

THE OBSERVER/ ENTERPRISE

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Serving Coke & Sterling Counties

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Friday, July 27, 2007

Connecticut couple purchases Hometown Hardware

A forty year old family tradition is changing hands at Bronte. Hometown Hardware has been purchased by Stephen and Jennifer Stango of Connecticut. The official date of the sale was July 1, 2007. The couple plans to move to Bronte within the year and take over operation of the hardware store that has been in the Denman (Lee) family for the past forty years, dating back to 1977.

The store started out as White's Auto Store in 1947, and was owned by Mr. CE Bruton. It was located on the south corner of the lot now occupied by Town and Country. The Brutons owned the Cosden service station and operated the store in the building next to the station. In 1948, Bruton purchased the building which is the present location from the Keeney Brothers, Frank and Charlie. A variety store was in the west building, and a funeral home was operated out of the east building.

Aubrey and Zada Denman bought the store from the Brutons in 1968 and operated the store for ten years. In 1977, their daughter, Jeanna Lee and her husband Wendell, purchased the store from her parents and changed the name in 1986 to Hometown Hardware. They have operated the store at the same location for the past thirty years.

Through the years a variety of merchandise has been added to the store, including livestock feeds and Wrangler jeans and shirts. Hometown Hardware is truly a hometown store that specializes in old fashioned service.

The Stangos are concerned with continuing that tradition. Jeanna Lee and Melissa Blaylock will continue to operate the store until the Stangos arrive in the county later on this year. This should make for a very smooth transition to the new ownership.

(Editor's Note: We have included an article from the San Angelo Standard Times below which is dated January 8, 1954, and tells about the

Keeney brothers (discussed above), who opened the store on January 8, 1906, and operated it until they sold to the Brutons in 1948.)

Everything from Coffins to Sad Irons Variety Describes Business of Bronte Store's 48 Years

By Sue Flanagan

BRONTE - January 8, 1954 - Friday the Keeney brothers, Frank and Charlie, become 49'ers. They begin their 49th consecutive year in the Keeney Variety Store at Bronte. The word "variety" describes their enterprises over nearly a half-century! Along with general merchandise, they have been in the dry goods, grocery and under-taking businesses and are about to evolve into a hardware concern. However, they don't think they will change the name now, for it has served very well through drought, flood and oil boom.

Their present location is about five blocks from the original Bronte townsite. The town was moved to its present spot in 1905 as future planning for the railroad, which came in 1909.

On January 8, 1906, they opened shop in Bronte. Both Keeneys were born in Temple. Frank, the older moved with his parents to Bronte in 1903. Charlie moved to Ballinger in 1905 and the brothers joined forces the next year.

Took the Coffins

They bought out Ed Schae, who had dry goods, groceries and varnished coffins. The Keeneys were not interested in the coffins, but Schae wouldn't sell any of the business unless he sold it all. Charlie says, "We didn't want to sell the things for horse troughs because they weren't built right for that - so we just went into the funeral business." In 1946, they sold the undertaking interest to Bruce Clift of Robert Lee.

The Keeneys went out of the grocery business about 35 years ago. Asked why, they said they went broke selling too much on credit during a drought.

Besides his store interests, Frank Keeney has two farms



which he leases out. Small grains and stock are the principal crops. Charlie, who has some city property, has two 50-foot city lots which leased for \$1,000 during the recent oil boom.

Times Change

They note a falling off in demand for such items as wash tubs, rub boards, axes, daisy churns, oil stoves, horse brushes, combs, wood heaters, stove pipes and coal oil lamps - but they still have a supply on hand. The sales receipts on "sad irons" are also off. They haven't sold one in two years. Blind bridles and trace chains on they wall are monuments to a history so recently past that one almost can see the receding shadow.

Dutch ovens don't move very fast today either, and as large an assortment of line snaps as the county affords can be found in their supplies. The Keeneys opened a box and asked this reporter to guess its contents. The reporter was stumped - for inside were hame hooks, a part of equipment that went with a trace.

The biggest stimulus the Keeney Variety Store felt from the oil boom was the increased sale of lunch pails as oilfield workers moved in and prepared to take their sustenance with them to the fields.

Prices Change

The heights reached by prices during the Keeneys' years in business have been interesting to them along with the change brought about by

the trend to mechanism and to electricity. Coal oil lamps have increased - in 48 years - from 65 cents to \$1.35, and lamp chimneys, which formerly sold three for a quarter are now 20 cents apiece. The ax handle of two score years ago brought 35 cents; today, the handle is no different but the price is \$1.10.

Mrs. Frank Keeney, the former Eva Flood, came to Bronte in 1906 as a schoolteacher. She was born in Rosebud, Falls County, and married Keeney in 1908. Mrs. Charlie Keeney, formerly Olive Lowry, is a native of Bronte. She and Keeney were married in 1917, and they have one son, Gene, manager of Robert Massie Funeral Chapel in San Angelo. "Gene got his undertaking notions here," his father commented. Both wives help in the store.

The variety store now carries all types of hardware, cooking utensils, toys, paint, nails, etc. Once during the interview, a man came in and asked for some shoelaces. The storeowners still had the time, interest and inclination to get down and match the laces with the customer's shoes. Perhaps that is a large part of the success story of these 48 years.

Musical Ministries to be at Central Baptist in Bronte

Ronnie Warren Musical Ministries of Fair Grove, Missouri, will be at Central Baptist Church in Bronte on July 29. The service will

begin at 6 pm. Bro. Ronnie will present the Gospel through song and his music ministry. God has blessed Bro. Ronnie with the gift of music and he will share his ministry through Christian music and various instruments. Everyone is invited and encouraged to come. Please make plans to attend and be blessed by the Lord.

Bronte ISD News

Bronte ISD will discuss the drug-testing policy for students involved in extracurricular activities on Wednesday, August 1 at 6 pm in the school auditorium. Melody's Southwest Consortium will be present to discuss the testing procedures. Copies of the proposed policy will be distributed to parents at this time. A copy of the proposed policy may be viewed on-line at www.bronteisd.net. The District encourages all parents to attend this information meeting.

Also, Bronte ISD Athletic Physicals have been rescheduled for Friday, July 27, at 10 am.

Mini Cheer Camp set for Bronte

Come and learn new cheers, chants and dances on Saturday, August 4, at the middle gym at Bronte ISD.

Please register before July 26, as there is a small registration fee. Registration forms can be obtained at the school main office or by calling Shaye Coalson at 473-4251 or Lisa Gibbs at 473-5911. Campers will receive a free t-shirt.

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Obituaries

White

Orval Lee White was born on January 26, 1922, in Nawata Oklahoma, to Jessie James White and Zenna Pearl Young. He passed away July 17, 2007, at his home in Mineral Wells, Texas.

On August 19, 1942, he married Shirley Marie Smith in Texarkana, Arkansas. He is survived by his sister, Ella Mae and Frank Flarity of Texarkana, Texas; his wife, Shirley; and their children; Anne and Phil Lowder of Carlsbad, New Mexico; Lynn White and Cathy Bohannon of Mineral Wells, Texas; and Katherine Eads Pender of Mineral Wells, Texas. He is also survived by nine grandchildren, Phillip and Melanie Lowder of Lucas, Texas; Mickey and Vickie Lowder of Goodyear, Arizona; Kande and Ray Boughton of Carlsbad, NM; Donna Clayton and fiancé, Rick Morris; Shane and Michel White, Meghan White and friend Nathan Forsythe, Chris Eads and friend Becca Kirkland, and Justin Pender, all of Mineral Wells; Jessica Pender of Kemp, Texas; Tricia Bohannon of Austin, Texas; and Chase Bohannon of Fort Worth, Texas. And ten great-grandchildren, Drew, Ethan, Winston, Jaxon, Hailey, Colton, Zachary, Zander, Shelby, and Lexi.

02-1tc

Hayrick Lodge meeting slated

Hayrick Lodge Cemetery Association (Robert Lee Cemetery) will hold a regular meeting Monday, August 6, 2007, at 5:30 pm in the Hayrick Masonic Lodge Hall in Robert Lee, Texas. All interested persons are urged to attend. FMI call Jeffie Roberts 325-453-2957 or 325-473-0318.

Coke County dance slated

The monthly dance for Coke County will be held from 7 pm to 10 pm, Tuesday, August 7, at the Robert Lee Rec Hall. Everyone is invited to take this opportunity for some fun.

There is a break from dancing around 8 pm for a little snacking. After the good fin-

ger foods, it will be time to get out and dance once again, and burn off some of those calories.

The turnouts have been fairly good, but it would be nice to have a few more pairs and/or spares to make it a really fun evening. It is a great time for a little socializing, a little snacking, and a lot of dancing!

Robert Lee VFD receives RC&D matching grant

The Concho Valley Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Area concluded its third Matching Grant Program of 2006 by awarding a \$500 matching grant to the Robert Lee VFD.

The funds were used toward the replacement of a pump on the wildland truck.

In order to receive a matching grant, applying organization must be a sponsor of the RC&D and the project must benefit the public, relate to land conservation, water



RLVFD receives grant! The Robert Lee Volunteer Fire Department recently received a \$500 matching grant from the Concho Valley Resource Conservation and Development Area. Pictured accepting the funds are (left to right) Mark Sides, District Conservationist, NRCS; Roy Blair, Coke County Judge; Rick Drennan, RLVFD Assistant Chief; and Tony Resendez, Concho Valley RC&D Coordinator.

management, economic development or community sustainability.

This past year, the RC&D received 13 applications from throughout the 13 county area it represents and all applying organizations received the matching funds.

Mesquite Fuels and Agriculture want your mesquite

Attention all landowners and interested persons who would like to have their mesquite trees removed and hauled off their land free of charge. The company of

Mesquite Fuels and Agriculture want your mesquite and some cedar to fuel their proposed Power Plant in North San Angelo. The company needs mesquite within a 40-50 mile radius of San Angelo. This seems too good to be true but it is a win-win situation. The company needs your trees, and they will remove and haul them off the land at no cost to you and you win by getting your land cleared and perhaps seeded if you buy the seed.

Come listen to the president of Mesquite Fuels and Agriculture, Wednesday, August 8 at 10 am in the Coke County Courthouse Courtroom. For more information, call Bobby or Jeffie Roberts 453-2957 or 473-0318 or 473-8754.

Evans Scholarship awarded to McCullough

The first Sid and Bernice Evans Scholarship has been awarded to T.J. McCullough of Bronte. The \$500 Scholarship was awarded to Mr. McCullough during the July 22 worship service by the Bronte United Methodist Women.

Sid and Bernice Evans were long time members of the Bronte First United Methodist Church. Their family has established a scholarship fund through the Texas Methodist Foundation to honor them. The Scholarships are for individuals 20 years and older that are continuing their education. Scholarships will be awarded in July and December of each year.

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 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. Morris Johnson, Pastor
 Sunday 9:45 am Sunday School,
 10:55 am Worship,
 6 pm Youth
 and Worship
 Wednesday 7 pm Prayer Meeting
First United Methodist Church
 Corner of Washington & Holmes
 Bronte
 (325) 473-3281
 Rev. 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
 11 am Worship
 Wed. 7 pm Choir
Iglesia Bautista Bethel
 101 Houston • Robert Lee
 (325) 453-5003 • 453-2296
 Pastor: Basilio Esquivel
 Sun. 9:45, 11:00, & 11:30 am
 & 6 pm, Wednesday 7 pm

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 388 • 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) 453-2004
 Sun. 10 am, Sunday School
 11 am & 7 pm, Worship
Robert Lee Baptist Church
 PO Box 493 • 22 W. 11th
 (325) 453-2724
 Jason Martin, Pastor
 Sun. 9:45 am, Sunday School
 11 am & 6 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

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

Burwick - Brown united in marriage

Lindsey Rhae Burwick and Sean Alan Brown were united in marriage on July 7, 2007 at the River Terrace, San Angelo, Texas. The Reverend Scooter McCurdy performed the ceremony.

The bride is the daughter of Dawn Cumbie Burwick of San Antonio, Texas and Glenn and Tanya Burwick of Blackwell, Texas, and the granddaughter of Edward and Jane Cumbie of Bronte, Texas and Therell and Lillie Burwick of Blackwell, Texas. The groom is the son of the late Harley Brown, and Jean and John Bantz of Greenbriar, Arkansas.

Matron of honor was Mandy Dunn Welsh of Ft. Worth, Texas. The best man was Jerry Dowdy of Conway, Arkansas, cousin of the groom. Flower girl was Payton Arrott, cousin of the bride. Ring bearer was the groom's son Austin Brown. The usher was Zach Burwick, brother of the bride.

The bride and groom will honeymoon at a later date and will reside in Conway, Arkansas.

Bronte ISD Budget Workshop held

Bronte ISD held a Budget Workshop on July 17, 2007, at 6 pm in the Board Room. Those in attendance were: Wayne Coalson, Bob Frazee, Jeff Schoenfield, Kendall Gibbs, Quinda Feil-Duncan, Terry Charles, and Alan Richey, Superintendent. Also present were David Bedford, Michael Bohensky, Terry Marrs, Donna Poehls, Jay Henderson, Gina McCutchen, and Nancy Cooper. The Board reviewed the 2006-2007 budget and discussed the 2007-2008 budget. The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 pm.

The regular Board meeting started at 7:45 pm. Those in attendance were Wayne Coalson, Bob Frazee, Jeff Schoenfield, Kendall Gibbs, Quinda Feil-Duncan, Terry Charles, and Alan Richey, Superintendent. Also present were David Bedford, Michael Bohensky, Terry Marrs, and Donna Poehls. Absent was Scott Frasier.

Terry Marrs opened the meeting with prayer.

Michael Bohensky, Asst. Secondary Principal, Donna Poehls, Asst. Elementary Principal, and David Bedford, CCJJC Principal, gave their reports.

The Board approved the PDAS calendar, Burl Lowery's letter of engagement for the annual audit, and current personnel pay scales/incentives. The Board accepted Student Resources for student accident insurance. Lunch prices will remain the same. Pre K-5 student tray is \$1.50, 6-12 tray is \$1.75 and adult tray is \$2.00. Discussion was held on student



Mr. & Mrs. Sean Brown

code/handbook, student drug policy, and the proposed tax rate.

Alan Richey, Superintendent, gave an update on the new Ag building. The Board was informed of the hiring of Tana Pyssen and Leah Rosson and the resignation of Valarie Sharp.

The meeting was adjourned by the President at 10:10 pm.

Robert Lee School Board meeting held

Be it remembered that on Tuesday the 17th day of July 2007, a regular meeting was held in the Robert Lee High School Library of the public school building at 7 pm. The meeting was called to order by President Roe.

Members present: K. Roe, W. Washam, J. Roberts, I. Torres, B. Duncan, T. Sawyer
Members absent: T. Reed

At 7:00 pm the meeting was called to order by President Roe, quorum of members were present. The invocation and pledge were led by Kevin Roe. There was then a short break for refreshments and reconvened at 7:20 pm.

Jeffie Roberts made a motion to approve the June 19, 2007 minutes as read,

seconded by Irma Torres, all for. Wes Washam made a motion to approve the financial report and to pay the bills, seconded by Buck Duncan, all for. Roger Henderson gave the principal's report for elementary and high school campuses. Buck Duncan made a motion to approve the PDAS Calendar for 2007-2008, seconded by Tom Sawyer, all for. Jeffie Roberts made a motion to approve the Current Administration, Aaron Hood, Roger Henderson and Wayne Simpson, as District Appraisers for PDAS for 2007-2008, seconded by Irma Torres, all for. Supt. Hood read over the changes in the RLISD Faculty Handbook for 2007-2008. Wes Washam made a motion to approve the Faculty Handbook for 2007-2008, seconded by Jeffie Roberts, all for. Jeffie Roberts made a motion to accept the recommendation from Supt. Hood to enter into an Interlocal Electricity Procurement Agreement with Energy For Schools (EFS) and approve the Membership Resolution, seconded by Irma Torres, all for.

(Continued on page 4)

You are invited to attend
the celebration of
50 years of marriage of
Robert & Lorene Brown



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\$2.39 Lb.

Family Pack
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Pork Chops**
\$1.19 Lb.

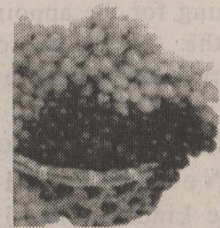


Small Package
\$1.39 per pound



Preferred Trim
Boneless Beef
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Beef Roast
\$2.39 Lb.

Seedless
**Red or
Green Grapes**
\$.99 Lb.



Sweet
Cantaloupe
\$.99 Ea.



U.S. #1
**Russet
Potatoes**
2 10 Lb. Bag /\$4

Miller Lite or
**Coors
Light**
18 Pack Cans
\$12.39



Reg., Light or Select
Budweiser
20 Pack Bottles
Beer
\$13.99



...RLISD Board

(Continued from page 3)

A workshop was held by the board over the 2007-2008 budget. Irma Torres made a motion to accept the recommendation from Supt. Hood to pay 10 extra days for 10 month contract coaches that will help with preseason practice, seconded by Tom Sawyer, all for. Supt. Hood made a recommendation to adopt the 2007-2008 Extracurricular Code of Conduct. Tom Sawyer made a motion to accept the recommendation, seconded by Irma Torres, all for. Supt. Hood gave his report on elementary numbers, wind projects, school board convention, School First Rating and summer maintenance update.

The board took a short break at 8:25 pm before entering into closed session. The board reconvened into open session at 8:34 pm.

Wes Washam made a motion, seconded by Tom Sawyer to hire Leslie Matthiesen and Sterling Myers as Elementary Teachers, all for. Letters of resignations were read from Donna Williams and Kellye Duncan. Motion by Jeffie Roberts and seconded by Wes Washam to accept these resignations with regret, all for. Letter of resignation of Buck Duncan, Board Member, was read by Supt. Hood. Buck Duncan was presented with a certificate from Supt. Hood.

A notice will be run in the paper for those interested in running for the appointment on the school board. The meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm.

Classmates tour New York City

Sue Lindsey Franklin and Nadine Davis recently toured New York City. They were there over the 4th of July where they watched fireworks on the East River sponsored by Macys department store. They visited Time Square and took in two plays. The two toured the city on Gray Line buses that allow you to get on and off to further explore the sites. They took the ferry out to the Statue of Liberty and rode the subway to Grand Central Station. They observed an episode of Law and Order being filmed one day. The visit to Ground Zero was an emotional experience for them both. The women shopped on Canal Street and toured the Empire State Building as well as Rockefeller Center. The found New Yorkers to be friendly and helpful and the two plan a return visit.

Both Sue and Nadine graduated from RLHS in 1974. Nadine is the daughter of Add Davis and Joan Davis of Robert Lee. Sue is the daughter of Frances and the late Sterling Lindsey of Robert Lee.

A&M Beef Cattle Short Course Set for Aug. 6-8

The 53rd annual Texas A&M Beef Cattle Short Course will be held Aug. 6-8 at Texas A&M University in College Station. "Planning committee members from around the state have met with us and helped us put together another outstanding program," said Dr. Jason Cleere, Texas Cooperative Extension beef cattle specialist and conference coordinator.

"This year's short course will address cost increases in fertilizer, fuel, equipment and grain and how they affect a rancher's profits," Cleere said. "Increasing feed and fertilizer costs continue to put a lot of pressure on beef cattle producers to look for new ways to produce a pound of beef more economically," he said. "In the near future, economics may override traditional ranch practices." The short course, sponsored by Texas Cooperative Extension, will address these issues as well as other topics during the three-day event, providing information for the novice rancher as well as for the most seasoned one.

"The 2007 short course will be one of the most important programs of the year for today's beef producers looking to the future," said Dr. Larry Boleman, assistant deputy vice chancellor and conference director.

"Previous participants always comment on the variety of topics that are offered during the Beef Cattle Short Course," he said. "One of the most popular features of the short course is the 'Cattleman's College', where participants can choose workshops and topics from a field of approximately 17 different subjects on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. The concurrent workshops will feature information on ranch management, nutrition, reproduction, genetics, pastures, carcass evaluation,

record keeping, organic and natural beef production." In addition to the Cattleman's College sessions, a key general session will be offered on Monday afternoon. The Wednesday "Cattleman's College" sessions are designed to offer a more hands-on approach to calf working, cattle handling, cattle selection, carcass evaluation and record keeping. Participants will also have an opportunity to obtain a Private Applicators License that day.

In addition to the Cattleman's College sessions, a key general session will be offered on Monday afternoon. "The goal of the Beef Cattle Short Course each year is to provide the most cutting-edge information that is vital to beef cattle producers," said Cleere. "Changing Dynamics of the U.S. Beef Industry" will be the theme of the general session this year, and we have already lined up some of the nation's top speakers.

Participants can earn numerous pesticide continuing education units (CEUs) if already licensed. The trade show will feature more than 100 agricultural businesses and service exhibits, Cleere said. Registration is \$140 per person before July 30, and includes educational materials, a copy of the 300-page Beef Cattle Short Course proceedings, trade show admittance, tickets to the prime rib dinner, five additional meals and daily refreshments. Registration information and tentative schedule will be mailed to previous participants in June and can also be found on the short course web site. Producers may register online at <http://beef.tamu.edu> or contact Cleere's office at 979-845-6931.

Big Country Beef Conference set for Aug. 9 in Abilene

Texas Cooperative Extension's Big Country Beef Conference has been set for August 9. The biennial conference starts with registration at 8 a.m. in



Trip to the Big Apple! Sue Lindsey Franklin and Nadine Davis recently took a trip to New York City over the 4th of July holiday.

the Big Country Hall adjacent to the Extension offices at the Taylor County Expo Center grounds.

This year's event will cover everything from effects of ethanol production to agroterrorism. The conference is the largest and most comprehensive educational beef program in the Big Country. We typically draw speakers and participants from across Texas and Oklahoma.

The conference will be conducted by the Extension offices in Callahan, Shackelford

and Taylor counties. Two Texas Department of Agriculture continuing education units will be available for private pesticide applicator license-holders. Individual registration is \$5 if you pre-register by August 3, and \$15 thereafter. Registration includes entire program and noon meal.

To pre-register contact the Taylor County Extension Office at (325) 672-6048 and send check, made payable to Extension Council, to the Taylor County Extension Office at 1982 Lytle Way, Abilene, Texas 79602.

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The Concho Valley Area Agency on Aging Caregiver Program provides short-term respite to relieve Caregivers from their caregiving responsibilities. Contact Mary Herbert or Mary Ellen Palos at (325) 223-5704 or toll free at (877) 944-9666.

Area Agency on Aging of the Concho Valley
Caregiver Respite Program

Service graduates from Howard

R.J. Service, son of Jay Lyn and Celeste Service, finished his college education with Howard College on May 12, 2007 in a ceremony at the San Angelo Coliseum.

R.J. is a graduate of Robert Lee High and completed this portion of his education at Howard with honors and a member of Phi Theta Kappa, a national honor society for Junior Colleges. His major was in Computer Support Technology, and he graduated as Ampla Cum Laude with a grade point average of 3.26. He plans to continue his education in the area of computer gaming.

R.J. is the grandson of J.W. and Ida Bell Service and Selva Mae Cowart of Robert Lee.

Robert Lee Elementary School Supply Lists

Pre-K

- * 1 box crayons (24 count)
- * 4 glue sticks
- * 4 pencils
- * 2 sturdy folders with pockets
- * 1 pkg. index cards
- * 1 pkg. coffee filters
- * scissors
- * water colors
- * 1 school box
- * 2 lg. boxes Kleenex
- * backpack
- * bottled drinking water (optional)

* extra clothing (including undergarments)

PLEASE LABEL CRAYONS, SCISSORS, PAINT, AND PENCILS.

Kindergarten

- * crayons (no more than 24)
- * 1 bottle school glue (white)
- * 2 glue sticks
- * 6 regular pencils
- * 1 spiral notebook – wide ruled
- * 1 small school box
- * 2 lg. boxes Kleenex
- * 2 sturdy, slick pocket folders (no brads)
- * towel for rest time (no vinyl mats)
- * backpack
- * 1 change of clothes for accidents



R.J. Service

- * bottled drinking water (optional)
- * 1 lg. pink eraser
- * 3 pkg. index cards
- * 2 sm. boxes ziplock baggies (quart size)
- * 1 bottle of 8 oz. hand sanitizer

PLEASE LABEL EVERYTHING, INCLUDING INITIALS ON EACH CRAYON.

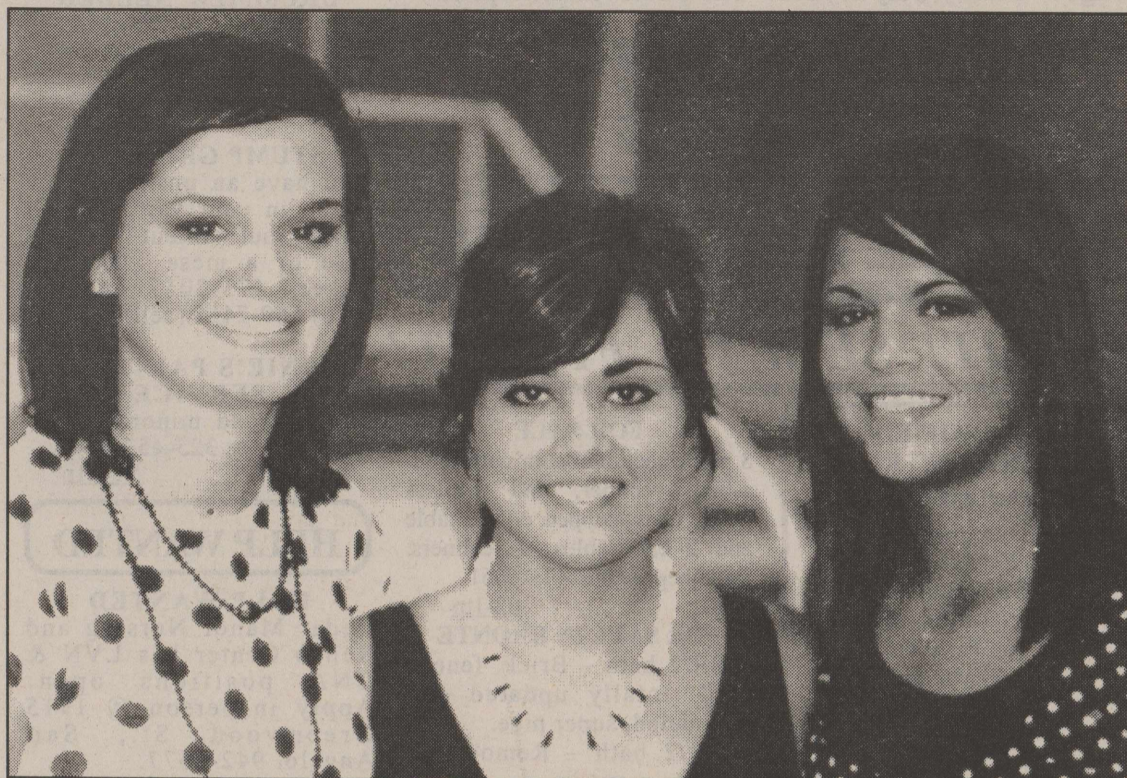
First Grade

- * 1 box of Ziploc baggies (girls – gallon, boys – quart)
- * 6 #2 pencils
- * 2 lg. green or pink erasers
- * 2 lg. boxes Kleenex
- * 1 sm. supply box
- * 1 pair 5" Fiskar scissors
- * 1 box 24 crayons
- * 2 lg. Elmer's glue
- * 3 sturdy slick pocket folders
- * 1 lg. construction paper
- * 2 pkg. notebook paper (wide ruled)
- * 1 ruler with centimeters and inches
- * 1 sm. plain pencil sharpener

PLEASE LABEL EVERYTHING.

Second Grade

- * 4 spiral notebooks (wide ruled) 80 pages
- * 2 red folders (with brads and pockets)
- * 2 purple folders (with brads and pockets)
- * 1 bottle of glue (4 oz)
- * 1 glue stick
- * 1 pencil sharpener with shaving holder
- * 1 ruler (with metric and standard measurement)
- * 2 boxes Kleenex
- * 2 boxes 12 count map pencils
- * 1 box 24 crayons
- * 1 pkg. 200 count wide ruled notebook paper
- * 2 pkg. (12 count) #2 pencils (no mechanical pencils)
- * 2 pink erasers or pkg. of



Spanish Club Scholarships! The Robert Lee High School Spanish Club recently awarded three scholarships to (left to right) Brettanie Reed, Sarah Phillely and Kelsy Duncan.

pencil top erasers

- * 1 lg. zipper pencil bag
- * 1 pair 7 in. Fiskar scissors
- * 2 pkg. lined index cards
- * 1 index card box with ABC dividers

Third Grade

- * 2 pkg. of 200 count wide ruled notebook paper
- * 2 pkg. (12 count) #2 pencils (no mechanical pencils)
- * 2 pink erasers or pkg. of pencil top erasers
- * 6 red grading pens
- * 2 spiral notebooks (wide ruled, 70 pages)
- * 1 pkg. assorted construction paper 9 x 12" – 50 count
- * 1 box 24 crayons
- * 1 box gallon size Ziploc (easy zipper) baggies
- * 1 lg. zipper pencil bag
- * 1 pair 7" Fiskar scissors
- * 2 boxes Kleenex
- * 2 boxes 12 count map pencils
- * 1 ruler (with metric and standard measurement)
- * 5 pocket folders with brads (one of each: red, blue, yellow, green, and purple)
- * 1 pencil sharpener with shaving holder
- * 1 bottle 4oz. glue
- * 1 glue stick

- * 1 index card box (3 x 5) with ABC dividers

* 2 pkg. lined 3 x 5 index cards
PLEASE NO TRAPPERS OR NOTEBOOKS.

Fourth Grade

- * 1 box Kleenex
- * 24 #2 pencils
- * 1 spiral notebook
- * 2 pkg. 3 ring notebook paper (wide ruled)
- * 3 ring notebook binder
- * 1 pkg. subject dividers
- * 1 zipper pouch for binder
- * 1 12" ruler
- * 3 boxes of 100 count zipper seal sandwich bags
- * 4 pocket folders with brads
- * sharp scissors
- * glue stick
- * markers

Fifth Grade

- * 2 boxes Kleenex
- * 24 #2 pencils
- * 2 spiral notebooks
- * 2 pkg. 3 ring notebook paper (wide ruled)
- * 3 ring notebook binder
- * 1 pkg. subject dividers
- * 1 zipper pouch for notebook
- * 1 12" ruler
- * 4 pocket folders with brads
- * Fiskar scissors

- * glue stick
- * markers

Sixth Grade

- * 2 boxes Kleenex
- * 24 #2 pencils
- * 1 spiral notebook
- * 2 pkg. 3 ring notebook paper (wide ruled)
- * 3 ring notebook binder
- * 1 pkg. subject dividers
- * 1 zipper pouch for pencils
- * 1 12" ruler
- * 4 pocket folders with brads
- * sharp scissors
- * glue stick
- * markers

Send your news in through the internet.

Email:
CokeCoObserver@aol.com

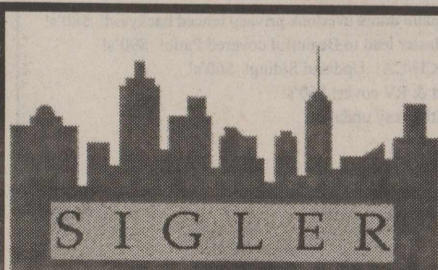
Please send articles in the body of the email and photos as a jpeg attachment.

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Robert Lee, Texas

Thank you for your business, friendship and support at Hometown Hardware over the past thirty years. Each of you has a special place in our heart and we treasure the memories. We love this area and community and plan to stay involved.

*Thanks for everything,
Wendell & Jeanna Lee*

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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 1-800-927-9275.



EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

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COMPUTERS

New and Used. Repairs, upgrades, internet service. Ed Martindale, 473-3004.

22-tnc

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Dog Kennel - 8' x 10'. 325-338-9169.

02-1tc

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Robert Lee, Texas

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FOR SALE

3 piece sectional sofa with hide-a-bed, recliner, and armless chair. Glass-topped coffee table and 2 end tables. 2 recliners. Price negotiable. 473-6661.

02-1tp

FOR SALE IN BRONTE

4 BR/2 bath - Brick, fenced yard, totally updated and remodeled, super nice.

3 BR/2 bath - Remodeled, ready to move in.

3 BR/1 bath - Good condition

3 BR/3 bath - Lots of extra's, ready soon.

4 BR/2 bath - Brick, approximately 5 acres of land, fenced for horses, remodeled, ready to move in.

For Rent: 2 BR/1bath - ready to move in.

For more information call Wayne at 277-7712.

01-4tp

221 HUMBLE ROAD

Bronte, Texas. Frame House on 9 acres, re-plumbed 2007, electrical 2006, ch/ac 2005, city water, septic system, RV covered parking, fenced. Dierschke & Dierschke Realtors. Linda Dierschke, Realtor. 325-944-3596 or 325-656-4906.

01-4tc

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TO GIVE AWAY

To a good home. Male, 1 year old Rottweiler. Very, very gentle. Loves everybody. Needs good home. 453-4317.

02-1tp

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Dove Lease for Coke County. Day hunting. 903-769-3201 or 453-9927.

01-4tc

THE "BARBER" SHOP

Debora England, 107 W. Main, Bronte. 650-1970. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday. 9 am - 5 pm.

33-tnc

PARKER PLUMBING

Residential & Commercial. All types plumbing repair - new construction, remodeling, fixtures, and sewer service. Licensed Master Plumber. 473-2131, Bronte.

34-tnc

Bob Frazee's 944-0010
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24 hr. Emergency
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Local band, Driftwood, is looking for a mature drummer. Experience required. Please contact David at 453-9173.

01-3tp

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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).

20-tnc

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Painting and minor repairs. Call Ernie at 325-453-4647.

51-4tp

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED

Cedar Manor Nursing and Rehab Center has LVN & CNA positions open. Apply in person @ 1915 Greenwood St., San Angelo. 942-0677.

38-tnc

GIRLING HEALTH CARE, INC.

Providers needed. We have part-time positions for caring and dependable people to work in the homes of the Elderly and Disabled in Bronte and Robert Lee area. We offer flexible schedules. Good hourly rate! Must be 18 years with no criminal background. No experience or certification needed. Send Resume, referencing Ad# 6490. Fax to 325-643-9679. Call 1-800-665-4471. Email to opportunities@girling.com or apply at P.O. Box 1849, Brownwood, TX 76804. E.O.E. M/F/D/V

02-1tc

ROBERT LEE ISD TEACHING POSITION

Robert Lee ISD is now accepting applications for Secondary English Teacher. 10 month contract, \$2,000 above state base, \$286.33 toward health insurance. School housing available.

02-1tp

ASH-MILLICAN-CARSON REAL ESTATE

453-5144 OFFICE • 5 E 6TH STREET • ROBERT LEE, TX
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Coke County ~ Ranch & Hunting Properties

761+/- ac., rolling deep draws and headers, seasonal live water creek, two ponds, paved access, scenic views. **SOLD**

650+/- ac., all pasture land, 3 surface tanks, near Colorado River.

We have Buyers, We need Land Listings.

On 3.7 acres, brick home with 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, fireplace, attached two car garage, 25'x40' metal shop with a 25'x40' attached shed, perfect for livestock.

Lake Spence, mobile home on large lot with huge storage/shop.

Lake Front Property, 3 BR, 2 Bath home, 1550 sq. ft., vaulted ceiling in living area, 2 car carport, on approx. 4.5 ac. with magnificent views, additional guest house.

but limited. Contact Aaron Hood, Robert Lee ISD, 1323 Hamilton Street, Robert Lee, TX 76945. 325/453-4555 or email aaron.hood@rlisd.net.

02-1tc

GARAGE SALES

GARAGE SALE

Friday, July 27, 8am - ????. 116 Lakeshore Cir. In Cedar Cove. Go to Dripping Springs Rd, 12 miles west of 158, turn right. Follow the orange marker tape.

02-1tp

YARD SALE

Saturday, July 28. 8am - ????. 112 Jackson, Bronte. Clothes, Misc.

02-1tc

GARAGE SALE

Saturday, July 28, 8am - 12pm. Lots of Coca-Cola items, children's clothes, toys, and stereo system. 601 S. Washington, Bronte.

02-1tc

INSIDE SALE

July 26-28. Thursday - Saturday. 301 E. 7th St., Robert Lee. Adult's and Children's clothes, shoes, furniture and more.

02-1tp

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:

Housekeeping -

8 am • 5 pm

Laundry -

6 am • 2 pm

Janitor -

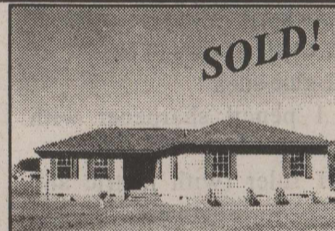
8 am • 7 pm

Benefits include paid vacation, holidays, sick days, personal day, with 4 and 2 rotation, 8 hour shift, pleasant working environment.

Interested applicants may apply in person M-F, 8am-5pm at 307 W. 8th St., PO Box 1209, Robert Lee, Texas 76945-1209. EOE



LARGE HOME WITH ACREAGE! Fireplace in Living Area! Bay Window in Dining Area! Hardwood floors! \$124,900!!



KICKAPOO ROAD! 4 Bedroom 2 Bath Frame Home! Extra Room could be office or 5th Bedroom! Situated on 1+Acres! \$94,000!



PARKWOOD STREET! This 3 Bedroom Brick Home has a Double Carport and is situated on 2 Lots! \$82,000!



BRICK & FRAME HOME! This 3 Bedroom 2 Bath Home has corner fireplace in Living Area! Built-in kitchen appliances! Double car garage! \$59,900!!



WILDCAT ROAD! 3 Acres with 3 Bedroom Home with Large Shop Building! Pens & Sheds! \$129,900!

Still Available!



160+ ACRES NEAR BLACKWELL IN NOLAN CO! Loads of wildlife! Hills with small valley! Two ponds, well! Secluded, remote, but on FM 1170. Home, Barn, Carport! \$320,000!

- Custom Oak Cabinets! 3 Bedroom 2 Bath Home has updated kitchen with island! French patio doors overlook privacy fenced backyard! \$80's!
- Possible 4 Bedroom! Brick Home with Formal Living & Dining! Patio Doors in Den & Master lead to Beautiful covered Patio! \$90's!
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- Childress Street! Near School! This 3 Bedroom 2 Bath Home has patio & covered Carport & RV cover! \$60's!
- Recently Remodeled! The large front porch is ready for your swing! 3 Bedroom Home with many updates!
- Investors Take A Look! 2 Houses, one has CH/CA, both need work. \$20's!
- 20 Acres & 2400 Sq. Ft. New Home! Live oaks, gorgeous rock fireplace, huge master suite!
- Custom Home on 2+Acres! Custom Cabinets, office, fenced yard, master suite!

Land

- 149+/- acres **SOLD** Larger Older Home!
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- 300+/- ac **SOLD** wildlife!

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...More Classifieds

CARD OF THANKS

THANK YOU

We would like to thank everyone for expressing your sympathy and compassion for us whether in the form of flowers, donations in memory, spoken words or unspoken thoughts during our time of grief. The kindness of your actions eased our grief and lightened our hearts, and we sincerely appreciate the love shown to us.

Sincerely,
Family of Orval Lee White
Shirley, Anne, Lynn
& Katherine
02-1tc

NOTICES

ROBERT LEE SCHOOL BOARD POSITION OPEN

Robert Lee ISD has a vacancy on the School Board. This position will be filled by appointing a trustee to fulfill the duties until the May elections in 2008. If you are interested in being appointed to the Robert Lee ISD School Board, please come by the Superintendent's office at 1323 Hamilton Street, Robert Lee, Texas and see Aaron Hood.

02-2tc

ROBERT LEE ISD ACCEPTING BIDS

Robert Lee ISD is accepting bids on the following items: teachers supplies, janitorial supplies, maintenance supplies, computer supplies, food service supplies, dairy products, fuel supplies. Contact the superintendent's office at 325/453-4555 or 1323 Hamilton Street, Robert Lee, TX 76945 for further information.

02-2tc

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Robert Lee Independent School District offers career and technology education programs in Agriculture and Homemaking. Admission to these programs is open to all students enrolled in Robert Lee High School. It is the policy of the Robert Lee ISD not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex or handicap in its vocational programs, services or activities as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.

It is the policy of Robert Lee ISD not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, handicap, or age, in its employment practices as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, amended, Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1972, as amended.

Robert Lee Independent School District will take steps to assure that the lack of English language skills will not be a barrier to admission and participation in all educational and vocational programs.

For more information about your rights to grievance procedures, contact the Title IX coordinator, Aaron Hood, Robert Lee ISD, Robert Lee, Texas, 325/453-4555 or the

Section 504 coordinator, Aaron Hood, Robert Lee ISD, Robert Lee, Texas, 325/453-4555.

EN ESPANOL

Robert Lee ISD ofrece programas vocacionales en Agricultura y Home Economics. La admision a estos programas se basea esta abier para todas estudiantes en Robert Lee High School.

Es norma de Robert Lee ISD no discriminar por motivos de raza, color, origen nacional, sexo o impedimento, en sus programas, servicios o actividades vocacionales, tal como lo requieren el Titulo VI de la Ley de Deprechos Civiles de 1964, segun enmienda; el Titulo IX de las Emmiendas en la Educacion, de 1972, y la Seccion 504 de la Ley de Rehabilitacion de 1973, segun enmienda.

Es norma de Robert Lee ISD no discriminar por motivos de raza, color, origen nacional, sexo, impedimento o edad, en sus procedimientos de empleo, tal como lo requieren el Titulo VI de la Ley de Derechos Civiles de 1964, segun enmienda; el Titulo IX de las Enmiendas en la Educacion, de 1972, la ley de Discriminacion por Edad, de 1975, segun enmienda, y la Seccion 504 de la Ley de Rehabilitacion de 1973, enmienda.

Robert Lee ISD tomara las medidas necesarias para asegurar que la falta de habilidad en el uso de la lengua ingles no sea un obstaculo para la admision y participacion en todos los programas educativos y vocacionales.

Para informacion sobre sus derechos o procedimientos para quejas, comuniquese con el Coordinador del Titulo IX, Aaron Hood, y/o el Coordinador de la Seccion 504, Aaron Hood, en Robert Lee ISD, 1323 Hamilton Street, Robert Lee, TX, 325/453-4555.

02-2tc

PROCLAMATION OF AUGUST AS FAIR HOUSING MONTH

WHEREAS Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, as amended, prohibits discrimination in housing and declares it a national policy to provide, within constitutional limits, for fair housing in the United States; and WHEREAS The principle of Fair Housing is not only national law and national policy, but a fundamental human concept and entitlement for all Americans, and



Pole Down! Coke County Sheriff's Deputy Adam Richter and AEP worker Wade Stautzenberger survey the damage of a down utility pole this past Tuesday morning. A delivery truck leaving Robert Lee ISD caught a sagging power line and accidentally pulled the pole down.

WHEREAS The anniversary of this National Fair Housing Law, provides an opportunity for all Americans to recognize that complete success in the goal of equal housing opportunity can only be accomplished with the help and cooperation of all Americans.

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, the County Commissioners of Coke County, do proclaim August as Fair Housing Month in the County of Coke, and do hereby urge all the citizens of this locality to become aware of and support the Fair Housing law.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF we have affixed our signatures and seal on this the 23rd day of July, 2007.

SIGNED: Roy Blair, Coke County Judge

WITNESS: Mary Grim, County/District Clerk

02-1tc

West Texas Deer Study Group to Meet Aug. 7-8 in San Angelo

The West Texas Deer Study Group will have its 10th annual program August 7-8 at the Texas A&M University System Research and Extension Center in San Angelo. Anyone interested in deer management is invited to attend. The meeting starts with registration at 8 am, August 7.

Dr. Dale Rollins, Extension wildlife specialist at San Angelo, said this year's theme is

"Enterprise Aspects of the Deer Business."

"The interest in what I call 'intensive' deer management continues to climb in Texas, and throughout the whitetail's range for that matter," Rollins said. "Some of that growth is prompted by personal interest in 'how big a buck can I grow,' and some is prompted by economic interest. The two rationales may not always jibe.

"Our aim for this year's meeting is the business aspects of deer management; that is, to

see why or why not the two schools of thought don't always go together. We'll also have a host of other topics addressing everything from ethics to recipes."

A sampling of those topics includes: "The Business of Deer and Deer Hunting," "Maximum Profits - Minimum Headaches," "Integrated Captive Breeding," "Culinary Side of a Hunting Lodge," and "Cashing in on Does, Culls and Misfits."

For registration and other information, contact Rollins at 325-653-4576.

REVIVAL

Saturday, August 4 • 6 pm
Sunday, August 5 • 10:30 am, 6 pm
Rev. Gordon & Brenda North

Hosted by
End Times in Time Ministries
Texas Theater • Downtown Bronte

For more information,
contact Pastor A.C. Hammer
at (325) 473-2373.

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Bright Red • Sporty Ride!
- 2006 Ford Focus SES ZX5 #7064 \$13,495
White • Gray Leather • 13K Miles!
- 2005 Ford Explorer Sport Trac #7074 \$17,995
Dark Pearl Blue • 39K Miles!
- 2003 Ford F-250 Crew Cab XLT #4956A \$19,495
Silver • Gray Interior • Powerstroke • Automatic

- 2001 Ford F-350 Crew Cab XLT #H129B \$8,995
Blue • Gray Interior • V-10 • Automatic • Great for towing!
- 1996 Ford F-250 S/C XLT #7035A \$3,750
Harvest Gold • Super Lift Kit • Hunters Check It Out!

Time to get your air conditioning checked out!
Come see our Service Department today!

Ask For: **453-4561**
Randy Flanagan • Marsha Wink
Billy Wayne Roe

Coke County Sheriff's Dept. facing challenges

The Coke County Commissioners' Court meeting held Monday, July 23, 2007, drew a standing room only crowd focused on one agenda item - the Coke County Sheriff's Department. The Sheriff's Department could be on the verge of a crisis situation with the number of deputies employed.

The situation came to light in Commissioners' Court on Monday, June 25, 2007. At that time, Sheriff Rick Styles explained to the court that his department had tried to fill the vacant Robert Lee deputy position for two months. They had advertised locally, in the San Angelo newspaper, the Abilene newspaper, on law enforcement websites and at law enforcement academies. No qualified applications had resulted. He explained that after several possible applicants had heard the salary offered, they had declined to apply. The fear of losing another deputy or two and being unable to replace them was stated to the Commissioners at that time. With three deputies, the department is stretched to the limit. If other deputies left for higher paying positions, Coke County would be in a very grave situation.

Coke County Sheriff's Deputies earn \$21,350.00 per year. This is for a county (population 3,623) with two towns, several communities, and two lakes. Starting salaries for counties with similar populations include Crockett County (Ozona - population 3,879) \$35,542; Kimble County (Junction - population 4,570) \$33,964; Martin County (Stanton - population 4,441) \$32,380; Donley County (Clarendon - population 3,048) \$27,318; and Mason County (Mason - population 3,902) \$26,000.

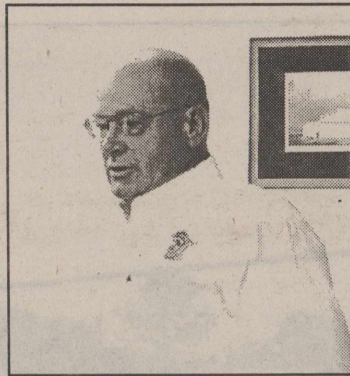
Styles further explained to

the court that Coke County was in competition with area counties and departments. Starting salaries for surrounding counties include Nolan County - \$30,621; Mitchell County - \$30,825; Runnels County - \$26,310; and Concho County \$24,660. The Sheriff's Departments in these counties have jurisdiction in the county, due to the towns within these counties having their own police departments. Only Sterling County does not also have a police department and they start their deputies at \$28,000 per year.

The San Angelo Police Department pays the officers attending the academy \$27,204; \$33,096 after 5 years of service and \$40,000 after 12 years of service. The Abilene Police Department starts their new officers at \$38,580; \$41,916 after 3 years; and \$49,596 after 8 years. Tom Green County Sheriff's Deputies start out at \$29,016.

At this time, Styles asked Commissioners to do a line item budget transfer involving removing the vacant deputy position and distributing that salary evenly between himself and the three remaining deputies. This would raise the deputies salaries to \$26,687.50.

He also explained to the commissioners that by eliminating this position, an additional savings of \$11,569 per year would be available. This savings is made up of the health insurance, workers comp insurance, vehicle maintenance, vehicle insurance, liability insurance and cell phone that would no longer be needed. He wanted \$3,600 of this savings to be added to the salary of the Sheriff's Department Administrative Assistant. He further explained why the job deserved the additional pay.



Commissioners Court Meeting! Coke County citizens filled the Commissioners Courtroom at the courthouse (right photo) during the Monday, July 23, 2007, meeting. The attendees lined the walls and spilled out into the hallway outside. Many of the people who attended, addressed the Commissioners Court. The guests as well as the Commissioners Court listened to a presentation by Coke County Sheriff Rick Styles (left photo) regarding the dire situation faced by the Sheriff's Department.



The assistant is now licensed to TCLOSE standards to operate all computer systems and also is a licensed jailer. According to Sheriff Styles, "Misti (Hayes) is on call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to be available for transport, searching of females, and to answer questions pertaining to her job. She is on call for the Sheriff's Deputies, as well as DPS, Texas Parks and Wildlife, and to the relief dispatchers."

The Commissioners discussed his proposal and Commissioner Precinct 4, Bobby Blaylock made the motion to accept. It was seconded by Robert Feil, Commissioner, Precinct 2. Judge Roy Blair called for a vote, the two previous commissioners voted for. Commissioners Gaylon Pitcock and Gene Montgomery did not vote either way. Judge Blair declared the motion passed.

When the agenda came out for Monday, July 9th's Commissioners' Court, the Sheriff's Department proposal was again listed as an item to be "revisited". At this meeting, the proposal was again discussed with several commissioners wishing to look further at the raise for the Department's Administrative Assistant. After much discussion, some quite heated, Commissioner Pitcock made

the motion to rescind their previous action. Commissioner Montgomery seconded that motion. All voted for rescinding their previous action except for Commissioner Blaylock, who voted against the rescission. The commissioners explained that they just wanted more time to think about it. A special meeting was called for the following Tuesday morning at 9 am. This meeting was subsequently cancelled due to the Sheriff's attendance at the state convention. The item was placed on the agenda for Commissioners' Court Monday, July 23, 2007.

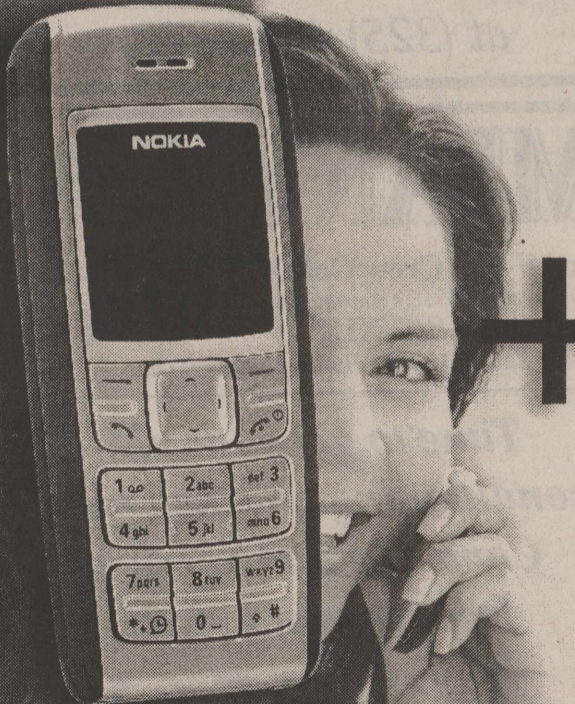
During this meeting, several citizens addressed the court in support of the Sheriff's office. They stressed the high level of education required to be in law enforcement - that these were professional positions. The fact that a deputy only made \$109 more than a road hand was pointed out. The danger of the job was discussed. Also discussed was the fact that due to the low number of deputies, Coke County officers were required to be on call 24 hours per day, 5 days a week. That they were not allowed to leave the county during this time and that family time and necessary sleep were often interrupted due to county business. Among those addressing the

court were Lanette Fletcher, who read a letter from her husband, Keith - a federal law enforcement agent who was unable to attend; Bill Thomas, Alvin Jones, Kay Styles, Joe Sefcik, and Paul Knight. Marshall Millican, Constable Precinct 1, explained to the court that the City of Robert Lee had voted to cease paying the deputies \$750 per month to enforce their ordinances and had contracted with him for that service. He felt like this had exacerbated the problem.

Sheriff Styles addressed the court and explained that after visiting with county residents, he had come to the conclusion that the citizens of Coke County desired four deputies. Therefore, he removed his previous proposal and requested the Deputy's salary be raised to the above mentioned \$26,687 without losing the vacant deputy's position.

Judge Blair clarified what Sheriff Styles was proposing and then explained that the commissioners could legally not take any action at this time. This proposal must be addressed during the budget process. The new budget should be finalized by September 1, 2007, to take effect October 1, 2007.

As the situation stands now, Coke County is still in danger of losing further deputies and being unable to fill vacant positions.



Unlimited Minutes

+

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No Credit Check

\$99

Out the Door


NOKIA 1600 and 4 weeks of service

The new Right Wireless \$99 Out-the-Door deal adds up to great savings. You get a cool Nokia 1600 phone and four full weeks of unlimited minutes. Plus, there's no credit check, no deposit and no contract to sign.

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Right Wireless

Now Serving More of West Texas