THE OBSERVER/ENTERPRISE

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> STAFF Melinda McCutchen, Publisher Morgan McCutchen Brigham, Editor

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Death **Notices**

Barnett

Sherry Kay Barnett, 55, of Bronte, passed away February 15, 2018. Viewing and visitation was held Sunday, February 18, 2018, from 5 pm until 9 pm, at Gutierrrez Funeral Home in San Angelo. Funeral services were held on Monday, February 19, 2018, at 10 am at the funeral home.

She is survived by her husband, John; sons, Sean Barnett, Randall Barnett, and Grady Barnett; daughters, Giovanna Scott, Bridgette Speary, Nichole Hernandez, Amy Force, and Emily Menchaca; father, Alvin Tipps, mother, Joy Keele; sisters, Suzette Wofford and Sondra Kretschmar; and twelve grandchildren.

Red Hat Society to meet March 6

The glorious Red Hat ladies will hold their next meeting at 11 am on Tuesday, March 6, in Ballinger. The Ladies Club there is sponsoring a potato bake and salad luncheon to raise money for scholarships. The bake will be held at the Family Life Center next to the First Baptist Church at 410 N 8th Street.

The salads are always wonderful, as is the company. Please come and join a delightful group of ladies at an excellent lunch for a great cause!

Ambassador **Drill Team Tryouts** set for March 18

The San Angelo Ambassador Drill Team will be hosting tryouts on Sunday, March 18, at 1 pm at the Spur Arena. Tryouts are open to all girls ages 13 - 24. Look at the San Angelo Stock Show and Rodeo website at www.sanangelorodeo.com for specific paperwork that should be brought to tryouts (click on Rodeo and then Ambassadors). For more information contact Carmen Schwertner at (325) 763-8175.

was a total loss. Donations are being accepted at First National Bank in Bronte for "Roger Graves House Fire". Any and all donations are greatly appreciated.

Of Love and Warts

by James M. Decker Let's start with an honest admission: our rural communities have warts. Our streets could be better. We don't pick up trash as well as we should. It's a challenge to attract stable new jobs that pay well. Our local history has unsavory blemishes. And yet, if we're in a position of community leadership - business owner, elected official, leader of an organization, etc. - we love the place as well. If we didn't have any love for it, we wouldn't invest our time and/or money in the place and its people. But beyond that investment, how well do we show that love?

A favorite podcast of mine is one called "Mountain and Prairie." It focuses on life and culture in the American West, with extensive discussions on conservation, agriculture, and the outdoors. A recent episode interviewed Christian Beckwith, an outdoors advocate from Jackson Hole, Wyoming. On preserving the outdoors and Western lifestyles, Mr. Beckwith said something particularly moving: "any time we try to encourage more people to fall in love with these places, we are in a better position as a result to protect them."

He then dropped this line, which hit me like a ton of bricks in the context of rural communities: "you're not going to fight for anything you don't love."

This brings me back to the warts of our communities. We likely spend a lot of time talking



Valentines! Wanda Place and Ken Rosson were named the Valentine's Day Sweetie and Sweetheart at Bronte Health and Rehab Center recently.

about those warts, especially the warts that most impact our daily lives. But much time do we spend talking about our love of the place? Like I said above, if we didn't love it, we wouldn't commit in the ways that we do, but do we take for granted that other people see and recognize our love?

Are our complaints much more vocal and visible than our love? And if so, as an alleged community "leader," what does that say to other folks newcomers who are still making up their mind about the place or the longtime residents who have struggled to find their place in town?

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Area Churches Invite You to Worship **Bronte**

Bronte Church of Christ PO Box 346 118 S. Jefferson • Bronte 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 • Pastor Lee Bevly Sunday 9:45 am Sunday School, 10:55 am Worship, 6 pm Bible Study & Worship Wednesday 6 pm RA's & GA's, 6:30 pm Youth & Adults 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

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 (323) 363-268/ 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

Donations being accepted for local family

Donations are being accepted for Roger Graves and Kendra Graves, due to a house fire that

123 N. State Bronte, Texas (325) 473-2425

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Sunday Bilingual Mass 8 am 4C Cowboy Church Texas Theater, Dowtown 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 Sun. 10 am, Sunday School 11 am & 7 pm, Worship

