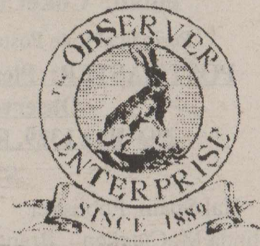


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THE OBSERVER/ENTERPRISE

Serving Coke & Sterling Counties



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Vol. 120, No. 8

Friday, September 7, 2007

Rodriguez named 2006 "Officer of the Year"

Juvenile Correctional Officer, Eugene Rodriguez, was nominated by the employees of the Coke County Juvenile Justice Center as Officer of the Year for 2006. After receiving this honor, Mr. Rodriguez was then chosen as the company's Officer of the Year for 2006. Mr. Rodriguez was chosen out of 11,000 GEO employees. Mr. Don Houston, Senior Vice-President of the Central Region office with The GEO Group, Inc., was at the facility on August 22 to honor Mr. Rodriguez with a plaque and a \$3,000 check from the corporate office. A luncheon was held at the facility in Mr. Rodriguez's honor with over 75 employees in attendance. Mr. Rodriguez received a standing ovation from his peers when the awards were presented. Mr. Rodriguez has worked at the Coke County Juvenile Justice Center for approximately four years.

Ladies Day at Bronte Church of Christ

Ladies of the area are invited to attend a day long meeting at Bronte Church of Christ, Saturday, September 8, from 9 am to 2 pm. "Balancing Your Life, Piece by Piece" is the theme for the Ladies Day at Bronte Church of Christ, 118 Jefferson in Bronte. Speaker

for the event is Quay Roberts of Eastland, Texas. Brunch and registration will begin at 9 am. A luncheon will be served at 12 noon and the ladies will be dismissed at 2 pm. All ladies are encouraged to attend, make new friends and enjoy the day listening to the Word of God.

Miles Cotton Festival on tap for Sept. 8th

The 30th Annual Miles Cotton Festival will be fun in the sun on Saturday, September 8, in downtown Miles.

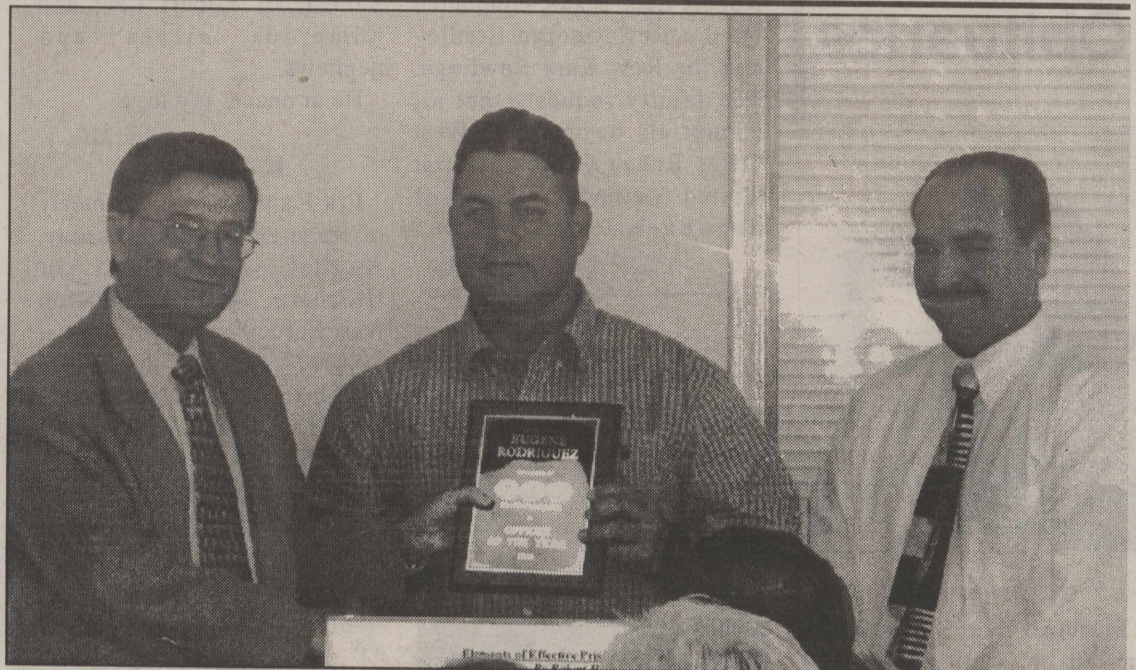
The day begins at 6 am with a pancake breakfast. At 10 am the Annual Parade winds its way through Miles. No entries needed, just come and line up on 3rd Street around 9:30 am.

A Brisket-Pork Rib-Chicken cook-off is also on tap. Call 325-468-3501 for more info. Arts & Crafts booths will be set up in the park all day. For more info on this call 325-468-3611.

A noon meal will be held at the Historic Miles Opera House, and barbecue sandwiches will be served all day in the park by the Miles Volunteer Fire Department.

Loads of live entertainment will be performing all afternoon in the City Park along with the Miles Cotton Queen Contest at 7 pm.

The day ends with a street dance featuring Country



Officer of the Year! Eugene Rodriguez (center), Juvenile Correctional Officer at the Coke County Juvenile Justice Center, was named the 2006 "Officer of the Year" by the employees of CCJJC. Presenting Rodriguez with the award were Don Houston (left), Senior Vice-President of the Central Region office of The Geo Group, Inc. and Brett Bement, director of CCJJC.

Music recording artist Aaron Watson from 8 pm until 1 am.

For more information visit their website at www.milestexas.com.

RLBC to host Men's Breakfast

Men's Breakfast will be held at the Robert Lee Baptist Church Fellowship Hall at 22 W. 11th Street, Robert Lee, on Sunday, September 9, beginning at 8 am. The food and fellowship is just famous! Come on out and join the guys.

Couples Golf Tourney slated

The Coke County Couples Golf Tournament will be September 15-16. The first day will be played in Robert Lee and the second day in Bronte. Tee off time will be 9 am and 2 pm each day. For more information, please call 453-2317 or 473-2156.

Barry Corbin to appear at Fort Chadbourne

This year's 8th Annual Fort Chadbourne Fundraiser to be held on September 15, 2007, will feature Mr. Barry Corbin as Charlie Goodnight. Barry is probably best known as Roscoe Brown in Lonesome Dove, and the astronaut, Maurice Minnifield in Northern Exposure. He has starred in hundreds of movies and TV programs. Presently, he co-stars on the weekly series One Tree Hill as Coach Whitey. "Charlie Goodnight's Last Night" is a one-man play, written by Lubbock native Andy Wilkinson. Andy's award winning play on the life of plainsman Goodnight is a monologue rendered by noted Corbin. The play takes place late into the night of December 11, 1929, the eve of Goodnight's death at the age of 93. As the weathered visionary reflects over his long and difficult life on the frontier, he offers glimpses into a soul tempered by both joy and regret, and a look at what work he will do in the morning at saddle up time.

Mr. Goodnight, a well known pioneer in Texas, traveled through Fort Chadbourne on several occasions along the Goodnight-Loving Trail, and in 1867 stopped to ask for a military escort because he had encountered Indian troubles along the way. The

movie Lonesome Dove is based on his life.

This will be a very special event you don't want to miss. The evening begins with a steak dinner cooked on the parade ground at 5:30 pm, followed by a live auction. "Charlie Goodnight's Last Night" starring Barry Corbin begins at 7:30 pm, with a reception following the show with Mr. Corbin.

For tickets or further information please call the Fort Chadbourne Foundation 473-5311 or 325-743-2555.

Round-Up for Rehab set

"Wow" days are different for everyone. A "wow" day for West Texas ranchers may be the day a gentle rain falls or a newborn calf is born. For Rehab Center pediatric patient Breanna, they are days where she reaches a new stage of development and triumphs over cerebral palsy. Her most recent "wow" day was when she graduated from a rolling walker to tri-canes which has increased her mobility - and that's important to this active five-year-old who enters kindergarten this fall.

Local Round-Up for Rehab chairmen, Ed Cumbie and Clifton Reed, have an important message to Coke County area ranchers which is simple but sincere: Let's roll up our sleeves and help Rehab help Breanna and 21,000 other Rehab children and adults have more "wow" days this year.

(Continued on next page)

Coke County Football

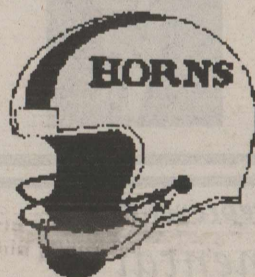
BRONTE LONGHORNS

vs.

Rotan Yellowhammers

7:30 pm • Friday

September 7 • Rotan



ROBERT LEE STEERS

vs.

Borden County Coyotes

7:30 pm • Friday

September 7 • Borden County



THE OBSERVER/ENTERPRISE

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STAFF

Hal Spain, Publisher Morgan McCutchen, Editor
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Obituaries



Simpson

Marvin Albert Simpson, 72, passed on August 18, 2007, in San Angelo, Texas. He was born at the family home in Robert Lee, Texas, to Marvin Bailey and Mildred Rawlings (Tillie) Simpson on January 13, 1935.

Marvin is survived by his devoted wife of 52 years, Carolyn McDaniel Simpson and their three children, Marvin C. (Marty) Simpson of Powderly, Texas, William John Simpson of North Richland Hills, Texas, and Carolyn Simpson Weishuhn and husband Darryl of Wall, Texas. Marvin was very proud of his six grandsons, John A., Matthew W., and Michael P. Simpson, all of North Richland Hills, Texas, and Jacob A., Marvin G., and Zachary C. Weishuhn of Wall, Texas. Marvin is also survived by his brother, William M. (Bill) Simpson and wife Dianne of San Angelo, Texas; and his sister, Carolyn Simpson Cluff and husband Lamar of Tucson, Arizona; as well as many nieces, nephews and cousins.

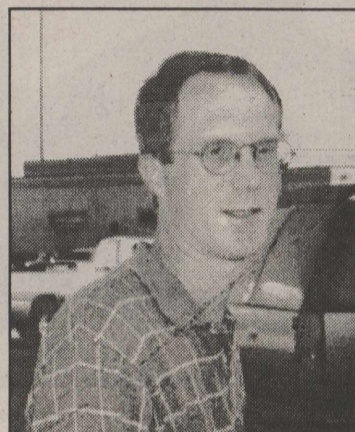
Marvin graduated from Robert Lee High School and attended San Angelo College. He and Bill ranched with their dad and became partners for ranching ventures in Robert Lee and Sanco, Texas; as well as Prairie City, S.D.; Bryan, Texas; and Kerens, Texas. Marvin was a devoted husband, father and grandfather.

Honorary pallbearers were Dale Wojtek, John McDaniel, Fred McDaniel, Todd Walker, Will Simpson, John Simpson, Matthew Simpson, and Jacob Weishuhn.

Services were at 10 am, Tuesday, August 21, at First

United Methodist Church of Robert Lee, Texas, conducted by the Rev. George Bradley and the Rev. Kary Rawlings. The family requests that all memorials be made to West Texas Rehab Center or First United Methodist Church of Robert Lee, Texas.

08-1tc



Tinkler

Wade Tinkler passed away Saturday, September 1, 2007. Funeral services were held at 10 am, Wednesday September 5, 2007, at the Robert Lee Baptist Church, officiated by Brother Ray Aldridge. Burial followed in the Robert Lee Cemetery. Services were under direction of Shaffer Funeral Home.

Wade was born on August 15, 1967, in San Angelo to Jerry and Kay Tinkler and graduated from Wall High School in 1985. He loved to play baseball and play golf with all his family. He married Mary Salazar on May 9, 1997 in Robert Lee. They were blessed with the birth of a daughter, Daria and a couple of years later he gained another daughter, Olga.

He was a devoted fan of the

Robert Lee Steers and was always excited to see them play as well as watch Olga perform as a Steers Cheerleader.

Wade is survived by his wife, Mary of Robert Lee; his daughters, Daria Tinkler and Olga Perez; his parents, Jerry and Kay Tinkler of San Angelo; a brother, Cody Lee Tinkler and wife, Bobbie of Lubbock; a sister, Lindsey McMillan and husband, Jason of San Angelo; his grandparents, Bill and Dorothy Mann of Brady and Sylvia Tinkler of Robert Lee; his father-in-law, Jose Salazar of Robert Lee; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Be at peace, my love.

08-1tc

Kennedy

Era Kennedy, 96, formerly of Robert Lee, died Tuesday, August 28, 2007 in Hillsboro, Texas. Visitation was held Thursday, August 30, 2007, from 5 pm to 7 pm at Marshall and Marshall Funeral Directors in Hillsboro. Graveside services were held at 2 pm, Friday, August 31, 2007, at Robert Lee Cemetery in Robert Lee, with Mr. Frank Daniels of Southside Church of Christ officiating. Services were under the direction of Marshall and Marshall Funeral Directors.

Era was born on May 23, 1911, in Abbott, Texas, to John Sheldon and Lena (Bills) Hoyle. In 1929, she graduated from Abbott High School. On October 19, 1929, she married Olin Garner Kennedy. Before moving to Robert Lee in 1978, she previously lived in Tulsa, Oklahoma, Santa Fe, New Mexico and Farmington, New Mexico. In 1992 she returned to Hillsboro. She was a member of College Hills Church of Christ in Hillsboro.

She was preceded in death by her husband, her parents, son, David Gerald Kennedy, daughter, Lenetta Gayle Hallmark; and grandson, Shannon Kennedy.

Era is survived by her son, Garner Hoyle Kennedy and

wife, Judy, of Hillsboro; two grandsons, Richard and Sean; three granddaughters, Deborah, Karen and Sharon; six great-grandchildren, Christopher, Leslie, Jerod, Jennifer, Tera and Robert and three great-great-grandchildren.

08-1tc

Death Notices

Click

Raymond Eugene Click, 70, of Oak Creek Lake, died Monday, September 3, 2007, at his residence. Memorial service will be at a later date. Arrangements are by Shaffer Funeral Home.

Survivors include his children, Carol Christianson of Arlington, David Click of Oak Creek Lake, Steven Click and Dale Click both of Midland, and Joe Click of Dallas; and sister Billie Jean Melton of Odessa.

Wallace

James Calvin (J.C.) Wallace, Jr. went to be with the Lord on Monday, September 3, 2007. Funeral services will be held at the Northside Church of Christ in Robert Lee on Thursday, September 6 at 3 pm under the direction of Shaffer Funeral Home.

Services will be conducted by ministers Doug Wilks, Clyde Dukes, B. Shelburne and Leo Copeland.

He was preceded in death by two daughters; Marilyn Smith and Donna Morton; his

parents; two sisters, Mildred Reese and Edna Havins.

'PaPa' is also survived by six special grandchildren; Jessica and Joel Smith; Lindsay (Wallace) McAuliffe and husband Brandon; Cayla Millican; and Tyler and Kate Wallace. One brother, Royce Wallace and wife Alice and one sister, Marie Allen and husband Travis. Step-sisters Sharon Lee and June Waddell and one step-brother, Max Broadstreet. Also left to cherish his memory are extended family members, Francis, Addie and Jana Jeffries.

...Rehab Round Up

(Continued from front page)

Fall sales of particular interest to area ranchers are the cattle sale September 27 at Producers Livestock Auction in San Angelo and the sheep/goat sale October 29 at Junction Stockyards.

WTRC President Woody Gilliland extends a special invitation to everyone in the ag industry to attend one of the sales, donate cash or animals to the project, or notify Rehab of an intent to have an auction house cut a check to WTRC for animals sold later in the year. "For Breanna and the hundreds of other children and adults we serve regardless of financial status, I thank everyone for supporting this critical fundraising program," said Gilliland.

Information about the Rehab Center, Round-Up sale dates and arrangements for hauling donated animals is available through local chairmen or WTRC-San Angelo at 223-6300.

Area Churches

Invite You to Worship

Bronte Church of Christ
PO Box 346 • 118 S. Jefferson • Bronte
(325) 473-3291
Preacher John V. Driggers
Sun. 10 am & 6 pm, Wed. 7 pm

Central Baptist Church
324 S. Franklin • Bronte
(325) 473-4811
Dale Patterson, Pastor
Sun. 10 am Sunday School
11 am & 6 pm Worship
Wed. 6 pm

Emmanuel Pentecostal
PO Box 683 • 1019 Colorado City Hwy
Robert Lee
(325) 453-2360
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
Robert Lee
Corner of Washington & Holmes
Bronte
(325) 473-3281
Rev. David Bailey, Pastor
Sun. 10:00 am Sunday School
11:00 am Worship
5:00 Youth

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

St. James Catholic Church
215 N. Washington, Bronte
(325) 365-2687
Rev. Hubert Wade, Jr., Pastor
Sun. 5 pm

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

Northside Church of Christ
PO Box 388 • 9th & Chadbourne
Robert Lee
(325) 655-9784 or 453-2685
Portis Ribble, Minister
Services: Sun. 10 am & 1:30 pm;
Wed. 6 pm

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

Pecan Baptist
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
Jason Martin, Pastor
Sun. 9:45 am, Sunday School
11 am & 6 pm, Worship
Wed. 7 pm, Prayer Meeting

Tennyson Baptist Church
Hwy 277 • Tennyson
Joe Hodges, Pastor
(325) 473-2040
Sun. 9:45 am, Sunday School
11:00 am & 6 pm, Worship
Wed. 6:00 pm Prayer Meeting

Victory Assembly of God
PO Box 638 • 6th & Houston
Robert Lee
(325) 453-2208
Rev. Irving Smith, Pastor
Sun. 9:45 am, Sunday School
10:45 am & 6 pm, Worship
Wed. 7 pm, Prayer Meeting

Tommy E. Neal
Investment Representative

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Look Who's New!

Keeli Addison McCabe

Keeli Addison McCabe is the new sister of Cade and Canyon McCabe.

Keeli, born August 16, 2007, is the new daughter of Andrew and Brandi McCabe of Midland, Texas. Born at Shannon Medical Center in San Angelo, Keeli weighed in at 6 lbs. 12 ozs. and was 20 inches long.

Keeli's grandparents include Melvin and Debbie McCabe of Robert Lee and Pat and Sherri Bales of San Angelo. Great-grandparents are Rae and Dolores McCabe Seal of Robert Lee, Jodi and Melva Weeks of San Angelo, and Marjorie "Mambo" Meehan of Waxahachie. Woodrow and Juanita Rogers of San Angelo are Keeli's great-great-grandparents.

Keeli was also welcomed by a multitude of aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Angel Food Ministries

taking orders

The Angel Food Ministries will be taking orders September 7, 10, 11, 12 and 13 at Central Baptist Church in Bronte. The delivery date for these orders will be September 29. For more information call 473-6511.

RLVFD Memorials and Donations

Bud Roberts

Donna and Riley Waldrop

Jerry Hurley

Donna and Riley Waldrop
Mr. and Mrs. Wilbern Millican

Charles Hulsey

Joyce Roach
Ruth and Leonard Harper
Nell and Davis Hart
Ann Reddy

J.F. McCabe

Mr. and Mrs. Wilbern Millican

Larry Alexander

Mr. and Mrs. Wilbern Millican

Frank Pearson

Nina Brewer

Cecil Smith

Mr. and Mrs. Wilbern Millican

Wanda Sparks

Mr. and Mrs. Wilbern Millican

Sharon Praytor

Mr. and Mrs. Wilbern Millican

Millie Davis

Mr. and Mrs. Wilbern Millican

Daryl and Myna Kay Copeland

Clay Antilley

Daryl and Myna Kay Copeland

Mr. and Mrs. Wilbern Millican

Ethel Harmon

Mr. and Mrs. Wilbern Millican

David Northcutt

Mr. and Mrs. Wilbern



Keeli Addison McCabe

Millican

Evelyn Flanagan

Joe and Marilyn White
Jimmie and Lynda Laurie
Karen Rasco

The Domino Club

Joe and Charlotte McKnight
Joyce Roach

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Rasco

Paul and Joan Burns

Mike and Fran Lomas

Mrs. F.H. Huntington

Mr. and Mrs. Wilbern Millican

Samantha Robertson

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Rasco

Mr. and Mrs. Wilbern Millican

Paul and Joan Burns

Mike and Fran Lomas

Melva Winkler

Daryl and Myna Kay Copeland

Patti Ivey

Joe and Charlotte McKnight
Mr. and Mrs. Wilbern Millican

Mike and Fran Lomas

Mary Louise Frey

Nina Brewer

Donations

Mike and Fran Lomas

Salt Creek Farms

WCCHD Board Meetings held

By Pat Stephens

August 12, 2007

The West Coke County Hospital District Board of Directors met in special session August 12, 2007, at the Robert Lee Care Center. President Bessent called the meeting to order at 2:05 PM, and determined that a quorum was present. Members present were Mary Bessent, Marilyn White, Dessie Kendall and Pat Stephens. The invocation was given by Pat Stephens.

The Board conducted an interview with Paula Hensley for the position of administrator. After the interview, the Board voted unanimously to offer Ms. Hensley the position. The

offer was accepted, and Ms. Hensley will assume her duties as administrator September 17, 2007.

President Bessent declared the meeting adjourned at 3:50 pm. **August 17, 2007**

The West Coke County Hospital District Board of Directors met in special session August 17, 2007, at the Robert Lee Care Center. President Bessent called the meeting to order at 2:06 PM, and determined a quorum was present. Mary Bessent gave the invocation. Pat Stephens made a motion, seconded by Dessie Kendall, to set the tax rate at 0.250000 per \$100 of value. Motion passed.

Marilyn White made a motion, seconded by Pat Stephens, to raise the rate of meals at the Care Center by \$.25 per meal. Motion passed. The new meal rates will go into effect September 1, 2007. Mandatory meal tickets will be effective October 1, 2007. The meeting was adjourned at 4:30.

August 27, 2007

The West Coke County Hospital District Board of Directors conducted a budget hearing August 27, 2007. The meeting was called to order at 9:04 am, and President Bessent determined there was a quorum present. There were no visitors. Dessie Kendall made a motion, seconded by Marilyn White to adopt the budget at a tax rate of 0.250000 per \$100 of value. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 9:30.

August 27, 2007

The West Coke County Hospital District Board of Directors met in regular session August 27, 2007 at the Robert Lee Care Center. President Bessent called the meeting to order at 9:31 am, and determined there was a quorum.

(Continued on next page)

Ladies Day

"Balancing Your Life, Piece by Peace"

Saturday, September 8 • 9 am - 2 pm

Bronte Church of Christ • 118 Jefferson

Speaker • Quay Roberts, Eastland, Texas

Ladies of the area are encouraged to attend,

make new friends and enjoy the day

listening to the Word of God.

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Texas Lotto Tickets Sold Here



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Preferred Trim Beef

T-Bone Steak

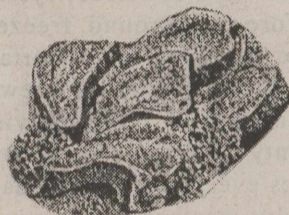
\$4.99^{Lb.}



Preferred Trim
Sirloin Cut • Boneless

Pork Chops

\$1.99^{Lb.}



Regular or Hot
Breakfast

Owens Sausage

\$3.99^{2 Lb. Roll}

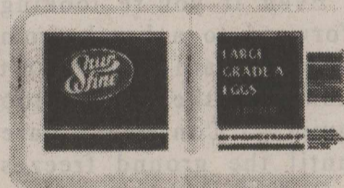


1 Lb. Package
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Red • Ripe

Watermelon

Ea. \$2.99

Miller Lite or

Coors

18 Pack
Cans

Light

\$12.39

Reg., Light or Select

Budweiser

18 Pack
Cans

Beer

\$12.39



...WCCHD Minutes

(Continued from Page 3)

Members present were Mary Bessent, Marilyn White, Dessie Kendall, and Pat Stephens. Mary Bessent gave the invocation. There were no visitors, and absent Board member Mike Lomas was excused. Previous Board minutes were approved. Policies were discussed and tabled for the present. Pat Stephens made a motion, seconded by Dessie Kendall to formally adopt the revised version of the employee handbook. Motion passed. The Board was pleased to know the census at the Care Center is 49. The financial report for July was discussed and accepted. The Board went into executive session at 10:35 am to discuss personnel matters. A 30 minute lunch break was taken from 11:35 to 12:05. The Board emerged from the emergency session at 3:02. The Board elected Jan Magness to assume the position of Manager of Operations, beginning September 4, 2007. Future agenda items were discussed, and the meeting adjourned at 3:09 pm.

Fall lawn and landscape tips

The days may be getting shorter, but there is still plenty to be done in the yard before winter sets in. Fall is a great time to add perennials and trees to the landscape and to prepare your lawn for the coming spring.

Mid-August to mid-October is generally the best planting time for most climate zones – the soil is warm and moist and the air is starting to cool. New or old, all perennials, trees, shrubs and grass need a thorough watering before the ground freezes to maintain healthy, growing roots through the winter. Here are a few other things you can do around the yard before the big growing season comes to an end.

Remove Leaves

The best place to dispose of fallen leaves is right where they land. Mulching leaves into the grass offers an excellent source of added nutrients for the lawn before winter. If mulching is not an option, start a compost pile or donate your leaves to a neighbor or friend who already has one. You could also use the leaves to cover sensitive plants in colder climate zones.

Add Mulch

Covering plants with mulch will give them a few extra weeks of root development before freezing. Compost, partially decomposed leaves, woodchips and bark can all be used to give plants an extra blanket of protection

for the winter.

Prepare the Lawn

The best time to seed thin or bare areas in your lawn is mid-August through September. Grass seed germinates quickly in the warm soil and the warm days and cooler nights are the best combination for rapid growth. New grass also has less competition from weeds for soil nutrients and water since most weeds germinate in the spring, not fall.

Transplant Perennials

Most perennials need to be divided at least every three years to stay healthy and productive. Fall is the best time to transplant, divide or plant perennials. The nutrients gained during the summer months make the plants less likely to die during a move and the moist soil and cooler air provide the extra TLC the plant needs in its new location.

Plant Trees

Deciduous trees (those that lose their leaves in the winter) can be planted from mid-August all the way through early November. Evergreens, however, should be planted before the end of September in order to establish a solid root system before the ground freezes. One of the most important things you can do for a newly planted tree is to provide plenty of water. Water new trees every seven to ten days in dry weather and continue to do so until the ground freezes.

There are a few trees that prove exceptions to this rule. For example, birch, fir, oak and willow have slow-to-establish root systems. They are better off going into the ground in the spring so that they have a few extra months to recover from transplant shock and can establish their root systems before the ground freezes.

Even if you're looking forward to a break from summer yard work, don't hang up the gloves too quickly. Consistent care until the ground freezes will help ensure a healthy lawn and garden for the coming spring.

Early savings reap long-term payoff

By Jason Alderman

I lived paycheck to paycheck during my early twenties. Saving didn't seem feasible; there were just too many expenses. And, like many, during my early workforce years I neglected to have a portion of my paycheck automatically put into a retirement account.

It's ironic that when you're young and struggling you can make the biggest impact on your financial future. Now, quite a few years later, my 401(k) is finally in decent shape and I'm onto the next hurdle – saving for my kids' college education.

Here are a few ideas to help



Hotter'n Hell! Jake Cotter of Bronte rode again this year in the Wichita Falls Hotter 'n Hell bike ride on August 25, 2007. There were over 13,000 riders competing in this ride. Jake has ridden in many rides this year and is really enjoying the experience. Look for Jake at his upcoming ride at Buffalo Gap.

get you or your children on the right track:

The power of compounding. At 22, you're twice as far from age 65 as from birth, so it's hard to think seriously about retirement. But compound earnings – where interest earned on your savings in turn generates more earning – can snowball over time. Here's an example:

Say you're 22, earn \$30,000 a year and put aside 6 percent of pay (\$150 a month) until age 65. At an 8 percent average annual rate of return, your \$77,400 investment will grow to \$619,000 by then. But if you don't begin saving until 32 and set aside the same monthly amount, you'll only accumulate \$274,000 by 65 – a huge difference. By increasing the percentage of pay you save and factoring in annual raises, your savings will skyrocket even further.

Be tax smart. If you don't participate in your employer's 401(k) plan, you're missing a great savings opportunity. Money is deducted from your paycheck before being taxed, which lowers your taxable income and thus, your taxes. You aren't taxed until withdrawal at retirement, when your taxable income and tax rate may be much lower.

Many companies match a portion of your contributions as an incentive to save commonly 50 percent of your first 3 percent of pay saved, or better. That's like getting a 50 percent rate of return. Be sure to contribute enough to take full advantage of the match; otherwise, you're throwing away a sizeable gift. Practical Money Skills for Life, a free personal

financial management site sponsored by Visa USA, has a complete guide to 401(k) plans and other employer-provided benefits (www.practicalmoneyskills.com/benefits).

If a 401(k) plan isn't available, try a Roth IRA. Although initial contributions are taxed, you'll never pay taxes on the earnings, which will grow rapidly with compounding. The earlier you contribute to a Roth, the bigger your tax savings. As always, consult a financial professional regarding your personal situation.

Trouble saving? Start small. Put leftover change in a jar each night and skip a few lattes. Every few weeks, deposit the money in a high-yield, money market savings account (find the best ones at www.bankrate.com). You'll be surprised how quickly it accumulates. Whenever you get a raise or bonus, bank at least part – or better yet, increase your 401(k) contribution.

Saving is never easy, but if you establish good habits early on, you'll find the long-term rewards are too good to

pass up.

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.

Is Your Present or Future Blessed or Cursed?

Joshua 15:24

And if it seem evil unto you to serve the Lord, choose you this day whom ye will serve.

Deuteronomy 30:15 & 19

See, I have set before you this day life and good, and death and evil. I call Heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both you and your seed may live.

John 10:10

Satan cometh to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: But Jesus came that you might have life, and that you might have it more abundantly.

Luke 16:23

(The Ungodly) in Hell He lift up His eyes, being in torments.

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Beat Those Seasonal Allergies

The end of summer means more than the end of summer vacation for the kids - it also means the start of "hay fever" season for millions of Americans.

During this period, allergy sufferers may begin to feel relief from the diminishing tree and grass pollen. Unfortunately, ragweed season kicks off at the same time.

For the nearly 36 million Americans who are affected by seasonal allergic rhinitis, or "hay fever," this means an increased amount of sneezing and itchy, watery eyes. According to the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology (AAAAI), "hay fever" can have a major impact on a person's quality of life during this season which lasts into October.

"Ragweed is a stubborn plant that can grow practically anywhere. It produces one billion grains per average season and, due to their lightweight texture, the grains can travel up to 400 miles," said Fuad M. Baroody, MD, FAAAAI, Chair of the AAAAI Rhinitis Committee. "Without proper diagnosis and management, your allergies could take a heavy toll on your quality of life."

Symptoms of "hay fever" include sneezing, runny noses and swollen, itchy, watery eyes. These symptoms can be so severe that they affect a person's ability to function well at school or work.

Nearly 80 percent of patients with seasonal allergies experience sleep problems, leading to fatigue, loss of concentration and poor performance at work and school. Each year, more than 3.8 million days of work and school are missed due to the abundance of ragweed in the air which causes seasonal allergies.

The best way to avoid feeling the symptoms of seasonal allergies is to avoid the triggers. Remember these tips:

- * Avoid areas where ragweed plants thrive, including ditches, vacant lots, roadsides, riverbanks and the edges of wooded areas.

- * Keep windows closed during ragweed season to prevent pollen from drifting into your home. Use air conditioning, which cools, cleans and dries the air.

- * Keep your car windows closed when traveling.

- * Minimize outdoor activity when pollen counts are high.

- * Take a shower after spending time outside; pollen can collect on your skin and hair.

- * Minimize your exposure to other known allergens

during ragweed season, since symptoms are the result of a cumulative effect of multiple allergens.

- * Get up-to-date pollen information for your area by visiting the National Allergy Bureau online at www.aaaai.org/nab.

To help prepare for the arrival of ragweed, begin any allergy medications 10 to 14 days prior to your area's peak ragweed season. An allergist/immunologist can assist by making an accurate diagnosis and developing an effective treatment.

According to the AAAAI's referral guidelines, patients should see an allergist/immunologist if they:

- * Have prolonged or severe symptoms of rhinitis.

- * Have nasal polyps.

- * Have co-existing conditions such as asthma or recurrent sinusitis

- * Have symptoms interfering with quality of life and/or ability to function.

- * Have limited their diet based upon perceived adverse reactions to foods or additives.

- * Experience itchy mouth from raw fruits or vegetables.

- * Have found medications to be ineffective or have had adverse reactions to medications.

- * Are a child with allergic rhinitis, because immunotherapy may potentially prevent the development of asthma.

To find an allergist/immunologist in your area or to learn more about allergies and asthma, visit the AAAAI Web site at www.aaaai.org.

TDA Market Recap September 4, 2007

The Texas Department of Agriculture market recap for the week ending September 1, 2007, shows higher prices than the previous week for cattle, sheep, goats, wheat and watermelons, while corn and grain sorghum markets were lower. Cash fed cattle prices were up on a continued tight supply of finished cattle and improved beef prices. Lower feed grain costs and continued good grazing helped support the feeder cattle market. Texas cash cotton closed higher than the previous week on an improved export outlook. Wheat markets were up sharply amid concerns that the crop would be smaller than expected in Canada, Europe and South America. Corn markets are down seasonally as harvest begins in the Southern Corn Belt. As for futures markets, wheat and cotton futures closed the week higher, but cattle and corn were lower. Weather last week was unsettled with scattered showers over much of the state. Cotton continued to develop well in the Plains, and harvest continued

		----- Week Ending -----		
Cash Markets		09/01/2007	08/25/2007	09/02/2006
Feeder Steers	(\$/cwt)	117.86	116.47	123.36
Finished Cattle	(\$/cwt)	94.62	92.97	91.19
Slaughter Lambs	(\$/cwt)	102.00	101.50	93.50
Slaughter Goats	(\$/cwt)	107.25	106.75	98.50
Cotton	(¢/lb)	53.75	53.00	51.00
Wheat	(\$/bu)	6.50	6.13	4.17
Corn	(\$/bu)	3.46	3.67	2.47
Grain Sorghum	(\$/bu)	5.36	5.85	3.70
Watermelons	(¢/lb)	12.5	10.5	15.0
Futures Markets				
Feeder Steers	(\$/cwt)	117.48	117.58	
Finished Cattle	(\$/cwt)	94.10	94.38	
Cotton	(¢/lb)	58.87	56.20	
Wheat	(\$/bu)	7.21	6.83	
Corn	(\$/bu)	3.24	3.42	

in South Texas as weather permitted. Corn and grain sorghum harvest is also underway in most of the state and is nearing completion in South Texas. Pastures and range remain in mostly good to excellent condition.

The cash prices above are market averages for locations covered by the TDA Market News program and do not reflect any particular sale at any specific location. Feeder cattle prices are for 500-600 pound medium and large #1 steers. Futures prices are quoted for the nearest month contract on the last trading day of the week.

For additional information, contact TDA Market News at (800) 252-3407 or visit our Web site, www.tdamarketnews.com.

Don't put off that oil change

We all know the deal: change your vehicle's oil every 3,000 miles or three months and in exchange it keeps critical parts of your precious engine lubricated, cleaned and cooled. So why are so many of us driving around with dirty and old oil that is still expected to perform its duties?

The Car Care Council is reminding motorists that oil

is the engine's life-blood and that changing your oil regularly is still the single most important thing to do to ensure your engine's long life.

What happens when oil ages and why does it need to be changed? With time, oil becomes contaminated by sources including dust, metallic shavings, condensation and even antifreeze. The additives in the oil that protect the engine break down, lose their effectiveness and can act as contaminants or corrosives. When contaminants are present, they can stick to parts of the engine and act as abrasives, causing it to perform less efficiently. The oil lubricates poorly and is much less effective at cushioning the moving parts of the engine, which can increase friction.

Ultimately, an engine that is not properly lubricated will wear prematurely and could seize up due to the friction and heat. Regular oil and filter changes can eliminate the contaminants and limit the effects they have on the engine.

"It's one of those things that's easy to put off doing. It's like putting off teeth cleaning. Cavities will happen," said Rich White, executive

director, Car Care Council. "The oil change improves efficiency, fuel economy and dependability, and protects the engine."

Automotive technicians agree. In a Vaseline study of ASE-certified technicians in 2006, 84 percent of technicians surveyed said that not getting a regular oil change could cause the most problems for a vehicle, when compared to other maintenance issues.

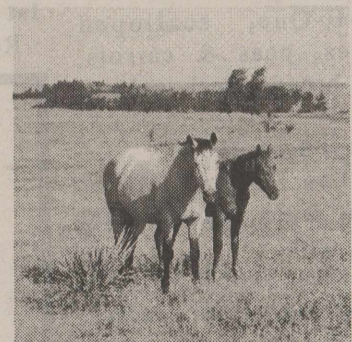
The council recommends that drivers follow their owner's manual for viscosity and grade of motor oil. Viscosity refers to the thickness or thinness of the oil. The viscosity of oil changes with temperatures. Oil thins when heated and thickens when cooled; therefore, having the proper viscosity grade for the climate and temperatures of your geographic location is very important. Oil that does not flow well in cold temperatures will leave parts of the engine with no protection, while oil that burns off and becomes too fluid in high temperatures will also leave parts of the engine unprotected.

As a reminder, if you change your own oil, dispose of it properly. Never pour used oil down the drain or into the ground. Instead, take the used oil to a facility that accepts used engine oil.

Buying or selling ranch real estate?

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ROBERT LEE SCHOOL NEWS



KidWind Workshop! Several Robert Lee ISD teachers attended the KidWind Project Workshop. They included (from left to right) Leslie Matthiesen, Celeste Service, Tammy Roe, Audrey Devoll, Denise Roberts and Stephanie Brady.

Steers drop season opener to Red Devils

By Tom Sawyer

Well Steer fans it's that time again, time to fill the stands and line the fences with a little Steer Pride. We kicked off the season with two of the top rated six-man teams in the state. The

results weren't what we expected but it was a test that will only improve our Steers. Our coaches and players have once again stepped up and provided an exciting group of athletes to provide us with our own Friday night lights.

Steer fans can only look on in amazement at the most manicured real grass football field shy of a professional field in this state. What an awesome job by Lupe and Julian Torres to make our home field such a showcase.

Thanks also go out to our new band director, Mike Brady, and the new and improved Stompin Steer Band, what a great sound coming from the stands this year.

Everyone get out of the house and come on out to support your Steers and our School.

Go Steers! Steer Pride!

Scoring Summary

1st Quarter
Robert Lee - 18 yd. pass

from Dillard to Martinez with 8:12 left, Percifull PAT kick good;

Rankin - 55 yd. run with 7:54 left, PAT kick failed;

Rankin - 24 yd. run with 4:51 left, PAT kick good;

Robert Lee - 12 yd. pass from Dillard to Percifull with 2:31 left, Percifull PAT kick good;

Rankin - 5 yd. pass with :19 left, PAT kick good.

Robert Lee - 16

Rankin - 22

2nd Quarter

Rankin - 50 yd. run with 8:35 left, PAT kick good;

Rankin - 17 yd. pass with 2:41 left, PAT kick good;

Rankin - 22 yd. pass with :11 left, PAT kick good.

Robert Lee - 16

Rankin - 46

3rd Quarter

Rankin - 49 yd. pass with 9:51 left, PAT kick failed;

Robert Lee - 19 yd. pass from Dillard to Martinez with 5:02 left, PAT kick failed;

Rankin - 14 yd. run with 2:53 left, PAT kick good.

Robert Lee - 22

Rankin - 60

4th Quarter

Rankin - 1 yd. run with 9:45 left, PAT kick good.

Final score

Robert Lee - 22

Rankin - 68

Steer Statistics

Taylor Percifull

1 carry for -3, 2 receptions for 23 yards and 1 TD and 5 tackles.

Luke Thurman

1 tackle.

Jeremy Martinez

3 receptions for 46 yards and 2 TD's and 2 tackles.

Brody Dillard

5 carries for 20 yards, 6 of 13 passes for 88 yards 1 interception and 3 TD's, and 7 tackles.

Cameron Hodge

16 carries for 96 yards, 0 for 1 passing, 1 reception for 19 yards, 1 punt for 48 yards, and 9 tackles.

Chase Roe

4 tackles.

Corbin Martin

7 carries for 37 yards, and 5 tackles.

Join us next week when the Steers travel to Borden County.

Robert Lee

High School

Homecoming set

Robert Lee High School Homecoming will be September 28, 2007. There will be a parade through downtown Robert Lee, beginning at 2 pm. The community is invited to participate in the parade with floats or other entries. This year's theme will be "Gag the Gorillas-Fear Factor Style." The parade will end at the high school where a pep rally will be held at 2:50 pm. The football game will be against the Trent Gorillas at 7:30 pm.

RLHS Class of 1987

Reunion slated

The RLHS Class of 1987 will be having their 20th reunion on September 28-29. For more information please contact Rick Drennan at 453-2343.

RLJH/RLHS

2007-2008

Class Officers

announced

7th Grade

President - Justin Gartman;
Vice President - Zachary Sanchez;
Secretary/Treasurer - Jordan Gartman; Reporter - Vincent Batten

8th Grade

President - Diana Vera;
Vice President - Linsey Arellano; Secretary/Treasurer - Tyler Henderson;

Reporter - Chad Martin

9th Grade

President - Haden Dillard;
Vice President - Logan Philley; Secretary - Amanda Mendoza; Treasurer - Kacey Roberts; Student Council Reps - Heidi Austin and Blake Hewitt

10th Grade

President - Cody Brosh;
Vice President - Stetson Nesbit; Secretary - Sarah Jones; Treasurer - Brianna Brisbin; Student Council Reps - Blake Millican and Olivia Trejo

11th Grade:

President - Garrett Blair;
Vice President - Olga Perez;
Secretary - Gaby Saucedo;
Treasurer - Precilla Lara;
Reporter - Jodi Sheldon;
Student Council Reps - Holly Austin and Jeremy Martinez

12th Grade

President - Chase Roe; Vice President - Molly Burns;
Secretary - Kasie Skinner;
Treasurer - Briana Longoria;
Reporter - Anna Rojas;
Student Council Reps - Megan Percifull and Corbin Martin

Student Council

President - Chase Roe; Vice President - Garrett Blair;
Secretary - Anna Rojas;
Treasurer - Molly Burns;
Reporter - Kasie Skinner.

Robert Lee ISD

Board meeting held

On Wednesday, August 29, 2007, a special meeting was held in the Robert Lee High School Library at 7 pm. The meeting was called to order by President Roe.

Members present were K. Roe, W. Washam, T. Reed, J. Roberts, I. Torres, T. Sawyer, and B. Ramon; and there were no members absent.

A public meeting was held at 6:45 pm to discuss the proposed tax rate and the 2007-2008 budget for RLISD. At 7:10 pm President Roe called the board meeting to order. The invocation and pledge were led by President Roe.

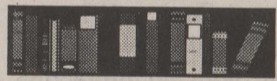
Jeffie Roberts made a motion to approve the August 29, 2007 minutes as read, this was seconded by Brandi Ramon; all for.

Tod Reed made a motion to approve the agenda, this was seconded by Tom Sawyer; all for.

Tom Sawyer made a motion to approve the financial report and to pay the bills, this was seconded by Tod Reed; all for.

(Continued on page 11)

School Menu



Breakfast

Monday, Sept. 10

Pancakes, sausage, cereal, juice, milk

Tuesday, Sept. 11

Burrito, cereal, juice, milk

Wednesday, Sept. 12

Breakfast bar, cereal, juice, milk

Thursday, Sept. 13

Donut, cereal, juice, milk

Friday, Sept. 14

Muffin, cereal, juice, milk

Lunch

Monday, Sept. 10

Rib-B-Que, scalloped potatoes, peas & carrots, sliced bread, fresh grapes, milk

Tuesday, Sept. 11

Chicken fajitas, flour tortilla, pinto beans, salad, orange, milk

Wednesday, Sept. 12

Chicken spaghetti, peaches, green beans, Texas toast, frozen yogurt, milk

Thursday, Sept. 13

Fish strips, tartar sauce, salad, Mac & cheese, roll, banana, milk

Friday, Sept. 14

Hamburger, salad, pickles, French fries, carrot sticks, pudding, milk

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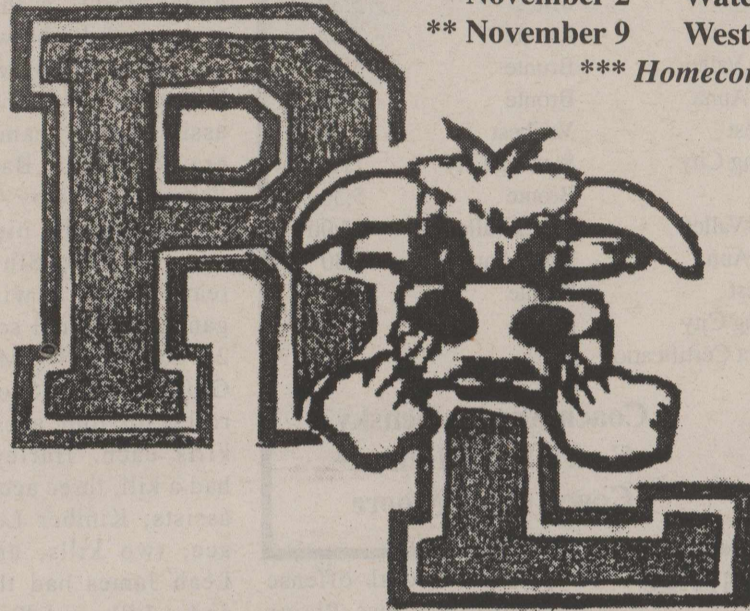
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ROBERT LEE STEERS FOOTBALL

Friday
September 7
7:30 pm
There



		RLHS	
August 31	Rankin	Here	7:30
September 7	Borden County	There	7:30
September 14	Santa Anna	Here	7:30
September 21	Eden	There	7:30
***September 28	Trent	Here	7:30
October 5	Rochelle	There	7:30
October 12	OPEN		
* October 19	Ira	There	7:30
* October 26	Highland	Here	7:30
* November 2	Water Valley	There	7:30
** November 9	Westbrook	Here	7:30

22 68

*** Homecoming **Parents Night *District

ROBERT
LEE
STEERS
VS.
Borden County

Daryl's Body Shop
Shaffer Monument
Company
Robert Lee-Silver
Lions Club
West Coke County
Community Development
Skinner's Gro. & Station
Jim & Geanette Skinner
Ivey Motor Company, Inc.
Glenn-Bivins Insurance
Marilyn, Mary, Lucretia, & Lanette
Robert Lee State Bank
Member FDIC
Robert Lee Care Center
Rock Solid Communications
Roy & Judy Blair

Geo Group, Inc.
Supports the Steers
Joan Davis
Cracker Barrel Restaurant
The Best Connection
The Wayland Drennan Family
Ernest Clendennen, Inc.
Storage Rental & Sales
Super "H" Grocery
Dave & Betty Hughes
D.J.'s Merle
Norman Studio
Debbie McCabe
C & H Auto Parts
& Hardware

Gaylon & Kaye Pitcock
Coke Co. Commissioner Prec. #3
Concho Realty
Cindy's
Ronny & Cindy Brown
Kickin' Up Roses
Tommy & Tiffany Roach
Key Feed Store
Robert Lee Baptist Church
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Handyman Construction
Tommy Williams
Rangel's Restaurant
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W.E.B. Construction
Edwin, Wyndell & Family

Blake Hewitt #4
Buddy O'Connell #7
K.W. Rice #94
Foster #2
Abel #31
Cameron #24
Legan #27
Blake Miller #25
Joe Estrada #35
Garrett #25
Blair #25
Thompson #25
Jeremy #6
Daniel Noutin #13
Ledy Bosh #33
Garrett #25
Blair #25
Thompson #25
Jeremy #6

BRONTE SCHOOL NEWS

Bronte High School Volleyball Schedule

Date	Junior Varsity	Varsity	Site	Time
September 9	Cornerstone/GC	Cornerstone/GC	Cornerstone	TBA
September 12	Open	Junction/Utopia	Junction	5:00
September 16	Rotan	Rotan	Rotan	10:00
* September 19	Miles	Miles	Miles	5:30
September 23	Bronte JV Tourney	Open	Bronte	TBA
* September 26	Water Valley	Water Valley	Bronte	5:30
* September 30	Santa Anna	Santa Anna	Bronte	12:00
* October 3	Veribest	Veribest	Veribest	5:30
* October 7	Sterling City (JVA,JVB)	Sterling City	Sterling City	11:00
* October 10	Miles	Miles	Bronte	5:30
* October 14	Water Valley	Water Valley	Water Valley	12:00
* October 17	Santa Anna	Santa Anna	Santa Anna	5:30
* October 21	Veribest	Veribest	Bronte	5:00
* October 24	Sterling City (JVA,JVB)	Sterling City	Bronte	4:30
October 28		District Certification		

* denotes District 4-1A matches

November 3-4 Bi-District

November 6-7 Area

November 10-11 Regional Tournament

November 16-18 State Tournament

Coach Amy Bohensky

Coach Pam Hilliard

Coach Carol Moore

Bronte Longhorns victorious in 2007 football season opener

By Coach Kevin Burns

The 2007 Bronte Longhorns began their season with a 29-12 home victory over the Cross Plains Buffaloes. The Longhorns scored on their first possession on a pass from Sam Rawlings to Gus

Saunders that covered 40 yards. The extra point kick failed.

Brett Wills scored on the next possession on a sweep around left and on a run of 57 yards to make the score 12-0. Brett also scored the 2 point conversion on a run up the middle behind the blocks of CJ McClure, Reece Springer, Louie Martinez, and Larry Rosales.

With 2:52 left in the first quarter, the Buffaloes lined up to punt, but the snap went over the punter's head and the punter had to step out of the back of the end zone for a Longhorn safety, and a 16-0 lead.

The lone score of the 2nd quarter for the Horns was another Rawlings to Saunders pass play that covered 44 yards and the extra point kick by Ernesto Casillas was good, giving the Horns a 23-0 lead.

Cross Plains scored on a 12 yard pass just before the 3rd quarter, but in the 4th, Saunders found the end zone on a 22 yard run and the PAT was missed, and the Longhorns led 29-6.

With 3:56 to go in the contest, Cross Plains finished the scoring with a 12 yard pass, and the 2 point conversion failed.

Bronte ended the game with

339 yards of total offense while limiting Cross Plains to 173 yards. Brett Wills led all rushers with 119 yards on 9 carries.

For our first game running a new offense and new defense, I thought the kids did a good job. We need to continue to improve our blocking schemes and our execution of the offense. Defensively, we need to get a little more comfortable with adjustments and line up properly. A big plus for a first outing was we turned the ball over just once and early in the year and that is a big plus."

The Horns travel to Rotan tonight for a 7:30 kick-off with the Yellow Hammers.

Bronte Lady Shorthorns begin season with wins

The Bronte Lady Shorthorns began their volleyball season on a positive note with wins by all three teams. The 7th grade team began the night by beating Miles in two games with outstanding beginning play. Final scores were 25-11; 25-12. Kaitlyn Braswell led the charge with 2 kills while Cindy Davila and Brooke Bedford each added four aces. Brayde Knight, Jael Williams, and Erika Puentez also served several collective aces to add to the positive point totals. Team members for this year's 7th grade volleyball team are

Brooke Bedford, Kaitlyn Braswell, Cindy Davila, Brayde Knight, Erika Puentez, Michelle Rhodes, Paige Royall, and Jael Williams.

The 8th grade B team also started the season with a win also beating Miles in two games. Final scores were 25-12; 25-20. Kassie Fillman led the way with positive stats. Kassie had two kills, three aces and three assists. Brenda Perez and Leticia Pena each added points with five aces and four kills between them. Also contributing was Lauren Burns with two kills and an assist. Other team members are Stephanie Barba, Rani Parks, and Shelby Amendt.

Finishing the night with a win was the 8th grade A team. With a win in two games, the final scores were 25-13, 25-6. Mackenzie Gibbs and Jill Scott led the roll with four aces and two kills each. Harley Wallace had a kill, three aces and four assists; Kimber Lee had an ace, two kills, and a dig; Leah James had three aces, and a kill; and Katie Austin had an ace and two digs.

The Lady Shorthorns will be back in action Tuesday, September 4, 2007 in Water Valley.

Bronte ISD Update

By Michael Bohensky

It was a great first week of school in Bronte! Nobody from the outside would have thought it was the first week of school by all the activities on the calendar. After students' meetings and updates on the Student Code of Conduct, students attended classes and broke the monotony of the summer with a week full of activities.

For many students, the school year began on August 6, the first day of two-a-days. Longhorns for Christ and First Baptist Church organized a students back school rally on Sunday. Students were able to anticipate the fun of school by sending many teachers and administrators for a swim in the dunking booth.

The volleyball team traveled to Snyder on Tuesday to play Snyder and Shallowater. The varsity beat Snyder in four and lost to Shallowater in five. Bronte ISD held a budget hearing and board meeting on Wednesday. On Thursday the Junior High volleyball teams, A-B-and C, won their games

versus Miles. On Friday, Bronte hosted the "A" showdown volleyball tournament.

Sixteen teams from all over the state participated in the tournament. Bronte girls placed second in the consolation bracket.

The varsity football team beat Cross Plains handily by a score of 29-12 on Friday night. It was a great showing for the Longhorns. What a week! We are ready for another great week of school!

Parents should receive consent forms from students in grades 6-12 participating in extracurricular events. All students may participate in the random drug-testing program. Few changes have been made since the parent meeting on August 1, but the entire drug-testing policy is on-line at www.bronteisd.net.

Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo announces

scholarship increase

Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo officials announced recently that all of the Show's four-year college scholarships will increase from \$12,000 to \$15,000 each, a 25 percent increase. The increase takes effect with the scholarships to be awarded in 2008, and brings the Show's total yearly commitment to the youth of Texas to nearly \$16 million.

"Texas students who are about to enter their senior year of high school are getting a great opportunity," said Skip Wagner, president of the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo. "Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo scholarships always have been highly sought after by the state's best students. We're proud to be able to increase our help for the top Texas students as they and their families deal with the increasing cost of a college education."

In 2008, the Show will award 534, \$15,000, four-year scholarships to deserving high school seniors to attend a Texas college or university. With this increase, more than \$8 million will be awarded to Texas youth through the Show's scholarship program.

"This increase comes on the heels of a very successful 75th anniversary Show," added Wagner. "We celebrated this milestone in a big way, honoring almost 19,000 Show volunteers who brought the Show to what it is today."

(Continued on page 11)



School Menu

Breakfast

Monday, Sept. 10

Cereal, toast, jelly, pears, milk

Tuesday, Sept. 11

Breakfast pizza, juice, milk

Wednesday, Sept. 12

Blueberry muffin, biscuit, jelly, juice, milk

Thursday, Sept. 13

Breakfast burrito, juice, milk

Friday, Sept. 14

Sausage, biscuit, jelly, juice, milk

Lunch

Monday, Sept. 10

Hamburger with bun, lettuce, tomato, pickles, tator tots, baby carrots with ranch, chocolate pudding, milk

Tuesday, Sept. 11

Chicken strips with gravy, hot rolls, creamed potatoes, green beans, fruit jello, milk

Wednesday, Sept. 12

Soft taco with cheese, flour tortillas, refried beans, corn, orange smilies, peach cobbler, milk

Thursday, Sept. 13

Chicken and noodles, tossed salad, green beans, Texas toast, frozen juice bar, milk

Friday, Sept. 14

Bar-B-Que sandwich on bun, baked chips, pickle spears, corn on cob, pineapple tidbits, milk

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BRONTE LONGHORNS FOOTBALL

				BHS	
August 31	Cross Plains	Here	7:30	29	12
September 7	Rotan	There	7:30		
September 14	Open				
September 21	Winters	There	7:30		
* September 28	Sterling City	Here	7:30		
* October 5	Eldorado	There	7:30		
** October 12	Menard	Here	7:30		
* October 19	Irion County	There	7:30		
* October 26	Forsan	Here	7:30		
* November 2	Miles	There	7:30		
* November 9	Christoval	Here	7:30		

* District Games • ** Homecoming

Friday
September 7
7:30 pm
There



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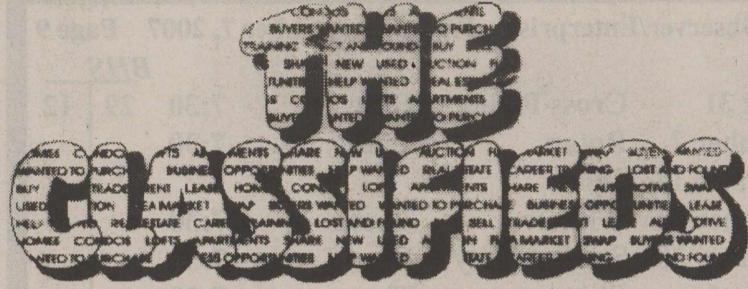
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Granard Dames #36 *Chase Harris* *Lahne Burns #22*
Russ Perry #15 *Jose Perez #7* *Dabon Pender #2* *Sal Rauling #11*
Rouie Martinez #52 *Ernesto #5* *Brandon Fountain #74* *Ray White #63*
Jahya #60 *Wally Walker #68* *Ray Walker #30* *Ronia Rala #10*
Coach Burn *Orly Rosales #70* *Beath Richey*
Butt Wills #1 *Chelsea Cook #33* *Coach Miller*
Jacob #28 *Coach R. Smith #78* *Chelsea Cook #33* *Coach Miller*
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08-2tp

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08-1tc

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38-tnc

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08-1tc

YARD SALE

September 6-8. 602 S. Washington, Bronte. Lots of misc. New stuff added daily.

08-1tp

CARD OF THANKS

THANK YOU

We appreciate the many ways you have shown your love and respect for our mother.

The family of
Rickie Mixson
08-1tc

NOTICES

ROBERT LEE ISD

will hold a public hearing to present the 2007 School FIRST Rating at 6:45 pm on September 17, 2007, in the High School Library.

08-2tc

Pet Talk

Mosquitoes can be pests to humans, but they can be true heartbreakers for pet owners - they can kill pets in the form of heartworms.

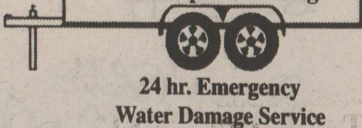
Experts encourage owners to learn about the symptoms, prevention and treatment for heartworms.

"Heartworms are transmitted to pets through mosquitoes when they bite," says Dr. Ashley Saunders, a veterinary cardiologist at the College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences at Texas A&M University. "Fortunately, this means that heartworms cannot be spread from one pet to another or from your pet to you."

More cases of heartworms are diagnosed during the times of the year when mosquitoes are commonly seen. The heat

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Lake Front Property, 3 BR, 2 Bath home, 1550 sq. ft., vaulted ceiling in living area, 2 car carport, on approx. 4.5 ac. with magnificent views, additional guest house.

and humidity of summer combined with the recent heavy rains have created ideal conditions for mosquitoes, resulting in numerous cases seen in veterinary clinics.

Heartworms, more formally known as dirofilaria immitis, are a serious health concern that should be treated by professionals, Saunders says. Heartworms are actually small thread-like parasites that reside in the heart of the host (cat, dog, ferret). If left untreated, your pet may eventually die from lung disease or heart failure.

Most animals do not show symptoms until after the heartworms have matured. Typical symptoms to look for include coughing, exercise intolerance and weight loss. If you think that your pet has these conditions, Saunders believes it is imperative to visit a veterinarian as soon as possible for tests and proper treatment.

Pets should be tested yearly to make sure they are not infected. Heartworms are diagnosed through blood tests that look for female worms.

"There is a big difference between heartworms in cats and in dogs," says Saunders. "From testing procedures to symptoms to treatments, they are different in almost every way possible."

Symptoms can differ greatly, and the diagnostic method is different. For dogs, it is very easy to detect

heartworms. The procedure is a blood test that looks for female worms. For cats, the testing procedure is much more difficult and not as efficient, she notes.

Dogs are injected with medication that will gradually kill all of the worms in the body; however the treatments are different for cats and dogs. It is very important not to give one animal a treatment that is made for a different animal, says Saunders. While the treatment for dogs is very effective and the dogs can tolerate it well, cats have a much harder time getting rid of the worms.

Recently there has been an awareness campaign (www.knowheartworms.org) for prevention of heartworms in cats. While many people are aware of the risks for dogs, cats have been ignored in the past. Veterinarians are hoping owners will start taking more action on preventing heartworms in cats, just as they do with dogs.

Often owners think that if the pet is indoors all the time, it is not at risk for mosquito-transmitted diseases like heartworms. While owners enter and exit the house, mosquitoes can quickly enter as well. Just like people can be bitten inside, pets can too.

"The best advice I can give, for owners of all types of pets, is to prevent heartworms in the first place," says Saunders. "If you take the right steps in the beginning, you will protect your pets from a devastating disease and help them to live a long, healthy life."

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...RLISD Minutes

(Continued from Page 6)

Brandi Ramon made a motion to amend the budget in two functions as read, this was seconded by Jeffie Roberts; all for.

Jeffie Roberts made a motion to name Adjunct Faculty Members as Tommy Antilley and Jan Yanez for the 2007-2008 school year; all for.

Wes Washam made a motion to accept the superintendent's recommendation to approve the 2007-2008 M&O Tax Rate by Ordinance at \$1.04, this was seconded by Brandi Ramon; all for.

Superintendent Hood gave his report on enrollment numbers for 2007-2008 and gave an update on the wind project.

Next regular school board meeting will be held September 17, 2007. The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm.

...Houston Scholarship

(Continued from Page 6)

This scholarship increase is a tribute to the time and talent that volunteers provide to the Show each and every year."

Annually, the Show's scholarship program awards scholarships for Houston-area high school students (Metropolitan and Opportunity), and scholarships for students across Texas (including 4-H, FFA, FCCLA, Area Go Texan and School Art).

The scholarship program is just a part of the Show's annual commitment to the youth of Texas. In addition to the scholarship increase, the Show has committed an additional \$500,000 toward Rodeo Institute for Teacher Excellence — a program that trains teachers with specialized reading and classroom skills for students in pre-kindergarten classes through third grade — bringing the annual commitment to \$1.5 million. The Show has committed an additional \$100,000 for wildlife and range management educational programs. Other youth commitments include more than \$5 million awarded to livestock show participants through premiums, junior auctions, calf scramble and judging contests.

For more information on the Show, its scholarship program and other educational commitments, visit www.rodeohouston.com.

Since the Show began in 1932, more than \$220 million has been committed to the youth of Texas.

The Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo is a 501(c)(3) charity that benefits youth, supports education, and facilitates better agricultural practices

through exhibitions and presentation.

The 2008 Show will run March 3-22.

Local "Support A Soldier" program still underway

The community has been very supportive in donating items listed below for the Southside Church of Christ project. If you would like to help, the types of items they are mailing to our military men and women are listed below, along with the cooperating businesses, who have the boxes in which donated items may be placed.

In addition to the items listed below, our military men and women are giving candy and soccer balls to the Iraqi children, if you would like to assist in this effort. The soccer balls can be purchased deflated with a little pump; so more of them can be packed in the boxes.

Women

Tampons/Pads, Moisturizing Cream (small bottles), Hydrating shampoo/conditioner (small bottles), Razors, Baby wipes (easily carried type), Toothpaste, Toothbrushes, Small bar soap, Hair clips/bobby pins, Underwear Tube socks, Hard candy, Gum, Visine, Books, cards, board games, Movie DVD's (cheerful themes), Flashlights (easily carried types), Batteries for flashlights, Cup of Soups, Canned Meats, Jerky, Baggies to carry these things in, they put them in there pockets.

Men

T-shirts Light Brown, Tube Socks, Flashlights/batteries, Snacks, Visine, Chapstick, Gum, Jerky, Cup of Soups, Underwear, Baby wipes (easily carried type), Movies DVD's (cheerful themes), Small bar soap, Toothpaste, Toothbrushes, Shampoo (small bottles), Razors, Games (card games, horseshoes, board games,

hand held games), Hard Candy, Baggies.

The boxes are being put in the following businesses: Super H Foods, C & H Hardware, This and That Shop 1 & 2, Ivy Motor Co., Key Feed Store, Coke County Library, Southside Church of Christ, Victory Assembly of God, Wild Cat Taxidermy, Robert Lee State Bank, June Dang Sandwich Shop, Especially for you Shop, and The United Methodist Church. If you need a box, or want to contact anyone, call Pat Gunnells at 453-5503.

To contact a soldier visit www.anysoldier.com. Any letters or cards to the troops supporting them can be put in the boxes also.

Don't let having a baby blow your budget

By Jason Alderman

Raising a family is one of the most rewarding and fulfilling experiences in life, but also one of the most expensive. According to a U.S. Department of Agriculture survey, a typical middle-income family will spend nearly \$200,000 raising a child to age 18 - not including college costs or lost wages for a stay-at-home parent.

First-time parents are often amazed at how many "things" a baby needs. Top essentials include a car seat (required by law), crib and bedding, stroller, diapers, baby formula and food, medical and grooming supplies, clothing, and basic home baby-proofing (like installing electrical outlet covers). Add in a few nice-to-have items like a baby bathtub, rocking chair and baby pictures and suddenly we're talking thousands of dollars.

Hand-me-downs and resale shops can help keep costs down, but only up to a point. That's why it's vital to

develop a budget and start saving right away.

Practical Money Skills for Life, a free personal financial management site sponsored by Visa USA, contains an extensive how-to guide called "Here Comes Baby" (www.practicalmoneyskills.com/baby). It features an interactive baby budgeting calculator, budgeting tips, childcare and education planning pointers, tax information and much more.

Here are some of the other expenses you'll likely encounter and ways to prepare:

Medical costs. Having a baby is expensive: Mothers need prenatal exams; normal delivery costs are already high, but complications such as premature birth can dramatically increase the bill; babies need well-baby checkups and immunizations; and - ask any parent - you'll visit the pediatrician many times those first few years.

Long before your baby is due, review your health insurance to fully understand your financial responsibilities. Consider deductibles and copayments for likely expenses like doctor's visits, hospitalization, medicines and vaccines, etc.

Even if your plan pays 80 percent, a 20 percent copayment for a \$10,000 delivery would cost \$2,000, on top of any deductibles. Want a private room in the hospital after delivery? That will probably cost more too. Find out if your obstetrician, pediatrician and hospital are "in-network" and explore how much your insurance premium will increase for family coverage.

Parental leave. Don't forget to set aside money to cover costs during maternity or paternity leave. The federal Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) allows up to 12 weeks of unpaid leave for the birth or adoption of a child. Ask your human resources department for more

information or go to the Department of Labor's website (www.dol.gov/esa/whd/fmla).

Tax savings. Ask if your employer offers health care and dependent care flexible spending accounts (FSAs). They let you pay for eligible out-of-pocket medical and child care expenses on a pre-tax basis - that is, before federal, state and Social Security taxes have been deducted. This lowers your taxable income, and therefore, your taxes.

Alternatively, you can take the dependent care tax credit when you file federal income taxes. Your preferred method depends on your income, number of eligible dependents and other factors; however, FSAs usually provide the greater tax advantage for most people, especially as income increases. And remember, you're typically allowed to change your benefit coverage at work outside of the open enrollment period after having a baby.

Practical Money Skills for Life contains a guide to how FSAs work at (www.practicalmoneyskills.com/benefits). As always, consult a financial professional regarding your personal situation.

Don't let any of these expenses keep you from experiencing the joys of parenthood - just make sure you plan ahead so you're prepared.

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



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How To Get Your Kids Into The College Of Their Choice

We all want our children to succeed in life, and planning early for college is one of the best ways to help them get ahead in the real world.

There are plenty of things parents can do to help kids be as prepared as possible to get into the colleges of their choice. The key is to get on the right track early when a child first enters high school.

"Students need to get good grades and work hard, but academics are not the only part of college preparation. They need to develop skills, build character, participate in student activities and, most importantly, develop a plan with their parents that will help them select the right school and gain admission to it," says Professor Bill Coplin, author of the new book "25 Ways To Make College Pay Off: Advice for Anxious Parents from a Professor Who's Seen It All" (AMACOM Books).

Before putting undue pressure on a child, parents need to realistically consider if their child is college material and if a typical four-year college is the right choice.

Once you determine college will be the chosen path, there are plenty of things you can do to help your child get focused and organized. Professor Coplin offers the following advice:

- * Use the "Goldilocks Principle" -- not too hot and not too cold. High school can be tough, but it should also be a fun experience that helps children begin to stand on their own feet. You need to apply just the right mixture of "hands on" and "hands off" when helping students choose courses and extracurricular activities, develop good study habits and begin planning for their futures.

- * Have your child prepare a written or verbal plan about how college will contribute to his or her career focus. It's easier to follow a plan once it's formalized and can be reviewed along the way.

- * Perform a "focus check" every four months to check his or her commitment to a college path. Are good study habits being developed? Have courses and activities been selected wisely? Remember, colleges look at grades as well as types of courses taken.

- * Don't worry about your child's GPA if it is 3.0 or above. Take strong action if it's heading below 2.0.

- * Get college credits in high school. It demonstrates to you, your child, and even to colleges that a student is serious.

- * Use the application process as a career-development

test. How children handle the college selection process can be useful in preparing for a career and for college itself.

- * Choose a college based on a student's career mission. Check if coursework allows for internships and field experiences. Some schools even give grants for internships or free summer tuition for internship courses.

- * Think about a future career. Check out a college's career services department. Does the staff know what they're talking about? Do alumni work with undergraduates?

- * Before they enter college tell children you won't pay for more than four years (unless it's a longer program, such as architecture or pharmacy).

- * Require your child to pay for at least 20 percent the college education - it helps insure college is taken seriously and helps hone life skills, such as time management and job search and interview techniques.

"The key is establishing a plan with your child to support college preparation while in high school and to continue that relationship during college to help him or her plan for a successful career," says Coplin.

For more advice on helping to ensure your child's success in college and beyond, read Coplin's "25 Ways To Make College Pay Off," now available in your local bookstore or online.

Helpful Ways To Support Someone Who Is Grieving

When friends or family members lose a loved one, helping them through their time of grief is one of the most supportive and loving things a person can do.

Knowing what to say, how to say it or what to do to provide help, doesn't always come so easily for everybody. We worry about whether we are using the right words, if we're saying too much, not listening enough or not providing sufficient encouragement.

One thing is always true whenever we are called upon to help others cope with loss; our actions should focus on providing as much comfort and support as possible.

"When faced with helping someone through the crisis of a loss, one of the most important things you can do is to provide the person with ample opportunity to express their feelings," said Tomas Fuller, bereavement expert and co-editor of "Passages: The Mystery of Death, Finding Meaning in Life," a collection of poems, philosophy and other inspirational writings.

"The circumstances surrounding the loss of a loved one, whether it is a parent, sibling, friend or

beloved family pet, should always be considered as we look for ways to comfort each other during trying times," he added.

Because we are all different and deal with loss in diverse ways, there is no right way to grieve and no appropriate timetable to follow. A few basic guidelines can give you the tools you need to be able to help your grieving friend or family member cope.

Here are a few key steps you'll need to know:

- * Listening is much more important than talking and being a good listener is one of the best support tactics you can employ. Give the person a chance to vent his or her feelings and refrain from being judgmental, so he or she has a chance to naturally experience the various emotions that facilitate the coping process. Don't be afraid of silence and try to encourage them to share their thoughts.

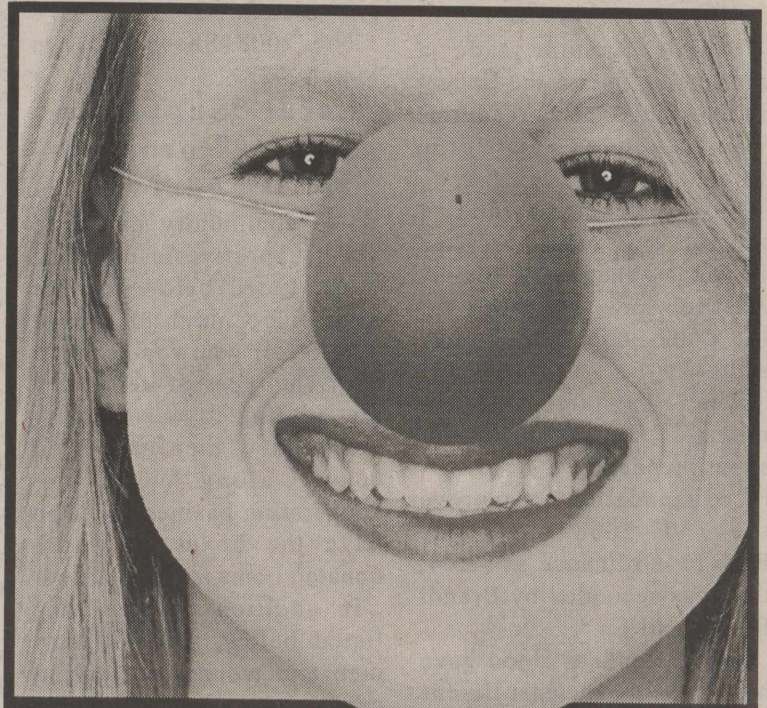
- * Help them to understand that it is normal to have intense feelings and emotions as we progress through the five stages of grief. Following a loss, people will go through a roller coaster of various emotions that initially begin with denial and usually followed by intense feelings of anger about the loss. As part of the healing process, they begin to bargain trying to find a way out of the situation. When they realize they cannot negotiate their way out of the pain, they may experience feelings of depression and sadness until they finally are able to come to terms with their loss and accept moving on with life.

- * Offer practical help that will help them maintain their daily routine as much as possible. Something as simple as stocking their refrigerator with ample food can be extremely helpful despite the seemingly small gesture. Ensuring their physical needs are met helps them in their own personal recovery process. Babysitting the kids, walking their pets or helping with household chores can also provide relief by minimizing the overwhelming burdens they are facing.

- * Finally, try to understand what they are experiencing, because death, loss and grief are a normal part of life that everyone will inevitably go through. From your personal experience, share some of the things that helped you through life transitions: music, cards or books that may provide opportunities for solace and comfort during the months ahead.

According to Fuller, psychologist Carl Jung stated it best when he wrote, "Death is psychologically as important as birth. Shrinking away

from it is something which robs the second half of unhealthy and abnormal life of its purpose."



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