

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

STAFF

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Morgan McCutchen Brigham, Editor

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

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

Obituaries



Romine-Neiman

Teresa Ellen "Grammy" Romine-Neiman of Hobbs, New Mexico, formerly of Robert Lee, Texas, peacefully passed and went to be with the Lord on February 16, 2018.

She was born in Lovington, New Mexico, on March 19, 1961, and grew up in Tatum, New Mexico. Teresa was a loving person who never met a stranger. She worked for many years as a waitress and everyone was her friend. Not only was she a dedicated Grammy who spoiled her grandkids, but also "adopted" many others. Later in life she married her soulmate, Doc, and they enjoyed many years together.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Dennis "Doc" Neiman; her parents, Cuin and Mary Elaine Norvell and Harley Romine; her brother, Rick Norvell, and her granddaughter, Arilyn Martin.

She is survived by her daughter, Amber Martin, and husband, Kyle; their three daughters, Charidy, Rylie, and Kerri; her son, Kent Freeman; five South Dakota kids, and many grandkids. She is also survived by four brothers, one sister, and a large extended family.

Condolences may be sent in care of Amber Martin, 1407 Brekon, 1407 Breckon, Hobbs, New Mexico 88240.

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...Local Election

(Continued from front page)

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. Blake Braswell, David McWright, and Ashley Braswell have filed for re-election. Bill Torres, Chris Jernigan, TJ

McCullough, and Walt Smith have also filed for a place on the board.

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 and all have filed for re-election.

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 and all have filed for re-election.

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. All incumbents have filed for re-election.

Nostalgia...

With a Purpose

by James M. Decker

"I miss the good old days here."

In conversations about rural communities, some variation of that comment comes up often. We live in the present and we plan for the future, but we view our town through the prism of the past. It's no real secret that many of our rural communities, and rural America at large, are worse off today than they were 10, 25, or 50 years ago. As a result, our goal for the future is, to some extent, to be what we used

to be. Yet, I ask: which part of the "good old days" were good?

Certain threads were unquestionably positive: teeming downtowns, busy mom-and-pop shops, local industry providing steady jobs. However, hindsight can be tinged with rose coloring. Positives stand out while negatives fade from memory. Negatives may have existed for others and we didn't even realize it. Moreover, which "good old days" were the real ones? Nostalgia for the 1950s is common, but I've read 1950s-era literature that longed for prior, simpler times. Nostalgia can be a product of one's own frame of reference. That's not inherently bad, but it can create a dubious marker for future goals.

As I thought about this topic, it occurred to me that our idea of nostalgia encompasses both a What and a Why. Several years ago, Simon Sinek wrote a wildly popular business book called "Start With Why: How Great Leaders Inspire Everyone to Take Action." In short, this book argues that leaders should build around Why (a purpose) rather than What (a product). A successful What can be fleeting, but people are inspired by the Why, by a sense of purpose. Much rural nostalgia is exemplified through the What, the tangible products of prosperity. Alas, those products are impractical as a tool for future improvement. We cannot resurrect archaic industries or build a local economy around business methods that are no longer profitable.

Underlying that What factor, though, is the Why - a sense of purpose in our communities. Rural communities did not prosper BECAUSE downtown streets were busy and retail shops were numerous. Rural communities prospered because a sense of purpose fueled the community. Our communities originated and prospered for a specific purpose. Busy streets and numerous retail shops were results of that purpose. When rural prosperity slid downward, it wasn't because our shops closed, it was because a changing world

and shifting business environment undercut our original sense of purpose, our Why. Communities built around labor-intensive agricultural methods or local manufacturing lost their purpose when those economic drivers changed or went away entirely. As an outcome of the lost Why, we lost our What too. Shops closed and downtown streets fell quiet.

Our Why in the future is the same as the Why of the past - a successful community has a sense of purpose, a reason for existing - but may be expressed differently, with a new What, to meet the demands of a different world. Successful retail businesses look different now than they did in the 1950s. Different buildings may be occupied than the ones of rose-colored memory. Agriculture or manufacturing might still work, but with different dimensions.

As we plan for the future with a longing eye for the past, remember that true, meaningful nostalgia is less about the What and more about the Why. Rebuilding a cohesive Why, a community's innate sense of purpose, ensures that tangible outcomes are build to last. Let's study our Why and build on that. *James Decker is a lawyer, farmer, and city councilman in Stamford, and the creator of the forthcoming "West of 98" podcast and website. He may be*

contacted through Facebook at facebook.com/james.decker.

Thank You Jesus

[Editor's Note: The following is the eleventh in a series of articles submitted by Brandon Broadbent.]

My name is Brandon Broadbent. At one time I was lost in a sea that seemed too deep to walk, too turbulent to swim, and too wide to cross. I was hurt, defeated, I had lost all hope. I was broken inside so bad that I was sure I would never be okay. My mind was in a prison that would not let me escape the disappointment I had become and the feeling of despair that always shadowed me.

I poured myself into work and made a quick and calculated rise to the top. Now I had power and esteem. But, I was still broken and still locked in despair. My toys became more expensive and I tried to fill the hole in my life with hobbies too numerous to count. I learned to fly planes, play guitar, hunt, fish, more alcohol, more drugs, but still that same bottomless, abyss. My hole, my personal hell.

I had the greatest wife in the world. She couldn't fix me, but she began to pray for me. If you have someone who keeps lifting you up in prayer things will begin to happen. My family didn't understand, they worried, they began to pray. I began to play church.

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. Everett 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

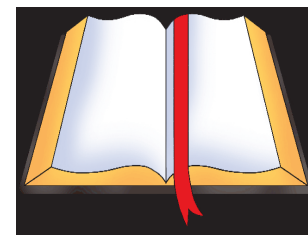
4C Cowboy Church

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
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

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