller #1
- Jose Luis P. #7
- Kaleb Parks #32
- Rowin Parks #10
- Clase Harris #52
- Jordan Baumann #8
- Mitchell Barber #30
- Race Springs #65
- Larry Rosales #70
- John #60
- Steph #72
- Amber #55
- Coach #78

ROBERT LEE SCHOOL NEWS



Robert Lee Cross Country! The Robert Lee Junior High and High School Cross Country teams recently competed at the Robert Lee Cross Country meet. Placing and receiving medals included (from left to right) Mira Myrice (10th place - high school girls), Zachary Sanchez (7th place - junior high boys) and Jodi Sheldon (9th place - high school girls).

Steers mark a win against Falcons

By Tom Sawyer

The Steers pointed the bus towards the plowed fields of Veribest and came home with another victory. A great game was played by all the Steers and the results sent everyone home on the first possession of the third quarter.

This leaves the Steers with one regular season game against the Eden Bulldogs and a Steer win will mean the playoffs again, so everyone get out and get up and cheer our team on to one more victory.

Scoring summary

1st quarter

Steers - 4 yard run by Millican with 7:27 left, Blair PAT kick;

Steers - 18 yard run by Gallegos with 7:12 left, Blair PAT kick;

Falcons - 13 yard run with 6:07 left, PAT kick good;

Steers - 48 yard pass from Brosh to Gallegos with 5:55 left, Blair PAT kick;

Steers - 5 yard pass from Brosh to Gallegos with 2:11 left, PAT kick failed

Robert Lee - 30
Veribest - 8

2nd quarter

Steers - 41 yard run by Gallegos with 7:27 left, PAT kick failed;

Steers - 22 yard run by Gallegos with 5:12 left, PAT kick failed;

Steers - 61 yard run by Gallegos with :44 left, PAT kick failed

Robert Lee - 48
Veribest - 8

3rd quarter

Steers - 3 yard run by Brosh with 5:41 left, game over due to mercy rule

Final

Robert Lee - 54
Veribest - 8

Steer Statistics

Stetson Nesbit - 3 receptions for 28 yards, 3 tackles and 1 fumble recovery;

Blake Hewitt - 1 reception for 5 yards;

Jeremy Martinez - 2 tackles;

Josh Gallegos - 8 carries for 197 yards and 4 TDs, 2 pass attempts, 3 receptions for 69 yards and 2 TDs, 9 tackles and 1 interception ;

Haden Dillard - 5 tackles;
Michael Rodriguez - 5 tackles;

Blake Millican - 5 carries for 34 yards and 1 TD, 1 reception for 12 yards, and 2 tackles;

Tyler Henderson - 1 reception for 22 yards;

Cody Brosh - 3 carries for 5 yards and 1 TD, 9 of 13 passing for 136 yards, and 2 TD's, 13 tackles and 1 blocked field goal for takeover;

Garrett Blair - 3 PAT kicks.

Good Luck tonight when the team takes on the Eden Bulldogs for the last regular season game. GO STEERS---
--STEER PRIDE !!!

Fifth Quarter slated for tonight

Pecan Baptist Church and Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church will host Fifth Quarter tonight, Friday, November 7, following the Robert Lee vs. Eden football game. The Fifth Quarter will be held at the Catholic Parish Hall for junior high and high school students. Students will be treated to pizza and lots of goodies.

RL Head Start taking applications

Robert Lee Head Start is taking applications for three to five year olds. Call Mrs. Garcia at 453-2536.

RLISD to honor Veterans

Robert Lee ISD would like to once again invite the community to attend the Veteran's Day Program on November 11, 2008 at 10 am in the auditorium at the school. They also ask that the veterans that live in our county who will be attending the program to please contact the school ahead of time so that they may make preparations to recognize and honor you.

They will also have a short reception in the high school library for the veterans

following the program. You may contact the school at 453-4555.

Coke County 4-H Clubs fundraiser

Coke County 4-H Clubs are holding their annual fund raiser. As in the past, 4-H Clubs are selling cutlery products from Rada Mfg. Co. which are 100% American Made. Candles and food mixes are also being offered. Orders are due by November 12 to be back in time for Christmas.

Please place your order with a 4-H member or contact the Extension office at 453-2461 to place an order.

Support athletes at RLISD

The Robert Lee All Sports Booster Club will have a meeting on Tuesday, November 11 at 7 pm in the high school library. Please help support the athletes of RLISD.

RLISD

Thanksgiving lunch set

Thanksgiving lunch will be served in the Robert Lee Cafeteria on November 21 from 11 am until 12:30 pm. The public is invited to attend.

The cost of the lunch is very minimal. Call Rosa Long at 453-4555 by November 14 to make reservations.

ASU Announces Carr Scholarship

Angelo State University has posted the Carr Scholarship application online for graduating seniors at www.angelo.edu. Eligibility includes that students must score at least 21 on the ACT test or a minimum of 970 on the SAT test and be in the top 40% of their class. The priority deadline to apply is February 1, 2009. For more information, please call the financial aid office at ASU at 942-2246.

Discover

ASU Day slated

Angelo State University is hosting a free Discover ASU Day this Saturday, November 8 from 9:30 am until 2 pm. Students will tour the campus, get an inside look at academic and campus life and will get to meet both ASU students and faculty. ASU will also be providing a free lunch to participants. Students and family members

will receive free admission to a campus athletic event, ranging from a football game to a theatrical production. Register online at www.angelo.edu or call 942-2041. If you are unable to make this Discover Day at ASU, other dates have been scheduled for February 14 and March 28, 2009.

Prepaid cards provide alternative to cash or checks

By Jason Alderman

Tens of millions of Americans don't have access to checking accounts or credit cards, which can make it difficult for them to cash their payroll or government-provided benefit checks, pay bills, withdraw cash and shop online or by phone. It also forces many to carry large amounts of cash and to utilize extremely expensive check-cashing services.

An increasingly popular alternative known as prepaid cards has helped fill this void. Prepaid cards look and work much like debit cards, except that instead of drawing money from a checking or savings account balance, they are funded by money deposited into an account by cash, check, funds transfer or direct deposit by an employer or government entity.

Prepaid cards share many of the attributes and advantages of debit cards, including:

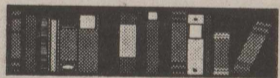
- * They're safer to carry than large amounts of cash
- * If branded with a logo like Visa, they can be used anywhere that brand is accepted
- * Spending is limited to the amount in the account, helping keep debt in check
- * Many can be used to withdraw cash from ATMs or to make online or phone purchases
- * Many are covered by Zero Liability protection if lost or stolen

Among the more common types of prepaid cards are:

- * Reloadable cards - to which more money can later be added
- * Gift cards - which can be used until their balance is depleted; gift cards are not reloadable
- * Teen cards - where parents can reload the cards and monitor purchases online or by phone (allowing teens a chance to manage spending and budgeting in a controlled environment)
- * Travel cards - which offer a safe alternative to cash and travelers checks

(Continued on page 11)

School Menu



Breakfast

Monday, November 10

Juice, donut, cereal, milk

Tuesday, November 11

Juice, pizza, cereal, milk

Wednesday, November 12

Juice, pop tart, cereal, milk

Thursday, November 13

Juice, pigs in blanket, cereal, milk

Friday, November 14

Juice, burrito, cereal, milk

Lunch

Monday, November 10

Been Chalupas, cheese, tamale, salad, pears, milk

Tuesday, November 11

Chicken nuggets, mac & cheese, green beans, bread, pineapple, milk

Wednesday, November 12

Grilled cheese, veg. soup, crackers, pickles, fruit cocktail, milk

Thursday, November 13

Chicken fajita, salad, Spanish rice, orange, milk

Friday, November 14

Hamburger, salad, pickles, baked chips, apple, milk

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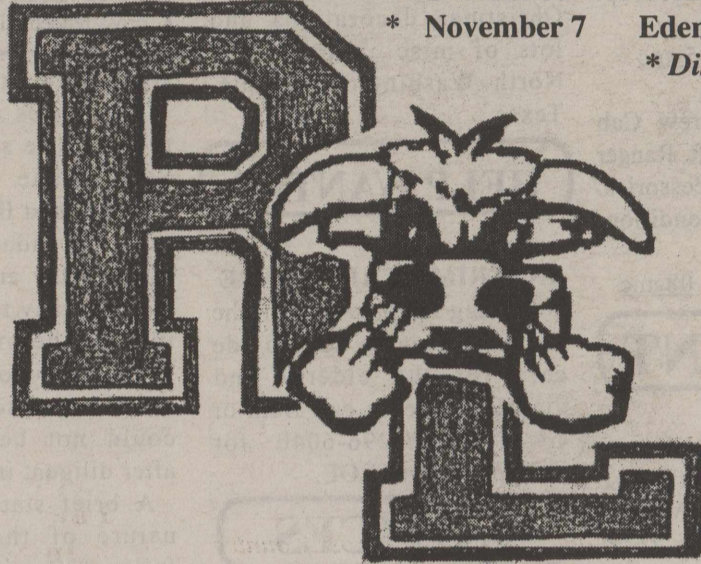
Robert Lee, Texas

ROBERT LEE STEERS FOOTBALL

				RLHS	
August 29	Highland	There	7:30	8	44
September 5	Panther Creek	Here	7:30	58	12
September 12	Garden City	There	7:30	60	66
** September 19	Rankin	Here	7:30	61	44
September 26	Sterling City	Here	7:30	64	106
October 3	OPEN				
* October 10	Rochelle	There	7:30	54	6
* October 17	Richland Springs	There	7:30	6	56
* October 24	Santa Anna	Here	7:30	64	14
* October 31	Veribest	There	7:30	54	8
* November 7	Eden	Here	7:30		

* District • ** Homecoming

**Friday
November 7
7:30 pm
Robert Lee**



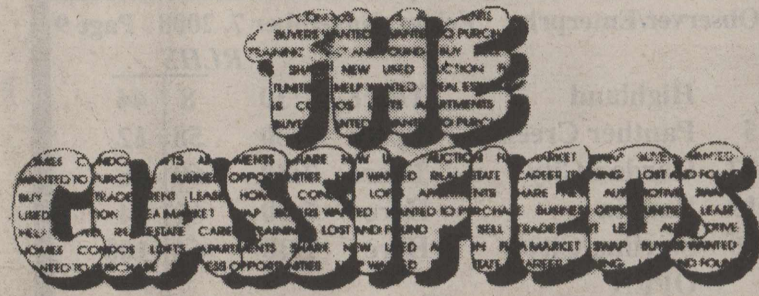
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 Steve Nunn #2
 Kim #2
 Josh Galvan #3
 Barrett #80
 Blair #5
 Henderson #10
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 Coach M. Davis
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 Michael #15
 Rodriguez #15
 Foster #8
 Allen #8
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 Mike #12
 Mike #12



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 This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination, call HUD toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.



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COMPUTERS
 New and Used. Repairs, upgrades, internet service. New 6.0 megapixel digital cameras \$90. New Polaroid photo printers \$25. Many new items 1/2 price! Ed Martindale, 473-3004.

FOR SALE
 2 BR, 1 BA, Carport and Storage. Central Heat and Air. Like new home. Energy efficient. 1212 Hamilton Street, Robert Lee. (325) 453-2662.

FOR SALE
 Brand Name Queen pillow top mattress set. NEW in wrapper, only \$150. 432-664-8980.

HOUSE FOR SALE
 in Bronte, 3 BR, 1 bath, carport, laundry room. 2 lots. Fenced and barn \$40,000. Call Launi Smith, 450-7990.

HAYGRAZER
 Square bales. New Crop. \$5/bale. 453-2731.
FOR SALE
 2003 Ford F-250 Crew Cab pickup. 1990 17 1/2 ft. Ranger boat with lots of accessories. Both in excellent condition. 453-2202.

FOR RENT

LEASE W/ OPTION TO BUY
 \$495/mo. Paint for equity/RLISD. 508 W. 9th. You may qualify for rural dev. loan. Call 655-9141.

FOR RENT
 New medium size storage units, utility trailers 1 & 2 axle, hand trucks and dollies available with day rates. Jesse's, 503 South State Street, Bronte, Texas 76933. 325-473-3900.

MISCELLANEOUS

NEED A SIGN?
 Banners, Graphics, Vinyl Lettering, Magnetic Signs and Vehicle Lettering. Juan Rangel, (325) 453-9010.

STEER FANS
 Help us out! Pep Rally at 3 pm. Steers vs. Eden, 7:30. Make lots of noise!

THE "BARBER" SHOP
 Dora England, 107 W. Main, Bronte. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday. 9 am - 5 pm. Avon, buy or sell, independent rep. 650-1970.

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 You have an unsightly tree stump in your yard? We'll grind it out without leaving a hole or a mess. Richard Baker. 473-2017 (home), (325) 669-7415 (cell).

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GARAGE SALES

GARAGE SALE
 Friday and Saturday. 606 W. 9th, Robert Lee. Mens, womens and childrens clothing, little bit of everything.

GARAGE SALE
 Saturday, November 8th, starting at 8:30. Crib, car seat, clothes, Christmas trees, Christmas decorations and lots of misc. items. 409 North Washington, Bronte, Texas.

HELP WANTED

INTERIM HEALTHCARE
 is looking for providers in the Robert Lee area to provide care for the elderly and disabled. Please call Beth or Gwen at 866-296-6040 for an application. EOE.

NOTICES

CLERK OF THE COURT
 Mary Grim, Clerk
 13 E. 7th Street
 Robert Lee, Texas 76945
 Attorney: Greg Gossett
 P.O. Drawer 911
 San Angelo, Tx 76902-0911

THE STATE OF TEXAS NOTICE TO RESPONDENT: "You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 am on the Monday next following the expiration of forty two days after you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you." To: Bill Easley and the descendants of Edith Mae Easley and all persons claiming any title or interest in the below described property whose identities are unknown to Plaintiff and could not be ascertained after diligent inquiry. Defendants, Greeting:

You are hereby commanded to appear by filing a written answer to the Plaintiff's petition at or before 10:00 o'clock am of the first Monday after the expiration of 42 days from the date of issuance of this citation, the same being Monday the 1st day of December, 2008 at or before 10 o'clock am, before the 51st District Court of Coke County, at the Courthouse in Robert Lee, Texas.

Said Plaintiff's Petition was filed on June 16, 2008 in this case, numbered 08-4262 on the docket of said court, and styled: Sue Diane Luckett vs

Bob Frazee's 944-0010 473-6603
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We have Buyers, We need Land Listings.
 Lake Spence, mobile home on large lot with huge storage/shop.
 Nice Mobile Home. 2 BR, 2 Bath, fully furnished.
 On 30 Acres, 3 BR, 2 Bath Brick home near Bronte. Barn, Pecan trees, cross fenced with good cultivation.

Bill Easley, Et Al.
 The names of the parties to the cause are as follows: Sue Diane Luckett is Plaintiff and Bill Easley and the descendants of Edith Mae Easley and all persons claiming any title or interest in the below described property whose identities are unknown to Plaintiff and could not be ascertained after diligent inquiry.

A brief statement of the nature of the suit is as follows, to-wit; All of Lots 11 and 12, Block 49, Original Town of Bronte as is more fully shown by Plaintiff's Petition on file in this suit.

If this citation is not served within ninety days after the date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved. The officer executing this writ shall promptly serve the same according to requirements of law, and the mandates thereof, and make due return as the law directs.

Issued and given under my hand and the Seal of said Court, at office in Robert Lee, Texas, on October 16, 2008.

ATTEST: Mary Grim, DISTRICT CLERK
 Coke County, Texas

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

THE OBSERVER/ENTERPRISE
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ROBERT LEE CARE CENTER

A 24-hour nursing and rehabilitation center with a 20-bed Alzheimer unit is currently accepting applications for the following positions:
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- Woodlawn Addition! Brick 3-Bedroom 2 Bath Home! Fireplace! Sunroom for your plants!
- 6+ Acres! Barn, Round Pen & Roping Arena! 4 Bedroom 2.5 Bath Home with 2 Fireplaces!
- Stucco 3 Bedroom! Lake Spence Area! CH/CA! Double Carport and Metal Roof! \$30's!!!
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...Prepaid Cards

(Continued from Page 8)

* Payroll cards – where your pay is loaded into the card's account for immediate access (similar to checking account direct deposit)

* Government agency-provided cards – where benefits such as Social Security, unemployment and child support payments are loaded into your card account

* Flexible Spending Account (FSA) cards – where your eligible expenses are deducted from your FSA account balance at the point of service, eliminating the need to pay cash up front and submit reimbursement forms

Certain fees and restrictions may apply, so it's important to read the card's terms and conditions carefully. Here are a few questions you may want to ask when comparing cards:

* What identification do I need to obtain this card?

* Where can I use it? (Certain retailers only? Online? Phone?)

* Can I add funds to it later? If so, how?

* Is there an expiration date?

* Will I receive monthly statements and is there a charge?

* Can I check balances by phone or online?

* What, if any, fees are charged to activate the card, add funds, check balances, make ATM or bank withdrawals, for monthly service or for not using the card regularly?

* What happens if it's lost or stolen?

It's important to remember that you need to manage prepaid cards just as you would cash in the bank, by avoiding spending what you can't afford. To learn more about prepaid cards, check out the brochure prepared by Practical Money Skills for Life, Visa Inc.'s free personal financial management site (www.practicalmoneyskills.com/prepaidcards).

For those people who don't have access to a traditional bank account, prepaid cards can be a helpful financial management tool, when used properly.

Current State of Texas

Community Banks

(Editor's note: Robert Lee State Bank President Stephen Myers obtained permission for this article, which was dated September 27, 2008, to run in the Observer/Enterprise)

Dear Editor,
The Independent Bankers of Texas (IBAT) held their annual meeting recently at The Hyatt Lost Pines Resort in Bastrop. There was much discussion and elaboration regarding the current economic turmoil, especially

in light of the recent proposals by the U.S. Treasury, currently referred to as a "Wall Street Bailout."

That's exactly what it is...a "bailout" of Wall Street. As I write this opinion, Congress, the Federal Reserve System (FED), Treasury and the Administration have not yet agreed on a final proposal. Regardless of the proposal to bail out up to \$700 billion in distressed mortgage related loans and securities, let me stress the community banks, especially in Texas, remain safe, sound and "Well Capitalized!"

Where did all of this start? Many say the underpinnings began with the Carter Administration's

"Community Reinvestment Act (CRA)." In 1994, the Clinton administration rewrote the Carter-era CRA in an attempt to help deserving minority families afford homes—a noble idea. It instead led to a reckless surge in mortgage lending that has pushed our financial system to the brink of chaos.

CRA was actually aimed at meeting the financial needs of the entire population of a specific bank's trade area, including those of low and moderate income levels. This was the beginning legislation to push the massive growth in America's housing industry.

Another probate cause was the repeal of the Glass-Steagall Act in 1999. This law allowed the merger of Citi-Corp and Travelers Insurance. The bill repealing the act was introduced by Phil Gramm (R-TX) and James Leach (R-Iowa).

The Gramm-Leach Bliley Act or GLB allowed for the common ownership of banks, insurance and securities firms. Glass-Steagall was two laws (established in 1933) to separate "investment banking" and "commercial banking."

Glass-Steagall established strict barriers between banking and commerce as well as the founding of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. (FDIC) for the insuring of deposits held by commercial banks. GLB did



Shoebboxes! The Pecan Baptist Church WMA recently completed a shoe box project for the children in countries in South America. Each shoebox was filled with toys and personal items for a child. The entire church joined in the project with a goal of filling 100 boxes. They were pleased to finish the project with 104 boxes. Gary Lawrence of Clyde, president of the Central West Texas Association took the boxes to the Missionary Baptist Church Headquarters in Little Rock, Arkansas. They will be shipped to South America and handed out by the missionaries.

Pictured above are Bobbie Box and Belinda Dominey. Members of the Pecan Baptist WMA are Polly Millican, Lillian Millican, Donna Waldrop, Pam Millican, Bobbie Box, Rhonda Hood, Judy Blair, Dessie Kendall, Karla Reed, Belinda Dominey, Judy Andrews and Sarah Green.

away with Glass-Steagall.

The Wall Street Journal reported on Sept. 23, "In order to curry congressional support after their accounting scandals in 2003 and 2004, Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac committed to increased financing of 'affordable housing.' They became the largest buyers of sub prime and Alt-A mortgages between 2004 and 2007, with total Government Sponsored Enterprises (GSE) exposure eventually exceeding \$1 trillion. In doing so, they stimulated the growth of the subpar (sub prime) mortgage market and substantially magnified the costs of its collapse."

As of today there are no more large investment banks, Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac as we once knew them. Of the original five investment banking houses of Wall Street, Bear-Stearns, Morgan Stanley, Goldman Sachs, Lehman Brothers and Merrill Lynch none exist as they did only this last spring/summer.

The remaining two independent investment

banks, Morgan Stanley and Goldman Sachs have (as of this previous weekend) become Bank Holding Companies and are now subject to regulation by the Federal Reserve System.

(Continued on next page)

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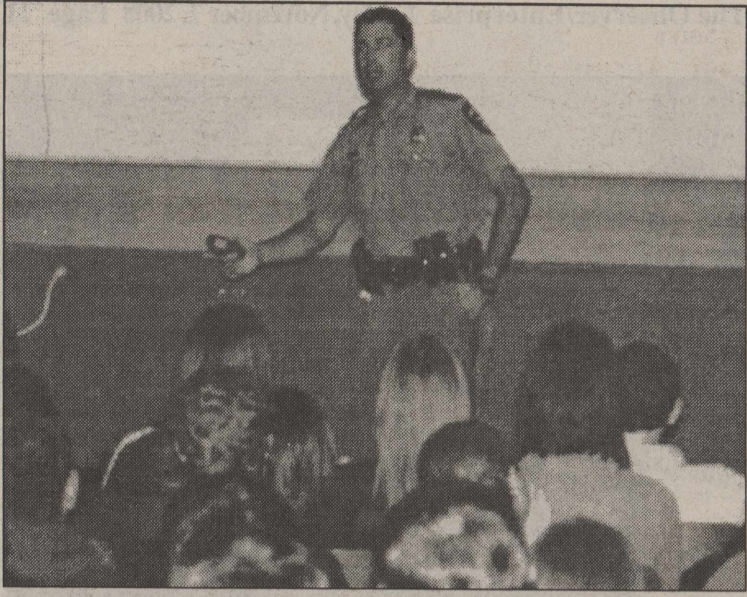
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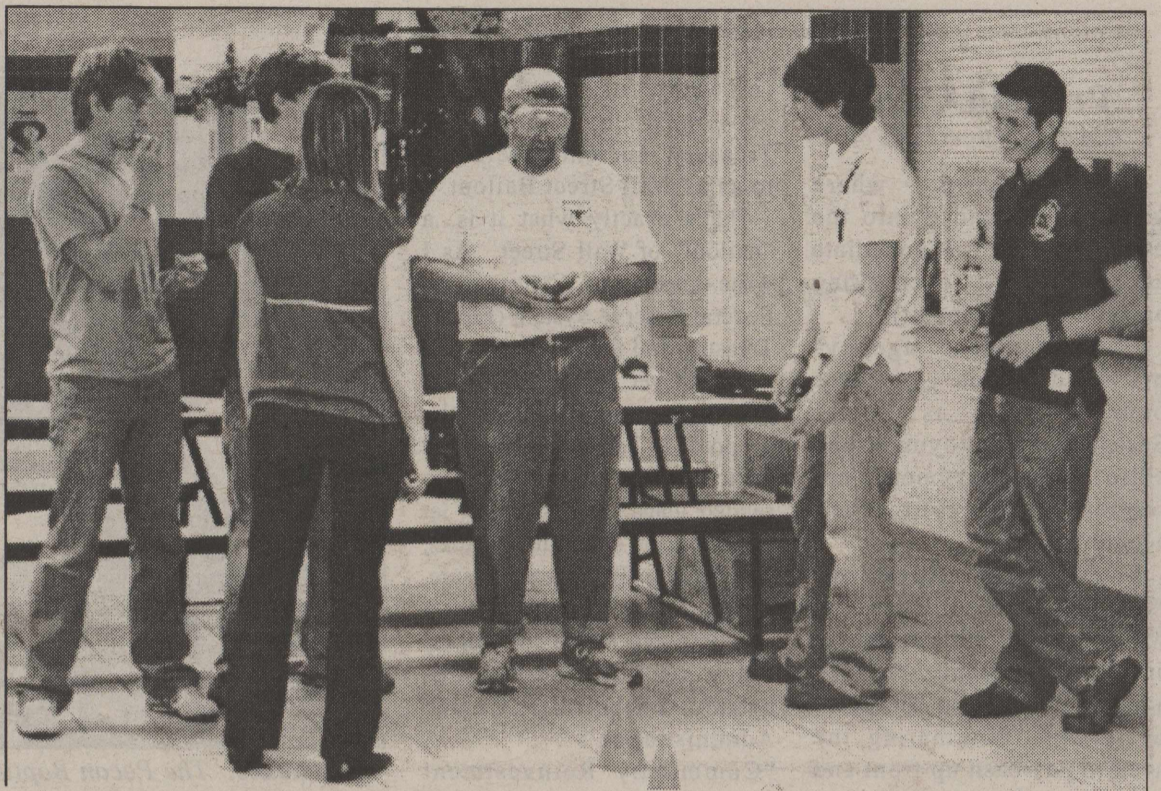
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Ask For:
**Randy Flanagan • Marsha Wink
Billy Wayne Roe**



Red Ribbon Week! Bronte High School had a few guests and activities for Red Ribbon Week recently. Texas Highway Patrol Safety Education Officer Shawn Baxter (above photo) spoke to junior high and high school students about the dangers of drug abuse.

Drug Abuse Council of San Angelo set up an informational booth last week and brought their special goggles and remote control car. The goggles simulate what it is like when someone drives under the influence of drugs or alcohol. Students and teachers had the opportunity to try the activity. Coach Kevin Burns (right photo) takes his



This will require them to maintain significantly higher levels of capital in addition to many other regulations that all commercial banks have always been subject to. You will recall that Bear Stearns was bailed out this past March by the FED and purchased by JPMorgan Chase. Lehman Brothers has now filed bankruptcy; Merrill Lynch has been acquired by Bank of America and the remaining two investment banking houses, Goldman and Morgan Stanley are now subject to FED regulation.

Equal in significance to these events is the effective "nationalization" of the two GSEs, Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac. These two giants of America's mortgage markets, with assets of \$1.8 trillion were recapitalized by the FED and treasury only a little more than three weeks ago. Only this past Friday morning we learned that Washington Mutual (WaMu), the largest U.S. bank failure in history, was also purchased by JPMorgan Chase. The WaMu transaction (the 13th failure this year), interestingly enough, was consummated at zero cost to the FDIC's insurance fund with all deposits receiving full protection by the FDIC. WaMu's failure, unfortunately, will most likely affect our local markets more than many of the referenced transactions due to its large employment base in San Antonio.

When Bear Sterns was forcibly merged into JPMorgan Chase by the FED and Treasury their capital ratio was a paltry 3%. The average capital ratio of community banks in Texas approximates 9%, three times that of the Wall Street firms. Bear Stearns and the other investment banks borrowed money in the capital markets, generally on a short term basis. The Wall Street firms generally borrow or leverage three

times the rates of commercial and community banks. As investment and brokerage houses, the Wall Street firms were unable to obtain their funding from FDIC insured deposits. Community banks' deposits are insured by the FDIC. More importantly, few community banks engage in off-balance sheet derivative financial transactions unlike the Wall Street investment houses.

Shortly after the failure of Indy-Mac, a California Thrift, at a press conference at the Texas Capitol in Austin on July 18, Cliff McCauley, chairman of Independent Bankers Association of Texas, said, "Texas community banks did not participate in the exotic mortgage lending practices that we're hearing so much about these days," McCauley is also executive vice president of Frost Bank, which is based in San Antonio. McCauley followed Texas Banking Commissioner Randall James at the press conference to share his observations on the health of the Texas banking industry. "We're very fortunate to be banking in Texas, as our economy remains relatively strong," McCauley said. "We're an economy that people and businesses are attracted to, and the Texas banking community stands ready to support those who want to participate in our prosperity."

"The proof of our prudence is reflected in the real estate markets in Texas," McCauley said. "While we (Texas community banks) did not participate in the excesses of the boom, we, likewise, are not victims of the bust." Texas Banking Commissioner Randall James, at the same press conference in July stated, "The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, which was founded in 1933 to restore public confidence in the banking system and to insure deposits in the nation's banks, was named

the conservator to IndyMac's accounts. James asked concerned customers to seek more information from the FDIC to better understand their deposits are safe. He encourages Texas citizens to call the FDIC, talk to their bankers and visit the FDIC Web site to realize "they are protected probably to substantially higher dollar figures than they realize on the front end." Oddly enough, IndyMac failed due to a run on the thrift. The run was linked to a letter from Sen. Charles Schumer (D-NY) and a member of the U.S. Senate Banking Committee) questioning the viability of IndyMac. IndyMac was not even on a problem bank list.

Much speculation abounds regarding what ramifications the current financial industry crisis will have on community banking institutions. Most bankers I talk to believe they are being unfairly blamed for someone else's (the mortgage bankers' and Wall Streets') missteps. They fully expect to feel the heavy hand of their regulations in the near future in the government's attempt to batten down the credit hatches. It is true that there are community banks in trouble and more problems are surfacing every day, but most institutions have been diligent regarding their credit practices all along. It is the secondary failure from current issues that are going to affect banks' portfolios, and that is what concerns the regulators. This is a systemic problem and it is going to last for some time.

The Texas community banking industry entered this crisis in very strong shape, having built record levels of capital from years of good earnings based on the vibrant Texas economy. At the IBAT meeting in Bastrop, banking regulators stated that out of the 650 community banks in Texas, with a total of \$191.5 billion in assets, approximately 20 institutions are on the problem bank list.

In fact, the vast majority (97 percent of Texas community banks) remain well capitalized.

On a more positive note, Texas community bankers are expected to reap the benefits of increased market shares of both deposits and loans, as the larger out of state banks and Wall Street firms labor through their high profile problems. Many institutions may end up merging as consolidation becomes a last resource in the survival process. As discussed above, many already have.

As Texans, we share concern over the turmoil in financial markets. Your local community bankers know and realize that each of you is interested now, more than ever, in the protection of your savings and financial assets. Many call this a flight to quality. Some will consider gold; U.S. Treasury bonds and certain AAA rated corporate securities. Your local community banks offer the same safety, protection and liquidity as these investments. Texas community banks are safe, stable and sound lenders. Look to those that have been doing business in your communities for years. Our bank opened its doors in Texas in 1934. Most Texas community banks are owned by local families or local investors...they deal with their

money and their community's money, not other peoples' money like Wall Street. Your local bankers stay close to their customers. They know their customers. Your deposits in community banks are insured by the FDIC. The FDIC fund is sound, and the industry is committed to paying the insurance premiums needed to keep it sound.

Your local community banker will work with you to structure the FDIC insurance level you need. If you don't have a local banker, one that is tied to your community and has been there for some time, then you owe it to yourself to find one. Local community bankers possess the experience, are financially sound and are committed to you and your community. They provide you the safety you require, just as they always have.

David Williams

Mr. Williams is Chairman of HCSB, a state banking association, with offices in the Texas Hill Country and Texas Panhandle; vice chairman of CitizensBank, Slaton; vice chairman of First National Bank of Hereford, and the recently elected vice chairman of the Independent Bankers Association of Texas in Austin. The FDIC's consumer hotline is 1-877-ASK-FDIC (1-877-275-3342) or visit www.fdic.gov.

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