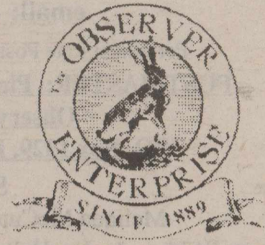


THE OBSERVER/ ENTERPRISE

Single Copy 50¢



Serving Coke County

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Vol. 124, No. 31

Friday, February 17, 2012

1st Annual Lion's Club Chili Supper set for February 18

Robert Lee Lion's Club is sponsoring a chili supper fund-raiser in the big Recreation Hall on February 18th at 6:00 pm.

In addition to the best chili you ever wrapped a lip around; the Robert Lee Volunteer Fire Department will have a scrumptious desserts auction at 7:00. All dessert donations will be most welcome. Contact any member of your local Fire Department to make a donation.

There will also be a raffle for a bar-b-q pit, with tickets selling for \$1 each or 6 for \$5. See any of your local Lions to purchase a raffle ticket.

RL Hispanic Cemetery Clean Up Day slated

Saturday, February 18, at 11 am has been designated as Clean Up Day for the RL Hispanic Cemetery.

Everyone who has a loved one resting at this cemetery is encouraged to come help clean all the cemetery.

Reception to honor Wanda Barbee slated for February 19

A reception honoring Wanda Barbee will be held Sunday, February 19, 2012, from 3 to 4:30 pm in the fellowship hall of First Baptist Church in Bronte.

All friends and former stu-

dents are encouraged to attend. Cards and letters would be a great addition, but organizers are requesting no gifts.

Coke County Retired Teachers Association to meet February 20

The Coke County Retired Teachers Association will meet Monday, February 20, 2012. The noon luncheon will be held at the First Baptist Church in Bronte. Guest speaker will be Mary Etta Kvapil, State Legislative Committee member.

RLISD to host meeting on bond election

Robert Lee ISD will host a public meeting on Thursday, February 23, 2012, at 6 pm in the school cafeteria. The purpose of this public meeting is to discuss a May 2012 Bond Election.

Holiday Closings

Both Robert Lee and Bronte City Halls, along with the Coke County Courthouse will be closed Monday, February 20, in observance of Presidents' Day.

Fundraiser Lunch slated for Wendell Lee

A Fundraiser Lunch for Wendell Lee will be held Sunday, February 26, at 12 noon at First Baptist Church in Bronte.

Wendell was injured in an accident Tuesday, February 7, on Main Street in Bronte. Show your love and support



BHS Debaters Advance to State! Bronte High School competed in the District CX debate on February 8, 2012, at Blackwell High School. Jael Williams and Kaitlyn Braswell placed first, and Austin Mertz and Jaylon Seales placed second at the meet. Both teams will be going to Austin to compete at the state CX meet in March. Jaylon Seales received the top speaker award and the entire team including Jessica Arthur and Marley Braswell placed first. The CX debate team is coached by Cheryl Cornutt. The topic debated this year is "The United States federal government should substantially increase its exploration and/or development of space beyond the Earth's mesosphere". The team includes (from left) Jessica Arthur, Marley Braswell, Coach Cheryl Cornutt, Austin Mertz, Jaylon Seales, Kaitlyn Braswell, and Jael Williams.

to Wendell and Jeanna Lee by attending this fundraiser. A donation for the lunch is appreciated.

Bronte Golf Tournney slated

The Bronte Longhorn Gold Club is sponsoring a 2 person 18 hole select shot golf tournament on Saturday, March 3. Tee time is 9 am.

Carts are limited, so sign up early if one is needed. For more information, contact Bronte Longhorn Golf Club at 325-473-2156 or after 4 pm on weekdays, call 432-661-3431.

Mountain Creek Golf Course tournaments slated

The Sunday Skins Golf Tournaments will be held every Sunday from now until March 4, 2012, at Mountain Creek Golf Course.

Lunch will be held at 12 noon and Tee off is 1 pm.

Teams will be drawn based on handicap/known ability. Participants may play with their own groups. Everyone is welcome.

For more information, call the golf course at 453-2317.

Farm Service Agency hours to change

Due to the retirement of longtime employee, Melinda Sasser, the Farm Service Agency (FSA) Office in Robert Lee will no longer have a full time employee in the office effective January 30, 2012. The only day that an employee will be present will be Tuesdays when the CED, Michael Sturm, from Tom Green County will open the office to conduct busi-

ness. Business can also be conducted through the Tom Green County FAS Office at 3514 Devonian in San Angelo.

FSA apologizes for any inconvenience and would encourage producers with questions to contact the Tom Green County Farm Service Agency at 325-653-1246 in San Angelo.

Filing continues in local government entity elections

Monday, February 6, 2012, was the first day to file for places on the ballot in the upcoming local entities elections. Filing will be allowed until March 5, 2012. The election will be held Saturday, May 12, 2012.

Along with the mayor, there are two two-year city council member terms on the ballot for the City of Bronte. Currently, these offices are held by Gerald Sandusky, mayor, and council members, Jennifer Stango, Paul (Buzz) Gohmann, and Jimmie Guthrie.

There are two council member terms and the mayoral position on the ballot for the City of Robert Lee. Currently, these council seats

(Continued on Page 7)



More Snow! This cute Scottie, Shiner, enjoys the cold wet stuff that fell on Sunday! Most areas in Coke County received just under a half inch of moisture Sunday afternoon and night. The moisture came in the form of snow first followed by sleet, freezing rain and finally rain.

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 Per Year Outside of Texas.....\$32.00



Letters to the Editor

Submitted by: Jackie Walker
 Hi y'all!

I hope you have been rejoicing like I have over the installation of our new 10" water pipeline to Bronte. It has been a joy for me to see so many people from our community volunteering for such a worthy cause. Last Monday, I had the privilege of working along side of Jordan Arnold, Preacher of Southside Church of Christ, and Bryan Heatherington. Bryan is a native of Australia, who lives four miles north of Bronte. I can't remember ever having such an enjoyable time of handling barbed wire and shoveling gravel. This experience reminded me of I Chron 29:9. "Then the people rejoiced because they had offered so willingly, for they made their offering to the Lord with whole heart, and King David also rejoiced greatly."

God bless you!
 Pastor Danny,
 Robert Lee Baptist Church
Vision With A Purpose

Joan Davis
 Robert Lee's Vision With A Purpose will meet the first Thursday of the month, March 1, at 7 pm at Noel and Clark Tinkler's place. Their kitchen/meeting combo is just off to the right on Hwy 158 West, a few miles west of Robert Lee.

A light supper will be served before the meeting.

Send your news in through the internet.

Email:
 o-e@wcc.net

Please send articles as a .doc attachment and photos as a jpeg attachment.

The group has a diverse membership which leads to interesting ideas for the support of the community and Robert Lee. The town has suffered during the 2011 drought, fires, and economic setbacks. Concern for the community led to "Vision."

First we must support local businesses any way possible. Then we should utilize, or make use of sites that are already available. Noel Gregston, and his late wife, Quincey, single-handedly built several bird watching trails. Richard Johnson reminded the group about the Red Canyon Gun Club near the city landfill for shooters. Phelan Wrinkle will catch us up on the 1907 County Jail project at the upcoming meeting. It may be possible to revive the amphitheater, site of the "Ole Coke County" pageants of the past. Although work would be needed to restore it for numerous uses; it has possibilities.

Everyone is invited to visit with us and-or join us. Maybe you have a "Vision"!



Joined in Matrimony! Amber Nichole Hall and John Thomas Sawyer III (Trey) were married in a wedding ceremony held Saturday afternoon, February 11, 2012, at Wildcat Mountain Ranch near Robert Lee. Amber is the daughter of Ms. Emily Craven. Trey is the son of Sandy and Tom Sawyer Jr. Grandparents of the couple include Mr. and Mrs. Troy McKnight of Winters and Mr. and Mrs. Tom Sawyer of Robert Lee. Attending the couple were Mandy Saiz, the bride's sister, and Tom Sawyer, Jr., the groom's father. Judge Jackie Walker performed the ceremony. Amber is a graduate of Somerville High School in Somerville, Tennessee, and attended University of Phoenix. Trey is a graduate of Robert Lee High School and attended Tarleton State University. Amber is currently employed by The Observer/Enterprise while Trey is employed by Wind Energy Turbine Services (WETS) in Sweetwater. The couple is living in Robert Lee.

Come as you are . . .

Sunday Mornings • 10 am
Bible Study • Tuesday 7 pm
Romans • Pot Luck Dinner at 6 pm

FORGIVEN MINISTRIES
 Downtown Bronte • Across from Grocery Store
 Russ Frasier, Preacher

All friends and former students of
Wanda Barbee
 are invited to a
 reception in her honor on
Sunday, February 19th, 2012
 from 3 pm to 4:30 pm
 Fellowship Hall
First Baptist Church
 Bronte, Texas
 Cards and letters are welcome,
 but no gifts please.

Area Churches
Invite You to Worship

Bronte
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

First Baptist Church
 424 S. Washington • Bronte
 (325) 473-2331
 Bro. Corey Cornutt, Pastor
 Sunday 9:45 am Sunday School,
 10:55 am Worship,
 5 pm Worship
 6 pm Youth
 Wednesday 7 pm Prayer Meeting

First United Methodist Church
 Corner of Washington & Holmes
 Bronte
 (325) 473-3281
 Rev. Matt Pennington, Pastor
 Sun. 9:30 am Sunday School
 11:00 am Worship

Forgiven Ministries
 117 W. Main, Bronte
 Russ Frasier, Pastor
 Sun. 10 am

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

Coke County
Pecan Baptist
 PO Box 542 • 12 miles West of
 Robert Lee on Sterling City Hwy
 (325) 453-2482
 www.pecanbaptist.org
 Sun. 10 am, Sunday School
 11 am & 7 pm, Worship

Robert Lee
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 United Methodist Church
 PO Box 144 • 9th & Chadbourne
 Robert Lee • (325) 453-2417
 Steve Peyton, Pastor
 Sun. 10 am Sunday School
 11 am Worship
 5:00 pm Choir Practice

Iglesia Bautista Bethel
 101 Houston • Robert Lee
 Sun. 10 am • Worship
 11 am & 6 pm • Service
 Wed. 7 pm

Southside Church of Christ
 PO Box 698 • 8th & Houston
 Robert Lee
 (325) 453-2176
 Jordan Arnold, Preacher
 Sun. 10 am, Sunday School
 11 am & 6 pm, Worship
 Wed. 6 pm, Worship

Northside Church of Christ
 PO Box 508
 9th & Chadbourne • Robert Lee
 (325) 655-9784 or 453-2685
 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

Robert Lee Baptist Church
 PO Box 493 • 22 W. 11th
 (325) 453-2724
 Danny White, Pastor
 Sun. 9:45 am, Sunday School
 11 am & 7 pm, Worship
 Wed. 7 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. 6 pm, Bible Study

Tennyson
Tennyson Baptist Church
 Hwy 277 • Tennyson
 (325) 473-2040
 Sun. 9:45 am, Sunday School
 11:00 am & 6 pm, Worship
 Wed. 6:00 pm Prayer Meeting

Coke County 4-H Photo Contest

winner announced

The Coke County 4-H photo contest was held January 20 and 21.

Taking Best in Show was Cassidy McWright with her entry in the People/Color Category.

Complete results follow:

Category: Floral- Kelli Thorn 1st and 2nd, Keeley Queen-3rd, Katlyn Reeves-4th, Cassidy McWright-5th, Keeley Queen-6th. Participants were Haleigh Soto, Saige Bugsby, Kelby Clawson, Jacob Eubanks, Cassidy McWright, and Kaci Queen.

Category: Catch-All- Cassidy McWright-1st, Katlyn Reeves-2nd, Kelli Thorn-3rd, Saige Bugsby-4th, Cassidy McWright-5th, Jacob Eubanks-6th. Participants were: Saige Bugsby, Jacob Eubanks, Kelli Thorn, Katlyn Reeves, Kaci Queen.

Category: Catch-All/Black & White- Madison Wright 1st and 2nd.

Category: Landscape- Cassidy McWright-1st, Keeley Queen-2nd, Katlyn Reeves-3rd, Jacob Eubanks-4th, Saige Bugsby-5th, Kelby Clawson-6th. Participants were: Saige Bugsby, Kelby Clawson, Jacob Eubanks, Aaron Cervenka, Kaci Queen, Keeley Queen, Kelli Thorn, Cassidy McWright, and Katlyn Reeves.

Category: People/Color - Cassidy McWright-1st, Kaci Queen-2nd, Cassidy McWright-3rd, Kelli Thorn-4th, Jacob Eubanks-5th, Saige Bugsby-6th. Participants were Saige Bugsby, Kaitlyn Swecker, Brady Clawson, Jacob Eubanks, Karrisa Cervenka,

Kerri Thorn, Katlyn Reeves, Kaci Queen, and Keely Queen.

Category: People/Black & White- Madison Wright 1st and 2nd.

Category: Aquatic- Katlyn Swecker 1st and 2nd and Katlyn Reeves-3rd.

Category: Animals/Domestic- Cassidy McWright-1st, Keeley Queen-2nd, Karrisa Cervenka-3rd, Katlyn Reeves-4th, Keeley Queen-5th, Kelby Clawson-6th. Participants were: Jacob Eubanks, Kelli Thorn, Cassidy McWright, Katlyn Reeves and Kaci Queen.

Category: Dominant Color- Keeley Queen-1st, Jacob Eubank-2nd, Brady Clawson-3rd, Cassidy McWright-5th, Katlyn Reeves-6th. Participants were: Jacob Eubanks, Kaci Queen and Cassidy McWright.

Category: Theme (Trains) - Brady Clawson-1st, Katlyn Reeves-2nd and 3rd, Brady Clawson-4th and Kelli Thorn-5th.

Category: Details & Macro- Kaci Queen-1st, Karrisa Cervenka-2nd, Jacob Eubanks-3rd, Brady Clawson-4th, Keeley Queen-5th, Cassidy McWright-6th. Participants were: Jacob Eubanks, Aaron Cervenka, Cassidy McWright, Katlyn Reeves, Keely Queen and Kaci Queen.

Category: Elements of Design: Jacob Eubanks-1st, Kaci Queen-2nd, Keeley Queen-3rd, Jacob Eubanks-4th, Katlyn Reeves-5th, Cassidy McWright-6th. Participants were: Brady Clawson, Aaron Cervenka, Cassidy McWright and Katlyn Reeves.

Category: Animals/Wildlife: Karissa Cervenka-

1st, Cassidy McWright-2nd, Katlyn Reeves-3rd, Keeley Queen-4th, Kaci Queen-5th, Cassidy McWright-6th. Participant was Aaron Cervenka.

Category: Night Photo: Cassidy McWright-1st, Kaci Queen-2nd, Karrisa Cervenka-3rd, Cassidy McWright-4th, Katlyn Reeves-5th and Kaci Queen-6th.

Category: Food- Cassidy McWright 1st and 2nd, Keeley Queen-3rd.

Category: Storyboard- Katlyn Reeves-1st.

Category: Digital Darkroom- Kaci Queen-1st, Keeley Queen-2nd, Katlyn Reeves 3rd and 4th.



We're way the heck out there!

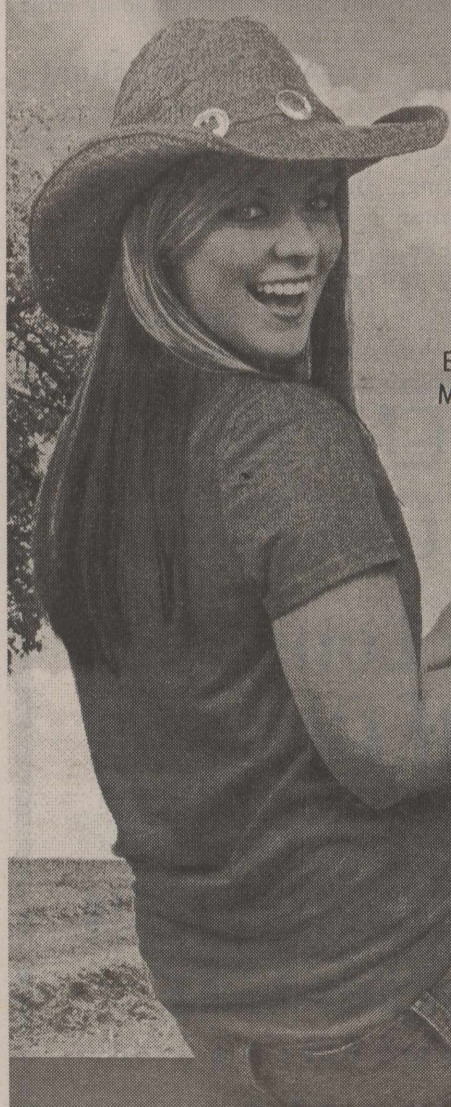
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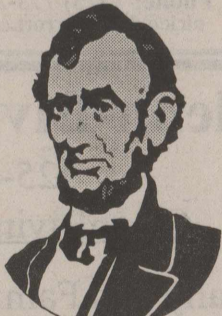
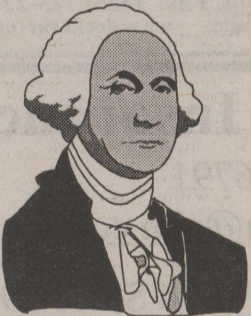
HOLIDAY CLOSING NOTICE

All facilities of this bank will be
CLOSED

Monday, February 20th

In Observance Of

President's Day



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

Robert Lee State Bank

Member FDIC

453-2545

Robert Lee, TX

BRONTE SCHOOL NEWS



BHS UIL! Conner Clark (from left), Megan Yackley, Suzette Diaries, and Mason Smith were among the Bronte High School UIL team members who were able to attend the Irion County practice meet.

Bronte ISD STAAR Testing Parent Meeting

The new State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR) will be administered to students in third through ninth grade across the state of Texas beginning in March.

Bronte ISD will have a

STAAR Testing Parent Meeting on February 27, 2011 at 6:00 in the school library. Parents of students in grades 3-9 are invited to come and hear about STAAR. Parents will be given general information about the changes from TAKS, what tests will be given at each grade level, and some sample test questions will be shown.

BHS UIL students compete in Irion County practice meet

Students are busy at Bronte High School preparing for the District Academic meet in Trent on March 22nd.

Some of the team were able to make it to the Irion County practice meet. Those attending were: Megan Yackley in Ready Writing, Mason Smith in Number Sense, Calculator, Science, and Math; Conner Clark in Calculator; Suzette Diaries in Calculator, Science, and

Math; and Edison Diaries in science. Austin Mertz attended to help with the debaters, Jessica Arthur and Marley Braswell.

UIL Academic winners at Irion County practice meet:

1st place
Calculator.....Suzette Diaries
4th place
Calculator.....Conner Clark
2nd place team....Suzette,
Conner, Mason Smith

The Debate team won one round and lost two - Jessica Arthur and Marley Braswell

The next practice meet will be in Sonora with more of the team members being able to attend.

Bronte High School Scholarship Check List

Due February 15

Ford Ivey Motor Company
in Robert Lee Scholarship (FFA)

Best Buy Scholarship
Texas Lyceum Scholarship

Due February 29

Texas Elks State
Association Scholarship

Due March 1

San Angelo Area
Foundation (high school
seniors and college students)

First National Bank of
Sterling City Scholarship
(application should open
about March 1)

Due March 12

Texas Telephone
Scholarship

Due April 1

Slough Scholarship (Texas)

Due April 10

Bronte Community
Scholarship

C.J. Macon Memorial
Scholarship (Bronte HS and
alumni)

Due April 20

Concho Valley Electric
Scholarship

Due May 1

San Angelo Stock Show
Scholarship

Due May 31

Marie Hall Scholarship
(ASU, Texas Tech, Howard
College, Midland College)

Scholarship Opportunities

Bronte High School seniors may now apply for the C.J. Macon Memorial Scholarship and the Bronte Community Scholarship.

The applications are available on the counselor's page on the BHS web site at www.bronteisd.net. Please note that Bronte HS Alumni may apply for a C.J. Macon Memorial Scholarship. Applications must be turned into the counselor's office on or by April 10, 2012.

If your family is a member of the Taylor Telephone Cooperative and you are a senior, you are eligible to apply for a scholarship. Applications are available in the counselor's office at Bronte HS or you may call the cooperative office at (325) 846-4111 to ask for an application to be mailed to you. Applications must be in to the Taylor Telephone Cooperative Inc. business

office by April 1, 2012.

The San Angelo Area Foundation (SAAF) has also posted their scholarship online at www.saafound.org. The application deadline is March 1, 2012. Many area scholarships may be applied for through the use of this one application being submitted. Students who are currently enrolled in college may also apply for this scholarship. For more information and a list of the scholarships offered, please visit the website.

JV Longhorns finish season with win

By Coach Buchanan

The Longhorn JV finished their season Friday with a 23-12 victory over the Paint Rock JV Indians. This capped off an excellent season by the JV Longhorns with an overall record of 14-3 and a district record of 9-1.

Highlights of the season were; bringing home the championship of our own tournament with an overtime win against Miles, playing stellar defense by giving up an average of only 18 points per game, and going undefeated on our home court this season. This year's team consisted of Johnathan Moore, Mizael Perez, Beau Rousseau, Kyle Kelton, Mason Stevens, and Kolby Lee. Congratulations on a great year.

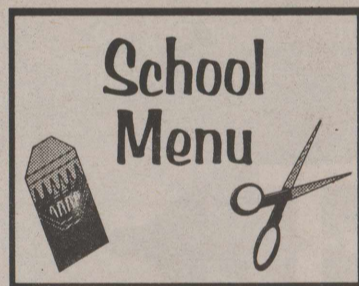
Financial Aid for College

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is now available online at www.fafsa.ed.gov for students planning on applying for financial aid to attend college after graduation.

Students and one of their dependent parents must apply for a pin number at www.pin.ed.gov in order to sign off on the online application.

Parents may go online and begin filling out the application but the

(Continued on Page 7)



School Menu

Breakfast

Monday, February 20

Sausage rolls or cereal,
fruit, juice, milk

Tuesday, February 21

Breakfast pizza or cereal,
fruit, juice, milk

Wednesday, February 22

Pancake on stick or cereal,
fruit, juice, milk

Thursday, February 23

Breakfast wraps or cereal,
fruit, juice, milk

Friday, February 24

Sausage biscuit or cereal,
fruit, juice, milk

Lunch

Monday, February 20

Chicken fajitas, refried
beans, Spanish rice, flour
tortilla, fruit, milk

Tuesday, February 21

Hot pocket, ranch beans,
baked chips, garden salad,
fruit, milk

Wednesday, February 22

Chicken spaghetti, season
corn, garden salad, garlic
bread, apple, milk

Thursday, February 23

Steak fingers, mashed
potatoes, green beans, rolls,
gravy, milk

Friday, February 24

Hamburger, salad cups,
tater tots, fruit, cookies, milk

ATTENTION AREA GOLFERS

Bronte Longhorn Golf Club is looking for NEW MEMBERS!

When joining for 3 months, 1
month's dues are FREE - a \$105
value for just \$70!

Call 325-473-2156 today!

Offer ends April 30, 2012.

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RLISD announces early release

Due to Staff Development, Robert Lee Independent School District will have early release on Friday, February 17th at 12:30 pm. The buses will be running at that time and arrangements will need to be made to pick up students at the early release time.

Please feel free to contact the school office at 453-4555 for any questions concerning the early release.

RLISD slates UIL Awards Ceremony

Robert Lee Independent School District will hold an Awards Ceremony on Friday, February 17, to recognize students, Grades 2nd thru 8th, who placed in events at the District 11A-Zone 2 UIL Academic Meet, held in December at Panther Creek.

The ceremony will be held at 9:30 am in the RLISD cafetorium. All parents and family members are encouraged to attend. Please call the Elementary Office at 453-4555 if you have any questions.

RLHS Basketball

On February 7, the Robert Lee Steers fell to the Bronte Longhorns 16-36.

Scoring for the Steers were Justin Gartman 8, Will Howard 3, Zach Skinner 3, and James Robert 2.

On February 10, the Steers faced Garden City and were defeated 39-54.

Scoring for the Steers were Justin Gartman 22, Will

Howard 8, Zach Skinner 6, James Roberts 1, and Dawson Brisbin 2.

The JV Steers lost to Garden City 27-42.

Scoring for the JV Steers were Everett Wilson 5, Michael Curry 2, Shelby Davis 7, Eric Wells 9 Mychael Tyjerina 2, and Mason Hill 2.

Area Foundation Scholarship application available

The San Angelo Area Foundation's 2012 scholarship application is now available through March 1, 2012, for students attending college in the fall of 2012.

Interested students can apply at www.saafound.org, by clicking on the "Scholarships" tab. The San Angelo Area Foundation manages over 80 scholarship funds, created by generous donors for the benefit of students. The student need only complete one online application and each scholarship is awarded based on a variety of qualifications unique to each scholarship fund. Scholarship awards are announced in early May.

If you have any questions during the application process, please contact our office either by email, scholarship@saafound.org or by calling (325) 947-7071.

Didja Speak?

Submitted by Ruth Beal
Didja Speak? This is kinda long so you may want to skip it, but for any of you ex- or current Coke Countians it may bring back memories. The other day someone mentioned my facebook photo doing the "Texas Wave" so I thought I would explain how I came to choose it. I first

heard that term a few years ago from an acquaintance in Indiana who learned it growing up while staying summers with relatives in Texas. I didn't know that it had a name-I guess we just thought of it as "speaking". When Robbie and I moved to Tuscola a few years ago, I often noticed that on the country roads around I was greeted by it. And, even those who don't offer it will usually respond with a "back at ya" when offered to them. On a few occasions I was shocked to be greeted by drivers of cars and trucks while on my motorcycle! And, equally surprised to see how often people would return it when I waved from the bike. Considering one day how unusual I figured this activity to be in the rest of the world, I wondered if it's isolated to this little corner of Texas? Those thoughts took me way back to that time and place when it was just a thing everybody did around Silver and Robert Lee where I grew up-for sure among the folks you knew-but it was also the polite thing to do even when meeting unrecognized traffic on the highway. Besides, what if that oncoming driver was someone from the community (of course everyone knew everyone) but you hadn't recognized they had traded cars? So, if you waved anyway there was no risk of being seen as rude (or worse, envious).

I got my first lesson on that subject one day when I

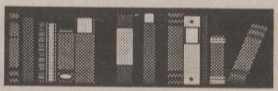
went to work with Daddy as he was making his pumping rounds on the Perking-Prothro lease. As usual, I was always begging to drive and had recently convinced him to let me drive without sitting in his lap. I was only big enough to sort of sit on the edge of the seat and kind of stand up at the same time so I could see out between the dash and underneath the top of the big old steering wheel in that faded, used to be red, '51 Chevy pickup. As usual, I was concentrating on trying to avoid hitting big rocks on the caliche lease roads (he would ask if I was trying to hit them-tires didn't grow on trees you know) and doing my best to keep from stalling the engine on the next road out of a creek by Goat Mountain. Because if I did kill the engine, would have to quickly "pump" the brakes to hold it (any of you old enough to remember doing that?) to keep from rolling backwards down the hill. Then would have to stand on that long throw clutch, shift into first gear on the column, and use my right foot to share the brake pedal, AND the floor starter (bet few of you remember that!!) located next to the gas pedal. Then I would have to release the starter without letting off the gas or brake, slowly let out the clutch while gradually releasing the brake, and press the gas just enough to start back up the hill without spin-

ning the tire (they don't grow on trees) and without killing the engine again! Of course, I found every excuse I could to "peel out" because it was fun but not easy with those old "hot water sixes" even on a caliche road.

So, having to concentrate on all those things as well as trying to avoid colliding with the pickup I was meeting on the one lane road, I was surprised when Daddy looked over at me after I successfully passed the oncoming pickup and said, "Didja speak?" "Huh?", I said. He said, "You didn't speak to Doug-you didn't wave." It took me a minute to figure out what code I had violated and then it dawned on me that I was supposed to wave with the forefinger from the steering wheel just like all the men did. Heck, I was just a little kid, but that day I learned that if I was big enough to drive, it was now my duty as the pilot in command to be courteous and to "speak". So from that day on if I met Sleeve, Whit, Peanut, John, Roe-sy, Paul, Les, Jones-y, or Bob out on the Perkins lease, or Mert or Pete or any of the Texas Natural folks between the camps, or on the way to Silver if we met H.G. or Raymond or anyone else, I was obliged to wave.

Later on in high school driving around Robert Lee, you always "spoke", even to "The Law"-Ollie and Melvin. Of course, you developed your own individual style which
(Continued on Page 7)

School Menu



Breakfast

- Monday, February 20**
Breakfast pizza or cereal, juice, milk
- Tuesday, February 21**
Cinnamon roll or cereal, juice, milk
- Wednesday, February 22**
Biscuit and jelly or cereal, juice, milk
- Thursday, February 23**
Pancake on stick or cereal, juice, milk
- Friday, February 24**
Pigs in blanket or cereal, juice, milk

Lunch

- Monday, February 20**
Pizza, salad, corn, applesauce, graham crackers, milk
- Tuesday, February 21**
Chicken a la king, rice, egg roll, pineapple, milk
- Wednesday, February 22**
Grilled cheese sandwich, vegetable beef soup, crackers, pickles, apple, pudding
- Thursday, February 23**
Chicken fried steak, cream potatoes, peas, bread, strawberries
- Friday, February 24**
Chicken patty on bun, salad, pickles, French fries, peaches

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Life • Commercial

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DARYL'S BODY SHOP

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ROBERT LEE, TEXAS 76945

DARYL COPELAND, OWNER 453-2980

First Annual Lion's Club Chili Supper

Saturday • February 18 • 6 pm
Robert Lee Rec Hall • \$5/Bowl

Robert Lee Volunteer Fire
Department Dessert Auction • 7 pm

Barbecue Pit Raffle
Tickets - \$1 each or 6 for \$5
Raffle Tickets available from any local Lion!

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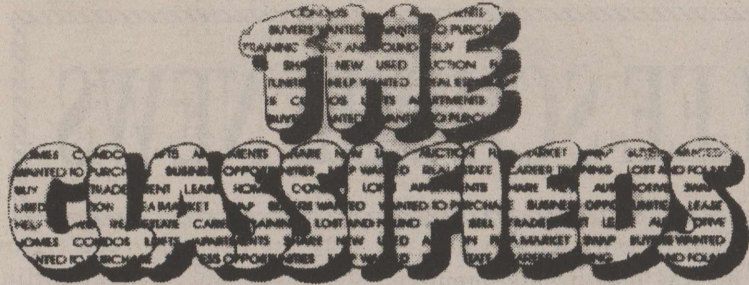
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 25¢ Per Word
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 Tuesday at 2 pm

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE:
 All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention, to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18.
 This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination, call HUD toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-



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FOR SALE
 4 Star 3 Horse Gooseneck Aluminum Trailer. Front tack and dressing room. Great Condition! (325) 716-9626 or (325) 232-4777.
 26-tnc
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 Baby bed and all matching bedding. Please call 453-2497 or 234-0097.
 30-2tc

JUST ARRIVED!
 Fishing Bait & Tackle
 Worms, Worms & Worms!
CINDY'S
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 453-9200

Political Calendar
The Observer/Enterprise
 has been authorized to make the following announcements for the political offices in Coke County.
 Each candidate or the campaign treasurer has paid for his or her announcement. All political advertising, announcements, and printing is cash in advance.
COUNTY SHERIFF
 Wayne McCutchen (Rep.)
COKE COUNTY TAX ASSESSOR-COLLECTOR
 Josie Dean (Rep.)
 Kathi J. Cox (Rep.)
COUNTY CONSTABLE, PRECINCT 1
 Marshall Millican (Dem.)
COUNTY CONSTABLE, PRECINCT 2
 Marty Boyd (Rep.)

FOR RENT
BRONTE MINI STORAGE
 has new storage buildings for rent. 473-2221, 473-0409.
 45-tnc
FOR RENT
 2/2 newly remodeled home 10 miles SW of Robert Lee. Great for single person or couple. \$675 all bills paid, \$500.00 deposit. 325-277-7802.
 31-2tc
FOR RENT
 8 x 10 storage units in Bronte. Call 325-473-3257.
 14-tnc

ECOM Computers, Etc!
 New and used. Repairs and upgrades.
Ed Martindale
 473-3004

PITCOCK PROPERTIES
Jerrod Pitcock, Broker
 www.pitcockproperties.com • (325) 650-4079
 Warehouse Building on Highway 208 in Robert Lee, \$59,000.
 3568 Ac. in Ozona with rugged terrain, Water Wells, Cabin \$695/acre
 3 BR 2 BA Home on Euel Street in Robert Lee, Completely Remodeled! Everything New! \$65,000.
 2500 Ac. in Runnels/Nolan Counties \$950/ac.
 209 Ac. on Hwy 158 E \$1325/ac.
 Horse Lovers Paradise 20 acres, Horse Stalls and Arena, 4 BR/2 BA, 3 water wells, Ballard Road off Hwy 87, \$295,000

MISCELLANEOUS

HANDYMAN
 For all of your plumbing and painting needs, call 325-277-5433.
 31-4tp

TRES TRIMMED
 Topped or removed.
 453-9902 or 473-8712.
 43-tnc

PET GROOMING AND BOARDING
 The Dog House, 119 N. State, Bronte. Monday - Friday (325) 234-1599.
 27-4tc

GENERAL CONTRACTING HANDYMAN
 for comp. & metal roofing, plumbing, drain cleaning, water heater installment, house painting. Haul off scrap iron, junk batteries, vehicles with titles. 453-2339.
 23-tnc

THE BARBER SHOP
NEW LOCATION! 211 N. Lombard. Mon., Tues., Wed., 9-5. Avon Independent Sales Rep. 650-1970.
 03-tnc

LOST
LOST
 6 year old purebred registered Polled Limousin Bull. Tattoo in left ear. Last seen in Valley View area. Call 453-2802
 31-2tc

HELP WANTED
\$5,000 SIGN-ON BONUS!
 Tons of Runs. Frac Sand Hauling. Owner Operators need tractor, pneumatic trailer, blower. 800-397-2338
 29-4tp
NURSES UNLIMITED, INC.
 is seeking enthusiastic attendants in the Robert Lee area to assist clients in the home with personal care, meal prep. and light housekeeping. P-T E.O.E. Call 1-888-859-0642
 31-2tc

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FOR MORE DETAILS, CONTACT JOE ASH.

CARD OF THANKS

WE WANT TO EXPRESS
 our deepest appreciation to all who shared part of their life with Beth and the nice words and thoughts said about her. Thanks to all who brought food, sent cards and beautiful plants to our home. Special thanks to all who traveled from afar to mourn our beautiful mother, wife, and grandmother.
 Beth Hamilton August 12, 1937-January 8, 2012
 Donna Hall and Family
 31-1tp

NOTICES

NOTICE OF FILING DEADLINES
 The West Coke County Hospital Board of Directors hereby gives notice of filing deadlines for the May 12, 2012 Election, Three Directors will be elected for a term of two (2) years each. Candidates may file applications for inclusion on the ballot between February 04, 2012, and

March 05, 2012. Applications and petitions may be obtained at Robert Lee Care Center during normal business hours, 9 am to 5 pm, Monday through Friday. Any questions may be addressed to Roger Alexander, Administrator.
AVISO DE FECHA LIMITE
 El Consejo Administrativo de West Coke County Hospital District da aviso a su eleccion que da principio el 12 de mayo, 2012, con el proposito de elegir tres (3) directores por plazo de dos (2) años cada uno. Los candidatos pueden obtener las aplicaciones para la inclusion en la votacion entre el 4 de febrero 2012 y el 5 de marzo de 2012. Las aplicaciones y las peticiones se pueden obtener en las oficinas de Robert Lee Care Center durante el horario normal, 9 am - 5 pm, de lunes a viernes. Cualquiera pregunta puede ser dirigida a Roger Alexander, Administrator.
 30-3tc

BRONTE HEALTH & REHAB CENTER
 will be starting **CNA Classes** in the near future. We would like for any interested candidate to come by and put in application for the class. For more information, call
(325) 473-3621

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SKY HARBOR 2 Story Home!!! 3 Bedroom 2 1/2 Bath!!! Island in Kitchen!!! Satillo Tile!!! Master Suite is upstairs!!! \$205,000!!!
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COTTAGE STYLE HOME!!! Approx 7 Acres with 2 Bedroom 1 Bath Home!!! Vaulted ceilings & Fireplace!!! Wonderful Views!!! Shop!!! \$120,000!!!
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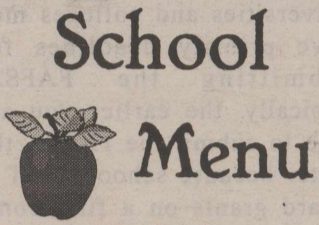
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BLACKWELL SCHOOL NEWS

Upcoming

BCISD activities

Abstinence education will be held for students in the 6th, 7th, 8th and 9th grades from 8 am to 12 noon on Thursday, February 23.



Breakfast

Monday, February 20

French toast sticks or cereal, juice, milk

Tuesday, February 21

Breakfast burrito and salsa or cereal, juice, milk

Wednesday, February 22

Breakfast pizza or cereal, juice, milk

Thursday, February 23

Biscuits with sausage and gravy or cereal, juice, milk

Friday, February 24

Donuts and gogurt or cereal, juice, milk

Lunch

Monday, February 20

Turkey and gravy, steamed rice, green beans, fresh fruit, milk

Tuesday, February 21

Philly cheese steak sandwich, baked chips, fresh veggies, ranch dressing, fruit, milk

Wednesday, February 22

Chicken strips, mashed potatoes, gravy, black eyed peas, hot rolls, fruit, milk

Thursday, February 23

Pizza, corn, bread sticks, marinara sauce, fruit, milk

Friday, February 24

Hamburgers with or without cheese, French fries, lettuce, tomatoes, pickles, fruit, milk

On Friday, February 24, the Elementary Six Weeks Awards Ceremony will be held from 8 am to 8:30 am. The Odessa American Regional Spelling Bee is slated for Saturday, February 25.

The Region II FCCLA meetings are scheduled for Thursday, Friday and Saturday, March 1-3. The Executive Council Meeting will be held on Thursday. The Leadership Meeting will be held on Friday and Saturday.

The UIL competition is also slated for Saturday, March 3.

Financial Aid for College

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is now available online at www.fafsa.ed.gov for students planning on applying for financial aid to attend college after graduation.

Students and one of their dependent parents must apply for a pin number at www.pin.ed.gov in order to sign off on the online application.

Parents may go online and begin filling out the application but the information from the 2011 tax return will be needed to complete the application.

Please be aware that certain universities and colleges may have priority deadlines for submitting the FAFSA. Typically, the earlier you are able to submit the FAFSA the better because schools tend to award grants on a first come first serve basis.

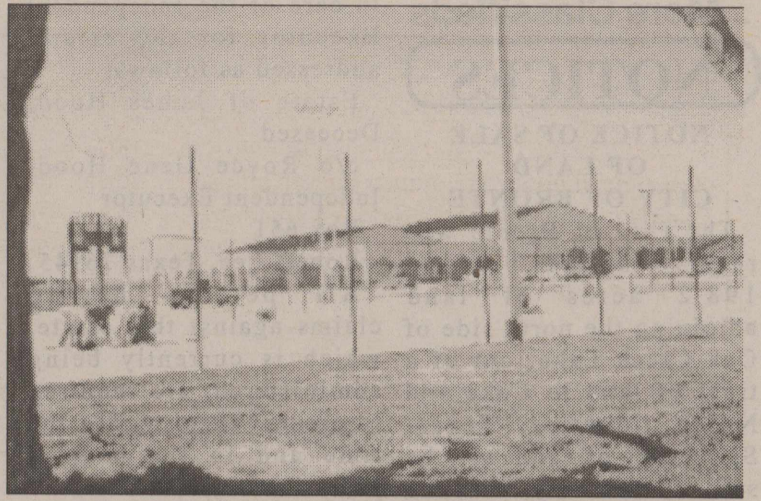
Grants are those moneys that students do not have to pay back.

Sport Court Construction!

The tennis court will be refurbished along side a new basketball court. The current construction project includes refurbishing the existing

tennis court and the addition of a basketball court. Lights have been added to the facility and they will be operable by timer. People wishing to use the facility at night can manually start a timer, turning the lights on. When the timer expires the lights will shut off, but the timer can be restarted. On school nights, the lights will shut off at 9:30 and cannot be turned on again. Non-school nights will have a later end time.

Photographer - Leonor Castello



CUSTOMER NOTICE INCORPORATED AREAS OF THE MID-TEX DIVISION

On January 31, 2012, Atmos Energy Corporation, Mid-Tex Division ("Atmos" or "the Company"), filed a Statement of Intent with each City served by the Mid-Tex Division (hereafter "Affected Cities") with the exception of the City of Dallas. The Company's Statement of Intent proposes to increase its gas rates and implement a new schedule of rates and riders applicable to all customers within the Affected Cities. The proposed effective date of the requested rate changes is March 6, 2012. If approved, the proposed changes will affect approximately 1,194,420 residential, 100,461 commercial, and 705 industrial & transportation customers.

If approved, the proposed rates will increase the Company's annual revenues by \$49,080,069 or 4.36%, including gas costs, or 11.94% excluding gas cost. The proposed change in rates constitutes a "major change" as that term is defined by Section 104.101 of the Texas Utilities Code. In addition to the rate changes, other proposed tariff changes include revision of the Company's residential and commercial rate schedules (Rates R and C), as well as its Rider WNA and Rider GCR to change the current billing rate basis from Mcf to Ccf. The Company further proposes to revise the Rider GCR to: (1) remove the 2009 interest rate reference, (2) clarify that the calculation of (b) Pipeline Cost is inclusive of interest, and (3) update the Upstream Pipeline Charge Allocation (Factor D). Atmos also proposes to modify its Rider WNA to update the heat load and base load factors. The Company further seeks to implement a new Rate Review Mechanism ("RRM") tariff, as well as a new conservation and energy efficiency tariff ("Rider CEE"). In addition, the Company seeks to recover all of its rate case expenses and all city rate case expenses as allowed by law. The exact amount will not be known until the case is completed.

Based on the proposed rate design, the average monthly bill for each customer class within the Affected Cities will change by the amount and percent shown in the table below:

Customer Class	Current Bill **	Proposed Bill**	Difference	Percentage Change with Gas Cost	Percentage Change without Gas Cost
Residential *	\$48.51	\$51.21	\$2.70	5.57%	13.60%
Commercial *	\$241.15	\$246.50	\$5.35	2.22%	9.69%
Industrial *	\$3,703.47	\$3,499.26	\$(204.21)	-5.51%	-14.22%
Transportation	\$1,754.60	\$1,550.39	\$(204.21)	-11.64%	-14.22%

*Includes Rider GCR Part A cost of \$4.5750 per Mcf.

**The calculation of bill impacts assumes average monthly consumption of 4.4 Mcf for residential, 34.2 Mcf for commercial, and 3,897 MMbtu for industrial and transportation customers.

Persons with specific questions or desiring additional information about this filing may contact Atmos Energy Corporation at 1-888-286-6700. Complete copies of the filed Statement of Intent, including all proposed rates and schedule changes, are available for inspection at Atmos' offices located at 5420 LBJ Freeway, Suite 1600, Dallas, Texas 75240 or on our website www.atmosenergy.com/mtx-soi. In addition, customers can contact their City for additional information regarding this rate request.

Éste es un aviso a los clientes de Mid-Tex División de Atmos Energy Corporation, (la "Compañía"), que la Compañía está solicitando un aumento en la tarifa del gas. Este aumento afecta a todos los clientes de la Compañía excepto en la ciudad de Dallas y las áreas no incorporadas. Aquellas personas que deseen comunicarse con la autoridad reguladora que tiene jurisdicción sobre esta solicitud deben ponerse en contacto con su ciudad. Si usted tiene preguntas con respecto a este aumento, por favor llame a Atmos Energy Corporation al 1-888-286-6700.

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