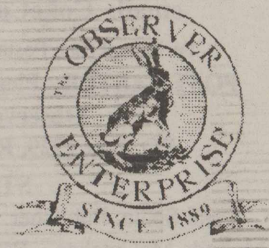


THE OBSERVER/ENTERPRISE

Serving Coke & Sterling Counties

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Vol. 121, No. 42

Friday, May 8, 2009

Local elections slated for Saturday

Early voting for each of the local elections listed below ended on May 5. Of the six entities listed, only the Bronte Independent School District and the City of Robert Lee will be conducting elections. Specific hours and voting locations are discussed below. Election Day voting is set for May 9.

The Bronte Independent School District has six candidates who have filed for 3 positions on the board of trustees. Incumbents Jeff Schoenfield and Wayne Coalson will be joined on the ballot by Ericka Knight, Kay Styles, Kyle James and Doug Tounget. Election day voting will be held at City Hall, 114 South Washington, Bronte, Texas, on May 9, between the hours of 7 am and 7 pm.

Incumbents Gary Payne and Troy Wimberley have both filed for re-election to the Robert Lee City Council. Also filing for election is Janie Munoz. There are no contested positions in the Robert Lee City Council election.

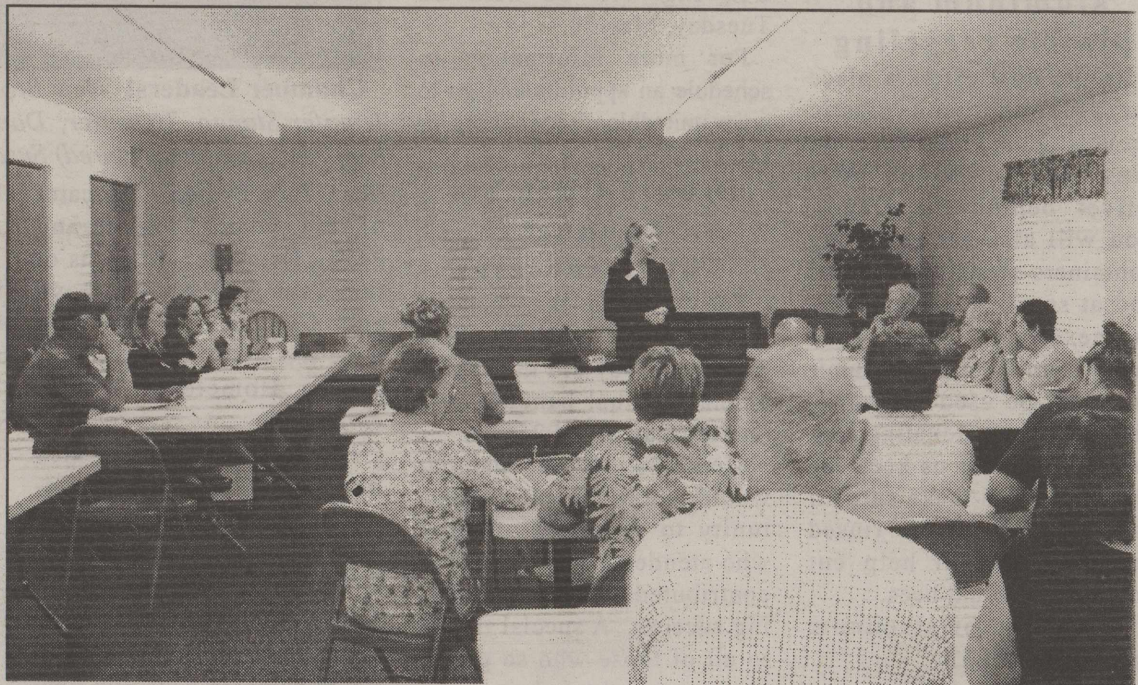
Also on the City of Robert Lee election ballot is a proposition authorizing the Robert Lee 4A Economic Development Corporation to transfer funds to the Robert Lee 4B Economic Development Corporation to be used in the renovation of the park swimming pool.

Although there are no contested positions in the Robert Lee City Council election, it is extremely important that voters cast their ballots on the swimming pool proposition. If passed, funds will be transferred from one EDC committee to another in order to facilitate the renovation of the swimming pool. No property (ad valorem) tax rates will be affected. The proposition involves only the transfer to sales tax funds from one committee to another, with the renovation of the swimming pool the beneficiary of the transfer.

The Robert Lee City Council election and swimming pool fund transfer proposition voting will be conducted from 7 am until 7 pm on Saturday, May 9. Polling location is the County Courthouse, 13 E. 7th Street, Robert Lee, Texas.

In the Bronte City Council election, Misti Bedford and Paula McWright have filed for two spots on the council for 2-year terms. Jennifer Stango has filed for a 1-year term. As there are no contested positions for the City of Bronte election, it has been cancelled.

The East Coke County Hospital District has three positions to fill and have had three file for election. They include Doris Sims, Alonzo



Economic Development! A great crowd of about thirty business owners and city leaders gathered at Bronte on Monday evening, May 4th, to learn about economic development opportunities with the Texas Department of Agriculture. Chandra Eggemeyer, ED Rep with the TDA for our area, detailed funding opportunities for small business sponsored by the Texas Department of Agriculture. She also discussed marketing assistance for Texas-made products and the Go Texan program. A portion of the agenda was devoted to USDA and their grants, loans, and assistance programs for rural Texas.

Robbins, and Beverly Sims. There are no contested positions in this election.

The West Coke County Hospital District has two positions available on the board. Mary Bessent and Dessie Kendall have filed for these positions. Since there are no contested positions, the board recently voted to cancel their election.

Robert Lee ISD will have three places on the board for full three-year terms. Incumbents Tom Sawyer Jr., Wes Washam and Brandi Brosh have all re-filed for the election. Since there are no contested positions, the election has been cancelled.

Multi-County Coalition meeting set for May 15

Are you interested or concerned about what happens to your water supply? Then plan to attend the Multi-County Coalition meeting on Friday, May 15, at 6:30 pm at the Bronte Community Center. For more information, call Dale or Sheila Burnett at (325) 235-1314.

Veterans Memorial Committee still accepting names

Please be advised that the Veterans Memorial Committee is still accepting the names of veterans, any branch of service is accepted. Please send their information and \$100 to the new address: PO Box 33, 265 W. Main, Bronte, TX 76933. At the

present time, they have six names waiting to be engraved on the marker located by the Depot in Bronte. They need four more names in order to call the engraver. They also accept memorials in memory of loved ones. For more information call Bobby or Melissa Blaylock at 473-2326 or Brenda Hines at 473-5331.

Bronte has new community website

The Bronte Economic Development Board, City of Bronte, and the Bronte Chamber of Commerce have combined their efforts to develop a web site for Bronte. City ordinances and application for utility service are available on the site. The web site has a calendar of events, information on civic clubs and organizations, churches and business directory. You can also sign up to receive the Chamber of Commerce newsletter. To have your business, club or meeting listed, please contact Tammy Thorn at 473-3501. www.brontetexas.org.

Graduation issues set for May 22 & 29

The Observer/Enterprise will publish the special Senior Class editions May 22 and 29. These issues rotate each year between the final two Fridays in May; so that the entire paper may be devoted to each graduating class.

This year's issue honoring

the Robert Lee Class of 2009 will be May 22, with the issue honoring the Bronte Class of 2009 set for May 29.

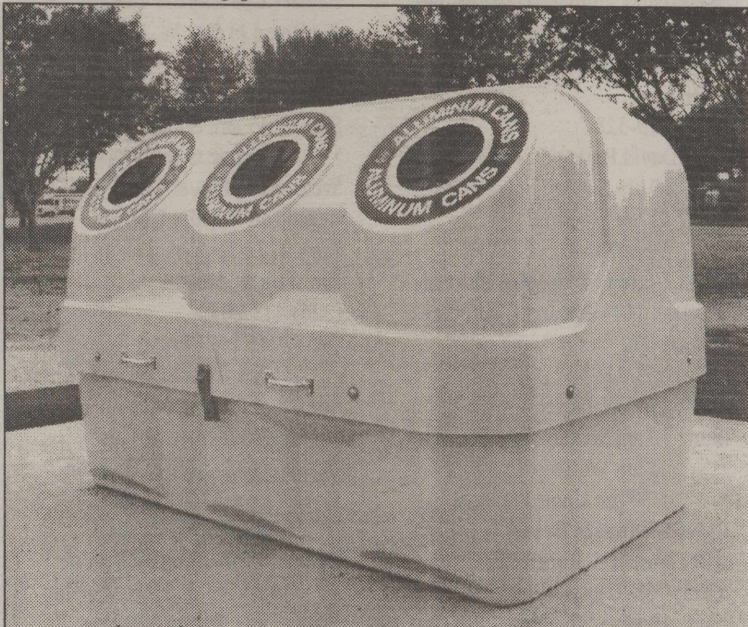
In the near future, representatives from our office will be calling on local businesses and individuals to sponsor these seniors in their special edition. If you would like to sponsor that special graduate in either class, please contact our office at 453-2433.

FSA accepting Emergency Farm Loans

The Farm Service Agency (FSA) is now accepting applications for Emergency Farm Loans resulting from damages and losses caused by drought, above-normal temperatures, and associated wildfires on January 1 and continuing.

Coke County has been named a contiguous disaster county where eligible farmers may qualify for FSA EM loan assistance. Farm Loan Manager, Justin B. Holland, asks farmers who want to apply for emergency loans to submit their applications as soon as possible. The deadline for applications is December 28, 2009, but if farmers wait too long, a backlog will develop and cause delay.

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



Recycling Bins! The City of Bronte now offers a place located behind the Veterans Memorial for aluminum and plastic recycling. Recycling containers will also be available around the school and at sporting events starting next year. For more on the recycling bins, see page 2 of this issue of the Observer/Enterprise.

THE OBSERVER/ENTERPRISE

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Bronte now offers aluminum and plastic recycling

Bronte now offers a place for aluminum and plastic recycling. The recycling bins are located on West Oliver behind the Depot. You will also see recycling containers around the school and at sporting events starting next year. The revenue made from the sale of aluminum will be used for scholarships for a graduating senior. Please help us keep the area clean and make sure all cans and bottles are rinsed out, as this will help cut down on ants and bees.

What kind of aluminum can be recycled?

Aluminum beverage cans only. These cans should be rinsed out.

What kind of plastic can be recycled?

#1 PETE - Plastic soda bottles: clear and green. Other juice, liquor or water bottles made of #1 PETE are OK. The lids should be thrown out and the bottles should be rinsed out.

#2 HDPE - Plastic milk, water, juice, detergent and bleach containers. The lids should be thrown out and the bottles should be rinsed out.

Attention Crafters in Coke County

Bronte Chamber of Commerce is having a Craft Fair on June 6. The Community Center on East Oliver will be the site for the event. There is a small charge for the indoor booths (10'x10'). Set up time for vendors is 8 am, time for fair is 10 am. For more information or an application, call 473-2604 or 473-2093.

Find the Hero in You - Donate

Be a part of history! Win 2 tickets to the inaugural event at the new Dallas Cowboys Stadium-the SOLD OUT performance of George Strait, Reba McEntire, Blake Shelton, and Dancing with the Stars champion Julianne Hough on Saturday, June 6th.

Donate at the United Blood Services donation center located at 2020 W. Beauregard by Saturday, May 23 to be entered into the drawing. Make it a double-donate 2 red blood cells-get 2 entries. Donate

platelets, get 2 entries. Drawing will be held on Tuesday, May 26.

For more information to schedule an appointment, go to www.unitedbloodservices.org or call 223-7500.

Bronte Chamber Banquet huge success

The theme for the Chamber this year is "Let's Shine in 2009" and boy did they shine at their annual banquet held on Saturday, April 25!

Members of the chamber would like to take this opportunity to thank all of those who attended the banquet and contributed to its overwhelming success. A special thanks to all of those who so generously participated in their auctions. The money raised will be used to fund scholarships and upcoming chamber events.

A delicious meal was enjoyed by all and was prepared by the outstanding cooks from Robert Lee - Joe White, Paul, Sid, Cookie and Molly Burns. A lot of these meals were served by members of the Junior Chamber of Commerce. They currently have 29 Bronte High School students who will be assisting the chamber as together they strive to reach out and serve the community.

A special congratulations to Arial Coalson and Sam Rawlings - Students of the



Chamber Leaders! New Bronte Chamber of Commerce officials include (from left to right) Jennifer Stango, Treasurer; Don-Ann Wheeler, President; Peggy Kemp, Secretary; Kay Styles, Reporter; and (not pictured) Susan Williams, Vice-President; and Ronda Sedden.

Year, Tana Pyssen - Educator of the year, Richard and Peggy Hembree - Citizens of the Year and Myssy Boyd and Cynthia Turner, who were the first time recipients of the Hometown Heroes Award.

The chamber would also like to recognize their outgoing chamber directors. Thanks to Tammy Hortenstein, Natalie Hunter, Misti Bedford and Paul Knight for their service to the chamber during the past three years.

Current Chamber officials for the next two years are: Don-Ann Wheeler - President, Susan Williams - Vice President, Peggy Kemp - Secretary, Jennifer Stango - Treasurer, Kay Styles - Reporter and Ronda Sedden.

Local Judge attends seminar

Judge Grady Coulter, Pct. 2 Coke County, was certified at the recent Twenty Hour Justice of the Peace Seminar held April 21-24, in South Padre Island, Texas. The seminar was sponsored by the Texas Justice Court Training Center, a division of Texas State University-San

Marcos, with offices in Austin, Texas.

The seminar is one of six held for elected Justices of the Peace so they can fulfill their Continuing Judicial Education Requirements as set forth in Article 27.005 of the Texas Government Code.

The seminar addressed topics such as Judicial Ethics, Enhancing Bench Skills, Evictions, DWI Magistrations, Traffic Law,

Juvenile Issues, Deceptive Trade Practices Act, Emergency Protective Orders, Electronic Case Filing, Search and Arrest Warrants, Death Reporting Requirements, Failure to Attend School, Age Related Alcohol Issues, Rights of the Accused, Civil Round Table Discussions, Justice Court Civil Issues, Credit Card Cases, Increased Jurisdiction and Criminal Round Table Discussions.

Area Churches invite you to worship

Bronte Church of Christ

PO Box 346 • 118 S. Jefferson • Bronte
(325) 473-3291

Preacher John V. Driggers

Sun. 10 am & 6 pm, Wed. 7 pm

Central Baptist Church

324 S. Franklin • Bronte

(325) 473-4811

Dale Patterson, Pastor

Sun. 10 am Sunday School

11 am & 6 pm Worship

Wed. 6 pm

Emmanuel Pentecostal

PO Box 683 • 1019 Colorado City Hwy

Robert Lee

(325) 453-2360

Ray Aldridge, Pastor

Sun. 10 am & 6 pm, Wed. 7 pm

First Baptist Church

424 S. Washington • Bronte

(325) 473-2331

Bro. Corey Cornutt, Pastor

Sunday 9:45 am Sunday School, 10:55

am Worship, 6 pm Youth and Worship

Wednesday 7 pm Prayer Meeting

First United Methodist Church

Corner of Washington & Holmes

Bronte

(325) 473-3281

Rev. David Bailey, Pastor

Sun. 10 am Sunday School

11 am Worship

5 pm Youth

First United Methodist Church

PO Box 144 • 9th and Chadbourne

Robert Lee

(325) 453-2417

Steve Peyton, Pastor

Sun. 10 am Sunday School

11 am Worship

5:30 pm Choir Practice

Iglesia Bautista Bethel

101 Houston • Robert Lee

(325) 763-9208 • 320-1354

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

Frank J. Daniels, Preacher

Sun. 10 am, Sunday School

11 am & 6 pm, Worship

Wed. 7 pm, Worship

Northside Church of Christ

PO Box 508 • 9th & Chadbourne

Robert Lee

(325) 655-9784 or 453-2685

Portis Ribble, Minister

Services: Sun. 10 am & 1:30 pm

Wed. 6 pm

Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church

601 W. 10th • Robert Lee

(325) 365-2687

Rev. Hubert Wade, Jr., Pastor

Sat. 6 pm

Pecan Baptist Church

PO Box 542 • 12 miles west of

Robert Lee on Sterling City Hwy

(325) 453-2482

Jim Dominey, Pastor

Sun. 10 am, Sunday School

11 am & 7 pm, Worship

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. 6 pm Prayer Meeting

Tennyson Baptist Church

Hwy 277 • Tennyson

Joe Hodges, Pastor

(325) 473-2040

Sun. 9:45 am, Sunday School

11 am & 6 pm, Worship

Wed. 6 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, Pastor

Sun. 5 pm

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MorganWebb.etsy.com

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Congratulations Graduates!

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Investment Representative

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Pre-K protects vulnerable children

By Kara Johnson,
Executive Director of the
Texas Early Childhood
Education Coalition

Child abuse and neglect is a wide-spread problem in Texas communities. Last year, 83,000 children were victims of child abuse and neglect and 213 children died. The Texas Legislature and the Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS) have been working hard to improve the state response and have had encouraging results. However, legislators and advocates should take another look at programs that can support DFPS in protecting children from abuse. High-quality early education is one creative method that has been proven to reduce the rates of child abuse and neglect.

The early care and education landscape in Texas has three components: child care, public pre-k and Head Start. Research shows that high-quality early care and education, when done right, can and does reduce the rate of child abuse and neglect. High-quality programs do this through parent involvement, which includes parent education classes, home visits, or even just encouraging parents to volunteer in the classroom.

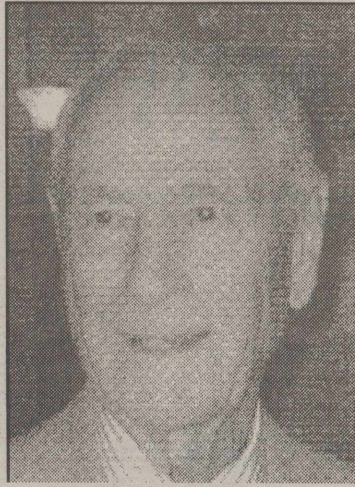
Even better, these programs have been proven to help all parents improve their parenting skills and interact more positively with their children. Children don't come with instruction manuals, and all parents can benefit from the support and information. Parent education and involvement teach parents how to be involved with their child, how to respond to their child's behavior, what is normal for their child's age, and new educational games to play with their children. High-quality early care and education helps to build stronger families before a problem ever appears.

Texas should use the early care and education infrastructure that already exists to bolster its efforts to combat child abuse and neglect. It just makes good sense to expand on a resource that parents and children use and love. Parents and teachers already know one another and already communicate about the child. The simple fact is that child deaths due to child abuse and neglect are much less likely to occur when there are more adults involved with that child.

High-quality early care and education not only gives children a leg-up on education that will last their whole life, but it can actually keep children safe. Imagine the impact this could have on Texas' most vulnerable children if more families had access to high-quality early care and education. When

Birthday Celebration!
W.T. "Bill" Stephenson (right) of San Leandro, California, formerly of Bronte, celebrated his 90th birthday recently, along with 36 of his family and friends.

Family members traveled to California from Utah and Texas. Guests enjoyed dinner and birthday cake, followed by a video presentation of Bill's life.



people" who want to keep their Liberty?

President Obama has formed a 31 member committee to oversee the operations of "talk radio". Radio stations which are not steeped in diversity will have their licenses pulled and presented to owners who will promote the government line. A Hate Crimes bill passed the House last week and is expected to pass in the Senate. Words and implied thoughts that are deemed to cause injury to a protected group could result in imprisonment for the politically incorrect. The First Amendment to the Constitution circumvented by committee and an unconstitutional law. Where is the outrage of "the people" who want to keep their Liberty? Call your Senators today and demand that they fight the passage of CIFTA, the Hate Crimes Bill, and demand the dissolution to the FCC committee to oversee talk radio.

Dickey - Rose exchange vows

Kayli Jo Dickey and Travis Lyn Rose were married on Saturday, April 18, 2009, at the home of Micky and Kelly Baker in Robert Lee.

Kayli is the daughter of Valerie Howard and the late Bill Howard, and Ron and Jamie Dickey, all of Robert Lee. Grandparents of the bride are Ronnie and Sammie Baker of Robert Lee and Jim and Norma Dickey of San Angelo. Travis is the son of Don and Trina Lee of Bracketville, and Roland and Lisa Rose of Big Spring. Grandparents of the groom are Bob and Rose Taylor and Roland Rose, Sr.

Kayli is a graduate of



Mr. and Mrs. Travis Rose

Robert Lee High School, attended Angelo State University, and is currently a senior at West Texas A&M in Canyon. Travis is a graduate of Bracketville High School and Angelo State University with a degree in Animal Science. He is currently employed by Cargill Meat Solutions in Friona.

Kayli was given in marriage by her two brothers, Will Howard and Jason Dickey. Jordan Baker, cousin of the bride, was the Maid of Honor. Bridesmaids were Stacey Denton, Cara Eaton, Kelsey Mangrum, and Brittany Soliz. Nathan Rose, brother of the groom served as best man. Groomsmen were Blake Ward, Christian Holterman, Lee Boto, and

Ryder Rose, nephew of the groom.

Music was provided by Kristy Seales of Lubbock. Kristy is the girlfriend of Jake Baker, cousin of the bride.

A BBQ was held following the wedding ceremony. This was provided by Micky and Kelly Baker and friends of Whitharrel, Texas.

The couple will reside in Hereford, Texas.

East Coke County Memorials

In Memory of Bruce Sonnenberg

Mr and Mrs. J.W. Caudle
Frances Percifull

In Memory of Dolf Richards

Frances Percifull
Donnie and Dee Anna Thompson

Truly wonderful and amazing are accurate descriptive words for our friends and family in Coke County and surrounding areas! We have been simply overwhelmed and humbled by the generous outpouring of love and concern shown us in the past year since Bruce's cancer diagnosis. These compassionate acts and the continuing prayers of multitudes have truly sustained us over this time and carried us through the recent days following his death and his funeral service. Thank you to everyone who attended the service - it was simply amazing to drive into the cemetery and see all those people there! Bruce would have been humbled and honored. Thanks to the Shaffer Funeral Home staff for a beautiful service that carried out his wishes for a simple, country service.

Thank you for all the cards, flowers, memorials, food, donations to the special bank account, donations to me personally, words of encouragement, and other acts of kindness shown to us. Our special thanks to everyone who had any part in the tremendous benefit held for us last September. Those funds raised were a huge help in paying on his medical expenses. We are so fortunate and blessed to live in a county where random, as well as planned, acts of love and kindness are still an everyday occurrence.

Please continue to pray for our family and me as we adjust to life without Bruce's physical presence with us. We are grateful that he is healed from his cancer and reunited with his papa, my daddy, other relatives, and friends that preceded him in death, but he will be greatly missed in this world.

Again, our heartfelt thanks to everybody for everything done for us!!! May God deeply bless each of you for all you have done.

Fran Sonnenberg

TENNYSON REUNION

Saturday • May 16, 2009

Visitation - 10 am until 12 noon

Lunch - 12 noon until 2 pm

Business Meeting - 2 pm

**Auction/Flea Market begins after
meeting is completed**

*For answers to any questions you might have
call (325) 473-5200 or (325) 340-3231.*

**OLD TENNYSON
SCHOOL HOUSE**

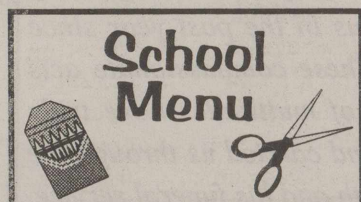
BRONTE SCHOOL NEWS



Vocational Testing! Bronte High School students have been taking the online Kuder career vocational aptitude battery. Kuder, Inc. is the leading provider of Internet-based tools and resources that help students achieve their educational and career planning goals. The Kuder career planning system has become the solution of choice for individuals around the world when it comes to identifying their interests, exploring their options, and planning for career success. The easy-to-use internet-based system combines research-based interests, skills, and work values assessments with portfolio development, comprehensive education and career exploration capabilities along with a college and career planning option and financial aid information. Once a student has created an account with Kuder, he or she will have life-long access to site. Students have their own username and a password and may log onto the site through any internet connection. During the next school year, high school students will have the opportunity to take additional assessments that will help in their quest for information about post-secondary opportunities. For more information about the Kuder career planning program, please contact Mrs. Timmerman, BHS counselor.

Sports Boosters meeting set for Tuesday

The Bronte Sports Boosters will have a meeting on Tuesday, May 12, at 8 pm in



Breakfast

Monday, May 11

Cereal, apple sauce, toast, jelly, milk

Tuesday, May 12

Peanut butter and jelly sandwich, juice, milk

Wednesday, May 13

Breakfast pizza, juice, milk

Thursday, May 14

Sausage roll, juice, milk

Friday, May 15

Blueberry muffins, juice, toast, jelly, milk

Lunch

Monday, May 11

Pizza, tossed salad, corn, fruit, milk

Tuesday, May 12

Spud day, chili and cheese, baked potato, baby carrots with ranch, mixed fruit, Texas toast, milk

Wednesday, May 13

Chicken fajitas, refried beans, spanish rice, flour tortilla, strawberries, milk

Thursday, May 14

Steak fingers, gravy, creamed potato, green beans, fruit, rolls, milk

Friday, May 15

Hamburgers, lettuce, tomato, pickles, tator tots, fruit, milk

the Bronte ISD cafeteria. All are encouraged to attend to support Bronte ISD athletes!

BHS Class of '55 reunion set

The Bronte High School Class of 1955 will have their reunion May 16-17 at the San Angelo Inn (Radisson Hotel), 4401 Rio Concho Drive, in San Angelo. For more information contact Stanley Phillips at (512) 258-6267 or Harold McCutchen at 473-5201.

BHS parent meeting set for May 12

On Tuesday, May 12, at 6 pm in the library, Bronte High School will host an informational session to provide parents/guardians with information on the Minimum, Recommended, and Distinguished Graduation Plans. Parents of junior high school students are also encouraged to attend.

Students currently enrolled

in grades eight through eleven have already pre-registered for classes. Parents will get to review their student's pre-registration course form and four-year plan during the meeting.

Parents unable to attend may call the counselor's office at 473-2521 to set up a meeting or make arrangements to pick-up a copy of their child's pre-registration form and four-year plan. The will be snacks and door prizes at the meeting.

Coleman County Electric Scholarship

The Coleman County Electric Cooperative provides financial assistance for qualified individuals who are seeking an institution of higher education.

The scholarship is available to high school seniors, who will be attending a college, technical school or university as a freshman in the State of



Career Day! Bronte ISD held a Career Day on Tuesday, May 5. One of the groups attending was the Shannon AirMed1 helicopter.

Texas. Other qualifications are: you must be a child of a member, a grandchild of a member, or child of a legal guardian who is a member of Coleman County Electric Cooperative. The applicant must be residing with the active member and be enrolled in a high school located within the Coleman County Electric Cooperative service area.

Applications are available at Coleman County Electric Cooperative, Inc, located at 3300N Hwy 84 Coleman, Texas 76834 or you can obtain an application by printing it from our web site at www.colemancountyelectcoop.org. The application must be typed or printed and completed in its entirety. Attach one billfold size picture to the application and be sure to sign and date the end of the application, student's signature and parent's signature with the date. All applications must be turned into the cooperative's office no later than May 29, 2009. Contact Tony Williams at 325-625-2128 for any questions concerning the application.

The eligible applicants will be chosen by a drawing to be held in July at the cooperative's annual meeting. There will be seven separate drawings, one for each school listed in the Cooperative's service area.

The scholarship is \$500 payable to the qualifying college, technical school, or university. The winner of the scholarship must be regis-

tered as a full time student and provide the cooperative with the name, address, phone number, and student identification number of the school they are going to attend. The scholarship will be made payable to the school's scholarship and financial aid office which will be added to the students account.

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

drop box is located at

HOMETOWN HARDWARE

in Bronte.

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

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ROBERT LEE SCHOOL NEWS



Bible Bowl! Sarah Wade of Robert Lee earned first place at the Southgate Church of Christ Bible Bowl, held on April 4. The competition focused on the study of the Book of Acts. Sarah prepared by studying 540 facts from Acts. Of these, 180 were randomly selected and asked of the contestants. Sarah gave 180 correct answers.

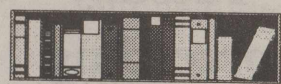
Robotics Team Bake Sale set

The Robert Lee ISD Robotics Team will be having a bake sale on Saturday, May 9 at 9 am at Super H. The sale is to raise money for their trip to state. All three teams qualified to participate in the state contest in Deer Park, Texas, on May 16. Funds raised will go for hotel, food, and other expenses. Please come out and help the kids.

RLISD Board meeting held

On Monday, April 20, 2009, a regular meeting of the Robert Lee ISD Board of Trustees was held in the Robert Lee High School Library of the public school

School Menu



Breakfast

Monday, May 11

Juice, pizza, cereal, milk

Tuesday, May 12

Juice, cinnamon roll, cereal, milk

Wednesday, May 13

Juice, pop tart, cereal, milk

Thursday, May 14

Juice, burrito, cereal, milk

Friday, May 15

Juice, biscuit and sausage, cereal, milk

Lunch

Monday, May 11

Burrito, salad, corn, fruit cocktail, milk

Tuesday, May 12

Chicken casserole, salad, pinto beans, applesauce, teddy grahams, milk

Wednesday, May 13

Hot dog, chili and cheese, fritos, pork and beans, pineapple, milk

Thursday, May 14

Oven fried chicken, creamed potatoes, green beans, bread, pears, milk

Friday, May 15

Sub sandwich, salad, pickles, baked chips, orange, milk

building at 6 pm. The meeting was called to order by President Roe.

Members Present: K. Roe, J. Roberts, T. Reed, T. Sawyer, W. Washam, B. Brosh, I. Torres

At 6 pm, the meeting called to order by President Roe, quorum of members present.

Invocation and pledge led by Tod Reed.

Jeffie Roberts made a motion to approve the minutes of March 11, 2009, meeting seconded by Irma Torres. All for.

Wes Washam made a motion to accept the financial report given by Robin Allen, to pay the bills and approve budget amendments as presented seconded by Tod Reed. Motion Carried.

Roger Henderson gave elementary and high school principal's reports - 134 enrolled in elementary; 96% ADA for March. 110 enrolled on the secondary campus; 94% ADA for March. Wayne Simpson gave a special programs report for both campuses.

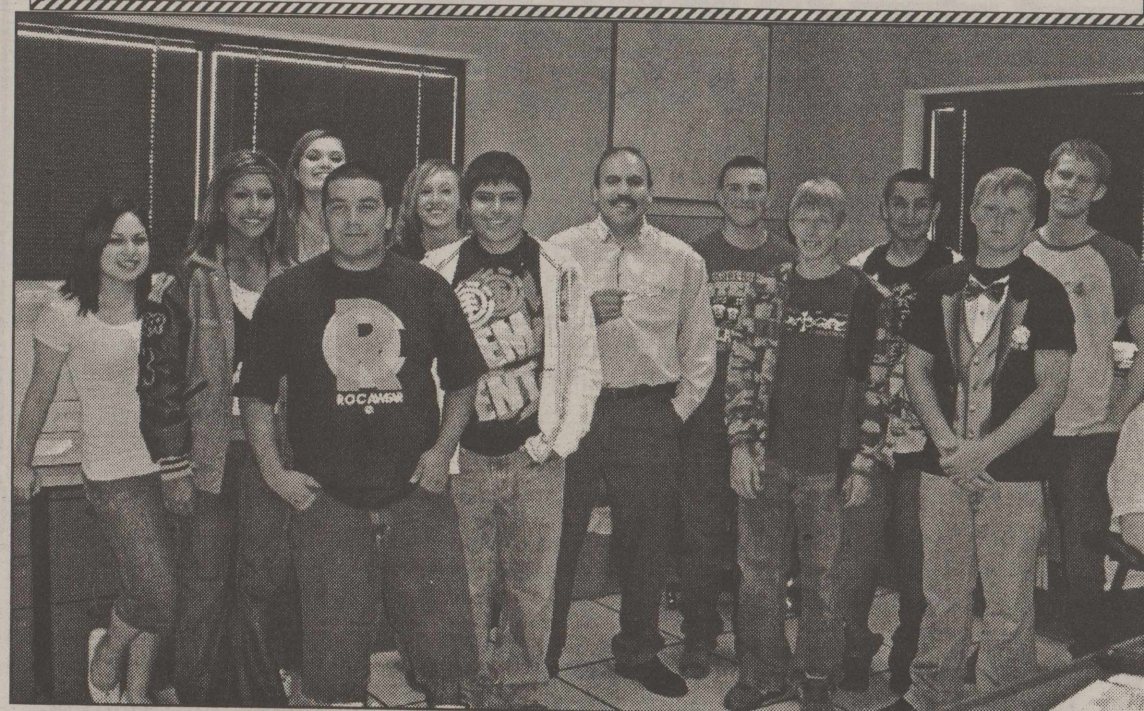
Steve Ellinger with Cadco Architects-Engineers, Inc., Cary Reese and Joe Spoon with W.B. Kibler Construction were at the meeting to discuss the Robert Lee ISD Building Project.

The board took a break at 7:40 pm and resumed the regular meeting at 7:50 pm.

Irma Torres made a motion to approve the Scholarship Procedures and Guidelines for Robert Lee Education Foundation seconded by Jeffie Roberts. All for.

Tom Sawyer made a motion to approve the request to waive Penalties & Interest at 801 Commerce. Motion seconded by Tod Reed. All for.

Tod Reed made a motion to join a membership agreement with Texas Schools for Economic Development seconded by Wes Washam. All for.



Field Trip! After completing a unit on communications, the RLHS Spanish II class recently enjoyed a field trip to Homeland Security and the National Weather Service in San Angelo. The presentations were very interesting and informative. Attending the field trip were Connie Saucedo, Mandy Mendoza, Joe Estrada, Paul Pineda, Sarah Walker, Skyler Rainwater, Hector Guerrero (National Weather Service), Josh Tennison, Luke Sheldon, Jorge Rostro, Blake Hewitt, Dustin Brown, Mrs. Tammy Roe, Mr. Roger Henderson and Mrs. Elena G. Sanchez.

No Action was taken on the consideration of Board Policy FM (Local) Extracurricular Activity Absences.

Discussion on status of band program.

Jeffie Roberts made a motion to approve Order to Cancel School Board Election to be held on May 9, 2009, seconded by Brandi Brosh. All for.

Superintendent's report included summer hours, update on Chapter 313 Agreements, low voltage, furniture, playground equipment and old phone system.

The Board recessed from open session at 9:18 pm, entered into closed session at 9:20 pm and reconvened into open session at 9:35 pm.

The next meeting for the RLISD School Board will be a called meeting on April 27 at 6 pm. The next regular meeting will be held on May 18, 2009, at 6 pm.

Meeting adjourned 9:40 pm.

RLISD Board holds special meeting

On Monday, April 27, 2009, a special meeting of the Robert Lee ISD Board of Trustees was held in the Robert Lee High School Library of the public school building at 6 pm. The meeting was called to order by

President Roe.

Members Present: K. Roe, J. Roberts, T. Reed, T. Sawyer, W. Washam, B. Brosh, I. Torres

At 6 pm, the meeting called to order by President Roe, quorum of members present.

Invocation and pledge led by Kevin Roe.

Presentation of square footage of RLISD Building Project by Steve Ellinger with CADCO Architects and Engineers.

The Board entered into closed session at 6:16 pm and reconvened into open session at 9:09 pm.

Presentation of Guaranteed Maximum Price for RLISD Building Project by Cary Reese with W.B. Kibler

Construction. Wes Washam made a motion to accept superintendent's recommendation to approve \$13,499,384 as GMP from W.B. Kibler Construction. Motion seconded by Jeffie Roberts. All for.

The Board recessed at 9:10 pm before entering into closed session at 9:32 pm. The Board resumed into open session at 10:08 pm.

Tod Reed made a motion to hire Shay Avants as Head Football Coach on a one year probationary contract for the 2009-2010 school year. Motion seconded by Tom Sawyer. All for.

Next regular board meeting will be Monday, May 18, 2009, at 7 pm or immediately following the elementary program.

Meeting adjourned at 10:15 pm.

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YOU'RE INVITED!

Robert Lee All Sports Banquet



Robert Lee School Cafeteria

Thursday, May 21, 2009 • 7 pm



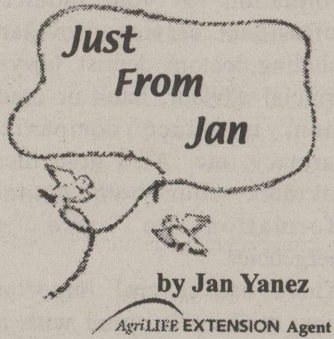
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Only limited tickets available at the door

Get tickets in advance please!



by Jan Yanez

AgriLIFE EXTENSION Agent

Things Your Mother Told You...

Are there things your mother told you when you were growing up that are just ingrained in your psyche that you'll never forget? Things that are just part of you now?

Here are some things my mother and her friends always said which have just stuck with me:

- Don't stack good china - and never put it in the dishwasher.

- There's nothing cheaper - looking than a woman walking with a cigarette.

- One stands on an escalator. Walking up/down one is trashy.

- There's no reason to eat or drink while you shop.

- Never chew gum in public.

- A lady should be able to walk on hard floors without being heard - don't clomp.

- Stand with your feet together.

- Never wear white before Easter or after Labor Day, unless it's Winter White.

- There's no reason for a female over age 12 to wear a bow in her hair.

- You can say just about anything about anyone, as long as you "bless their heart" somewhere in the sentence. You wouldn't want to say, "he's dumb as dirt" but if you said "he's dumb as dirt, bless his heart" it's OK.

- Never put your shoes on the table.

- You should always wear nice underwear in case you're in an accident.

- Play in the fire today, pee the bed tonight!

- There are plenty of kids in other countries that would love to have that food on your plate.

- God's watching you. Is this what you want him to see you doing?

- Remember, you never really know what goes on between two people behind closed doors.

- Get a good education and always keep a job, you never know when you will need "walking money".

- Never have more kids than you can support by yourself.

- You'll understand when you have children.

- Don't let your right hand know what your left hand was up to.

- Play hard to get.

- There are other fish in the sea.

- You only have one chance to make a first impression.

- To have a friend is to be a friend.

Letter to the Editor

(Editor's Note: The following is a thank you to the Robert Lee Baptist Church.)

Hi,

My name is Stan Yancey. I work in Iraq at Camp Taji, South of Baghdad about 15 minutes by helicopter ride. That is the only way we are currently allowed to travel from base to base. There are exceptions of course for the soldiers that must go out on missions. I would like to thank you for the goodies. I especially like the Honey Cocomango from the Boca Raton Resort. I am straight but I still like it. Thank you for the Blessings of your prayers and God bless you also. Tell everyone that Taji has received the goodies in good shape and thank them.

Love you all!

RL Sports Banquet set

The Robert Lee Sports Banquet is set for Thursday, May 21 at 7 pm in the RLHS cafeteria. A meal will be

catered by Rangels Restaurant.

There will be a limited amount of tickets at the door, so it is strongly encouraged to order tickets through the RLHS office (453-4555) by Thursday, May 14.

Consider hidden costs before buying a new car

By Jason Alderman

These are interesting times for potential car buyers. Because so many people have become wary of the faltering economy and are avoiding auto showrooms, nervous car manufacturers have been slashing prices, issuing rebates and offering extremely competitive financing terms - at least to people with sound credit - to lure in business.

But for many folks, the temptation to take advantage of those great offers is tempered by fears that government bailouts for automakers won't necessarily ensure their long-term solvency. That uncertainty, in turn, casts doubt on the



RLHS Class of 2009

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Jasmine Cortinez
Tamber Eurell
Josh Gallegos
Sarah Jones
Prescilla Lara
Jeremy Martinez
Arrin Minjarez

Dustin Moreno
Mira Myrice
Olga Perez
Michael Rodriquez
Norma Rojas
Mason Ross
Jodi Sheldon
Blake Thompson
Cori Torres

Jimmy Womack

DJ's Merle Norman

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viability of their long-term product warranties.

If you are thinking about trading in your old car for a newer model, keep these financial factors in mind:

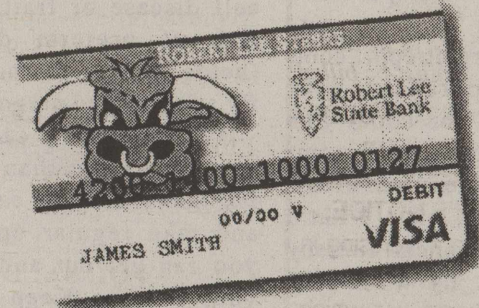
Depreciation. New cars typically lose 20 percent or more in value once driven off the lot. Thus, on a \$25,000 loan with 10 percent down, you would automatically owe \$22,500 for a car that might only be worth \$20,000. If you had to sell it suddenly, could you come up with an extra \$2,500 to pay off the loan?

Insurance. Insuring a new car is often much more expensive than with older vehicles. Before purchasing,

ask your carrier for estimates on a few different models for comparison's sake. And ask for a quote on gap coverage, which will pay the difference between the car's actual cash value (factoring in depreciation) and your outstanding loan or lease balance, should the car be stolen or totaled in an accident.

Taxes and fees. When calculating how much car can you afford, don't forget about sales tax and fees for title, registration and license plates that could add anywhere from a few hundred to several thousand dollars to the purchase price. Ask the Department of Motor Vehicles for current fee rates.

(Continued on next page)



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...New Car Purchase

(Continued from Page 7)

Your credit rating. A strong credit rating will qualify you for the best interest rates from auto manufacturers' financing arms, banks and credit unions. But with only fair or mediocre credit, you'll likely pay higher rates and qualify for lower loan limits – if you're eligible for a loan at all.

Review your credit reports before seeking financing so you can correct any errors, omissions and fraudulent activities that could seriously impact your credit score. You're allowed to order one free report per year from each of the three major credit bureaus at www.annualcreditreport.com.

You can purchase your credit scores for about \$15 each at www.myfico.com. Or, to estimate your credit score for free, visit What's My Score, a financial literacy program run by Visa Inc. (www.whatsmyscore.org/estimator.) The site also features tips on repairing damaged or unestablished credit scores.

Do research. Find out in advance the invoice price (dealer's cost, minus incentives) and bargain up from that, rather than down from the manufacturer's recommended "sticker price." Research invoice amounts online at sites like Kelly Blue Book (www.kbb.com), www.edmunds.com, and www.cars.com.

Trade-ins vs. separate sale. You may prefer the convenience of trading in your old car with the dealer, although you can probably get more selling it on your own. Just be sure to treat it as a separate transaction after you've settled on a sales price and loan terms.

Remember, there are many car-buying considerations besides color and option packages that will impact your financial bottom line. For a comprehensive guide to buying or leasing a car, including financing considerations, visit Visa's free personal financial management site, Practical Money Skills for Life (www.practicalmoneyskills.com/car).

Travel safely

during pregnancy

by Douglas H. Kirkpatrick, MD
Many women have concerns about the safety of traveling during pregnancy, but just because you're expecting doesn't mean that you can't go on vacation. Although the middle of your pregnancy-weeks 14 through 28-is the best time to travel, women can travel safely until a few weeks before their due date in many cases.

Air travel is almost always safe for women with low-risk pregnancies. Pregnant women should observe the same general precautions for air travel as the general

population and can fly safely up to 36 weeks of gestation.

Try to sit near the front of the plane, where the ride is smoother, and choose an aisle seat for easier access to the restrooms. On long flights, get up and walk around every hour or so to reduce the risk of leg swelling and blood clots.

All pregnant women should avoid flying in private planes at altitudes above 7,000 feet because oxygen levels in non-pressurized cabins can make you sick. Women with conditions that are aggravated by high altitude such as pregnancy-induced high blood pressure, uncontrolled diabetes, sickle cell disease or trait, or the risk of preterm delivery (before 37 weeks) should not fly at all during pregnancy.

If you travel by car, try to spend no more than five or six hours driving each day, and take regular breaks so you can get out and stretch your legs. Keep airbags turned on and sit at least 10 inches back from the dashboard, if possible.

Use a lap/shoulder belt every time you get into a car. Wear the lap belt low on the hip bones, not across your belly. The shoulder belt should be worn across the center of the chest between your breasts (never under your arm), and the belt should be tightened to a snug fit.

Bus or train travel during pregnancy can be difficult because of the small aisles and bathrooms and sometimes bumpy conditions. Be sure to hold on to railings and seat backs when moving about and use caution when entering and exiting.

If you are going on a cruise, ask your doctor about safe medicines for calming seasickness. Additionally, make sure that there is a staff doctor or nurse on board and that the ship will dock in areas with modern medical facilities.

Planning a trip abroad? Check with your doctor before making vacation plans

to ensure that your destination is a safe one for pregnant women. Allow enough time to get any vaccinations you might need. Women traveling outside the country should also keep a copy of their medical records on hand.

Always talk to your doctor before traveling late in pregnancy. Remember to get plenty of sleep, rest often, and don't overdo it.

For Mother's Day, help mom get organized

By Jason Alderman

With Mother's Day just around the corner, wouldn't you like to show your appreciation in a way that's more meaningful than buying your mom a box of chocolates or a bunch of flowers?

Here's a thought: Offer to spend a few hours helping to sort through your mom's financial, legal and medical paperwork so she – and you – know where she stands and can take appropriate actions, if necessary.

A few key areas to explore might include:

Retirement income sources. Gather the following documents so she'll have a better idea of what income will be available throughout retirement:

- * If still working, your mom should receive an annual statement from Social Security showing estimated benefits at varying retirement ages. (You'll also need your dad's statement to determine any potential spousal or survivor benefits for which she might be eligible.) For questions, call 1-800-772-1213 or visit www.socialsecurity.gov.

- * Annual statements from any pension plans for which she's eligible, showing updated benefit estimates. This might also include potential spousal death benefits if your father has a pension.

- * IRA, 401(k) or other retirement savings plan statements.

- * Statements for banking

products such as checking, savings and money market accounts, CDs, etc.

- * Company stock and bond certificates and statements for other investment accounts.

Outstanding debts. On the other side of the income equation, compile monthly statements and outstanding balances owed for things like:

- * Home mortgage or other property loans

- * Home equity loan or line of credit

- * Car loan or lease

- * Credit cards

- * Outstanding medical bills

- * Personal loans

Life and death documents. Your mom may have many important documents that instruct how she'd like her affairs handled, both while she's living and after death. Look for:

- * Insurance policies for medical, homeowner or renter, auto, life, disability and long-term care.

- * Durable power of attorney and health care proxy specifying who will make her financial and medical decisions if she's incapacitated. Also, a living will tells doctors which medical treatments and life-support procedures she does or doesn't want performed.

- * A will (and possibly a trust) outlining how she wants her estate managed after death.

- * Birth certificate, marriage license, Social Security card, funeral and burial plans, safe deposit box information and other important paperwork.

Contact information. Gather

information for your mother's professional service providers, including doctors, dentist, lawyer, financial advisor, bank or credit union, insurance companies, pharmacy, etc. Also give these providers your own contact information in case of emergencies.

There are several important points to keep in mind with all these documents:

- * Review them regularly and make updates when situations change. Make sure that designated beneficiaries for her will, life insurance and retirement plans accurately reflect your mom's current wishes. For example, if a beneficiary dies or a new grandchild is born, she may want to amend the documents.

- * Make sure her homeowner's insurance policy accurately reflects inflationary increases to the value of her home and its contents.

- * Make backup copies of everything and store in a few safe locations.

Many websites contain information about financial and legal issues facing seniors, including AARP (www.aarp.org/families/legal_issues) and Practical Money Skills for Life, Visa Inc.'s free personal financial management site (www.practicalmoneyskills.com/elderplanning).

In addition to the gift of your own time, also consider providing your mom a session with a professional financial planner who can design a personalized retirement strategy. If you don't know one, visit www.plannersearch.org.

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CHANGE!!

God Never Changes

For I am the Lord, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed. • *Malachi 3:6*

Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and forever. • *Hebrews 13:8*

Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, thou art God. • *Psalms 90:2*

I said, O my God, take me not away in the midst of my days: thy years are throughout all generations. Of old hast thou laid the foundation of the earth: and the heavens are the work of thy hands. They shall perish, but thou shalt endure: yea, all of them shall wax old like a garment; as a vesture shalt thou change them, and they shall be changed; but thou art the same, and thy years shall have no end. • *Psalms 102:24-27*

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