

# THE OBSERVER/ ENTERPRISE

Serving Coke &amp; Sterling Counties

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Vol. 121, No. 37

Friday, April 3, 2009

## Coke County Relay For Life Begins Tonight in Robert Lee

Well, it's finally here – the Coke County Relay For Life is tonight, Friday, April 3! Many have purchased chicken spaghetti, hamburgers, cakes, luminarias, chances on raffles, made donations, and maybe even a few had a pink flamingo in their yard – and for this the Relay for Life teams are extremely grateful! So come out tonight to the Robert Lee ISD football field and track and see what Relay is all about.

The Relay starts at 7 pm with the opening ceremony and Survivors/Caregivers lap. There will be a hamburger supper (free to registered cancer survivors-check in at the Survivor tent first) as well as plenty of other food items for sale from other teams such as King Ranch chicken, Sante Fe soup, sausage-on-a-stick, peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, shaved ice and gourmet popcorn to name a few.

At 9:30 pm there will be the beautiful luminaria ceremony to honor and remember those who are/have battled cancer. This will include

special songs, a poem and the lighting of the candles.

Entertainment between 7:30 pm and 9:30 pm will be J.C.'s Kids Club choir, the Lone Star Cloggers, and The Divits. Jennifer Reed from A Little Touch of Heaven will be doing 5-minute chair massages between 8 pm and midnight and 5 am and 7 am for a small minimum donation, with all proceeds going to the Coke County Relay For Life. Games, activities and entertainment will continue throughout the night, because since cancer doesn't sleep, neither will we. The closing ceremony will be at 7 am Saturday morning.

Relay For Life is the American Cancer Society's nationwide signature event and 2009 is its 25th year – "Celebrating 25 Years of HOPE". Relay For Life now takes place in over 5,000 communities in the US with more than 3.5 million people participating in the life-changing event.

Please go out tonight to the Coke County Relay For Life and help fight back against cancer. There is no finish line until there's a cure.

## Robert Lee pioneer Ernest Clendennen dead at 93

One of the most respected of Robert Lee's pioneer citizens has passed. Ernest Clendennen, 93, died at his home in Robert Lee on Monday, March 30, 2009.

His obituary in this issue details most of his work, family and community history, but does not do justice to his impact on the community.

Ernest Clendennen was a

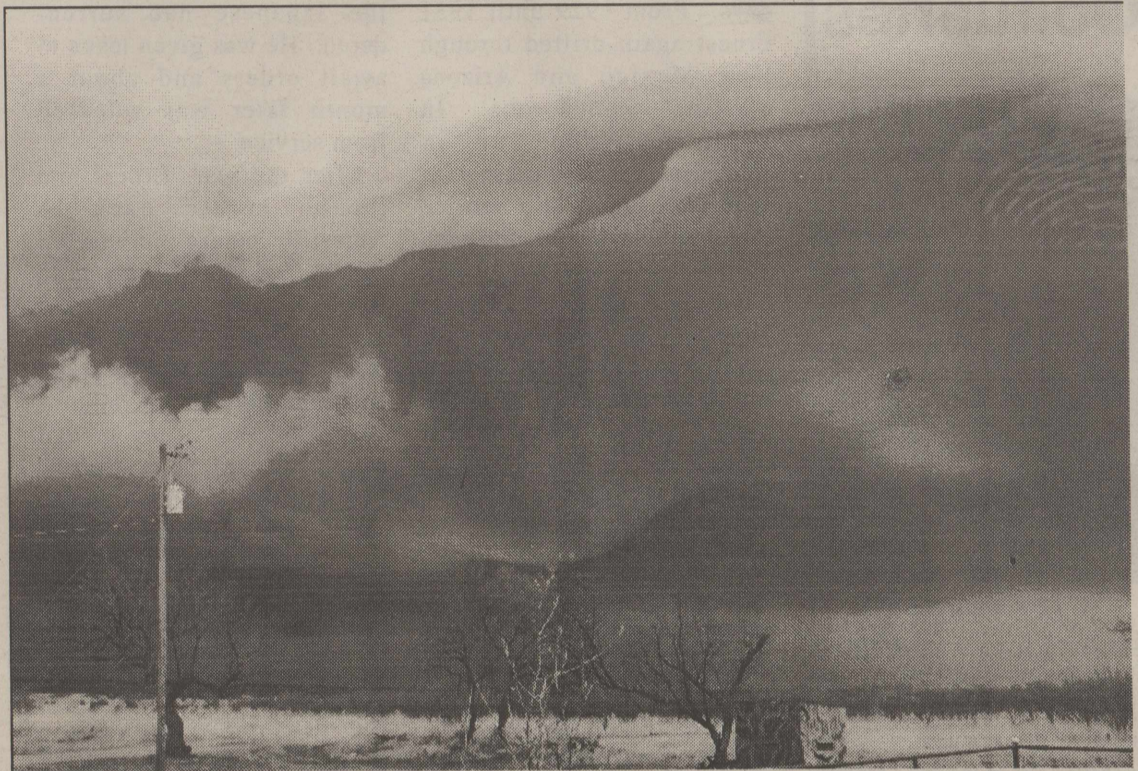


Ernest Clendennen

graduate of the old school of hard knocks. His determination to graduate high school led him to attend public schools in 15 different locations before he received his diploma. He also served his country in World War II.

Perhaps what most business people will remember about Ernest is his work ethic. He worked for others and established businesses from New Mexico to Arizona and California, ending up in Texas, and finally in Robert Lee.

Along the way he earned the respect of everybody he worked with. He had an easy way with people that left everyone he touched with a good feeling about themselves. The people of Robert Lee and Coke County join the family in mourning his death, and rejoice in his friendship and lasting influence on the community.



**Anxious Cloud Watchers!** Robert Lee residents had their heads turned skyward last Wednesday, March 25. Local resident Lisa Harding took this and several more shots of the eerie cloud cover which hung over Robert Lee. All the excitement did not yield many rewards, as most of the county only received a trace of rainfall from the strange cloud formations. The city of Bronte was the exception, as they received 1/2 inch from Wednesday's formations.

### Orthodontic gift certificate to be raffled

The "Cancer Busters" Relay for Life team will be raffling off a \$500 gift certificate for orthodontic treatments at The Brace Place (Dr. Kothmann) in San Angelo. Raffle tickets will be sold at the Relay for Life event, Friday night. The drawing will be held at midnight.

### 4-H to sponsor Rabies Clinic

Coke County 4-H Clubs will be sponsoring the annual rabies clinic on Saturday, April 4. The clinic will be held from 3 pm to 5 pm at the south end of the show barn in the Robert Lee park. Veterinarian Ross Dutton will be in charge. Pets 4 months of age or older should be immunized and should be vaccinated for rabies annually. Horse vaccinations will also be available.

### Street Affair Rummage and Bake Sale set

It's a fundraiser! Everyone who enjoys the Street Affair, a one-time-a-year event, is asked to help. The Street Affair Committee is having a Rummage and Bake Sale on Saturday, April 4, at the Wojtek Building (Old Ben Bessent Chevrolet building) in Robert Lee. The use of the building is being donated by

Dale and Sue Wojtek. Everyone is encouraged to donate baked goods and items for the rummage sale to make the Street Affair successful. Donations will be accepted at the Wojtek Building beginning Friday, April 3, at 12 noon. All donations left over will be donated to Christians In Action.

### Mountain Creek Golf Course to host tourney

On Saturday, April 4, Mountain Creek Golf Course in Robert Lee will host a 3-person golf tournament, beginning at 9 am. For more information call 453-2317.

### Roping Club starts up Sunday

The Coke County roping club will begin their season with a practice roping at 3 pm on Sunday, April 5 at the roping arena in Bronte. For more information, call Morgan Webb at 473-2690 or Wayne McCutchen at 473-3201.

### Coke County dance slated

The monthly dance for Coke County will be held on April 7 from 7 pm -10 pm at the Robert Lee Rec Hall. This is because of our time change. In case you get there early, there is a chance to help get things set up.

Everyone has a good time

dancing, eating and visiting. Bring your friends, neighbors and anyone new to Robert Lee that you might have seen moving in. People not only come from Robert Lee but from all over to this dance. There have been about 18 towns represented besides Robert Lee. Come and enjoy.

### RL Hispanic Cemetery meeting set

If there is anyone interested in forming a committee for the Robert Lee Hispanic Cemetery, there will be a meeting held Thursday, April 9 at Robert Lee City Hall at 6 pm. For more information contact Mary Rodriguez at 453-2675 or 450-6959 or Janie Munoz at 453-4707.

### BHRC to host Easter Egg Hunt

On Friday, April 10 at 3 pm, the Bronte Health and Rehab Center will host a Community Wide Easter Egg Hunt for children ages 1 year through 3rd grade.

### BHS Class of '55 reunion set

The Bronte High School Class of 1955 will have their reunion May 16-17 at the San Angelo Inn (Radisson Hotel), 4401 Rio Concho Drive, in San Angelo. For more information contact Stanley Phillips at (512) 258-6267 or Harold McCutchen at (325) 473-5201.

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**STAFF**  
 Hal Spain, Publisher Morgan Webb, Editor  
 Melinda McCutchen Pat Clement Wayne McCutchen

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## Obituaries



### Clendennen

Ernest Anderson Clendennen was born on July 11, 1915, on a homestead in House, New Mexico, to Dezzie Hillis Clendennen and Roy Clendennen. He passed away on March 30, 2009, in Robert Lee, Texas. Visitation was held on Wednesday, April 1, 2009, with the family present from 6 pm to 8 pm. Funeral services were held at 3 pm. on Thursday, April 2, 2009, at Robert Lee Baptist Church, with burial following at Robert Lee Cemetery. Arrangements were by Shaffer Funeral Home.

Ernest lived a long and interesting life. His early years were difficult. When he was about 3 his family moved from House, New Mexico, to a farm near Ralls, Texas. When he was about 5 his mother became ill and a doctor recommended they move to Tucson, Arizona. Unable to travel by train, they began the journey from Ralls in a wagon pulled by mules. They got as far as Tularosa, New Mexico, where his mother died and was buried. They spent the next couple of years traveling around New Mexico and Arizona doing odd jobs and picking cotton in the fall. Ernest lived with his grandparents near Lockney, Texas, intermittently for several years and also with his father in New Mexico and Arizona. In about 1927 his father found permanent work at the Christmas Mine in Christmas, Arizona. Ernest worked in the company store in the mining town.

In the fall of 1929 the stock market crashed and the

mining company was bankrupted and closed within days. From 1929 until 1931 Ernest again drifted through New Mexico and Arizona working various jobs. In 1931, he ended up in Amarillo, Texas, working for room and board at a service station and working for cash money delivering the Amarillo Globe News. Ernest was determined to graduate from high school and graduated from Amarillo High. He said that he had attended 15 different schools before graduating.

The house next to the station was the home of Anna Louise Bryan. They were married in 1933 and lived in Amarillo and Albuquerque, New Mexico. In about 1939 they moved to Los Angeles, California, where Louise managed a small cosmetics manufacturing firm and Ernest went to work as a welder for California Shipbuilding. Cal Ship was building ships for the British fleet. His work ethic soon moved him from welder, to lead welder, foreman, and finally shift foreman of the outfitting docks.

In 1944, he shipped out to the Pacific as a seaman on the USS Kingsport Victory, a ship he had helped build. Back in port he boarded another ship for a run to Dutch Harbor, Alaska, with a load of supplies for a Russian ship. Back in Seattle, he

then boarded to USS Kenneth AJ McKenzie which headed to the Pacific where it carried troops and supplies for island landings and the invasion of the Philippines. Upon leaving the Philippines, bound for Seattle, the ship endured a hurricane that caused much damage to the American fleet. He said the storm was the worst thing he ever endured during the war, with the decks completely awash during every wave for about 24 hours. Upon arriving at Seattle there was news that atomic bombs had been dropped on Japan and that the Japanese had surrendered. He was given leave to await orders and about a month later was released from service.

After the war, Ernest and Louise moved back to Amarillo where he started several businesses trying to find something that would go. He tried a donut shop, battery manufacturing shop, welding shop, and a radiator shop. In 1947, they moved to San Angelo, Texas, where he went to work at a trailer shop. He soon bought his own welding rig and truck and drove out to Silver, Texas, on July 4th, 1948, for his first oil field job. He worked and lived in Silver for many years building a successful oilfield service business. He moved to Robert Lee in 1984. Louise Clendennen passed away in 2001. Ernest was totally unafraid of hard work and long hours and was happiest when involved in a project. Ernest was involved in the community and was interested in seeing others succeed.

He is preceded in death by his parents, wife Louise Clendennen, sisters Maye Whitehurst Gibson, Goldie Loggins, and brother Gerald Clendennen.

Survivors include brothers, Harold Clendennen and Coy Clendennen; sister, Neta

Singelton; sons Allen Clendennen and his wife, Carole, Jim Clendennen and his wife, Becky; grandchildren, Becky Halfmann, Ericka Knight, Dustin Mehaffey, and Taylor Clendennen; great-grandchildren, Ashley Torres, Bradye Knight, Cody Halfmann, and Kortney Halfmann. Numerous others were also treasured friends of Ernest Clendennen.

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### What Do Your Relay Dollars Support?

Your Relay dollars support the work of the American Cancer Society in four key areas described below in the fight against cancer. ACS is the nationwide, community-based, voluntary health organization dedicated to eliminating cancer as a major health problem by preventing cancer, saving lives and diminishing suffering from cancer, through research, education, advocacy and service.

**Research** - The ACS is the largest source of non-profit, non-governmental cancer research funding in the U.S. The Society funding of select researchers led to effective treatments like chemotherapy, radiation, and bone marrow transplants that extend thousands of lives each year. Many cancers such as breast, cervical, colon and prostate can be detected early when treatment is more effective. Society-funded research has led to the development of early detection methods such as the PSA test and mammography.

**Education** - Following the ACS's wellness and cancer screening guidelines can save your life and the lives of people you love. Any time, day or night, people facing cancer can connect

with lifesaving information, resources, and support online at [www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org) or through the toll-free call center at 1-800-ACS-2345.

**Advocacy** - They fight for life-saving laws on local, state, and federal level to increase research funding, promote early detection of cancers, improve access to and coverage of care and support cancer patients. Cancer advocates sent over 45,000 letters to Congress urging them to support cancer research and programs.

**Service** - The ACS provides many patient and family support services to help people with cancer during and after treatment. You are never alone in the Cancer Survivors Network, an online community that connects patients, survivors, and caregivers with others who have "been there" for insight, moral support and inspiration. Patients need not worry about how to get to and from their treatments when trained ACS volunteers offer free transportation, friendship and support through the Road to Recovery program. This service is available to cancer patients in Coke County. Help is also available for other travel arrangements when needed for out of town treatments. Call 1-877-227-1618 for more information. Wigs, hats and scarves are available locally at the San Angelo office at 3228 S. College Hills Blvd. Cancer patients can also make an appointment with a Look Good...Feel Better local beauty consultant.

Join us for the Coke County Relay For Life on Friday, April 3 starting at 7 pm at the Robert Lee ISD football field/track as we Celebrate life for cancer survivors, Remember those lost to the disease and Fight Back against cancer by raising funds to support the American Cancer Society's efforts.

### 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

Ray Aldridge, Pastor

Sun. 10 am & 6 pm, Wed. 7 pm

**First Baptist Church**

424 S. Washington • Bronte

(325) 473-2331

Bro. Corey Cornutt, 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. David Bailey, Pastor

Sun. 10 am Sunday School

11 am Worship

5:30 pm Choir Practice

**Iglesia Bautista Bethel**

101 Houston • Robert Lee

(325) 763-9208 • 320-1354

Sun. 10 am • Worship

11 am & 6 pm • Service

Wed. 7 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 508 • 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 Church**

PO Box 542 • 12 miles west of

Robert Lee on Sterling City Hwy

(325) 453-2482

Jim Dominey, Pastor

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. 6 pm Prayer Meeting

**Tennyson Baptist Church**

Hwy 277 • Tennyson

Joe Hodges, Pastor

(325) 473-2040

Sun. 9:45 am, Sunday School

11 am & 6 pm, Worship

Wed. 7 pm, Prayer Meeting

**St. James Catholic Church**

215 N. Washington, Bronte

(325) 365-2687

Rev. Hubert Wade, Pastor

Sun. 5 pm

## RETIREMENT MAY BE FAR OFF, BUT THE APRIL 15 DEADLINE FOR IRA CONTRIBUTIONS ISN'T.

To learn more about the benefits of an Edward Jones IRA, call or visit today.

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**Edward Jones**  
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### Rhonda & Judy's Place

will be open

Monday - Saturday

3 pm until 8 pm

beginning Monday, April 6

Shaved Ice, Soft Serve Vanilla Ice Cream,

Coke and Root Beer Floats, Snicker and

Butterfinger Twisters and Pickles

We will be open unless it is raining or very cold.

We are looking forward to greeting

our old friends and making some new ones!

# COKE COMMENT

By Hal Spain,  
Publisher

## "Clean" Coal Plant proposed for Sweetwater is a bad idea

Nell Richards came into my office the other day and gave me some details on the new "clean" coal plant which has been proposed for Sweetwater, Texas. If the Richards name doesn't ring a bell, think Chadbourne Ranch.

So what does a proposed "clean" coal plant in Sweetwater have to do with Coke County? Think water needs for the new plant. It is estimated that the plant will use from 1 million to 10 million gallons of water per day. Where is this water going to come from? Mrs. Richards thinks they will drain Oak Creek Lake supplying water to the new plant. Now that puts this issue much closer to home, doesn't it.

Where does Bronte get its drinking water? Oak Creek Lake. Ask any Bronte resident if they want to go back to a restricted supply of well water to drink and maintain their yards and landscapes. Now think about how many fishermen Oak Creek brings to the county. We've waited for seventeen years to get the lake full again. I don't think most of us would support a measure to drain the lake to supply a new plant in Sweetwater.

Why does the possibility of a coal plant in Sweetwater seem absurd? First we have to go over a few details. The coal will be coming from the Powder River Basin in

Wyoming. The first question that comes to mind is why are they shipping the coal that far, unless nobody else up north wants one of these nasty plants in their backyard.

The next question is why anybody would propose a "water-hog" proposition such as this for "dry" West Texas. We don't have enough water to supply our basic needs, much less supply an industry of this type. It just doesn't make much sense, does it.

Now let's talk about so-called "clean" coal. Thomas M. Kostigen, who is the author of a book on the subject, states that "there is no such thing as 'clean coal.' It's like saying 'dry water.' It doesn't exist." "The health and pollution ramifications of burning coal are numerous. Air pollution is the leading cause of asthma. Asthma is the leading cause of school absences. Air pollution kills more people per year than automobile accidents."

So what makes us think that the proposed plant in Sweetwater will ever be built, under these circumstances. Can you say "stimulus funding?" Yes, my friends, the same federal money "our money" that bailed out the banks and AIG and now General Motors and Chrysler may be headed our way to help finance this moronic idea, that will pollute our air and drain our impoundment.

The really "good" news is that there is another of these plants planned in West Texas, the second of which is to be located at Odessa, Texas. What galls me the most is why don't they keep the coal up north instead of shipping it by rail down here. My next question is

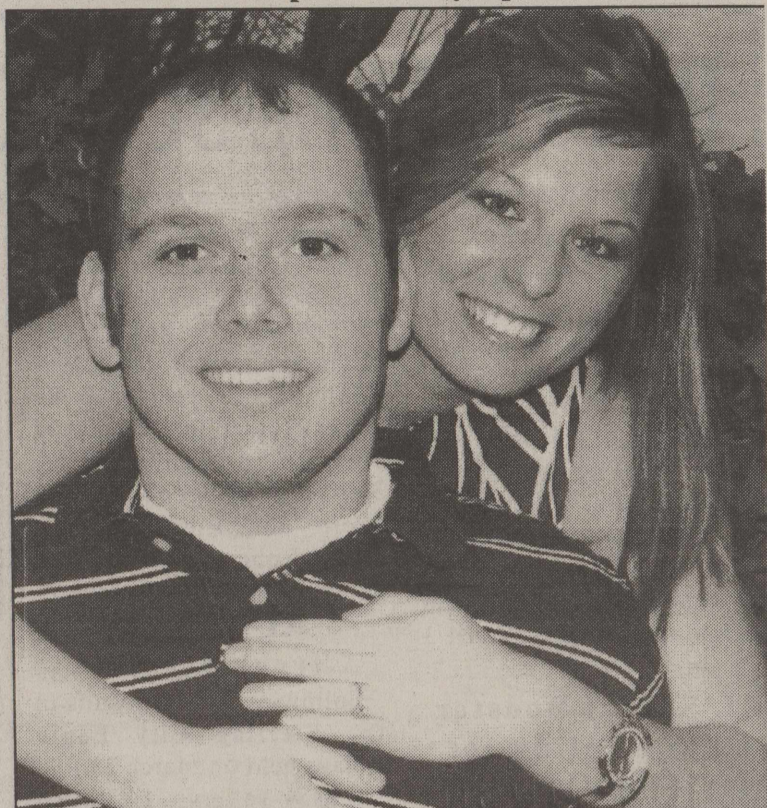
why don't they put the plants in areas where they have an excess of rainfall and impounded water; so it won't put such a strain on the area's available resources.

I am the first one who will defend economic development in any area. However, possibly the worst part of the proposed plan is that it will only add about 100 jobs to the area, once the (Sweetwater) plant is operational.

There are several things that have to happen in order for this plan to be implemented. The first of which is that Congress has to pass a "cap and trade system" which would cap the amount of emissions of pollutants that the plants are allowed. Plants which exceed these levels would then have to buy credits and otherwise suffer a penalty for spewing these pollutants in the air.

By the way, the Obama administration is solidly behind "cap and trade", and it is a part of their legislative program. It sounds to me like it's time to start calling some of our legislators and find out what's going on.

Our thanks to Mrs. Richards for making us aware of what is going on with this proposal. She has a special tie to this issue, as she and her husband supplied most of the land for the formation of Oak Creek Lake. She has submitted a letter to



**Caudle - Page engagement announced!** David and Jannette Caudle of Early, Texas, and Dale and Debbie Page of Bangs, Texas, are happy to announce the engagement of Lindsey Michelle Caudle and Cody Dale Page.

Lindsey is the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. JW Caudle of Bronte and the late Mr. and Mrs. Bob Diehl, formerly of Llano. She is a 2006 graduate of Early High School and a 2008 graduate of Fort Worth Dental Assistant School. She is currently employed by Dental Excellence of Stephenville.

Cody is the grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Bob Wilcox of Goldthwaite and the late Mr. and Mrs. Wincil Page of Goldthwaite. He is a 2003 graduate of Bangs High School and a 2008 graduate of Tarleton State University with a BBA in HR Management. He is currently employed by Schreiber Foods, Inc., in Stephenville.

The wedding will be held on June 11, 2009, at The Breezes Resort in the Bahamas.

the editor concerning water West Texas. It is included in as the key to our survival in this issue.

## Good Friday Service

Friday, April 10  
7 pm

Robert Lee Baptist Church  
Come worship with us!

## Easter

### Sunrise Service

Easter Sunday Morning  
April 12 • 7 am

Grassy lot next to First United Methodist Church in Robert Lee

*In case of inclement weather,  
the service will move to the sanctuary  
of the First United Methodist  
Church in Robert Lee*

# 2009 STREET AFFAIR BAKE SALE

## & RUMMAGE SALE

Saturday, April 4

9 am • Robert Lee

Wojtek Building

(old Ben Bessent building, use of  
donated by Dale & Sue Wojtek)

Hot dogs will be  
available for lunch!

Donations to the bake sale and  
rummage sale will be accepted  
beginning Friday, April 3 at  
12 noon at the Wojtek Building

# ROBERT LEE SCHOOL NEWS

## RLISD early release scheduled

To assist with preparations for Relay for Life, Robert Lee ISD will be releasing school early on Friday, April 3, with school releasing and buses running at 12:30. Relay for Life, which benefits the American Cancer Society, will take place on the Robert Lee football field beginning on Friday, April 3 at 7 pm.

## RL Sports Booster Club meeting set

The Robert Lee Sports Booster Club meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 7, at 7 pm in the high school library. Please help support the athletes of RLISD.

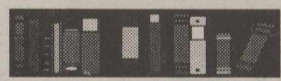
## Steer Validation Tag Deadline

It is once again time to plan for the 2009-2010 Texas Steer Validation. Any Coke County student who is planning on exhibiting a steer at next year's major shows needs to have their steer validated with the state. Please contact Garrett at the extension office at 453-2461 to place an order for tags. Tags must be paid for when ordered. Orders are due Friday, April 10, 2009, by 5 pm.

## RLJH/RLHS cheerleaders announced

Robert Lee Junior High Cheerleaders for the 2009-2010 school year have been announced. They include Bianca Huapilla, Taylor

## School Menu



### Breakfast

- Monday, April 6**  
Juice, pancake & sausage on stick, cereal, milk
- Tuesday, April 7**  
Juice, cinnamon roll, cereal, milk
- Wednesday, April 8**  
Juice, pizza, cereal, milk
- Thursday, April 9**  
Juice, burrito, cereal, milk
- Friday, April 10**  
Staff Development Day
- Lunch**
- Monday, April 6**  
Hamburger, macaroni, salad, green beans, sliced bread, peaches, milk
- Tuesday, April 7**  
Salisbury steak, au gratin potatoes, corn on cob, brown gravy, roll, pears, milk
- Wednesday, April 8**  
Chicken A La King, rice, egg roll, orange, applesauce, milk
- Thursday, April 9**  
Ravioli, tator tots, roll, peanut butter, fruit cocktail, milk
- Friday, April 10**  
Staff Development Day

Benton, Brady Clawson, Rani Coppedge, Karlee Roach and Justice Saucedo.

Cheering for Robert Lee High School for the 2009-2010 school year will be Briana Brisbin, Kimberly Roach, Lubbock Roe, Rebecka Saucedo, Libby Trejo and Emilee Yanez. Kacee Roberts will take part as "Stomper".

## RLHS girls track results

Following are the results in the Sterling City Eagle Relays held on March 28.

Linsey Vallery - 1st - Shot Put, 1st - Discus; Diana Vera - 6th - Shot Put, 4th - Discus; Sarah Walker - 5th - Shot Put, 6th - 400m Relay, 5th - 800m Relay - 1600m Run; Amanda Mendoza - 2nd - High Jump, 3rd - Long Jump, 3rd - 100m Dash - 6th - 400m Relay, 5th - 800m Relay; Emilee Yanez - 6th - Long Jump, 5th - 800m Relay, 6th - 400m Relay; Kimberly Roach - 5th - 800m Relay, 6th - 400m Relay, Discus, 200m Dash; Mira Myrice - 6th - 400m relay, 400m Run.

## RLJH girls track results

Following are the results of the Bronte Junior High Track Meet held on March 26.

Ashlie Wheat - 100m Dash, Shot Put, Discus; Ashlie Tennison - 200m Dash, 400m Dash; Berenice Fabian - 100m Dash; Jesse Sheets - 6th - 1600m Relay, 800m Relay, 200m Dash, Long Jump; Sydney Sheldon - 400m Run, 6th - 1600m Relay, Long Jump; Taylor Benton - 200m Dash, 800m Relay, Pole Vault; Bianca Huapilla - 200m Dash, 800m Relay, 6th - 1600m Relay, Long Jump; Jordan Gartman - 800m Relay, 6th - 1600m Relay, 1st - Discus, Shot put; Dusty Howard - Discus, Shot put.

## RLHS boys track results

Following are the results in the Sterling City Eagle Track meet.

Discus - 1st) Garrett Blair, 2nd) Stetson Nesbit, 5th) Tanner Hanigan; 800m Run - 1st) Josh Gallegos, 5th) Jose Fabian; 300m Hurdles - 1st) Josh Gallegos.

## RLJH boys track results

Following are the results of the Bronte Junior High Relays.

100m Dash - Hinderliter - 5th place; 200m Dash - Sanchez - 3rd, Hinderliter - 5th; 800m Run - Sanchez - 1st; 4 x 200 Relay - 4th place - Howard, Gartman, Saucedo, Skinner; 4 x 400 Relay - 3rd place - Howard, Gartman, Sanchez, Hinderliter; Discus - 3rd place - Gartman; Triple Jump

- 2nd place - Gartman; High Jump - 4th place - Hinderliter; Pole Vault - 1st place - Hinderliter.

## Check Out Coke County Library

The Coke County Library semi-annual book sale will be held on Friday, April 3, from 8-12; and also on Saturday, April 4, from 9-2. Many really good reads are available for stocking up for a long summer and a boring television season.

Research is showing that reading is what promotes good grades in the younger generation, and helps avoid dementia in the older generation. If you find yourself looking at the same old thing on the computer, a book will provide other ideas, other people, other places, to seek out.

The Head Start students will be treated to an Easter egg hunt in the Mini-Park beside the Library on Thursday, April 9 at 10:30. These students have been such good listeners, they deserve a treat.

Library hours are Tuesdays, 8-12; Wednesdays, 8-4; Thursdays, 1-5; Fridays, 8-12. Call 453-2495 for information.

## Letter to the Editor

By Nell Richards

### History, Survival and Water in West Texas

From the mastadon, the early Native American Culture, to the early settlers moving through and settling this area, the key to survival in West Texas is the availability of water.

The U.S. Army sent soldiers to this area in the early

1850's, the key to stopping in this area was water.

There is a new threat to your survival in West Texas. Not only is your water supply going to be sold to the highest bidder, the clean air that is taken for granted will be affected.

Why is Austin not bidding on this facility? Does Dallas, Houston or Beaumont, who have abundant water supplies not need this revenue? Why would someone ship coal for hundreds of miles to a remote area of West Texas?

Take a close look at the recreational income the area lakes bring to this area. Do not take for granted the water coming out of your faucet when you turn the valve on. Will you still be able to water your lawn? If so, will you be able to afford it?

Community growth, agriculture, tourism, recreation as well as quality of life depends on water. In West Texas, the person, City or Corporation who controls the water, controls the growth.

My grandfather once told me that a gallon of water will be worth more than a gallon of gasoline. I have lived to see this come true.

Make sure there is water in the botton of the well before you jump in.

## WCCHD

### meeting held

By Pat Stephens

The Board of Directors of the West Coke County Hospital District met March

30, 2009, in regular session in the conference room of the Robert Lee Care Center. Members present were Mary Bessent, Mike Lomas, Marilyn White, and Pat Stephens. Others present were Janie Munoz, Business Office Manager, and Roger Alexander, Administrator. President Bessent called the meeting to order at 9:30 am, and declared there was a quorum. President Bessent gave the invocation. There were no visitors.

Absent Board members Marilyn White and Dessie Kendall were excused from the previous meeting. The minutes from the February meeting were approved.

The Board went into executive session at 9:33 am to discuss personnel, and returned to regular session at 9:55 am. The Board voted unanimously to give Roger Alexander a raise in salary. His work, as well as his dedication to the facility, is very much appreciated.

The Board had a brief presentation from Stephen Myers, President of the Robert Lee State Bank to clarify some information on the District's certificates of deposit. The Board wishes to express their appreciation to Mr. Myers for his time and report.

In the staffing update, Roger Alexander reported the facility is basically fully staffed. He is very pleased with the care the residents are receiving. He also gave an update on the Alzheimer's Unit. There are six residents currently in the unit.

(Continued on page 7)

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## RELAY FOR LIFE OF COKE COUNTY

All Cancer Survivors are invited to the 5th Annual

## Coke County Relay For Life

at the Robert Lee ISD Football Field/Track on Friday, April 3, 2009 at 7 pm

6 pm • Hamburger Supper (free to all registered survivors- check in at the survivor tent first to get your ticket) Hamburger, chips, drink & dessert can be purchased for \$6 minimum donation

Sponsored by the Robert Lee Care Center Team "We Care"



**Bronte Scholarships Available**

The C.J. Macon Memorial Scholarship and the Bronte Community Scholarship are now available to graduating seniors at Bronte High School. Applications are available online at [www.bronteisd.net](http://www.bronteisd.net) on the Counselor's Corner page under scholarships or may be picked up in the counselor's office. The deadline to apply for both scholarships is April 14. The C.J. Macon Memorial Scholarship is also open to past BHS graduates. Please turn in applications to Mrs. Timmerman, counselor. For more information, please call the counselor's office at 473-2521.

**BHS students receive achievement award**

Two Bronte High School students received the "Texas Student Achievement Award" from the Texas ACT Council for their performance on the

**PLAN (Pre-ACT)**

Assessment. These students are on target to meet or exceed ACT's College Readiness Benchmarks by graduation. ACT's College Readiness Benchmarks are empirically-based and identify the level of achievement necessary in English, mathematics, reading and science to have a successful college freshman experience.

The students receiving this recognition from the Texas ACT Council are Chase Harris and Heath Richey.

The Texas ACT Council is made up of secondary and postsecondary educators who advise ACT, Inc., on the utilization of ACT programs and services in Texas schools and colleges. ACT, Inc., is the not-for-profit organization that provides assessment, research, information and program management services in the broad areas of education and workforce development and the publisher of the ACT Assessment. The ACT Assessment is the college admissions test that is accepted by all colleges nationwide.

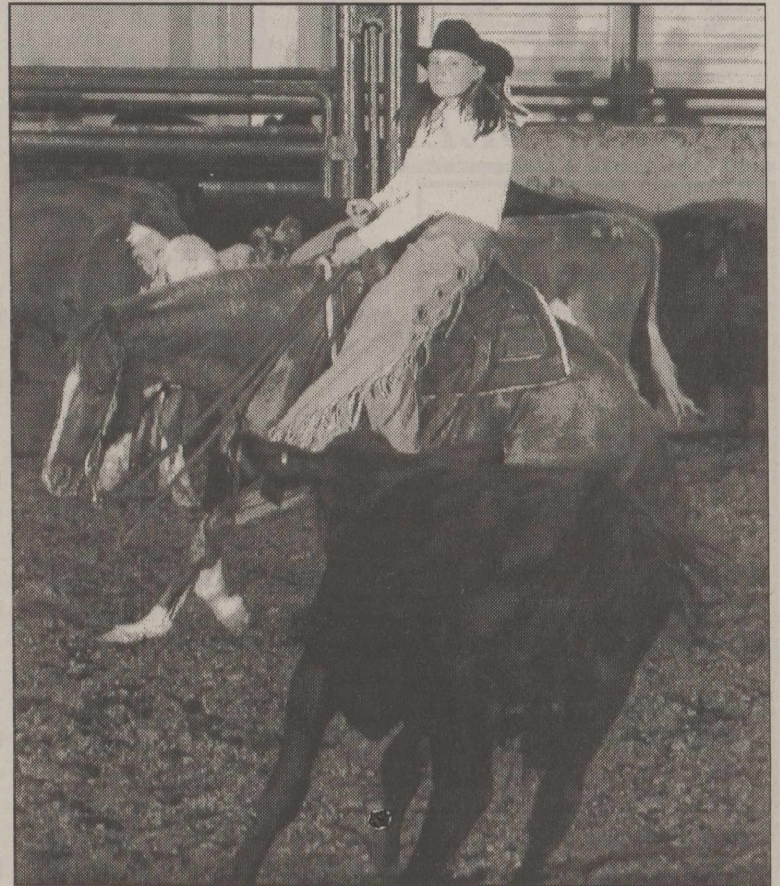
According to Karen Pennell, ACT Assistant Vice President and Southwest Regional Manager, "The Texas ACT Council recognizes those students who are making significant strides to prepare themselves for college by taking rigorous courses and meeting the PLAN (Pre-ACT) College Readiness Benchmarks. We also want to recognize that student PLAN (Pre-ACT) achievement is the result of strong commitment by Bronte High School teachers, staff, administrators and parents to increase college readiness for all students."

**BISD board holds regular meeting**

The Bronte ISD Board of Trustees held a regular meeting, March 24, 2009 at 7:07 pm in the board room. Those in attendance were: Quinda Feil-Duncan, President, Wayne Coalson, Jeff Schoenfield, Bob Frazee, Paul Williams, Shane Kelton, David McWright, and Alan Richey, Superintendent. Also present were: David Bedford, Michael Bohensky, Donna Poehls, Leah Rosson, Doug Tounget, and Kyle James.

The meeting was opened

**Good Luck!** Nicole Reed, a senior at Bronte High School, will be competing this weekend, April 3-5, in Andrews, Texas, in girls cutting at the Texas High School Region II Rodeo Finals. She is going into the finals sitting third for the year. Nicole has already qualified in cutting for the Texas State High School Rodeo Finals, which will be held in Abilene, Texas, June 14-20.



with prayer by David McWright.

Donna Poehls, Elementary Principal, and Michael Bohensky, Secondary Principal, gave updates on activities. David Bedford reported on C-Scope.

The board approved moving the May 8, 2009, school holiday to May 25, 2009. Memorial Day will now be a school holiday. The board also approved the adjunct faculty agreement for 2008-2009.

Alan Richey, Superintendent, gave an election update and informed the board the site-based retreat will be held on April 7, 2009, from 5:30 pm to

8:30 pm. Mr. Richey also presented the year to date budget expenditure report.

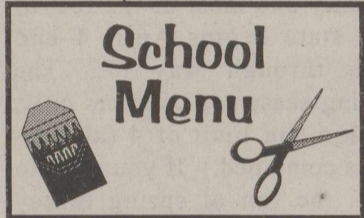
The board renewed term contracts for certified personnel. The board was informed of the resignation of Barbara Perez. Bronte ISD will start advertising for a teacher/coach position.

The 2008-2009 annual

board evaluation was completed.

The meeting was adjourned by the President at 9:35 pm.

**Deadline is Tuesdays at 2 pm**



**Breakfast**

**Monday, April 6**

Cereal, applesauce, toast, jelly, milk

**Tuesday, April 7**

Blueberry muffin, assorted juice, toast, jelly, milk

**Wednesday, April 8**

Sausage roll, assorted juice, milk

**Thursday, April 9**

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

**Friday, April 10**

Holiday

**Lunch**

**Monday, April 6**

Pizza, tossed salad, corn, frozen fruit bar, milk

**Tuesday, April 7**

Spud day, chili and cheese, potato (baked), baby carrots w/ranch, sliced peaches, Texas toast, milk

**Wednesday, April 8**

Chicken and noodles, tossed salad, corn on the cob, roll, strawberries and bananas, milk

**Thursday, April 9**

Corn dogs, tator tots, pork and beans, mixed fruit, buns, milk

**Friday, April 10**

Holiday

**Can you give us a condensed view of your background?**

I've lived in Coke County all of my life. I received my Bachelor of Science degree in Medical Technology from Angelo State University in 1993. I worked in the lab at Shannon Medical Center from 1993 to July of last year, when I began in the lab at Shannon Clinic. Paul Knight and I were married in 1991. We have two daughters, Ashley, a 2004 graduate of Bronte High School and a 2007 graduate of Stephen F. Austin State University, and Brayde, an 8th grader at Bronte ISD.

**Who would you say has had the largest impact on your life?**

That would have to be my grandfather, Ernest Clendennen. Through his example, I learned about the importance of education, work ethics, civic duty and fiscal responsibility. I also want to give credit to all my grandparents and feel so blessed to have had their example and love in my life.

**Why did you decide to run for the Bronte School Board?**

So often when the same people remain in place on a board year after year, things can stagnate. New trustees can bring new experiences, new ideas and diversity to the board.

**If elected, what do you hope to see for the Bronte schools?**

First, in today's economy especially, I feel that there needs to be total transparency in all financial dealings involving taxpayer dollars. I believe that every child in the Bronte school system is important and deserves the best possible education. The school's role in a child's life is to prepare that child to be a productive, contributing member of society. Hopefully, every child can be given the mindset that college is an option for them. However, even if they choose not to attend college, they need to be prepared when they leave Bronte ISD to enter the workforce and to be capable of living independent and productive lives.

**How can people vote in this election?**

Early voting begins April 27 and continues through May 5 in the Superintendent's office at Bronte ISD. They are open Monday through Friday, 8 am to 4 pm. They can also vote on election day, Saturday, May 9, from 7 am to 7 pm at Bronte City Hall.

Vote **Ericka Knight**  
For **Bronte ISD School Board**

Pd. Pol. Adv. by Ericka Knight, PO Box 235, Bronte, Texas 76933

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Cell (325) 450-2281



**...WCCHD Minutes**  
(Continued from Page 4)

In his report on accounts receivable, Roger informed the Board of some challenges for the facility, but he and Janie continue to persevere.

In public relations, two brochures were presented for review. Work is nearing completion on the brochure and the new website for the Care Center is still in progress.

Various projects for capital improvements to the facility were discussed, and listed according to priority. The Board voted to acquire new beds, which had previously been demonstrated for us, as well as some new furniture for the residents' rooms. Roger was also asked to check into repairs needed for the Care Center's building adjacent to the main facility. It was decided, also, to proceed with the new shelving and floor project in both pantries.

The Board broke for lunch at 11:34 am, and returned to session at 12:02 pm.

It was voted to cancel the May election since current Board members filed for the two positions. A copy of the Mileage Stipend Policy was presented to the Board, and it was approved. Roger Alexander was approved by the Board to be the Investment Officer for the Hospital District. Roger attended some specialized training in that field last week.

Financial statements were discussed and approved.

The Board of Directors has received positive feedback from the Administrator about the care of residents in the facility. The Care Center has met with great success in at least two instances recently. The first was a Bariatric resident who entered the facility bedridden and very debilitated. With trained therapists, and the care and encouragement from the staff at the Care Center, this resident was able to lose 30 pounds.

Another resident came into the facility non-mobile, with a feeding tube. With restorative aide assistance and much encouragement, this resident is now mobile, and pushing a wheelchair. The feeding tube has been removed and the resident now takes meals independently due to the work of the Nursing and Dietary staff.

Roger continues to praise the staff of the Care Center for the way they assist the residents and the loving care they provide.

All CNA's (Certified Nurses Aids) have been certified as restorative aids, and therefore are able to continue physical therapy prescribed by licensed therapists. This is a tremendous asset to the residents of Robert Lee Care Center.

The Care Center also

boasts a team participating in the Relay for Life this year. Team members consist of Janie Munoz, Martha Trejo, Mary Rodriguez, Josie Salazar, Emma Minjarez, Liz Minjarez, Christine Saucedo, Tammy Riley, Blanca Mendoza, Dottie Mitchell, Patsy Cason, Debra Horne, and Erika Galvan. The team members have raised \$1600 thus far and are still anticipating a hamburger supper fundraiser scheduled for April 3, at 7 pm. The event will take place at the RLISD football field, and everyone is encouraged to come, enjoy a great burger, and support the Relay for Life fight for a cure for cancer. A beautiful lighted Christmas wine bottle, created by Tammy Riley,

will be raffled off to some lucky winner.

Future agenda items were discussed, and the next meeting will be April 27, 2009. The meeting adjourned at 1 pm.

**BJH girls finish fourth**

The Bronte Junior High Girls track team competed in the Bronte Track Meet recently and finished in fourth place in a field of twelve schools.

Results are as follows.

Triple Jump - 4th) Courtney Wyatt, 6th) Erika Puentez; 400 Meter Relay - 2nd) Brayde Knight, Megan Yackley, Erika Puentez, Kaitlyn Braswell; 100 Meter Hurdles - 3rd) Courtney

Wyatt, 5th) Candice Sutton; 800 Meter Run - 3rd) Rachel Everheart; 100 Meter Dash - 5th) Erika Puentez; 800 Meter Relay - 1st) Courtney Wyatt, Megan Yackley, Erika Puentez, Kaitlyn Braswell; 400 Meter Dash - 3rd) Brooke Bedford; 300 Meter Hurdles - 4th) Brayde Knight; 200 Meter Dash - 2nd) Megan Yackley; 1600 Meter Run - 6th) Jael Williams; 1600 Meter Relay - 2nd) Brooke Bedford, Rachel

Everheart, Brayde Knight, Kaitlyn Braswell.

The next track meet will be the district track meet in Cross Plains.

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**City-Wide Cleanup**

for City of Robert Lee Residents

Location:

**County Precinct 3 Yard**

Coke Street (between E. 6th & 7th Street)

Friday, April 24 • 9 am - 3 pm

Saturday, April 25 • 8 am - 12 noon

• Free disposal of appliances and unwanted household and yard items

• Refrigerant must be removed from appliances

• Batteries will be accepted this year

• Absolutely no brush and lumber material, household trash, tires, wet paint or chemicals

**Free Disposal at the City Landfill, Saturday, April 25 • 9 am - 12 noon**

Contact City Hall at 453-2831

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Therefore take no thought, saying, what shall we eat? Or what shall we drink? Or wherewithal shall we be clothed? But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. • Matthew 6:31 & 33

But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also. No man can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one, and love the other: or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon (worldly riches).

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**2003 Mercury Grand Marquis LS** #6131A **\$ 7,995**

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## Tips For Successful Slow Cooking

by Jan Yanez

AgriLife Extension Agent

### Testing Your Slow Cooker

If your slow cooker has been living in the back of a cabinet for a while, you may want to test it for accuracy. The following directions are offered for testing slow cooker accuracy:

1. Fill the cooker with 8 cups of water. Heat the water on low for 8 hours.

2. Check the water temperature with a food thermometer. Do this quickly as the temperature drops 10 to 15 degrees once the lid is removed.

3. If the temperature is less than 185 degrees, the cooker is not safe to use and should be replaced.

### Tips for Success

1. Spray the inside of the cooker with cooking spray for easy cleaning.

2. Processed cheese tends to work better than Cheddar cheese.

3. When possible, brown pieces of meat before placing them in the cooker. This adds flavor and allows excess fat to be removed.

4. Cook and drain ground meats before adding to the cooker.

5. When possible, add crushed or ground seasonings near the end of cooking as they may become too mild during a long cooking period.

### Adapting Traditional Recipes For The Slow Cooker

Converting traditional recipes for use in a slow cooker takes a little practice and patience, but can be done. The key to adapting recipes is to find a slow cooker recipe that is similar to the traditional recipe and then use it as a guide. Here are some additional tips:

1. Unless preparing soups, sauces, chili, or chowders, use half of the liquid listed in the traditional recipe.

2. Vegetables that cook quickly (such as peas) should be added during the last 20 or 30 minutes of the cooking process.

3. If the traditional recipe calls for rice or pasta, cook rice or pasta on the stove and add to the slow cooker a few minutes before serving.

4. Fish and shellfish cook very fast and tend to overcook and fall apart during a long cooking process. Add them to the cooker during the final 30 to 60 minutes of cooking.

When adapting a recipe to the slow cooker, choose a recipe that traditionally takes 45 to 60 minutes to cook. These recipes usually contain ingredients that hold up well to long cooking times. Use the following chart as a guide when adapting traditional recipes to the slow cooker. If using meat or other potentially hazardous foods in the recipe, be sure to use a food thermometer to check for doneness.

Cooking Time for Traditional Recipes - 45 minutes, Cooking Time for Slow Cooker on High Setting - 3-4 hours, Cooking Time for Slow Cooker on Low Setting 6-10 hours;

Cooking Time for Traditional



**Troop Boxes!** There were 19 boxes mailed on Monday, March 30, by Coke County residents to military troops stationed overseas. Helping pack the boxes were Meredith Jones, Josie Castleberry, Beverly Sinclair and Pat Gunnels.

Recipes - 50-60 minutes, Cooking Time for Slow Cooker on High Setting - 4-5 hours, Cooking Time for Slow Cooker on Low Setting 8-10 hours;

Web Sites For Slow Cooker Recipes - ebi-com.net/kitchen/page/cpidx.htm; crockerykitchen.com/; crockpot.com/supportfiles/recipes/recipe.asp

## St. Mary, Star of the Sea Catholic Church

### Easter Program Holy Week Schedule

Wednesday of Holy Week, April 8th  
Sedal Meal at 6 pm (tickets required)

Holy Thursday, April 9th  
Celebration of the Last Supper at 7 pm  
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament  
7 pm until Midnight

Good Friday, April 10th  
From Cross to the Church  
12 pm (noon) at the Cross  
Good Friday Service  
7 pm

Holy Saturday, April 11th  
8 pm Easter Vigil

Easter Sunday, April 12th  
8:45 am Mass at St. Mary  
11:45 am Mass at St. Mary  
5 pm Mass at St. James

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### New to the Market - 201 E. Jones - Bronte, Texas

Completely remodeled, 1,800 sq. ft., 3 bedroom, 2 bath two-story house with new 30 yr. shingle roof and all new stainless steel appliances.

### New to the Market - North Hwy 277 - Bronte, Texas

Remodeled, 2 bedroom, 2 bath house on 2 acres north of Bronte. New 30 yr. shingle roof. All new appliances.

### New to the Market - 712 Washington - Bronte, Texas

Beautiful 2 bedroom, 2 bath home with new appliances. New 30 yr. metal roof. Hardwood, tile and carpet floors. New appliances. Storage building.

### New to the Market - 214 N. Alto - Blackwell, Texas

Serene 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2,207 sq. ft. home on 1.35 acres. Charming sunroom with woodburning stove. Private backyard with large trees and metal privacy fence. Fenced tract east of the house perfect for livestock. Must see!!!!

### New to the Market - 401 N. Jefferson - Bronte, Texas

Charming 4 bedroom, 2 bath home on corner lot. Fenced backyard. Storm shelter and detached garage. Won't last long.

### 339 Eds Road - Blackwell, Texas

Private peninsula overlooking Oak Creek Lake. 3 bedroom, 2 bath remodeled brick home on .7 landscaped acres. Private boat dock and ramp. Leased lake land. Must see!!!

### 302 Hickman Road - Bronte, Texas

Amazing 1930's brick home on 59 cultivated acres. 4 bedroom, 3 bath. Modern appliances with numerous improvements. Metal shop and 3 stall horse pens. Horse lovers dream.

### 338 Kennedy Road - Blackwell, Texas

Recreational property on Oak Creek Lake. Cozy 2 bedroom, 1 bath brick home with separate lakeside room for entertaining. Crappie house and two slip boat dock. Motivated seller!!!

### 312 N. Woods - Bronte, Texas

Spacious 3 bedroom, 2 bath brick home. Remodeled with new appliances. Enclosed back porch and 3 car carport.

### 708 Meadow Lane - Bronte, Texas

Must see, 3 bedroom, 2 bath brick home with new metal roof and appliances, with large trees on 2 acres.

### 211 E. McCaulley - Bronte, Texas - \$49,000

2 bedroom, 1 bath, completely remodeled with all new appliances and a 30 yr. metal roof, 1 car carport and storage room.

### Highway 277 - Commercial Property

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### 117 W. 10th - Robert Lee, Texas

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