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**VOL. 19 ISSUE 980, December 20, 2018**

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- |            |                  |               |                |
|------------|------------------|---------------|----------------|
| APPETIZERS | DECORATIONS      | HATS          | PARADES        |
| BABIES     | END OF DECEMBER  | HOLIDAY       | PARTY          |
| BALLOONS   | EVENTS           | HORNS         | PUNCH          |
| BANNERS    | FAMILY           | KISS          | RESOLUTIONS    |
| BUFFET     | FATHER TIME      | MIDNIGHT      | SINGING        |
| CELEBRATE  | FEAST            | MUSIC         | STREAMERS      |
| CHAMPAGNE  | FESTIVITIES      | NEW YEARS DAY | THIRTY FIRST   |
| CONFETTI   | FIREWORKS        | NEW YEARS EVE | TIARAS         |
| DANCE      | FIRST OF JANUARY | NOISEMAKERS   | WINE           |
| DAY ONE    | FRIENDS          | OCCASION      | YEAR IN REVIEW |

**At The Corral Gate**

**Thank you, Sulphur Springs and Hopkins County!**

To the 100 or so persons who turned out for the very first local Wreaths Across America event, appreciation and congratulations are due you. You totally embraced this project to REMEMBER, HONOR AND TEACH. After the ceremony was completed and you were dismissed to go out into the City and Mel Haven Cemeteries to lay the wreaths upon the graves of veterans and speak their name, you covered all the 500-plus graves in a very short time. In fact, there were teens and young adults there in a surprising number, ready to lend their vigor and help. Personally, I'm gratified that the event allowed us to band together as a community and display our unity, just as the evergreen wreath is a symbol of unity and honor. The beautiful wreaths were constructed of live fir branches and gave off a healthy, fresh fragrance that brought renewed life into the day for all. Thanks also to all who did the preliminary work...James Jones for locating all the veterans graves in both cemeteries.... the local veterans who came early to set up the VFW tables and chairs, and those who stayed afterward for clean-up and take-down duties....the Boy Scouts, Girls Scouts and Veterans organizations which were represented, and the youths who provided TAPS, the National Anthem and the Pledge of Allegiance. Thanks to Dena and Jimmy Loyd who had the foresight to secure this project for Hopkins County in the cemetery where their veteran son is laid to rest. Thanks to retired US Army Sgt. James (Clay) Bounds who conducted the public ceremony in a professional and dignified manner. If anyone would like to plan the project for December 15, 2019 in another cemetery, you can find out more from Wreaths Across America online or on facebook, or by giving Dena Loyd a call at 903-348-8174.

Here is a wish for Peace and Goodwill upon you and yours this blessed holiday season. Beyond all the material things we can wish for and receive at Christmas time, let us not forget that God's Son was sent to earth on behalf of humans, imperfect like us. As we undergo the challenges and changes of life on this planet, let's remember that He created us human and He remains ultimately forgiving. Let's never let past failings or failures keep us from His love! Advancing age, illness, injury and even death cast a pall on our human lives, but look! He is making all things new! We can fully trust in His promises. May this wish for Peace on Earth remain fresh and real in our minds and hearts into the New Year!

Til then, as I count my blessings, I will count you readers among them. My abundant thanks and appreciation to Jim and Joy Wilson, owners/publishers of this publication, for granting space each week for the Corral Gate.



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# Obits



## WEST OAKS FUNERAL HOME

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### Carla Jo Petty

Funeral service for Carla Jo Petty, age 64, of Cumby, TX will be held at 10:00 A.M. on Friday, December 21, 2018 at Murray-Orwosky Funeral Chapel with David Burns officiating. Interment will follow at Brashear Cemetery with Travis Baxley, Don Petty, Lanny Rainey, Jim Calvert, David Lemon, Jeff Kinsey and Glenn Sawyer serving as pallbearers. Visitation will be held from 6 to 8 PM on Thursday, December 20, 2018 at Murray-Orwosky Funeral Chapel. Mrs. Petty passed away on Monday, December 17, 2018 in Plano, TX.

Arrangements are under the direction of Murray-Orwosky Funeral Home



### Jesse Harold Robinson

Mr. Jesse Harold Robinson, age 97, of Irving, Texas, passed away on Sunday December 16, 2018 at Watkins-Logan Texas State Veterans Home in Tyler, Texas. Jesse was born at home near Winnsboro, Texas on April 25, 1921 to the late John and Gertrude Bailey Robinson. Jesse lived and worked on the farm until he was twenty (20) years old when he joined the U.S. Army Company D 155th Infantry where he served as a combat infantryman ammunition bearer from November 25, 1940 to December 19, 1945 during World War II. While fighting for his country, he faced a tough adversary in the troops of the Japanese Imperial Army during his military wartime service in the South West Pacific Theatre in the territory of New Guinea Southern Philippines where he earned the following decorations: American Defense Service Medal; American Theater Campaign Medal; Asiatic-Pacific Theater Campaign Medal with 2 bronze stars and 1 bronze arrowhead; Philippine Liberation Medal with 1 bronze arrowhead; Good Conduct Medal; Victory

Ribbon; 1 Service Stripe and 3 Overseas Bars.

Mr. Robinson was a lifetime member of the Dallas Chapter 32 of the Disabled American Veterans (DAV). On January 2, 1951 he married Lila Mae Overstreet and raised one son David Harold Robinson while working at Red Ball Motor Freight, Dallas, Texas for over 29 years as a truck driver. After retirement in 1981, his hobby became making musical instruments. His wife preceded him in death on August 26, 2017 after 66 years of marriage. Mr. Robinson was a kind, patient, gentle man as well as a devoted husband and father providing well for his family and extended family members.

Also preceding him, were his parents; brothers, Howard Robinson, Hubert Robinson; sisters, Lorrene Lindley and Pauline King.

He is survived by his son, David Harold Robinson and wife, Jalayne of Winnsboro. Two grandchildren, Brian David Robinson, and Raegan Denell Robinson Swann and husband, Chris of Winnsboro. One great-grandchild, Capri Denell Swann of Winnsboro.

A graveside military service officiated by Bro. David Hicks of Lindale was held Wednesday, December 19, 2018 @ 10:15 a.m. with interment at the Dallas-Fort Worth National Cemetery in Dallas, Texas with pallbearers: Gene Burton of McKinney; Jeff Zimmerman; Chris Swann; Brian Robinson & David Robinson of Winnsboro.

### Ada Lou McSpadden

Graveside services for Ada Lou McSpadden, age 84, of Dike were conducted at 3:00 p.m., Tuesday, December 18, 2018 at Connor Cemetery with Bro. Brandon Shurtliff officiating. There was no formal visitation. Ada passed away on Saturday, December 15, 2018 at CHRISTUS Mother Frances Hospital in Sulphur Springs.

Ada was born on May 14, 1934 in Collidge, AZ, the daughter of William Freeman Jordan and Lou Ella Cunningham Jordan. She married Tony McSpadden on December 11, 1966 in Rockwall, Maryland and he survives. Ada was a homemaker a member of the Church of Christ.

In addition to her husband Tony she is survived by her son Anthony McSpadden, daughter, Shavella Wood, brothers, William W. Jordan and wife Annie, sisters, Sue I. Turner and Barbara Stephens, grandchildren, Mark and Alina McSpadden along with numerous nieces, nephews and extended family.

She was preceded in death by her parents, sisters, Lottie and Della and brother, George and grandson Adrian Allen Wood. Memorials may be made to the Parkinson's and the Kidney Fund.



### Clydene Fielden

Funeral services for Clydene Fielden, age 87, of Sulphur Bluff were held Tuesday, December 18, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. at West Oaks Funeral Home Chapel with Bro. Ed Dodd officiating. Interment followed at Sulphur Bluff Cemetery with Cole Fielden, Garrett Armstrong, Alex Ritchie, Dustin Fielden, Chad Bolton, and Bill Henderson serving as pallbearers. Honorary pallbearers were James K. Bassham, Pete Wyatt, Ray Williams, Roy Herman, Jimmy Dale Fite, James Wright, John Avara, Jerry Avara, Shane Bolton, Wayne Bolton, Scott Henderson, and The Sulphur Bluff Methodist Church Congregation. Visitation was held Monday, December 17, 2018 from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m at West Oaks Funeral Home Chapel. Mrs. Fielden passed away on Saturday, December 15, 2018 at Carriage House Manor Nursing Home.

She was born on October 8, 1931 in Hopkins County the daughter of Clyde Houston Bassham and Opal Hagler Denney Bassham. Clydene married Ben Morris Fielden and he preceded her in death. Clydene worked for the Postal Service as a Letter Carrier and she was a member of the Sulphur Bluff Methodist Church. Surviving her are her two sons, Richard Fielden and wife Rose Mary, and Fred Fielden, daughter, Marsha Cochran and husband David, sisters, Joyce Brown and husband Donald, Jimmie Avara, and Nancy Bolton and husband Michael, grandchildren, Robyn Camby, Dustin Fielden, Tory Fielden Smith, Garrett Armstrong, Cole Fielden, and Melissa Wyatt, 9 great-grandchildren and numerous extended family members.

In addition to her husband she was preceded in death by her parents, grandson, Brent Caudle, nephew Forrest Stewart, niece Barbara Stewart, and four infant siblings.

Donations may be made to the Sulphur Bluff Methodist Church.

Arrangements were under the direction of West Oaks Funeral Home.



### Guynell Ray Stribling

Graveside services for Guynell Ray Stribling, age 92, of Sulphur Springs, were held at Shooks Chapel Cemetery, Highway 154 South, at 2:00 P. M. on Sunday, December 16, 2018, with the Reverend Steve Cook officiating. Mrs. Stribling passed away in Sulphur Springs on December 14, 2018.

Mrs. Stribling was born in the Greenpond community of Hopkins County on August 12, 1926, to Luther Rector (Rex) Ray and wife, Martha (Alexander) Ray. She married John M. Stribling in Hopkins County on March 30, 1947, and their marriage continued for sixty-six wonderful years until John's death in 2013. Mr. & Mrs. Stribling had two children: Nancy Gail Stribling Osterberg and Tom Alan Stribling. Mrs. Stribling was preceded in death by her parents, by her beloved son, by her brothers, Lee R. Ray, Bobby D. Ray and F. A. Ray, and sisters, Jewelby (Judy) Ray Rushing and Gladine Ray Blount.

Mrs. Stribling is survived by her sister, Shirley Ray Shamburger of Whitehouse, Texas; by her daughter, Nancy, and husband, Mark Osterberg, of Orlando, Florida; and by her daughter-in-law, Mary Stribling, of Austin.

Mrs. Stribling is also survived by her grandchildren: Kristin Heeren and husband, Jon; Kimberly Osterberg Koen and husband, Will; John W. Stribling and wife, Jessica; Callie Stribling, McKenzie Stribling, and great-grandchildren, Joshua Heeren and Anna Heeren.





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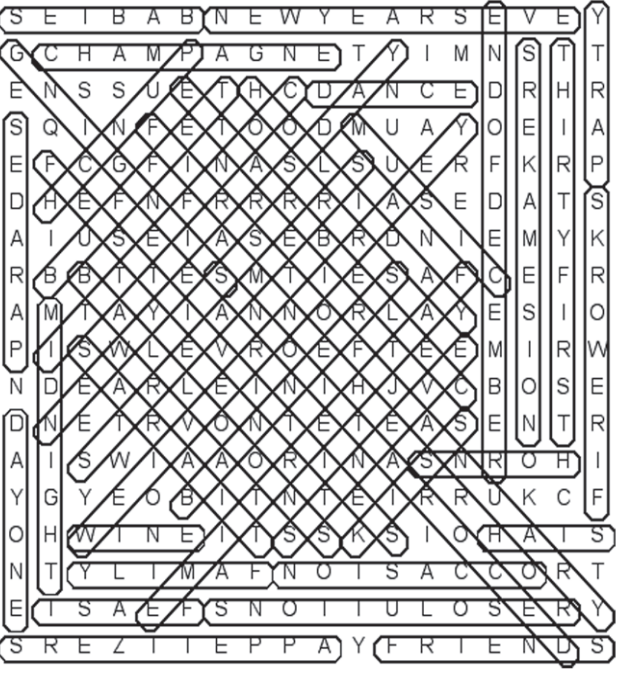
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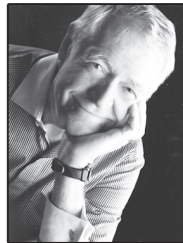
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Tumbleweed Smith

If I've learned one thing from this ordeal it's patience. On October 13th I was at a friend's house near Junction looking at the Llano River flood damage. Water had been up near the house but had receded, making everything a muddy mess. The area has large uneven boulders. The bottoms of my tennis shoes had become wet and as I stepped on a slippery rock, I fell down, smashing my right foot hard against the ground.

The instant it happened I knew I had done some damage. The pain was severe and went from my foot to my stomach. I limped back to the house just as supper was starting.

I wasn't all that hungry but got a bite of lasagna and a little salad. I was holding my right leg straight and someone wanted to know why I was doing that. When I explained what happened I was given a strong Tylenol. The occasion was a birthday party. During the reading of cards the pain increased and I went to a couch where I spent the rest of the evening. We went to our motel and had a sleepless night. I used the rolling chair in the motel room to get to the car. We drove home and went immediately to the emergency room. The x-rays showed a broken metatarsal. The ER gave me some pain medicine. The next day I went to a podiatrist who took his own x-rays and said he didn't like what he saw and suggested I go to a foot specialist. I had surgery on October 31st. The doctor said no weight on that foot for 90 days. I spent a week in a splint and am now in a cast. Later I get a boot that will come to my knee.

We had to cancel a high school reunion, an interview trip and a cruise from Barcelona to the Canary Islands.

I have experienced very little pain since the surgery but have experienced much inconvenience. It's like I lost my freedom and independence. Thank goodness I can still work, though I'm wheelchair bound. My wife rolls me from place to place. She is a five star caregiver and never complains. If I want a stick of gum or some peanuts, she is quick to meet my every wish. I am one lucky man. I've always been an early riser. Now I wake up and instead of getting up, I lie there sometime for hours trying not to disturb her. I have a tool in my office I've wanted to take to the storage room but it's still there. Sometimes I want to check on something insignificant like hunt for a book or need something from across the room. I have to call Susan to get me over there. Most of the time I don't ask, thinking it's not really important. Our office is separate from the house. On some rare occasions while she's in the house and I'm in the office the communication devices don't make contact and I sit quietly until she comes.

As soon as I told someone at that birthday party in Junction that I hurt my foot the hostess said, "That's your driving foot. I did the same thing and it took 4 months to heal." I immediately thought to myself I don't have time for this. But I do. I'm following doctor's orders because I want this thing to heal. Susan and I leave soon on an interview trip to Northeast and Southeast Texas. It'll be a special adventure.

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