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Orchestra conductor Dr. Doug Bakenhus will be back to lead this gathering of professional musicians employed by the Sulphur Springs Symphony League. Bakenhus is a Texan, (from Houston) and is Professor of Music and Director of Orchestra at Northwestern State University in Natchitoches, Louisiana. He just loves coming back to Sulphur Springs each summer to conduct our orchestra. He always brings some surprises to the repertoire, but never fails to include the most beloved classics that audiences anticipate. In fact, you can expect your attendance to be more than just hearing music and people watching...it becomes a total experience, encompassing evening, sunset and nightfall... musical strains lifting and playing while the flag waves on the breeze...and the mass demonstration of American patriotism which, in my opinion, amplifies the overall effect. If nothing else does, hearing the sounds of cannon at the conclusion of the overture as fireworks burst overhead will imprint itself in your mind and memory, and those of your children and grandchildren too. A former mayor of Sulphur Springs coined the experience a "Norman Rockwell evening", and I agree



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Obits



Mary Helen Chaney

Mary Helen Chaney, age 72, passed away peacefully on June 20, 2018. Mary Helen was born in Sulphur Springs, to her parents, Mary and John Sheffield. Following her graduation from Texas Tech University, she moved to Dallas and served as a dietitian at Baylor Hospital. While living in Dallas, she married Preston Chaney, who worked as a geophysicist and was her loving husband of 48 years.

Preceding her in death are her parents, and half brother and sister, John Sheffield IV and Jean Pinson. She is survived by her husband, brothers Dr. James and Joel Sheffield; daughters Alison Chaney and Helen Chaney; daughter Margaret Levine and son-in-law Benjamin Levine; and grandchildren Owen and Theodore Levine.

A gifted pianist, Mary Helen dedicated her time to playing piano for numerous choirs, musicals, and solo and ensemble competitions. She served as accompanist to the Contemporary Chorale for thirty years, as accompanist to the New Song Community Choir for 10 years, and as organist to the Park Central Baptist Church for 20 years. An active and vibrant mother to her three daughters, Mary Helen had a strong passion for cooking and cherished her many friendships.

The visitation for Mary was from 6 to 8 p.m. on Sunday, June 24, 2018, at Restland Funeral Home. A graveside service was held at 10 a.m. on Monday, June 25, 2018, in Restland Cemetery. A celebration of Mary's life was at 1 p.m. on Monday, June 25, 2018 at Wilshire Baptist Church. All were welcomed to attend and celebrate Mary Helen's life.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the UT Southwestern O'Donnell Brain Institute, or to your favorite charity.

Carol Jean Crowder

July 22, 1939 - June 19, 2018

Private memorial service for Carol Jean Crowder, age 78, will be held at a later date. Ms. Crowder passed away on Tuesday, June 19, 2018.



Craig Allan Robbins

Memorial services for Craig Allan Robbins, age 67, of Sulphur Springs, TX will be held at a later date. Mr. Robbins passed away on Wednesday, June 20, 2018 in Sulphur Springs, TX.

Craig Allan Robbins was born in Columbus, OH, the son of Harold and Pearl Robbins. He married LaReda Beard on October 31, 2012 in Medina, OH. Craig was a Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant.

He is survived by his wife, LaReda Robbins; daughter, Krystal Thompson and husband, William of Bonham; son, Brandon Beard and wife, Heather of Calhoun, LA; grandchildren, Carisa Beard, Tristan Scott Thompson, Elena Grace Thompson, Shannon Robbins and Kyle Robbins.

Craig was preceded in death by his parents. Arrangements are under the direction of Murray-Orwosky Funeral Home.



Dr. Morris Tobin

It is with great sadness that the family of Morris Tobin announces his passing after a series of unexpected complications of surgery. Morris fought a hard battle until the end. He passed away on Monday, June 18, 2018 at St. Mary's Hospital, Mayo Clinic with his loving wife Jodi by his side.

Born in New York City on September 22, 1945 to Dr. Louis and Eleanor Tobin, Dr. Tobin grew up in Mt. Vernon, NY where he graduated from A.B. Davis High School with honors. He attended the University of Pennsylvania receiving his undergraduate degree (B.S. in Chemistry) in 1967 and his Doctor of Medicine (M.D.) in 1971. He went on to receive his specialty training in Internal Medicine and a fellowship in Nephrology at the University of Buffalo. After completing his training, Dr. Tobin relocated with Chris (Norton) and his children Aaron and Lisa to Paris, Texas to start his private practice in 1979.

Dr. Morris Tobin served the Northeast Texas and Southeast Oklahoma community for almost 40 years as a devoted physician.

Dr. Tobin helped establish the first dialysis unit in NE Texas along with the Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word from San Antonio. Throughout his career he served as Chief of Medicine at St. Joseph's hospital in Paris, TX, served on various committees at St. Joseph's and McCuiston hospitals some included ICU, Pharmacy, and Infection Control. Dr. Tobin worked as a consulting physician for the Choctaw Nation in Oklahoma, since starting his practice in Paris. Most recently he was on staff at Trinity Mother Francis in Sulphur Springs, Texas. Dr. Tobin was devoted to his practice and his patients. He routinely took care of those who could not afford to pay for medical care and was a huge supporter of indigent care programs. He supported many charitable organizations within the community including Salvation Army, Casa for Kids, Meals on Wheels. He was a large advocate and supporter of Doctors Without Borders.

Amy Miller and Pam "Bulldog" Bratcher were devoted to working side by side with Dr. Tobin for 18 years through the good, the bad, and the ugly times. More recently his dedicated employees, Andrea McCullough, Samantha Weedon, Kayla Dixon, Kristi Hale, and Eileen Lahman continued to work hard even during his time of illness.

When not practicing medicine, Dr. Tobin enjoyed spending time with his family, playing tennis, reading, dancing, and traveling with his wife, Jodi. He is survived by his wife Jodi (Haley), sons Aaron Tobin (Jennifer) and Jason Todd (Allison), daughters Lisa Powell (Kevin), Katy Spear (Andy) and Amanda Pruett (Jason), Jennifer Ressler, Jill Ressler Colatriano and 13 grandchildren Anna and Ashton Tobin, Kyler and Kohen Todd, Matthew Powell, Mallory and Tanner Spear, Hayden and Madison Todd, Jaicey and Emma Pruett and Jaden and Taylor Hargan. He is also survived by his twin brother, Stuart Tobin (Yongseon). He was preceded in death by his father, mother and brother Edward "Eddie" Tobin. The family received friends of Morris Tobin from 6 pm - 8 pm, on Thursday, June 21st, at Bright-Holland Funeral Home, 2601 Lamar Avenue, Paris, TX 75460. A Celebration of Morris' life was held at 2pm, on Friday, June 22nd, at Pathway Church of God, 3805 SE Loop 286, Paris, TX 75460 with Pastor Samuel Evers and Reverend Randall Scott officiating. Following funeral services, interment followed at Evergreen Cemetery, 560 Evergreen Street, Paris, TX 75460.



Hugo Santana, Jr.

A funeral mass of Christian burial for Hugo Santana, Jr. age 26, of Sulphur Springs was conducted at 2:00 p.m., Friday, June 22, 2018 at St. James Catholic Church with Father Juan Carlos Sardinias officiating. Interment followed at North Hopkins Cemetery. Visitation was from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., with Rosary beginning at 7:00 p.m., on Thursday, June 21, 2018 at West Oaks Funeral Home. Hugo passed away on Saturday, June 16, 2018 in Hopkins County.

Hugo was born on September 13, 1991 in Greenville, TX, the son of Hugo Santana, Sr., and Bertha Alicia Ochoa. Hugo was a team leader at Clayton Homes and a member of St. James Catholic Church.

In addition to his parents, Hugo is survived by sisters, Alejandra Santana, Andrea Santana and Selena Santana, brother, Oscar Santana all of Sulphur Springs. Arrangements were under the direction of West Oaks Funeral Home.

THE IDLE AMERICAN

As the World Darkens....

Commentary by Dr. Don Newbury

When the word “culture” is heard these days, one does well to think of buttermilk, whether or not it “does a body good.”

Even though our understanding of buttermilk is exceedingly vague, it seems degree-worthy when compared to our comprehension of current world culture that is cratering all around us.

Throw life like a bloated paintball against the canvas--be it global or otherwise--and the resulting image seems void of discernment. Warm “fuzzies” are not to be gleaned from sky images. There’s no resemblance to childhood memories of spotting of bunnies in the clouds. More likely, we imagine rough-edged question marks. Or, maybe lumbering vehicles--veering off course with wheels falling off--as dark clouds loom....

Values guiding civilizations for centuries are kicked to the side. The world hurries aimlessly, and what is hoped to be better turns out to be worse. Dorothy and her buddies found it easier to find Emerald City on Oz’s yellow brick road than do we who encounter dead ends and detours on life’s highway. Frustrations loom.

We are quick to expect perfection from others with little effort to improve ourselves.

Truth seems hard to find, and we are torn--if truth is pursued at all--between accounts in mass media and the fast tracks of social media. We’ve heard many references to “double-edged

swords.” Cuts today are at least in triplicate....

To sharpen focus, I’ll choose one topic this day--the growing use of technology in officiating professional and collegiate sports. Oh, unquestionably it often can be counted on to “get it right,” but at a great cost.

We expect too much from officials. Coaches and players make multiple mistakes, but we cut no slack for the refs. They can’t win, and their striped shirts are “hung out to dry,” left flapping in the wind.

TV controls too much, and comments that challenge amount to whistling in the wind. Suffice it to say that games are too long, emotional juices flowing in surging teams are interrupted and outcomes of plays--and even games--too often are in doubt for minutes. Much is sacrificed at the altar of instant replay....

Two cases in point--Dez Bryant’s “non-catch” in a 2015 NFL divisional play-off game, and a less-noted traveling call at a recent Dallas Mavericks’ NBA game.

The game official “on the play” when Bryant landed on the Green Bay one-yard line signaled “catch.” The call was overturned. Now, the NFL’s competition committee has decided that it was, indeed, a catch.

At the Mavericks’ game, a referee whistled “traveling,” but the lead official called a huddle of the three arbiters. About a minute passed before the arena announcer blared something about it being a “no call, due to an inadvertent whistle.”

Huh? A few thousand of us in the arena saw the same play, and it appeared that the player was “guilty as charged” by the ref nearest the play.

No matter what the other two officials thought they saw on the replay--be they right or wrong--one thing for sure is that the other official did NOT inadvertently blow the whistle. He meant to blow the blamed thing, as he should have.

Someone said “the trouble with times like these is that there have always been times like these.” I disagree. Times are worsening....

We could start first with ourselves to “get life right.” Preoccupation with too much else causes aimless scurrying on roads leading nowhere. The Bible warns us about such.

The world yawns, as if assuming that “political correctness” will magically make everything right. Mac Engel, Fort Worth Star-Telegram writer, wrote volumes with one sentence in a recent column: “Mistakes are not to be rectified but crucified over and over again.”

This is not the first time crucifixion has been the choice of the masses. Let the guy devoid of sin hurl the first rock....

Dr. Newbury is a former educator who speaks throughout Texas and the Southwest. Comments/inquiries to: newbury@speakerdoc.com. Phone: 817-447-3872. Web site: www.speakerdoc.com. Twitter: @donnewbury; Facebook, don newbury.

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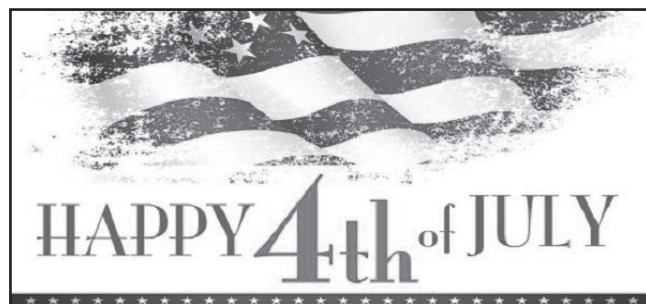
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BLANCHE THE MOVIE

Tumbleweed Smith



Tumbleweed Smith

Some years ago a man in a pickup was traveling on a ranch road south of Alpine. The man’s dog riding in the bed of the pickup saw a chicken and decided to jump out and chase it. The chicken outsmarted the dog and flew into a nearby tree. That chicken flying incident was the inspiration for the new movie, BLANCHE, which will have its premiere at the State Theater in Austin on July 28.

The man behind the movie is Sam Pfiester of Georgetown. He and his friend Steve Davis started talking about chickens and Sam recalled an incident that occurred in Fort Stockton during the 1950’s. Few homes had televisions and the Fort Stockton movie house had burned down, so entertainment depended a lot on people’s imagination. Beer joints were cultural centers where men gathered to discuss things.

They often made bets with each other, sometimes involving ridiculous things. One ignited the community’s interest. “It was between two fellows on whose chicken could fly the furthest,” says Sam, who used to live in Fort Stockton. “They enlisted a pilot who had an air service. Ranchers hired him to do predator control by shooting coyotes from his old Piper Cub. They made a deal with him to take the chickens to one thousand feet and throw them out of the plane. The one that stayed up the longest won the bet.

“A whole lot of people got involved and a lot of money was on the line. Unbeknownst to the owners of the chickens, the pilot had bet on one of the chickens. So as he was taking the chickens up he put the one he was betting against behind the pilot’s seat and plucked a few feathers. When he reached a thousand feet he threw out the chickens. One glided back to earth making large beautiful spirals, landed safely and walked away. The other one dropped like a rock and didn’t survive. Legend says the pilot had roast chicken that night. There were shouts of foul play.”

Sam and Steve wrote a screenplay about the bet. “It took a month to write, but much longer to convince people we were going to make a movie.” This is a movie made by amateurs, the first film most of the participants had ever done. The only people paid were the videographer and editor.

Sam’s brother Ed is a personal injury lawyer in Los Angeles and in the movie he has filed a suit at the courthouse in Fort Davis on behalf of the lady whose chicken was chased by the dog in the pickup. “The suit, brought about by an animal rights group, alleges the dog caused a great deal of anxiety to the chicken, named Blanche.” The movie trailer is on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram and includes interviews with the actors. Twelve days after the trailer was available for viewing 200,000 people all over the world looked at it. Sam is trying to get the movie in other theaters.

BLANCHE THE MOVIE was shot in two weeks around Alpine and Marfa by people with the West Texas can-do why-not attitude. “It’s a heartwarming and uplifting movie, rated PG, and is really about old friendships and caring about others,” says Sam.

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We are looking forward to our annual fireworks on July 1 and hope you will help support this great community event! You can find the sponsorship information and form here: Sponsorship Pamphlet/Sponsorship form Call or go by the Chamber of Commerce office!