

THE OBSERVER/ ENTERPRISE

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Vol. 127, No. 32

Friday, February 13, 2015

Local Government Entity election filing period continues

Filing for a place on the ballot in the May 9, 2015, local government entity election began January 28, 2015, and will continue through February 27, 2015. Potential candidates may pick up an application at the entity for which they are filing.

The City of Robert Lee has three 2 year terms to fill. The terms of council members Janie Munoz, Leroy Casey and Susan McCormick are expiring. Also, Mayor John Jacobs has announced that he will resign in May. The remainder of his term will also be on the ballot.

The City of Bronte will need to fill three seats currently held by Misti Bedford, Paula McWright and Jodie Arrott.

East Coke County Hospital District will have to fill two 2 year terms currently held by Gina McCutchen and Lee Wommack.

West Coke County Hospital District will have to fill two 2 year terms currently held by Mary Bessent and Dessie Kendall.

There are three 3 year terms on the ballot for the Robert Lee ISD Board of Trustees. The terms of George Grim, Tom Sawyer, Jr., and Wes Washam are expiring.

There are three 3 year terms on the ballot for the Bronte ISD Board of Trustees. The terms of Blake Braswell, David McWright and Ashley Braswell are expiring.

Daddy-Daughter Date Night set for February 21

The 6th annual Daddy-Daughter Date Night, "Once Upon A Time", will be held Saturday, February 21, 2015, from 5 to 8 pm at the Robert Lee Rec Hall.

This event offers dads, stepdads, granddads, big brothers, uncles, cousins, or that special friend the opportunity to let their little girl know how special they are. This evening is for girls in Pre-K through 6th grade. There will be light appetizers, music and a complimentary 5x7 photo of the couple. Bring your own camera to take a group phot at 6:15 pm and the girls may bring their own camera to capture special moments of the evening. B's Blossoms 'n' Bloom will be offering a special on corsages and boutonniere in conjunction with the dance. Details will be sent home on the flower special being offered.

Tickets go on sale February 1 and may be purchased in advance until February 17. Tickets will be available at DJ's Merle Norman in Robert Lee and in Bronte at Hometown Hardware. Tickets purchased at



the door will cost more.

For more information, call or text Katie Drennan (473-0112) or Erin Oleksiuk (656-9884).

Winter's Rock Hotel to remember our fallen

The War on Terror, Fallen Heroes of Texas Memorial Wall will be displayed in the Rock Hotel Museum in Winters February 28 through March 9, 2015. A grand opening ceremony is scheduled for Sunday, March 1, at 2 pm. The museum will be open from 10 am to 4 pm Mondays through Saturdays and from 1 pm to 4 pm on Sundays.

This wall of photographs, memorabilia and stories spans 100 feet and is dedicated to those Texans who have fallen while fighting the War on Terror.

The Rock Hotel is located at

300 W. Dale in Winters.

Friends of the "Gus" Pruser Exhibit to meet

The Friends of the "Gus" Pruser Agriculture Exhibit will hold their monthly meeting Monday, February 16, at 6 pm. The meeting will be in the Gus Pruser Agriculture Exhibit at 219 W. Dale, Winters.

Friends of the "Gus" Pruser Exhibit is a group interested in preserving the agriculture heritage of the Winters area. The group works on tractors and other displays in the museum.

For additional information contact John Long at 325-754-5389 or mailto:zihale_museum@wtxs.net



VP Officers! Robert Lee's Vision with a Purpose officers for this year include (from left) Marshall Millican, Sargent at Arms; Janie Munoz, Vice President; Sheri Millican, Parliamentarian; Debbie Childers, President; Crystal Stanford, Treasurer; Leta Caston, Photographer; Floyd Pettit, Planning Commissioner; Diane Hefner, Reporter; and Grace Todacheeny, Secretary.

Regular Meeting of the Commissioners Court

9 am Tuesday

February 24, 2015

Commissioners Courtroom

Coke County Courthouse

THE OBSERVER/ENTERPRISE

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 Amber Sawyer

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
 Per Year in Coke County ... \$30.00
 Per Year Elsewhere in Texas ... \$35.00
 Per Year Outside of Texas ... \$37.00

Obituaries



Sparks

Dorothy Maurine Sparks, 90, went to Heaven on Saturday, January 24, 2015. She was born on March 26, 1924, to Claude and Grace McCutchen Murtishaw in Coke County, Texas. She was one of eight children who were raised in the Wildcat Community of Coke County. She is survived by her children, W. D. (Dub) Sparks, Jr. and wife, Kay; Bud Sparks and wife, Kay; Tony Sparks and wife, Jessica; and Linda Owens and husband, David, all of San Angelo. She is also survived by eight grandchildren, twenty-seven great-grandchildren and five great-great grandchildren.

Maurine married a Coke County boy, Wilfred Sparks, on March 28, 1941, at the Methodist Church in Bronte. They were married fifty-four years until his death in 1995. After their marriage, they lived on various ranches, farms and dairies in Coke and Mitchell Counties, where he was a ranch hand and she was a homemaker. The family settled into a permanent home in 1951 in Colorado City, when Wilfred went to work for Cosden Refinery.

After the children were raised, Maurine ventured out into the working world. She worked as a sales clerk at Anthony's in Colorado City for thirteen years before retiring. She and Wilfred (Blackie) then moved to San Angelo in 1982, where she lived the remainder of her life. Maurine was a Christian and was a founding member of the Quail Valley Baptist Church, serving as Treasurer for many years.

Maurine was a loving wife

and mother during her children's childhood, staying at home to raise her family. Her legacy to be remembered is that she was always there for her family, lovingly tending them when they were sick, reading to them, teaching them about the Bible and Jesus, showing right from wrong, and always lovingly supporting them. She taught them to drive out on the backroads of Mitchell County. She was a moral compass for them, showing by example how one should live. Years come and go quickly, but the love of a mother never dies.

"Her children rise up and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her." Proverbs 31:28.

A celebration of her life will be held at 2 pm, Saturday, February 21, 2015, at Shaffer Funeral Home's Sherwood Way Chapel. Services are under the direction of Shaffer Funeral Home/Sherwood Way.

Online condolences may be made to www.shafferpioneer.com 32-1tc



RLCC Raises Funds! Robert Lee Care Center supported a fundraiser for Kim Cain who lost her home and all her belongings in a fire. Kim works at RLCC as an occupational therapist. Thanks to a very supportive community, over \$866 was raised. The generosity was overwhelming and Kim was deeply appreciative of the efforts of everyone involved.

Phillips

Allen Wayne Phillips, 93, passed away on Tuesday, February 3, 2015. There will be no services.

He is survived by his daughter Patricia Prather of California.

Hayes

Hazel L. Hayes, 83, died Saturday, February 7, 2015. Memorial services will be held at a later date. Arrangements are by Shaffer Funeral Home.

She is survived by her sons, John Hayes of Robert Lee and Prentice Hayes of Virginia; sister, Ida Daniel of Sweetwater.

Come As You Are

Sunday Mornings • 10 am
 Table Time • Tuesday evening
 Pot Luck 6 pm • Study 7 pm



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

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
 Sunday 9:45 am Sunday School,
 10:55 am Worship,
 5 pm Worship
 6 pm Youth

First United Methodist Church

Corner of Washington & Holmes
 Bronte
 (325) 473-3281
 Rev. Everette Boyce, Pastor
 Sun. 10:00 am Sunday School
 11:00 am Worship

Forgiven Ministries

117 W. Main, Bronte
 Russ Frasier, Pastor
 Sun. 10 am
 Tuesday 6 pm Table Time
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) 453-2065, Bill Hood, Minister
www.pecanbaptist.org
 Sun. 10 am, Sunday School
 11 am & 7 pm, Worship

Robert Lee

Bible Baptist Church
 PO Box 938 #9th & Austin
 (325) 453-2621 Robert Lee, Dennis Clark, Pastor
 Sun. 10 am Sunday School, 11 am Worship,
 Wednesday 1 pm Ladies Bible Study

Emmanuel Pentecostal

PO Box 683 #019 Colorado City Hwy
 Pastor Tim Wood (325) 453-2360
 Sundays 2 pm, Thursdays 7 pm
First United Methodist Church
 PO Box 144 #9th & Chadbourne
 Robert Lee # (325) 453-2417
 Cyndi Weidner, Pastor
 Sun. 10 am Sunday School
 11 am Worship, 5 pm Choir Practice

Iglesia Bautista Betel

101 Houston #Robert Lee
 Sun. 9:45 am #Sunday School
 11 am Service #Bible Study Wed. 6 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

Northside Church of Christ

PO Box 508
 9th & Chadbourne #Robert Lee
 (325) 453-2685, (806) 543-2118 or
 (325) 473-1053
 Services: Sun. 10 am

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

(325) 453-2208, PO Box 638
 6th & Houston, Robert Lee
 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

Daddy Daughter Date Night

"Once Upon A Time"

Saturday • February 21 • 5-8 pm

Robert Lee Rec Hall

Advance Tickets purchased before

February 17

\$20/couple

\$5 for additional child

Tickets will be available

at the door.

\$30/couple

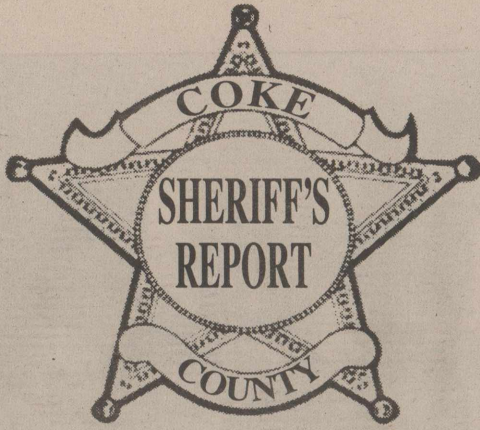
\$5 for additional child

Tickets may be purchased at

DJ's Merle Norman in Robert Lee

and Bronte Hardware Store.

Grades Pre-k thru 6th



The following reports were made by Coke County Sheriff's Office for the month of December 2014.

- 4 Sheriff's Info Reports
 - 4 Thefts
 - Burglary of a Habitation
 - Assault
 - Public Intoxication
 - Child Custody Dispute
 - Travel Trailer Fire
 - 152 Public Service Calls
- (Includes Funerals, Court, Motorist Assist, and Alarm Calls, etc.)
- 1 Civil Process
 - 13 Prisoner Transport including arrest and to and from court
 - 1 Warrant Served
 - 27 Livestock Calls
 - 8 Accidents
 - 7 Accident Assists
 - 145 Traffic Stops
 - 101 Traffic Stops resulting in citations
 - 684 Total number of incoming and outgoing calls by dispatch after office hours
- TOTAL INMATES IN RUNNELS COUNTY JAIL AS OF Tuesday January 13, 2015**
- 7 Males
 - 1 Female

The following reports were made by Coke County Sheriff's Office for the month of January 2015.

- 4 Sheriff's Info Reports
 - Burglary of a Habitation
 - 2 Unattended Deaths
 - Criminal Mischief
 - Child Custody Dispute
 - Manufacturing/Delivery of a Controlled Substance
 - Recovered Stolen Property
 - 289 Public Service Calls
- (Includes Funerals, Court, Motorist Assist, and Alarm Calls, etc.)
- 2 Civil Process
 - 13 Prisoner Transport including arrest and to and from court
 - 3 Warrants Served
 - 22 Livestock Calls
 - 5 Accidents
 - 3 Accident Assists
 - 175 Traffic Stops
 - 120 Traffic Stops resulting in citations
 - 529 Total number of incoming and outgoing calls by dispatch after office hours
- TOTAL INMATES IN RUNNELS COUNTY JAIL AS OF Tuesday February 10, 2015**
- 3 Males
 - 2 Females

December 2014

Arrests and Dispositions

- Clinton Johnson, Possession of a Controlled Substance - Motion to Revoke Probation, 12-4-14
- Melenda Minjarez, Burglary of a Building - Motion to Revoke Probation, Possession of a Dangerous Drug - Motion to Revoke Probation, 12-11-14
- Walter Boswell, Criminal Mischief more than \$500 less than \$1500, 12-13-14
- Jesus Costilla, Public

- Intoxication, 12-24-14
- Kailee Radloff, Driving While Intoxicated, 12-29-14

District Court Plea

Dispositions

December 8, 2014

- The State of Texas vs. Justin May
- Charge: Burglary of a Building
- Motion to Revoke Probation
- Plea: Guilty, 365 Days State Jail
- ***
- The State of Texas vs. Michael Watkins
- Charge: Burglary of a Building
- Plea: Guilty, 300 Days State Jail
- ***
- The State of Texas vs. Clinton Johnson
- Charge: Possession of a Controlled Substance
- Plea: Guilty, 2 Years TDCJ

County Court

Dispositions

December 17, 2014

- The State of Texas vs. Johnny Skinner
- Charge: Driving While License Invalid with a Previous Conviction
- Plea: Dismissed
- ***
- The State of Texas vs. Robert Pullen
- Charge: Driving While License Invalid with a Previous Conviction
- Plea: Time Served

January 2015

Arrests and Dispositions

- Joseph Rhodes, Assault Family Violence, 1-7-15
- Alan Laframboise, Possession of a Controlled Substance more than 4grams, Possession of Marijuana less than 2 oz., 1-14-15
- Walter Richard Reiss, Jr., Possession of a Controlled Substance more than 4grams, Possession of Marijuana less than 2 oz., 1-14-15
- Jesus Solis, Criminal Trespass, 1-25-15
- Dalton Graves, Hunt Wildlife Resource without Land Owners Consent, Motion to Revoke Pre-Trial Intervention (3 Charges), 1-27-15

District Court Plea

Dispositions

January 12, 2015

- The State of Texas vs. Vernon Lomas
- Charge: Sexual Assault of a Child
- Plea: Guilty, 20 Years TDCJ
- ***
- The State of Texas vs. Aurelio Cerda-Guerrero
- Charge: Driving While Intoxicated 3rd or More
- Plea: Guilty, 10 Years Probation, \$7500 Fine
- ***
- The State of Texas vs. Tobe Partridge
- Charge: Driving While Intoxicated 3rd or More
- Plea: Guilty, 10 Years Probation, \$10,000 Fine

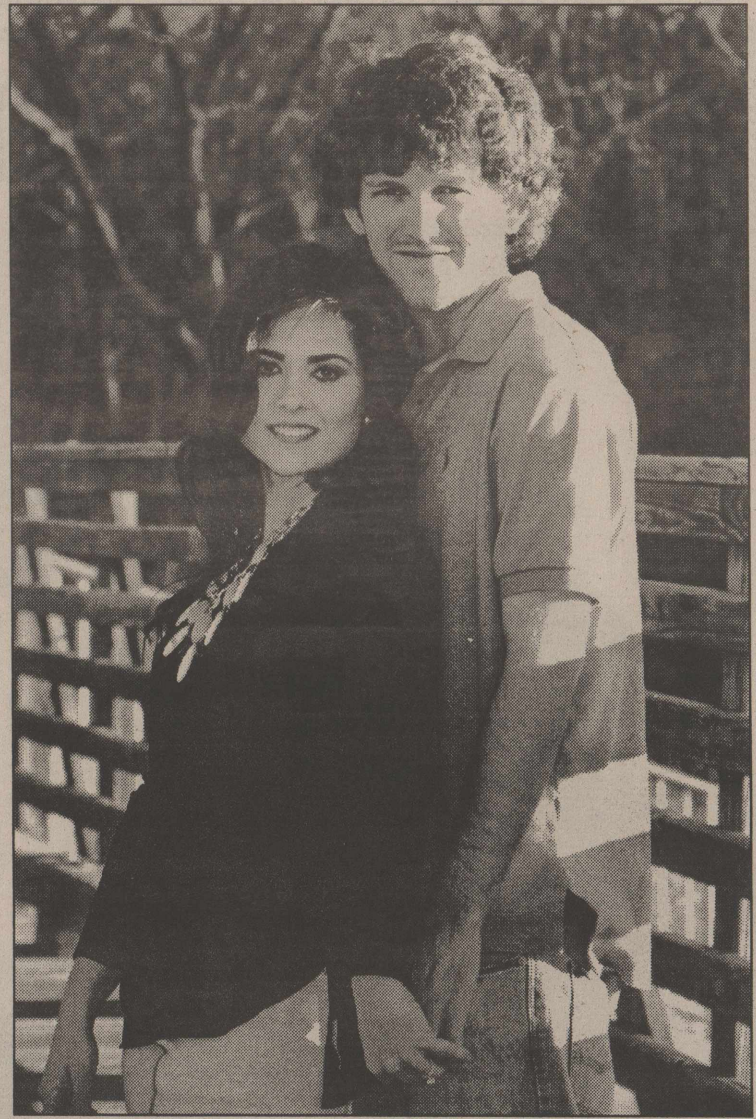
Engagement Announced!

Tim and Kim Philley of Robert Lee proudly announce the engagement of their daughter, Sarah Philley, to Rob Headrick, son of Max and Leslie Headrick of Sweetwater.

The bride-elect is the granddaughter of Frank and Peggy Philley of Victoria and Wayne and Carolyn Smith of Robert Lee. The groom is the grandson of Robert and Vera Headrick and Frank and JoAnne Barfield of Sweetwater.

Miss Philley is a 2007 graduate of Robert Lee High School and received her Bachelor of Science degree from Angelo State University in 2011. She currently teaches and coaches volleyball and basketball at Flower Mound High School. Mr. Headrick graduated from Sweetwater High School in 2008 and received his Certificate of Proficiency Electronics Technician from South Plains College in 2011. In 2013 Mr. Headrick received his AAS degree in Golf Landscape and Turfgrass Management Cum Laude from Western Texas College and is currently employed as the Assistant

Superintendent at Las Colinas Country Club in Irving, Texas. The couple will be married March 7, 2015, at the Willow Creek Chapel in Abilene, Texas.



Make Sure Your Valentine Knows They Are Special This Valentine's Day!

Valentine Day Ribeye Special

Saturday, February 14th 5-8 pm

To ensure seating for you and your Valentine Date, please call 473-2777 for reservations.

Southern Fried SISTERS

323 US Hwy 277 North, Bronte, Texas (325) 473-2777

Monday, Tuesday, Friday & Saturday 11 am - 8 pm
Sunday 11 am - 7 pm

BRONTE SCHOOL NEWS



2015 Top Hand! Wayne McCutchen presents the buckle for McCutchen Ranch Top Hand to Moriah Royall. This award, chosen by the county ag teachers, is presented each year at the Coke County Junior Livestock Show to a deserving Bronte or Robert Lee Junior or Senior.

Longhorns split games

The Bronte Longhorns faced off against the Veribest Falcons on the basketball court and came out with a win, 45-30.

Statistics include: Josh Puentez 20 points and 7 rebounds; Ean Ward 7 points, 3 steals, and 5

assists; Ryan Jones 7 points; Lance Burns 5 points, 6 rebounds, and 6 steals; Carson Kelso 3 points and 3 assists; Shawn Puentez 2 points; and Jared Scott 1 point and 3 rebounds.

The Longhorns next faced the Water Valley Wildcats and came up short, 37-52.

Statistics include: Josh Puentez 18 points; Ean Ward 7 points; Lance Burns 6 points; and Shawn Puentez and Ryan Jones both with 3 points.

JV Longhorns post 2 more wins

The Bronte JV Longhorns faced off against the Veribest Falcons on the basketball court and brought home the win, 55-26.

Points scored were: Ismael Cecilio, 12; Jaxon Chantrill, 11; Zack Jackson, Samuel Dominguez and Isaiah Ornelaz all with 7; Kaleb Turner, 5; and Josh Huffman, Justin Reed, and Emmanuel Casillas each with 2.

The JV Horns then faced the Water Valley Wildcats and scored another win, 38-22.

Points scored were: Samuel Dominguez, 11; Jaxon Chantrill, 10; Kaleb Turner, 9; Zack

Jackson, 4; and Aaron Cervenka and Emmanuel Casillas both with 2.

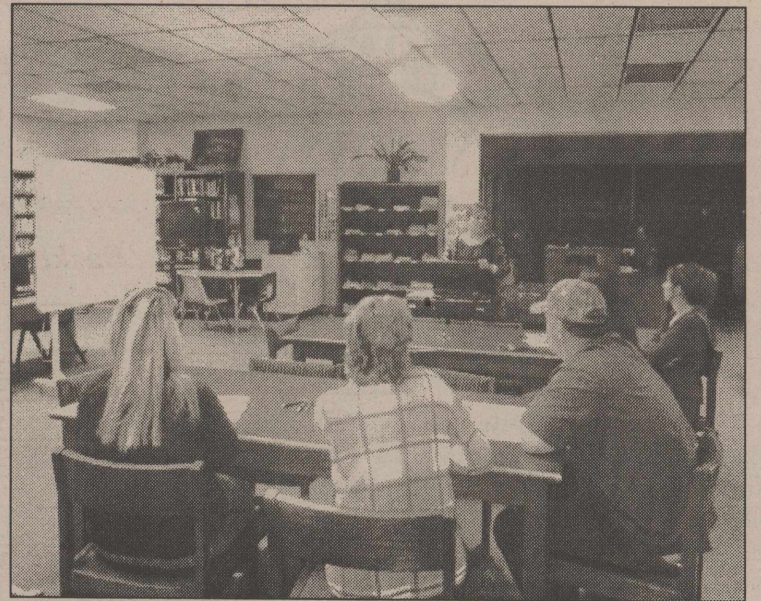
Scholarship opportunities available to high school, college students

Need extra money for college? Several scholarship opportunities are available for both high school and college students who are part of a Texas Farm Bureau (TFB) member family, Coke County Farm Bureau President John Ross Copeland said.

"Texas Farm Bureau offers these scholarships to help the next generation as they continue their education," John Ross said. "We know college can be expensive, and this is our way to help our member families and future leaders."

John Ross noted TFB and county Farm Bureaus across the state collectively give more than \$180,000 in scholarships each year.

In memory of former TFB President S.M. True Jr., a \$20,000 scholarship was established for college students who have declared agriculture as



Financial Aid Night at BHS! Bronte High School recently hosted a financial aid workshop for senior students and their parents to learn about how to fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Information regarding loans, grants, scholarships, and the work study program was also discussed. Mary Escobar (pictured), a representative from the financial aid department at Angelo State University presented and Mrs. Timmerman, BHS counselor, talked about local scholarships. A Project Graduation meeting commenced after the financial aid presentation.

their major and have at least 60 hours of college credit.

The Dick Mitchell Scholarship awards \$1,000 to one high school junior or senior who attended TFB's Youth Leadership Conference in Stephenville during the summer. Collegiate and high school students who would like to pursue a career in agriculture are encouraged to apply for TFB's Young Farmer and Rancher scholarship. Memorial and district scholarships are also available.

"We encourage all high school and college students in Coke County to check out the scholarships and apply," John Ross said.

Application requirements are detailed on the scholarship page under the "Youth and Education" section of texasfarmbureau.org.

For more information on local

scholarships that are available through TFB, visit the Coke County Farm Bureau.

The deadline to apply is Friday, March 20.

BHS Local Scholarships available

The C.J. Macon Memorial Scholarship and the Bronte Community Scholarship applications are now available to graduating seniors at Bronte High School. Applications are available online at www.bronteisd.net on the Counselor's Corner page under Scholarship Information, or may be picked up in the counselor's office. The deadline to apply for both scholarships is April 14th, 2015. The C.J. Macon Memorial Scholarship is also open to past BHS graduates. Please turn in applications to Mrs. Timmerman, counselor. For more information, please call the counselor's office at 473-2511.

School Menu

Breakfast

Monday, February 16

Cinnamon roll or cereal, toast/jelly, fruit, juice, milk

Tuesday, February 17

Pancake on stick or cereal, toast/jelly, fruit, juice, milk

Wednesday, February 18

Breakfast pizza or cereal, toast/jelly, fruit, juice, milk

Thursday, February 19

Biscuit & sausage or cereal, toast/jelly, fruit, juice, milk

Friday, February 20

Cherry strudel or cereal, toast/jelly, fruit, juice, milk

Lunch

Monday, February 16

Texas chili, cornbread, potato rounds, vegetable cup, fresh fruit, milk

Tuesday, February 17

Texas combo basket, garden salad, hot cinnamon apples, milk

Wednesday, February 18

Toasted ham & cheese sandwich, vegetable soup, garden salad, fruit, milk

Thursday, February 19

Chicken nuggets, mac & cheese, baby carrots, apple slices, cookie, milk

Friday, February 20

Hamburger, seasoned corn, baby carrots, ranch, sliced peaches, milk

Paul's Body Shop

- Complete Auto Body Repairs & Paint
- Insurance Claims Welcome

PAUL KNIGHT

123 N. State Bronte, Texas

(325) 473-2425 • (325) 450-2281

THE OBSERVER/ENTERPRISE
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ROBERT LEE SCHOOL NEWS

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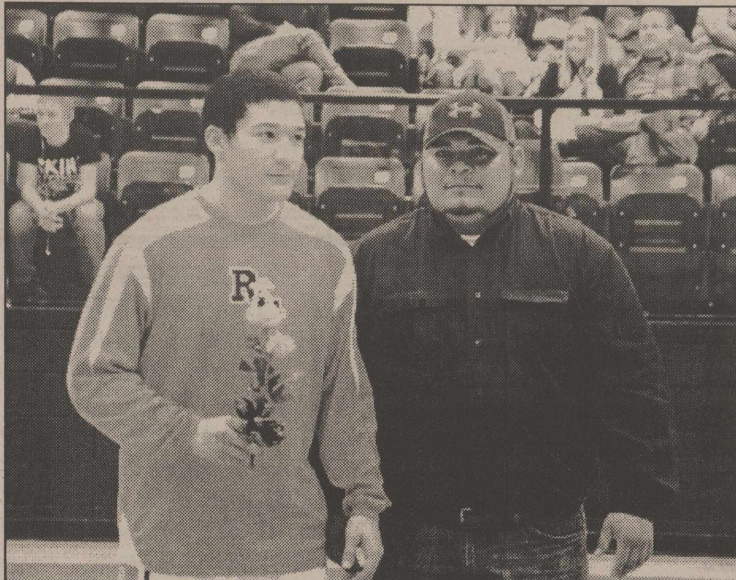
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"We encourage all high school and college students in

RLHS Steers Basketball Senior Night



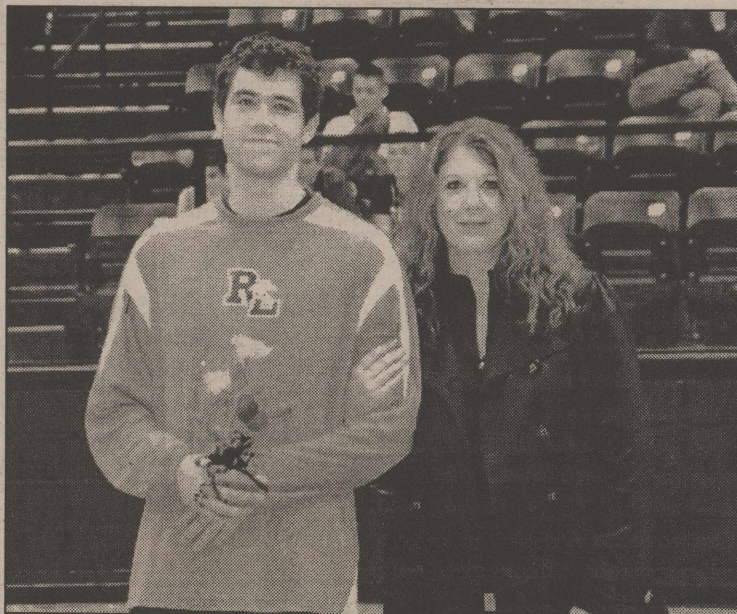
Mychael Tijerina



James Roberts



Mason Hill



Tristen Hildebrand

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School Menu



Breakfast

Monday, February 16

Muffin, scrambled eggs, juice, milk

Tuesday, February 17

Sausage biscuit, string cheese, juice, milk

Wednesday, February 18

French toast, bacon, juice, milk

Thursday, February 19

Bagel with toppings, juice, milk

Friday, February 20

Waffle, sausage, juice, milk

Lunch

Monday, February 16

Steakfingers, gravy, French fries, roll, salad, hot cinnamon apples, milk

Tuesday, February 17

Chili, cornbread, tator tots, veggie cup, fruit, milk

Wednesday, February 18

Toasted ham & cheese sandwich, vegetable soup, salad, fruit cup, milk

Thursday, February 19

Chicken nuggets, mac & cheese, salad, green beans, apple, cereal treat, milk

Friday, February 20

Hamburger, garnish, corn, baby carrots, ranch, peaches, milk

325-473-1302
THE PIE Pizzeria
www.thepie.us

Weekly Pizza Coupon
Feb 15-21

Buy any 16" Artisan Pizza Pie, get a Garlic Bread, Cheese Bread, or Cinnamon Bread for 1/2 PRICE!

Please bring in this coupon when paying.

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floyd@floyddepittinsurance.com

HOLIDAY CLOSING NOTICE

All facilities of this bank will be closed

Monday, February 16.

In Observance Of

Presidents Day

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

Robert Lee State Bank

Member FDIC
453-2545
Robert Lee, Texas

...More Classifieds

NOTICES

**PUBLIC NOTICE
CITY OF ROBERT LEE
TEXAS COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT BLOCK
GRANT PROGRAM**

The City of Robert Lee is giving notice of the City's intent to submit a Texas Community Development Block grant application for a Community Development Fund grant request of \$200,000.00 for water system improvements in Robert Lee. The application is available for review at the City Hall during regular business hours.

John R. Jacobs, Mayor
City of Robert Lee

32-1tc

**PUBLIC NOTICE
CITY OF BRONTE
TEXAS COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT BLOCK
GRANT PROGRAM**

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Gerald Sandusky, Mayor
City of Bronte

32-1tc

**Coke County Retired
Teachers to meet**

The Coke County Retired Teachers will meet Monday, February 16, at noon at the Baptist Church in Bronte for the regular luncheon meeting.

All retired school personnel are urged to join the group to be counted in the Texas Retired Teachers Association (TRTA) efforts to educate legislators, especially the new ones, on the legal aspects of the teacher retirement system. First legislators look at numbers to determine support of retired school personnel. Active members call, email, and write letters to legislators to show support for TRTA as well as all matters of education in Texas. The input from active TRTA members serves all retired personnel, even those who are not members.

Join us for lunch. The information is necessary, and the food is great. Monday, February 16, at noon at the Baptist Church in Bronte.

If scheduling for meetings is not possible, send a check for \$35 to Janet Wommack, Box 365, Bronte, Texas 76933, and your support will be counted.

**Farmers, ranchers set
agriculture priorities for
Texas legislature**

The Texas legislature is back in session, and Texas Farm Bureau (TFB) members from across the state are working with their lawmakers to ensure the future of agriculture is bright.

"Every year, TFB members from Coke County work with legislators on important issues," John Ross Copeland, Coke County Farm Bureau president, said. "We talk about

the issues in our area and the things we'd like to see accomplished."

This year, TFB's legislative priorities include: protecting the water rights of farmers, ranchers and landowners; protecting private property rights affected by the Endangered Species Act; supporting long-term funding for road construction and maintenance; and continuing to advocate for changes to the eminent domain process to better protect private property rights.

"We work hard to have good relationships with our legislators," John Ross Copeland said. "We explain why the issues are important to agriculture and rural Texas."

Coke County Farm Bureau encourages its members to stay in touch with their legislators throughout the session. To find your senator or representative, click the "Voter Voice" link under the Legislative tab on TexasFarmBureau.org.

The legislative section of the website also includes updates on issues facing rural Texas and agriculture throughout the

legislative session.

Resolutions

By Bonnita Bale RN

The holidays are over for 2014 and the wonderful food and family gatherings are only a memory. The down side is that most of us gained an average of 10 pounds - to which we have probably resolved to lose in the New Year, along with living a healthier life.

By now, some of us have already broken those resolutions. As you set your goals for the New Year, think about making small changes toward a healthier lifestyle: If you smoke, stop; there are many aides available to help you. Exercise more; do an activity that you enjoy so you can make it a healthful habit. Lose weight; learn more about nutrition, cut out sweets and lower your total calories. Don't neglect your spiritual health either; it is directly connected to your physical health.

In my role as a Wesley Nurse, I am available to help you achieve your health goals. It is my goal to help build a happier and healthier community. Help me, help you to live a healthier

life. Call 325-939-1132 for more information, there is never a charge for my services.

**Coke County farmers,
ranchers help shape
national agriculture
policy**

A resolution important to Coke County farmers and ranchers, pushed by the Texas Farm Bureau, helped to create and change national policy at the American Farm Bureau Annual Convention in San Diego earlier this month.

"One of the most important actions was making sure that ranchers drive future decisions on the Beef Checkoff and its marketing and research programs," John Ross Copeland, Coke County Farm Bureau president, said. "It's key that the people raising cattle oversee the programs designed to help them


promote the sale of beef."

The action was made in response to the Secretary of Agriculture's move to collect an additional dollar for the national Beef Checkoff in addition to the dollar already approved by ranchers in a 1986 referendum.

"We support the Beef Checkoff and its programs," John Ross said. "But we feel the secretary's approach doesn't provide safeguards for rancher control of the program we fund."

Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack claimed authority under a 1996 act to ask for the additional dollar per head of cattle sold for the national Beef Checkoff. Due to the Texas delegations' efforts, the AFBF delegates in San Diego rejected the claim.

Texas adopted a state checkoff provision in 2014.



Russell Davis
Agent

611 Austin Street
PO Box 1079
Robert Lee, Texas 76945
(325) 453-4505 office
(325) 453-4524 fax
(325) 650-1904 mobile
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BLACKWELL SCHOOL NEWS

Magness awarded degree

Caleb Magness, a Blackwell High School graduate, received a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Texas A&M University during fall commencement ceremonies.

Local student named to ASU Fall Dean's List

Students achieving the Dean's List for the 2014 fall semester have been announced by Angelo State University in San Angelo, Texas.

To be eligible for the Dean's List, students must be enrolled fulltime at ASU and must maintain a 3.25 or better grade point average on a 4.0 scale.

Students making the honor roll are listed below.

Blackwell: Marissa C. Griffin Study Wildlife & Livestock - Earn A College Scholarship

Interested in wildlife and/or livestock? Are you interested in earning a college scholarship? By participating in a Texas Brigade program, and sharing what you learn with your community, you are well on your way to one!

The Brigade mission is to educate and empower youths with the leadership skills and knowledge in wildlife, fisheries,

and land stewardship to become conservation ambassadors for a sustained natural resource legacy. Cadet graduate, Sean Skweres says, "This is a very interactive and hands-on camp. Texas Brigades taught me numerous life lessons and helped me develop remarkable public speaking and excellent problem solving skills."

This will be the 23rd year of the Brigades. The Texas Brigades program is seeking 170 first-class youth leaders. The application deadline is March 16, 2015 and may be found at <http://www.texasbrigades.org/Applications/applications.html>.

Participants are selected through a competitive application process. Helen Holdsworth, Executive Director, says they are looking for youth ages 13-17 years of age. Texas Brigades is also accepting applications for adult volunteers. No experience is necessary, but applicants should have a strong interest in learning about wildlife, natural resources, livestock, and/or the environment. "We are looking for those with an interest in learning and then sharing what they have learned with their communities," reports Holdsworth.

The 4.5 days camps are held on private ranches across the state. "These landowners open their gates to us for five days, allowing us to utilize the land as a living laboratory. Natural resource professionals give of

RLCC Employee Honored!

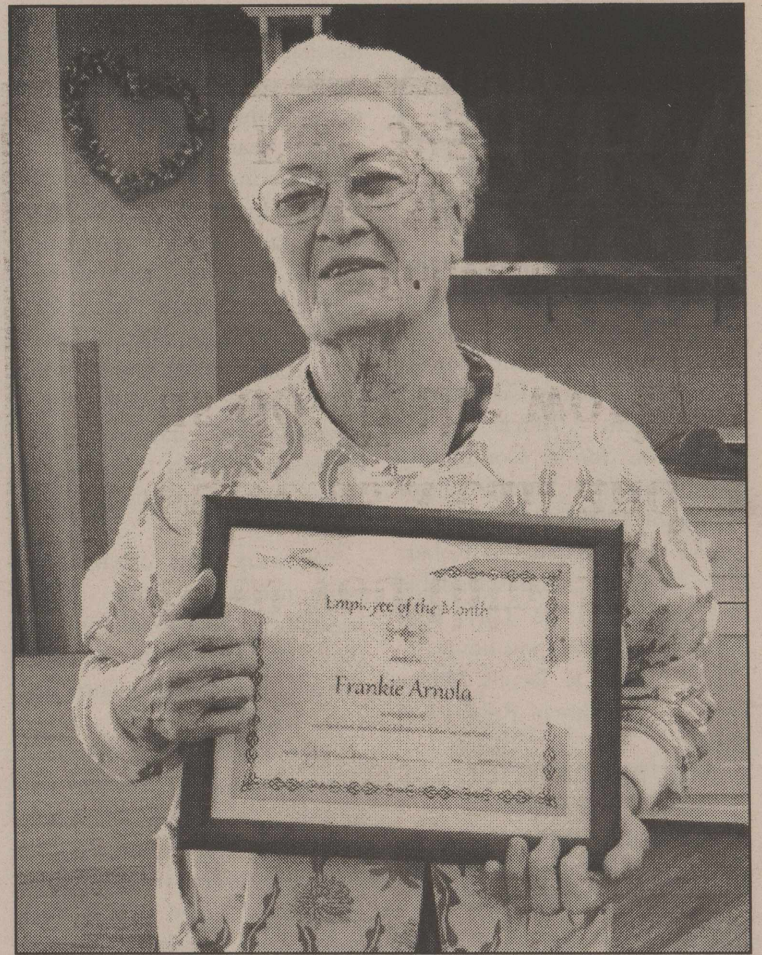
Robert Lee Care Center is recognizing outstanding individuals who go above and beyond in caring for our residents. Frankie Arnold has been selected as employee of the month for January 2015. Frankie is a Certified Dietary Manager and currently serves our team as the Assistant Dietary Manager. She has been a proud resident of Robert Lee for 37 years, has served on the dietary team for 15 years, and was the Dietary Supervisor for nine. Before joining our team, she worked for more than fifteen years in the dietary department in Bronte.

Frankie is truly a shining star at Robert Lee Care Center! She is always available to help in any way and ensures that our dietary department runs smoothly. She has been instrumental in producing a first-rate meal service to each of our residents and is an excellent mentor in the kitchen. We are so proud of Frankie and all that she brings to our team!

their time to mentor the youth. This is a valuable networking opportunity," she said.

The cost of the camp for youth applicants accepted into the program is \$400, but scholarships and financial assistance are available. "We do not want the fee to be a barrier to anyone. We have donors who are willing to support the youths' educational experience," says Holdsworth.

For more information, call 855-TXBRIGS or 210-556-1391 or email hholdsworth@texas-wildlife.org.



School Menu

Breakfast

Monday, February 16

Pancakes on stick and yogurt or cereal w/toast, fruit, juice, milk

Tuesday, February 17

Chicken-n-biscuit or cereal w/toast, fruit, juice, milk

Wednesday, February 18

French toast & bacon or cereal w/toast, fruit, juice, milk

Thursday, February 19

Breakfast pocket or cereal w/toast, fruit, juice, milk

Friday, February 20

Cinnamon pastry or cereal w/toast, fruit, juice, milk

Lunch

Monday, February 16

Soft beef tacos, baby carrots, ranch, seasoned corn, salsa, orange smiles, milk

Tuesday, February 17

Country fried steak, mashed potatoes, gravy, savory green beans, roll, strawberry cup, milk

Wednesday, February 18

Chicken quesadilla, salsa, garden salad, refried beans, applesauce, milk

Thursday, February 19

Popcorn chicken, roll, zesty cucumbers, sweet potato fries, sliced peaches, milk

Friday, February 20

Pizza choice, garden salad, California blend, apple slices, milk

325-473-1302

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Dog Deal - \$4.50
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Double Dog Deal - \$7.00
(2 Dogs, 1 Chips, 1 Canned Soda or Water)

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(4 Dogs, 4 Chips, 4 Canned Sodas or Waters)

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Ketchup, Mustard, Chili, Cheese, Relish, Onion, Jalapenos, Cole Slaw





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