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VOL. 20 ISSUE 994, April 4, 2019

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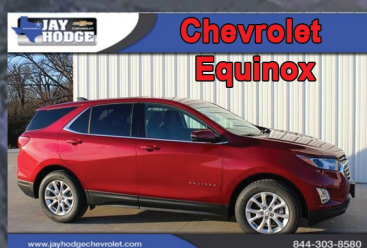
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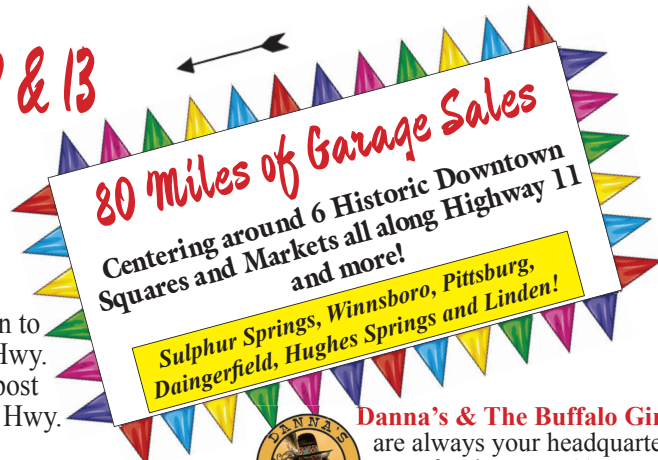
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At The Corral Gate



What an amazing week already...and it's just Tuesday as I write this! But deadline for this article is Wednesday, thus my haste to get these photos to you of Very Impressive People that come from here! In fact, almost everybody I meet around here is amazing!

HOPKINS COUNTY NATIVE SWORN IN AS DIRECTOR OF UNITED STATES MARSHALS SERVICE

Donald Washington, a Hopkins County native, was selected for the office by President Trump during 2018, and was confirmed and sworn in during March 2019. He began service to his country at West Point, graduating in 1977 then serving in the United States Army as well as Reserves until 1987. After acquiring a Juris Doctorate, he was appointed by President George W. Bush in 2001 as US Attorney for the Western District of Louisiana. On March 29, 2019, he was sworn in to lead the US Marshals Service. A contingent of friends and family from Sulphur Springs, Texas attended. I was proud to get my photo with him at KSST this week, where he once pulled the evening shift as a radio workshop student during his high school days in Sulphur Springs.



Donald Washington at KSST with Enola Gay

FRIENDSHIP DAY PROCLAIMED IN HOPKINS COUNTY

A local citizen is going above and beyond the friendliness which our community is known for, by proclaiming a Friendship Day for Sulphur Springs. He chose April 1 as a test run but is open to some other date for an annual observance of Friendship Day. According to Wilfred Pobursky, since he became a Sulphur Springs resident, the friends he has made hold an important place in his life. He feels we should celebrate our friends just like we celebrate Mothers Day or Fathers Day. Wilfred suggests that one or two friends be selected each year and some small token of appreciation given, just for the joy and pleasure it brings to yourself as well as them. "If everyone did that, the world couldn't help but be a better place" said Wilfred. Though not a native of Hopkins County, Wilfred was impressed by the good people he met upon moving here. Today, he frequently performs random acts of kindness for others. He came up with the notion of creating a Friendship Day. I agree with Wilfred. Let's spread more joy and happiness through simple acts of giving! Do you have a date to suggest for Friendship Day? If so, please email your suggestion to ads@millenniumshopper.com.



Wilfred Pobursky presents a Friendship Day rose at Millennium Shopper.

C.H.E.S.S. STUDENTS BRING PETER PAN BACK TO LIFE

This group of students is excited about the play "Forgotten" which they will present starting April 5 in downtown Sulphur Springs at Main Street Theater. It's a spin on the Peter Pan tale and features a cast of 37 children and youth who attend Christian Homeschool Educators of Sulphur Springs.



L. to R. Macy Crawford (Tinkerbell), Zachary Crawford (Bill Jukes), Kyla Deterding (Director), Ezekiel Deterding (Peter Pan) and Kane Deterding (Michael)

Til next week, enjoy the sunshine, mild breezes and low humidity. Summer is on the way!

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This Organization operates in the Charitable Organization business/industry within the Membership Organizations sector. Operating in Sulphur Springs approximately 2 years. A lot of the funds for this comes out of her own pocket and donations are desperately needed. CASH is always needed and here is a list of items that would be greatly appreciated.

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Child abuse or child maltreatment is physical, sexual, and/or psychological maltreatment or neglect of a child or children, especially by a parent or a caregiver. Child abuse may include any act or failure to act by a parent or a caregiver that results in actual or potential harm to a child, and can occur in a child's home, or in the organizations, schools or communities the child interacts with.

The terms child abuse and child maltreatment are often used interchangeably, although some researchers make a distinction between them, treating child maltreatment as an umbrella term to cover neglect, exploitation, and trafficking.

Child Abuse.

Different jurisdictions have developed their own definitions of what constitutes child abuse for the purposes of removing children from their families or prosecuting a criminal charge.

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- someone calls you names

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Obits



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"Knob" Rhodes

Funeral service for "Knob" Rhodes, age 70, of Point will be held on Friday, April 5, 2019, at 2:00 pm, at the First Baptist Church of Point. Bro. Zack Honzell will officiate. Interment will follow the service in Lone Star Cemetery. Visitation will be held on Thursday, 6-8:00 pm, April 4th, also at First Baptist Church of Point.

Joseph "Knob" Darnell Rhodes passed away at his home on the morning of Saturday, March 30, 2019. He was born July 26, 1948, in Point to the parentage of James Earl Joseph Stanford and Eva May Brown Rhodes. After graduation, he served his country in the U.S. Army. Later "Knob" married Susan Patricia Jacks, in Emory, on Aug. 2, 2012. During his working career, he worked as a sandblaster for DalAir in Point.

He is survived by: Wife: Susan Rhodes of Point; Son: Johnny Darnell Rhodes of Greenville; Daughter: Erika Rhodes Edwards (Kevin) of Campbell; Daughter: Brittany Walthall of Lone Oak; Sons: Mathew Walthall

of Denton and Jason Walthall (Meredith) of Schofield Barracks, Hawaii; Brother: James Rhodes (Mollie) of Greenville; Grandchildren: Jax Smith, Chase Walthall and Evelyn Walthall. Numerous other loving family and friends.

Preceded in death by: Parents; Brothers: Charles Rhodes and Robert Rhodes; Sisters: Mabel Worley and Pearl Oneal.

Arrangements are under the direction of Wilson-Orwosky Funeral Home in Emory.



W.L. "Bill" Skaggs

A funeral service for W.L. "Bill" Skaggs, age 83, of Sulphur Springs, was held at 2:00 P.M.. Tuesday, April 2, 2019 at Murray-Orwosky Funeral Chapel with Judge B.J. Teer officiating. Interment followed at South Liberty Cemetery with Brandon Price, Chase Skaggs, Hunter Powell, Trayton Powell, Josh Chamness, and Chris Penson serving as pallbearers. Honorary pallbearers were Don Smith, William Penson, Danny Coke, Dubby Hinton, Chip Sims, and Tommy Glenn. Visitation was held one hour prior to the service. Mr. Skaggs passed away Saturday, March 30, 2019 at his residence.

W.L. "Bill" was born on August 18, 1935 in Sulphur Bluff to N.W. "Choc" and Ona Skaggs. He married Wanda Loyd on October 23, 1954 in Sulphur Springs. Bill was a dairy farmer for over 44 years when he retired. He was of the Baptist Faith.

He is survived by his wife, Wanda; children: Paula Garrett and husband, Wayne, Cindy Dodd and husband, Darrell, Chuck Skaggs and wife, Dorothy; grandchildren: Shannon Powell, Bridget Clower, Brandon Price, Erika Garrett, Amber Weaver, Jessica McInnis, Ashley Reppond, Dusty Asbill, Lindsay Chamness and Chase Skaggs; nineteen great grandchildren; sisters: Ollie Patterson, Irma Dodda and Evyonne Smith.

Bill was preceded in death by his parents, great grandson, Sawyer Chamness; sisters, Betty Goodman and Opal Skaggs.

Memorials can be made to St. Jude at www.stjude.org or by phone at (800)805-5856.

Arrangements were under the direction of Murray-Orwosky Funeral Home

James Speir

Memorial for James Speir, age 70, of Saltillo were held at 11:00 A.M. on Wednesday, April 3, 2019 at Saltillo Baptist Church with Terry Bryan officiating. Mr. Speir passed away on March 28, 2019 at Christus Mother Frances Hospital, Sulphur Springs, TX.

James was born on January 18, 1949 in Bogota, TX to Grover and Willie Speir. James did upholstery work and attended Saltillo Baptist Church.

He is survived by his sons, Matthew Speir, Jason Speir; step-son, Freddy Booker; step-daughter, Leslie Morgan; grandchildren, Raegan Speir, Rowdy Speir, Grant Speir, Audrey Speir, Bailey Booker; brothers, Samuel Speir, Charles Speir, William Speir; sisters, Jan Hurst and Mary Mantoath.

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



James Charles Russell Sr.

James Charles Russell Sr., 76, left this world to be with our Lord on March 22, 2019. James was born on June 26, 1942 in Wynnewood, OK to parents John Russell and Charles Lottie Merideth Russell. A memorial service will be held on Sunday, April 7, 2019 at 2:00 p.m. at Commerce Funeral Home, 1505 Washington St., Commerce, TX 75428.

James was the longtime owner of Plano Barber Shop in downtown Plano and the Haircut Place in downtown Rockwall. James lived his life helping and doing for others. He taught his sons the profession of barbering and they carry on the family business in Plano and Greenville.

James was preceded in death by his parents, his first wife Sandra Russell, brother Jasper Russell and his sister

Eva Henson.

He is survived by his wife Sharon Russell, his three sons James Russell Jr. and wife Patti, Randy Russell and his wife Jennifer and Andy Russell. Grandchildren: James Russell III, Meghan Syme and husband Marshall, Lauren Fazio and husband Jacob, Jenna Young and husband Brady, Andy Russell Jr., Rami & Izzy Russell. 4 great grandchildren and brother Johnie Russell and sister Beaula Willbanks.



Jeff Davis AKA "Fred"

Jeff Davis AKA "Fred" 52, of Cumby, TX passed away on March 25, 2019. Jeff was born on November 9, 1966 to Charlie and Mary Davis in Greenville, TX. Jeff loved spending time with his grandchildren and his family. He enjoyed cooking, camping, mudding, loud music, and was a big animal lover.

Jeff is survived by his loving wife Rhonda Davis of almost 24 years; Children: David Thomson and his wife Rachel, Emily Robertson and her husband Dallas, Sarah Davis, and David Murga; Grandchildren: Amelia Murga, Benjamin Thomson, Klaxton Robertson, Matthew Thomson; Siblings, Charles R. Davis and his wife Susan, and Susan Rabe and her husband Wayne; Numerous nieces and nephews including great great nieces and nephews; along with a host of loving relatives and friends.

Jeff is preceded in death by his Parents.

THE IDLE AMERICAN

My Billy Goat and I...

Commentary by Dr. Don Newbury

For most of my adult life, I've bought into the "balance of nature" thing, perhaps ignited by reasonable absorption of elementary school "book learnin'" about plants, oxygen, carbon dioxide, tides and other stuff.

Now, I'm ready to "sell back" a long-held supposition that squirrels and acorns come out generally even on matters of supply and demand.

Hogwash. When we moved to our Burleson, TX, home 17 years ago, we gave little thought to the name of our neighborhood: Oak Valley. Dreams gravitated toward stately trees adding positively to our front yard. We should have been more concerned about too many leaves and acorns, as well as lazy squirrels--the very animals we expected to "squirrel" away acorns for the winter....

Our squirrels seem happy to live for the day. Acorns are stacking up in record numbers. Meanwhile, squirrels scamper about happily as if there's no tomorrow.

My wife of 52 years whimpers mostly about our acorns. She fears that they'll become full-grown trees, and that maybe we'll be the first victims of outdoor suffocation. Additionally, there'll be yet another reason for our neighbors to laugh at us.

Thankfully, yard maintenance was provided during half of our professional years, and here lately, our 15-year-old grandson Jonah has provided mowing and edging. On yard work, I've been pretty much "home free"--until now. I feel the pressure; it's up to me to dispose of the dreaded leaves and acorns. I'm com-

ing out of retirement to take on this dastardly debris....

I have my "pre-owned" Billy Goat--and providence--to thank. The guy at Lowe's had no leaf/debris vacuums to show me, but another customer, overhearing my plight, suggested a visit to Bargain Buddy's, a lawn equipment place.

He mentioned that a neighbor traded in his gasoline-powered Billy Goat there a few years back.

Lest you wonder, the Billy Goat leaf/debris vacuum was introduced about a half-century ago at its Lee's Summit, MO plant. It is so named because it removes leaves and other stuff better than real goats do....

When I visited Buddy's--located near I-35W on "woody" Bethesda Road, just four miles away--providence took over. A customer entering the shop right after I did heard my almost-tearful description of our problem.

He interrupted, asking the owner if he still had the Billy Goat he'd traded in a few years back for a larger machine.

What are the odds the previous owner would appear? Or that Buddy would remember where to find it among his hundreds of machines? Or that he would soon make it "lawn worthy" at an attractive price? Yep, there had to be providence involved....

I contacted the Billy Goat manufacturing people, learning that common questions include how to change the oil, and what to do if debris "upchucks?"

The answers: Turn the machine on its side to drain oil from the spout, and, make

sure to keep the bag clean! It is a given that suction must maintain air flow in the right direction!

I can do this!...

Oh, I'm not likely to become recognized as a lawn authority, or ever fully understand my Billy Goat. It is, after all, some 15 years old. Real goats' age is about the same as "dog years." So my machine is older than I am, and perhaps even more temperamental.

New challenges include finding shortcuts for bag-emptying, or devising a longer handle for the intake nozzle. Or maybe I can help the "flowerbed folks" by helping to develop heavier mulch. If this seems impractical, there is always the possibility of adding adhesive to one side of each piece, so the mulch isn't sucked up, too. I hereby accept such challenges.

And did I mention that my Billy Goat is somewhat noisier than the four-legged goat, and is loud enough to drown out my wife's ever-growing, verbal additions to her "honey-do" list?....

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Texas Sen. Bob Hall
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Texas Rep. Dan Flynn
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Gov. Gregg Abbott
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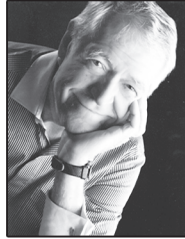
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RUNNING 200,000 MILES

Tumbleweed Smith



Tumbleweed Smith County.

When Dave Dial was a six-year-old boy he would ask his father to stop the car so he could get out and run. "We might have gone to the store and were on our way home when I would tell my dad I wanted to run the rest of the way home."

Dave has been running ever since. For the past eleven years he has run at least 15 miles a day. His schedule is to take off on a 10 mile run in the morning after he finishes taking care of chores on his family ranch just outside of Groveton in Houston County.

Then he'll run another 5 miles in the afternoon.

His lifetime running total is 193,000 miles. His goal is 200,000 miles, which he plans to reach in the spring of 2020. "I've heard that fewer than 10 people on the planet have ever run more than 200,000 miles. I want to be one of them. I'll be 59 years old next spring. I think I'll be one of the youngest people to hit 200,000." He keeps records of his runs in notebooks.

Running is Dave's life. "I love the feeling of covering distance on my own two feet," he says. "It's very satisfying." He coached track in San Diego while he was raising his son. He also wrote a column about being a dad. That column won two prestigious journalism awards. Dave has lived on both coasts and ran the Boston Marathon when he was 19. "I placed 42nd and ran one of the fastest times for people under 20 years old. My time was 2 hours, 24 minutes and 18 seconds, which breaks down to 5 minutes and 30 seconds per mile for 26.2 miles. That's moving on."

When he's working with livestock or driving a tractor he creates Haiku poetry. "I was a math major at Lamar University in Beaumont, so the Haiku format of 3 lines, with 5,7,5 syllables comes pretty easy. Sometimes when I get one I like I write it down. I might take a photo of a sunset or sunrise and write a Haiku verse about that."

Dave has no phone, internet or television. He reads Cowboys & Indians magazine and listens to radio. He had the coaching job in California when his dad asked him to come help run the ranch.

Skechers provides Dave with running shoes. Other sports equipment manufacturers give him other items to test. Skechers likes Dave because he runs on all sorts of surfaces. He's quite a popular sight around the Crockett area. People wave when they see him and give him the right of way. "They call me 'that running guy.'" His current 11-year streak is his longest without missing a single day of running at least 15 miles. "I usually take the same route because it's well laid out and I know how long it is. That way I don't really have to think about running. It has become sort of automatic."

Running to Dave is like breathing for most people. He has run in all types of weather, from 117 degrees to 35 below. "You don't really have a lot to show for it other than notebooks filled with numbers and a lot of worn out shoes."

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Answers

Answers to the crossword puzzle:

Across: 1. CATHOUKULELEMURDGR, 2. COKSYDRUGYDRUHIUEA, 3. PIRRBALALAIKADITOT, 4. EETNARHDOBHWTBRBI, 5. VONTETOHNAEEAAROOS, 6. IPSNETNURRRRCOTMCC, 7. BIATYREPDIIOAHCEBOH, 8. RCCRLWNPDMBHLMUONI, 9. ACAALMHOTIAEAHASNGM, 10. PORMEUOISPRLLCOEAEE, 11. HLAZBIFASIGOONINTIS, 12. OOMIWNLSLNTDADDUECI, 13. NHTMOOSEUNLRBOINRN, 14. ESAZCHTSATOEAKUCTF, 15. VEENAPHMACELEXDAAN, 16. BANJOUCECBRVIOLINS, 17. OLLECEMAELGNATRITAD

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