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VOL. 20 ISSUE 1001, June 6, 2019

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Carnival Dates June 12-15

Wed. June 12 - 15
Carnival
Civic Center Grounds

Friday, June 7
Dairy Aires Hot Air Balloon
Media Flight at
Shannon Oaks Church
6 a.m.

"Opening Ceremonies"
Ribbon Cutting at
Celebration Plaza
12 p.m.

Dairy Aires Hot Air Balloon
Rally and Glow at
Sannnon Oaks Church
6 p.m.

Saturday, June 8
Dairy Aires Hot Air Balloon
Rally and Flight at
Shannon Oaks Church
6 a.m. and 6 p.m.

Parade
Buford Park
10 a.m.

Jr. Dairy Show at the
Civic Center
10 a.m.

Milking Contest at the
Civic Center Arena
3 p.m.

Ice Cream Freeze off at
Shannon Oaks Church
5:30 p.m.

June 15
Whipped Cooking Contest
at the Heritage park
9 a.m.

Queen Coronation Pageant
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7 p.m.

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2019 Contestants

Right to left: Sadie Conner, Annmarie Gunn, Callie Harvey, Rachel Bramblett, Queen 2018 Kaitlyn Ferrill, Katey Brown, Ashlyn Bimmerle, Carol Nabors, Sable Erdmier and Madison Nordin

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Obits



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Stone Richardson

Funeral services for Stone Richardson, 19, of Como will be held Monday, June 3, 2019, at 3:00 p.m. at West Oaks Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Beverly Olsen officiating. Interment will follow at Forest Academy Cemetery with Maverick Richardson Colton Clark, Cameron Matthes, Matthew Pegues, Shawn Murray, Conner Childers, Kaleb Kaslon, and Parker Cummings serving as pallbearers. Honorary pallbearers will be Heston Wilburn, Roberto Valle, Jesse Martinez, Steven Grimaldi, Juan Monterroso, River Thomas, Brynden Andrews, Denton Lawson, Brayden Densmore, Will Cate, Braxton Tipton, and the 2018 Class of Como-Pickton ISD. Visitation will be Sunday, June 2, 2019 from 6:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. at West Oaks Funeral Home. Stone passed away on Thursday, May 30, 2019 in Van Zandt County. He was born September 26, 1999 in Richardson, Texas to Gregory Jay Richardson

and Penni Ann Rowell Richardson. Stone worked maintenance at the Como-Pickton School District. He was a member of the graduating class of 2018 at Como-Pickton ISD. Stone is survived by his parents Greg and Penni Richardson, brother, Maverick Richardson, and sister, Anna Kate Richardson, all of Como, Maternal grandparents, Freddie and Nancy Rowell of Como, Paternal grandparents Jerry and Carolyn Richardson of Greenville. Arrangements under the direction of West Oaks Funeral Home. www.westoaksfuneralhome.com



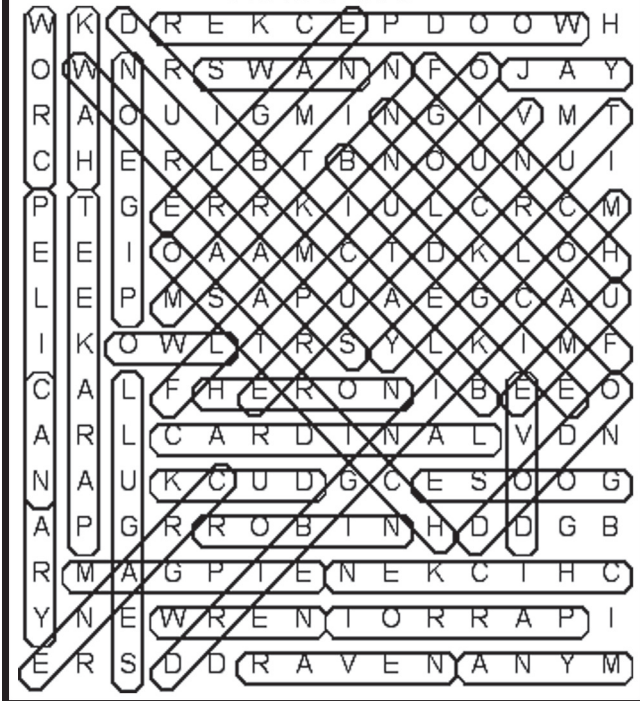
David Bryan Douglas

David Bryan Douglas of Houston, Texas passed from this earth on Monday, May 27, 2019 in Houston, Texas. He died of a heart condition. David was born on June 13, 1951 to Bryan William Douglas and Elsie Aldridge Douglas. His father, mother and his younger sister Teresa Ann Douglas preceded David in death. David Douglas' family has a long history in the Sulphur Springs and Scroggins, Texas areas. David enjoyed telling the story of Euna Winkle Aldridge – David's grandmother. She was the first telephone operator in Franklin County, Texas. She also ran the store in Scroggins, Texas. David's father was the agriculture agent for Franklin County and David's mother was a long time member of the Sulphur Springs Independent School District. David Bryan Douglas was a life long

member of the Sulphur Springs First United Methodist Church. David attended Sulphur Springs High School and graduated in 1969. After high school, David attended East Texas State University in Commerce, Texas and then transferred to the University of Texas at Austin. David graduated from the University of Texas at Austin with a Bachelors degree in 1973 and then a Masters degree in 1975. While at the University of Texas, David studied history, government, technology, and education. David became a Texas History teacher and American History teacher and taught public school in La Marque, Texas from 1975-1979. He was an ardent history teacher and touched many lives of students and fellow teachers. David was greatly respected as a teacher by students, parents, and fellow faculty. He had a life long passion for history and especially for the history of the great state of Texas. After four years of teaching, David was drawn into a second profession. David's keen sense of science and technology led him into the seismic oil industry. He became a natural leader in this industry and he went on to lead sales departments in Central America, South America, Indonesia, China, and Russia. He represented GeoQuest for many years as well as other leaders in the industry. David also worked for and represented Schlumberger for years, which is the world's leading provider of technology for reservoir characterization, drilling, production, and processing to the oil and gas industry. David created the web site Everyone Loves Texas (ELT) and he managed and contributed to its success on a daily basis for many years. ELT grew to more than 5,000 members and David continued his role as a fan and teacher of Texas history and lore well into his retirement. Thousands of people enjoyed and learned from ELT over the years and his daily Texas History lessons were relished across Texas and the World. David Douglas was a Christian and a Believer. He asked that this inscription be placed on his tombstone, "Dear Lord I believe You raised Jesus from the dead. I accept Him as my personal Lord and Savior from sin and He has saved me. I thank Him for forgiving me and giving me eternal life. Amen!" David Bryan Douglas is survived by his niece Andrea Suzanne Clark. He is also survived by his good friends Mike Stellas, Cody Alexander, Nikki Ashley, Mona Giles, Sandra Grayson, John Hall, Janette Hall, Johnny Hall and others who cherish his memory, good nature, generosity and his friendship. Services will be held by West Oaks Funeral Home of Sulphur Springs, Texas and burial will be in the family plot at Bethel Cemetery of Franklin County, Texas.

A graveside memorial service for David Bryan Douglas will be held at the Bethel Cemetery of Franklin County, Texas on Saturday, June 29, 2019 at 2:00 p.m. In lieu of flowers, gifts are encouraged to be made to Zoi's Animal Rescue care of Michael Stellas at 17676 Whippoorwill Road, Navasota, Texas 77868 or to Bethel Cemetery, Franklin County, Texas in care of Neta Kemp at 13161 Scroggins, Texas 75480.

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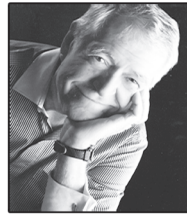
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3 SPRINGS RANCH HUNTING RESORT

Tumbleweed Smith



Tumbleweed Smith

Susan and I were invited to a fund raising event for the Boys and Girls Club of Brown County. It was at the 3 Springs Ranch near the community of Zephyr. It was overcast when we left on a Saturday morning and on the way down the highways were lined with gold wildflowers that stretched across the pastures almost to infinity, creating a glorious sight. The state has had the most impressive wildflower display all spring. I've always enjoyed Zephyr.

Long ago the word apparently was used to describe a gentle west wind. When some sarcastic surveyors were in the area and were caught in a blizzard they named the place Zephyr.

I was anxious to get to the ranch because Dodie Mills, a former student of mine when I taught broadcasting at UTPB now owns the ranch along with her husband Steve. It was great to see her again. Dodie and Steve bought the ranch 4 years ago and have been busy converting it into a commercial hunting operation. The ranch offers white tail hunting November and December and after that is the place for corporate retreats, weddings, birthday parties and other activities.

"We've built a lot of new stuff," says Dodie, who designed the buildings and desert landscaping. "We've added two houses for lodging. One is the Doe House for girls. It's got pink wood and is very feminine. A bride can come here with her entourage and have her day. Then we have the Antlers House, which has 4 separate bedrooms for hunters. We built a huge open air pavilion that can accommodate 600 people for a sit down dinner."

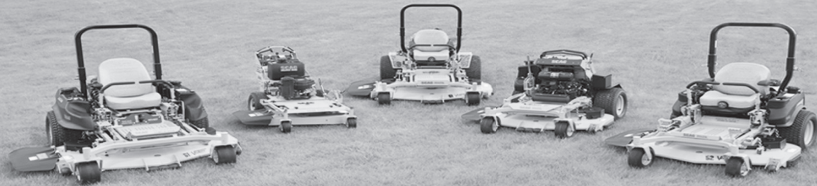
The pavilion is where the Boys and Girls Club event took place. After the meal and a profitable auction (one of the items was a puppy) Mark Chesnutt played for a dance.

Before dinner, Steve and Dodie took us for a tour of the ranch. We were in a pickup and when Steve pressed a button, corn shot out from the front of the vehicle, attracting deer. This might be common for hunting ranches, but it was the first time I had ever seen anything like that.

3 Springs Ranch used to be called Pecan Springs. After renaming it, Steve and Dodie found out it has about 10 springs. It also has rolling hills with canyons and scenic overlooks, an Olympic size skeet shooting range with stadium lights for nighttime shooting, a huge swimming pool with a swim-up bar, a store that offers hunting gear and a comfortable lodge with a fireplace, pool table and dining room. Sidewalks are large flat stones from Arizona. "Everybody has concrete sidewalks," says Dodie. "I wanted something different. I want our guests to feel like they're at a luxurious resort."

Dodie does not hunt but has her own safari area full of animals that have names. "I've got sable, oryx, fallow, watusi and other animals enclosed in a 50 or 60 acre high fence pasture. People can see the animals, but can't hunt them. These are pets."

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Part 3 Conclusion: At Home In Downtown Sulphur Springs

By Enola Gay Mathews



Enola & BR walking the streets.

In the dozens of tete-a-tete's I've enjoyed with my friend, 'Ms. Downtown', our pleasantly meandering conversations almost always lead back to the business district of Sulphur Springs, because that's where her interest lies. I had known that she was raised here and had also been a merchant and property owner along it's sidewalks more than once. Through the Downtown Business Alliance, she's kept it's pulse starting more than a decade ago with the first awakenings of improvements and renovations, leading to the attractive and renowned Celebration District we all enjoy today. B.R. possesses a wealth of business wisdom. If you've wondered what the multi-level construction is downtown on Main Street, first get to know a bit more about the innovative businesswoman who designed it; the modest lady who doesn't believe she is all that interesting or unique!

For the growing up years of their son and daughter, Morgan and Mikelle, George and Billie Ruth Standbridge settled in the community of Mt. Home Village, a tiny pocket in the San

Bernardino National Forest. The village was on the banks of a creek that actually was the San Andreas fault line. And yes, they had earthquakes, floods and forest fires, but it was heaven for the kids. Earthquakes you can't evacuate from, but if your house was on high ground, you were reasonably safe from the floods. In a forest fire, when the forest rangers give you a deadline for leaving, you better get out because they don't come back for you!

Morgan and Mikelle had freedoms that most families down the hill with regular streets and traffic could never have allowed for their children. Their best friends from preschool thru high school were right in this little village. They all learned a level of independence that would be very difficult to duplicate in a downtown setting. The kids could be hiking for a full day with parents knowing nothing more than they went in "that" direction. On other days it was swimming in the creek.

George and Billie Ruth could never have known that perhaps this kind of freedom and independence would lead to Morgan and Mikelle spending the rest of their lives traveling the world. As soon as Morgan turned eighteen he headed to the Coast Guard because he wanted to be involved in rescue. Mikelle started French in the eighth grade with her goal being to go to France. As a foreign exchange student, she asked for a French speaking country. She got Japan! Again, as an exchange student right out of high school, she lived with a

family in southern Belgium, which is French speaking, then spent her last month traveling throughout Europe. In Mikelle's junior year at San Francisco State University, when a student can choose to go abroad, naturally she chose France. But, one year was not enough. She went to Paris, enrolled in a university there, got a job and stayed two more years. Upon returning to San Francisco and finishing her degrees in Art and French, Mikelle headed to the University of Chicago for her masters in fine art Photography.

Meanwhile, Morgan at about this time had finished five years in the Coast Guard and headed back to his favorite city, Seattle, to start a whole new life with the Boeing Aerospace Company. He would stay with Boeing for the next thirty one years. His travels took him to many cities as well as numerous countries, so it is not surprising that he found and married his lovely and talented wife Angie, in Singapore.

Mikelle finished her masters and had started teaching in Chicago when she met an Italian lawyer who had come to the university for an immersion class in English. After a transcontinental courtship, she married Simone and they now live in his hometown of Milano, Italy. More recently, they spend as much time as possible in the small town of St. Mosso at the base of the Alps where Mikelle has started restoring a building from the 1700's as a cultural art center, CASA REGIS, a property which is available also to vaca-

tioners. (CasaRegis.org) With all of their travels, it was rare for Morgan and Mikelle to get home for Christmas, so they were always told, when you get home, it IS Christmas! Back then, talking on the phone was way too expensive to have ongoing contact, but with computers, email and skype, they could have constant contact. So, after George and Billie Ruth retired and finished up with three years traveling in their motor home, they settled in Sulphur Springs where she was born and where her parents still lived.

In a practical sense, the way George and Billie Ruth kept up with the kids' travels was that they kept a world map on the wall with push pins in every place they lived or traveled to. Three clocks were above the map with the local time zone and the time zone of where ever each of the kids were. Billie Ruth transferred that map and each of the push pins so that it remained intact when moved to their new home downtown on Main St., Sulphur Springs. Even though George knew nothing of the new building until it was almost finished, they both so hoped that his health would last until they could enjoy this new venture together. Everything was designed as though he would live forever, but sadly, he missed the move-in by three days. Following his passing, the only consolation that Billie Ruth could have was that she knew George had wanted this for her. He knew living downtown was her dream. George had the opportunity to meet

J.P. Mosely, the retail tenant downstairs, before they moved in and the two men bonded instantly, allowing George to be assured that Billie Ruth would be taken care of.

Making a home downtown wasn't an easy dream to bring about, nor was the idea of the retail/residential new construction. Because of having to flip the design of her apartment to accommodate an ordinance of 1937, that left Billie Ruth to make a decision of buying the next-door parking lot space if she were going to be able to control what her view was, or in fact, the actual value of her home. Consequently, she asked of the architect, Adam Panter, that the new retail/residential plan be in the shape of a "C" so that the open space in the "C" would open on to her courtyard side. The result would be that her apartment, and three new apartments, would all have balconies sharing the view of landscaped courtyard below. Due to so much rain in 2018, the project was delayed for at least a year just to get started. This "For Lease" commercial project was designed to encompass

the potential of three businesses downstairs and five apartments upstairs, an elevator, and each apartment's balconies and single garages. Within the plan, there would be two apartments with two bedrooms and two baths, also two apartments with one bedroom, and one efficiency apartment, each equipped with washer/dryer hookups and some with fireplaces. For interest in any of the spaces, call the listing agent Craig English, 903-439-2343.

"As the building has gone up, there have been so many excited responses to the building", Billie Ruth told me. She, who has such strong feelings about downtown, hopes that this will be viewed as just another one of the assets that makes this town a place to come to. One lady B.R. met who had come up from the lake area, said "we used to call this 'Suffrin' Springs'. Now, we recommend the new Sulphur Springs to all of our friends to come here!" I agree wholeheartedly. Thanks, B.R. for your loyalty to your hometown, and for never forgetting 'where you came from!'



Billie Ruth and Enola, sidewalk sitting.