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**VOL. 19 ISSUE 977, November 29, 2018**

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Wreaths Across America has hit Hopkins County! The mission of the national campaign is "Honor, Remember and Teach" and represents a wonderful way for communities to honor those individuals who served during their lifetimes by decorating their town's cemeteries. As Americans, don't we count our blessings during Thanksgiving, and as Christians, don't we wish the world 'Peace on Earth' at Christmas? "Wreaths Across America" had it's start at Arlington National Cemetery, and today allows Americans an outward expression of these sentiments across our country on December 15 annually.



Dena Loyd

It is simple... wreaths constructed of live fir branches with a large red bow attached are delivered to the participating cemetery (or other agreed location) on December 14. Then, the local group of volunteers carries out a brief honor ceremony with mass placement of wreaths the next day. Here's something truly amazing...the massive "team" that rolls out to accomplish this is ALL VOLUNTEER from the companies and drivers who transport the wreaths, to the local committees who organize to place them on graves. It's not too late for you to get involved in Hopkins County's first "Wreaths Across America" campaign. As all the wreaths for the 583 Veterans graves in City Cemetery have already been provided through local donations, all you need to do is gather at Sulphur Springs City Cemetery at 11 am on Saturday December 15 to attend a brief ceremony, and then head to a section of the cemetery where wreaths will be laid by local Boy and Girl Scout troops. Also, each individual hero's name will be spoken at their gravesite. A debt of gratitude is owed to Dena Loyd who heard about the idea and then acted on it for Christmas 2018. Dena selected City Cemetery because that is where her son, US Army SSG Michael 'Chad' Loyd, was laid to rest in August 2006 after he was killed in a war zone near Baghdad. Please come see community action at work! And join in to help if you can! With questions, you can reach out locally at 903-348-8174.

Next year, other cemeteries can get involved in the WAA project. Might we get all of Hopkins County's cemeteries dressed this way for Christmas next year? The answer is yes! If individuals feel moved to accept the invitation and form committees like Dena has done, then all the final resting places of our heroes can display this symbol of remembrance and peace. "Honor Veterans...Remember anyone; a child, a parent, a neighbor or a friend who served their country, and Teach the new generation to do the same". What better way to honor service and sacrifice than by sponsoring a wreath in their honor or in their memory? And these fresh, sprightly generous-sized wreaths make the perfect gesture to say "Peace" during the Christmas season.



I hope your Thanksgiving celebration was filled with reasons to be thankful year-round. I spent mine with family near OKC, and in the suburban neighborhood, many homeowners were putting lights up on their roofs and eaves. The weather was wonderful and families were outside together. Of course, afterwards they headed back indoors to eat and watch football games, just like we did. It was the atmosphere of a perfect all-American holiday! Til next week, let's continue to count our blessings and store up great memories of 2018. Also, we can offer a "Merry Christmas" to people we encounter...it's a sweet phrase that inspires holiday spirit in the hearer as well as the speaker!

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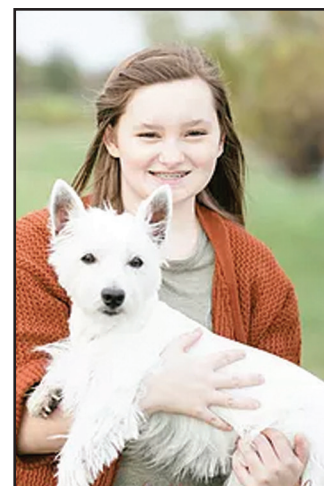
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# Obits



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### Jay Don Hays

Jay Don Hays, age 53 of Dallas, passed away November 22, 2018 in Parkland Hospital of Dallas following a lengthy illness. He was born in Littleton, Colorado on September 13, 1965 to Garland Hays and Claudia Bussard Hays. He attended Yantis ISD and graduated from Wolfe City High School in 1984. As a youth, he built a herd of Semmental cattle and was active in the Lone Star High School Rodeo Association and Texas State Rodeo Association. During high school, he served as Texas Area V State FFA President and was the Texas Area V Nominee for National FFA President. He attended Trinity Valley Community College at Athens, Texas then graduated in 1989 from Texas A and M University, College Station with a degree in Agricultural Science. While there, he served as Student Body President and was recipient of the Brown-Rudder Memorial Award, the top student award bestowed by the University. He went to work for an energy company in Bahrain in 1990 and married Stephanie Dunlap in 1997.

Surviving him are his father Garland Ray Hays of Sulphur Springs, his mother Claudia Hays of Dallas and sister Carrie Hays Yates of Dallas, also nephews Dakota Yates of Chickashay, Oklahoma and Rex Yates of Dallas, a grand niece Avery Michelle Yates and a family friend Enola Gay Mathews. Preceding him in death were his paternal grandparents Delbert and Dorothy Hays of Sulphur Springs and maternal grandparents Julius and Myrtle Bussard of Colorado.

A Memorial service is set for Wednesday December 5, 2018 at 3pm at West Oaks Funeral Home in Sulphur Springs, Texas. Visitation will be held at 2 pm, an hour prior to services. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Texas FFA Foundation, Att: Memorial Gifts, 614 East 12th Street, Austin, Texas 78701, a foundation designed to meet the goals, strategies and objectives of Texas agricultural science education.



### Clara Juanita Hargis

Funeral service for Clara Juanita Hargis, age 74 of Austin, will be held at 10:00 A.M. on Thursday, November 29, 2018 at Murray-Orwosky Funeral Chapel. Interment will follow at Mahoney Cemetery. Visitation will be held from 6 to 8 P.M. on Wednesday, November 28, 2018. Clara Juanita Hargis, passed away peacefully on Saturday, November 24, 2018 at her home in Austin.

Clara was known to all simply as Juanita. She was born January 29, 1944, in Sulphur Springs to Wayford Maurice "Pete" McIllwain and Alma Imogene (Moore) McIllwain. She was raised in the community of Mahoney just outside of Sulphur Springs until she moved to Dallas to attend Neilson Beauty College where she graduated as a Beautician. While in Dallas she met her husband, James Leon "Jim" Hargis and they were married in Oklahoma on December 29, 1968. After being stationed at Fort Hood in Killeen, TX, they welcomed their first child, James Leon "Jimmy" Hargis on March 10, 1972. Not long after they moved to Austin where they would remain and welcomed their second child, Janita Renee (Hargis) Hurndon on May 26,

1975. Juanita ended up working as a bookkeeper for most of her life. She said she liked working with numbers so this was a better fit than being a beautician. Juanita was a loving and caring person, devoted wife, mother and friend, always thinking of others first. She loved to read her Bible, spending time with family, laughing and always wearing a smile on her face. She will be dearly missed but we shall all be reunited one day in Glory. Juanita is preceded in death by her husband, mother, father & youngest brother, Terry Lynn McIllwain.

She is survived by her two children; step-son Harlan Van Hargis; her grandchildren, Christian James Sanchez, Lauren Amber Sanchez, Hailee Christine Hargis, Marquise De'Quan Hurndon, Phoenix Blaze Hurndon; her sister Wilma Sue Miller Milligan and her brothers Wayford Clyde "Butch" McIllwain, Billy Ed "Dusty" McIllwain and Charles Eugene McIllwain and her many sweet nieces & nephews.

Arrangements are under the direction of Murray-Orwosky Funeral Home



### Barbara Moss

Funeral service for Barbara Moss, age 67, of Sulphur Springs was held at 2:00 P.M. on Tuesday, November 27, 2018 at First Baptist Church, Spence Chapel in Sulphur Springs with Phil Smith officiating and Pastor Mark Bryant assisting. Daniel McLarry, John McLarry, Connor Burgin, Mason Burgin, Brooks Burgin, Corey Burgin and Kevin Seaton served as pallbearers. Visitation was held from 1:00 to 2:00 P.M. on Tuesday at Spence Chapel, with burial at Little Hope Cemetery in Wood County. Ms. Moss passed away on Saturday, November 24, 2018 at her home with her daughters by her side.

Barbara was born July 22, 1951, in Pasadena, TX, daughter of Billy Ward and Louise Hickman Ward. Barbara worked as a Clerk at the Hopkins County Justice of the Peace for some 27 years prior to her retirement. She was a member of First Baptist Church in Sulphur Springs. She was also a member of the Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) of Texas for children.

She is survived by her two daughters, Jennifer Seaton and husband Kevin of Cookeville, TX and Teffany Burgin and husband Corey of Sulphur Springs, TX; one sister and one brother, Dee Brannon and husband Charles of Sulphur Springs and Chuck Glass and wife Renee of California; six grandchildren, Jessica McLarry of Austin, TX, Daniel McLarry, John McLarry, Connor Burgin, Mason Burgin and Brooks Burgin all of Sulphur Springs, and one great-granddaughter, Joslyn McLarry.

Barbara was preceded in death by her parents, husband Jerry Moss and one son, Eric Vanginault.

Arrangements were under the direction of Murray-Orwosky Funeral Home.



### Ceely Blair Stout

Funeral services for Ceely Blair Stout, 4-year-old daughter of Gabe and Lacy Pogue Stout, were held at 2:00 p.m., Sunday, November 25, 2018 at First Baptist Church with Bro. Joel Tiemeyer officiating. Interment followed at Pleasant Grove North Cemetery with Seth Stout, Randy Stout, Ryan Martin, Bryan White, Gene Marts, and Jarred Pickett serving as pallbearers. Honorary pallbearers were Cole Newsom, Justin Munden, Zach Baldwin, Dustin Ferguson, Jason Boykin, and Tanner Ragan. There was no formal visitation. Ceely passed away on Thursday, November 22, 2018 at Cook Children's Hospital in Fort Worth.

She was born on June 30, 2014 in Dallas, TX. In addition to her parents, she is survived by grandparents, Joe Don and Brynette Bull Pogue of Sulphur Springs, Larry and Linda Sutton Stout of Winnsboro, great-grandparents, Francis and Rose Pogue of Sulphur Springs, Lois Bull of Greenville, and Mae Stout of Winnsboro.

Memorials may be made to Hematology/Oncology Emergency Assistants Fund, c/o Cook Children's Hospital, 801 Seventh Street, Fort Worth, TX 76104.

Arrangements were under the direction of West Oaks Funeral Home.

Employment

Employment

Employment

**Greenville Housing Authority (EOE) is accepting resumes for qualified Bi-lingual (Spanish) Section 8 Housing Counselor.**

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# Events Happening At The Senior Citizens Center November & December

Thursday, November 29th from 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM Affiliated Driving School will be offering another class. This class gets you 10 % off of your Liability Insurance for 3 Years. It also is good for a Ticket Dismissal. Cost is: \$ 15.00 for Liability Discount and \$ 25.00 For Ticket Dismissal. If we don't have enough sign up for the class it will be cancelled. Please call and let me know if you are interested in signing up. Henry Barber is a WONDERFUL Teacher. He keeps it fun and interesting.

Golden Agers Gift Tree is up at the Senior Center. The tree will be up until all of the Names have been chosen off the tree. If you would like to Adopt a Senior Citizen for Christmas please let me know. You can just come in and look for who you want to adopt. The Gifts need to be wrapped and back to the Senior Citizens Center for delivery between December 3rd - December 14th. You can also delivery the gifts to the Seniors yourself.

We still have a lot of Movie Calendars for sell. They are now just \$ 5.00. They will make great Christmas Gifts or Stocking Stuffers. We need to get them sold to raise money for the Building Fund.

**Karon Weatherman**  
Program and Marketing Director  
Senior Citizen's Center  
150 Martin Luther King Blvd  
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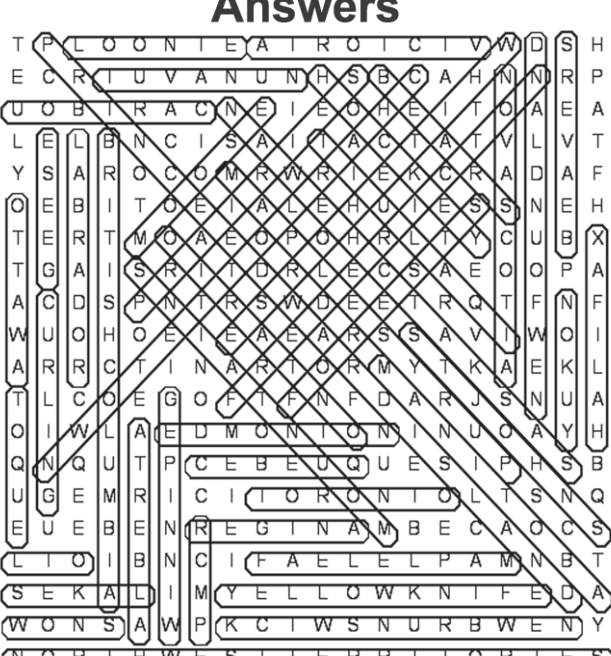
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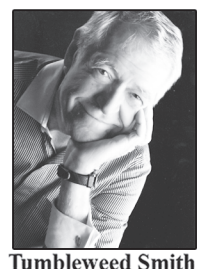
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**Answers**



## THE AGGIE WAR HYMN IS 100 YEARS OLD



Tumbleweed Smith

**Tumbleweed Smith**

James Vernon "Pinky" Wilson fought in the largest and deadliest battle of World War One. It occurred in France's Argonne Forest in the fall of 1918 and was the battle that weakened the German forces to the point of surrender. It was a bloody, muddy battle.

In the midst of the flying bullets and mortar shells Pinky took out a letter from home and scribbled down a few words on the back of it. Those words became the Aggie War Hymn, perhaps the most famous fight song in the world. The sound of the artillery's staccato rhythm made Pinky think of an old A & M yell that had the words Hullabaloo Caneck Caneck in it.

Pinky got his nickname while in school when someone threw a tennis ball at him. It hit him in the middle of his back. When he turned around to face the student who threw it, his face was red. The student said, "Well look at old Pinky." The name stuck.

Pinky was a junior at A & M when he volunteered for the Marine Corps. He could have gone into officer training but chose the enlisted ranks and entered as a buck private. In the Marines he was a muleskinner and worked in supply until he was pressed into service on the front lines in the Argonne Forest. When the war ended he stayed in Germany as a guard. His famous song was first played on an old piano in a caretaker's cabin near the Rhine River. He finally got to hear the words and the tune of the melody he had been carrying in his head for months. He carefully unfolded the letter with the words on the back, got paper and ruler and drew some musical scales. He penned four copies for vocals and one copy for piano. Some of his Marine buddies sang it for the first time. They sang it up and down the Rhine River, making Germans the first audience to hear the Aggie War Hymn. The original title was "Goodbye to Texas University." According to Dr. Don Powell, who wrote a history of the Aggie Band, the first time the song was sung on the A & M campus was at a pep rally in 1920.

The song has been played all over the world and beyond. It woke up astronauts Cernan and Schmidt while they were asleep on the moon.

In 2010 Bill Wilcox of Burnet contacted me to do a documentary on Pinky. Bill was Pinky's friend and in the mornings Pinky would stop by Bill's funeral home and tell war stories. When Pinky died in 1980, Bill handled the funeral and burial. "I kept noticing that modest headstone for Pinky and thought he deserved more." So Bill went about raising money for bronze statues of Pinky. One is on the A & M campus; another is near the depot in Bertram where Pinky had a farm.

I interviewed dozens of people for the documentary. I had interviewed Pinky in 1980, just months before his death. I used portions of that interview in the documentary. While doing research I went to all the libraries and museums on the A & M campus and asked if they had any audio or video recordings of Pinky. They said no. A & M recently contacted me and said I had the only recording of his voice.

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