

THE OBSERVER/ ENTERPRISE

Serving Coke County

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Friday, November 21, 2003

Bronte Community Thanksgiving Service

The annual Community Thanksgiving Service for Bronte and the surrounding area will be held this Sunday, November 23rd, at Bronte's First Baptist Church. The service will begin at 7:00 p.m.

In addition to lots of great music, a patriotic emphasis, and sharing of God's blessings, a special Thanksgiving message will be presented by Bro. Morris Johnson, pastor of First Baptist Church. Representatives from several community churches will be leading in this special service. This special Thanksgiving service is for everyone, no matter what their church affiliation.

An offering will be received for use by the Community Chest in its benevolent actions throughout the year. A box will also be available for the collection of non-perishable food items for the Coke County Food Pantry.

Following the service, a time of fellowship and light refreshments will be available to all. First Baptist Church is located at 424 S. Washington.

O/E announces early deadline

Due to postal closings on Thanksgiving Day, we must advance our printing and mailing deadline one day next week in order to get the paper mailed out on Wednesday before the holiday. We are once again asking your assistance as our news and ad copy deadline will also be advanced to Monday of next week by 5:00 pm.

As are most businesses, the *Observer/Enterprise* will be closed on Thursday and Friday, Nov. 27 & 28, to allow our employees time with their families. We hope your Thanksgiving holiday is filled with food, family, and good friends. And make note of who all attended so you can turn it in to the newspaper the next week.

Courthouse closed for holiday

The Coke County courthouse will be closed for the upcoming Thanksgiving holiday on Thursday, Nov. 27, and Friday, Nov. 28. Business hours will resume on Monday, Dec. 1.

Blackwell Methodist Church annual Fall Festival

The Blackwell Methodist Church will hold their annual Fall Festival on November 22nd with a barbeque lunch,

arts and crafts sale, bake sale, and quilt raffle. Hours are 9:00 to 2:00 pm. The meal will be served from 11:00 to 2:00. The quilt drawing will be at 2:00 pm.

For more information, please contact Bobbie Varnadore at 743-2546.

County Jail, Sheriffs books are ready!

Bonita Copeland's long-awaited book, *A Colorful History of the Old Coke County Jail and Sheriffs*, is ready!!! The first distribution is to be held on Tuesday, December 2, 2003 in the Commissioner's Courtroom - Coke County Courthouse beginning at 9:00 am.

Proceeds from the sale of this book have been donated by the author to the Old Coke County Jail Preservation Fund.

Red Hat Society meeting slated

The Coke County Red Hat Society will meet at 11:00 am on Tuesday, December 2nd at Hidalgo's, Hwy. 277 in Bronte. You are welcome to join this group where there is fun after fifty (and before) for women of all walks of life.

Workday at RL Cemetery

Members of Hayrick Masonic Lodge No. 696 have called a workday at the Robert Lee Cemetery for Saturday, November 22, 2003, beginning at 8:00 am. They will be filling in sunken graves and various things. Plan to attend and help the Masons.

Bryan's Barn lights up holiday season

It's a foregone conclusion that the Christmas season is officially open when Bryan's Barn lights up. The Bryan family will throw the switch at 6 pm on Monday, Dec. 1 and bring to life that wonderland of color. They will be open to visitors through Dec. 31 from 6 to 10 pm each evening. Although admission to the Barn and surrounding grounds is free, donations are welcomed to defray expenses.

The Barn has become a local symbol of Christmas and will be seen by a huge number, including tour bus loads.

On Friday, Dec. 12, Robert Lee will hold its annual Downtown Open House. Most participating businesses will serve refreshments, some will serve lunch, greet visitors, and be decorated for Christmas. A later announcement will inform customers of drawings.



Local dignitaries sing along with Bro. Morris Johnson (right), pastor of First Baptist Church in Bronte, as he leads the crowd in the National Anthem at the Veterans' Day Service Saturday, November 15, 2003. The service was held at the Coke County Veterans' Memorial Plaza in Bronte. Ariel Marrs (from left) of Bronte and Ashley Womack of Robert Lee presented their "patriotism" essays. The girls were introduced by Pat Lee. Ava Lou Davis led the pledge of allegiance. Bronte Mayor Martin Lee introduced the speaker - former San Angelo Mayor Dick Funk. Dorthey Pruitt welcomed the visitors and introduced the guests on the platform.



Kevin Johnson (left) and Jerrod McClure unveiled the howitzer during the Veterans' Day Service in Bronte November 15, 2003. The big gun is now a permanent part of the Coke County Veterans' Memorial Plaza in Bronte. Kevin recently received his honorable discharge from the Marine Corp following his tour of duty in Iraq. Jerrod fortunately was home on two week leave and is scheduled to return to service in Iraq.

A parade is in the planning stage for after school and be led by that popular favorite, Santa Claus. If anyone wants to take part in the parade about 4:00, let's line up and back Santa downtown behind the courthouse. Bring your car, horse, dog, bicycle, - whatever. After the parade Santa will visit in front of the

courthouse and hear the children's wish list.

Christmas in Old Bronte

Plans for Christmas in Old Bronte are underway. The event is scheduled to take place on Thursday, December 18th. The festivities will begin at 5 pm with Santa leading the parade through downtown

Bronte. The parade should be rather large since the school will be participating.

After the parade there will be plenty to see and do. Santa will be ready to take pictures with all the boys and girls. Local clubs and organizations are welcomed to participate. For more information call Annie Gill at 743-2555.

THE OBSERVER/ENTERPRISE

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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

Blaylock

Billy Frank Blaylock, 78, formerly of Robert Lee, died November 17, 2003. Services for Billy Frank were Wednesday, November 19th, at 2:20 pm at the First Baptist Church in Eldorado.

He is survived by his wife, Mabel Jay Blaylock of Eldorado; two sisters, Jerry Blaylock of Austin and Ebba Nikolauk of Eldorado; children and grandchildren, Frankie Hardy of Kerrville, Katie and Donnie, Lindy and Jamie; Steve and Mary Ann Blaylock of Midland, Jay, Jeff and Betsy; Billie Gay and Cliff Boren of Kerrville, M'Lissa and Jeremy, and Micah; Eva Jo and Steve Sessom of Eldorado, Staci and Benny, Stormi and Mitzi; two great-grandchildren, Payton and Logan.

Major show entries due for 4-H

4-H members who plan to exhibit their livestock projects at Odessa, Ft. Worth, San Antonio, San Angelo or Houston must complete entry forms before Wednesday, November 26. This is an ABSOLUTE DEADLINE. Entry forms can be obtained in the Coke County Extension office.

Holiday closing

In observance of the Thanksgiving Holiday, the Robert Lee City Hall will be closed November 27-28. The City Landfill will be closed on Saturday, November 29th. Have a safe Thanksgiving Holiday.

Thanksgiving Baskets delivery set for November 24

Thanksgiving Baskets will be distributed at the Coke County Food Pantry on Monday, November 24 from 3:00 to 5:00 pm. The van from Bronte will be at the depot between 2:30 and 2:45 on that day. Each Wednesday the van provides transportation from Bronte to the food pantry. The Coke County Food Pantry is able to give these baskets because of the generosity of the citizens of Coke County. The food collected by the elementary schools in Robert Lee and Bronte and other citizens has been wonderful.

Money that is given will help with the expense of the Thanksgiving turkey and a Christmas ham for each basket. The need for assistance has grown and continues to increase. If you would like to contribute money you may mail your contribution directly to the Coke County Food Pantry, Box 1299, Robert Lee, deposit your contribution directly into the Coke County Food Pantry

account at the Robert Lee State Bank, or call Mary Bessent at 453-2492 or Joan Burns at 453-2144.

Coke County Food Pantry Memorials

Willie Hester

Jack & Nina Brewer

Lorene Phillips

Cova Sparks

Jackie Walker

Jimmie & George Snapp

Frances Bloodworth

Cova Sparks

Jackie Walker

Melba Long

Cova Sparks

Jackie Walker

Belle Roberts

Cova Sparks

Jackie Walker

Thelma Mason

Cova Sparks

Jackie Walker

Earl Brice

Cova Sparks

Jackie Walker

Kathlene McCutchen

Cova Sparks

Jackie Walker

Faye Miller

Cova Sparks

Jackie Walker

Kent Cole

Jack & Nina Brewer

Nell Hines

Memorials or gifts may be mailed to Coke County Food Pantry, Box 1299, Robert Lee, Texas 76945 or may be given to Joan Burns or Mary Bessent. Cards acknowledging your gift or memorial will be sent to the person(s) designated by the donor.

Bronte Pool Fund to receive \$5000 from Town & Country

Town & Country Stores will present a check for \$5000 to the Bronte swimming pool fund on Friday, November 21, at 2:30 pm at the Bronte swimming pool location. The check presentation will be made by Patty Rush, Regional Director of Operations for Town & Country. Receiving the donation will be Fran Crumpler, a representative of "Friends of the Pool," a local Bronte organization which has rallied around the need for repairs and new equipment for the local swimming pool. The original pool was first constructed in 1950.

The Friends of the Pool group received a \$50,000 grant from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department with the stipulation that local citizens would match the amount. Numerous events have been undertaken in Bronte during the past year to raise the needed funds, including a talent show, garage sales, bake sales, contributions from ex-students and a special fundraising effort by the Bronte Elementary students called "Pennies for the Pool." The students, pre-kindergarten through sixth grade, raised \$1000 in pennies, nickels and pocket change within a one



Photo by Bud Thompson

A Sun Oil tanker truck rolled over Thursday afternoon, November 13, 2003, on FM 2059. Coke County Sheriff's Department deputies handled traffic and Robert Lee Volunteer Fire Department members stood by with a fire truck until the tanker could be removed from the scene approximately 6 1/2 hours after the accident.

week period earlier this year.

On hand for the Friday check presentation by Town & Country will be representatives of the Friends of the Pool, Bronte chamber of commerce, city economic development board, local Lions Club and the Sorosis Study Club of Bronte.

Gospel Ministry for Children needs items

San Angelo's Gospel Ministry for Children needs small items such as toys, clothes, etc. for funds to repair their building. A drop box will be located at 318 E. 4th Street, Robert Lee, for these donations. For more information, call 453-2930.

Memorial fund established for Cole family

A memorial trust fund for the Kent Cole family has been set up. Those wishing to donate to this fund are asked to contact the Robert Lee State Bank at 453-2545.

Bee Safety meeting scheduled

By Tommy Antilley, TAEX Agent The Mid-West Natural Resource Task Force consisting of Cooperative Extension agents from Coke, Tom Green, Irion and Sterling counties has scheduled a Bee Safety Meeting to be held on Tuesday, November 25, from 9:00 am until noon at the Texas A&M Extension and Research Center located on north Highway 287 in San Angelo.

The meeting will feature talks by Dr. Chris Sansone, Extension Entomologist, and area bee experts, on what to do if you encounter the Africanized honey bees, what not to do, how to get rid of them and anything you want to know about Africanized bees. This meeting is open to the public and will offer two hours of Continued Education Units for pesticide license holders. For information on the meeting contact the Extension office at 453-2461.

HOLIDAY CLOSING NOTICE

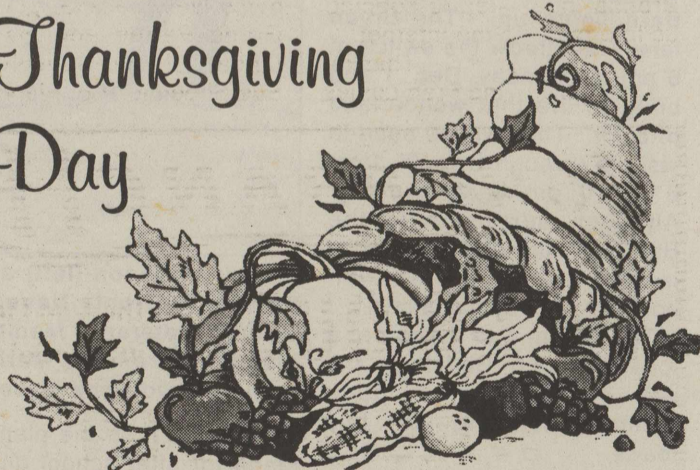
All facilities of these banks will be

CLOSED

Thursday, November 27

In Observance Of

Thanksgiving Day



Please plan your banking requirements to avoid any inconvenience.

Robert Lee State Bank

First National Bank in Bronte
Member FDIC 453-2545 Robert Lee, TX
Member FDIC 473-2911 Bronte, TX

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**
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) 453-4645
Rev. Dale Patterson, Pastor
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

Locally grown sage will raise RL VFD funds
 Fresh sage, grown by Fran Lomas, will raise funds for the Robert Lee Volunteer Fire Department Station Fund on Friday, November 21st, from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm at the Coke County Library.

The fresh sage is just in time for Thanksgiving dinner, and can be dried for Christmas dinner. A fresh bundle of sage can be had for a donation to the Fire Station Fund. The RLVFD is seeking to raise \$92,000 to build a new station at the site of the present building. The old filling station has been torn down on the site where the new station will be. The new fire station will be a tribute to the volunteer fire fighters and to the town as the site is at the crossroads of Highways 208 and 158 in Robert Lee.

A grant from the San Angelo Health Foundation has provided \$45,000 towards the building. The remainder of funds must be raised before June, 2004.

Friday morning, fresh sage will be available for a donation to the Fire Station Fund at the library from 9:00 am to 12:00.

Kickapoo Water Board sets election
 Coke County Kickapoo Water Control and Improvement District #1 will hold an election on January 13, 2004, for the purpose of electing two directors. Directors filing for re-election to the board are Bob Ragsdale and Jack Corley. The election will be held at Bronte City Hall.

For further information, contact President Gerald Sandusky by 5 pm on Friday, November 21, 2003.

BISD Trustees meet in regular session
 Bronte ISD Board of Trustees met in regular session November 17, 2003, in the board room. Those members present were Wayne Coalson, President, Terry Charles, Bob Frazee, Gary Acker, Jeff Schoenfield, and Superintendent, Alan Richey. Also present were Burl Lowery, CPA, Gina McCutchen, Nancy Jackson, Rick Howell, Terry Marrs, Michael Bohensky and Richard Rogers, Architect. Members absent were Kendall Gibbs and David Scott. A Thanksgiving Meal was served by the ACC class.

The meeting was opened with prayer by Wayne Coalson. The minutes of the previous meetings were read and approved.

The 2002-2003 Annual Audit was reviewed by Burl Lowery, CPA, and approved by the board.

The board attended a Legislative Update in the Distance Learning Lab.

Principals' reports included enrollment figures and student activities.

The board approved the Textbook Committee for 2003-2004, the Campus Improvement Plans for 2003-2004, and payment of October bills.

Votes for the Coke County Appraisal District were cast by Resolution for David Scott and Charles Sonnenberg.

TASB Update 71 was reviewed and action taken on Local Policies according to the instruction sheet provided by the TASB Policy Services.

The board approved the appointment of CADCO



Alan Hufstutler (right), Bronte resident and assistant Abilene Area engineer, is presented a Certificate of Service by Bill Hale. Hufstutler, a ten year employee with the Texas Department of Transportation, was honored for his longevity during a recent supervisors meeting in Abilene. In addition to the framed certificate, he received a ten year service pin and a leatherette portfolio. Hale is the former Abilene district engineer. (TxDOT photo by Mary Beth Kilgore.)

Engineers as the Architect and Engineer for the new gymnasium building project. CADCO was approved as the Construction Manager - Agent.

Alan Richey, Superintendent, updated the board on the facilities, finance and special education numbers.

Board Correspondence included TDH update, TEA 2001-2002 fiscal audit, and McCreary & Veselka 2002 Property Value Study.

The meeting was adjourned by the President at 11:00 pm. The regularly scheduled meeting will be December 11, 2003, at 7:00 pm.

Letter to the Editor
 We would like to pass along to the subscribers news of a former resident and classmate.

Bobby Cowley has been diagnosed with terminal pancreatic cancer. His condition is very grave. We know that he and his family would appreciate prayers, cards and messages from you.

He was in the class that graduated RLHS in 1959 and the son of Winnie and the late Jack Cowley. Fellow classmate, Sandra Baker Denman, visited with Bobby and his wife Gina last week.

His mailing address is 11811 Mallard, Corpus Christi, Texas 78410 and the e-mail is bp3fly@winning.com. Phone number 361-937-2773. Brenda, his sister, is keeping us informed via the Internet.

Thanks,
 Mike and Fran Lomas

Lara reunion held

The Luther & Sara Lara 13th Annual Reunion was held in Robert Lee October 25 & 26 at Christine's & Janie's home. On Saturday we had a Potluck lunch, mini carnival costume contest winners were Manuel Abalos & James Mathew of Abilene, treat walk, apple bobbing winner was little Sara Lara daughter of Eddie & Elizabeth of Bronte and a haunted house. Then for the evening we made tamales around the table and socialized.

Sunday at Janie's we had brunch (menudo), played games, football, the men cheered (Manuel & Jimmy) watched football then before the departure we had Hamburgers Family Photos. Then we made a video for our soldier R. J. Cruz in Okinawa, Japan.

Family members came from Hobbs, NM, Euless, TX, Abilene, Wichita Falls, Bronte & San Angelo. This time is set aside annually on the belated Sara Lara's Months birthday.

Personal

Bobby and Jeffie Roberts of Robert Lee had a group of 21 people from over the state in their home following the 100th Celebration of Robert Lee Eastern Star Chapter No. 187. The Robertses, assisted by Douglas Roberts and Dorene Mashburn, served a meal along with the fellowship. Overnight guests in their home were Jack Guy, Worthy Grand Patron and his wife, Linda, of Jacksonville and Sue Shoemaker of Plano.

LONGBRANCH
BAR-B-QUE (At the Red Light in Bronte)
WILL BE OPEN
Sunday • November 23
 Lunch
 Brisket Chicken Sausage Ribs
 Beans & Tater Salad

SUPER H
 Texas Lotto Tickets Sold Here
 WIC Cards Welcome
 ATM Available
 501 Commerce - Robert Lee, TX
 Store Hrs: Mon.-Sat. 8-8 Sun. 8-6
 SPECIALS GOOD 11/19 Thru 12/2
 LIMIT RIGHTS RESERVED

Shurfine Premium Quality Moist & Juicy Grade A with pop-up timer
Turkey
 Lb. **\$.39**
 With Purchase of \$20 or More. Excludes Tobacco Products. Limit 1, Thereafter 59¢ Lb.

Crisp • Fresh
Celery
4/\$1

Owen's Regular or Hot
Sausage
 2 Lb. Roll **\$2.99**

Gold Medal Flour
 4.25-5 Lb. Bag **\$.69**

Shank Portion • Cook's Bone In
Ham
 Lb. **\$.99**

Butt Portion Ham
 Lb. **\$1.19**

Shurfine Grade A
Large Eggs
 Dozen **\$.89**

Golden Ripe
Bananas
 Lb. **\$.29**

Coca Cola, Sprite or Dasani Water
 3 6 Pk 1/2 Liter Bottles **/\$5**

BRONTE SCHOOL NEWS

Bronte UIL practice results

Bronte junior high and high school UIL students traveled to Central High School in San Angelo on Saturday, November 8. The following students attended:

1. Melissa Palmer - 10th grade science
 2. Juston Taylor - 9th grade calculator
 3. Josh Scott - 9th grade calculator
 4. Eric Hendrickson - 9th grade mathematics
 5. Casey Harris - 8th grade science/math
 6. Cody Wallace - 8th grade science/math
 7. Kyle Nealey - 8th grade number sense/ calculator
 8. Justin Jowers - 8th grade mathematics
 9. Matt Allen - 7th grade number sense/science
 10. Lora Martinez - 8th grade science
 11. Alonzo Martinez - 9th grade science
- Juston Taylor placed 2nd in 9th grade calculator winning a silver medal. Josh Scott placed 10th in 9th grade calculator.

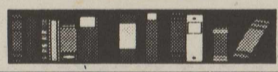
Eric Hendrickson placed 6th in 9th grade mathematics and 6th place in 9th grade science.

Alonzo Martinez placed 7th in 9th grade science.

Bronte students traveled to ACU in Abilene for the Big Country Council of Teachers of Math and Science Contest on Saturday, November 15. Students who attended were:

1. Ashleigh Kelly - 11th grade calculator/math
 2. Eric Hendrickson - 9th grade math
 3. Alonzo Martinez - 9th grade science
 4. Lora Martinez - 8th grade science
 5. Justin Jowers - 8th grade math
 6. Johnnye Michael - 7th grade calculator/math
 7. Crystal Minjarez - 7th grade calculator/math
- Ashleigh Kelly won a 9th

School Menu



Breakfast

- Monday, Nov. 24**
Cereal, mixed fruit, toast, milk
- Tuesday, Nov. 25**
Pancake and sausage on a stick, assorted juice, milk
- Wed., Nov. 26**
Holiday
- Thurs., Nov. 27**
Holiday
- Friday, Nov. 28**
Holiday

Lunch

- Monday, Nov. 24**
Fried chicken with gravy, creamed potatoes, green beans, mixed fruit, rolls, milk
- Tuesday, Nov. 25**
Burrito, tossed salad, pinto beans, Spanish rice, spice cake, milk
- Wed., Nov. 26**
Holiday
- Thurs., Nov. 27**
Holiday
- Friday, Nov. 28**
Holiday

place ribbon in 11th grade calculator and placed 13th in 11th grade mathematics.

Eric Hendrickson placed 13th in 9th grade mathematics.

Bronte School Awards 2nd six weeks

1st grade

Met Reading Goal

Jessica Arthur, Serena Baker, Crystal Bilbrey, Sydney Breeding, Maria Franco, Tyler Mayo, Oscar Pena, Josh Puentez, Jensen Reed, Addie Rosson, Esmeralda Ruezga, Dakota Arthur, Heriberto Cecilio, Stacia Emfinger, Kourtney Kelton, Kolby Lee, Moriah Royall, Jared Scott, Joshua Means

Super Citizen

Jessica Arthur, Crystal Bilbrey, Maria Franco, Josh Puentez, Jensen Reed, Esmeralda Ruezga, Amber Betts, Heriberto Cecilio, Stacia Emfinger, Moriah Royall, Mireya Sanchez

Perfect Attendance

Jessica Arthur, Jacob Baken, Tyler Mayo, Josh Puentez, Jensen Reed, Addie Rosson, Esmeralda Ruezga, Amber Betts, Dakota Arthur, Savannah Arthur, Stacia Emfinger, Kourtney Kelton, Kolby Lee, Moriah Royall, Mireya Sanchez, Jared Scott, Joshua Means

2nd grade

Perfect Attendance

Megan Yackley, Kaleb Reyes, Lyndsay Hargrave, Trinity O'Brien, Ty Lee, Marisa Sanchez, Lauren Allen, Stetsen Emfinger

Met A/R Reading Goal

Lauren Allen, Christian Henson, Ty Lee, Marisa Sanchez, Megan Yackley, Trinity O'Brien, Lyndsay Hargrave

"A" Honor Roll

Ty Lee, Courtney Wyatt, Megan Yackley

Super Citizens

Lauren Allen, Trinity O'Brien, Christian Henson, Ty Lee, Coby Malone, Bailey McGlothlin, Marisa Sanchez, Megan Yackley, Kaleb Reyes

3rd grade

Super Citizens

Brooke Bedford, Thoren Charles, Carson James, Erika Puentez, Michelle Rhodes, Caleb Rosson, Ethan Sedden, Jael Williams

Met A/R Goal

Brooke Bedford, Cindy Davila, Erika Hargrave, Carson James, Brayde Knight, Ayrn Nealey, Erika Puentez, Michelle Rhodes, Caleb Rosson, Paige Royall, Ethan Sedden, Zachary Taylor, Jael Williams

Perfect Attendance

Brayde Knight, Paige Royall, Thomas Reyes, Ayrn Nealey, Zachary Taylor, Ethan Sedden, Brooke Bedford, Carson James, Caleb Rosson, Michelle Rhodes

"A" Honor Roll

Brooke Bedford, Carson James, Jael Williams

"A/B" Honor Roll

Caleb Rosson, Ethan Sedden, Mario Delarosa, Brayde Knight, Erika Puentez, Thoren Charles, Erika Hargrave, Kyle Kelton

4th grade - Mrs. Bearden

"A" Honor Roll

Roger Henson, Leah Jones, Kimberly Lee, Harley Wallace

"A/B" Honor Roll

Austin Mertz, Vaughn Stillely, Jaylon Seales, Amy Godinez, Brent Kelly

Super Citizens

Leah Jones, Kimberly Lee, Leticia Pena, Harley Wallace

Met A/R Goal

Kimberly Lee, Harley Wallace

Perfect Attendance

Kim Lee, Leticia Pena, Amy Godinez, Dustin Minjarez, Harley Wallace, Brent Kelly, Vaughn Stillely, Leah Jones, Rani Parks, Ashley Reyes

4th grade - Kandace Arrott

"A" Honor Roll

Katie Austin, Mackenzie Jones

"A/B" Honor Roll

Teresa Alcala, Creed Coalson, Stephanie Huntley, Jordan Rowan, Jill Scott

Super Citizen

Maria Puentez, Stephanie Huntley, Mackenzie Jones, Jonathan Reyes, Jill Scott

Perfect Attendance

Creed Coalson, Randon Eubanks, Stephanie Huntley, Jonathan Reyes, Jill Scott

5th grade

"A" Honor Roll

Chase Harris, Benito Fuentez, Arlis McMullan

Super Citizen

Ally Franco, Chase Harris, Arlis McMullan, Dakota Rawls, Kelsey Sedden

Met A/R Goal

Cheyenne Boyd, Ally Franco, Chase Harris, Arlis McMullan, Dakota Rawls, Kerwin Rawls, Kelsey Sedden

Perfect Attendance

Cheyenne Boyd, Jake Cotter, Peyton Eubanks, Joshua Hargrave, Chase Harris, Dakota Rawls, Justin Saldana, Kelsey Sedden

6th grade - Mrs. Turner

"A" Honor Roll

Crawford James

Super Citizen

Chelsea Cook, Eric Wheless, Louie Martinez, Crawford James

A/R Reading Goal

Chelsea Cook, Katie Aguirre, Kimberly Womack, Crawford James

Perfect Attendance

Katie Aguirre, Kasey Glover, Crawford James, Louie Martinez, Rob Rosson, Ashley Royall, Jeremy Sanchez, Wesley Suter, Eric Wheless, Haydan White, Kimberly Womack

6th grade - Mrs. H. Lee

"A" Honor Roll

Bill Miller, Jacob Scott, Shelbi Waller



Kandace Arrott's Bronte 4th graders enjoyed a pizza party after having the highest percentage of participation during Red Ribbon Week.

Super Citizen

Stephanie Frasier, Bill Miller, Krista Moore, Jacob Scott

Met A/R Goal

Krista Moore, Jacob Scott, Emilie Jimenez, Hank Dennard

Perfect Attendance

Samantha Coffey, Emilie Jimenez, Dannie Martinez, Krista Moore, Jackson Rowan, Jacob Scott, Shelbi Waller

"A" Honor Roll

Jessi England, Samuel Rawlings

7th grade

Stephanie Flores, Casey Harris, Holly Huskerson, Lora Martinez, Gus Saunders, Savannah Martinez

9th grade

Philip Rawlings, Logan Rawls

10th grade

Rebecca Rawlings, Bailey Saunders

11th grade

Ashleigh Kelly

12th grade

Arriel Marrs, Corin Garcia, Kailey Howell, Joseph Israel, Britney McCutchen, Casey McKee, Ashley Torres, Chase Williams, Diane Womack

"A/B" Honor Roll

Matthew Allen, Israel Cecilio, Ariel Coalson, Geoffrey Ehl, Cory Glover, Ty Mackey, Will Macon, Eddie May, Johnnye Michael, Nicole Reed, Reece Springer

8th grade

Emily Austin, Zack Breeding, Tyler Lee, Terrah Macon, C.J. McClure, Zachary Bennett, Marcy McMorris, Emilie McMullan, Kyle Nealey, Miranda Parks, Cody Wallace, Cody Waller

9th grade

Sarah Adams, Rebekah Beauchamp, Patty Galvan, Eric Hendrickson, Jonathan Marrs, Alonzo Martinez, John

Paul Martinez, Juston Taylor

10th grade

Garrett Acker, Sarah Basquez, Riley Coalson, Megan Gibbs, Lilly McMullan, Curtis Moore, Jaylon Saunders, Cheyenne Webb

11th grade

Justin Frazee, Romana Hoover, Calli Johnson, Jasmine Kresta, Ryan Martinez, Ashley McCutchen, Desiree Mirelez, Cody Moore, Stephen Tomes, Garrett Jackson

12th grade

Ashley Denton, Josh Eubanks, Garrett Fiveash, Kendra Graves, B.J. Hall, Cody Lee, C.J. Macon, Justin Minjarez, Justin Moore, Jesse Rodriguez, Andrea Sanchez, Scott Snyder, Logan Acker, Tyson Baker, Kanah Coalson, Jayci Malone, Natalee Reed

SHIRLEY'S PLACE

116 N State Street
Highway 277
Bronte, Texas

TUESDAY
NOV. 25

PHOTO HOURS
10-1 & 2-4:30

\$12⁹⁹ plus tax
99¢ deposit plus tax
Group Charge 99¢ per person plus tax

1 - 10x13

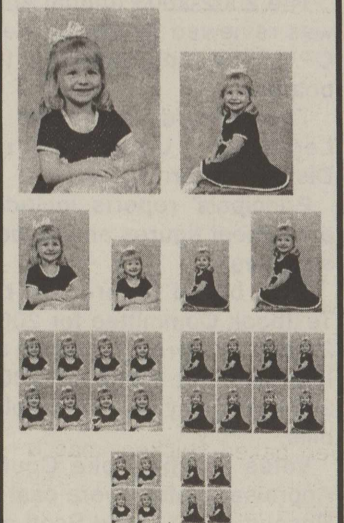
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2 - 3x5s

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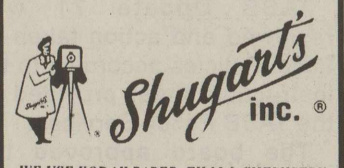
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Robert Lee UIL Awards Assembly set

The annual UIL Awards Assembly for Robert Lee Elementary School and Robert Lee Junior High School will be held on Tuesday, November 25, 2003 at 9:30 am in the school auditorium. All parents and community leaders are invited to attend this assembly. For more information, please contact Judy Shook or Cynthia Dillard at 453-4555.

Robert Lee PTO hosts Fall Festival

The Robert Lee PTO hosted the annual Fall Festival on Saturday, November 1, 2003 at the Pavilion in the Coke County Park. There were 15 booths put up by various organizations.

Participating groups included: PTO, Project Graduation, Spanish Club, FCCLA, Coke County Headstart parents, RLVFD Ladies Auxiliary, Meagan Ross, Kindergarten, Pre-K, 2nd grade, Robert Lee Baptist Church Youth Group, Cindy's and AON.

Booths included fishing, duck pond, prize walk, bean bag toss, haunted house, face painting, coke ring toss, funnel cakes, sandy candy, book covers, cake walk, and train rides. There were also two inflatable castles from Fiesta Fun Jumps out of Bronte. Proceeds from the Fall Festival go toward the needs of the participating groups. The Fall Festival was a huge success!

RLJH basketball results

On the 17th, the Robert Lee junior high "A" team lost to Sterling City "A" team by a score of 60-19. Scoring for Robert Lee: Allison Millican 5; Megan Percifull 3; Andrea Pineda 5, and Molly Burns 6.

The "B" team lost to Sterling City by a score of 22-4. Scoring for Robert Lee was Arrin Minjarez with 4 points.

RLHS students work toward flag storage solution

Robert Lee Independent School District art students, Shannon Honse, Monica Rodriguez, and Cole Flanagan, noticed a problem and found a solution. Last year it was brought to their attention that there was not a proper place to store the American flag or the Texas flag to protect them from harm. With the help of Mrs. Service, art teacher, they

designed and created two containers to house the flags. Two rectangle metal boxes were created and the students went to work.

Shannon chose the American flag, and the Texas flag went to Monica and Cole. Each was required to develop several ideas for the outside decoration of the boxes and do research concerning the symbolism of the images and colors. Next, they picked a final design. Shannon chose to paint the background of her box with the red and white stripes of the flag. Over that, she painted a free flowing ribbon of blue with white stars running the full length of the lid of the box and down the sides of the box. Using shading techniques, she gave the ribbon a three dimensional appearance.

Monica and Cole decided to go with a home grown approach in their design. Their pattern was similar to those seen on homemade quilts. They used the single star from the Texas flag as their pattern and created a tessellation across their box. The stars were then painted with the red, blue, and white of the Texas flag, and the background was then finished in black and gold leaf. The inside of each box was finished in red felt and gold braid.

Once the flags receive a permanent location, plaques explaining the history and symbolism of the flags will be made and placed along side.

The school would like to applaud the efforts of these three students for putting their time, effort, and talent into such a beautiful home for our flags.

RLHS Spanish Club to host enchilada dinner

The Robert Lee High School Spanish Club will sponsor an enchilada dinner in the school cafeteria prior to the Robert Lee vs. Bronte basketball games on Tuesday, November 25.

Ticket prices are \$5.00 for adults and \$3.00 for children 12 and under. The meal will consist of enchiladas, beans, rice, salad, hot sauce, chips, tea and dessert.

Dinner will be served from 4:30 to 6:30 pm. Take out and delivery will be available. Tickets are available from any Spanish Club member.

**Robert Lee School Awards
Second Six Weeks
Perfect Attendance**

Kindergarten

Karlee Roach, Kodi Drennan, Ricky Williams, Brandon Torres, Ben Allen, Hunter Hamrick

1st grade

James Roberts, Mychael Tijerina, Reagan Overton, Daria Tinkler, Jaden Aldridge

2nd grade

Will Howard, Eric Wells, Sydney Sheldon, Taylor Sheldon, Efrain Olguin, Steven Ferguson, Bianca Huapilla, Cheyenne Ellis, Kevin Saucedo, Shelby Davis, Jacob Torres, Alexis Mendoza

3rd Grade

Josh Barnes, Zachary Sanchez, Makenna Netting, Dawson Brisbin, Sara Lara, James Skinner, Randy Barnett, Cooper Hinderliter, Grady Barnett, Jimmie Hageman, Jonah Saucedo, Justin Gartman, Jordan Gartman

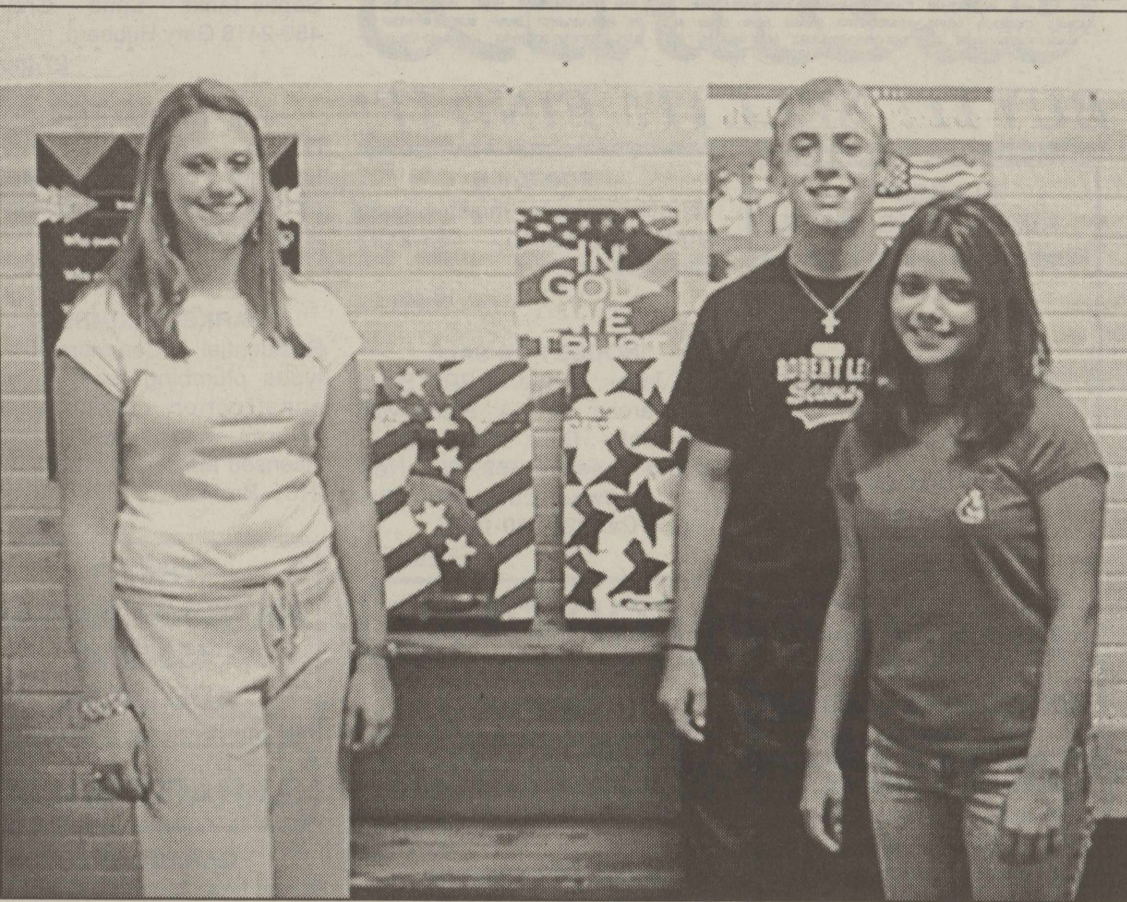
4th grade

Garrett Rogers, Beeanca Bower, Diana Vera, Meagan Ross, Linsey Arellano, Samantha Fernandez

5th grade

Travis Sailer, Josh Rowoldt, Tanner Brickey, Kacee Roberts,

ROBERT LEE SCHOOL NEWS



Shown with their flag storage boxes are RLHS students (from left) Shannon Honse, Cole Flanagan and Monica Rodriguez.

Joe Estrada, Paul Pineda, Logan Phillee, Haden Dillard, Amanda Mendoza, Anthony Coffey, Sarah Walker, Luke Sheldon, Gregory Gonzales, Connie Saucedo

6th grade

Erika Sheldon, Blake Millican, Emilee Yanez, Nancy Landeros, Sarah Jones, Olivia Trejo, Devin Batten, Cody Brosh, Larry Sheridan, Kerri Sheridan, Emily Arellano, Briana Brisbin

**Accelerated Reader Honor Roll
1st grade**

James Roberts, Jerry Wofford

2nd grade

Shaylee Bell, Shelby Davis, Cheyenne Ellis, Steven Ferguson, Hanna Hamrick, Will Howard, Bianca Huapilla, Dereck Lockhart, Samantha Arellano, Alexis Mendoza, Ciera Millican, Efrain Olguin, Kevin Saucedo, Sydney Sheldon, Taylor Sheldon, Jacob Torres, Eric Wells

3rd grade

Josh Barnes, Grady Barnett, Vincent Batten, Faylin Bell, Dawson Brisbin, Jordan Gartman, Justin Gartman, Cooper Hinderliter, Dusty Howard, Sara Lara, Makenna Netting, Zachary Sanchez, Jimmy Ferguson, Zach Skinner, Randy Barnett, Ashlie Wheat, Laredo Williamson

4th grade

Linsey Arellano, Beeanca Bower, Melodee Gunter, Jared Long, Chad Martin, Kimberly Roach, Garrett Rogers, Meagan Ross, Aaron Sharp, Diana Vera

5th grade

Heidi Austin, Tanner Brickey, Haden Dillard, Devorja Goodman, Rajee Goodman, Daniel Nowlin, Logan Phillee, Skylar Rainwater, Kacee Roberts, Travis Sailer, Diego Saucedo, Luke Sheldon, J.P. Conner, Joe Estrada, Gregory Gonzales, Connie Saucedo, Sarah Walker, Ginny Caston

6th grade

Briana Brisbin, Cody Brosh, Justina Gloria, Tanner Hanigan, Terry McDonald, Erika Sheldon, Miguel Perez, Kerri Sheridan, Larry Sheridan, Emily Arellano, Devin Batten, Cayetano Carrera, Sarah Jones, Nancy Landeros, Blake Millican, Stetson Nesbit, Emilee Yanez, Anthony Coffey

Honor Roll

3rd grade

Faylin Bell, Jordan Gartman, Justin Gartman, Zachary Sanchez, Ashlie Wheat

4th grade

Linsey Arellano, Chad Martin, Kimberly Roach, Raquel Rojas, Meagan Ross, Melodee Gunter

5th grade

Heidi Austin, Haden Dillard, Kacee Roberts, Travis Sailer, Diego Saucedo, Skyler Rainwater

6th grade

Emily Arellano, Stetson Nesbit, Briana Brisbin, Sarah Jones, Emilee Yanez

"A" Honor Roll

7th grade

Holly Austin, Kaden Duncan, Mason Ross, Cori Torres

8th grade

Molly Burns, Ashley Hopson, Allison Millican, Chase Roe

Continued on Page 7

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**RLHS Spanish Club
Enchilada Dinner**
Tuesday • November 25, 2003
Dine-In or Delivery
School Cafeteria
4:30 - 6:30 pm
Adults \$5 • Children 12 & Under \$3

The Robert Lee Independent School District will hold a public meeting on Schools FIRST At 7:00 pm December 11, 2003 In the RLHS Library 1323 Hamilton, Robert Lee, Texas

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss Robert Lee ISD's Financial Accountability Rating.

Following the Schools FIRST Public Hearing A Public Hearing will be held at approximately 7:15 pm on the TEA Academic Excellence Indicators System Ratings for Robert Lee ISD.

School Menu

Breakfast
Monday, Oct. 24
Juice, burrito, cereal, milk
Tuesday, Oct. 25
Juice, breakfast pizza, cereal, milk
Wed., Oct. 26
Holiday
Thurs., Oct. 27
Holiday
Friday, Oct. 28
Holiday

Lunch
Monday, Oct. 24
Oven baked chicken, mac & cheese, green beans, roll, pineapple, milk
Tuesday, Oct. 25
Hamburger, salad, tator tots, pickles, ice cream, milk
Wed., Oct. 26
Holiday
Thurs., Oct. 27
Holiday
Friday, Oct. 28
Holiday

...RLISD Awards

Continued from Page 5

9th grade

Katie Bessent, Kelsy Duncan, Dixie Johnson, Cody McCabe, Sarah Philley

10th grade

Andra Braswell, Kyla Millican, Lance Millican, Cassidy Wink

11th grade

Stacey Denton, Kayli Dickey, Jake McCabe, Julie Riley, Lindsey Roe, Brittany Soliz

12th grade

Brian Abalos, Josh Alexander, Monica Barrera, Cole Flanagan, Jennifer Fluhmann, Jessica Fluhmann, Shannon Honse, Tyler Lott, Monica Rodriguez, R. J. Service, Rachel Wallace

"A/B" Honor Roll

7th grade

Garrett Blair, Kimberly Cardenas, Prescilla Lara, Kelsey Martin, Olga Perez, Megan Robinson, Michael Rodriguez, Norma Rojas, Jodi Sheldon, Lacie Sheridan, Jimmy Womack

8th grade

Jesse Braswell, Cody Denton, Brody Dillard, Landry Gunter, Briana Longoria, Megan Percifull, Taylor Percifull, Andrea Pineda, Anna Rojas, Ronald Shaw, Kasie Skinner, Luke Thurman

9th grade

Jaden Alexander, Nicole Fields, Erica O'Neil, Brettne Reed, Rosa Rojas, Rebecca Skinner, Eleasar Vera

10th grade

Tina Arellano, Cara Eaton, Christan Kelly, Shannon Martin, Amanda Thurman, Stephanie Trejo, Carolina Vera

11th grade

Wade Arledge, Cody Bridges, Yolanda Olguin, Clarissa Peel, Robert Raney, Michele Sanchez, Ashley Womack

12th grade

Felipe Arellano, Evan Braswell, Amber Ferrell

Robert Lee Project Graduation 2005

Robert Lee Project Graduation 2005 will be taking orders for basketball shirts. Shirts will be available in short or long sleeves. FMI contact Cindy Riley, Valarie Howard, Elena Sanchez or go by Cathy's to place your order.

RLHS Spanish Club to participate in project

The Robert Lee High School Spanish Club will take on a new service project this year. Operation Christmas Child is an exciting project of Samaritan's Purse that demonstrated God's love through gift-filled shoeboxes.

Each year, caring individuals, families, churches, schools, businesses, and other groups fill shoeboxes with toys, school supplies, and other items for children in need.

Working with national churches and ministries around the world, the shoeboxes are distributed to millions of children affected by war, poverty, disease, and disaster.

Everyone is urged to help the club bring Christmas to needy children this year. If you would like to participate, please contact Elena Sanchez at 453-4555.

Shoeboxes will be taken to San Angelo on Monday, November 17. Please join the RLHS Spanish Club in sharing the true meaning of Christmas through Operation Christmas Child.

Silent auction to benefit RLHS Spanish Club

The silent auction will be a new fundraising idea that the Robert Lee High School Spanish Club will be trying out this year.

Every member of the club is asked to bring a new item, ran-

ging in price from \$5-\$10 in value, for his or her assigned game. The item can be anything from a baked item (cakes, pies, cookies, casseroles, tamales, etc.) to a purchased item (Christmas ornaments, tools, deer corn, craft items, etc.).

All items need to be at RLHS by 1 pm of their assigned game day.

Anyone wishing to bid on a particular item will be given a form to fill out and will then be assigned a number. The items will be on display behind the gate in the foyer. The person with the highest bid will be announced during half time of the varsity boys' games. The winners may then pick up and pay for their items.

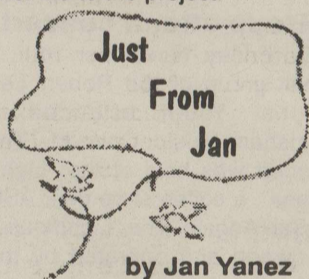
For questions, please call Elena Sanchez at 453-4555 or 453-2131.

Coke County Library news

Children's Book Week is November 17-23 and this is the eighty-fourth observance of the occasion. It is celebrated each week before Thanksgiving and is a reminder that the earlier a child has books, the better the child does academically. Birthdays and Christmas are good times to give children books. Somehow a book remains in the child's possession long after the other gifts are worn and forgotten. Perhaps it is because reading a book is truly interactive.

The Library will be covered in sage on Friday. Everyone is invited to make a donation to the RLVFD Fire Station Fund and pick up some of the fresh, home-grown herbs for the holidays. Fran Lomas, who has been growing herbs in her garden for some time, has donated the sage. First come, first served.

The first step in the automation process at the library has taken place. A card for each book has been checked and marked sent to the automation center for conversion. The company has said that the bar codes, computers, and software will be ready for use in February. The job was complete on time thanks to a volunteer who dedicated a couple of weeks of her life to the project.



by Jan Yanez
Cooperative
Extension Agent

Turkey for the Holidays

Thawing Safely

In the refrigerator -

*Thaw the turkey in its original wrap on a tray placed in the bottom section of the refrigerator.

*Allow about 24 hours of defrost time for every 5 pounds of turkey. Example: a 20 pound turkey will take 4 to 5 days to thaw.

*Do not thaw on the counter. Thawing at room temperature increases the risk of bacteria growth.

*At room temperature, bacteria on the turkey can grow rapidly when the outside portion of the bird begins to thaw. These bac-

teria can multiply to dangerously high levels producing toxins that cooking may not destroy.

In cold weather -

*Thawing in cold water is safe too. Submerge the bird in its wrapper in a deep sink of cold water and change the water every 30 minutes to keep it cold.

*Allow 30 minutes per pound to defrost a turkey in cold water. Do not use warm or hot water.

Microwave Thawing

*Microwave thawing is another option. Make sure your microwave oven is large enough to hold the turkey especially if the oven has a rotating tray.

*Check manufacturer's instructions for the size turkey that will fit into your oven.

*Caution: Microwave defrosting is irregular, creating hot spots, which may encourage bacterial growth. Cook the turkey immediately after defrosting. Do not store in the refrigerator for cooking later.

Stuffing Safely

*Never stuff the turkey in advance in an effort to save time.

*Once you have decided on a stuffing recipe, mix ingredients quickly and lightly stuff the washed cavity just before placing the bird in the oven.

*Allow 1/2 to 3/4 cup stuffing per pound of turkey.

*Stuffing needs room to expand during cooking, do not over-stuff.

Stuffing must be cooked to a minimum temperature of 165 degrees F to be safe.

*Stuffing should be removed from the cavity of the bird to a separate dish before carving the turkey.

*Store leftover stuffing in the refrigerator and use within 1 to 2 days.

Cooking Turkey Safely

*Decide how much turkey you will need before you shop. Buy one pound per person or 1 1/2 pounds per person if you have hearty eaters or want ample leftovers.

*Buy and use a meat thermometer. Dark meat takes longer to cook so always insert the thermometer in the thickest part of the turkey thigh. It will register 180 degrees F when the turkey is done.

*Make sure you have a roasting



Local veterans gathered at Robert Lee Schools for a Veterans' Day program Tuesday, November 11, 2003. These veterans served in World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, and the Cold War. Speaker for the program was Sergeant Major Troy Hensley, USMC retired, of Wingate (right).

pan large enough for the turkey.

*Wash hands, sinks, counters, utensils and platters thoroughly with soap and hot water before and after working with raw turkey.

*Stuff just before roasting or cook stuffing separate from the turkey.

*Allow the cooked turkey to sit for at least 20 minutes before carving. During this time juices will be redistributed and the turkey will be easier to carve.

*After the meal, cover and store leftovers in the refrigerator as soon as possible.

*Remember the safest margin is 2 hours from the time you take the bird out of the oven.

*Leftover turkey will keep in the refrigerator for 3 to 4 days.

Storing Leftovers

*Plan ahead, clean out the refrigerator and make room for leftovers several days before the

holiday feast.

*Leftovers should be stored in the refrigerator within 2 hours after cooking is completed. Why just 2 hours? Because bacteria that cause food poisoning can multiply to undesirable levels on perishable foods left at room temperature for longer than that.

*Large quantities should be divided into smaller portions and stored in several shallow containers. Food in small amounts will chill faster keeping it safer and fresher.

*If a large amount of turkey is left, consider freezing some for later use. Do not wait until the turkey has been in the refrigerator for 4 days to freeze it. Freezing will not improve the quality of the turkey. If the turkey is frozen while it is fresh the quality will be better upon defrosting.

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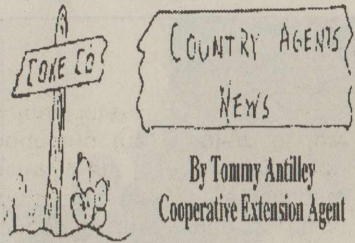
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Types of Livestock Supplement and Timing of Supplemental Feeding

As cattle producers, we all have known to use protein supplements to improve performance of cattle grazing drought dormant or frost-killed pastures. Protein supplements, by improving digestibility and forage intake, are efficient in maintaining cattle performance on lower quality pasture.

When pastures become short or the quality is very poor, energy supplementation can complement protein supplementation, but the efficiency of response is much lower. Grain and molasses (starch supplements) are most efficient when consumed at less than 0.25% of the animal's weight, while the fiber supplements, hulls, wheat midds, etc. appear to be utilized more efficiently than the grains where moderate to large amounts are needed (0.25-0.75 percent of body weight.)

Now comes the question of energy supplementation relative to calving. Is it better to feed a thin cow before calving or following calving? Extensive studies have shown that cows need to be in good body condition (scores of 5.5 to 7) to be able to breed back quickly and maintain a good calving record. Cows in poor body condition (3 and 4) are always slow to breed back, if at all, will not milk well and have weaker calves with increased health problems. These body condition scores are a visual appraisal of the cows condition and can be easily determined with a little practice. If you would like assistance in determining your cattle body condition score, I would be glad to assist you.

In dry, low quality conditions during the winter, it is extremely important to maintain your livestock's condition before they begin to lose weight. Besides hurting your weaning weights on the present calf with lower milking rates, body condition of cattle now can have a tremendous effect on how soon they will breed back, if at all, and how large a calf they will wean next year. Your decisions on supplemental feeding this winter can have either positive or devastating effects on your operation for the next 14-18 months. Trying to play catch-up after calving or cows begin to lose weight, is next to impossible economically, if not biologically. It's like the old commercial, "You can either pay a little now or pay a lot later."

In supplementing your livestock, it is important to remember that protein can be stored by animals, therefore protein supplements can be fed only two or three times a week. On the other hand, if energy is the limiting factor, livestock cannot store energy, therefore it must be supplemented every day. Also, if available forage is of poor quality, there is a misconception that cattle will just eat more, but in reality, if quality of grass is poor and low in digestibility, it takes longer for the rumen to digest the forage, forcing the animal to actually eat less per day, compounding the problem of low nutrient intake.

When buying supplemental feed, determine the cost by actual pounds of protein and nutrients found in the feed. Sometimes the so called "bargain cubes" if figured on pounds of actual protein, are not really a bargain at all. Feeds containing some source of non-nitrogen protein (usually urea) are not totally utilized by the animal. If you are buying feed containing this unnatural protein source and they only utilize about 75-80% of the protein, your 20% feed is only furnishing about 15-16%. To get the needed amounts of protein in the animal, you must actually feed more of this type of feed, increasing the cost.

One other item to be considered is the amount of money spent on maintaining your herds. If conditions are bad enough that you are having to supplement nearly the entire supply of nutrients for cattle, don't get caught in the trap of going through the winter and owing the bank for livestock and feed store for feed. There are always some animals that could be culled for some reason -- sell these animals and use that money to buy feed for the rest.

Sheriff Styles discusses what to do if your horse is stolen

Coke County Sheriff Rick Styles recently attended a Horse Theft Awareness and Prevention program co-sponsored by the Sheriff's Association of Texas, Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers' Association, and the Texas Agricultural Extension Service. The information presented at this program dealt with the fact that a large number of horses and horse related items are stolen annually across the state and nation. Unfortunately, Coke County is not exempt from horse thieves. Some of the information presented during the program is listed below:

Quick action and persistent legwork are crucial to recovering a stolen horse. The actions you take in the first 24 hours after a horse is stolen can mean the difference between recovery and loss. Longtime persistence can also pay off, as horses have been reunited with their owners even years after the theft.

To improve your chances of recovering a stolen horse, act quickly to report and spread the word about the theft.

Report the theft

Begin recovery efforts by reporting the theft to the law enforcement agency with primary jurisdiction in your area. Important papers need to be gathered to help identify the horse and prove ownership:

- *Receipt of purchase, bill of sale and/or canceled check; breed registration papers illustrating brands, marks, and scars;

- *Brand and other identification certificates;

- *Health certificate, Coggins test, and veterinarian receipts; and

- *At least four good color photographs of the horse, showing brand, marks, and scars.

Photos should include both sides, front and rear views. These should be updated yearly to include the horse's summer and winter appearance.

Although you may be able to report the crime to more than one agency, only one set of statistics on each crime reported is sent to the National Crime Information Center. Reports to other agencies are supplemental, but consider following up with any agencies whose jurisdiction may overlap.

Texas Livestock Inspection Program

Texas is one of several states and certain Canadian provinces with livestock inspection programs that include horses. Texas legislation has given investigation and inspection authority to the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association (TSCRA). TSCRA brand inspectors are the most likely people to spot a missing horse, if it is reported missing and has been identified properly. TSCRA is also the designated contact with the International Livestock Identification Association. So, contact TSCRA immediately.

Breed associations

If the horse is registered, alert the registry that it has been stolen. Associations like to know about issues affecting their membership. Also, an innocent buyer may look for registration information or papers on your missing horse.

Livestock auctions and horse sales

The U.S. Department of Agricultural Packers and Stockyards Administration has three regional offices, one of which will have an auction list for your area. If more than one auction is held in your area daily, try to attend all of them.

At the auctions be sure to check the parking lot sales. Look in all trailers and holding pens. Sometimes horses show up in the auction yard seconds before the actual sale begins. Unfortunately, fictitious papers can be flashed hurriedly and sometimes no one challenges their authenticity. Professional thieves know how to bypass auctions and work through people who may not know they are buying stolen goods.

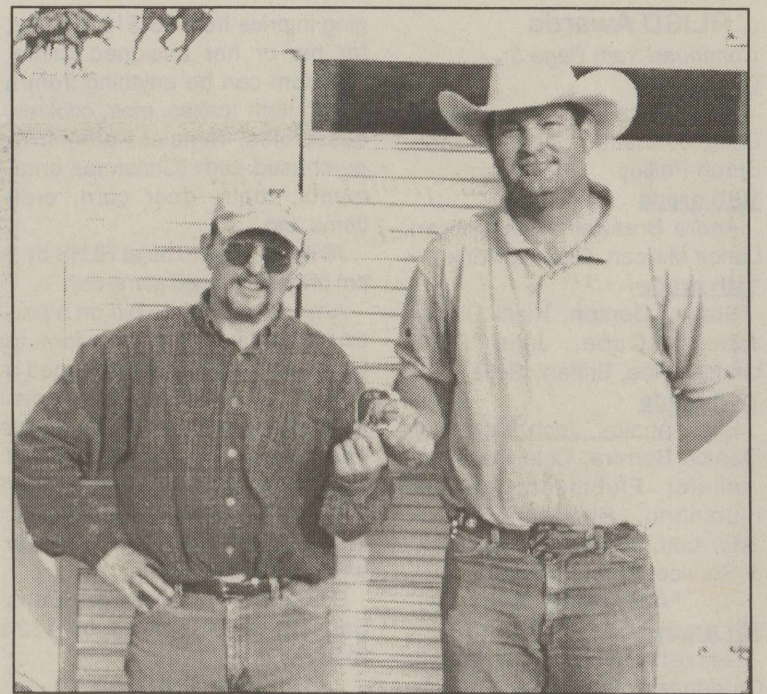
Other tips

If you have other horses that are not permanently identified, consider selecting some method of permanent ID. Consider installing a security system if your property has none. Thieves may be tempted to return to "easy" marks.

If you locate your horse, keep it under surveillance and stay as far away as possible. Never trespass. Call the law enforcement agency assigned to your case and let it handle the recovery.

It is also a good idea to identify your saddles and tack. The replacement value on most horseowner's tack and saddles can amount to \$10,000 or more.

Sheriff Styles also added that it is very helpful if you take the time to write down the license



Winning the final buckle roping of the 2003 Coke County Roping Club season are Hal Spain (left) and Johnny Moore.

plate numbers and VIN numbers of your vehicles and trailers. If you suffer a loss, this is the first question that law enforcement will ask.

If you have questions or need assistance, please contact the Sheriff's Office at 453-2717.

The '64 Study Club hears Rehab services program

The '64 Study Club met on November 11, 2003 at the Catholic Church Fellowship building with 55 persons present.

Emphasis for the program was on Thanksgiving and honoring all of our veterans. Since January is the month for fund raising for the West Texas Rehab, Eva Horton from West Texas Rehab discussed several services that are available at the Rehab for adults as well as children. In January, the "Rehab Phone Bank" will again be at Ivey Motors.

All the members of the Social Committee were hostesses for the occasion.

Celebrating birthdays in November are Johnetta Lawrence, Beverly Sinclair and Jennie Lee Tinkler.

RL Baptist Youth Group attend concert

On Friday, November 14th, a small group of the Robert Lee Baptist Youth attended a Christian Music Concert. The concert was held at the "Lighthouse", a coffee shop near ASU in San Angelo. The "Lighthouse" is owned and operated by the Salvation Army and their employees.

The "Tree 63" Worship team led us in praise and worship. They are from South Africa and are currently on tour here in the

United States. Their rock and roll style worship music was very uplifting and inspirational.

Our Youth Department is a place for all youth of Junior and High School ages. Everyone is welcome to come praise and worship God with us. Our next outing will be a skating trip on November 29th. For more information, call 453-2724.

Rehab 2004

One of the hottest young stars in country music today will be the headline performer for Rehab 2004. WTRC President and CEO, Woody Gilliland, announced recently that Joe Nichols will perform at the 34th annual telethon to benefit the West Texas Rehabilitation Center.

Rehab 2004 will be Saturday, January 17th originating from the Abilene Civic Center. The five-hour live show that begins at 7 pm will be broadcast in 10 television markets in Texas and portions of Oklahoma and New Mexico.

Joining Joe Nichols at Rehab 2004 will be Charlie Chase, Red Steagall, and regulars Bill and Susan Hayes, Anacani, and Brad Maule.

The telethon is the largest fundraiser of the year for the Rehab with a goal to raise over \$1 million in support of the Rehab's mission, to improve the quality of life of those served regardless of their financial circumstances.

Send your news in through the internet.

Email:

CokeCoObserver@aol.com

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

COKE COUNTY DEER PROCESSING

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We will be

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