

**THE OBSERVER/ENTERPRISE**

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**Obituaries**

**Massey**

Benton Floyd Massey left this world to fly among the angels on February 25, 2016. He was laid to rest on February 27, 2016. A memorial was held at Emmanuel Pentecostal Church in Robert Lee with friends and family in attendance.

Benton graduated from Midland High school, served in the Air Force as a mechanic, and was a machinist for the remainder of his life. He was passionate about music and became a good drummer.

He was preceded in death by his wife Sharon Massey.

He is survived by his parents Bennie and Eyvonne Massey of Robert Lee, his sisters Debbie and Kim Massey of Robert Lee, and two nephews Brandon Sandahl of Tacoma, Washington, and Justin Sandahl of Robert Lee.

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**O'Banon**

Donald Ray O'Banon passed away at his home peacefully in his sleep on March 11, 2016. Graveside services were held at 10 am, Wednesday, March 16, 2016, at Fairview Cemetery in Bronte. Services were under the direction of Shaffer Funeral Home/Sherwood Way.

He is preceded in death by his parents and siblings, Gypsy, Peggy, Juaninta and Billy.

Don is survived by his wife of forty-eight years, Linda Sue; children, Belinda, Deborah, David, Rose, Chris and Natalie; fourteen grandchildren, eleven great-grandchildren and many other family members and friends.

**Decision America Tour prayer rally set for April 26**

Franklin Graham is taking a team of believers across America to have a prayer rally at each of the 50 state capitals. There will be a prayer rally in Austin at the capital at 12 noon on Tuesday, April 26.

Graham will pray and then preach a sermon about the gospel of salvation. At the same time the Austin rally is taking place, there will be a prayer rally in front of the courthouse in Robert Lee.

If America is to experience extreme revival across our nation, her citizens must be

**Cottonseed denial will affect Texas economies**

Low prices, high inputs and a lack of a safety net continue to plague cotton farmers across Texas. Now that an effort to find cottonseed coverage in the farm bill has been denied, the likelihood of farming communities and related businesses suffering the consequences is even higher.

"We hoped U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack would allow cottonseed to be designated as the oilseed it is," John Ross Copeland, Sterling County Farm Bureau president, said. "Without farm bill coverage that other crops receive, cotton farmers and local businesses will suffer."

Vilsack announced earlier this month that U.S. Department of Agriculture lawyers don't have the authority to make that designation.

House Agriculture Committee Chair Mike Conaway of Texas disagrees and urges Vilsack to reconsider.

In the meantime, cotton farmers across America must find a way to go on without an effective safety net to help them in the worst of times.

"Over half of our nation's cotton is grown right here in Texas," John Ross said. "But with cotton prices as low as they are, it may not make sense for some farmers to plant the crop this year. That would impact everyone down the line—from the gins to the person who works at a retail store selling cotton t-shirts."

Farmers asked Vilsack and USDA to designate cottonseed as an oilseed because cottonseed is a coproduct of cotton, not just a byproduct.

Cottonseed is used as a source of oil and meal.

Cotton farmers are not eligible for Agriculture Risk Coverage (ARC) and Price Loss Coverage (PLC) safety net programs through the farm bill due to a deal the U.S. has with Brazil

following the Brazil Cotton Case.

In the case, Brazil alleged the U.S. gave unfair subsidies to its cotton growers. As a result, U.S. officials promised not to give direct subsidies to its cotton farmers.

Congress still has an opportunity to designate cottonseed as an oilseed, but it will take time. Time is something farmers don't have as planting season approaches for most.

**Taylor County Vet Center to Hold Open House on March 25**

The Department of Veterans Affairs Taylor County Vet Center in Abilene will host an Open House Friday, March 25, from 10 am to 2 pm at 3564 N. 6th Street in Abilene, Texas.

Located separately from the VA hospital, Vet Centers provide readjustment services to Veterans who have served in a combat theater without an appointment through the traditional VA system. These services include individual, group, marriage and family counseling, as well as treatment for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), bereavement, and Military Sexual Trauma (MST).

The Mobile Vet Center (MVC) from Abilene, Texas, will also be on-site for tours and information. The MVC is a 38 foot community outreach vehicle equipped with two confidential offices where Vet Center counselors can meet with Veterans and family members. VA operates 80 Mobile Vet Centers nationwide to enhance direct service delivery.

The Taylor County Vet Center (Abilene) is

approximately 4,500 square feet including two group rooms and six offices that can be used for readjustment counseling. The center has a well-trained core staff comprised of therapists, program administrators, an outreach specialist, and an MVC driver, many of whom have served in the military and some of whom are combat veterans themselves. The center is open Monday - Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. with extended evening hours Tuesdays - Thursdays. The center also accommodates weekend appointments for veterans.

Established in 1979, the Department of Veterans Affairs Vet Center program operates a system of 300 community based Vet Centers nationwide, and each Vet Center provides services to several counties. With a Veteran population of 26,651 in its service area, the Taylor County Vet Center (Abilene) service area includes Taylor, Brown, Eastland, Jones, Scurry, Nolan, Callahan, Coleman, Fisher, Haskell, Knox, Runnels, Shackelford, Stephens, Stonewall, and Throckmorton counties. All honorably discharged veterans who served in combat theatres and veterans who have been exposed to Military Sexual Trauma are eligible for care at a VA Vet Center at no cost, as are their families who are impacted by the veteran's readjustment difficulties.

There will be a Veterans benefits specialist from Waco, Texas, VA Benefits office on site to assist with claims and VA hospital staff will be available to enroll veterans in VA healthcare. The Mobile Vet Center (MVC), a 38 foot outreach vehicle, will be available for tours.

**Area Churches**

**Invite You to Worship**

**Bronte**

**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

**Coke County Cowboy Church**  
 Texas Theater, Dowtown Bronte

Preacher - Robert Lemonds  
 Sunday, 10:30 am

**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

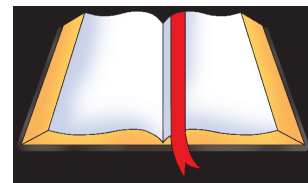
**St. James Catholic Church**  
 215 N. Washington, Bronte  
 (325) 365-2687

Rev. Hubert Wade, Jr., Pastor  
 Sun. 5 pm

**Coke County**

**Pecan Baptist**  
 PO Box 542 • 12 miles West of  
 Robert Lee on Sterling City Hwy  
 (325) 453-2065, Bill Hood, Minister  
 www.pecanbaptist.org

Sun. 10 am, Sunday School  
 11 am & 7 pm, Worship



**Come As You Are**

**Sunday Mornings • 10 am**

**Table Time • Tuesday evening**

**Pot Luck 6 pm • Study 7 pm**

**FORGIVEN MINISTRIES**

**Downtown Bronte • Across from Grocery Store**

**Russ Frasier, Preacher**

*Come join us for*

*Easter Services*

**Sunday, March 27, at 11 am**

**BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH**

**824 Austin**

**Robert Lee, Texas**

*Bro. Joe Hodges is bringing the message.*

**Robert Lee**

**Bible Baptist Church**  
 PO Box 938 • 9th & Austin  
 Robert Lee, Joe Hodges, Pastor  
 Sun. 10 am Sunday School,  
 11 am & 6 pm Worship,

**Emmanuel Pentecostal**  
 PO Box 683 • 1019 Colorado City Hwy  
 Pastor Tim Wood (325) 453-2360  
 Sundays 2 pm, Thursdays 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  
 Jordan Arnold, 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. Hubert Wade, Jr., Pastor  
 Sat. 6 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