

THE OBSERVER/ ENTERPRISE

Serving Coke County

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Friday, January 9, 2004

Coke County Livestock Show begins January 16

Next week will be the 63rd edition of the Coke County Junior Livestock Show, held at the Sterling Lindsey Memorial Exhibition Building in Robert Lee. This year's show will feature animals in the Market Lamb, Market Goat, Market Swine and Market Steer shows, but more importantly, more than 75 youth exhibitors from around the county.

The county stock show offers the youth of Coke County an opportunity to exhibit their livestock projects which they have worked with for more than 11 months, in many cases. Besides being a worthwhile educational activity for our youth in teaching them responsibility, working with others and numerous life skills, it is an important economic endeavor when you consider the animals purchased from county producers, feed purchased locally and the premium sale monies that come in from the county and other areas. The total amounts of monies generated by these exhibitors amounts to over \$120,000 per year that is circulated in the county.

The show will begin Friday, January 16 at 6:30 pm with the Market Lamb show, followed by the Market Goat show. These will be judged by Marty Gibbs, Runnels County Extension Agent. Saturday, January 17, the Market Swine show gets underway at 8:30 am, followed by the Market Steer show at 11:00 am, judged by Joe Behrens, cattle and swine producer from Voca, Tx.

The Buyer's appreciation barbecue will be served at 12:00 noon, following the barbecue, the premium sale will be held at 2:00 pm to honor the prize winning animals and exhibitors. Persons wishing to donate to the Coke County Livestock Show can contact either the County Extension office in the courthouse or one of the Livestock Association directors that include: Loretta Bridges, Shane Kelton, Shane Webb, Wayne Coalson, Rick Howell, David Jackson, Jerry T. Parker, Mike Cervenka, Corby Kelso, Doug Tounget, Douglas Roberts, Mike McCabe, Teddy Millican, Wibby Millican, Joel Percifull, Pat Percifull, Darrel Pitcock, Mark Riley, Ernest Ybarra, Lynn Denton, Mike Rodriguez, Ricky Ross, Ricky Royall, Joe Harmon and Rick Sanchez.

The directors of the Coke County Junior Livestock Show would like to invite everyone to

come and participate in this year's County Livestock Show and support the youth of our county for their hard work and dedication.

Deputies resign from Sheriff's Department

Deputies Jim Sailer and Marshall Millican, both of Robert Lee, have recently resigned from the Coke County Sheriff's Department. According to Sheriff Rick Styles, "even though we are short two deputies, Deputies McCutchen, Richter, and myself (Sheriff Styles), will continue to cover the county until replacement deputies can be hired." Sheriff Styles indicated that the search for the new replacements has already begun, and the new deputies will be announced as soon as their applications are approved.

Filings complete for county offices

by Hal Spain, Publisher

Filings are now complete for all county offices which come up for a vote this year. Those offices include the Coke County Sheriff; Commissioners, Precincts 1 and 3; Tax Assessor/Collector; County Attorney; and Constables, Precincts 1 and 2.

The office which has drawn the most interest (number of candidates) is that of Commissioner, Precinct 1. Incumbent Paul Burns did not file for re-election. Those filing for the office include Jimmie Byrne, James Royall, and Gene Montgomery.

Gaylon Pitcock has filed for re-election as Commissioner of Precinct 3. He will be the lone candidate for this office on the Democratic Primary ballot. However, Melvin Robinson has filed a declaration of intent with the Independent Party for this office. Mr. Robinson is eligible to file for a place on the general ballot as an Independent following the primary runoff election.

The office of Coke County Sheriff is the only other contested race, as incumbent Rick Styles will be challenged by former deputy and sheriff of Coke County, Marshall Millican, in the Democratic Primary election. George Brickey of Robert Lee has filed for the sheriff's office in the Republican Primary.

Incumbent County Attorney Nancy Arthur has filed for re-election, as well as incumbent Tax Assessor/Collector Gayle Sisemore, and incumbent Constable, Precinct 1 Kenneth Rasco. Marty Boyd has filed for



The youth at Coke County Juvenile Justice Center made Veterans Day decorations for residents of Bronte Health & Rehab Center. BHRC veterans include (from left) Royce Lee, Lorenzo Munoz, Jack McDonald, Nick Alexander, Douglas Colburn and Harry Watson.

One of the CCJJC young men contributed the following. "Since I've been in class, I've learned that the community appreciates help. I also understand that there is more to life than victimizing. I've done many helpful and respectful projects to show other people that we care about others as well as we care about ourselves. Since I've been in the service-learning class, I've done drawings for the nursing home, drug-free rap video, Halloween treats and cards, Veterans Day flags, Thanksgiving door hangings, and we are also planning a Christmas play and fruit baskets, stockings and cards for each resident of the nursing home. Mrs. Bridges helps me to understand the importance of helping and doing things for other people. That is what I've gained from the service-learning class."

"I just want to say happy holidays to Bronte Nursing Home. We really appreciate y'all for giving us a chance to show our care and concern for others. I learned that art is not all drawing. It helps you express yourself in your own way. It can be what you make it. It feels good giving back to the community through art and giving time to help the elderly. I felt I've been destroying and terrorizing my community and others. I decided to give back by doing things to put smiles on peoples' faces. It isn't a lot, but it's better than nothing at all."

the constable's office in Precinct 2, vacated previously by Russell Johnson.

The date for the primary elections has been set for Tuesday, March 9, 2004, with the runoff election (if necessary) slated for April 13, 2004. However, the closest and most important date to remember is February 9, 2004, as that is the final day to register to vote in the upcoming primary elections. Be sure to register, if you haven't already, and vote in the Democratic and Republican primary elections.

Property taxes need to be paid this month to avoid penalty

January is the last month payment can be made on property taxes without penalty and interest accruing on the balance.

Tax payments made in person or postmarked no later than January 31, 2004, will be accepted without penalty.

Credit card payments may be made over the phone by calling

1-888-2PAY-TAX (1-888-272-9829). Tax payers may also pay online at www.officialpayments.com (Jurisdiction Code 5310).

For assistance or additional information, please call the Coke County Tax Office at 325/453-2614.

Runnels Baptist Association to meet

Runnels Baptist Association will meet Monday, January 19, 2004, at First Baptist Church, Miles.

The Executive Board and W.M.U. will meet at 5:30 pm. The evening meal will be served at 6:00 pm.

The program will be on Doctrinal Emphasis. It will begin at 7:00 pm. Eddie Tingle will be in charge of the program.

The public is invited to attend.

San Angelo Writers' Club to meet

The San Angelo Writers' Club will meet at 7 pm Tuesday, Jan. 13, at St. Paul Presbyterian

Church, 11 N. Park, San Angelo.

An informal social period will precede the meeting, beginning at 6:30 pm. Anyone interested in writing, whether or not a published author, is invited to attend. For more information, call Craig DuPree at 651-8594.

FSA announces wool/mohair loan dates

Producers have until January 31, 2004, to request LDP's for 2003-crop wool and mohair that have not yet been marketed and remain in storage. If LDP's are not requested, producers have until January 31, 2004, to request loans for 2003-crop wool or mohair.

To be eligible for a nine-month marketing assistance loan or LDP for wool or mohair, producers must demonstrate compliance with wetland and highly erodible land conservation requirements.

For more information call (325) 453-2751 or come by the office.

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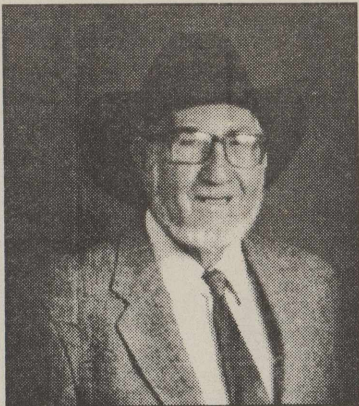
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Obituaries**Bloodworth**

William Allen Bloodworth died in Robert Lee on New Years Eve, December 31, 2003, after a short but devastating fight with end-stage cancer. His death, surrounded by family, was the final chapter in a long, well-lived, and interesting life that started in Abilene on July 5, 1914. Allen was the first of eight children born to Hardin-Simmons seminary Horace Lee Bloodworth and Coke County pioneer Mary Walker Bloodworth. Allen's first memory was riding a horse-drawn wagon from Abilene to Silver, watching startled wild turkeys fly up from the brush. His childhood was spent in the Silver area, learning to grow cotton and ranch. He and his brothers and sisters rode horses to a one-room schoolhouse.

Allen decided he wanted to keep going to school, which required working his way through high school in Colorado City by delivering milk and living with relatives. After graduation, he leased land to grow cotton and hired out as a cowhand to save money for Texas A&M. Allen was part of the last cattle drive in the area, driving stock over the Water Valley divide to the railhead at Colorado City.

He entered Texas A&M the following spring, working several jobs to make ends meet and living in a Project House. Allen graduated in 1937 and continued a determined courtship of Frances Branch, an East Texan who had graduated from the University of Texas several years before. On August 28, 1938, Frances married Allen and traded in her career in the Extension Service for family life. After a brief career as a feed salesman, Allen and a partner opened a feed store just as the second wave of the depression struck. After the birth of the couple's first child in 1940, Allen became a Vocational Agriculture teacher. He soon had two children to support, and Allen taught at successively larger schools until settling in Mason, where he coached a series of successful high school livestock judging teams.

After five years in Mason, Allen joined the Foreign Service

as an agricultural advisor. He was first posted to Burma, where the youngest child was born. He worked with local farmers in Northern Burma for two years and then moved to Thailand, where he traveled all over the country working with Vocational Agriculture programs in secondary schools. After five years in Thailand, Allen was selected for an exchange program with an Oklahoma State University professor, who came to Thailand and did Allen's job while Allen taught at O.S.U. and attended graduate school. After completing his masters and everything but the doctoral dissertation, he declined an offer to stay and teach at O.S.U. in favor of an assignment to West Africa, where he spent the next seven years. His final assignment was Nepal, where he developed a hardy, disease-resistant strain of corn that flourished at high altitudes.

He retired in 1975 to raise registered Hereford cattle on his Silver ranch. He and Frances lived together on the ranch until 2000, when Frances's failing health led to her move to the Robert Lee Care Center. Allen visited almost every day, bringing flowers, home-grown vegetables, and home-made cakes. Her death earlier this year ended an almost 65-year partnership and romance. Allen continued to live alone at the ranch until a few weeks before his death, raising cattle and cultivating a garden. He was lovingly helped by his nephew Lonnie Bloodworth and nearby brothers and sisters.

Allen loved people, loved telling stories, and was a keen amateur historian of the West. His passionate pursuit of his projects - whether it was raising cattle, teaching school, or developing corn - made him one of the lucky people whose work was truly indistinguishable from their play. He was an accomplished agriculturalist and skillful animal breeder. For many years, he was a crack shot and hunter. He successfully hunted tigers and leopards in Asia, and deer and turkey at home. In later years, he confessed that his love for wildlife had dimmed his enthusiasm for shooting animals. He was a home-spun ecologist who planted hundreds of trees on his property and provided cover and food for wildlife. He was also a Mason with dual membership in the Robert Lee and McCullough County lodges. Allen served as the Worshipful Master of the Robert Lee Lodge from 1995 to 1996. He had been a Mason for 57 years when he died. Up to a few weeks before his death, he cooked the beans for the Robert Lee lodge every Tuesday.

He is survived by his son Bill, daughters Barbara Gilbreath and Mary Bloodworth, grandchildren Gina Bloodworth and John

Gilbreath IV, and great grandson J.C. Gilbreath V; grandson Robert Bloodworth died in 1997. He leaves behind a large and loving family of Bloodworths including Jewell and J.C. Wallace, Clayton and Pansy Bloodworth, Ernest and Geneva Bloodworth, Raymond Bloodworth, and numerous and beloved nieces and nephews. He leaves many loving friends behind.

Funeral services were held at the First Baptist Church of Robert Lee at 2:00 pm on Saturday, January 3, 2004. Burial followed in McKenzieville Cemetery. Services were under the direction of Shaffer Funeral Home.

24-1tc

**Minnick**

Geneva Minnick slipped the bonds of this world and departed to be with the Lord on January 2, 2004.

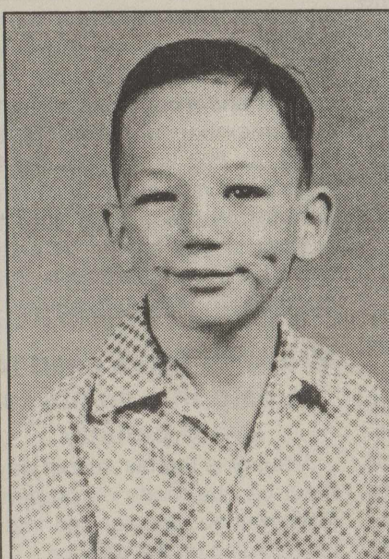
She was born Mary Geneva Clifton on September 13, 1918 on a farm between Bronte and Tennyson. Her parents were Claud W. Clifton and Annie Lee Taylor Clifton. She attended school at the one-room Juniper School House before finishing up in the Bronte School system. After high school, she moved to San Angelo, attended beauty school and then worked in several hair salons.

In about 1947, she moved to Iraan, Texas and met her husband, J.R. Minnick. They were married in 1951 and had one son, Terry, in 1951.

J.R. and Geneva lived in several communities around Texas before moving back to Bronte in 1971. They owned and ran a small grocery store in Bronte before her husband, J.R., retired in 1976. Geneva worked at the Bronte Senior Citizen's Center for over 20 years, finally retiring in 2000.

She loved her two grandchildren with all her heart, her devoted family, her fellow Christians at the Bronte Church of Christ, all of her friends at the Bronte Senior Center and her special friend of 80 years, Effie Corley.

She was preceded in death by



**He was a babe
in '54
A husband in '75
A father in '78
and again in '79.
Even though he's
"50"
on January 14,
2004,
the ol' dobber is
the man
we still adore!**

**We Love You!
Your 3 Best Girls**

her parents; her husband, J.R. Minnick, who died in 1987; her stepson, Raymond J. Minnick; her eldest sister, Alice Lee Clifton Webb; and her middle sister, Margaret Jewell Clifton Brunson.

She is survived by her son, Terry J. Minnick, of Northampton, MA; her two grandchildren, Joel Robert Minnick of Northampton, MA, and Kristin Whitney Minnick, of New York, NY; a stepson, Robert L. Minnick, of Benbrook, Texas; a sister, Itha Mae Clifton Williams of San Angelo; a brother, William Harold Clifton, of Eldorado, Texas. She also is fortunate to have a number of loving nieces, nephews, grandnieces and grandnephews who have been a source of strength and inspiration to her during the final years of her life.

Family visitation hours were from 4 to 7 pm on Saturday, January 3rd, at Shaffer Funeral Home in Bronte. Services were held at the Bronte Church of Christ on Sunday afternoon, January 4th, at 3 pm. Interment followed at Fairview Cemetery in Bronte. Services were under direction of Shaffer Funeral Home.

Geneva was a constant source of goodness and cheer and her loss leaves a hole in the lives of her friends and family that will never be filled.

24-1tc

Scott

Joe Ed Scott, 85, of Bronte, passed away Monday, December 29, 2003, in San Angelo.

He was born November 7, 1918, in Bronte to parents, Joseph Lee Scott and Margaret Ann Rodgers Scott and was the last survivor of 8 children. His grandparents were early day settlers to Coke County, arriving before 1890.

He was the owner operator of Scott Butane Co. for 17 years. He served his country in the Navy See Bee's serving overseas in the Southwest Pacific and New Guinea, as a young man he was in the Civilian Conservation Corp. in Arizona, New Mexico and Texas.

Joe Ed married Wilma Roberts on November 15, 1947 in Robert Lee, Texas.

His wife survives him as well as his children, Brenda Hines and husband, Steve of Bronte, Merritt Scott of Bronte, DeWitt Scott of San Angelo, and Viva Caldwell of Burnet; seven grandchildren; and three great grandchildren. He is also survived by numerous nieces and nephews.

Visitation was held at Shaffer Funeral Home in Bronte,

Wednesday from 6 to 7 pm. Graveside services were conducted at 2:00 pm Thursday, January 1, 2004 at the Fairview Cemetery in Bronte. Services were under direction of Shaffer Funeral Home.

24-1tc

Warren

Peggy Jean Warren, 62, of Midland, died Monday, Dec. 22, 2003. She was born Aug. 13, 1941, to Sloan and Nealia Mae (Robertson) Boone in Robert Lee. She married Richard "Dickie" Warren July 4, 1994, in Midland.

Peggy graduated from Robert Lee High School in 1959. She lived in Midland most of her married life. She worked for Hilton Hotels and MHMR. She is survived by her husband; three daughters, Fatima Kepple and Renee Doggett, both of Midland and Meredith Cambell of Tennessee; two sons, Rodney Doggett of Midland and Kevin Warren of Tennessee; eight grandchildren and four great-grandchildren; two sisters Winnie Ruth Glasgow of Sweetwater, Texas and Dena Bloodworth of Carlsbad, New Mexico; one brother Carlton Boone of Gatesville, Texas. She was preceded in death by her first husband, John Doggett; her parents, Sloan and Nealia Mae Boone; her brother, Richard Boone; her sister, Annie Lou Hicks; and nephew, Bill Glasgow.

Services were held at Ellis Funeral Home in Midland, Saturday 27, 2003, with a graveside service and burial at Paint Creek Cemetery in Robert Lee, Texas.

24-1tc

**Churches of
Coke County****Invite You to Worship**

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. Carol Fiero
Sun. 9:30 am Sunday School
10:45 am Worship
5:00 Youth
First United Methodist Church
PO Box 144 • 9th & Chadbourne
Robert Lee
(325) 453-2417
Rev. Steve Rowe, 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
Northside Church of Christ
PO Box 388 • 9th & Chadbourne
Robert Lee
(325) 453-2619 or 453-2270
Tommy Williams, Minister
Services: Sun. 10 am & 6 pm;
Wed. 7 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
Bro. Mike Poye, Pastor
Sun. 9:45 am, Sunday School
11 am & 7 pm, Worship
Wed. 7 pm, Prayer Meeting
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
Tennyson Baptist Church
Hwy 277 • Tennyson
(325) 482-0663
Sun. 10:00 am, Sunday School
11:00 am & 6 pm, Worship
Victory Assembly of God
PO Box 638 • 6th & Houston
Robert Lee
(325) 453-2208
Rev. Erma Johnson, Pastor
Sun. 9:45 am, Sunday School
10:45 am & 6 pm, Worship
Wed. 6 pm, Prayer Meeting

Area bird count completed

The Audubon Christmas bird count in the area around Robert Lee has been completed. On December 14, 2003 there were 94 species of birds counted and a total of 4,874 birds counted. A group of experienced bird counters from Midland and other areas of Texas covered the area in four groups. Local members of the Caliche Loop Bird and Wildlife Association participated in the count.

Some of the species counted were: American White Pelican, the Great Blue Heron, Bufflehead Ducks, Northern Pintail Ducks, Ring Necked Ducks, Belted Kingfisher, Golden-fronted Woodpecker, Vermilion Flycatcher, Canyon Towhee, Lincoln's Sparrow, Savannah Sparrow, Sandhill Cranes, and our own roadrunners, red birds, sparrows, cormorants, doves, Mockingbirds and quail.

The total number of species of birds counted is up from 84 counted last year, but ten years ago some 120 species were counted in this area. A list of species is available in the Coke County Library.

Fish Fry planned

To help reach the goal of \$92,000 to build a new Robert Lee fire station, a fun-filled-fish-fry-fund-raiser is being planned for Saturday, January 31, 2004.

When the roof collapsed on the 1960's filling station that the Robert Lee Volunteer Fire Department used to store equipment in, the need for a new fire station became urgent. The San Angelo Health Foundation granted the City of Robert Lee \$45,000 if it could be met with matching funds by June, 2004. Some \$8,000 has been raised in a campaign among the companies doing business in Coke County and the absentee land holders.

The fun-filled-fish-fry-fund-raiser at the Big Rec Hall in Robert Lee will include a silent auction, door prizes, music, games for the kids, plus the now famous Paul Burns and crew's fried fish dinners. Add this date to the calendar. Volunteers are working hard to make this an event not to be missed.

RLVFD news

by Marian Thompson

Secretary

The fire department held its first meeting of the new year on Jan. 5th. Twelve members were present to welcome a new member, bringing the total membership to 20.

The minutes and treasurers report were approved as read.

Bud Thompson gave the monthly report. 1 regular meeting, 2 training classes, 96 hours of activities, 2 fire calls, 1 landing zone for WCEMS, 1 Christmas decoration of a snow man caught fire and burned, catching the lawn on fire, for 5 3/4 man hours, 3/4 truck hours, and 1/2 truck miles.

For the year we had 38 fire department calls for a total of 325 1/2 man hours, 8 landing zones for WCEMS, 14 regular meetings, 32 training classes and 854 3/4 man hours for other activities.

The main topic of discussion this meeting was the false alarm received on New Years day. A grass fire was reported to 911 as location being on Hayrick Road. 14 men and 3 trucks, and 4 personal vehicles from Robert Lee, as well as 5 men and 2 trucks from Bronte spent the next 3 hours combing the countryside looking for the fire. Each driving



The congregation of Victory Assembly of God church wish to announce the engagement of their Pastor Rev. Erma Johnson to Rev. Floyd Wagner.

The two have been family friends since 1957 when they met in college. Floyd is Assistant to the "Field Director for South & Central America" with Missionary Ventures based in Orlando, Florida.

A Valentines Day wedding is planned in Las Vegas, Nevada, where the Rev. David Wagner, Floyd's son, will preside. The couple plan to make their home in Kerrville, Texas.

from 65 to 85 miles on the back roads with no fire being found on Hayrick Road or Cox Road.

The group also discussed the progress of truck 3, which will be our First Responder, the Boat Raffle, and the upcoming Fish Fry.

The fire department needs daytime volunteers. Anyone interested in becoming a volunteer fireman can attend classes to become a certified fireman. Visitors are always welcome at the meetings and training classes are held each Monday evening at the fire station.

Texas Silver Haired Legislature sets filing period

The filing period for Texans age 60 years of age and older who want to run for the Tenth Texas Silver Haired Legislature (TSHL) began January 2, 2004.

Silver Haired legislators work with the Texas Legislature on senior issues which may become law. If you are a person 60 or older and a registered voter, you may file as a candidate for election to the TSHL January 2 through February 27, 2004. Terms are for two years. TSHL members pay their own travel expenses.

Filing forms may be obtained from the Area Agency on Aging of the Concho Valley Council of Governments located at 4850 Knickerbocker Road or by calling 325-223-5704 in San Angelo and 1-877-944-9666 outside San Angelo.

Four candidates will be elected from the Concho Valley. Currently serving as TSHL representatives are Gloria Henderson, Edith Clendennen, and Bonnie Hatch from San Angelo and Brigitte Rogers from Sonora.

Home for the Holidays

Sheila (Roberts) Farrar and Lauren Hammerton of Houston spent the week of Christmas in the home of their parents and grandparents, Bobby and Jeffie Roberts, of Robert Lee.

Other visitors in the Roberts home since December 11, 2003 were granddaughter Crystal Hammerton, of Stephenville; son-in-law, Jim Farrar, of Houston; Douglas, Denise, Kacee and James Roberts of Robert Lee; B.K. Dodd of Athens; Mark and Carter McClanahan of Van; Kurt Joplin of Plano; George (Buddy) Strickland of Granbury; and Jeremy Strickland of Springtown.

You are invited to come join us celebrate the

80th Birthday of
Dale Fields

Saturday, January 17, 2004

2:00 to 4:00 pm

Robert Lee Baptist Church

Fellowship Hall • Robert Lee, Texas

No Gifts Please

Hosted By:

Al, Lois, & Brad Fields

James, Peggy, Kelly & Casey Fields

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VISA

Master Card

The Lone Star

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Ea. **\$1.79**

Previously Frozen
Boneless • Skinless

Chicken Breast

Lb. **\$1.99**

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Navel Oranges

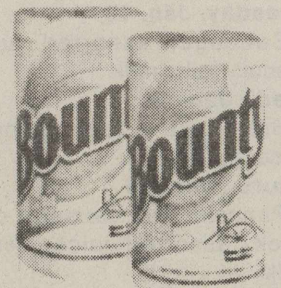
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Pkg.

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2^{6 oz.} can / \$1

White

Charmin Bath Tissue

24 Roll
Pkg.

\$4.99

BRONTE SCHOOL NEWS



The Bronte Junior High One-Act Play traveled to Miles December 11th, to participate in the District 12-A One Act-Play Festival. The cast and crew arrived in Miles before 8 a.m. that morning and returned to Bronte that night after 7 p.m. The long day was definitely worth it as Bronte's play, "Rough Night at the North Pole" received numerous awards. The first award of the day went to the play's crew. Casey Harris, Ty Mackey, Sam Rawlings, Miranda Riney and Reese Springer were recognized for Best Technical Crew. Next, Ariel Coalson and Eddie May received medals for All-Star Cast Honorable Mention. Jessi England and Will Macon were named to the All-Star Cast. Finally, Lora Martinez was selected as Best Actress at the festival. Members of the cast included: Eddie May as Santa Claus, Jessi England as Mrs. Claus, Ariel Coalson as Edie the world's tallest elf, Lora Martinez as Sheriff Clink, Will Macon as Noodle, Holly Huskerson as Missy, Noodle's companion, Nicole Reed and Johnnye Michael as the dancing presents. The crew consisted of Casey Harris, Ty Mackey, Sam Rawlings, Miranda Riney, and Reese Springer.

Bronte Project Graduation meeting set

Bronte High School Project Graduation meeting will be held Thursday, January 15, 2004, in the school cafeteria

School Menu

Breakfast

Monday, Jan. 12

Cereal, orange half, cinnamon toast, milk

Tuesday, Jan. 13

Sausage, assorted juice, biscuit, jelly, milk

Wed., Jan. 14

Breakfast pizza, assorted juice, milk

Thurs., Jan. 15

Pancake and sausage on a stick, assorted juice, syrup, milk

Friday, Jan. 16

No School - Coke County Stock Show

Lunch

Monday, Jan. 12

Pizza, tossed salad, sweet corn, brownies, milk

Tuesday, Jan. 13

Frito pie, chili & cheese, pinto beans, tossed salad, corn chips, jello, milk

Wed., Jan. 14

Grilled cheese sandwich, beef & vegetable soup, carrot sticks, corn bread, pink panther cake, milk

Thurs., Jan. 15

Chicken strips, gravy, creamed potatoes, green beans, sliced peaches, roll, milk

Friday, Jan. 16

No school - Coke County Stock Show

at 7 pm. Parents of all seniors, please come.

BASB news

by Randy Springer

On Thursday, January 15th at 7:00 pm, the Bronte All-Sports Booster Club will meet for their first regular monthly meeting. Regular meetings are held on Monday nights during volleyball and football season, and because our kids are involved in basketball every night except Wednesdays we will meet once monthly for a meeting until track season. I will continue writing this column each week during the season to keep each and every one of you informed on the performance and activities of the kids, and it is still never too late to become active in our kids school athletic activities. We need your participation and there is something for everyone. Coach Rawls, Coach Fine, Coach "Maw" Bo (Amy Bohensky), Coach Bedford, Coach Peterson, Coach Hilliard, Coach Moore

and Coach McCutchen, and Coach "Paw" Bo (Michael Bohensky) are at every meeting reporting progress, injuries, and interests you won't hear anywhere else, and they have made themselves available for questions, even with their very busy schedules.

I hope each of you had as wonderful a Christmas season as this columnist, and thanked our Lord for the many blessings He bestowed upon us.

So, this is what's happening with our kids since we last talked: the varsity boys Longhorn basketball team has been very hard at work throughout the holidays and picked up some valuable experience as well as some big wins and frequent traveler miles against Class 2-AA squads and some ranked 1-A teams as well as some tough but competitive losses. Let's just briefly bring us up to date on their travels. Let's begin with tournament play in Poolville (Dec. 11-13) (Editors note: That is in Texas, how far into Texas I'm not sure), the

Longhorns didn't pick-up a win from the other 3 teams, but listen to this line-up, state-ranked Slidell (#10), 2-AA Jacksboro, and a highly regarded Ranger team. Coach Rocky Rawls' team then returned to Coke County (of course that's in Texas) to quickly dispose of Robert Lee in Robert Lee on the 15th very convincingly, and the day school adjourned for the holidays, beat by storm 2-AA Winters on Friday at home (really, in Bronte). As soon as the turkey had settled maybe (Dec. 29-31), the Longhorns hit the trail (literally) to the Iraan tournament (we all know where that is) (Editors note: I made a trip to Alpine during the holidays in a pick-up and I wouldn't call this a joy ride in a bus). There the Horns beat Christoval and 2-AA Van Horn and lost to 2-AA's Sonora and Ozona, 2 teams picked to be in the thick of their district races (just for fun calculate that mileage for a couple week's travel at \$00.34/mile, if you can guess where Poolville is, and you may could have paid for Christmas. I know some BASB members and parents could save the trouble). The junior varsity boys during this time beat Robert Lee and Winters and lost to Garden City.

And if you suspect the varsity Lady Longhorns and Coach Paw Bo were home washing dishes, doing nails, and curing hair, guess again sleepy-head. Their bus was the one just in front of the boys' bus, as they beat Ranger, Hill (a private school) and Poolville, and lost to Slidell, a very impressive 2nd place finish. They also eventually returned to Coke Co. and lost to the perennially tough Lady Steers, and beat Winters at home. You would think by now the boys would be tired of following the girls throughout Texas, but some of us aren't 15-16-17-18 years old, and yes, the Lady 'Horns led the way once again to Iraan (an area they are becoming very familiar with) where they beat Christoval and 2-AA Alpine, and lost to Iraan and Miles. Whew! All of our kids must have had bus lag by now (Editors note: I haven't seen a lot of coaches lately either). The junior varsity Lady Longhorns have also been playing well against Garden City, Robert Lee, and Winters. So we know what our kids were doing New Year's Eve and day, dribbling basketballs, while asleep or otherwise. They can "Git 'er done".

Action begins again for all 4 squads on Tuesday night (Jan. 6th) in Bronte, a fresh floor so far this season,

against another 2-AA team, Colorado City, to close non-district play, and then off to Menard to face the Yellow jackets in the district opener on Friday, Jan. 9th with games beginning at 4:00 pm. If you're still reading, I congratulate you, because now it's time for everyone of us to hit the road, and follow our kids. Also, and this is easy, the JV girls and boys host a tournament at the Longhorn gyms Saturday, Jan. 10th. The JV girls are scheduled to play at 8:00 am and the boys at 9:15 am against teams from Robert Lee, Irion County, and Roscoe. See you there.

The junior high Shorthorns, both boys and girls, have been off since December 8th, but return to action with four games in Robert Lee Thursday, Jan. 8th, beginning at 5:00 pm, and the B-teams return to Robert Lee for a tournament on Saturday, Jan. 10th. And all 4 teams travel to Garden City Monday the 12th with games scheduled to begin at 5:00 pm in one gym. Get your traveling gear ready (new maroon cap that I wear with my new maroon shirt available from your enthusiastic and omnipresent BASB Club at very reasonable rates) and be a visual supporter of all our teams. I salute all our four coaches, and applaud each of them for a job well done, and salaries hard-earned.

When you see our kids and coaches in basketball, give them a smile and thanks for their hard work because they deserve it.

Your BASB Club is seeking new and creative ideas to encourage attendance at meetings, as well as the reasons for non-participation. Your input is vital to our kids, and if you have ideas, suggestions, complaints, or just want to know more about BASB, please send a letter or card to P.O. Box 112, Bronte, Texas 76933 (and you may send them anonymously). Thanks for your time and consideration.

Longhorn fan yard signs, new caps, and maroon t-shirts for all-sports are now available at all home games or from any BASB member. The next BASB meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 15th at 7:00 pm. See you there. Let's git'er done.

The last day to register

to vote in the March

9th primary election is

February 9, 2004!

GLENN-BIVINS INSURANCE



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Re-Elect

RICK STYLES

as YOUR SHERIFF in COKE COUNTY!

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Protecting & Serving
all the citizens of Coke County!*

Pd. Pol. Adv. by Rick Styles

RL girls basketball results

On Dec. 19, the Robert Lee varsity girls won their game against Irion County by a score of 47-40. Scoring for Robert Lee were: Fluhmann 3, Cruz 11, Wallace 2, Lott 12, Riley 10, Eaton 4, Wink 3, and Sanchez 2.

In the 1st round of the Sterling City Tournament, starting on Dec. 27th, it was Robert Lee varsity over Veribest by a score of 61-37. Scoring for Robert Lee were: Cruz 13, Lott 4, Soliz 1, Riley 10, Eaton 13, Wink 4, and Sanchez 16.

In the 2nd round of the tournament, the varsity girls lost to Sterling City 50-60. Scoring for Robert Lee were: Fluhmann 4, Ridriquez 3, Cruz 15, Lott 10, Eaton 11, Wink 5, and Roe 2.

Placing 3rd in the tournament, Robert Lee won over Forsan by a score of 47-35. Scoring for Robert Lee were: Fluhmann 2, Cruz 8, Lott 8, Riley 6, Eaton 11, Wink 10, and Sanchez 2.

On Jan. 2nd, Robert Lee varsity girls lost to Water Valley 32-42. Scoring for Robert Lee were: Fluhmann 5, Rodriguez, 3, Cruz 6, Lott 2, Riley 3, Eaton 6, Roe 4, and Sanchez 3.

On Dec. 19th, RLJV lost to Irion County by a score of 25-35. Scoring for Robert Lee were: Alexander 2, Millican 2, Skinner 4, Bessent 4, Kelly 2, Reed 4, Philley 3, and Duncan 4.

On Jan. 2nd, the RLJV girls took the game against Water Valley by a score of 60-12. Scoring for Robert Lee were: Alexander 2, Millican 1, Skinner 4, Bessent 4, Kelly 4, Reed 15, Philley 8, Duncan 16, and Trejo 4.

RL boys basketball results

In the 1st round of the Sterling City Tournament, the varsity boys lost to Forsan 31-59. Scoring for Robert Lee were: Phillip Arellano 10, Omar Saucedo 2, Andy Mulkey 2, Cole Flanagan 5, Ruben Torres 4, Josh Conner 6, and Brandon Soliz 2.

In the 2nd round, Robert Lee varsity was defeated by Sterling City 27-47. Scoring for Robert Lee were Phillip Arellano 3,

Evan Braswell 2, Omar Saucedo 4, Cole Flanagan 7, Ruben Torres 2, Josh Conner 4, Lance Millican 3, and Vincent McClelland 2.

In the 3rd round, Robert Lee lost to Odessa Bowie by a score of 28-37. Scoring for Robert Lee were Phillip Arellano 3, Evan Braswell 2, Omar Saucedo 4, Cole Flanagan 5, Ruben Torres 3, Josh Conner 4, Brandon Soliz 3, and Vincent McClelland 4.

On Friday, Jan. 2, the varsity lost to Water Valley by a score of 47-52. Scoring for Robert Lee were Phillip Arellano 4, Evan Braswell 2, Andy Mulkey 8, Cole Flanagan 9, Ruben Torres 4, Josh Conner 8, Lance Millican 7, Brandon Soliz 2, and Vincent McClelland 3.

The Robert Lee JV boys lost to Water Valley by a score of 21-47. Scoring for Robert Lee were Eric Hayes 7, Clay Antilley 6, Branden Phillips 2, Kevin Honse 3, Jonathan Pagan 2, and Shelby Sailer 1.

Robert Lee Elementary UIL results

On November 19, thirty-eight students from Robert Lee Elementary traveled to Rotan to compete in the District UIL Meet.

2nd grade

Creative Writing - 6th - Will Howard

Storytelling - 4th - Will Howard, 5th - Hanna Hamrick

3rd grade

Music Memory Team - 2nd - Zach Sanchez (Certificate of Excellence/Perfect Score), Jordan Gartman, Faylin Bell, Justin Gartman, Laredo Williamson

Ready Writing - 6th - Jordan Gartman

Spelling - 3rd - Ashlie Wheat

Spelling Team - 3rd - Jordan Gartman, Justin Gartman, Ashlie Wheat

Storytelling - 5th - Jordan Gartman

4th grade

Music Memory Team - 2nd - Linsey Arellano, Meagan Ross (Certificate of Excellence/Perfect Score), Melodee Gunter, Diana Vera, Raquel Rojas

Ready Writing - 3rd - Melodee Gunter

Number Sense - 1st - Meagan Ross

Number Sense Team - 3rd - Meagan Ross, Raquel Rojas, Linsey Arellano

Spelling - 6th - Meagan Ross

Oral Reading - 3rd - Melodee Gunter

5th grade

Number Sense - Tie 1st - Luke Sheldon - 5th - Diego Saucedo

Number Sense Team - 2nd - Diego Saucedo, Luke Sheldon, Kacee Roberts

Listening Skills - Tie 3rd - Diego Saucedo - Tie 5th - Skyler Rainwater

Maps, Graphs, and Charts - 1st - Luke Sheldon, 3rd - Diego Saucedo

Maps, Graphs, and Charts Team - 2nd - Diego Saucedo, Heidi Austin, Luke Sheldon

Music Memory Team - 2nd - Haden Dillard, Kacee Roberts, Luke Sheldon, Joe Estrada, Heidi Ausin

Ready Writing - 6th - Travis Sailer

6th grade

Ready Writing - 5th - Sarah Jones

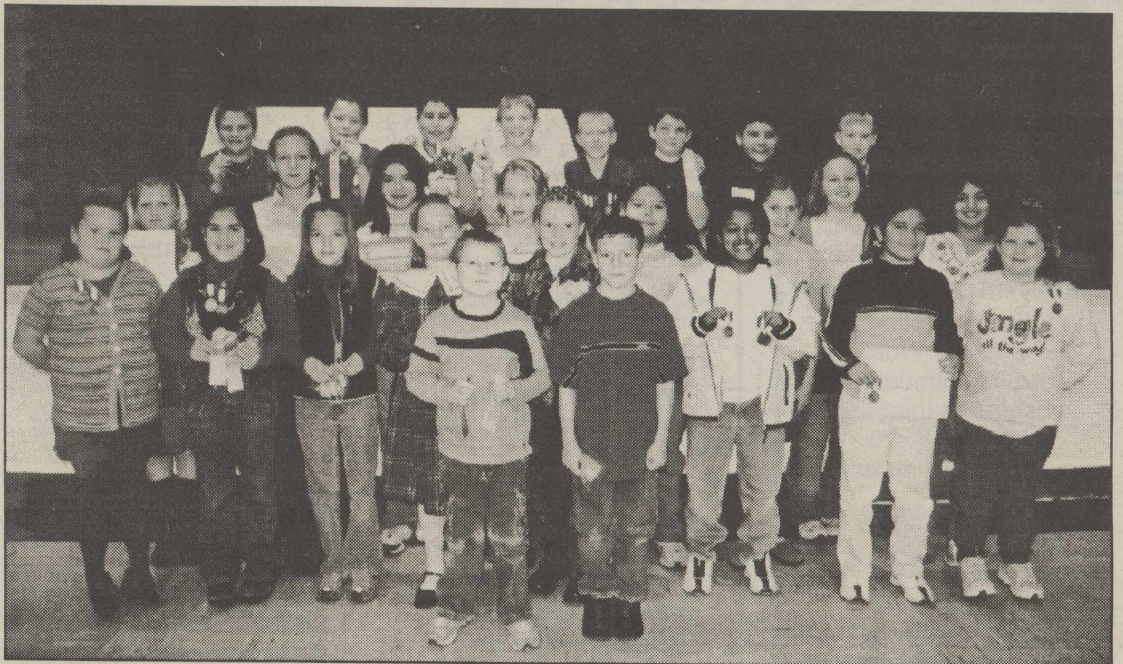
Oral Reading - 2nd - Briana Brisbin

Maps, Graphs, Charts - 6th - Emily Arellano

Map, Graphs, Charts Team - 3rd - Emily Arellano, Sarah Jones, Stetson Nesbit

Music Memory Team - 2nd -

ROBERT LEE SCHOOL NEWS



Robert Lee Elementary UIL participants



Robert Lee Junior High UIL participants

Briana Brisbin, Justina Gloria, Stetson Nesbit, Emily Arellano, Cody Brosh

Number Sense - 6th - Stetson Nesbit

Number Sense Team - 3rd - Sarah Jones, Emily Arellano, Stetson Nesbit

RLJH Awards

Assembly honors

7th grade

Calculator Applications - 3rd - Mason Ross; 6th - Taylor Foster; Team - 2nd - Mason Ross, Taylor Foster, Holly Austin

Dictionary Skills - Team - 3rd - Prescilla Lara, Garrett Blair, Taylor Foster

Listening - 6th - Prescilla Lara

Maps, Graphs & Charts Team - 3rd - Kaden Duncan, Jodi Sheldon, Prescilla Lara

Mathematics - Team - 1st - Lacie Sheridan, Prescilla Lara, Cori Torres, 3rd - Lacie Sheridan, 5th (tie) - Prescilla Lara & Cori Torres

Number Sense - 2nd - Mason Ross, Team - 2nd - Mason Ross, Michael Rodriguez, Josh Gallegos

Oral Reading - 5th - Taylor Foster

Ready Writing - 6th - Kelsey Martin

8th grade

Calculator Applications - Team - 1st - Chase Roe, Allison Millican, Brody Dillard, 3rd - Chase Roe, 6th - Allison Millican

Impromptu Speaking - 4th - Ronald Shaw

Listening - 5th - Cody Denton

Maps, Graphs & Charts - Team - 3rd - Cameron Hodge,

Landry Gunter, Cody Denton, 6th - Cameron Hodge

Mathematics - Team - 1st - Molly Burns, Chase Roe, Ashley Hopson, 2nd - Molly Burns, 3rd - Chase Roe, 4th - Ashley Hopson

Modern Oratory - 1st - Molly Burns

Number Sense - Team - 1st - Allison Millican, Chase Roe,

Brody Dillard, 2nd - Allison Millican, 3rd - Chase Roe, 6th - Brody Dillard

Oral Reading - 4th - Allison Millican

Ready Writing - 1st - Ashley Hopson

Science - Team - 2nd - Allison Millican, Chase Roe, Ronald Shaw, 5th - Allison Millican, 6th - Chase Roe

WINK INSURANCE AGENCY



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I have resigned my position of Deputy with the Coke County Sheriff's Department. It has been my pleasure working with and serving the citizens of Coke County for the past five years as Chief Deputy.

I have filed as a candidate for Sheriff. I feel I can better serve the people of Coke County in this position. I would appreciate your consideration and support in the upcoming elections.

Thank you,
Marshall Millican

Pd. Pol. Adv. by Marshall Millican

School Menu



Breakfast

Monday, Jan. 12

Juice, cinnamon roll, cereal, milk

Tuesday, Jan. 13

Juice, French toast, sausage, cereal, milk

Wed., Jan. 14

Juice, donut, cereal, milk

Thurs., Jan. 15

Juice, breakfast pizza, cereal, milk

Friday, Jan. 16

Holiday

Lunch

Monday, Jan. 12

Salisbury steak, scallop potatoes, corn on cob, roll, pears, milk

Tuesday, Jan. 13

Oven baked chicken, creamed potatoes, green peas, sliced bread, fruit, milk

Wed., Jan. 14

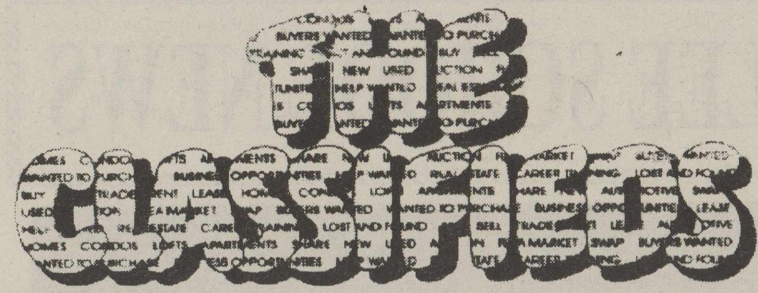
Grilled cheese sandwich, soup w/crackers, pickles, fruit cocktail, milk

Thurs., Jan. 15

Hamburger, salad, pickles, potato wedges, peaches, milk

Friday, Jan. 16

Holiday



BUY IT! SELL IT! FIND IT!

**CLASSIFIED
ADVERTISING RATES**
Rates when paid in advance.

First Insertion
20¢ Per Word
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A service charge will be
added to all ads which
must be billed.

ADVERTISING DEADLINE
Tuesdays at 2 pm

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE:

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention, to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18.

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



FOR SALE

HOUSE FOR SALE

3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 living areas, central heat & air. Stucco with tile roof. New paint & carpet. \$59,900 or owner carry with 20% down. 201 Jones, Bronte. 325-439-1051.

11-tnc

COMPUTERS

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

22-tnc



Becky Clendennen



3 BEDROOM HOME with Hardwood floors, fireplace CH/CA low 30s!!!

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BRICK 3 BEDROOM with Formal Living & Dining! Guest House! PRICE REDUCED!!



BRICK HOME on Corner lot near School. Seller may pay Closing costs!!!

Political Calendar

**The
Observer/Enterprise**

has been authorized to make the following announcements for the political offices in Coke County. Each candidate or the campaign treasurer has paid for his or her announcement. All political advertising, announcements, and printing is cash in advance.

COKE COUNTY
SHERIFF
Rick Styles

FOR SALE

Pre-Spring Price on 4 BR/2BA corner home with huge attic w/windows & New Country look. Will sell "as is" or finish to buyer specs. See at corner of West 9th & Childress, Robert Lee. 655-9141.

24-tnc

**HOUSE FOR SALE
OR LEASE**

2 BR/2BA, living room, large den/dining room, new carpet, new paint inside. 514 S. State, Bronte (across from old hospital). Lease \$375/month, (need good references). Would consider selling and carrying note for qualified party. 325-691-0690 (Abilene).

24-tnc

FOR SALE

'90 Olds 98, good running condition. \$700. 14 W. 12th St., Robert Lee. 473-9433.

24-1tp

OWNER FINANCE

Robert Lee
3 BR, Central A/C & Heating, new carpet and paint inside. Easy terms. Call Jim @ 325-518-8128 or Teri @ 325-660-2122.

Bob Fragee's 944-0010
473-6603



Deflooding &
Carpet Cleaning



24 hr. Emergency
Water Damage Service

FOR SALE

1993 Oldsmobile Cutlass. Very good condition. \$1,400.00. 453-9852.

24-1tp

HOUSE FOR SALE

201 Jones, Bronte. 3 BR/2 BA, 2 living areas. CH/CA. Stucco with tile roof. Over 2,000 sq. ft. Priced to sell at \$59,900. New loan or owner carry with 20% down. Call 325-439-1051.

13-tnc

FOR RENT

FOR RENT

Clean 2BR/1BA, mobile home. Appliances furnished. Carport. \$150 deposit, \$300 rent. 423 Chadbourne, Robert Lee. 453-4359.

24-tnc

FOR RENT

Bronte Mini Storage has storage buildings for rent. Call 473-2221.

19-tnc

FOR RENT

2 bedroom, 2 bath home, 214 W. 10th, Robert Lee. \$500/month, \$200 deposit. (972) 841-5352.

06-tnc

NICE! NEW! BRICK!

3 bedroom 2 1/2 baths
2 bedroom 2 baths
Now Available!
Call: 915-473-3105
for information or
915-473-9548

Santa Fe Crossing Duplexes
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44-51tp

MISCELLANEOUS

HAUL AWAY FOR FREE

Fireplace insert. Too good to throw away. 473-2491.

24-1tc

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GOT YOU DOWN?

Get a fresh start in the new year! Call "Custom Maid", 473-2143.

24-1tc

KENNETH'S CONSTRUCTION

General contractor for composition & metal roofing, custom building & fabrication, exterior & interior painting, carports, driveways, curbing, sidewalks, patios, plumbing, electrical, tree removal & pruning, haul off unwanted cars, pickups, motorcycles, and batteries. Call after 6 pm. 453-2339.

23-4tc

FIESTA FUN JUMPS

Inflatable Castle & Sports Arena for your event! 473-9FUN.

12-tnc

GARY'S BACKHOE, INC.

For your backhoe, motorgrader, dozer and dump truck needs. Sand - Gravel. 450-2418 Gary Hubbard.

27-tnc

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33-tnc

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Bronte

2BR, 1BA Nice starter home, close to school
Extra Nice 3 BR, 1 1/2 BA, 1470 +/- sq. ft. on four lots with water well

BLACKWELL - 2 BR, 2 BA, on 7 acres, city water, barns, highway frontage

Robert Lee

New Listing, 2 BR, 1 1/2 BA Brick home, fireplace, single garage, close to school

Riverview Dr, 2 BR, 1 BA Brick veneer home, \$20's

Price Reduced Brick Home on 8 Acres with 2 BR, 2 BA, 2 Living Areas, Office or 3rd BR, Large Barn & Pens

Office Exclusive, 3 BR, 3 BA, 2570 +/- sq. ft., Spacious Kitchen and Dining Area, Hardwood Floors, Fireplace, Beautiful Yard with Large Trees, Detached 17' x 17' finished game room

Priced to Sell, 4 BR, 2 bth, large den with second living area. CA/CH over 2100 sq. ft.

Price reduced, 2 BR, 1 bth, CA/CH, sunroom or 3rd BR, large kitchen, single garage, over 1800 sf, large storage/shop

3 BR, 2 BA home with screened-in porch, Possible Owner Finance \$20's

2 BR, 1 BA mobile home, furnished, carport and storage building

Lake Spence Area, 2 BR, 1 BA, Ceramic tile, sundeck, guest quarters.

Acresage

1022 +/- Acres, Excellent hunting, rolling terrain located in a mountainous area. Some live oak trees, 3 water wells, 1 dirt surface tank, 1 large barn with electricity

567 +/- Acres, All pasture, good water well, nice hunting cabin

315 +/- AC. with 1/2 Mile of Colorado River frontage, 4 Stock Tanks, Pens and Barn. Choice Hunting.

314 +/- AC. Live Oak trees on Yellow Wolf Creek, good water well, 230 ac. cultivation, good hunting.

248 +/- AC. Highway frontage, good water well, pens, 81 ac. CRP income, good dirt tank.

147 +/- AC. All Pasture. Convenient to Robert Lee. Flat to rolling terrain. Good hunting.

130 +/- AC. Convenient to Bronte. 3 BR, 2 BA home with 30x40 Shop.

80 +/- Acres, Very nice ranch style home with 3 BR, 2 BA 2 Living Areas. All Steel Horse and Cattle Pens. 3 Large Barns.

Other Listings Available

PARKER PLUMBING

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

34-tnc

CARD OF THANKS

**WITH A VERY
SPECIAL THANKS
TO THE FRIENDS OF
JACK BREWER**

Sometimes there are no words to say those things that are deepest in our hearts. The world's a whole lot better place because of Friends like you. I do not have words enough to express my feelings for all the outpouring of love you gave Jack and me.

We were so grateful for all those who made his last days more bearable with cards, food and phone calls. I want to express my love for all those who extended sympathy by phone calls, cards, flowers and food. There are so many people that have helped that I am overwhelmed so forgive me if I overlook your name at this time. I want to especially thank Dr. Cheruku for his loving care; the entire Bessent Family, especially Randy and Cindy for coming in the early hours of the morning to give me support at Jack's death; Mary Bessent, Cindy Bessent and Joan Burns for taking the responsibility for making calls to family and friends and staying to guide me through those first hours of grief; the food the many wonderful friends brought to the house and bereavement meal; Cathy Hendry for the beautiful floral arrangements from your floral contributions and the food for Jack that were his favorite last meals; Reverend Steve Rowe, John Wilkins, Leland Maples for being the speakers at the celebration of life; family members for musical specials; Daryl and Bonita Copeland for the "Jack's Favorite" beautiful music; the Baptist church for letting us use their beautiful facility; Becky Ross for helping with the arrangements; our Methodist church family and many other friends for a delicious bereavement meal; especially those who prepared the Fellowship hall, cleaned the dishes and kitchen to serve over 100 people; and so many others that I can't name all of you that make my life more bearable.

HELP WANTED

**NEED DRIVER
TO COLORADO CITY**

for doctor's appointment every 3 months. Tues. or Thurs. pm. Pay by hour or trip. 453-2330.

24-tnc

**THE COKE COUNTY
TAX OFFICE**

is now accepting applications for a part time employee (24 hours a week). Must be able to work flexible hours. Salary \$6.83 per hour. Applications may be picked up at the Tax Office in the Courthouse. Equal Opportunity Employer.

24-2tc

ROBERT LEE ISD

is accepting applications for the position of Distance Learning/Library Aid. Applications will be accepted until 1-14-04 at 3:30 pm. Applications can be picked up in the Superintendent's office. Qualifications:

1. Must have some computer skills, possess necessary skill in operation of fax and copy machine.
 2. Schedule, monitor and facilitate Virtual Field trips, Staff development training and dual credit courses.
 3. Must have some knowledge of the Dewey Decimal Classification System, repairing and processing books.
 4. Must be able to interact with students and teachers, and exhibit a pleasant appearance.
 5. Must be helpful to teachers and students in the Accelerated Reading Program.
 6. Associates Degree or 60 college hours preferred.
- Duties:
1. Maintain the operating functions of the distance learning equipment and keep the room looking orderly.
 2. Maintain a schedule of courses in DL room.
 3. Communicate with community colleges and professors providing content, ID Solutions providing content for Virtual Field trips.
 4. Assist students with activities, collect and distribute materials, proctor daily work, quizzes and exams.
 5. Record attendance and grades, handle discipline

HELP WANTED

problems if necessary.

6. Repair books, process new materials, shelf books daily.
 7. Greet students and help with their library and AR needs.
 8. Buy books and maintain a budget.
 9. Other duties as assigned by the Superintendent and Principal.
- For more details see Lindsey Wallace in the Superintendent's office.

This is a 10 month position at the pay scale of .52 on the local salary scale. Summer work responsibilities will be required.

Robert Lee ISD is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

24-1tc

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

Full time: LVN - 2-10 shift. CNA - 6-2 shift. Bronte Health & Rehab Center, 900 South State Street, Bronte, Tx. 325-473-3621. E.O.E.

23-4tc

COKE COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

is currently accepting applications for Teclose certified Deputy. Apply in person at 13 E. 7th Street, Robert Lee, Monday - Friday, 8-5. Experience preferred.

23-2tc

NOTICES

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS OF PROPOSED TEXAS HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT CONTRACTS.

Sealed proposals for highway improvement contracts will be received by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) until the date(s) shown below, and then publicly read.

CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE CONTRACT(S)

Dist/Div: San Angelo

Contract 6110-43-001 for PICNIC AREA MAINTENANCE WORK in COKE County, etc will be received on January 22, 2004 until 1:00 pm and opened on January 22, 2004 at 2:00 pm at the District Office for an estimate of \$4,440.00.

Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or Dist/Div Offices listed below. Bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available from TxDOT's website at www.dot.state.tx.us and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor.

NPO: 11809

State Office

Constr./Maint. Division

200 E. Riverside Dr.

Austin, Texas 78704

Phone: 512-416-2540

Dist/Div Office(s)

San Angelo District

District Engineer

4502 Knickerbocker Rd

San Angelo, Texas 76904

Phone: 325-944-1501

Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the rates will be part of the contract. TXDOT ensures that bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin.

23-2tc

Coke County

Arrests/Charges Filed

December 2003

Paul E. Smith - Theft >=\$1,500<\$20K - Motion to Revoke Probation, 12/04/03

Gary Lee Strickland - Burglary of a Habitation, 12/05/03

Roy Ismael Morales, Jr. - Burglary of a Habitation, 12/05/03

J. W. Travis - Theft by Check, 12/06/03

Jenifer Lynn Jowers - Possession of Marijuana <2oz., 12/07/03

Jose Luis Rande - Driving While Intoxicated 3rd or more, 12/12/03

David Wayne Gerich - Possession of Controlled Substance, 12/14/03

Michael Ray Sabarsula - Evading Arrest Detention with Motor Vehicle, 12/15/03

Debbie L. Williams - Theft by Check, 12/15/03

Charles Dwayne Davis - Theft >=\$1,500<\$20K, 12/17/03

Laura Lynne White - Burglary of a Habitation, 12/19/03

Brian Christopher Abalos - Minor in Possession of Alcohol, 12/21/03

John Thomas Sawyer III - Minor in Possession of Alcohol, 12/21/03

Jeffrey Alan-James Prost - Driving While License Suspended, 12/21/03

Nathan L. Brown - Escape While Arrested/Confined - Motion to Revoke Probation, 12/22/03

Oscar Reyes - Assault of Public Servant, 12/23/03

Manuel Saucedo - Driving While License Suspended/SR, 12/31/03

Out of County

Warrants Served

Casey Lynn Flanagan - Criminal Mischief, Public Intoxication, Ector County, 12/07/03

Manuel Saucedo - Driving While Intoxicated, Tom Green County, 12/31/03

51st District Court

Dispositions

12/01/03

The State of Texas vs: Sam James Ybarra - Charge: Possession of a Controlled Substance, Plea: 365 days State Jail, Probated 3 yrs., \$1,000 fine, \$140.00 Restitution

The State of Texas vs: Cheryl English Millican - Charge: Possession of a Controlled Substance, Plea: 2 years Deferred Adjudication, \$500 fine, \$140 Restitution

51st District Court Grand Jury Indictments

12/12/03

The State of Texas vs: Charles Dwayne Davis, Charge: Theft >=\$1,500<\$20K

The State of Texas vs: Roy L. Morales, Charge: Count 1. Burglary of a Habitation, Count 2. Burglary of a Building

The State of Texas vs: Heidi Jean Haussecker, Charge: Felony Murder

Ashley B. Bynum, Charge: Possession of a Controlled Substance

Kylene A. Laeger, Charge: Possession of a Controlled Substance

Oscar Reyes, Charge: 2 Counts of Assault of a Public Servant

Robert Medrano - Charge: Driving While Intoxicated 3rd or more

Marlon Kyle Alexander - Charge: Driving While Intoxicated 3rd or more; Evading Arrest and Detention Using Vehicle; Unauthorized Use of Motor Vehicle

Tony Zebe Bell - Charge: Possession of a Controlled Substance

Cynthia Marie Rhodes - Charge: Possession of a Controlled Substance

Juan Ramon Atilano - Charge: Forgery of a Financial Instrument

Laura Lynne White - Charge: Count 1. Burglary of a Habitation, Count 2. Burglary of a Building

Gary Lee Strickland - Charge: Count 1. Burglary of a Habitation, Count 2. Burglary of a Building

Coke County Court Dispositions

12/17/03

The State of Texas vs: Carlos Alvarado - Charge: Driving While License Suspended/Motion to Revoke Probation, Plea: 28 days Jail - credit for 22 days in jail

The State of Texas vs: Joann Mary Limones - Charge: Possession of Marijuana <2 oz., Plea: 9 months deferred adjudication, \$400 fine, \$201 Court Cost, 24 hrs. Community Service

The State of Texas vs: Clyde Eugene Johnson - Charge: Driving While Intoxicated 2nd, Plea: 180 days Jail, probated 24 months, \$226 Court Cost, \$1,200 fine, DWI School, 80 hrs. Community Service, 6 months Driver's License Suspension

The State of Texas vs: Debbie Mitchell - Charge: Theft by Check, Plea: 3 months deferred adjudication, \$150 fine, \$226 Court Cost, \$64.85 Restitution

The State of Texas vs: John Darvin Gregston - Charge: Indecent Exposure, Plea: 51 days jail, Court Cost \$261, \$400 Attorney Fees, Cost of Civil Suit \$145

TDH offers five lifesavers for the new year

It's that time of year when people make resolutions. You know the vows: clean out the garage, keep in better touch with friends and family, save money.

But there are some health and fitness resolutions that could save your life, according to Texas Commissioner of Health Eduardo Sanchez, M.D.

"If people would remember to do just five things, they could live longer, healthier lives," Sanchez said.

The five are:

*Eat smart;

*Get fit;

*Get shots;

*Get checkups and screens; and

*Don't smoke.

Each of these suggestions alone is good for anyone to consider, Sanchez said. But together they provide a solid plan to help a person get healthy and stay that way.

First, more than 60 percent of the people in Texas are overweight or obese. Preliminary analysis by the Texas Department of Health (TDH) suggests that overweight and obesity cost an estimated \$10.2 billion in 2001 in Texas.

Healthy benefits come, nutritionists say, if people eat five to nine servings of fruit and vegetables a day. Other good choices include eating whole grains; taking smaller portions; selecting lean meat, fish and poultry; and reducing or eliminating fat, fried foods, sugar and salt.

In addition to an improved immune system, people who eat smart may avoid or delay problems such as diabetes, high blood pressure, elevated cholesterol and triglycerides (fats in the blood) that can lead to heart disease and stroke.

Next, are you having trouble getting moving? You are not alone. Urban sprawl means more time in

the car for many, and busy schedules make getting fit a challenge.

Think about ways you can start slowly and build your activity level. Just 30 minutes of moderate to brisk exercise daily can strengthen your heart.

"Make it a family activity," Sanchez said. "Try fun runs, walks and other activities that can include family members of all ages."

Third, getting shots is something many adults don't think about; but pneumonia, one of the most serious infections for seniors, is easily prevented with a vaccine. While an influenza vaccine can't always completely cover all strains circulating, it does provide protection, and is especially important for those at risk of serious complications or death.

"Check with your health care provider about what shots are recommended and when," Sanchez said. "Most adults should get vaccinated against pneumonia and flu, especially those over age 65."

Or when is the last time you had a tetanus shot? The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices recommends adults get a booster every 10 years.

Fourth on the list is getting checkups and screens. Many people don't visit a doctor until a problem occurs. This procrastination can be deadly. Pap smears, mammograms and colorectal exams can detect cancerous activity early when treatment is most effective. Tests for cholesterol, triglyceride levels and blood pressure, along with a family history, can indicate if you are at risk for heart disease. People at risk of developing diabetes can prevent serious complications or death if the disease is diagnosed and managed.

And finally, it's been repeated often; but, again, smoking is bad for your health. Tobacco use can lead to deadly diseases such as lung cancer, emphysema and stroke. When quitting, ask your doctor if nicotine replacement products are a good idea, get a friend to remind you of all the benefits of being smoke-free, and be patient - many people quit several times before they kick the habit for good.

"Make 2004 a year for positive behavioral change," Sanchez said.

"You just may save your life."

Tips for eating smart

*Reduce portion size. If you eat out, order smaller portions or divide your entree and take half home.

*Drink fewer sodas. Over a year's time, one can of regular cola a day at 150 calories equals more than 15 pounds worth of calories.

*Write down what you eat. You may be surprised by the incidental calories - a bag of chips here, some candy there, really add up.

*Add fruit and vegetables. Substitute dried fruit for candy, add vegetables to soups, pasta, stir-fry dishes or casseroles.

*Limit snack foods, foods high in fat or sugar and processed foods since they have more calories and fewer nutrients.

Tips for getting fit

*Take a step in the right direction. Walking 10,000 steps a day (about five miles) helps to maintain a healthy weight. A pedometer will help you determine your steps.

*Go it on foot. Take the stairs instead of elevators, park farther from your destination and walk. Encourage your children to walk to school where feasible, walk or ride a bicycle for short trips instead of taking the car. It all adds up.

*Start small. Incorporate 10 minutes of exercise a day at first, then gradually build to half an hour a day to maintain weight or an hour a day to lose weight.

*The more television a child watches, the more likely he or she is to be obese. Consider activities as a family such as going to the zoo or park, playing catch or skating.

Tips for quitting smoking

*For some people drinking coffee, driving or watching TV triggers a desire to smoke. Identify triggers for smoking and avoid or modify behavior.

*Choose healthy alternatives such as drinking water, taking a walk, or going to the movies or a library where smoking is not allowed.

*Be patient, most people make several attempts before they are able to quit permanently.

*Seek out a supportive friend or family member or call the American Cancer Society's Quitline at 1-877-937-7848 for help.

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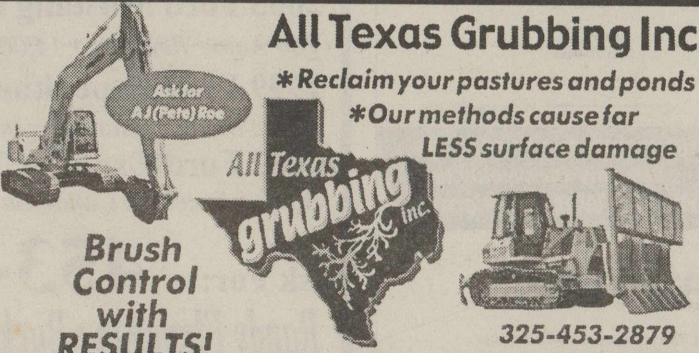
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COUNTRY AGENTS NEWS

By Tommy Antilley
Cooperative Extension Agent

Finding the right firewood

Though most of us don't rely on wood to heat our homes, there are some things we can look for even if the fire we're making is more for decoration than warmth. Buy wood that is not too old or too dry. You can tell the approximate age of wood by looking for little white streaks running through the wood which means it's begun decaying and many be more than one year old. This older wood will not burn as hot or efficiently as wood that has been cut within the past year. It is also good to know what you're paying for. If someone sells you a cord of wood, the stack should be four feet high, four feet deep and eight feet long. Many people sell what is called a face cord where the sticks are only about a foot and a half long and they stack these four foot high and eight feet long.

If you select wood yourself, be sure and look for "fresh wood" and not the old dry wood. Also check to make sure that there are no holes, tunnels or a lot of sawdust around the wood pile. This could be an indication that insects have invaded the wood, and maybe even termites that can be brought into your home. If you do experience insects or termites in your wood, do not spray the wood with any kind of insecticide. Even if the insecticide is safe to use around the home, spraying your firewood and then burning it could possibly emit some toxic fumes.

Recently cut wood or "green wood" will burn hotter because of the oils still present and will last longer in the fireplace, but it is harder to start. A mixture of smaller cured wood sticks are good to start a fire with and then add the green wood for a warm, long lasting fire. The most common types of wood to use are either mesquite or oak. Some pine can be used if it is not too green and full of oils. Green pine slivers with a lot of oil in them can be used to start a fire. Never use cedar wood as it contains terpins and oils that can spit sparks out of the fireplace and be a danger. If you're serious about heating your house with fire, a good sealed wood stove or wood stove insert that goes into the fireplace are much more efficient. Some of the new airtight stoves can heat up to two

thousand square feet.

A warm fire to back up to or just enjoy watching can be a very pleasant thing, but always be careful with open fireplaces. If you are in the room where the fire is, or you are going to leave for any length of time with a fire going, be sure and place a screen in front of the fireplace to keep sparks or small embers from rolling out and causing a fire bigger than you intended on having.

WCC EMS Memorials/Donations for December 2003

Memorial

Wilda Collins

Gloria Ledbetter

Donations

Hochheim Prairie Branch 95

Marilyn Bivins, Robert Wink

RLCC Donations for December 2003

Judy Nickles

Angels have wheels

All Medicare recipients should now be aware that if they suffer from conditions such as arthritis, cardiovascular disease, and respiratory disorders, and have difficulty walking or propelling a standard wheelchair, they may be eligible to receive an electric wheelchair paid for by Medicare.

For information on Medicare eligibility contact Gregory at 1-800-810-2877.

Tribute to Jack Brewer

by Anthony Wink

It's not the critic that counts, not the man who points out how the strong man stumbled, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena: whose face is marred by dust and blood; who strives valiantly, who errs and comes short again and again; who knows the great enthusiasm, the great devotion, and spends himself in a worthy cause. Who at best, knows in the end of the triumph of high achievement; and who, at worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who know neither victory or defeat. Those are the words

of Teddy Roosevelt, but to me, they will be forever associated with Jack Brewer.

Jack was called home on Saturday morning, December 27th, 2003. Those of us fortunate enough to have met the man shed tears and grieve. We do this because a humble and steadfast man is now gone from our presence. Tears are healthy and grieving is part of the healing process.

Jack and Nina Brewer were not blessed with any children of their own, but their legacy lives forever on in the lives of all those that they have touched. Constantly smiling, always extending a hand, and offering words of encouragement, if Jack ever said an unkind word or was disappointed with me or anyone else, he never let it show. I respect no one else as I respect this man.

I had many conversations with Jack, but I never told him how I felt. I believe he knew. The deepest and broadest conversation I had with Jack lasted all of fifteen seconds. After saying the words of Teddy Roosevelt at my high school, I sought him out, looked deeply into his eyes, and shook his hand. What was unsaid can never be adequately expressed with words. When the day comes that my number is called, I am sure Jack will not be the first one to greet me at the pearly gates. He will be there, let everyone else have their turn, then he will shake my hand and perhaps the adequate words will come. Jack is now in a better place, yet I still grieve. I grieve not because Jack Brewer has died, but because he lived so well.

WTRC Telethon set for January 17

Coke County residents have an opportunity between now and midnight on January 17 to help West Texas Rehabilitation Center by making a gift to REHAB 2004, the Center's 34th annual telethon.

Diane Luckett is spearheading the Bronte solicitation effort and has arranged for a phone bank to be in operation on telethon night. Donors may call 473-4821 to make a pledge during the telethon.

In Robert Lee, the 64 Study Club will operate their phone bank at Ivey Motor Company. Donors may call 453-2715 to pledge during the telethon. Those who won't be able to call in January 17 are encouraged to make advance donations to

community volunteers.

The five-hour television special will be aired from 7 pm to midnight on ten Texas stations, including KLST-TV in San Angelo.

In addition to entertainment, the telethon showcases the services of the Center which provides care annually to more than 22,000 children and adults with disabilities and communication disorders at facilities in Abilene, San Angelo, and Ozone.

Also, the show includes an auction of more than 300 items donated by businesses and individuals ranging from agricultural products and autos to celebrity items and travel packages. Interested persons may bid online at www.WestTexasRehab.org beginning mid-December or by phone on January 17.

"The telethon is a critical fundraiser for Rehab because we count on it to launch the New Year in a good position to meet the needs of those we'll serve in the next 12 months," said WTRC President Woody Gilliland. "That's why we're so grateful to local volunteers staffing phone banks...why every advance gift and every pledge called in during the show are so deeply appreciated."

FSA producer signup for DCP slated

Producers who wish to participate in the farm program (DCP) for the 2004 crop year are encouraged to visit the office and sign up. Producers who signed up for 2002 and 2003 MUST sign up for 2004. This will be an every year sign up until the DCP program ends in 2007. Sign up will be

much quicker than last year so hopefully producers won't have to spend as much time in the office to complete sign up.

Producers who did not sign up for 2002 or 2003 but, who have a base on qualifying crop may also sign up for 2004.

Producers must have an approved CCC-502 (pay limit form), and 1026 before any payments can be issued.

Be sure to make an appointment. For more information call 453-2751 or come by the office.

Check Out Coke Co. Library

The Coke County Library has added some new Texana reading to the shelves. Included among the collection will be Through Animal's Eyes: True Stories from a Wildlife Sanctuary by Lynn Marie Cuny; Friends; Cowboys, Cattle, Horses, Dogs, Cats, and 'Coons by John Erickson (of Hank the Cowdog fame); and Line of Duty: Reflections of a Texas Ranger Private by Lewis and Judyth Riger.

Also added is Curmudgeon in Corduroy: The Best of Jerry Flemmons' Texas; and a fiction book entitled The Laying Out of Gussie Hoot by Margot Fraser.

With a new year ahead, folks are reminded that library membership is free and this is a good time to come visit. All it takes to become a patron is to fill out a card. Call 453-2495 or come by 706 Austin Street.

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