

Since 1889, newspapers have served Coke County beginning with the Coke County Rustler. In the 1980s, the Bronte Enterprise and the Robert Lee Observer combined to become The Observer/Enterprise. The history told in these publications is fascinating and we want to share it with our readers of today.

# Robert Lee Observer

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Published Weekly

## ROBERT LEE BAND RATES HIGH IN REGIONAL MUSIC CONTEST

The Robert Lee High School Band took part in the Region II Interscholastic League Competition Festival at Abilene Friday. The band carried off high honors in concert and sight-reading, receiving a Division II plus in both. Division II represents a rating of "excellent" in musical performance. This represents the highest rating the band has received in Interscholastic League Competition. The II plus rating was high for overall Class B bands.

Other Class B bands and their rating in concert and sight-reading were:

- Knox City, 4, 3.
- Rising Star, 4, 2.
- Rochester, 3, 2.
- Lorraine, 2, 1.
- Eden, 3, 1.
- Menard 2, 2.

The following solos and ensembles entered from Robert Lee. Class III is elementary, Class II is Junior High. Class I is high school or those who previously played in Class II.

Class III — Vicki Wojtek, Clarinet solo, 1st; Johnnie Gray, clarinet solo, 2nd.

Class II — Charlene Robertson, drum solo, 4th; Sam Skipworth, cornet solo, 4th; Jane Austin, piano solo, 4th; Sue Goodwin, sax solo 3rd; Marta Geer, Clarinet solo, 3rd; Brass sextet, Jerry Sparks, Martha Humphrey, Gayle Lewis, Jerry Blair, James Stewart, Larry Jack Rabb, 3rd.

Horn Quartet, Brenda Cowley, Sonny Benton, Gayle Lewis, Brenda McDorman, 3rd; Brass Sextet, Ronnie Sims, Sam Skipworth, Brenda Cowley, Jackie Sparks, Jerry Dean, Butch Davis, 2nd.

Class I. Mary Beth Schooler, clarinet solo, 3rd; Ronnie Sims, cornet solo, 2nd; Jerry Dean, baritone solo, 3rd; Sax quartet, Sue Goodwin, Annice Gartman, Jo Alice McDonald, Leslie Nell Wink, 4th.

### PLANS PIANO RECITAL

Mrs. Morris Varnadore will present her piano class in a public recital May 11, at 8 p.m. in the Robert Lee school auditorium. She has 16 pupils at Robert Lee and several from San Angelo who will also take part. Mrs. Varnadore states that classes will be concluded here May 19, and there will be no summer teaching.

## HOSPITAL NEWS

April 27—Olita Miller, Mrs. C. E. Mathers dismissed.

April 28—Mrs. Violet Eaton, Mrs. Robert L. Jay admitted. Mrs. Franky Percifull, Mrs. Bobby Roberts dismissed.

April 29—Mrs. Joe Field, Sandra Kay Buford admitted. Joe Dodson, Sr., Sam Williams, Mrs. Joe Field dismissed.

April 30—Jerry Dean admitted. Mrs. Robert Lewis Jay dismissed.

May 1—Mrs. Joe Field, Mrs. Frank Riviera, Mrs. Willis Wayne Smith admitted. Sandra Buford, Mrs. Violet Eaton, Mrs. Sam Fowler dismissed.

May 2—Mrs. Bobby Roberts, W. O. Keesee admitted. Mrs. Roy P. Ross, Dave King, Mrs. Frank Riviera dismissed.

May 3—Mrs. Jack Cowley, Mrs. Cumble Ivey admitted.

May 4—Mrs. Willis Wayne Smith, Mrs. Joe Field dismissed.

### MARINE RECRUITER COMING

Young men all over America are choosing the United States Marine Corps. That's right, the exciting kind of life offered by the famous Marine Corps is tops with young men. So, don't miss your opportunity for a rewarding and exciting life. Learn about the U. S. Marines. See your Marine Recruiter at the Post Office Building in Robert Lee on the 9th day of May from 9:00 a. m. to 12:00 noon.

## DEATH CLAIMS S. T. JONES, 80

Samuel T. Jones, 80, former well known Robert Lee resident, died last Friday morning at the home of a daughter, Mrs. D. C. Blair of Fluvanna.

He had been in good health until three years ago when he went to live with his daughter. During recent months his condition was critical.

Funeral services were held at 4 p.m. Saturday at the Robert Lee Baptist Church. Rev. W. T. Roberts, pastor of the Baptist Church of Fluvanna, officiated, assisted by Rev. J. C. Shipman, pastor of the local church. Burial was in Robert Lee cemetery under direction of Bell Funeral Home of Snyder.

Samuel T. Jones was born Feb. 28, 1875, in Winchester, Tenn. He grew up there and married Miss Viola Teate in 1898. They came to Texas in 1903 and located at Poolville, north of Weatherford in Parker County.

Mr. Jones learned the rock and brick mason trade as a young man, but was engaged in farming most of the time after coming to Texas. They came to Robert Lee and farmed in the Paint Creek community, southwest of town. Mrs. Jones died in 1922.

Mr. Jones and his younger children remained on the farm until 1935 when his eyesight began to fail and he moved to Robert Lee. He had been completely blind the past ten years.

He was a good citizen and a good friend and neighbor.

Survivors include his daughter; five sons, Marvin Jones of Robert Lee, W. I. and S. T. Jones of California, J. T. (Bud) Jones of Irving and F. N. Jones of Odessa; a brother, Wade Jones, of Abilene, 20 grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

All the children were here for the funeral except the two sons in California, who had been back to visit their father three weeks before his death.

### HAZEL MOVES CAFE

Hazel Chiles and son, Leslie, left Monday for Coalgate, Okla. Clarence Mitchell moved their cafe fixtures and they intend to open a new cafe near Coalgate. Hazel seems to have made money here, as she has a big new house trailer and a brand new air conditioned Olds limosine.

Mrs. Robert Lewis Jay underwent minor surgery last week in Coke County Memorial Hospital. She is now convalescing in the home of her husband's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Sam Jay. Robert Lewis is attending Sul Ross College in Alpine.

## Future Farmers Will Honor Dads Saturday Night

Future Farmers of America members will entertain their Dads with a barbecue supper in their honor showing the progress and improvement they have made this year in Vocational Agriculture Saturday at 7:00 p. m., May 7, in the School Cafeteria.

Highlights of the evening other than the barbecue will be an address by Douglas Gartman, former FFA member and Lone Star Farmer from Robert Lee, on "What I Gained from the F. F. A." Entertainment will be furnished by the Chapter Entertainer, Sammie Duncan.

Other high points of the program will be the Welcome address by Byron Russell; "Report on Program of Work Accomplishments," Jerrell Harmon; "The Vocational Agriculture Shop Program," Jerry Harmon; "My First Year as an FFA Member," Dennis Blair; and a short summary of "FFA and College," by Milburn Wink, past president and Lone Star Farmer and present student at San Angelo Jr. College.

Awards to outstanding members and recognition of outstanding achievements beyond the call of duty will be presented to chapter members. The following awards will be presented by Lynn Davidson and Bill Carwile.

Star Farmer Award — member with the most outstanding farming program

Scholarship Award — highest scholastic average

Public Speaking Award

Farm Shop Award

Chapter Officer of the Year.

Degree Advancement Award

De Klaf Award — outstanding senior FFA member

Honorary Chapter Farmer Degree

The planning committee for the Banquet consists of the following members:

Program — Jerrell Harmon, Robbie Godwin, Byron Russell.

Awards — Jerrell Harmon, Joe Harmon, Sammie Duncan

Decoration — W. H. Wyatt, Donald Walker, Byron Russell.

Menu — Bub Burson, Gary Jackson, Tom Sawyer.

Invitation — Fredrick Ashworth, Jerry Cooley.

Joe Harmon, chapter president will serve as Master of Ceremonies. The first year FFA members will serve and clean up after the banquet.

## Scouts Need To Earn Money For Camp Expenses

A number of Boy Scouts still need to raise money in order to spend a week at Sol Mayer Camp starting May 29. Scoutmaster Joe Dodson, Jr. says the boys are trying to earn money so that each can pay his own way for the camping period which costs \$12.50.

If anyone has work which the boys can do such as yard and garden work, cleaning and hauling rubbish, please notify Mr. Dodson or Buster Farris at the drug store.

It is announced that Eddie Good and Buster Farris will each donate enough funds to the Scout fund to send one boy to camp. Anyone else desiring to contribute should contact some of the Scout Off-

### COMMISSIONERS COURT

Coke County Commissioners Court held its regular monthly session Monday, when the chief matter of business was approving and paying bills. Bill Meyers, representing the architectural firm of Wyatt C. Hedrick, advised the county officials that work on the new court house is up to schedule. Commissioners meet again next Monday. They have designated the first two Mondays of each month as regular meeting days. During the session here this week the commissioners held a telephone conversation with County Judge Jeff Dean, who is in a Houston hospital.

## MRS. R. L. READ DIES SUDDENLY

Mrs. R. L. (Mattie Bell) Read died suddenly just before 8 o'clock Thursday morning. She was cutting roses in her garden at her home in Robert Lee when she was stricken.

Neighbors had seen her in the yard and Mrs. A. J. Roe, Sr., saw her collapse from her home across the street.

Her husband was at the post office preparing to make his star route mail run to Bronte when he was notified. He was badly affected. Mrs. Turney Casey took over the mail route which also runs to Edith.

Mrs. Read is well known in Robert Lee and at Bronte where she lived most of her life until coming to Robert Lee ten years ago.

She was hospitalized for a considerable period several years ago and was known to have a serious heart condition.

She has one son, Ben L. Keyes, of Christoval.

## Coming Events

Robert Lee Public Schools

May 5 — Mrs. Jeff Deaz presents operetta. Sponsored by PTA.

May 13 — Junior-Senior banquet.

May 15 — Baccalaureate Sermon

May 20 — Commencement.

May 23 — Eighth grade Graduation.

May 25 — Last day of School.

### CEMETERY WORKING

The Sanco Cemetery Association has announced a cemetery working Saturday, May 7, with a basket lunch on the grounds. The windmill tower is to be put over the well, curbing built and the grounds cleaned. In their meeting last week the association also voted to hold a home coming at Sanco on Sunday, May 29.

### SATURDAY BAKE SALE

There will be a Bake Sale by W. H. D. Council Saturday beginning at 9:30 a. m. in Olean's Sewing Shop.

## BIRTHS

LAMMERS — Mr. and Mrs. Wendell Lammers (Betty Jo Mauldin) of Houston are parents of a son born April 29 in a Houston hospital. He weighed 6 pounds, 8 ounces and has been named Randy Alan. He was born on the second birthday anniversary of his brother, Kirby Gale. Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Lammers of Houston and Mr. and Mrs. Jim Mauldin of Robert Lee. Mrs. Mauldin has been in Houston with her daughter and family for several weeks.

## LARGE CROWD AT DEDICATION OF NEW SCHOOL

Robert Lee School District's elegant new building was formally dedicated Sunday with fitting ceremonies. During the afternoon hundreds of local people and outside visitors were escorted on inspection tours of the attractive layout, which provides class rooms for elementary grades and high school and a wonderful auditorium with a seating capacity of 504.

Another highly important feature of the building program was remodeling of the elementary wing of the old building. Here a large band hall was created, and adequate quarters for the girls physical education department.

Plans call for continuing the work during the summer when the second story of the old high school building will be removed, and the lower floor turned into a modern cafeteria and kitchen.

It is reported that \$2,000 remains in the building fund created by a bond issue of \$295,000.

A program starting at 2:30 p. m. opened with a concert by the crack Robert Lee School Band, directed by Jack Gray. Following invocation by Rev. Warren Ellis, a welcome was extended by Bob Vaughan. Supt. B. C. Goodwin introduced a number of guests and recognized former board members.

Present trustees, who occupied places on the platform, were introduced by Weldon Fikes. The Old Bridge Builder, an appropriate selection, was read by Owen Cosgrove.

Principal address was given by W. T. Walton, vice-president of Hardin-Simmons University. He was an excellent speaker and his remarks were indeed fitting for the important occasion. Rev. J. C. Shipman gave the benediction.

Visitors were given attractive 8-page brochures, entitled "Seven Years of Educational Progress in the Robert Lee School." It contained many interesting pictures of class rooms, teachers and pupils.

Refreshments were served in the Home Ec Cotage, with arrangements in charge of Miss Martha Taylor and members of the P-T-A. The Robert Lee BCD cooperated in this undertaking.

Many beautiful floral pieces were contributed for the auditorium stage and corridors of the main building. Those sending flowers were Houston Hill, Wilson & Patterson, Architects, Westbrook Electric Co., Parent-Teachers Ass'n. (2 bouquets), McDonald Lumber Co., Roach's, Virginia Jay, Estelle's Flowers & Gifts, and the Robert Lee Observer. Potted plants were contributed by Mrs. Eddie Patterson and Mr. and Mrs. H. S. Lewis, Sr. Sunday evening all flowers were taken to Coke County Memorial Hospital.

### WILL PREACH AT SANCO

Ira M. Bird will preach at the old Methodist Church House at Sanco Sunday, May 8, at 3 p.m. The public is invited to attend.

Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Green of Dayton, Tex., visited here last week with his uncle, Green Preslar. They also went out to Hagarlan, New Mex., to visit another uncle, Jim Preslar. A former Coke County resident, E. R. works at the carpenter trade at Dayton.