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**VOL. 20 ISSUE 988, February 21, 2019**

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The Sulphur Springs Downtown area is one of five finalist for the National Urban Excellence Award. The gold medalist for the Ruby Bruner Award will receive a \$50,000 award.

Four silver medals are awarded each biennial receiving \$10,000 each.



Photo by Brennon Seymore



Photo by Cindy Roller

The award is named in honor of Ruby Bruner, who established the foundation with his wife Martha in 1963 and had a life-long interest in architecture and cities and published books by Frank Lloyd Wright under HorizonPress.

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# At The Corral Gate



Enola Gay

## COME AND TAKE IT

In 1831, the colony of Gonzales was populated by white settlers situated on a water source, the Guadalupe River. The Americans were there by permission of the Mexican government, and they needed protection to ward off hostile Indians. When the colonists requested artillery, they were granted the little Spanish-made cannon with the stipulation that it be returned to Mexican authorities upon request. The cannon arrived that Spring and was most likely swivel-mounted atop one of the blockhouses there.. For the next four years, the sight of the cannon probably served as a visual deterrent to Indians who wished to attack the colonists. The next mention of the gun is in late 1835, as tensions between colonists and the Mexican government had begun to escalate out of control. What follows is part of our history, taken from The Handbook of Texas.



Due to instances of resistance in the colonies by September 1835, a military command from Bexar was sent to Gonzales to retrieve the cannon. They encountered high water, no ferry and a militia-guarded ford. Fearing they would be overpowered by the Mexican forces, the colonists had taken the cannon down and buried it in a peach orchard belonging to George W. Davis. But then, as word about the impending trouble was getting out, reinforcements began arriving from the countryside to help the Gonzales colonists. With now about 150 persons on their side, they decided to put the cannon to use. They unearthed it and carried it to John Sowell's blacksmith shop where it was fitted to the forewheels of a cotton wagon. This made the cannon mobile artillery. With it, the colonists marched in the night to the Mexican camp and carried with them a crude flag made by a couple of young seamstresses, sewn with the image of a cannon and the words "Come and Take It". On the morning of October 2, they attacked and Castaneda's dragoons fell back. Castaneda sent word that he had no desire to fight them, but only wished to recover the cannon. The Texans' reply was clear...they raised their flag as the little cannon was fired twice during the third skirmish of what would become known as the Battle of Gonzales, the first battle of the Texas Revolution. And the little cannon was still in Texas' possession when our heroes fought to their death at the Alamo.



As mentioned earlier, the words "come and take it" were not original to the Gonzales battle. The phrase was first used in 480 BCE at the Battle of Thermopylae as a defiant answer to a call to surrender. It was used again during the American Revolutionary War in 1778 when the surrender of an American contingent was demanded by a British commander. Thought outnumbered, Colonel John McIntosh' refusal to surrender was clear with the reply of "come and take it" However, the use of the phrase in the Battle of Gonzales was the first time the phrase was used to equate arms to liberty. Today, the phrase is sometimes employed by those who oppose gun control.

Aren't robins a sign of Spring? Did I hear geese heading north last week or did I imagine it? And didn't a wise weather-watcher say that if it thunders in February, it will frost in April? Til next week, I'll ponder these signs and watch for you at the corral gate.!

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**Woman of the Year**  
**Beverley Owens**

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 Shown with husband, Bill Owens



**Ambassador of the Year**  
**Kasey Knotts**

Presented by Lezley Brown



**Growth & Renewal**  
**Lynda Hager**

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**Large Business of the Year**  
**Jay Hodge Chevrolet**

Left to right: Jeff Miller, Chris Bryant, Kevin Arthur, Jay Hodge, Owner, John Hall and Bill Owens



**Caregiver of the Year**  
**Gladys Howell**

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**Caregiver of the Year**  
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**Small Business of the Year**  
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Presented by Paul Harvey, CEO of Christus Trinity Mother Francis Hospital



**Educator of the Year**  
**Harold Smithson**

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**Agriculturist of the Year**  
**Keith Edwards**

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**Community Pride Award**  
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### Jan Paul "J.P." Benedict

A celebration of life for Jan Paul "J.P." Benedict of Alba, Texas will be held at 12:00 P.M. on Thursday, February 21, 2019, at Lake Fork Baptist Church with Bro. Perry Crisp officiating. Mr. Benedict passed away peacefully, surrounded by family and dear friends on February 14, 2019, in Texas.

J.P. was born June 7, 1944, in Hastings, Michigan, to Gretchen and Paul Benedict. He was a member of the Epsilon Nu Chapter of Psi Upsilon Fraternity at Michigan State University, Class of 1967 and graduated from MSU with a Bachelor's of Science degree in Zoology/Chemistry. J.P. was called to serve in the armed forces during his senior year of college and enlisted in the United States Army for Officer Candidate School. During his tour in Vietnam, he was 1st Lt. and Platoon Leader of the 1099 Transportation Company, nicknamed the 1099th River Rats. He received the following citations/commendation awards: N.D.S.M, USM, VCM, ARCOM and 2 O/S Bars. After serving our country in the Vietnam War and receiving an Honorable Discharge, he pursued and obtained his Juris Doctorate Degree at the Valparaiso School of Law in 1973. He was a member of the State Bar of Michigan and began his career as a prosecuting attorney for Ingham County, Michigan, before going on to private practice until 2004. J.P. and Brenda married in 1998. After moving to Texas in 2004, they purchased a Dairy Queen, which they are very proud of. J.P. was also an instrument rated, private pilot. He was an avid outdoorsman. J.P.'s love for horses began at their farm in Michigan. He was an active member of the NCHA (National Cutting Horse Association), ACHA (American Cutting Horse Association) and WCHA (World Cutting Horse Association). He was very passionate about his horses and won numerous awards in cutting competitions. J.P. always said that he wasn't born in Texas, but he got here as fast as he could! His sons remember him as a strong leader who encouraged them to pursue their goals. He adored and enjoyed watching his grandchildren grow and loved teasing them; especially telling his little granddaughter that he was going to be better looking than her in the morning! His friends remember him as a warm, gentle and caring man; strong and determined with a wonderful sense of humor. He was a loving husband, father and "Bapa" and will be greatly and dearly missed by his family, friends and brothers in arms.

J.P. leaves behind his loving wife, Brenda of Texas; two sons, Tyler (Jaclyn) Ripley of Charlotte, Michigan, and Travis (Katie) Ripley of Lindale, Texas; 3 loving grandchildren: Max, Kylee, and Beau Paul Ripley of Lindale, Texas. J.P. is also survived by his sister, Susan Benedict of Charlotte, North Carolina; his mother-in-law, Dorothy Martin of Charlotte, Michigan; sister-in-law, Tonya (Barry) Ashley of Charlotte, Michigan; sister-in-law, Linda Willis of Dimondale, Michigan; sister-in-law, Carol (Travis) Combs of Kingwood, Texas; sister-in-law, Janice Ward of Dimondale, Michigan; sister-in-law, Kathy (Tom) Jones of Charlotte, Michigan; brother-in-law Dan (Barb) Martin of Charlotte, Michigan; brother-in-law Dennis (Renee) Martin of Mulliken, Michigan; and numerous extended family members around the country.

He was preceded in death by his parents and his brother, Peter Benedict, of Michigan.

A special thank you to Dr. Bernard Taylor and his staff and the medical professionals at CHRISTUS Good Shepherd Medical Center. Arrangements are under the direction of Wilson-Orwosky Funeral Home

### Faye Ann Ardis

Funeral services for Faye Ann Ardis, age 79, of Sulphur Springs were conducted at 2:00 p.m., Wednesday, February 20, 2019 at First United Methodist Church with Rev. Dean Libby officiating and Rev. Ed Lantz assisting. Interment followed at Sulphur Springs City Cemetery. Visitation was from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. prior to services at First United Methodist Church. Ann passed away on Sunday, February 17, 2019 at her residence.

Ann was born on September 19, 1939 in Mt. Vernon, TX, the daughter of Joe Clyde Clinton and Maude Brewer Clinton. She married Joe Ardis on August 30, 1963 in Sulphur Springs and he survives. Ann was a former math teacher and taught at Sulphur Springs High School. She was a member of First United Methodist Church.

In addition to her husband, Joe, she is survived by a nephew, David Clinton of Dallas, niece, Elizabeth Clinton of Kenya, Africa, along with several other nieces and nephews, brother and sisters-in-law, Harris and Patsy Ardis of Sulphur Springs, Mary Ardis McMillan of Plano, Arlene Meek Clinton of Dallas.

She was preceded in death by her parents and brother, Jack Clinton.

Arrangements were under the direction of West Oaks Funeral .



### Zelma Ree Hargrave McCullough

Memorial services for Zelma Ree Hargrave McCullough will be conducted at 3:00 p.m., Thursday, February 21, 2019 at First United Methodist Church with Rev. Ed Lantz officiating and Rev. Dean Libby assisting. There will be no formal visitation. Honorary pallbearers will be her nephews. Zelma passed away on Sunday, February 17, 2019 at her residence.

She was born September 24, 1915 to Elzy and Margie Hatchel Hargrave in the Nelta Community. Grandparents were William Price and Cora Elzy McKenzie Hargrave and Johnnie and Lutitia Leewright Hatchel, pioneer ancestors were the William Hargrave families who settled in Hopkins County in the 1800's. Zelma graduated from Nelta High School in 1933 and entered nurses training at the W. W. Longino Hospital in Sulphur Springs where she served until the closing of the hospital in early 1935. Zelma married William Carl McCullough on September 8, 1935. Until 1942 she did private nursing and worked as office nurse for Dr. W. W. Longino. Then from 1942 until 1975 she was employed by Southern Pacific Railroad in Orange, TX as a clerk in the freight department and retired as chief clerk in 1975. Since her return to Sulphur Springs in 1976 she has been an active member of First United Methodist Church, president of Hamilton Bible Class for four years, life time member of United Methodist Women, member of the now extinct Tanti Club and the Friendship Club.

She was preceded in death by her husband, William Carl McCullough, on May 4, 1984, her mother in 1959, her father in 1979, also four sisters, Nell Davidson, Cora Lou Baxley, Bethel Jean Pendleton and Freda Davis.

She is survived by one sister, Thelma Shrode and a great many nieces and nephews, great nieces and great nephews and great, greats.

Her retirement years since 1975 were thoroughly enjoyed: her home, yard, quilting, needle work, painting, Bible classes, church and a neighborhood of great and loving neighbors, family and our Lord.

Arrangements are under the direction of West Oaks Funeral Home.

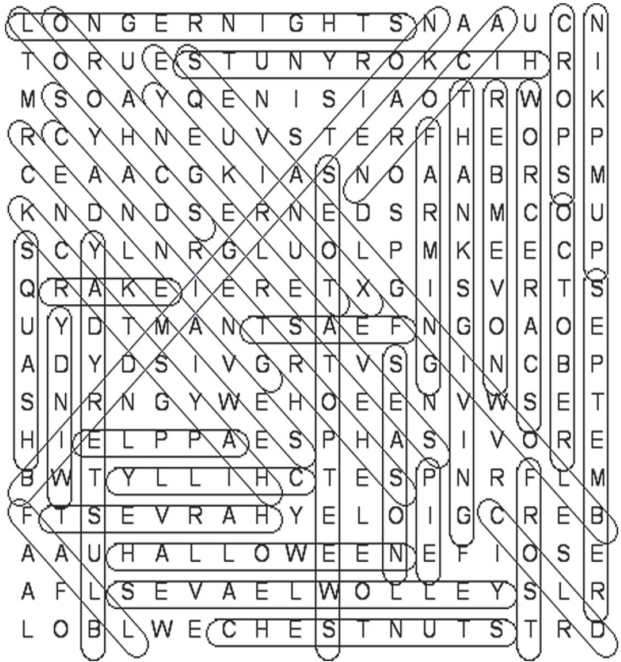
# Danna's Buffalo Girls

FLEA MARKET & SWAP

APRIL 11, 12 & 13, 2019



## Answers



## THE IDLE AMERICAN

# Friends Will Rogers Never Met...

Commentary by Dr. Don Newbury

Will Rogers—a long ago American favorite whose gentle humor and keen observations made a world smile often, and sometimes even think—claimed he never met a man unworthy of his liking. Dying too soon in a 1935 plane crash, this gift to America from the Oklahoma Territory would have included women, too, had he not lived in an age of unbridled chauvinism.

Caught in the jaws of the Great Depression, we needed him. He was “everyman,” always on level ground with the rest of us.

I wish he’d known my Alabama friend, Allen Fonde. Ole’ Will would have included him on his list of special friends, even if on a chance encounter. Fact is, Fonde reminds others of Rogers. Allen isn’t profound, never was on the stage, hasn’t starred in movies and his name

isn’t a familiar one....

\*\*\*\*\*

Maybe Allen is like Will because he’s “beyond laid back.” He has a disarming smile, is slow to speak, doesn’t argue about Alabama/Auburn football games and “lays low” when contentious political arguments arise.

Wait. I’m leaving out important facts, some mighty important ones. He’s fair-minded, master of barbecuing and is a world-class granddad.

Wouldn’t most of us like to have such a reputation?....

\*\*\*\*\*

First things first: On the matter of fairness, he’s the kind of partner to look for if one wanted to get in the cattle business, starting with a couple of cows.

If one failed to come to the barn at day’s end, he’d likely say, “You’re the lucky one. Your cow came home, and mine didn’t.”

How’s that for fairness?....

\*\*\*\*\*

As to barbecue, Allen is open-minded, having turned out tons of both beef and pork. Fact is, he doesn’t blink if church, youth camps and high school groups ask him to prepare feeds for a thou-

sand folks or more.

“Why shouldn’t I?” he chuckles, “I’ve got plenty of pits and some of ‘em on wheels.”

Most Southerners have little truck for beef barbecue. I realized such years ago in Birmingham, where a hotel movie channel ran the movie Babe continuously....

\*\*\*\*\*

Trumping all else, however, is his kindly manner in dealing with children in general and his nine-year-old grandson Will in particular. (This youngster is NOT related to Will Rogers, but his middle name, Allen, honors his granddad!)

At a Christmas family reunion, Allen took off his belt, as if preparing to administer licks to Will. “This here is my AT&T belt,” he drawled. “It can reach out and touch someone.” Will, of course, knew he was joking.

“Pudding-proof” of this grandfather/grandson relationship: When Will was baptized in the family lake a while back, it was a given that Allen would offer the closing prayer. That’s the way Will wanted it....

\*\*\*\*\*

## ELECTED OFFICIALS

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202-224-2934

**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 288 - Sulphur Springs, Tx. 75483  
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

## SULPHUR SPRINGS CITY COUNCIL

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

City Manager - **Marc Maxwell**  
Mayor - **John Sellers**

City Council Place 1 - **Erica Armstrong**  
City Council Place 2 - **Jimmy Lucas**  
City Council Place 3 - **Norman Sanders**  
City Council Place 4 - **Freddie Taylor**  
City Council Place 5 - **Emily Glass**  
City Council Place 6 - **Doug Moore**

## COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

**Mickey Barker**  
Precinct 1 - Ph.: 903-438-4031  
Barn: 903-485-2040  
P.O. Box 288 - Sul. Spgs. Tx. 75483  
Email: [comprecone@hopkinscountytx.org](mailto:comprecone@hopkinscountytx.org)

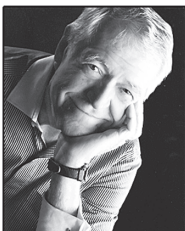
**Greg Anglin**  
Precinct 2 - Ph.: 903-438-4032  
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**Wade Bartley**  
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Barn: 903-945-2178  
P.O. Box 288 - Sul. Spgs., Tx. 75483

**Joe Price**  
Precinct 4 - Ph.: 903-438-4034  
Barn: 903-582-8840  
P.O. Box 288 - Sul. Spgs., Tx. 75483

## DAFFODILS AND CREPE MYRTLES

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.”

# 2019 Ms. Hopkins County Senior Classic Pageant

Hopkins County Civic Center  
1200 Houston St. Sulphur Springs, Tx.

## Saturday, June 1st ★ 6:00 P.M.

All ladies 60 years and older are eligible to compete in the pageant.

**Ladies will be judged in 4 categories:**  
Interview with Judges, Philosophy of Life, Evening Gown and Talent

Winner will be automatically eligible to compete in the  
**2019 Ms. Texas Senior Classic Pageant**  
September 20th - Sept. 22nd @ Holiday Inn in Tyler.

To Enter The Pageant For 2019  
Call Karon Weatherman at (903) 885-1661

Mary Ivey 2018 Pageant Winner

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