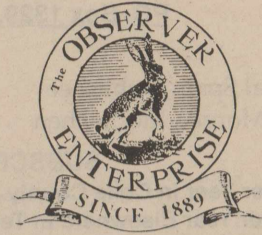


THE OBSERVER/ ENTERPRISE

Serving Coke County

(USPS 467-480)
(ISSN 8750-197X)

Vol. 113, No. 25

Friday, January 19, 2001

Coke County Jr. Livestock Show set for this weekend

The 61st edition of the Coke County Junior Livestock Show begins today (Friday) at the Sterling Lindsey Memorial Exhibit Building in Robert Lee. This year's show will have more than 250 animals exhibited in the Market Lamb, Market Goat, Market Swine and Market Steer shows, but more importantly will feature more than 80 youth exhibitors from around the county.

The county stock show offers the youth of Coke County the opportunity to exhibit their livestock projects which they have been working with for up to eleven months. Besides

being a worthwhile educational activity for our youth in teaching them responsibility, interaction 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 premium monies that come from the county and outside areas. Counting the county show and major shows they will participate in later in the spring has continuously generated over \$125,000 brought into the county economy.

The show will get under way

Stock Show pages planned

The Coke County Stock Show will be held January 19 and 20 (today and tomorrow) at the Sterling Lindsey Memorial Exhibit Building in Robert Lee.

As in the past, photos of all the winners will be included in next week's issue of the *Observer/Enterprise*. Local businesses and individuals have always supported these youth through the sponsor signature pages.

All 2000 sponsors will be included on the 2001 pages at the same price as last year. If you have a change or wish to discontinue your sponsorship, please call the office at 453-2433 or 473-2001 by 5 pm, Tuesday, January 23.

A complete list of sponsors is included below.

Bronte

Shalon's Floral Boutique, Randy & Shalon Gibbs; Town & Country Food Store #114, Bronte; Bronte Chamber of Commerce; The Rawlings - David, Kary, Rebecca, Philip & Samuel; City of Bronte; Ed & Jane Cumbie; Rick & Kay Styles; Glenn-Bivins Insurance - Marilyn, Dee Anna, Lucretia & Mary; Shaffer Funeral Home & Monument Company; Parker Plumbing; Country Inn - Beautiful Downtown Bronte; Hall's Super Save Grocery, Bronte; Texas Best Flooding & Carpet Cleaning, Bob & Patti Frazee; Arrott Ranches - Nick, LeDrew & Bobbie, Mike & Andra; Masseur, Balentine, Edwards & Psencik, P.C.; First National Bank of Bronte, Member

FDIC; Hometown Hardware Feed & Supply, Bronte; Coke County Juvenile Justice Center; S & S Printing, Bruce & Fran Sonnenberg; Charles & Dorris Sonnenberg; and Bronte Pharmacy - Randy, Julie & Employees.

Robert Lee

Key Feed Store; Billy Jack & Kristy Roe; PCR Feed Yard - Waldon & Judy; Paul & Joan Burns; The Best Connection, The Drennan Family; Coke County Treasurer's Office - Phelan Wrinkle; Diane's Chuckwagon; Robert Lee-Silver Lions Club; W.E.B. Construction, Edwin & Wyndell; Joan Davis; Ivey Motor Company, Inc.; Skinner's Grocery & Texaco Station; Gaylon & Kaye Pitcock; Coke County Judge's Office, Jackie Walker; Ernest Clendennen, Inc. - Vacuum Truck Service & Storage, Rental & Sales; Robert Lee State Bank, Member FDIC; Roger & Della Alexander; West Coke County Community Development; Coke County Auditor's Office - Stover & Jerita, Sheryl; Bell Auto Body, 453-2640; Tom & Elaine Lee; Mary Grim - County/District Clerk; Coke County Pharmacy, 453-2400; Coke-Sterling Farm Bureau; Bobby & Jeffie Roberts; Wink Insurance Agency; Carwile Insurance, Bill & Pat Carwile; Merle Norman Cosmetics; Wilbern & Charlotte Millican; Cracker Barrel Restaurant, Chris & Katy; Concho Realty; Super "H" IGA; and C & H Auto Parts.



Bronte and Robert Lee 5th graders participated in the D.A.R.E. graduation ceremony at the Coke County Courthouse December 6.

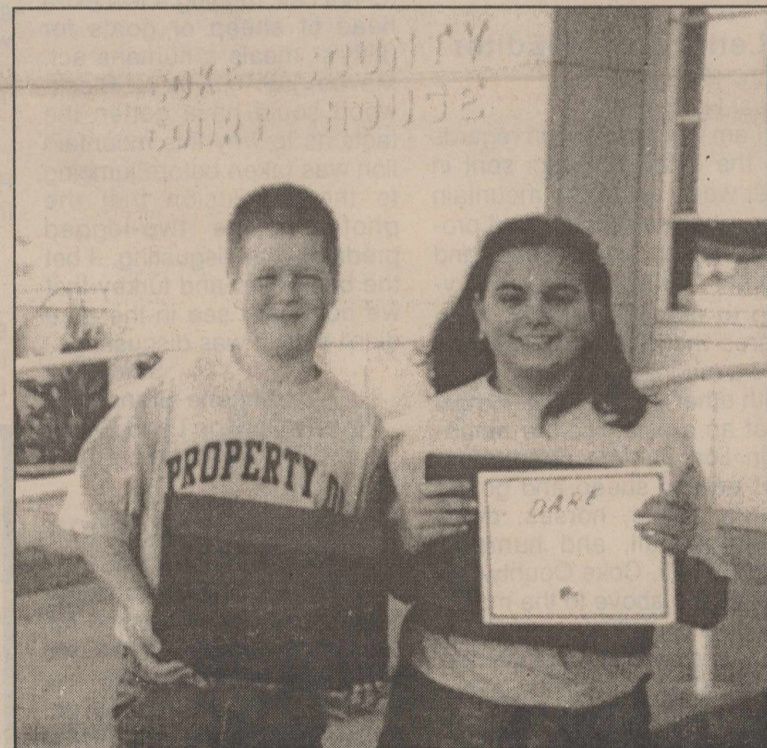
on Friday, January 19, at 5:30 pm with the Market Lamb show followed by the Market Goat show. Then on Saturday, beginning at 8:30 am we will have the Market Swine show, the Market Steer show at 11:00 am. All classes of livestock this year will be judged and evaluated by Chad Coburn, Sterling County Extension Agent.

The Buyers Appreciation BBQ will be prepared by Wayland Drennan, Gaylon Pitcock, Roy Tinkler, Rick Drennan, Clark Tinkler and Curtis Walker. The BBQ will begin at 12:00 noon in the recreation hall next to the show barn. The Awards presentation and Premium Sale will get under way at 2:00 pm to honor the prize winning entries. Persons wishing to donate to the county stock show can contact one of the stock show directors; Sharon Pitcock, Robert Wink, Shane Webb, Wayne Coalson, Todd Harrell, Rick Howell, David Jackson, Jerry T. Parker, David Scott, Joe Sefcik, Tommy Hendry, Mike McCabe, Teddy Millican, Joel Percifull, Wibby Millican, Darrel Pitcock, Billy Hill, Ernest Ybarra, Mark Riley or Mike Cervanka. Donations may also be sent to the Coke County Livestock Association at Box 170, Robert Lee 76945.

The directors and exhibitors of the Coke County Livestock show would like to invite everyone to attend this year's show and support the youth of our area.

D.A.R.E. graduation

On December 6, 2000, the 5th graders from Robert Lee



Chase Roe and Molly Burns were the two students chosen to read their D.A.R.E. essays at the 5th grade D.A.R.E. ceremony held December 6 at the Coke County Courthouse.

and Bronte participated in a D.A.R.E. graduation ceremony held at the Coke County Courthouse. The students completed a ten week course studying the dangers of drugs. D.A.R.E. stands for Drug Abuse Resistance Education. This prevention curriculum was taught by San Angelo Police Officers John Palmer and Johnny Rodriguez.

Two students were chosen from each school to read their D.A.R.E. essays at the ceremony. Chase Roe and Molly Burns were selected to represent their class. Chase and Molly recalled their experiences during the ten week course and encouraged other

students to be drug free.

Coke County Judge Jackie Walker and Officer Sailor from the Sheriff's department spoke to the students about remaining drug free and being the best person he/she could be. Coke County is truly proud of their D.A.R.E. graduates.

Deadline for ordering tree seedlings

The deadline for ordering windbreak tree seedlings is **January 29, 2001**. Call 915-453-2623, ext. 3 or come by 214 East 7th Street in Robert Lee to place your order. Delivery date is Thursday, February 8, 2001.

THE OBSERVER/ENTERPRISE

Published Weekly Except Christmas
707 Austin (915) 453-2433

(USPS 467-480) (ISSN 8750-197X)
Periodical Rate Postage paid at Robert Lee, TX.

**POSTMASTER: Please send address changes to
Observer/Enterprise
PO Box 1329, Robert Lee, TX 76945.**

STAFF

Hal Spain, Publisher
Morgan McCutchen

Melinda McCutchen, Editor
Pat Taft

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Per Year in Coke County.....\$20.00
Per Year Elsewhere in Texas.....\$22.00
Per Year Outside of Texas.....\$25.00

Death Notices

Anderson

Funeral services for Ruth Anderson were held at Mason Funeral Home in Mason, Texas on Monday, January 15, 2001 with interment at Bethel Cemetery in Katemcy. Mrs. Anderson passed away January 13, 2001.

Survivors include a daughter Betty Tyner of Mangum, Oklahoma; son Richey Keller and his wife Callie of Sabinal; daughter Janice Foshee and her husband Harrell of Robert Lee; and son Homer Anderson and his wife Linda of Austin; one sister, Louise Loeffler of Early; nine grandchildren, 18 great grandchildren, and 2 great great grandchildren.

Letter to the Editor

Jan. 15, 2001
Dear Hal Spain,

I am writing to you in regards to the letter that was sent in last week about the mountain lion. I am a rancher and produce sheep, goats, cows, and horses. I also spend time trying to manage wildlife. I do agree that the mountain lions are a magnificent animal along with other wildlife. But, I know that an animal like the mountain lion can be dangerous, not only to sheep and goats, but to cattle, horses, deer, turkey, quail, and humans. Since 1989, Coke County has lost all the above to the mountain lion except humans. If we let these animals multiply because they are pretty, a human could be next. At least 90% of Coke County (residents) are involved in agriculture, and I do not know anyone that can afford to lose, whether it's an ewe at 100.00, a goat at 70.00, a cow at 600.00, a horse at 2,000.00, the money that is brought in and spent by the hunters, or human life (man, woman, or child). Regardless, at least one of these areas affect all of us in some form, and would be responded to.

There is another way that I look at this animal. When I lose livestock to varmints, it is the same as being robbed by a thief. There is a loss and there is no difference. But if someone is caught stealing we do something about it. Why do they defend an animal? Also, I did not know that human life was tax deductible.

Lazy F Ranch
Since 1898 family owned and operated
Joe Harmon

Letter to the Editor

This is in response to the letter from S. Blackwood of the A Bar Ranch in Robert Lee. Let me start by stating that I in no way advocate the stalking or "canned hunting" of any of God's magnificent creatures. However, certain situations call for certain actions. For one thing a 110 pound mountain lion is not a kitty. A full grown mountain lion can kill and eat up to two full grown deer per week. That's full grown deer, that's not baby deer, goats or sheep. Does S. Blackwood not consider deer, goats or sheep magnificent animals? Is S. Blackwood also aware that many times a "kitty's" prey is often not even dead when being eaten? A "kitty" just makes sure his breakfast, lunch or dinner is immobile before satisfying his hunger. I do not call running a few extra head of sheep or goats for "kitty's" meals a humane act. Maybe, just maybe S. Blackwood would have gotten the facts as to why this mountain lion was taken before jumping to the conclusion that the photo of the two-legged predator was disgusting. I bet the baby deer and turkey that we no longer see in the area didn't think it was disgusting.

Sincerely,
Annette Stansberry
Poverty Canyon Land Group
Tennyson, Texas

Computer instruction for beginners

Winters I.S.D. is offering adult computer instruction for beginners. No prior computer skills are necessary for the course. Training will be offered introducing beginning computer skills and the features of Windows 98.

Course materials will be furnished. Class size is limited, so please register prior to class. The course will be offered Saturday, January 20th, beginning at 8:30 am until noon. The course will be taught in the Jr. High School computer lab located at 705 Rogers St.

There is a cost for this course. To enroll and/or inquire, contact Rhonda Goetz at 754-5574 ext. 100 or stop by the school administration/tax office at 603 N. Heights Street.

Dr. Samuel Johnson published his Dictionary of the English Language - the first comprehensive lexicographical work on English ever undertaken - in 1755.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Hal,

This is a first for me, so I'll probably get my butt in a crack or offend someone---but I think it's time somebody stood up for our county officials--namely the county commissioners. Right off, I think that Mr. Williams is dead wrong about the office being a pro-bono job! If we buy that, why not pro-bono judges, sheriffs, treasurers,-- indeed why not President? (I can imagine a pro-bono Clinton). I think somewhere in the Good Book it says "the laborer is worthy of his wages." I'm a firm believer in that and really think Mr. Williams is too, or else he would be giving away free gasoline! Most of us recognize these people on the court as pretty good kind of folks doing the best they can or I don't think we would have elected them! On the issue of an "average" wage, I for one don't think I'd like it if you picked the "average person" off the street to serve as pro-bono commissioner. Plus, who does the picking?

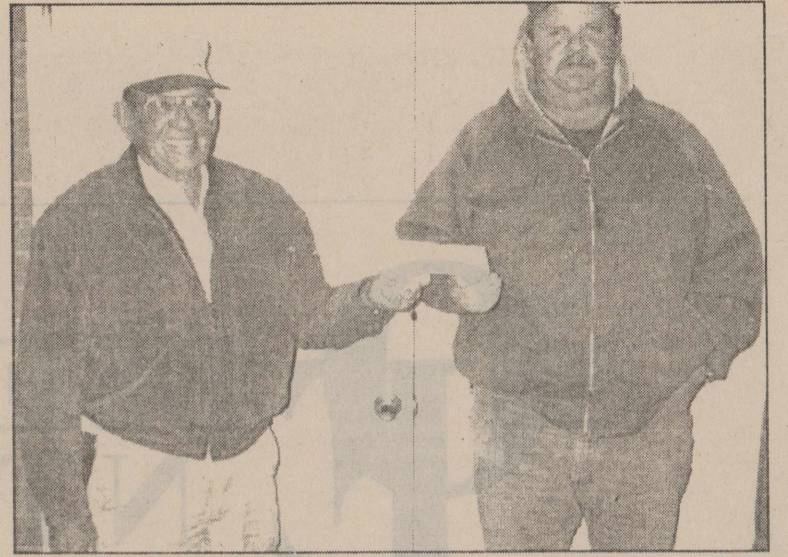
As for saving money, I was at a county wide meeting a year or so ago, that addressed the concern with the idea of a unit road operation and you would have thought someone had taken the baby's sugar teat away!

Before I get down off my soapbox I'd like to say thanks to all the selfless folks who take those jobs in county and city government, in the EMS, the fire department, the school and hospital boards, who look after dead heads like me!

Thanks for the forum Hal.
Sincerely,
Bill Casey
PS, FYI this was pro-bono from a bono-head!

Letter to the Editor

My name is Marian Thompson. I have been secretary for the Robert Lee Volunteer Fire Department since July of



Bronte Volunteer Fire Department member Richard Hembree (left), an Exxon retiree, presents Bronte VFD Fire Chief Darrell Sowell with a check for \$500. This Exxon donation will enable the fire department to continue to upgrade their equipment to better serve Bronte and surrounding communities.

1998. When we applied for the grant to get the new city pumper, one of the questions they asked was regarding the history of the department. I searched through old records and found enough information to satisfy them. We got the truck.

I saw a need. For the past 6 months, I have been spending 2 to 4 hours a day recording the activities of the fire department. City Hall was kind enough to loan me the old records and I am listing everyone who was ever with the fire department. How many fires each year for the last 53 years since the fire department was organized. I am going through old newspapers to find fire department related news. If anyone in Robert Lee has old newspapers, I would appreciate borrowing them.

The library has newspapers from 1984 to present. I have been through all of them. Pictures of the firemen and fires could be copied and returned. I would like to talk with past members of the department to get stories about fires and activities.

I have never done anything

like this before and would appreciate any input I can get from anyone. My phone number is 453-4423.

My thoughts are that if we can get it published, it could become a fund raiser for the fire department as well as a permanent record of Robert Lee's history.

Marian Thompson

The power to prevent legislation from being implemented is called a veto. The word is a Latin word meaning I forbid.

Churches of Robert Lee

Invite You to Worship

- Emmanuel Pentecostal**
PO Box 683 • 1019 Colorado City Hwy
(915) 453-2360
Rev. Ray Aldridge, Pastor
Sun. 10 am & 6 pm, Wed. 7 pm
- First United Methodist Church**
PO Box 144 • 9th & Chadbourne
(915) 453-2417
Rev. Jim Reeves, Pastor
Sun. 10 am Sunday School
11 am Worship
Wed. 7 pm Choir
- Northside Church of Christ**
PO Box 388 • 9th & Chadbourne
(915) 453-2619 or 453-2270
Tommy Williams, Minister
Services: Sun. 10 am & 6 pm;
Wed. 7 pm
- Pecan Baptist**
PO Box 542 • 12 W. Sterling City Hwy
(915) 453-4645
Rev. Dale Patterson, Pastor
Sun. 10 am, Sunday School
11 am & 7 pm, Worship
- Southside Church of Christ**
PO Box 698 • 8th & Houston
(915) 453-2176
Frank J. Daniels, Preacher
Sun. 10 am, Sunday School
11 am & 6 pm, Worship
Wed. 7 pm, Worship
- Robert Lee Baptist Church**
PO Box 493 • 22 W. 11th
(915) 453-2724
Bro. Waide Messer, Pastor
Sun. 9:45 am, Sunday School
11 am & 7 pm, Worship
Wed. 7 pm, Prayer Meeting
- Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church**
601 W. 10th
(915) 365-2687
Rev. Hubert Wade, Jr., Pastor
Sat. 6 pm
- Victory Assembly of God**
PO Box 638 • Robert Lee
(915) 453-2208
Rev. Erma Johnson, Pastor
Sun. 9:45 am, Sunday School
10:45 am & 6 pm, Worship
Wed. 7 pm, Prayer Meeting

IVEY MOTOR COMPANY, INC.

1995 F-150 Supercab XLT \$ 9,995

*This one's coming from Lubbock Saturday!
Great buy on a great truck!*

1997 F-150 Supercab 5 Speed \$ 8,495

Grand Marquis • Program Car \$18,795

2000 F-350 Crewcab XLT \$26,995

1983 F-250 Diesel Supercab \$ 3,595

Flatbed, Welder, Air Compressor • Ready To Work

1993 Grand Marquis LS \$ 6,995

One Local Owner • Excellent Condition • 70,000 Miles

Ask For: **453-2715**

Randy Flanagan • Buck Duncan • Billy Wayne Roe

Check out
✓ Coke Co.
Library

Income tax forms available

The Coke County Library has received income tax forms. There are multi copies of several of the forms and single copies of the less-in-demand forms which may be checked out and copied.

A video entitled You Should Hear What You Are Missing: Coping Strategies and Assistive Listening Devices has been received from the Deaf Action Center of the Elizabeth M. Criswell Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. The video earned the Barbara Jordan Award for excellence in communicating about people with disabilities.

Also, the final draft from the Texas Water Development Board of the Region F Regional Water Planning Draft is in the library. An Executive Summary was found on the Internet. The summary states the following about Coke County: "Coke County: Water quality and reliability needs for Robert Lee and Bronte may be addressed by improvements to supply from Lake Spence."

From the Office of Public Insurance Counsel, the Library has received Comparing Texas HMO's 2000 which allows the consumer to compare the performance of Texas HMO's on key quality of care and includes consumer satisfaction and complaints. There are seven booklets which cover sections of the state in detail.

J. B. Pentecost has donated Call of Duty: The Sterling Nobility of Robert E. Lee and Give Me Liberty: The Uncompromising Statesmanship of Patrick Henry to the Library.

Donations of books recently have also expanded the paperback collection of romance and mysteries. These donations are greatly appreciated by the library and patrons.

Library hours are Tuesdays, 8-12; Wednesdays, 8-4;

Thursdays, 1-5; Fridays, 8-12. Story Hour is Tuesday at 10 o'clock for three to five year olds. Head Start Hour is Wednesday at 10.

CNA classes

Bronte Health and Rehab Center is pleased to offer education and employment opportunities within our community. CNA classes are being tentatively set for February 6, 2001

Any interested person should come in and fill out an application prior to February 6, 2001. Classes will consist of 75 hours of training, in a 14 day course, to mature individuals who demonstrate an interest in providing care to the elderly and disabled. Applicants must be committed to attending all classes in order to receive certification. After completion of 16 hours of classroom training, students will be given the opportunity to work in the facility performing skills they have mastered in our class. They will be paid for time worked on the floor. Employment opportunities will be offered to our graduates based on our staffing needs.

We wish to encourage anyone who may be interested in attending the classes to contact Sharen Naico, RN, DON, Program Director or Marcy Holland, LVN, SDC, at 900 S. State St. Bronte, TX 76933 no later than February 2, 2001.

Veterans to learn about benefits

Detailed explanations of the full range of benefits available to disabled veterans and their families will be presented at an upcoming Disabled American Veterans (DAV) Veterans Information Seminar.

Like all services provided by the nonprofit DAV, there will be no charge for this informative seminar, which will be hosted by Jesse D. Booth Chapter No. 7. It will be presented at 9:00 am on January 27, 2001, at the Chapter Home, 1030 E. 19th Street, San Angelo, Texas.

A highly trained National Service Officer from the DAV's Waco office will con-

duct the seminar. "This veterans' benefits expert offers you the best counseling and claim filing assistance you and your family can get," said Arthur H. Wilson, DAV National Adjutant, in a letter inviting local veterans and their families to the seminar.

That's important, he said, because, "So many disabled veterans feel confused about benefits and services they've earned. There's so much to know...and so many changes from one year to the next."

Veterans and members of their families need not be DAV or DAV Auxiliary members to take advantage of this free DAV service. They should bring their Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) claim number and Social Security number to the DAV Veterans Information Seminar.

TxDOT hosts workshop

The San Angelo District of the Texas Department of Transportation will host a workshop on Monday, Feb. 5, at 10 am to assist public authority groups in application of funding for non-traditional transportation-related projects.

To be eligible for funding, activities must fall under one or more of the 12 categories listed in the Statewide Transportation Enhancement Program. These activities include facilities for pedestrians and bicycles, scenic easements or historic sites, tourist information facilities, landscaping and other scenic beautification, historic preservation, and establishment of transportation museums. Local public authorities such as city or county governments must provide a minimum match of 20 percent for the project.

The workshop is scheduled at the district training room located in the Vehicle Titles and Registration Building at 4502 Knickerbocker Rd.

For more information, contact Public Information Officer Patsy Rainwater Maddux at 947-9205.

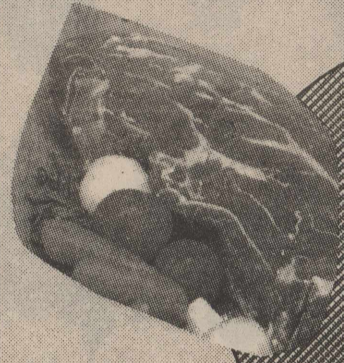
Trust everybody, but cut the cards.
Finley Peter Dunne

LONE STAR CARDS WELCOME Super H IGA LIMIT RIGHTS RESERVED

501 Commerce - Robert Lee, TX

Store Hrs: Mon.-Sat. 8-8 Sun. 8-6

SPECIALS GOOD 1/17 Thru 1/23



Family Pack Boneless

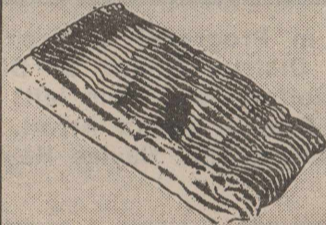
Arm Roast

\$1.69

Family Pack T-Bone Steak



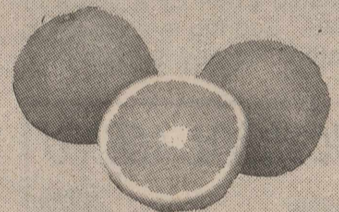
Lb. \$3.99



IGA Bacon

12 oz. pkg. .99

California Navel Oranges 15/\$1



California Cello Head

Lettuce

2 Ea. /\$1

IGA Tomato Sauce



8 8 oz. cans /\$1

Cut Green Beans, French Style Green Beans, Mixed Vegetables, Whole Kernel Corn, Cream Style Corn or Sweet Peas



IGA Canned Vegetables

14.5-15.25 oz. cans .29



MAIN STREET MARKET

Bronte, Texas

Once A Year Sale

2 Days Only • January 19th & 20th

20% OFF! EVERYTHING IN STOCK

Thank You Friends and Neighbors for a wonderful year. Good Luck & God Bless.

K. Gothard

Main Street Market

VISA/MC accepted. No layaways during Sale.

Bronte School News



The Bronte Pips (Players In Progress) children present members of the Bronte Independent School District Board of Directors with a "Book of Appreciation". Shown are (bottom row, from left) Jeff Schoenfield, Kimberly Lee, Creed Coalson, Jordan Rowan, Andra Arrott, (top row, from left) Terry Charles, Mackenzie Gibbs, Katie Austin, Haylee Hoyt, and Wayne Coalson.

Bronte JV basketball

On the 9th, Bronte JV girls defeated Eden by a score of 40-26. Scoring is as follows: Heather Richey 9 points, 8

rebounds, 3 steals, 1 assist; Lindsay Springer 8 points, 5 rebounds, 6 steals, 1 assist; Kayla Hilliard 3 rebounds, 6 steals, 1 assist; Lindsey Williams 4 points, 2 rebounds; Jenna Herold 1 rebound; Britney McCutchen 9 points 4 rebounds, 1 steal, 11 assists; Kanah Coalson 8 points, 4 rebounds, 1 steal, 1 assist; Brittany Eldred 4 rebounds, 6 steals; Natalee Reed 2 rebounds, 1 steal; Kailey Howell 1 point, 1 rebound; Logan Acker 1 point, 1 rebound.

On the 9th, the JV boys defeated Eden by a score of 47-18. Scoring is as follows: B J Hall 3; Joel Webb 19; Joseph Israel 2; Garrett Fiveash 16; Scott Snyder 2; Casey McKee 5.

This past Tuesday, the Bronte JV boys defeated Roscoe by a score of 37-30. Scoring is as follows: J. Webb 8; T. Baker 4; J. Israel 3; G. Fiveash 2; S. Snyder 14; C. McKee 6.

Bronte Longhorn basketball

The Bronte Longhorn basketball team defeated Eden by a score of 73-37. Bronte scoring is as follows: Brandon Gibbs 22 points, 7 rebounds; Henry White 10 points; Zeb Speary 8 points, 4 assists; Ryan McCorkle 6 points, 5 assists; Josh Schoenfield 2 points; Steve Eldred 12 points; Anthony Gibbs 4 assists; Clayton Acker 7 points; Jeremy Silva 5 rebounds; Charlie Bettis 4 points; Dalton Graves 5 rebounds.

In the district game against Miles, Bronte connected for 48 points as they defeated Miles by a score of 48-26. Bronte's record is 15-3 overall. Bronte scoring is as follows: Brandon Gibbs 10 points, 6 rebounds, 5 assists; Henry White 15 points, 15 rebounds; Zeb Speary 11 points, 7 rebounds, 4 assists; Ryan McCorkle 8 points, 5 rebounds; Josh Schoenfield 2 points, 4 assists; Steve Eldred 2 points.

BISD school board meets in regular session

The Bronte ISD School Board met in regular session January 11, 2001 at 8:00 pm, following School Board Training led by representatives from the Region Service Center. An appreciation dinner was also provided and Certificates of Appreciation were presented to each board member by the Superintendent, Alan Richey, for their dedication and service to Education in the Bronte Community. Andra Arrott and Jeff Schoenfield were absent from the meeting.

Principals, Rick Howell, Secondary, and Terry Marrs, Elementary gave their reports to the board. Motion was made and passed to appoint Keith McCutchen as the Integrated Pest Management Coordinator for the district. Motion was made and passed to approve the Integrated Pest Management Plan.

The Superintendent's Evaluation was considered. Motion was made and passed to extend Alan Richey, Superintendent, contract to include the 2003-2004 school year. The board discussed the Principals' evaluations. Discussion was also held concerning hiring a Head football coach.

The Superintendent's report included an update on the auditorium chairs, Cadco, Legislative items, building and auto insurance, and band uniforms. Mr. Richey also informed the board that the District Site Based Committee will meet January 24th at 3:30 pm. Richard Rogers from Cadco will be present at that meeting. The public is invited to attend this meeting also.

Motion was made and passed to pay the December 2000 bills.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:40 am by the President.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for February 8, 2001, at 7:00 pm.

Nicholas Arrott graduates cum laude

Among the December graduates from Texas A&M University in College Station was Nicholas Edward Arrott, formerly of Bronte. Mr. Arrott graduated cum laude with a Bachelor of Science degree in Kinesiology, Specialty in Sport Management and a minor in Business Administration.

Mr. Arrott is now employed in the administration department of the Dallas Mavericks and is married to the former Jodie Hilliard. They have a daughter, Payton, and reside in Dallas.

Area Students listed on Dean's List

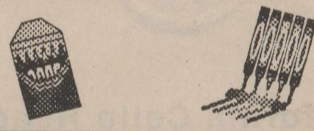
Area students attending Angelo State University in San Angelo, are listed on the Dean's List for the Fall semester at the University.

Those listed include Sharla Dee Holland, a Kinesiology/secondary Certification major, James William Loveday, an Animal Science major, both from Blackwell; Tiffany Nicole Coulter, an English major, Madonna Kay Evans, an Interdisciplinary Studies major, Christy Ann McKinney, an English/secondary Certification major, Barbara Segale Porter, a government major, Scott A. Thompson, A General Studies major, all from Bronte, and Clayton A. Cearley, an Animal Science major from Tennyson.

To be eligible for the Dean's List, a student must be enrolled as a full time student and have at least a 3.25 grade point average.

The first postage stamps issued by the Post Office went on sale on July 1, 1847. The 5-cent stamp had a picture of Benjamin Franklin and the 10-cent stamp bore the likeness of George Washington.

SCHOOL MENU



Breakfast

Monday, Jan. 22

Cereal, apple sauce, blueberry muffins, milk

Tuesday, Jan. 23

Sausage, apple juice, pancake, milk

Wednesday, Jan. 24

Scrambled eggs, hash-browns, biscuit, milk

Thursday, Jan. 25

French toast stix, grape juice, toast, milk

Friday, Jan. 26

Pancake & sausage on a stick, orange juice, cinnamon toast, milk

Lunch

Monday, Jan. 22

Steak fingers with gravy, creamed potatoes, green beans, rolls, milk, chocolate chip cookies

Tuesday, Jan. 23

Pigs in a blanket, sliced pears, tator tots, macaroni & cheese, milk

Wednesday, Jan. 24

Frito pie with cheese, pinto beans, tossed salad, corn chips, milk, rice krispie bars

Thursday, Jan. 25

Chicken spaghetti, tossed salad, sweet corn, bread slices, milk, spice cake

Friday, Jan. 26

Cheeseburgers, lettuce, tomato, pickles, French fries, bun, milk, cinnamon rolls

GLENN-BIVINS INSURANCE
 See us for your auto insurance.
 123 W. Main Bronte 473-6791

Great Rates. Great Service.
5.37%*
Money Market
 • Competitive rates
 • Check-writing choices
 • Personal service
 * Current historical 7-day yield for 01/16/01. An investment in this fund is neither insured nor guaranteed by the U.S. government. The yield fluctuates, and there can be no assurance that the fund will be able to maintain a stable net asset value of \$1.00 per share. For more complete information, including expenses, call or write for a free prospectus. Please read it carefully before you invest or send money.
 Call or stop by today.
 Jim Woodruff
 719 Strong Avenue
 Ballinger, Texas 76821
 (915) 365-2505
 www.edwardjones.com
Edward Jones
 Serving Individual Investors Since 1871

COKE COUNTY LIVESTOCK SHOW
 Friday & Saturday
 January 19 & 20, 2001
 Robert Lee
Bell Auto Body Shop
 Robert Lee 453-2640



Ashleigh Rogers has met all of the qualifications to become a Classic Reader in the Accelerated Reading Program at Robert Lee Elementary. This is the top level in the program and Ashleigh has worked very hard to reach this goal. She is the daughter of Lisa and Bobby Rogers of Robert Lee.

RL Jr. High basketball

The Jr. High girls "A" & "B" teams both took on Water Valley Tuesday night. Both teams won and the scoring was great.

The "A" team won their game by a score of 37-9. Robert Lee scoring is as follows: C. Wink 2; C. Eaton 9; M. Sanchez 18; and L. Roe 8.

The "B" team followed by a score of 30-6. Robert Lee scoring is as follows: Analy Gallegos 4; Andra Braswell 4; Crystal Colon 2; Stephanie Trejo 4; Kyla Millican 10; Kayla Medrano 3; Tiffany Bagwell 1; and Carolina Vera 2.

The Jr. High boys didn't let up on Water Valley as they were also winners.

The 7th grade won their game by a score of 22-15. Robert Lee scoring is as follows: Vincent McClelland 2; Lance Millican 2; Lewis Hearn 6; and Josh Conner 12.

The 8th grade finished the night off by a score of 37-22. Robert Lee scoring is as follows: Cisco Moreno 8; Ruben Torres 5; Wade Arledge 2; Omar Saucedo 6; Andy Mulkey 13; and Robert Raney 3.

RL JV basketball

The JV girls played Eden last Friday night and won their game by a score of 42-31.

Robert Lee's Misty Brothers was hot and scored 21 of the 42 points. Other scoring is as follows: Kindra Matthews 2; Amie Kendall 5; Tyler Lott 2; Krystal Soliz 6; Christina Middleton 4; and Rachel Wallace 2.

Lady Steers basketball

The Lady Steers stayed perfect in district as they bombed Roscoe 64-32 on Jan. 9th. The Lady Steers connected on 8 of 17 from the 3 point line and hit on 10 of 10 from the free throw stripe. Shanna Wojtek and Kizre Matthews did the damage from the outside, as Wojtek hit on 4 of 9 and Matthews hit on 4 of 6 from 3 point land. Wojtek finished with a season high 16 points and Matthews finished with 14. Jodee Helwig & Deshira Dickey carried the inside load as they scored 12 and 16 points respectively. Dixie Simpson rounded out the scoring with 2 points. The win ran their season record to 17-2 and 2-0 in district 6-A Division I.

The Lady Steers remained on a roll, as they defeated the visiting Lady Bulldogs of Eden last Friday night by a score of 69-41. Deshira Dickey led the home team with 20 points. Jodee Helwig was close behind with 17. Others scoring included: Jennifer Alexander 2; Kizre Matthews 8; Shanna Wojtek 7; Whitney Millican 6; and Dixie Simpson 9.

RL students make Dean's List at ASU

Area students attending Angelo State University in San Angelo, are listed on the Dean's List for the Fall semester at the University.

Those listed include Misty Fritz, an Interdisciplinary Studies major, Chad W. Helwig, an Undecided major, Angela Dawn Leach, A Psychology major, Dan R. McCown, a Mathematics major, Michael J. Pentecost, an Animal Science major, and Cynthia M. Morrisette, a Pre-veterinary major, all from Robert Lee.

To be eligible for the Dean's List, a student must be enrolled as a full time student and have at least a 3.25 grade point average.

Robert Lee School News



The Robert Lee 2000-2001 Pips (Players In Progress) included students from Kindergarten to 5th grade who were interested in improving their ball handling skills. Coaches were Becky Ross, Debbie McCabe, Douglas Roberts, Jodee Helwig and JoNell Blair.

Parents of college students

by Mike Sheehan

Hello: My name is Mike Sheehan and I am a freshman at Creighton University. If you have college age kids or know a family who does, I could use your help. Before entering Creighton, I was the Student Body President of Columbine High School in Littleton, Colorado. Since the unfortunate incident brought upon my classmates, I have dedicated my life's work to helping my fellow students wherever I can.

As an incoming Creighton freshman, I was unaware of the high costs of books for my classes. I spent over \$500 in books in just my first semester. It seemed like a lot, but I figured that I could make most of the money back when I sold the books back to the bookstore. Well as you probably have figured out, I was wrong.

Out of the \$500 I spent, I made less than \$100 back. I lost over \$400 dollars. Not only did I lose most of my money, I had to wait in long lines at the bookstore to return the books and wasted valuable time. If I had to do this each semester until I graduated, I figure I would have lost over \$3,200 dollars.

I talked with several friends over Christmas break and we came up with a web site that can save all of us money when buying books, and help us

make more money back when selling books. With this concept in mind, we created the College Students Network (<http://www.CollegeStudentsNetwork.com>).

CSN is an online internet database of items for sale, for college students all across America. Users can sign up for free and post books and other items online for sale at no cost. Finally, students can now buy/sell at better prices than at the "college bookstore", which means we (all college students) can save tons of money immediately.

I need your help in getting the word out to students to enter their books for sale, etc., on the CSN website, as we will be returning to school soon. Let them know as soon as you can because we'll be buying and selling our books for the new semester.

Thanks for your help.

Mike

PS: the site is now ready for students to put in their information, please tell everyone you know about CSN as soon as possible.

Take advantage of government giveaway programs

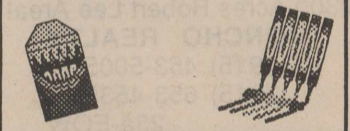
The Free Enterprise Institute in Washington, DC has just published a new booklet, "The 10 Most Popular Government Giveaway Programs." The booklet includes information on a how and where to take advantage of the most popular government

giveaway programs.

There is a catch for consumers to get these government giveaways. They have to know where to go and they have to ask for it. That is what this new booklet is all about.

Consumers can receive a copy of the booklet by sending \$5 to cover the cost of printing, postage and handling. Send to: Free Enterprise Institute, 100 Government Giveaways, Dept. 100GG-0110, P.O. Box 96071, Washington, DC 20090-6071. Consumers can also get more information about the booklet by calling 202-595-1031, or visit the organization's web site: www.FreeEnterpriseInstitute.org.

SCHOOL MENU



Breakfast

- Monday, Jan. 22**
Orange juice, French toast, sausage, cereal, milk
- Tuesday, Jan. 23**
Orange juice, cinnamon roll, cereal, milk
- Wednesday, Jan. 24**
Orange juice, biscuit, sausage, cereal, milk
- Thursday, Jan. 25**
Orange juice, breakfast pizza, cereal, milk
- Friday, Jan. 26**
Orange juice, breakfast burrito, cereal, milk

Lunch

- Monday, Jan. 22**
Chicken O's, corn, broccoli & cheese, rolls, pears, milk
- Tuesday, Jan. 23**
Bean chaldpas, lettuce & tomatoes, Spanish rice, fresh fruit, milk
- Wednesday, Jan. 24**
Baked chicken, sliced potatoes, green beans, white bread, applesauce, milk
- Thursday, Jan. 25**
Pigs in blanket, black eyed peas, macaroni & cheese, fruit cocktail, milk
- Friday, Jan. 26**
Chick-fil-A on bun, pickles, French fries, peaches, chocolate pudding, milk

WINK INSURANCE AGENCY
Home • Auto
Life • Commercial
715 Austin • 453-4551

FINAL DAYS!
No one could top the 1-2-3 Success® program. Except us.
WINNING POINTS
Weight Watchers
Introducing Winning Points—
The NEW Weight Loss Program
From Weight Watchers!

ROBERT LEE
First United Methodist Church
2 West 9th Street
Monday 5:45 PM
Weigh-in begins 30 minutes prior to meeting time.

Check at our centers for details about our maintenance records. Registration and weigh-in begin one-half hour earlier than the meeting time.
©2000 Weight Watchers International, Inc. Owner of the WEIGHT WATCHERS trademark. All rights reserved. *Offer valid in participating areas only for a limited time. Not valid for The At Work Program or community meetings.

JOIN NOW FOR ONLY
\$20*
Offer valid through 2/3/01.

Call
1-800-572-8600
or visit our website at
www.weightwatchers.com
for more information.

Sarah, Duchess of York
Weight Watchers
Lifetime Member

JIMMY'S AUTOMOTIVE & TIRE SHOP
121 W. 10th
Robert Lee, Texas
(Across from Bell's Auto Body Shop)

New & Used Tires • Flats • Interstate Batteries
Oil & Filter Change & Lube • Wash & Wax

For Appointment, Call: 453-9933 • 473-8650
Jimmy & Staci Womack

Mon-Fri
8 am-5:30 pm
Saturday
8 am-5 pm



**BUY IT.
SELL IT.
FIND IT.**

CLASSIFIED.

Quality Film Processing
by Keaton Kolor
at
Hometown Hardware
Bronte, Texas

THE "BARBER" SHOP
Debora England, 223 N. Lombard, Bronte. 473-4026. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, 9 am-6 pm.

17b-tnc

D & L DOZER SERVICE & CUSTOM FARMING
Larry Spivey, owner-operator. PO Box 160, Bronte, Texas. Phone (915) 282-3038.

45b-tnc

CNJ CLEANING SERVICE
Commercial & Residential. Locally owned. Personal service. Reasonable rates. 453-9222.

05a-tnc

TREES TRIMMED
topped or removed. Call 453-9902 after 6 pm.

37a-tnc

COMPUTERS
Complete systems, repairs, upgrades, internet. Call Ed @ EMCO Computers. 473-3004.

32b-tnc



Bob Frazer's 944-0010
473-6603
Texas Best
Deflooding & Carpet Cleaning
24 hr. Emergency
Water Damage Service

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED
CNAs needed for all shifts. Full time and part time. Competitive pay. Contact Sarah Lee, DON, Senior Citizens Nursing Home, Winters. Phone 754-4566.

36b-tnc

HELP WANTED:
Janitor/Maintenance. Need someone with experience in janitorial, maintenance, electrical, plumbing, yard work and general handy man. Holidays, vacation, sick pay and personal days, competitive salary offered. Apply in person to Bronte Health & Rehab Center, 900 State St., Bronte, TX 76933 or call 915/473-3621. EOE.

25b-1tc

GARAGE SALES

GARAGE SALE
Friday, Saturday, Sunday. 223 E. Jones, Bronte. Lots of miscellaneous including a cap collection. **NO SALES BEFORE 9 AM!**

25b-1tp

CARD OF THANKS

IT IS HARD TO
express and put into words just how much loving friends and relatives mean at a time when you lose someone you love, but all of you have been a comfort to us through your prayers, cards, flowers, visits and the food you brought, and the many ways you have shown how much you care. We also want to say thank you for the prayers and guidance of our pastor, Brother Waide

Messer.
We thank all of you again and cherish each expression of love and concern you have shown.

The Family of
Juanice Jameson Miller
25a-1tp

I JUST WANT TO
thank everyone for their prayers, visits and kindness while my son, Dwain Blair, was in the Robert Lee Care Center. Thanks for all the cards and food that was brought during my time of need. God Bless each one of you.

Vivian King
25a-1tp

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)

District: San Angelo
Contract 6061-77-001 for SIGN POST REPLACEMENT in Coke County, etc will be opened on February 07, 2001 at 1:00 pm at the State Office for an estimate of \$475,246.00.

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 District 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 in Austin, Texas at the expense of the contractor. NPO: 2552

State Office

Construction Division
200 E. Riverside Dr.
Austin, Texas 78704
Phone: 512-416-2540

District Office (s)

San Angelo District
District Engineer
4502 Knickerbocker Rd
San Angelo, Texas 76904
Phone: 915-944-1501

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.

24a-2tc

Holiday credit card bills will shock many

"The gifts are opened. The parties are ending. The decorations are being put away. Now comes the reality of facing the bills for all of the guilty pleasures from your holiday shopping trips," said Steve Rhode, president and co-founder of Myvesta.org, a nonprofit financial services organization. To help people deal with their money troubles, Myvesta.org is offering a free publication called Avoiding Post-Holiday Headaches. "Many holiday shoppers will

be shocked when they open their credit card statements in the next few weeks," Rhode said. "January is one of our busiest months because holiday overspending pushes people into debt problems." A Myvesta.org survey found that the average holiday shopper planned to spend \$1,220 on holiday gifts.

The free publication coaches people to take control of their spending and track expenses so they can find enough extra money to pay off their bills in six months. "The most important thing," Rhode added, "is to pay more than just the minimum payment due on your credit card bill. If people pay just the minimum on their holiday debts, their total cost skyrockets." By making minimum payments on \$1,220 at 18 percent interest, it will take 22 years to pay off and interest payments will top \$2,500. "Make 2001 the year to break free and rise above the superficial 'stuff' that drains wallets and keeps you in a perpetual cycle of debt," Rhode said.

Read and download copies of the free publication at Myvesta.org.

Myvesta.org is a national, nonprofit organization dedicated to helping people get out of debt. Founded in 1994, Myvesta.org has helped more than four million people through its programs and educational resources. The organization is committed to helping people resolve past financial mistakes, manage current financial responsibilities and find financial peace of mind. Myvesta.org's programs and services include debt management, crisis resolution, online bill management, creditor problem resolution, coaching and Financial Recovery Counseling. Prior to April 2000, Myvesta.org was known as Debt Counselors of America.

Beef express set for consumer events

Hundreds of thousands of Texans will taste convenient new beef products in 2001 when they visit the Beef Express at major consumer events around the state. This beef checkoff-funded project, developed by the Texas Beef Council, will introduce Texas consumers to the rapidly growing array of convenient new beef items like microwaveable pot roast, burgers and chicken fried steak. The Beef Express will make its debut at the Fort Worth Livestock Show Jan. 18-30.

Heart association holds beef event

Approximately 600 Texas health professionals received first-hand information on beef's heart-healthy benefits during the holiday season. They were attending the American Heart Association's 2000 Holiday Fashion Show and Luncheon in San Antonio. Participants enjoyed a beef meal, representing a heart-healthy menu, as well as checkoff-produced information on beef's positive role in the diet.

Always forgive your enemies; nothing annoys them so much.

Oscar Wilde

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING RATES

Classified Advertising must be paid in advance.

1st. Insertion...
20¢ Per Word
(\$3.00 Minimum)
2nd and Subsequent Insertions...
16¢ Per Word
(\$2.50 Minimum)

Additional 50¢ charged for Blind Ads

Legal Notices...
25¢ Per Word

ADVERTISING DEADLINE
Tuesdays at 5 pm

FOR SALE

ROBERT LEE
1424 Washington, Robert Lee. 3 Bedroom Home with Living Room & Den! Large covered patio & Carport!

ROBERT LEE
802 Vicki St. Robert Lee. 3 Bedroom Home Updated Kitchen cabinets, Siding & Metal Roof! \$20's!

BRONTE
US Hwy 277 Bronte. 41 Acres with 3 Bedroom 2 Bath Home with Live Oaks & another older Home! \$80's!!!

ACREAGE
200 Acres - Bronte Area!
600 + Acres Hayrick Area!
2300 Acres Robert Lee Area!

CONCHO REALTY
(915) 453-5005
(915) 653-4535
23a-EOW

LAND FOR MANUFACTURED HOMES.

Call for more information.
1-800-698-8003.
24b-3tc

REPO Super Center
Over 200 Repo's & Used Homes to Choose From. Homes from \$1000 & Up
Hurry Call Now!
1-800-698-8003.
24b-3tc

FREE ELECTRIC BILL FOR 1 YR

1-800-698-8003
See Habla Espanol.
24b-3tc

OUTSKIRTS OF TOWN
4 bdrm, 2 1/2 bath, 2 story home w/acreage.

BRICK HOME

Excellent condition, close to school. Call for prices and for appointment.

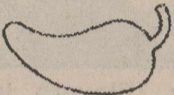


Lee Associates
EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY
453-2995

FOR SALE

160 acres (would divide). Less than four miles from Bronte. Live Oaks, 46 acres in grass fields (fenced separately), natural water. Deer, turkey, quail. (915) 473-3201.

24a-tnc



MARIA'S HOT TAMALES
\$6/dozen. Delivered daily each morning. Call 453-2075.
13a-tnc

ROUND TABLE/LEAF

4 antique chairs. See at Shalon's Floral. Bronte.
24b-2tc

INVENTORY BLOW OUT
10 Models At Must Go Prices
Cut \$2,500 to \$10,000
1-800-698-8003
See Habla Espanol
www.palmharbor.com
24b-3tc

FOR SALE

Side by side refrigerator with ice maker \$150.00. Two wing back chairs blue \$50.00 each.
473-2451.

25b-1tp

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

in Robert Lee. Previously operated as a convenience/grocery store. Good location near school with highway frontage. Call 915-453-2545.
46a-tnc

FOR RENT

FOR RENT
Trailer house completely furnished with central heat in Robert Lee. 944-8990.
25a-1tc

BRONTE MINI STORAGE
has storage buildings for rent. Call 473-2221.

14b-tnc

TAKING APPLICATIONS
for one, two, & three bedroom apartments. Contact Housing Authority of Robert Lee, 710 N. Bishop, 453-2912. Equal Housing Opportunity.
29a-EOW

MISC

SUNSHINE CONSTRUCTION

New Construction, Additions, Renovations, and Home Repairs. Contact Don Parks @ 453-2860 or 450-2767 mobile.
34a-tnc

PARKER PLUMBING
Residential & Commercial. All types plumbing repair - new construction, remodeling, fixtures, and sewer service. Licensed Master Plumber. 473-2131, Bronte.
34b-tnc



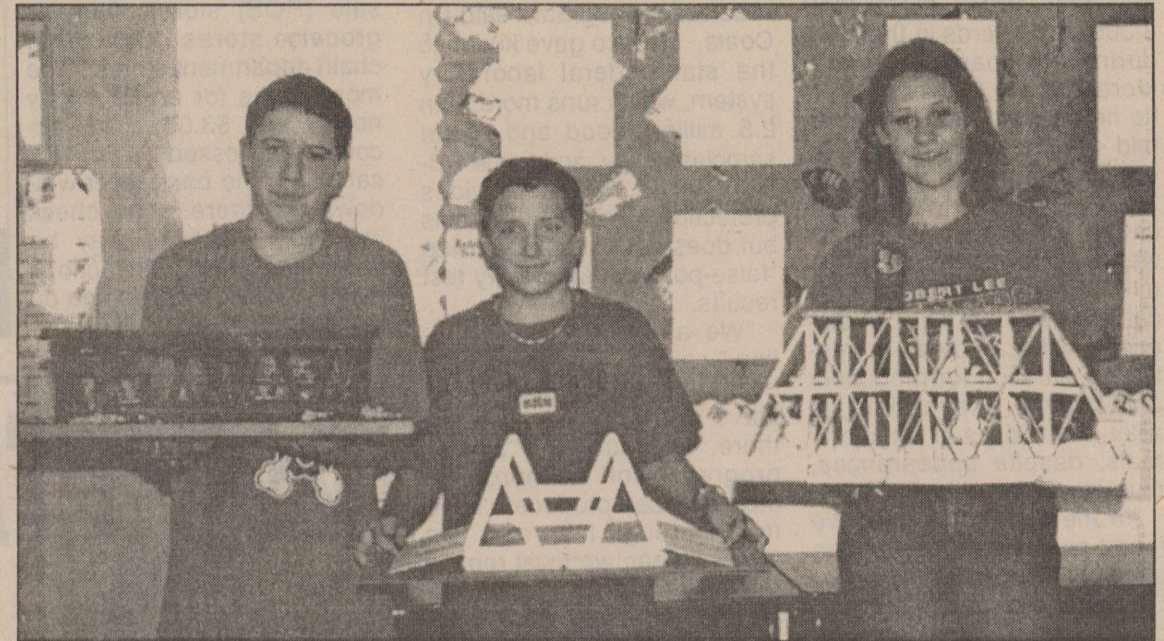
Grand Prize Winners in the RLHS IPC Science Projects were: 1. Katy Pederson; 2. R. J. Service and 3. Chris Eubanks.



Top places in the RLHS IPC Science Projects category for Best Original Design For A Bridge went to: 1. Adam Caston; 2. Tammy Townsend; and 3. Monica Rodriguez.



Top places in the RLHS IPC Science Projects category for Most Creative Design For A Bridge went to: 1. Jessica Fluhmann; 2. Tyler Lott; and 3. Rachel Wallace.



Top places in the RLHS IPC Science Projects category for Sturdiest Built Bridge went to: 1. Tim Messer; 2. Josh Alexander; and 3. Shannon Honse.

RLHS IPC Science project winners announced

In the fall, students at Robert Lee High School taking I. P. C. (integrated Physics and Chemistry) are required to participate in an outside of class Science project. This year's project was to build a bridge (minimum of 10' wide and 20" long) out of Popsicle sticks. They had six weeks to research designs and then solve the problems faced to make their bridges work. Several senior students, teachers and the superintendent were judges this year, with the following students placing in the four categories in which they participated.

Most Creative Design For A Bridge - 1. Jessica Fluhmann; 2. Tyler Lott; and 3. Rachel Wallace.

Sturdiest Built Bridge - 1. Tim Messer; 2. Josh Alexander; and 3. Shannon Honse.

Best Original Design For A Bridge - 1. Adam Caston; 2. Tammy Townsend; and 3. Monica Rodriguez.

Grand Prize Winners - 1. Katy Pederson; 2. R. J. Service and 3. Chris Eubanks.

Honorable Mentions - Amber Perez, Sean Barnett, Evan Braswell, Cole Flanagan, Atom Miller and Travis Taylor.

RLVFD news

by Marian Thompson Secretary

The fire department held its second meeting of January on the 15th. 16 members were present including 2 new members, Kimble Middleton and Cadet Brady Bolding.

The minutes were approved as read. The treasury report was discussed and approved. Chief Rick Drennan reported that the decals for the new truck were received. Rick discussed the fire Saturday and the house fire in Bronte. 5 firemen went to Bronte to assist. He mentioned that a fire-

fighter out of Houston, driving through Bronte, stopped to assist.

Dispatcher/Skywarn leader Bud Thompson will set up Skywarn classes with the National Weather Service. The public is invited to attend the classes. He will let us know when he has a positive date on the classes.

The group discussed having classes on the mechanics of the new pumper, and possible fund raisers. The bank account is not looking very good.

Dates have not been set for the annual rummage sale or pancake supper. Another suggestion for a fund raiser was a barbecue cook out possibly on Independence Day or Labor Day. They are open for suggestions.

The Forest Service will be here to pick up the 15 K generator as we ended up with an extra one and they need it elsewhere.

They adjourned to work at the fire station.

Environmental tips for homeowners

The Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission is offering a free guide that provides tips on how Texans can reduce their environmental impact and save money at home.

The guide is titled The Environmental Four Rs for the

Home: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Rebuy. It offers more than 100 environmental tips and suggestions for homeowners.

The guide suggests ways consumers can:

*Get their name removed from mailing lists.

*Save money by reducing their water and energy bills.

*Properly store, use, and dispose of household hazardous wastes.

*Locate recycling collection centers and household hazardous waste collection events.

*Find alternative (less toxic) cleaners, air fresheners, paints and finishes and pest control products.

"The tips in the Environmental Four Rs not only help the Texas environment, they can save you money," said Ingrid McDonald, the TNRCC's Household Hazardous Waste Coordinator. "The free guide is a great resource for Texas consumers."

The guide is available on agency's web site at www.tnrcc.state.tx.us under "Publications."

BALLINGER CHIROPRACTIC
 Jim Collier, D.C.
 118 N. 8th
 Ballinger, Texas 76821
 (915) 365-5030

NOW! American Heart Association
 IS A GREAT TIME TO INCREASE YOUR PHYSICAL ACTIVITY.

For Your Convenience
Our Drive-Through Banking Hours
 8:30 am to 2:30 pm
 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm
Monday through Friday

Robert Lee State Bank
 Member FDIC
 621 Austin Street Robert Lee, Texas Phone 453-2545 Tele-Bank 453-2585

No infected herds prompt cautious cause for celebration

Texas cattle producers are starting the new year with a big zero, and livestock health officials say it's cause for celebration and strengthened resolve to keep it that way.

"For the first time in the 50-plus year battle against cattle brucellosis, none of Texas' 153,000 cattle herds are under quarantine," said Dr. Terry Conger, state epidemiologist for the Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC), the state's livestock health regulatory agency.

Dr. Conger said this brings the state a giant step closer to wiping out the bacterial infection that struck more than 8,300 cattle herds in the state during the past 14 years. More than 20,000 Texas cattle herds were infected in the mid-1950s, when brucellosis eradication efforts were initiated. While infection can cause cows to abort, deliver weak calves or produce less milk, he said, most affected cattle display no signs of disease. This can create a frustrating situation for producers and animal health officials alike, he said, as infected animals, despite appearances, must go to slaughter.

"In the past 12 months, we found six infected herds—one each in Panola, Henderson, Orange, Medina, San Patricio, and Navarro Counties," said Dr. Max Coats, who heads TAHC's field operations. "These herds were depopulated, and the owners received an indemnification for their animals, from a combination of state and federal funds, and the slaughter value of animals."

"I don't know how long Texas will stay at zero quarantined herds, since we're actively testing and looking for those last hard-to-find infected herds," said Dr. Conger, a 25-year veteran of brucellosis eradication. "Now is the most important time to be vigilant for this disease." He predicted that several infected herds will be found before the state will stay 'clean' and qualify for the "Free" classification.

Dr. Conger said adult cattle are required to be tested prior to change of ownership or entry into the state, and slaughter plants collect blood samples from adult cattle for testing. When an infected animal is detected, information from backtags and ear tags is used to trace it back to its herd of origin. The herd is tested for the disease, and neighboring and "at-risk" herds also may be tested.

"South Dakota has just achieved their victory over cattle brucellosis, joining the other 45 states classified as "Free" of the disease. Texas, Oklahoma, Missouri and Florida are in the final stages of eradicating the disease," said Dr. Jon Lomme of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Veterinary Services in Texas, which works closely with the TAHC. To earn the U.S. Department of Agriculture's "Free" designation, a state must have no infection for 12 consecutive months, while maintaining a high level

of disease surveillance.

Dr. Lomme explained that cooked meat from infected animals is safe to eat. Depopulation of infected herds, he said, prevents the spread of disease to other herds and 'speeds up' the eradication program by avoiding the minimum one-year quarantine period and testing program for the infected herd. "By depopulating an infected herd, a producer can be back in business shortly with clean cattle," he said.

"Our progress can be directly credited to producer cooperation and the testing team comprised of TAHC staff, U.S. Department of Agriculture veterinarians and private veterinary practitioners committed to this disease eradication program," said Dr. Coats. He also gave kudos to the state-federal laboratory system, which runs more than 2.5 million blood and tissue samples yearly, and to the RB-51 vaccine, which provides protection against brucellosis but does not cause confusing "false-positive" laboratory test results.

"We are close to eradication," said Dr. Conger. "If we become complacent now and leave one infected herd out there, we could lose all this progress—and compromise the sacrifices producers have made through the years. In the new year, we must remain resolved to eradicate brucellosis."

Tree seedlings, grass seed and fish offered through local SWCD

Coke County Soil and Water Conservation District continues to assist landowners with grass seed mixes and purchases for range plantings, tree seedlings for windbreaks and fish for pond stocking. Visit our office at 214 East 7th Street or call 915-453-2623, ext. 3 for availability and prices. All proceeds go to natural resource conservation in Coke County.

Morrow

Tristan Jake Morrow was born January 11, 2001, to John & Shannon Morrow. Tristan weighed 7 pounds and 11 ounces and was 21 inches long. The grandparents are Jim & Mary Morrow of Bronte; Sharon Davis of Fort Worth; and Montie & Richie Neighbors of Sweetwater. The great grandmothers are Christine Corley of Tennyson and Valene Kiker of Sweetwater.

Direct deposit more important than ever

Social Security and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits for almost 50 million Americans will increase this month. Now, more than ever, it is wise for folks who receive SSI and Social Security to get their payments the 21st Century way. That means electronically through Direct Deposit. Leave the 19th Century horse-and-buggy paper check behind.


Direct deposit is the safest, simplest and most convenient way to receive a payment from the U.S. Treasury. Anyone who receives Social Security, SSI, Rail Road Retirement or

Veterans benefits is eligible to use Direct Deposit at a bank, credit union or savings and loan. If you already have a bank account and want to sign up For Direct Deposit, simply tell your banker the next time you go in to deposit your Federal payment. Most banks offer low cost or no-cost accounts to senior citizens and people with low incomes.

The U.S. Treasury has created a new type of account that is completely electronic. It is called the Electronic Transfer Account or ETA. Any financial institution who agrees to offer the ETA must allow any Federal payment recipient to open an account. ETA accounts include a minimum of four transactions per month at a bank or ATM and a point of sale (POS) stores such as grocery stores and other chain department stores. The monthly fee for an ETA may not exceed \$3.00. This account is accessed by an ATM card or at the bank teller window, and there is no check writing. The fees may be lower and more transactions may be allowed depending on the institution.

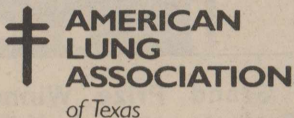
By January 1, 2001, Texas will have a total of 64 federally insured financial institutions at 670 locations offering the ETA. To find a location in your area, call your local bank or credit union. You can also call 1-888-382-3311 or go to www.eta.find.gov on the World Wide Web. Texans who receive federal benefits can call 1-800-252-9240 for information.

"...Thank you for caring so much and not treating us like paperwork, but like people."



GERMANIA INSURANCE COMPANIES
CARWILE INSURANCE
453-2522

YOUR Gift IS A WAY TO CONQUER LUNG DISEASE



Give the gift that remembers by helping others ...

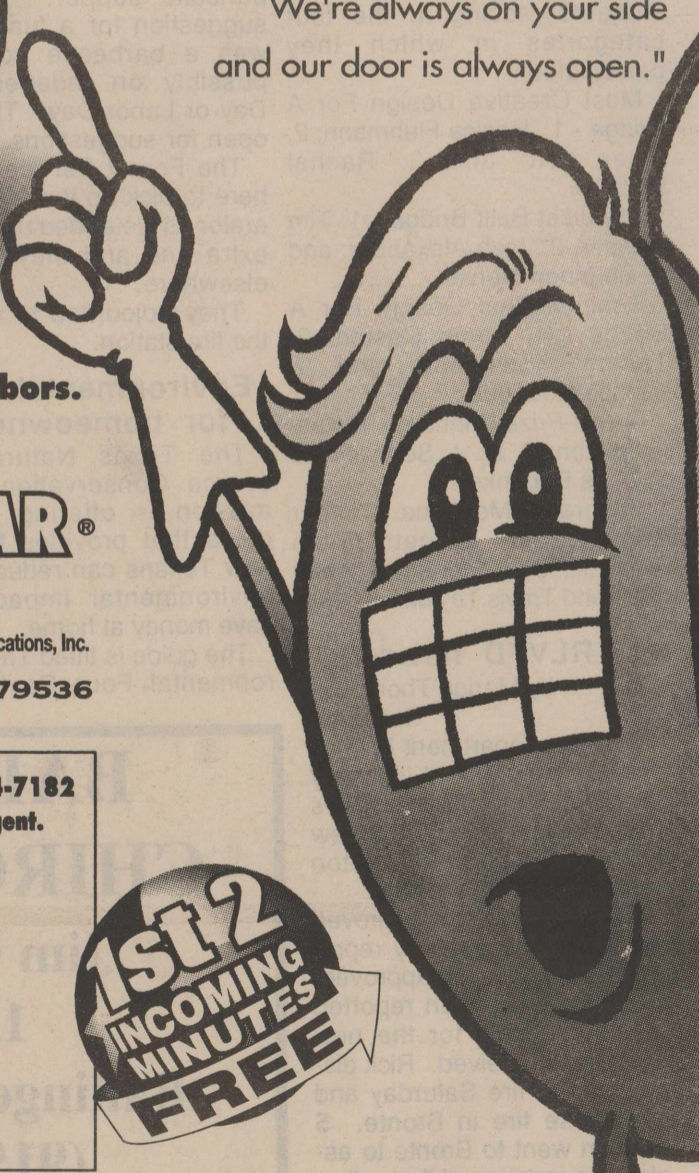
When you lose someone dear to you — or when a special person has a birthday, quits smoking, or has some other occasion to celebrate — memorial gifts or tribute gifts made for them to your local American Lung Association help prevent lung disease and improve the care of those who suffer from it. www.texaslung.org

1-800-LUNG-USA

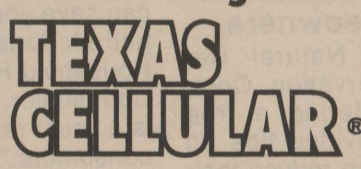
DON'T TALK TO STRANGERS

"Be wary of smooth-talking cellular giants that may sneak up on you. They'll offer gimmicks that you might wind up paying for one way or another. Oh, and watch out, their "fine customer service" may not extend past their own front door.

Texas Cellular is homeowned and operated by genuine folks. We're always on your side and our door is always open."



We Take Care Of Our Neighbors.



A service of Taylor Telecommunications, Inc.

**9796 N. I-20 • MERKEL, TX • 79536
915-928-3200**

For More Information, Call Us at 800-424-7182 or Contact Your Local Texas Cellular Agent.

IN ROBERT LEE:
Rock Solid Communications
803 Austin
915-453-2380

IN SNYDER:
Permian Communications
2403 West 25th Street
915-573-2424

IN SWEETWATER:
Sierra Communications
1901 Bristol
915-235-4377

