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VOL. 20 ISSUE 983, January 17, 2019

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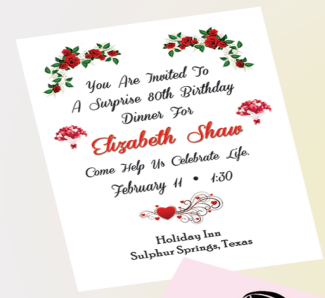
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Congress Is Being Paid During Government Shutdown

The record-setting partial government shutdown, which began Dec. 22, continues to drag on, meaning hundreds of thousands of federal employees are being asked to work without pay or to stay home. But members of Congress are still collecting paychecks. It's in the Constitution, as The Washington Times reported last year at this time, during a different shutdown: "Article I, Section 6 of the U.S. Constitution allows the lawmakers to still get paid their salaries, despite the federal government being shut down due to their inability to reach an agreement."

Just how much do members of Congress bring home? They've been receiving an annual salary since 1855, when they were paid \$3,000 per year. Currently, "the compensation for most Senators, Representatives, Delegates, and the Resident Commissioner from Puerto Rico is \$174,000," the Congressional Research Service (CRS) reports, with a few exceptions. They also receive retirement, health and other benefits.

Here's a breakdown of the annual salary of members, officers and officials of the House. Salaries have not gone up since 2009, CRS notes.

Speaker of the House: \$223,500
Majority and Minority

Leaders: \$193,400
All other Representatives (including Delegates and Resident Commissioner from Puerto Rico): \$174,000
Chief Administrative Officer: \$172,500
Clerk of the House: \$172,500
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Chaplain: \$172,500
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Director, Interparliamentary Affairs: \$172,500
General Counsel to the House: \$172,500
Here's a breakdown of the annual salary of members, officers and officials of the Senate: President pro tempore: \$193,400
Majority and Minority Leaders: \$193,400
All other Senators: \$174,000
Secretary of the Senate: \$172,500
Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper: \$172,500
Legislative Counsel: \$172,500
Legal Counsel: \$172,500
Parliamentarian: \$171,315
Chaplain: \$160,787

Not all members of Congress are accepting pay during the shutdown. More than 70 say they're refusing their salaries while the stalemate continues,

CNN reports, including Sen. Elizabeth Warren (D-Massachusetts). She tweeted on January 1 that she would be donating her salary to HIAS, a nonprofit that helps refugees.

And Republican Rep. Dan Crenshaw of Texas tweeted on January 10 that he couldn't "in good conscience get paid while federal employees' financial futures hang in the balance because of this partial government shutdown. I've asked the Chief Administrative Officer to withhold my pay until we have come to an agreement to adequately fund border security."

You might want to call your senator and ask about this. Their phone numbers are listed in the ad just below this column.

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U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz
455 Dirksen Senate Office Blvd. - Washington, D.C. 20510
202-224-5922

Congressman John Ratcliffe
325 Cannon HOB - Washington, D.C. 20515
202-225-6673

Texas Sen. Bob Hall
P.O. Box 12068 - Austin, Texas 78711
512-463-0102

Texas Rep. Dan Flynn
P.O. Box 2910 - Austin, Texas 78768
512-463-0880

Gov. Gregg Abbott
P.O. Box 12428 - Austin, Texas 78711
512-463-2000

Atty. Gen. Ken Paxton
300 W. 15th St. - Austin, Texas 78701
512-463-2100

Hopkins Co. Judge Robert Newsom
P.O. Box 288 - Sulphur Springs, Tx. 75483
903-438-4006

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City Hall
201 Davis St. North
Sulphur Springs, Tx. 75482
903-885-7541

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City Council Place 1 - **Erica Armstrong**

City Council Place 2 - **Jimmy Lucas**

City Council Place 3 - **Norman Sanders**

City Council Place 4 - **Freddie Taylor**

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Precinct 1 - Ph.: 903-438-4031
Barn: 903-485-2040
P.O. Box 288 - Sul. Spgs. Tx. 75483
Email: compredone@hopkinscountytx.org

Greg Anglin
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Nominations Needed!

Nominations are now being accepted for outstanding people and businesses in Hopkins County. These awards will be awarded at the Chamber of Commerce banquet on February 14, 2019.

Nominations are needed for Outstanding Educator, Large and Small Businesses, Citizen of the Year and Community Pride Award. These should be turned in by January 18 to the Hopkins County Chamber of Commerce, 300 W. Connally, Sulphur Springs, Texas 75482.

Additional nominations are being accepted for: Woman of the Year, Beta Sigma Phi Organization, P.O. Box 72, Sulphur Springs, Texas 75483 and Caregiver of the Year, Pilot Club c/o Carriage House Manor, 210 Pipeline Rd., Sulphur Springs, Texas 75482.

Each of these nominations should be submitted in writing and mailed to the above addresses. Last minute nominations can also be faxed to the Chamber at 903-885-6516 or email to: Lezley@HopkinsChamber.org.

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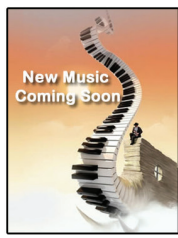
COUNTRY PEOPLE LOVE COUNTRY MUSIC
That's why I am so proud to announce that Dion Pride is coming to Hopkins County on Saturday January 19, 2019 to appear on the Reilly Springs Jamboree. Over the past few years, Dion has become friends with Roger Reed of Sulphur Springs who is co-producer of the Jamboree, so... Roger and I decided to ask Dion to make a return appearance to our show. Audiences in attendance this Saturday night will get a truly special treat! So who is this star performer?



You may already have known that Dion Pride is the son of legendary Country Music Hall of Famer, Charley Pride. But that's not all there is to Dion. He is also a songwriter and multi talented Instrumentalist. He plays guitar, piano, drums and bass. At fourteen, he was performing onstage in his dad's band, and has appeared with countless stars since that time. Nowadays, he lives in the Dallas area and so makes himself accessible to fans who live in big and little towns and in the country.



Dion played lead guitar and keyboards for his father, and opened His Father's show for 5 years, but while touring on his father's show, Dion began to incorporate some of his own material. The audiences were so responsive that Dion decided to strike out on his own and has not looked back.



Dion has entertained our troops on USO tours in Panama, Honduras, Guantanamo Bay and the island of Antigua. He has sung and performed for audiences around the world in countries like England, Ireland, Scotland, Canada and all the continental United States, entertaining crowds of 10,000 or more. When asked the most important thing he learned from his father, Dion summed it up in one word, Humbleness. His dad's natural humility which endeared him to millions, is also a strong part of Dion's personality. And with his impressive talent, honest heart and dedication, Dion Pride is leaving his own mark on country music.



When you attend one of his concerts such as the Reilly Springs Jamboree on Saturday January 19, 2019, you will instantly become a fan. Dion gives the audience a heaping helping of his father's major hits, performed just like Charley does, then he shares some of his heartfelt talent with his own music. He's impressive on both the guitar and the keyboards. Come and let this young but seasoned performer entertain you right here at home, in Hopkins County. He will come onstage at about 7pm. Opening the show at 6pm is Yantis' Don Woods Jr. with hard-driving country and The Chaffers featuring the huge gospel voice of Kenya Duffey Chaffer and her husband Charles of Sulphur Springs.



Don Woods



The Chaffers

Now, don't let the colder weather stop you...it's plenty warm inside the old schoolhouse where the Reilly Springs Jamboree is staged. Admission is just \$10 person. And come for supper! The Reilly Springs Kitchen will be serving Taco Soup, desserts and other good things! You'll meet other folks like you who are looking for Country and Gospel family entertainment which is smoke and alcohol-free. Catch Dion Pride at the Reilly Springs Jamboree inside the Reilly Springs Community Center, 109 CR 1439 in southeastern Hopkins County.

Until next week, stay warm and count your blessings. I will watch for you at the Corral Gate.

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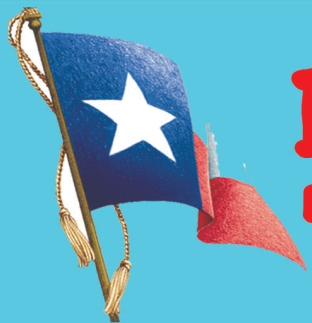
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Forrest Gregg

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Alvis Forrest Gregg (born October 18, 1933) is a former American football player and coach in the National Football League (NFL) and the NCAA. A Pro Football Hall of Fame offensive lineman for sixteen seasons, he was a part of six NFL championships, five of them with the Green Bay Packers before closing out his tenure with the Dallas Cowboys with a win in Super Bowl VI. Gregg was later the head coach of three NFL teams (Cleveland Browns, Cincinnati Bengals, and the Packers), as well as two Canadian Football League teams (Toronto Argonauts and Shreveport Pirates).

As a player, Gregg was a member of 6 world championship teams (5 with the Packers, and 1 with the Cowboys.)

As a head coach, he led the 1981 Bengals to the Super Bowl, where they lost to the 49ers by a score of 26-21.

Early life and college career

Born in Birthright, Texas, Gregg attended Sulphur Springs High School in Sulphur Springs and played college football at Southern Methodist University in Dallas.

Playing career

Gregg was a key player on the Packers dynasty of head coach Vince Lombardi that won five NFL championships and the first two Super Bowls in the 1960s. He played mostly at right tackle, but also filled in at guard. Gregg earned an "iron-man" tag by playing in a then-league record 188 consecutive games in sixteen seasons, from 1956 until 1971. He also won All-NFL acclaim eight straight years from 1960 through 1967 and was selected to play in nine Pro Bowls.

Gregg closed his career with the Dallas Cowboys, as did his Packer teammate, cornerback Herb Adderley. They both helped the Cowboys win Super Bowl VI in January 1972, making them the only players (along with former teammate Fuzzy Thurston, who was on the Baltimore Colts world championship team in 1958) in professional football history to play on six teams that won World Championships. Gregg wore jersey number 75 for fifteen seasons in Green Bay, but that number belonged to Jethro Pugh in Dallas, so Gregg wore number 79 for his final season in 1971.

Vince Lombardi claimed "Forrest Gregg is the finest player I ever coached!" in his book *Run to Daylight*. In 1999, he was ranked number 28 on *The Sporting News*' list of the 100 Greatest Football Players, ranking him second behind Ray Nitschke among players coached by Lombardi, second behind Anthony Muñoz (whom he coached) among offensive tackles, and third behind Muñoz and John Hannah among all offensive linemen.

Coaching career

After serving as an assistant with the San Diego Chargers in 1973, he took a similar position the following year with the Browns. After head coach Nick Skorich was dismissed at the conclusion of the 1974 season, Gregg was promoted to head coach in 1975, a position he held through 1977.

After sitting out the 1978 season, Gregg returned to coaching in 1979 with the Canadian Football League's Toronto Argonauts. In 1980, he became the head coach of the Cincinnati Bengals for four seasons, through 1983. Gregg's most successful season as a head coach was in 1981, when he led the Bengals to a 12-4 regular season record. They defeated the San Diego Chargers 27-7 in the AFC championship game (known as the Freezer Bowl), earning them a trip to Super Bowl XVI, where they lost by five points to the San Francisco 49ers, 26-21.

When his longtime former teammate Bart Starr was fired after nine years as head coach of the Packers in December 1983, Gregg was allowed out of his contract with the Bengals to take over in Green Bay. He finished his NFL coaching career with the Packers, leading them for four seasons, 1984 through 1987. Gregg's overall record as an NFL coach was 75 wins, 85 losses, and one tie. He also won two and lost two playoff games.

Gregg voluntarily left the Packers in January 1988 and took a salary reduction to take over at SMU, his alma mater. He was brought in to revive the Mustang football program after it received the "death penalty" from the NCAA for massive violations of NCAA rules. Although the NCAA had only canceled the 1987 season, school officials later opted to cancel the 1988 season due to fears that it would be impossible to field a competitive team; nearly every letterman from the 1986 squad had transferred elsewhere. Although Gregg knew that any new coach would be essentially rebuilding the program from scratch, when acting president William Stalcup asked him to return, he felt that he could only accept.

As it turned out, when Gregg arrived, he was presented with a severely undersized and underweight roster composed mostly of freshmen. Gregg was taller and heavier than nearly the entire 70-man squad. The team was so short on offensive linemen that Gregg had to make several wide receivers bulk up and switch to the line. By nearly all accounts, it would have been unthinkable for the Mustangs to attempt to play the 1988 season under such conditions.

In 1989, the Mustangs went 2-9, including a 95-21 thrashing by Houston—the second-worst loss in school history. During that game, eventual Heisman Trophy winner Andre Ware threw six touchdown passes against SMU in the first half, and David Klingler added four more in the second half, even with the game long out of reach. Gregg was so disgusted that he refused to shake Houston coach Jack Pardee's hand after the game. Nonetheless, Gregg still looks fondly on the experience. In a 2012 interview with *The New York Times*, he said that the players on the two teams he coached should have had their numbers retired for restoring dignity to the program. "I never coached a group of kids that had more courage," he said. "They thought that they could play with anyone. They were quality people. It was one of the most pleasurable experiences in my football life. Period."

After the season, he was named athletic director. The Mustangs went 1-10 in 1990, and after the season Gregg resigned as coach to focus on his duties as athletic director. Gregg's coaching record at SMU was 3 wins and 19 losses, and he served as athletic director until 1994.

He returned to the CFL with the Shreveport Pirates in 1994-95, during that league's brief attempt at expansion to the United States. Gregg's overall record as a CFL coach was 13 wins and 39 losses.

When former Shreveport Pirate owner Bernard Gliberman bought a stake in the Ottawa Renegades in May 2005, Gregg was appointed its vice president of football operations.

After football

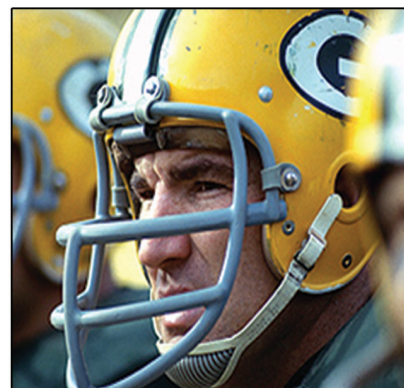
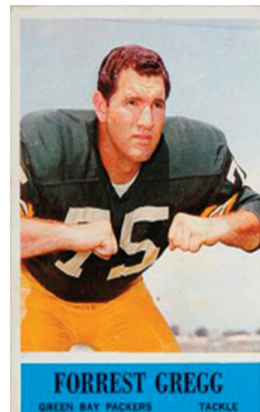
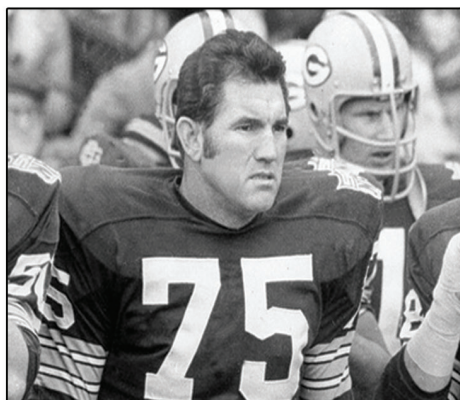
Gregg now lives in Colorado Springs, Colorado. In October 2011, he was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease, thought to be caused by concussions from playing over two decades of high school, college, and pro football.

Head coaching record - College -

Year Team Overall Conference StandingBowl/playoffs

SMU Mustangs (Southwest Conference) (1989-1990) - 1989

Courtesy of Wikipedia.



Obits



WEST OAKS FUNERAL HOME

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<http://www.westoaksfuneralhome.com>



Phyllis Ann Lovell Giguere

Funeral Service for Phyllis Ann Lovell Giguere, age 66, of Sulphur Springs, Texas, formerly of Paris, Texas and Blandburg, Pennsylvania will be held at 2:00 P.M. on Thursday, January 17, 2019 at Murray-Orwosky Funeral Chapel, in Sulphur Springs, Texas. Interment will follow at Restlawn Memorial Park following the services with Charlie Usry, Taylor Usry, Caiden Usry, Juan Ortiz, Donnie Jones and David Cherry serving as pallbearers. Visitation will be held one hour prior to the service. Phyllis earned her heavenly wings and dancing shoes, on Tuesday, January 15, 2019 at 5:00 a.m. surrounded by her love of her children, grandchildren and friends.

Phyllis was born in Altoona, Blair Co., Penn., on April 15, 1952 to Charles David and Stella Mae Heverly Lovell. She married Robert Russell Cherry in Altoona, Penn. on August 3, 1977. To this marriage was born one son and one daughter. A few years after his death on January 22, 1984, she and her children moved to Texas where she met and married Mark Henry Giguere on October 17, 1987. His death occurred on August 28, 2014. Phyllis graduated in 1970 from Glendale High School in Flinton, Penn. and was a respiratory therapist for 13 years at Altoona Regional Hospital in Altoona, Penn. After she moved to Lamar County, Tex, she attended Paris Junior College, Paris, Tex and earned her Licensed Vocational Nursing degree. She retired from Gentiva Home Health in Paris, Tex as a pediatric home health nurse and loved everyone one of "her babies" as if they were her own.

Phyllis loved to be with people, and take care of people. She loved to dance and sing. One of her favorite singers is Blake Shelton. Phyllis was very proud of her children and grandchildren. Thanksgiving 2018 was very special because her family was all together enjoying good food and conversation.

She is survived by two children; Barbara Cherry Usry and husband, Charles Usry, and David Cherry; two grandchildren, Taylor Usry and Caiden Usry, all of Sulphur Springs, Tex.; one sister, Marsha Lovell Belgin and husband, Joe, of Coalport, Penn. Also, one niece, one nephew, one great niece and two great nephews.

Phyllis was preceded in death by her parents, husband Robert R. Cherry, and Mark H. Giguere, her grandparents, Frank I. And Iva Marie Thomas Lovell and Clinton and Dorothy Ruehle Heverly.

Arrangements are under the direction of Murray-Orwosky Funeral Home



Amber Michelle Stevenson

Amber Michelle Stevenson, age 31, of Mineola, Texas, passed away Thursday, January 10, 2019, in Quitman, Texas. Amber was born on April 24, 1987, in Sulphur Springs, Texas, to her loving parents, David and Tami Stevenson.

Amber worked as a waitress and an Assistant Manager for Red Dome Smokehouse in Quitman, Texas. She was a loving mother to her son Wyatt. She was his dug-out mom and he was her miracle baby, the joy of her life. Amber also loved the outdoors and nature. She had a natural affinity with animals. She was our Snow White. Music was a balm to her soul which she expressed with her beautiful voice.

Amber leaves to cherish her memories her husband, Michael Williams Jr.; son, Wyatt Williams, her miracle baby; step-daughters, Kyla Williams and Kyauna Williams; parents, David and Tami Stevenson; brothers, James David Stevenson and John Thomas Stevenson; sister, Ashlei Stevenson-Jones; grandparents, Aubrey and Brenda Tucker and Linda Thomas, parents-in-law, Michael Williams Sr. and Brenda Williams; and mother-in-law, Dorothy Williams.

Visitation was held on Tuesday, January 15th, 2019 from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm at Beaty Funeral Home 5320 S. State Hwy. 37 Mineola, TX 75773. Memorial Service was held on Wednesday, January 16th, 2019 at First Baptist Church – Mineola 204 N. Johnson St. Mineola, Texas 75773 at 11:00 am, with Dr. Mark Neeley and Bro. Phillip Casper conducting.

Cleveland L. Vaden

Funeral services for Cleveland L. Vaden, age 95, of Sulphur Springs, will be held at 11:00 a.m., Saturday, January 19, 2019 at East Caney Baptist Church. Interment will follow at Caney Cemetery in Pickton. There will be no formal visitation. Cleveland passed away on January 11, 2019.

He was born on March 1, 1923, to George and Coreen Vaden. He grew up in the East Caney Community and attended school there. His love for agriculture and animals began at a young age and continued throughout his life. He was a member of the East Caney Missionary Baptist Church. He attended faithfully until his health began to fail. He married Ruth Berry on August 15, 1950. She preceded him in death. He was employed with Northeast Texas Coop for many years. He had a strong work ethic and he did not retire until the age of 80.

Cleveland is survived by daughter, Linda Hall; granddaughter, Tiffany (Jason) Yarbrough; great-grandson, Terrell Turman; great-granddaughter, Jayla Yarbrough; and brother, Clifford Vaden.

In addition to his wife, Ruth Berry Vaden; he was also preceded in death by daughter, Karen Vaden; son, Cleveland, Jr; sisters, Theola Jones, Dester Thompson, Lee Myrtle Dial, Emma Jewel Clayton, Marie Stokes, Mozelle Williams; and brothers, L.D. Vaden, and Clarence Vaden.

Arrangements are under the direction of West Oaks Funeral Home.



Glenda Lajune Harper

Glenda Lajune Harper 80, affectionately known to her family as Mom, Nana, and Aunt Glenda, went to her eternal home in heaven after passing away at her daughter's home surrounded by family on January 9, 2019.

Born in Dallas she was the daughter of the late (father) Clarence Puckett, and (stepfather) Abner and (mother) Doris Foster Berry.

Glenda invited Jesus into her heart as a young girl. She recounted that her Mammie Puckett shared the Gospel with her and had taught her how to establish a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

She was a loving and dedicated wife to her husband whom she devoted her life to by wholeheartedly seeking to fulfill his happiness and wellbeing. Together they brought five children into the world. As a mother she tenderly loved her children and supported them with a warm and loving home. Glenda delighted in caring for her kids while cherishing her role at managing her household. Later in life she was blessed with grandchildren and great grandchildren whom she treasured.

Glenda is reunited with her husband who was her dearest friend, and deepest love, Richard Harper, and her two sons Baby Richard and the handsome sweet spirited David Harper and her younger brother, Randy Berry.

She is survived by her loving children, Belinda Harper Wright and Craig Wright, Richelle Harper Lingo and John Lingo, Arthur and Lisa Harper, and Marcie Harper-Henley and Steven Henley, along with her 13 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren.

Visitation was scheduled from 1:00 PM to 2:00 PM Sunday, January 13, 2019 at Beaty Funeral Home in Winnsboro 816 W. Broadway Winnsboro, Texas 75494. Funeral Services were held at 2:00 PM Sunday, January 13, 2019 at Beaty Funeral Home in Winnsboro, Interment will follow at Lee Cemetery.

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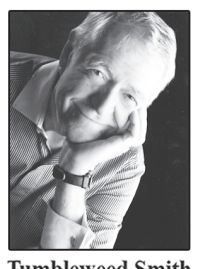
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Tumbleweed Smith

Tumbleweed Smith

When Donna Albus threw her hat in the ring for the Abilene City Council, she announced her candidacy in a leather shop owned by her son. She is a flamboyant woman who wears outrageous hats and clothes that give the appearance she's always in costume. She is known as Abilene's biggest cheerleader and two years ago was voted Abilene's Citizen of the year. She has won the Mrs. LBJ Award for environmental and community involvement and is past president of Keep Texas Beautiful. She has worked on several preservation and clean up projects in Abilene.

If you haven't been to Abilene lately you need to go. The city has become a garden spot filled with art. The city has several parks, museums, theaters, a zoo, downtown murals, a philharmonic orchestra and other attractions. It is home to Dyess Air Force Base and three universities.

The city is known as the storybook capital of America. A downtown sculpture garden features bronze figures from children's literature: The Lorax, Yertle the Turtle, The Grinch, Green Eggs and Ham, Horton Hears a Who, Stuart Little, The Three Little Pigs, The Three Bears and Cat in the Hat. The city has an abundance of flowers and trees.

City councilwoman Albus recently helped the city get nearly 30,000 daffodil bulbs in the ground. Then one day the mayor approached her and suggested she take on the project to plant crepe myrtles all over town. So she got a committee together and visited with the person appointed to chair it. Donna has made speeches about the effort and I was fortunate enough to be in the audience at one of them.

"My chair said, 'let's order 5,000 crepe myrtles.' I said I was thinking about just one thousand. So we compromised and ordered 3,000.

"We talked to the newspaper guys and at the end of their story they wrote: 'hey, have you heard? Myrtle's coming.'

"Then a billboard went up. It was hot pink and had the silhouette of a Victorian lady with a hat on and a dress showing her best attributes. The sign carried the words: Myrtle's coming. Get your bed ready.

"One woman took exception to that and she called the city manager who called me in and said, 'Donna we have had a complaint about your billboard. A lady objected to the sexual innuendoes.' And I replied in my usual reserved and quiet manner, GOOD LORD, ROY. That lady also called the newspaper. The Associated Press picked up the story. She called the TV station and CNN picked it up. An Internet magazine out of New York carried the story. I was quoted in Newsweek Magazine. We heard from every state in the nation plus Toronto, Canada, Sydney, Australia and Tokyo, Japan. Did I mention that we sold 8,369 crepe myrtles. So I'm here to tell you if you think sex doesn't sell, it does."

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2019

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