

THE OBSERVER/ ENTERPRISE

Serving Coke County

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Friday, January 2, 2004

January 2 is deadline to file for primary election

Friday, Jan. 2, 2004 is the deadline to file for political office in Coke County. Most county office holders whose terms are ending in 2004 have already filed for re-election. Paul Burns, Commissioner in Pct. 1, is the only incumbent who will not be seeking re-election at the end of his term. That announcement has drawn three candidates who will be on the Democratic Primary ballot in the March 9, 2004 election. Those filing (so far) for the Precinct 1 position are Jimmie Byrne, James Royall, and Gene Montgomery.

Another new candidate is Marty Boyd, seeking the Pct. 2 Constable's position. That office has been vacant since the resignation of Russell Johnson last spring.

For those who have not yet filed, the paperwork is available at the office of County Clerk Mary Grim. Filing for office must be with Democratic Chair Patti Ivey or Republican Chair Kathy Pentecost.

Friday, Jan. 2, 2004, at 6:00 pm is the deadline for filing for any of these offices. The primary election will be held March 9, 2004, and if a run-off election is

necessary, it will be held April 13, 2004.

Courthouse closed for holidays

The Coke County courthouse will be closed January 1 and 2 in observance of New Years.

Holiday closings

Robert Lee City Hall will close January 1 and 2 for the New Year holiday. There will be no change in the schedule for trash collection. Have a safe New Year holiday.

Gospel singing set for Sunday

The regular monthly community gospel singing will be held Sunday, January 4, from 2:00 to 4:00 pm at the Central Baptist Church in Bronte. Everyone in the area is invited to come and enjoy this fellowship time together.

FSA producer sign up for DCP slated

Producers who wish to participate in the farm program (DCP) for the 2004 crop year are encouraged to visit the



office and sign up. Producers who signed up for 2002 and 2003 MUST sign up for 2004. This will be an every year sign up until the DCP program

ends in 2007. Sign up will be much quicker than last year so hopefully producers won't have to spend as much time in the office to complete sign up.

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

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

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

2004 Rec Hall bookings to begin January 5

To make reservations for the Coke County Rec Halls either in Bronte or Robert Lee, please call 453-2641 or come by the Judge's office at the Courthouse in Robert Lee.

The first day bookings will be accepted for either rec hall for 2004 will be January 5, 2004, at 7 am at the Coke County Courthouse.

ASU fall graduates announced

Angelo State University conferred degrees upon 322 students during 2003 Fall commencement exercises December 20 in San Angelo.

Cynthia Hon Weeaks of Robert Lee received her Bachelor of Arts degree.

Mark R. Sites of Bronte received his Bachelor of Science in Nursing.



Otis Harding, a Coke County resident and avid bow hunter, killed this bobcat at his residence near Robert Lee while whitetail hunting from a tree stand. The bobcat measured 30 inches and weighed between 25 and 30 pounds.



One, two, three shoot! Dillon Albritten took this ten point buck, one of the biggest killed in Coleman County during the 2002 season, while hunting with his grandfather, Doug Baldwin. Dillon and Doug saw the big buck, set up the timing of their shots and fired. When all was said and done, the buck and an unseen doe were down. As Dillon's first deer, this buck has set a high standard. Dillon, a student at Panther Creek and resident of Gouldbusk, is the son of Jeff and ReNee Albritten and the grandson of Doug and Merle Baldwin of San Angelo.

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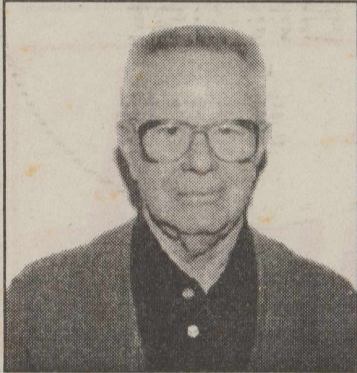
STAFF

Hal Spain, Publisher Melinda McCutchen, Editor
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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

Obituaries



Brewer

Jack Harper Brewer is survived by his wife of 51 years. He had one niece, Kay Shaddox Clements and husband Roger of Fairbanks, Alaska; one nephew Troy Shaddox and wife Susan and their children, Grace and Sam of Tonasket, Washington; brother-in-law Kenneth Shaddox and wife, Fern of Tahlequah, Oklahoma. He was preceded in death by his parents W.A. (Hap) and Maragerite (Marge) Brewer of Stilwell, Oklahoma and his sister Peggy Shaddox of Tahlequah, Oklahoma.

Jack was born in Stilwell on November 29, 1927. He attended public school there. After graduation he volunteered for the Navy and served until the end of World War II. Following his discharge he played football at Oklahoma Eastern A & M and graduated from Northeastern State at Tahlequah. After graduation he moved to Borger, Texas to start his coaching career which lasted for 36 years.

While in Borger, Jack married Nina Starkey who was also a coach-teacher. They had no children but had many young friends that they "claimed" as their own.

After coaching in Borger for 3 years, Jack moved on to the college level of Howard Payne

University where he coached for 3 years. HPU won the Conference Title (1954). His next move was to La Vega High School of Waco as Head Coach (1956-1958). Jack was named Central Texas Coach of the Year in 1957.

Jack and Nina moved to Odessa, Ector County ISD, (1958-1986) where Jack held the following positions; Odessa High Assistant Coach (under Hayden Fry, Odessa High Head Coach, Assistant Athletic Director, Permian High School Assistant Principal, Hood Junior High Principal and ECISD Athletic Director. During Jack's 17 year tenure as ECISD Athletic Director, the Odessa schools had the 10 year best win-loss record of schools in Texas AAAAA football. This included 4 state football championships. The Odessa schools under his leadership also had a state championship in basketball and 8 consecutive district titles in track. Under his direction, Odessa built a "state of the art" football stadium. It was completed in 1982.

Some of the many honors received: Texas Hall of Honor, Top of Texas Hall of Fame, Board of Directors for the High School Athletic Directors Association, National Athletic Association Board member, "Outstanding Alumnus" of his hometown of Stilwell, OK, Top of Texas Football Magazine "Hall of Fame"; Who's Who in Texas Education, Who's Who in American Education, Who's Who in International Education, Award for outstanding service to the youth of Odessa, "Outstanding Leadership" award. There are several more awards too numerous to mention.

He retired and moved to Robert Lee in 1986. Jack and Nina were avid fishermen and spent much time at Lake Spence and Lake Ivie.

The Brewers spent much time in church and civic work. At the time of his death, Jack was serving on the Upper Colorado River Authority Board of Directors. He was appointed to this board by the then Governor George W. Bush.

Because of his illness (Myelodysplasia-Leukemia), Jack no longer served on other boards such as the Housing Authority, Community Economic Development, EMS or as a consultant for Coke County Juvenile Prison. He no longer held offices in his church or the Retired Teachers organization. Because he had no resistance to infection, he stayed away from crowds and spent all the time he could fishing when his health permitted, and he read. Jack was such a "people-person" that staying away from his friends, "coffee drinking buddies" and especially church services was very hard for him.

He was blessed by his many friends from his coaching and teaching days. He was honored by the Howard Payne Texas Conference Champs of 1954 on September 20th of 2002. Every football player that could be contacted attended this gathering which was a tremendous honor 48 years after he coached that wonderful group of men. He was blessed by a great many athletes, coaches and friends that kept in touch with him over many years. He had a knack for loving everybody and was loved in return. He will be missed very much, not only by his wife, family and extended family, but by his many friends.

To honor and celebrate his life, a graveside service was held on Tuesday, Dec. 30, 2003, at 9:30 am at Hayrick Cemetery in Robert Lee. A memorial service followed at 10:30 at the First Baptist Church of Robert Lee.

A scholarship fund has been established for the youth of Robert Lee. In lieu of flowers, you may honor Jack Brewer with your contribution to the Jack and Nina Brewer Scholarship Fund, 2201 Sherwood Way, Suite 205, San Angelo, TX 76901.

23-1tc

Sanchez

Sofia Sanchez went to be with the Lord Sunday, December 21, 2003 at her residence. She was born April 7, 1918 in Alpine, Texas to Calistro and Isabel Marquez.



Ettie Hubbard and Dorthy Pruitt represented the Coke County Veterans Memorial committee in the Bronte Christmas parade.

Services were held at 1:00 pm on Tuesday, December 23, 2003 at St. James Catholic Church in Bronte. Arrangements were by Shaffer Funeral Home. Pallbearers were her grandsons.

Survivors include her husband Ramon Sanchez of Bronte; daughters Margarita Peters and Christina Tapia of Bronte; and Angelita Gloria of San Angelo; 10 grandchildren; and 16 great-grandchildren.

The family would like to thank all who sent flowers and food. Your thoughtfulness was sincerely appreciated.

23-1tp

Rampy

Clema L. Rampy, died Dec. 16, 2003. Services were held on Dec. 19, 2003 at Grape Creek Baptist Church.

Clema is survived by her husband of 58 years, Pete Rampy. She is also survived by two daughters, Judy Cathey and friend Tom Clark, Linda Fritz and friend Steve Tuckness, both of San Angelo; three grandsons, John Cathey and wife Angie, Larry Cathey and wife Brandy, and Michael Fritz and wife Misty, all of San Angelo; great-grandson, David Cathey; great-granddaughter, Jessie Cathey, also of San Angelo; two sisters, Cova Sparks and Dale Fields, both of Robert Lee; two sister-in-laws and husbands, Maxine and Jim Kimbro of Euless and Imogene and Jimmy Weddell of San Angelo; brother-in-law, Dale Rampy of San Angelo; also numerous nieces, nephews, and friends.

Pallbearers were Joe Rutherford, Scott Weddell, James Fields, Dedric Junginger, Eric Hasty, and Bucky Sparks. Honorary pallbearers were the "Joy" Sunday school class of Grape Creek Baptist Church.

Churches of Coke County

Invite You to Worship

Emmanuel Pentecostal
PO Box 683 • 1019 Colorado City Hwy
Robert Lee
(325) 453-2360
Rev. Ray Aldridge, Pastor
Sun. 10 am & 6 pm, Wed. 7 pm
First Baptist Church
424 S. Washington • Bronte
(325) 473-2331

Bro. Morris Johnson, Pastor
Sunday 9:45 am Sunday School,
10:55 am Worship, 6 pm Youth
and Worship
Wednesday 7 pm Prayer Meeting
First United Methodist Church
Corner of Washington & Holmes
Bronte
(325) 473-3281

Rev. Carol Fiero
Sun. 9:30 am Sunday School
10:45 am Worship
5:00 Youth

First United Methodist Church
PO Box 144 • 9th & Chadbourne
Robert Lee
(325) 453-2417

Rev. Steve Rowe, Pastor
Sun. 10 am Sunday School
11 am Worship
Wed. 7 pm Choir

Iglesia Bautista Bethel
101 Houston • Robert Lee
(325) 453-5003 • 453-2296
Pastor: Basilio Esquivel
Sun. 9:45, 11:00, & 11:30 am
& 6 pm, Wednesday 7 pm

Northside Church of Christ
PO Box 388 • 9th & Chadbourne
Robert Lee
(325) 453-2619 or 453-2270
Tommy Williams, Minister
Services: Sun. 10 am & 6 pm;
Wed. 7 pm

Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church
601 W. 10th, Robert Lee
(325) 365-2687
Rev. Hubert Wade, Jr., Pastor
Sat. 6 pm

Pecan Baptist
PO Box 542 • 12 miles West of Robert Lee
on Sterling City Hwy
(325) 453-2004
Sun. 10 am, Sunday School
11 am & 7 pm, Worship

Robert Lee Baptist Church
PO Box 493 • 22 W. 11th
(325) 453-2724
Bro. Mike Poye, Pastor
Sun. 9:45 am, Sunday School
11 am & 7 pm, Worship
Wed. 7 pm, Prayer Meeting

Southside Church of Christ
PO Box 698 • 8th & Houston
Robert Lee
(325) 453-2176
Frank J. Daniels, Preacher
Sun. 10 am, Sunday School
11 am & 6 pm, Worship
Wed. 7 pm, Worship

Tennyson Baptist Church
Hwy 277 • Tennyson
(325) 482-0663
Sun. 10:00 am, Sunday School
11:00 am & 6 pm, Worship

Victory Assembly of God
PO Box 638 • 6th & Houston
Robert Lee
(325) 453-2208
Rev. Erma Johnson, Pastor
Sun. 9:45 am, Sunday School
10:45 am & 6 pm, Worship
Wed. 6 pm, Prayer Meeting

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**I would like to announce my
candidacy for Coke County
Commissioner, Precinct 1.**

**I would appreciate your vote and
support in the upcoming Democratic
Primary Election.**

**James Royall
Candidate for
Coke County Commissioner, Pct. 1**

Pd. Pol. Adv. by James Royall

You are invited to come join us celebrate the

80th Birthday of

Dale Fields

Saturday, January 17, 2004

2:00 to 4:00 pm

Robert Lee Baptist Church

Fellowship Hall • Robert Lee, Texas

Hosted By:

Al, Lois, & Brad Fields

James, Peggy, Kelly & Casey Fields



The Bronte High School Chapter of the National Honor Society inducted seven new individuals into membership. In a candle-lighting ceremony held in the school's library Tuesday, December 16, 2003, Carissa Macon, Romana Hoover, Ashleigh Kelly, Ashley McCutchen, Salena Soto, Stephen Tomes and Garret Jackson were formally inducted. Each of these students were accepted into the membership based upon their scholarship, character, leadership and service attributes. Guest speaker for the occasion was Misti Taylor Bedford, a former NHS member and a 1989 Bronte High School graduate. Other senior NHS members included in the ceremony were Diane Womack, Corin Garcia, Ashley Denton, Natalee Reed, Logan Acker, Ariel Marrs, Jaycie Malone, Casey McKee, Britney McCutchen, and Kailey Howell.

The '64 Study Club news

The '64 Study Club met on December 9, 2003 for their Christmas dinner at the Catholic Church Fellowship building with 61 members and guests in attendance.

They were delightfully entertained by Larry Shotwell, Minister of Education and Senior Adults, First Baptist Church, San Angelo.

Hostesses were all members of the Social Committee.

Celebrating birthdays in December were Nettie Autry and Nita Duncan.

The next meeting will be on January 17, 2004, for the West Texas Rehabilitation Center's annual telethon at Ivey Motor.

WTRC Telethon set for January 17

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

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

to make a pledge during the telethon.

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

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

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

Also, the show includes an auction of more than 300 items donated by businesses and individuals ranging from agricultural

products and autos to celebrity items and travel packages. Interested persons may bid online at www.WestTexasRehab.org beginning mid-December or by phone on January 17.

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

*Happy
New
Year!*

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 Sundays 11-2 pm
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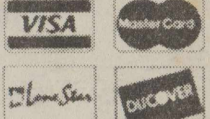
I have enjoyed serving you as Coke County Sheriff and would appreciate your continued support in the upcoming election.

Thank you,
Rick Styles
 Coke County Sheriff

Pd. Pol. Adv. by Rick Styles

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Family Pack
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Lb. **\$.69**



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Produce Sale

Ea. **\$.10**

For All Coffee Makers
Shur Saving Coffee

10.5 oz. can **\$.99**

Assorted

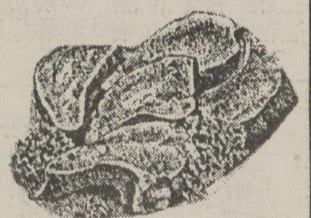
Shur Saving Vegetables

4 ^{14.5-}/_{15.2 oz} cans **/\$1**

Family Pack
 Bone-In Sirloin Cut

Pork Chops

Lb. **\$.99**



Small Pack • \$1.19 per Lb.

2 Ply White

Shur Saving Towels

3 ^{1 Roll}/_{Pkg.} **/\$1**

Liquid

Shur Saving Bleach

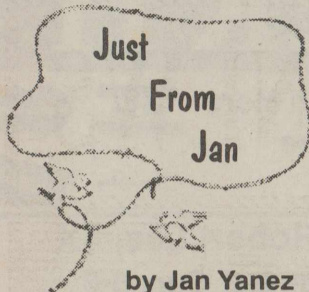
Gal. **\$.79**

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by Jan Yanez
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New Year's Resolution you'll actually keep

For many people, a New Year's resolution is a highly personal, private goal that, if fulfilled, becomes a "private victory". Whether you keep things quiet by accident or by design, you are giving yourself an out: By refusing to let others in on your "secret" resolution, you can fall off track, and no one will be the wiser.

On the other hand, you are more likely to follow through with your resolutions if you share them with the significant people in your life.

Which brings us to our five-step resolution-reaching plan:

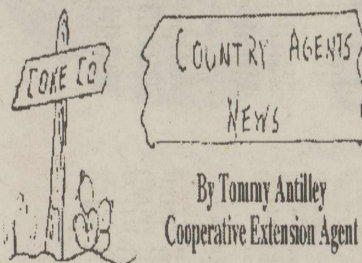
***Step 1:** Make your resolutions public. Share them with one or more people so they can help you stay on track. If you let your friends and family in on your dream, you can use their support to help you make it a reality.

***Step 2:** Write down your resolution and the steps you will take to keep it. According to Laura Hess, a Nevada-based personal and business coach, having a clearly articulated goal and a plan of action is vital for success.

***Step 3:** Keep things simple. Break a big goal into a series of smaller goals. Want to lose 50 pounds? Shoot for losing 10 percent of your body weight first, or set five 10-pound incremental weight-loss goals.

***Step 4:** Each time you make a small lifestyle change aimed at reaching your goal-adding 5 minutes to your daily walk, for instance-put a star on your calendar to mark your achievement.

***Step 5:** Make small changes. If weight loss or a healthier lifestyle is your goal, put a bowl of fruit or vegetable pieces front and center in the fridge, and hide the cookie jar behind the oatmeal. Each week, try a new low-fat cereal or an exotic fruit or a vegetable you haven't tasted before. Stash away your car keys for a weekend and challenge yourself to walk wherever you need to go. Lose the deep-fat fryer, too, and steam, bake or microwave your food.



Facts about "Mad Cow Disease"

Bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE), widely known as "mad cow disease," is a chronic, degenerative disease affecting the central nervous system of cattle. Worldwide there have been more than 180,000 cases since the disease was first diagnosed in 1986 in Great Britain. BSE has had a substantial impact on the livestock industry in the United Kingdom. The disease has also been confirmed in native-born cattle in Austria,

Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Liechtenstein, the Netherlands, Northern Ireland, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain and Switzerland. However, over 95% of all BSE cases have occurred in the United Kingdom. BSE is not known to exist in the United States.

BSE belongs to the family of diseases known as the transmissible spongiform encephalopathies (TSE's). These diseases are caused by a transmissible agent which is yet to be fully characterized. They share the following common characteristics:

*A prolonged incubation period of months or years;

*A progressive debilitating neurological illness which is always fatal;

*When examined by electron microscopy, detergent treated extracts of brain tissue from animals or humans affected by these diseases reveal the presence of scrapie associated fibrils (SAF);

*Pathological changes appear to be confirmed to the CNS and include vacuolation, and astrocytosis;

*The transmissible agent elicits no detectable specific immune response in the host which has inhibited the development of a preclinical live animal diagnostic test to date.

*Similar Diseases of Humans and Other Animals

TSE's are caused by similar uncharacterized agents which usually produce spongiform changes in the brain. TSE's include scrapie (which affects sheep and goats), transmissible mink encephalopathy, feline spongiform encephalopathy, chronic wasting disease of deer and elk, and in humans, kuru, Classical Creutzfeld-Jakob Disease (CJD), Gerstmann-Straussler syndrome, fetal familial insomnia, and vCJD.

Clinical signs of BSE in cattle:

Affected animals may display changes in temperament, such as nervousness or aggression; abnormal posture; incoordination and difficulty in rising; decreased milk production; or loss of body condition despite continued appetite. There is no treatment, and affected cattle die.

The incubation period ranges from 2 to 8 years. Following the onset of clinical signs, the animal's condition deteriorates until it dies or is destroyed. This usually takes from 2 weeks to 6 months. Most cases in Great Britain have occurred in dairy cows between 3 and 6 years of age.

The causative agent of BSE:

The causative agent of BSE as well as other TSE's is yet to be fully characterized. Three main theories on the nature of the agent have been proposed:

*An unconventional virus.

*A prion or abnormal partially-proteinase K-resistant protein, devoid of nucleic acid, capable of causing normal prion protein in the host to change and form more abnormal protein.

*A virino or "incomplete" virus composed of naked nucleic acid protected by a host protein.

*The BSE agent (1) is smaller than most viral particles and is highly resistant to heat, ultraviolet light, ionizing radiation, and common disinfectants that normally inactivate viruses or bacteria; (2) causes no detectable immune or inflammatory

response in the host; and (3) has not been observed microscopically.

Transmission of BSE

There is no evidence that BSE spreads horizontally, i.e., by contact between unrelated adult cattle or from cattle to other species. Some evidence suggests that maternal transmission may occur at an extremely low level. Results of British research show that there is approximately a 9-percent increase in the occurrence of BSE in offspring of BSE-affected dams as compared to calves born to dams where BSE was not detected. The study did not ascertain if this was the result of genetic factors or true transmission. The research did however point out that at this level if maternal transmission does occur it alone will not sustain the epidemic.

Is meat contaminated?

So far there has been no specific proof that meat products taken from a cow with BSE is contaminated. The only incidence of humans contracting the disease has been when the brain of infected animals is consumed. Scientific evidence shows that BSE can only be transferred through the brain and spinal cord and not from any muscle tissue.

FINANCIAL FOCUS

With Jim Woodruff
of Edward Jones

Fund your IRA early

As an investor, if you want to get the New Year off to a good start, consider fully funding your IRA right away. It's a smart move that can pay off for you - perhaps even more than you'd think.

You've got until April 15 to put in the maximum of \$3,000 (or \$3,500 if you're 50 or older) into either your traditional or Roth IRA for 2003. So, if you haven't completely funded your IRA for this year, take care of that first. But after you've "maxed out" on your IRA, don't wait another year to fund it for 2004 - because the earlier you contribute, the sooner your money can start working for you.

Do early contributions really make that much of a difference? Consider this: To fund an IRA for any given year, you've got 15 months, from January 1 of one year until April 15 of the next. By consistently funding your IRA at the beginning of that 15-month time frame, rather than at the end, you could accumulate a lot more money.

How much more? Suppose Mary Smith is 35, and, for the next 30 years, she puts the maximum allowable amount into a traditional IRA that earns a hypothetical 8 percent a year. At the end of that time, she will have accumulated \$521,117 if she had waited until April 15 every year to make her contribution. But if she had fully funded her IRA at the beginning of each year, she'd end up with \$610,372 - a difference of nearly \$90,000. (This calculation assumes you make the maximum contribution each year, including "catch-up" contributions, based on future IRA limits, as established by recent tax law changes. Also, the 8 percent rate of return, which is calculated on an annual basis, is for illustrative purposes only; it does not represent any currently available investment.)

Overcoming obstacles to early funding

As you can see, you've got some pretty tangible reasons to fund your IRA early. So, what's stopping you?

If you're like most people, you'll face at least two barriers to getting your IRA contributions in early. The first of these obstacles, not surprisingly, is procrastination. Whether we like it or not, many of us put things off until we absolutely have to take care of them. So, if we know that we've got until April 15 to put funds in an IRA, we wait until April 15.

How can you combat this tendency to delay taking action? Try sending yourself reminders. During the early weeks of the new year, put notes on your calendar or your electronic organizer, reminding yourself to put money in your IRA. By pestering yourself, you just might make the right moves.

The second barrier to funding your IRA early is a potentially more serious one: lack of money. It's certainly not always easy to come up with \$3,000 or \$3,500 at one time. After all, you've got your share of bills to pay - and, in the early part of the year, when you're just coming off the holiday season, you may have taken on more debt. Where can you get the money for your IRA?

There's no easy answer - but try to be creative. Perhaps you'll get a tax refund. Or maybe you've got some funds sitting in a money market account. Or, you could possibly cut back on some of your expenses. You know your situation better than anyone - if you look for ways to free up money, you're likely to find them.

No matter when you do it, it's important to fully fund your IRA.

But try to get accustomed to contributing the maximum early in the year, every year. That's a habit you won't want to break.



Look
Who's
New!

Sarah Francisca Pedrini

Bennie Helen Rusk of Estes Park, Colorado, formerly of Robert Lee, is happy to announce the birth of her great-granddaughter. Sarah Francisca Pedrini was born November 13, 2003 in Phoenix, Arizona. She weighed 7 lbs, 2 oz.

Her parents are Rico and Beth Pedrini and her half-sister is Alexandra Pedrini. Proud grandparents are: Angela Pedrini of Phoenix and Johnny Mack and Jeanne Simpson of Estes Park. Sarah is also welcomed by an uncle, David Simpson of Alpine, Texas.

TRUTH

"What is true for you is what you have observed yourself. And when you lose that you have lost everything."

L. Ron Hubbard

One of the most acclaimed and widely read authors of all time.

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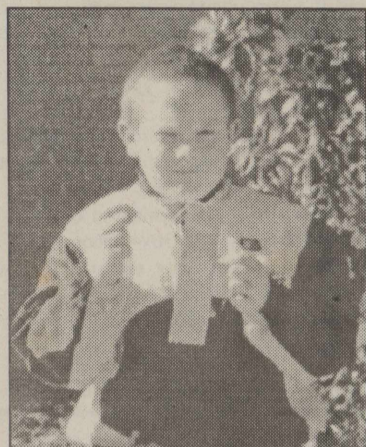
BRONTE SCHOOL NEWS



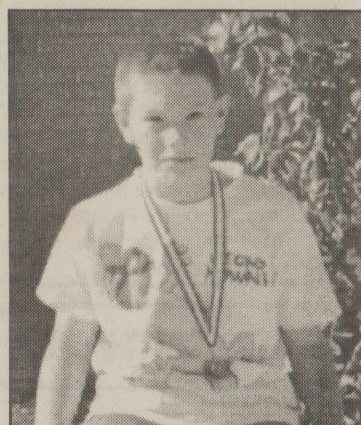
Caleb Rosson
3rd Place, 3rd Grade Ready Writing
4th Place, 3rd Grade Spelling



Kim Lee - 5th Place, 4th Grade Ready Writing



Austin Mertz & Stephanie Huntley
(not pictured)
6th Place 4th Grade Music Memory



Heath Richey - 1st Place, 5th Grade Maps, Graphs & Charts



Shelbi Waller
1st Place, 6th Grade Listening



Katie Austin - 2nd Place, 4th Grade Spelling



Mrs. Rawls Bronte Elementary 2nd grade class recently visited Fort Chadbourne.



School Menu

Breakfast

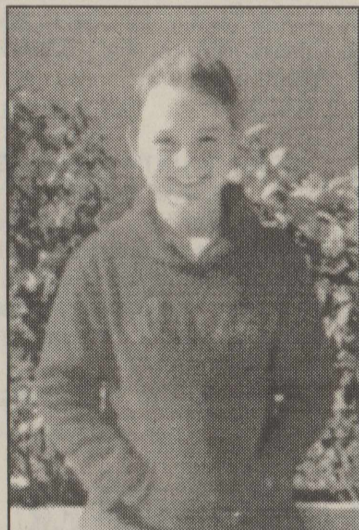
- Monday, Jan. 5**
Cereal, sliced peaches, toast, jelly, milk
- Tuesday, Jan. 6**
French toast sticks, assorted juice, syrup, milk
- Wednesday, Jan. 7**
Donut, apple sauce, teddy grams, milk
- Thursday, Jan. 8**
Scrambled eggs, assorted juice, toast, jelly, milk
- Friday, Jan. 9**
Blueberry muffins, assorted juice, biscuit, jelly, milk

Lunch

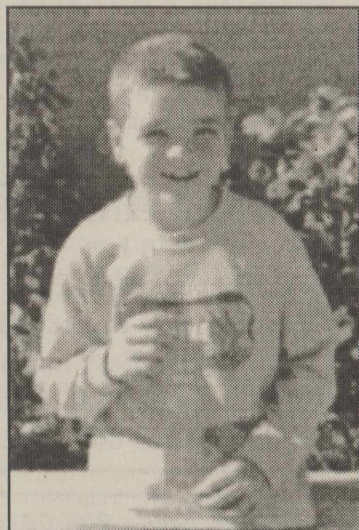
- Monday, Jan. 5**
Chicken nuggets, gravy, creamed potatoes, green beans, roll, rice krispie bars, milk
- Tuesday, Jan. 6**
Spaghetti, tossed salad, sweet corn, bread sticks, vanilla pudding, milk
- Wednesday, Jan. 7**
Corn dogs, macaroni & cheese, tator tots, mixed fruit, milk
- Thursday, Jan. 8**
Spud day, chili & cheese, potato (baked), broccoli, crackers, apple crisp, milk
- Friday, Jan. 9**
Sub. sandwiches, ham & cheese, lettuce, tomato, pickle, orange half, bun, chips, peanut butter cookies, milk



Louie Martinez - 6th Place, 6th Grade Mathematics



Jael Williams - 4th Place, 3rd Grade Storytelling




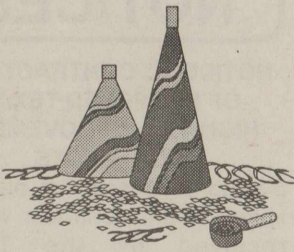
Ty Lee - 6th Place, Creative Writing

Bronte Project Graduation meeting set for January 15

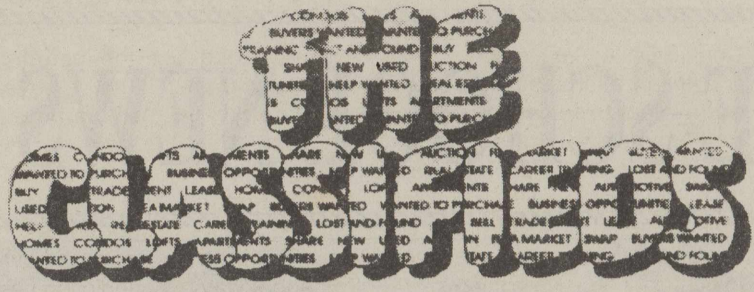
All parents involved in Project Graduation will meet on Thursday, January 15, 2004 at 7:00 pm in the Bronte cafeteria.

School starts back January 5th!

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

Happy New Year!!!
 Wishing everyone a very safe, happy, healthy & prosperous 2004!

Bell Auto Body Shop
 Robert Lee 453-2640

JUMP-START
YOUR WEIGHT LOSS WITHOUT GIVING UP CARBS.
 Join Weight Watchers now and get our Fast Track kit **free.**
 Offer ends January 31.  While supplies last.
 Free registration for meetings. Pay only the weekly fee.
 1 800 651 6000 WeightWatchers.com
WeightWatchers®
Valid until 1/31/04 at participating meeting locations. Fast Track not included in At Home kits. Free Registration not valid for At Work meetings or Online subscribers. ©2003 Weight Watchers International, Inc., owner of the WEIGHT WATCHERS trademark. All rights reserved.



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CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING RATES
Rates when paid in advance.
 First Insertion
 20¢ Per Word
 \$3 Minimum
 Subsequent Insertions
 16¢ Per Word
 \$2.50 Minimum
Additional 50¢ charged for Blind Ads
 Legal Notices:
 25¢ Per Word
A service charge will be added to all ads which must be billed.
ADVERTISING DEADLINE
 Tuesdays at 2 pm

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE:
 All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention, to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18.
 This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination, call HUD toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.



FOR SALE

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

MESQUITE FIREWOOD
 Seasoned or green- Also 2 cords of seasoned oak left. 453-4401.
 21-3tp

Concho Realty
 Office 653-4535
 Home 453-4748

Becky Clendennen

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

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

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

FOR RENT

FOR RENT
 Bronte Mini Storage has storage buildings for rent. Call 473-2221.
 19-tnc

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

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

Santa Fe Crossing Duplexes
 320 SE Railroad
 Bronte, Texas 76933
 44-51tp

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

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

Bob Frazer's 944-0010
 473-6603

Texas Best
 Deflooding & Carpet Cleaning
 24 hr. Emergency Water Damage Service

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

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

MISCELLANEOUS

WANT TO BUY
 5-50 acres in Bronte area. 325-468-2293.
 23-1tc

KENNETH'S CONSTRUCTION
 General contractor for composition & metal roofing, custom building & fabrication, exterior & interior painting, carports, driveways, curbing, sidewalks, patios, plumbing, electrical, tree removal & pruning, haul off unwanted cars, pickups, motorcycles, and batteries. Call after 6 pm. 453-2339.
 23-4tc

FIESTA FUN JUMPS
 Inflatable Castle & Sports Arena for your event! 473-9FUN.
 12-tnc

GARY'S BACKHOE, INC.
 For your backhoe, motorgrader, dozer and dump truck needs. Sand - Gravel. 450-2418 Gary Hubbard.
 27-tnc

THE "BARBER" SHOP
 Debora England, 223 N Lombard, Bronte. 473-4026. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday. 9 am - 5 pm.
 33-tnc

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

HELP WANTED

POSITIONS AVAILABLE
 Full time: LVN - 2-10 shift. CNA - 6-2 shift. Bronte Health & Rehab Center, 900 South State Street, Bronte, Tx. 325-473-3621. E.O.E.
 23-4tc

COKE COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT
 is currently accepting applications for Teclose certified Deputy. Apply in person at 13 E. 7th Street, Robert Lee, Monday - Friday, 8-5. Experience preferred.
 23-2tc

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

drop box is located at

HOMETOWN HARDWARE
in Bronte.

ASH-MILLICAN-CARSON REAL ESTATE

453-5144 OFFICE • 5 E 6TH STREET • ROBERT LEE, TX
 JOE ASH www.amcwesttexasranches.com MARSHALL MILLICAN
 473-0164 MOBILE • 453-2554 HOME 473-0437 MOBILE • 453-9002 HOME

Bronte
 2BR, 1BA Nice starter home, close to school
 Extra Nice 3 BR, 1 1/2 BA, 1470 +/- sq. ft. on four lots with water well
BLACKWELL - 2 BR, 2 BA, on 7 acres, city water, barns, highway frontage
Robert Lee
New Listing, 2 BR, 1 1/2 BA Brick home, fireplace, single garage, close to school
Riverview Dr, 2 BR, 1 BA Brick veneer home, \$20's
Price Reduced Brick Home on 8 Acres with 2 BR, 2 BA, 2 Living Areas, Office or 3rd BR, Large Barn & Pens
Office Exclusive, 3 BR, 3 BA, 2570 +/- sq. ft., Spacious Kitchen and Dining Area, Hardwood Floors, Fireplace, Beautiful Yard with Large Trees, Detached 17' x 17' finished game room
Priced to Sell, 4 BR, 2 bth, large den with second living area. CA/CH over 2100 sq. ft.
Price reduced, 2 BR, 1 bth, CA/CH, sunroom or 3rd BR, large kitchen, single garage, over 1800 sf, large storage/shop
3 BR, 2 BA home with screened-in porch, Possible Owner Finance \$20's
2 BR, 1 BA mobile home, furnished, carport and storage building

Lake Spence Area, 2 BR, 1 BA, Ceramic tile, sundeck, guest quarters.
Acresage
1022 +/- Acres, Excellent hunting, rolling terrain located in a mountainous area. Some live oak trees, 3 water wells, 1 dirt surface tank, 1 large barn with electricity
 • **567 +/- Acres**, All pasture, good water well, nice hunting cabin
315 +/- AC. with 1/2 Mile of Colorado River frontage, 4 Stock Tanks, Pens and Barn. Choice Hunting.
314 +/- AC. Live Oak trees on Yellow Wolf Creek, good water well, 230 ac. cultivation, good hunting.
248 +/- AC. Highway frontage, good water well, pens, 81 ac. CRP income, good dirt tank.
147 +/- AC. All Pasture. Convenient to Robert Lee. Flat to rolling terrain. Good hunting.
130 +/- AC. Convenient to Bronte. 3 BR, 2 BA home with 30x40 Shop.
80 +/- Acres, Very nice ranch style home with 3 BR, 2 BA 2 Living Areas. All Steel Horse and Cattle Pens. 3 Large Barns.
Other Listings Available

CARD OF THANKS

WHAT A PARADE!
 The Bronte Chamber of Commerce would like to thank everyone who made our parade a success. Bob Clark, thanks for all your time in getting your fellow Shriners to come and ride for us. Thank them for the miles they traveled. Bronte Fire Department and the City of Bronte employees thank you for the beautiful Christmas decorations and all your help in getting City Hall and the Minipark ready for the people of Bronte. Kim Lee, a special thanks for getting Santa's room ready and bringing the Fun Jumps. Sheriff Rick and your men, thanks for keeping us safe and blocking traffic. To all area clubs who brought good food to eat or drink, thanks for your participation. To all the teachers and students at Bronte ISD who helped in all kinds of ways with the parade, you made the parade a success! Wackenhut, thank you for such a beautiful float. The city of Bronte always welcomes you in anything we do. Ed Cumbie, thank you for your last minute help with Joseph and Mary. Baby Jesus had a hard time staying in his basket. Thanks, Ed. Garland and Lana Richards were so kind to bring Santa in on the Fort Chadbourne Fire Truck. We appreciate you. Kevin Johnson, thank you for letting us honor you for your service. Another thanks to our downtown merchants for staying open late for Christmas shoppers. Bronte is a special Texas town and with support from people like those mentioned, Bronte will stay a thriving family oriented community. A big thank you, to all who made our parade such a success.
 23-1tc

Dist/Div: San Angelo
 Contract 6110-43-001 for PICNIC AREA MAINTENANCE WORK in COKE County, etc will be received on January 22, 2004 until 1:00 pm and opened on January 22, 2004 at 2:00 pm at the District Office for an estimate of \$4,440.00.
 Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or Dist/Div Offices listed below. Bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available from TxDOT's website at www.dot.state.tx.us and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor.
 NPO: 11809

State Office
 Constr./Maint. Division
 200 E. Riverside Dr.
 Austin, Texas 78704
 Phone: 512-416-2540
 Dist/Div Office(s)
San Angelo District
 District Engineer
 4502 Knickerbocker Rd
 San Angelo, Texas 76904
 Phone: 325-944-1501
 Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the rates will be part of the contract. TXDOT ensures that bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin.
 23-2tc

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)

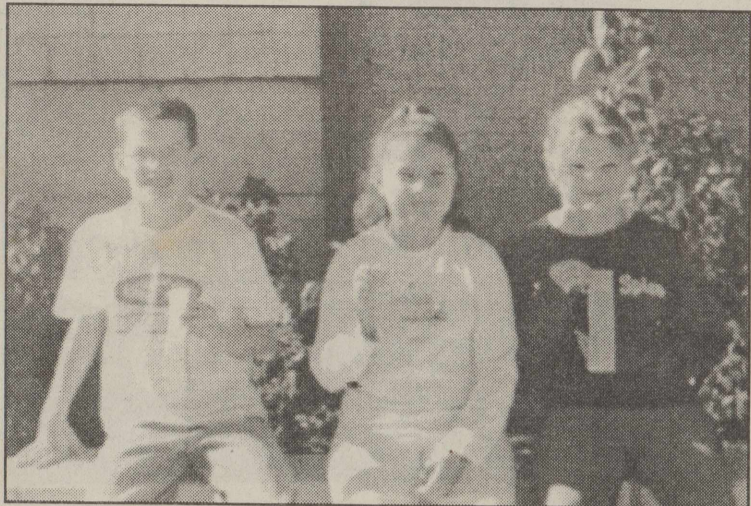
American Stroke Association
 A Division of American Heart Association

It keeps more than memories alive.

AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION MEMORIALS & TRIBUTES

1-800-AHA-USA1

This space provided as a public service. ©1994, 1997, American Heart Association



Dakota Rawls, Ally Franco, Peyton Eubanks
4th Place, 5th Grade Art



Dustin Brown, Cheyenne Boyd, Dakota Rawls, Skyler Ellis (not pictured)
4th Place, 5th Grade Music Memory



Tyler Riney, Kimberly Womack, Chelsea Meek, Stephanie Frasier
5th Place, 6th Grade Art



Crawford James, Tyler Riney, Haydan White
5th Place, 6th Grade Music Memory



Ashley Royall, 3rd Place, and Chelsea Cook, 5th Place
6th Grade Oral Reading

The day after Christmas

by Mary Williams

I have always been envious of people who have a passion for something, whether it be playing a musical instrument, or being totally engrossed in watching a favorite football team. I always wanted to feel that energy and drive, to have a sense of urgency and mission. I'm not envious anymore. I have a passion now, and my passion is this town, Robert Lee, the people and the mountains and valleys and all the vegetation and wildlife that goes with it. I want to explore it, then define it and express it, so that others can feel the passion I feel for this area. It was this passion that led me to buy a digital camera as a family Christmas gift.

Christmas morning, after all the gifts had been opened and breakfast was over, I took the camera on my favorite drive down Sanco road. I took pictures of the mountains and the Sanco Church. A small beginning, but I was on my way to sharing the beauty of the area with the world. That very night, in a freak accident involving two pieces of plywood sliding apart, the camera laid on the concrete, broken. After a moment of tears I commented to my husband that maybe I wasn't meant to have a digital camera (since this was the second one that had met with a tragic end). It was a statement made in a moment of feeling sorry for myself.

Since we moved to Robert Lee I have had the feeling that my life is being guided. In fact, I am sure the opportunity to move here came as an answer to a prayer. Chance and coincidence fall short as explanations for anything.

The words I had uttered to my husband in a moment of self pity came back to me this morning as I traveled down Hurley Road (without a digital camera). The sun, shining through a break in the clouds, created a flashlight effect, moving, highlighting different areas on the side of the mountain. Overhead a flock of geese were flying in formation. Through the open window the cool breeze ushered in the fresh dill-like fragrance of some unknown vegetation. In the distance I could hear the sharp screech of a hawk. There are so many things that pixels, even mega-pixels cannot convey. There are aspects and dimensions to the mountains that not only cannot be communicated by a photograph, but cannot be seen by the eye, only felt by the heart.

Wishing you safe holiday travels

by Erica Catton

One of the dangers most of us consider closer to home than the heightened security caused by the 911 tragedy is the danger of irresponsible people drinking and driving on our roads.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration reports that there were over 1,500 drunk driving fatalities in 2002 between Thanksgiving and New Year's Day. The overall statistics for last year indicated 17,000 total deaths and over a quarter of a million injuries, or about one injured person every two minutes due to people driving while intoxicated.

Due to these alarming numbers the Administration kicked off a 16-day campaign that runs through January 4th to curb impaired driving which will include increased checkpoints and patrols by law enforcement. The annual campaign is supported by

the US Department of Transportation and is called "You Drink & Drive. You Lose."

With an estimated 80 percent of travelers this season doing so by automobile, there is great danger in impaired drivers risking their lives and the lives of others. This irrational behavior begs the question in many American's minds, why do such a thing?

Well, there may be many "reasons" a person that has been drinking will get behind the wheel of a car, but they are nothing more than senseless justifiers.

"When I was drunk I thought that I could do anything," replies fully recovered addict and now President of Narconon Arrowhead Luke Catton. "That's what drugs and alcohol do to a person, completely alter reality and impairs judgment, not just senses."

The Narconon program is part of a worldwide network operating in 37 countries, using the highly effective drug-free rehabilitation methodology of L. Ron Hubbard. The program achieves a success rate for helping people overcome addiction permanently far above the national average.

Catton, who also overcame his addiction through the Narconon program approximately five years ago, now helps to educate others through any means necessary about the true dangers of drugs

and alcohol and often appears in newspapers, on radio and television throughout the country. "I'm very thankful that I never physically injured anyone because of my carelessness, though there was plenty of emotional damage and countless times of wasted opportunities in life. The truth is, it doesn't have to be that way, and addiction can be completely overcome."

To find out more information or to get help for a loved one in need this holiday season, contact Narconon Arrowhead today at 1-800-468-6933 or log on to www.stopaddiction.com.

Forest service offers windbreak trees

Seedlings for conservation windbreaks are now available for order through the Coke County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD). Landowners in Coke County are encouraged to purchase the one-year-old seedlings before preferred stock is sold out.

Orders will be taken through Monday, January 26, 2004 and will be delivered on Thursday, February 5, 2004.

To order windbreak trees contact the Coke County SWCD located at 214 East 7th Street in Robert Lee or call 453-2623, ext. 3.



Happy



Holiday Savings!

IVEY MOTOR COMPANY, INC.

Year End Pre-Owned

SUPER SALE

2001 Ford Mustang Coupe <i>Red with Tan Cloth • 27,000 Miles</i>	\$12,495
2003 Ford Taurus <i>White • 4 Door • 15,044 Miles</i>	\$13,995
2003 Ford Explorer XLT <i>White • 15,000 Miles</i>	\$20,995
2003 Lincoln Towncar <i>Signature Series • White • 19,000 Miles</i>	\$28,995
2003 Ford F-350 Crew Cab XLT <i>Powerstroke • Automatic • White with Tan Cloth</i>	\$23,495
2003 Ford F-150 Crew Cab <i>White • 4 Door • XLT</i>	\$18,495
2002 Ford F-250 Crew Cab <i>White • 4 Door • XLT • Powerstroke</i>	\$21,495
1997 Subaru Outback Legacy <i>All Wheel Drive • Red with Gray Leather</i>	\$ 5,995
2002 Ford F-350 Crew Cab <i>Dually • Lariat Package • Arizona Beige</i>	\$26,995
2003 Ford F-150 Super Crew XLT <i>28,000 Miles • White • 6 Disc CD • PW/PL • Nerf Bar</i>	\$21,995
2003 Ford Taurus SES <i>Arizona Beige • 15,000 Miles</i>	\$13,495
2003 Ford Mustang Coupe <i>V6 • Auto • Red Fire • 14,000 Miles • Extra Nice!</i>	\$13,995

Ask For: **453-4561**

Randy Flanagan • Buck Duncan • Billy Wayne Roe

Bronte

Christmas Parade

