

## THE OBSERVER/ENTERPRISE

Published Weekly  
707 Austin (325) 453-2433 (325) 473-8863 Cell  
observerenterprise@gmail.com  
www.ObserverEnterprise.com  
Periodical Rate Postage paid at Robert Lee, Texas

POSTMASTER: Please send address changes to  
Observer/Enterprise  
PO Box 1329, Robert Lee, Texas 76945

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### SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Per Year in Coke County ... \$30.00  
Per Year Elsewhere in Texas ... \$35.00  
Per Year Outside of Texas ... \$37.00

## Obituaries



### Burns

William Paul Burns, 88, of Robert Lee, passed away Wednesday, January 17, 2018. Visitation was held all day Sunday, January 21, 2018, at Shaffer Funeral Home in Robert Lee with the family present from 2 pm until 4 pm. Funeral services, the celebration of his life, were held on Monday, January 22, 2018, at 2 pm at Robert Lee Baptist Church. Burial followed in the Robert Lee Cemetery. Services were under the direction of Shaffer Funeral Home.

Paul was born to William Ernest and Myrtle Lee Clark-Burns on June 6, 1929, in Mertzon, Irion County, at the home of his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. John H. Clark. He and his parents lived on his grandparents' ranch, west of Mertzon, which was leased by his dad. Paul started to grade school in Mertzon in 1936. At that time, his mother, younger sister, Jennie Lee Tinkler, and Paul moved into town for him to start school, as there were no school buses to transport him to and from school.

In 1935, his parents purchased the Chas-McCrohan ranch in Coke County. His dad gave up the lease in Irion County and they moved to their new home in Coke County in 1937, where Paul lived for the rest of his life. That fall Paul went to school at Paint Creek, where he was the only student in second grade. In the fall of 1938 he started the third grade in Robert Lee and graduated from Robert Lee High School in 1948. He always enjoyed his classmates and the many class reunions they shared together over the years. In addition, Paul was an avid fan of the Robert Lee athletic program,

particularly the Robert Lee Steers football team, and often traveled far and wide in support of them.

After his retirement, you might find Paul rocking on his front porch in his favorite chair with his cup of coffee watching his faithful dog companion, Rusty, protecting him from the varmints and rattlesnakes. Another possibility would be to find him "mechanicing" his recliner, which he declared to be "putting a new rear-end in it".

After graduation, Paul went to work for his dad on the ranch. The harshness of the 1950's "Seven-Year Drought" was in full strength, so Paul left the ranch in 1951 to work in the oilfield. However, his love and lifelong fervor for ranching couldn't be extinguished and so in 1967, he left the oilfield and returned to his passion full time. He spent the rest of his life meticulously building the best cattle herd in Coke County! Paul was very devoted to Coke County and served as the Coke County Precinct 1 Commissioner from 1990 to 2004.

Many wonderful and cheerful memories can be told of Paul's deep love for his grandchildren and great-grandchildren and the

hilarious antics that occurred while raising them out on "The Ranch". He also relished the annual "Burns-Tinkler Family Reunion," better known by family as "The Campout", where he spent time outdoors with his family, enjoyed some friendly games of dominos and poker, and cooked up his absolute favorite fried catfish meal.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Ernest and Myrtle Burns, his wife, Joan Burns, daughter Kathy Preslar-Butler, and infant granddaughter, Kristyn Burns.

Paul is survived by his sister, Jennie Lee Tinkler and husband Roy of Robert Lee; daughter, Suzann Johnson and husband Richard of Robert Lee; sons, Bill Burns and wife, Linda of Robert Lee; Jacky Preslar and wife, Nancy of Signal Mountain, Tennessee; Doug Burns and wife, Marlane of Odessa; Sid Burns and wife, Cookie of Robert Lee; and Ernest Burns and wife, Linda of Robert Lee. He is also survived by his grandchildren, J.P. Skipworth and wife, Cynthia, Shannon Skipworth, Sheree Burns-Hardin and husband, B.C., Dean Burns and wife, Becca, Jeremy Burns and wife, Samantha, Kelly Preslar-Garcia and husband, Marcos, Thuy Preslar-Myers and husband, Thad, Cameron Burns, Madison Burns, Molly Burns-Bennett and husband, Matt, and Amanda Burns; sixteen great grandchildren and two great-great grandchildren.

He was a wonderful father to his five children and the "Best Grandad Ever" to his many grandchildren and great-grandchildren. He enjoyed supporting them and was their biggest fan in all of their endeavors, including athletic, 4-H, and FFA activities.

In lieu of flowers, donations

may be made to the Robert Lee Volunteer Fire Department or the Robert Lee EMS.

Online condolences may be made at [www.shafferpioneer.com](http://www.shafferpioneer.com).  
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### VP to hold monthly meeting and Clean Up Day

Vision with a Purpose will host their monthly meeting on Thursday, February 1, at 6 pm. The meeting will take place in the Family Life Center of First United Methodist Church in Robert Lee. A meal will be served and all are welcome to attend.

The group will also hold a Clean Up Day on Saturday, February 3.

### Filing period open for Local Entity May elections

The filing period for the May 5, 2018, local government entity elections began Wednesday, January 17, 2018, and will end Friday, February 16, 2018.

The City of Robert Lee will hold an election for the position of mayor and for three council members. The offices are currently held by Mayor Leroy Casey and council member Shaunna Grantham. Also open

are the council member positions formerly held by Toni Rainwater and Joe Longoria.

The City of Bronte has terms expiring for mayor and two council positions. These are two year terms. The offices are currently held by Mayor Gerald Sandusky and council members Wade Stautzenberger and Paul Gohman.

Bronte ISD will hold an election to elect three members to the Board of Trustees. These are three year terms currently held by Ashley Braswell, David McWright, and Blake Braswell.

Robert Lee ISD will also hold an election to elect three members to the Board of Trustees. These are three year terms currently held by George Grim, Tom Sawyer, Jr., and Wes Washam.

West Coke County Hospital District has three two year terms expiring for their Board of Trustees. The terms of Pat Stephens, Pat Carwile and Sarah Green are expiring.

East Coke County Hospital District Board of Trustees has three two year terms expiring. These offices are currently held by Howard Baker, Lanette Fletcher, and Everett Bedford.

## Area Churches

### Invite You to Worship

#### Bronte

**Bronte Church of Christ**  
PO Box 346 • 118 S. Jefferson • Bronte  
(325) 473-3291  
Preacher David Lewis  
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 & 5 pm Worship

**First Baptist Church**  
424 S. Washington • Bronte  
(325) 473-2331  
Sunday 9:45 am Sunday School,  
10:55 am Worship,  
5 pm Worship  
6 pm Youth  
Wednesday 7 pm Prayer Meeting

**First United Methodist Church**  
Corner of Washington & Holmes  
Bronte  
(325) 473-3281  
Rev. Everette Boyce, Pastor  
Sun. 10:00 am Sunday School  
11:00 am Worship

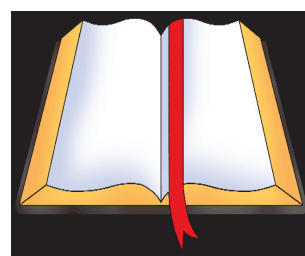
**Forgiven Ministries**  
117 W. Main, Bronte  
Russ Frasier, Pastor  
Sun. 10 am  
Tuesday 6 pm Table Time

**St. James Catholic Church**  
215 N. Washington, Bronte  
(325) 365-2687  
Rev. Yesu Mulakaleti, Jr., Pastor  
Sunday Bilingual Mass 8 am

**4C Cowboy Church**  
Texas Theater, Downtown Bronte  
Pastor James Brunson  
Sunday, 10:30 am

#### Coke County

**Pecan Baptist**  
PO Box 542 • 12 miles West of  
Robert Lee on Sterling City Hwy  
(325) 453-2065, Bill Hood, Pastor  
[www.pecanbaptist.org](http://www.pecanbaptist.org)  
Sun. 10 am, Sunday School  
11 am & 7 pm, Worship



#### Robert Lee

**Bible Baptist Church**  
PO Box 938 • 9th & Austin  
Robert Lee, John Fiore, Pastor  
Sun. 10 am Sunday School,  
11 am Worship,

**Emmanuel Pentecostal**  
PO Box 683 • 1019 Colorado City Hwy  
Pastor Kevin Millstid 453-2360  
Sundays 10 am, Wednesdays 7 pm

**First United Methodist Church**  
PO Box 144 • 9th & Chadbourne  
Robert Lee • (325) 453-2417  
Cyndi Weidner, Pastor  
Sun. 10 am Sunday School  
11 am Worship, 5 pm Choir Practice

**Iglesia Bautista Betel**  
101 Houston • Robert Lee  
Sun. 9:45 am • Sunday School  
11 am Service • Bible Study Wed. 6 pm

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

**Northside Church of Christ**  
PO Box 508  
9th & Chadbourne • Robert Lee  
(325) 453-2685, (806) 543-2118 or  
(325) 473-1053  
Services: Sun. 10 am

**Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church**  
601 W. 10th, Robert Lee  
(325) 365-2687  
Rev. Yesu Mulakaleti, Pastor  
Saturday Vigil Mass 5 pm

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

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

#### Tennyson

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

## Have IRA questions? Let's talk.



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