

THE OBSERVER/ENTERPRISE

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Death Notices

Jackson

Lane Jackson, 68, of Shep, Texas went home to be with the Lord on September 9, 2020.

Lane was preceded in death by his parents, Hershel and Avo.

Lane is survived by his wife, Donna Jackson of Shep; two sons, Lenny Jackson of Longview, and Danny Jackson and his wife Tracey of Shep; one brother, Frank Jackson and his wife Charlotte of Wingate; three nephews, Scotty Jackson of Robert Lee, Kevin Jackson of Wingate, and Jamey West of San Angelo; two nieces, Amber Davis of Dallas, and Kasey Coker of Muleshoe; and seven grandchildren, Zach, Luke, Tucker, Jett, Emily, Owen, and Troy.

Visitation was held at the Hamil Family Funeral Home in Abilene, from 6 pm to 8 pm on Sunday, September 13, 2020. Funeral services were held at Wylie United Methodist Church in Abilene on Monday, September 14, at 10 am with Rev. Jeff Hatcher officiating. Graveside services followed at Shep Cemetery.

Loving

Frances Ann "Fran" Carlton Loving, 83, of Tuscola, passed away Tuesday, September 8, 2020.

The family received friends

and loved ones at a visitation on Saturday, September 12, from 11 am until 1 pm at the Hamil Family Funeral Home in Abilene. Funeral services were held at 3 pm, Sunday, September 13, at the Hamil Family Funeral Home, officiated by Chris Hale. Burial followed in the Buffalo Gap Cemetery.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Leslie Carlton Sr. and Monie Johana Schumm Carlton; son, Jerry Malcolm Loving; three brothers, Leslie Carlton, Jr., Leland Carlton, and Russell Carlton; one sister, Mildred Juanita Carlton Sandlin; and sister-in-law, Annie Lois Borders Carlton.

Fran is survived by her husband of almost 62 years, Malcolm Loving; daughter, Leslee D'Ann Loving Herald of Temple; grandchildren, Jason Leslie Loving, Zachary Austin Loving, William Alexander Herald, and Lauren Elizabeth Herald Milstain; and her four great grandchildren, Jacob Leslie Loving, Addison Marie Loving, Bruce Alexander Herald, and Riley Rose Milstain.

Shaw

Cynthia Ruth Shaw, 63, of Robert Lee, Texas, died Tuesday, September 8, 2020.

The family received friends from 5 pm to 7 pm, on Friday September 11 at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home. Funeral services were held at 2 pm, Saturday, September 12, 2020, at Nalley-Pickle & Welch-

Rosewood Chapel in Big Spring and interment followed at Trinity Memorial Park.

Survivors include her children, Dallas Hopper and wife Jennifer, Starr Reis and husband Justin; her grandchildren, Kole Leal, Wyatt Hopper, Wade Hopper, Wren Hopper, Charles Reis; her parents, Franklin Shaw and wife Starlie, Mildred Redmon and husband Glen; siblings, Helaine Hamline and husband Philip, Bryan Shaw and wife Dana; and her nieces and nephews, Aaron Shaw, Morgan Shaw, David Hamline, Daniel Hamline, Garrett Shaw, Andrew Hamline, Noah Hamline, and Leah Shaw.

She was preceded in death by her grandparents, Willie Summerfield and Angeline Shaw, Bryon and Alma Tatum; and her brother Summer Shaw.



It's Okay to Not Be Okay

by James M. Decker

Warning: this essay might be a difficult read. It is an important read, though, for each of us.

In the past, I have broached the top of mental health and suicide in this space. It is an important topic, but one that we try to avoid discussing, particularly in rural communities. My friend Shannon Ferrell is a professor at Oklahoma State University and a nationally renowned expert in farm and ranch estate/succession planning. He likes to say, "we in agriculture don't like to talk about our feelings." It

creates all manner of problems in passing on the family farm or ranch and in dealing with our own mental health. Agriculture prides itself on the ideal of rugged individualism - we go it alone, we face our challenges alone, we defeat them alone. That attitude does not lend itself to sharing our feelings and struggles with one another.

I have a whole other essay in mind about why rugged individualism is something of a myth to begin with, but this concept is also deeply unhealthy for our mental wellness. Do you have a problem? "Deal with it." Are you struggling mentally? "Suck it up." Are you having difficult thoughts and feelings? "Get over it." Sometimes, we should simply deal with it, suck it up, or get over it. But other times, our struggles are bigger and deeper than that.

What happens when those problems, struggles, thoughts, and feelings are too much for you to deal with? As Professor Ferrell says, we don't like to talk about our feelings. But we need to. According to The Depression Project, 40% of men will not talk to anyone about their mental health struggles. Shockingly, 75% of all suicides are men. These statistics are not unrelated. Men tend to bottle up their feelings and never talk

to anyone. Men have been told for too long that it is not okay to struggle. It's not "manly." "It is "weak." Far too often, those feelings completely overwhelm them before their loved ones can help.

So what do we do? How do we help our friends and loved ones in need? September 10 was World Suicide Prevention Day. My friend Tobin Redwine lost his brother to suicide about three years ago. On September 10, Tobin shared his grief for his brother in a beautiful essay on Facebook. Tobin wrote this deeply important passage in that essay:

"Depression, mental illness, addiction, and self-doubt can trick us into missing out on the depth of love and importance in our lives. Those awful voices can be loud; friends, our voices must be louder. We must be unashamed and loud with our love for each other; with our support for each other; with our relentless loyalty to each other. We can't just pay lip service to saying we love people, we need to live it. We need to show it. We need to act on it. Our voices must be loud. Our actions must be louder."

Tobin said it better than I could. If our loved ones are struggling, we might not know it.

(Continued on page 7)

Area Churches Invite You to Worship

Bronte

Bronte Church of Christ

PO Box 346
 118 S. Jefferson • Bronte
 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 George Cooper
 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. Stacy Sprinkle, 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

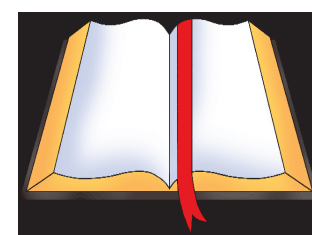
Texas Theater, Downtown Bronte
 Interim Pastor Robert Lemmond
 Sunday, 10:30 am

Coke County

Pecan Baptist

PO Box 542 • 12 miles West of
 Robert Lee on Sterling City Hwy
 (325) 453-2065, Bill Hood, Pastor
 www.pecanbaptistchurchrl.com

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



Robert Lee

Bible Baptist Church

PO Box 938 • 9th & Austin
 Sunday 10 am Sunday School, 11 am and
 5 pm Worship, Wed 5 pm Bible Study

Emmanuel Pentecostal

PO Box 794 • 1004 Hillcrest
 Pastor Brantly Robertson
 (972) 841-2009

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, (325) 763-2118 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

Chris Walls, 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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