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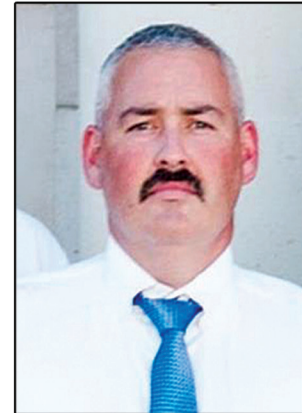
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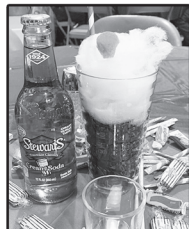
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At The Corral Gate



Enola Gay

As I've mentioned so many times before, a gal can't stay on the ranch all the time! So I wandered from the corral gate for an "invite" I got to a family friendly "Sock Hop" on Saturday February 1, 2020. And a good time was had by all at the annual fundraiser/dinner for the Pilot Club of Sulphur Springs! Folks crowded in to Wesley United Methodist Church Family Life Center to hear music by the Monday Night Jam Band and chances to get tickets for the major door prizes that would be won by somebody during the evening. Friends laughed and chatted together at tables as old kinships were renewed and new people got introduced. It's not hard to have a good time in Hopkins County when you've got friends, family and food!



Monday Night Jam Band

Tables had 50's Sock Hop decor at Wesley United Methodist Church



While everyone enjoyed the delicious spread of Bodacious' "Best", donated by Jay and crew at the Sulphur Springs Bodacious location, the music began. Tom Glosup, Claire Bass, Jerry Brandenburg, Ronnie Glosup, Doyle Hayes, Terry Clark and Gary Anderson make up the Monday Night Jam Band, named so because they always get together and rehearse on Monday nights. They simply brought their informal weekly country music session to town at Pilot's invitation! (FYI: Doyle Hayes has composed all the songs for a new album which he will debut at the Reilly Springs Jamboree on Saturday February 15!)



Sue Ann Johnson (center) won the \$500 Visa gift card



Pilot Charlotte Baxter serves with a smile

Dale "The C" Cummings was the other half of the entertainment, and if you haven't been entertained by Dale, then you've missed a treat! His music is good-time music, 50's, 60's and 70's rock n roll with family-friendly comedy and laughter rolled in. He's fun, friendly and just like family. He will indeed steal your heart! Dale also did the honors of drawing the winning tickets for the raffle baskets that Pilot offered their guests.



Entertainer Dale Cummings "The C"

Table The C



Dale n Pilot



Fundraising is necessary to support the many projects of Pilot Club in the Sulphur Springs area. Right now, Hoop Dreams Basketball is going on for special needs kids. Nominations for a Caregiver of the Year are still being taken, with the selection to be made and announced during the Feb 13 Chamber of Commerce Banquet. The person selected will be one who has displayed personal sacrifice and devotion to another suffering with a brain-related injury or disease. The Pilot Club meets on the second and fourth Fridays at noon at First Presbyterian Church at 129 College Street in Sulphur Springs. Drop in at a meeting and meet some of the happiest and hardest-working ladies you'll ever run across!



The Pilot Club of Sulphur Springs is part of the Pilot Club International, a service organization dedicated to bettering communities through friendship, and assisting people with brain-related injuries and disease. If you would like to get involved with a group of active, community-minded citizens who share their skills and talents for the betterment of their community, then Pilot Club is for you! Contact President Debra Evans or Treasurer Beverly Owens at 903-348-5121.

President Debra Evans & Treasurer Beverly Owens



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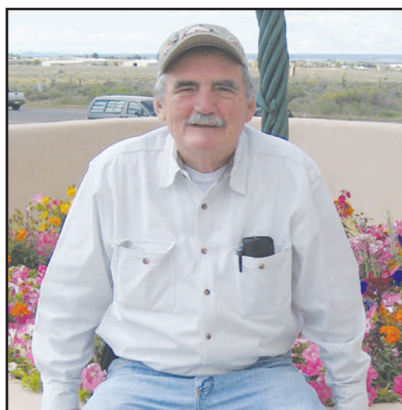
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James W. Wilson

Funeral services for Jim (Pop) Wilson, age 74, of Sulphur Springs, were held at 2:00 p.m., Saturday, February 1, 2020, at West Oaks Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Jay Porterfield officiating. Interment followed at Greenview Cemetery with Lance Looney, Key Walker, Reese

Walker, Austin Wilson, and Colton Wilson serving as pallbearers. Honorary pallbearers were Don Nelms, Dick Towers, Tom Kirkpatrick, Robert Cook, Larry Looney, Buddy Walker, and his coffee drinking club, Jon Patton, Clyde Browning, James Bagwell, and Joe Williamson, posthumous. Visitation was held at 1:00 p.m., prior to service. Jim passed away on Tuesday, January 28, 2020, at Christus Mother Frances Hospital in Tyler. He was born on August 10, 1945, in Deport, TX, the son of Austin Wilson and Imogene Tidwell Wilson. He married Joy Walker Wilson on November 16, 1990, in Hugo, OK. She survives. He was a retired store manager for Auto Zone. He and his wife, Joy, own The Millennium Shopper and Flippin Printing. In addition to his wife Joy, he is survived by children, Jay Wilson and wife Kathleen of Paris, TX, Brandy Wilson of Memphis, TN, Jay Porterfield and wife Amber of Sachse, TX, and grandchildren, Austin Wilson, Colton Wilson, Finn Bullock-Wilson, Castleton Porterfield, McCleary Porterfield, and Noelle Porterfield. He was preceded in death by his parents and son, Shane Wilson.

Special music "Strawberries" was sung by his granddaughters, McCleary and Noelle Porterfield. Monty Tipps sang "Amazing Grace" and "Waltz Across Heaven".

Memorials may be made to the Greenview Cemetery Building Fund, P.O. Box 1504, Sulphur Springs, Texas 75483.



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Billy Ray Hurley

Billy Ray Hurley, age 62, of Sulphur Springs, passed away Friday, Jan. 10, 2020. Billy was born February 5, 1957 in Big Lake, Texas to Gladys and Harold Hurley.

Billy is survived by his best friend and companion of 25 years, Sandra G. Snow, his father, Harold Hurley; daughter, Stephanie Hurley, of Quinlan; step-daughters, Dawn Shurbet and Gayla Livsey; grandchildren Ivan and Julia of Quinlan; step grand children, Charles, Meagan, Emily and Hannah Livsey; great granddaughter, Evelyn Robbins; brothers, Johnny, Sammy, and Jesse Hurley. He was loved by their dog, Cocoa, who never left his side. Billy was a bricklayer and a truck driver.

Billy was preceded in death by his mom, Gladys Hurley and son Steven.

Cremation arrangements are under the direction of Murry Orwosky Funeral Home.



Agnes Marie (Ardis) Chapman

October 11, 1925 ~ February 3, 2020 (age 94). A visitation will be held at West Oaks Funeral Home, Saturday February 8, 2020, 10:00 am to 11:00 am. A graveside service will follow the visitation, Saturday February 8, 2020, 11:30 am, at the Sulphur Springs City Cemetery.



Charlotte Voss

August 18, 1955 ~ January 28, 2020 (age 64). Memorial Service for Charlotte Voss, age 64, of Leonard, TX will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, February 7, 2020 at 10:00 a.m at Murray-Orwosky Funeral Chapel. Ms. Voss passed away on Tuesday January 28, 2020 at Baylor Scott & White Medical Center in McKinney.

Charlotte was born August 18, 1955 in Clear Lake, TX to Jimmie Corley and Lorene Christine Blackmon. Her career was as a loan officer for Bank of America for 40 years but her passion for her children, grandchildren and family were her first priority. She was the owner of Doublestar Stables where she owned and trained Thoroughbred racehorses for 15 years and had a successful barn with many winners and had the privilege of owning and training some of the top. She was spiritual, kind, compassionate and loved her family deeply.

Survivors include her sons, Cory Wreyford and Tyler Voss and wife, Makenzie; granddaughters, Sinea Wreyford, Angel Voss, Taylor Voss, Isla Voss; special friend and confidant, Randy Chasteen.

She was preceded in death by her parents and her brother; Jimmy Corley, Jr.



Jimmy Corley, Jr

June 13, 1953 ~ January 27, 2020 (age 66). Memorial Service for J.W. Corley, age 66, of Greenville, TX will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, February 7, 2020 at 10:00 a.m at Murray-Orwosky Funeral Chapel. Mr. Corley passed away on Monday, January 27, 2020 at Hunt Memorial Hospital, Greenville, TX.

J.W. was born June 13, 1953 in Clear Lake, TX to Jimmie Corley Sr and Lorene Christine Blackmon. J.W. proudly served in the US Navy. He retired as a computer IT. J.W. was independent and self-sufficient man and his parents were proud of his accomplishments. J.W. enjoyed sports and the outdoors.

He is survived by his nephews, Cory Wreyford and Tyler Voss and wife, Makenzie; grandnieces, Sinea Wreyford, Angel Voss, Taylor Voss, Isla Voss; special friend; Vicki Antilley. He was preceded in death by his parents.



Mary "Thelma" Byrd Lewis

October 28, 1931 ~ February 3, 2020 (age 88). Funeral services for Mary Thelma Byrd Lewis, age 88, of Saltillo, will be held at 2:00 p.m., Friday, February 7, 2020 at West Oaks Funeral Home Chapel with Bro. Fred Lewis officiating. Interment will follow at Weaver Cemetery with Tommy Lewis Jr., Caleb Lewis, Cody Joyner, Tim Williams, Justin Lewis, Stuart Sims, John T. Wright, Brazos Hightower, and Wyatt Hightower serving as pallbearers. Visitation will be held at 1:00 p.m., prior to service time. Mrs. Lewis passed away Monday, February 3, 2020 at Christus Mother Frances Hospital in Sulphur Springs. She was born on October 28, 1931 in Mt.

Vernon, TX, the daughter of Carl Wyott and Mary Hester Jackson Byrd. She was a homemaker and a member of Weaver Baptist Church. She married Horace Ray Lewis on November 1, 1949 in Talco, TX. He preceded her in death in 2018.

THE IDLE AMERICAN

The 'Super Bowl' Re-Hashed...

Commentary by Dr. Don Newbury

I never have to look at calendars or "study up" on Roman numerals to know which Super Bowl comes next. Instead, I calculate years of marriage, since "knot-tying" with Brenda occurred in 1966. Thus, I can tell you that the Next Super Bowl will be number fifty-five.

Okay, if you must, challenge me to write the "Roman numeral way"--Super Bowl LV. My intent in this piece

is to contend that this year's "big game" may have more "side road" angles than political campaigns. That's a mouthful.

For starters, it was the first Super Bowl played in a stadium that's had ten names, featured a half-time show of non-stop intentional "wardrobe malfunctions," was just the second one played on Ground Hog Day, and yet--despite unprecedented

"hoopla"--had the lowest attendance since Super Bowl I. (Okay, I admit it, Hard Rock Stadium was filled to capacity, but when there's remodeling to assure plenty of luxury suites, ordinary seats are eliminated.)

Here's an angle, though, that might understandably be overlooked. The game was "made possible" originally by a colorful mayor who may be compared to a well-known Arlington leader. Both were persistent, daring to dream of attracting major sports franchises to their cities.

In this case, only one is germane, but their "life trails" were ever so similar.

I reference Harold Roe Bennett Sturdevant (Chief) Bartle, who was the "leader" in luring the Dallas Texans' professional football team to Kansas City, and Tommy Joe Vandergriff, who dreamed big and finally led the charge for the Washington Senators to relocate in the Metroplex, where they'd be known as the Texas Rangers. (Both were beloved, both were colorful and both are long gone. Bartle--born in 1901 and dying in 1974--saw his Chiefs win the "big one" four years earlier. Vandergriff was born in 1926 and died in 2010. If he were still living, he'd still be waiting for the Texas Rangers to win a World Series.)

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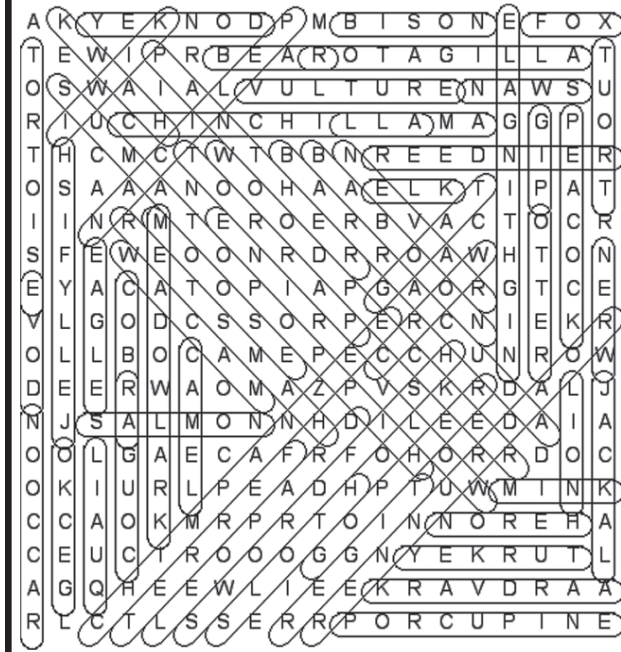
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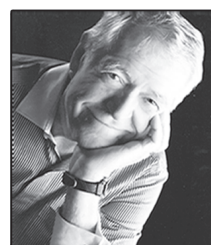
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BILL HIT A TARGET 3 MILES AWAY

Tumbleweed Smith



Bill Poor owns Flatland Forge near Tuscola, Texas. He has won several international awards for his blacksmith work and manufactures tools for blacksmiths. His items go all over the world. "When we're not doing that we're shooting in precision rifle competitions," says Bill. "There are lots of those in Texas. We rally like to play shoot 'em up. I think it's just part of being a Texan. We try to have a good time, that's

for sure."

He has set a record of shooting a bullet a long distance. "I did shoot a bullet 3 miles. I'm one of only a few guys to shoot a bullet that far. There's one other guy that has beat me. He's up there in Michigan and hit a target nearly 3 and a half miles away. But I was the first one to shoot a target 3 miles away."

He says you need a good telescope mounted on your rifle to be able to shoot that far. "You have to have good glass, good optics. Leopold has some of the best optics out there and they sponsor me. That's a really good scope that enabled me to see the target that far and get it sighted in."

You don't shoot a bullet 3 miles in hilly country. "That's why I go out to Midland and Odessa to make a shot that long. I have a couple of buddies who have ranches that are more than 4 miles long. You've got to have a pretty flat place to shoot that far."

He enters all types of competitions. "A lot of them are in Midland and Odessa. We have a couple here; we have a new range out here almost to Winters, Texas that's a thousand yards long. We do some pistol competition at the Coleman County Gun Club. Abilene has some short range shooting events. I've entered a competition in Raton, New Mexico where we shoot at targets 2 miles away."

He had a special rifle built to shoot a bullet 3 miles. The bullet looks like a missile. He showed it to me. "That's a 400 grain solid copper bullet moving at 3200 feet per second when it leaves the barrel. It goes supersonic. I shot it with a 408 military style rifle built by Robert Vestal who makes custom guns in Virginia."

Windage and other factors are available at his fingertips using his cell phone. "We have all this modern technology that tells you what you need to know. I use a 30-dollar app called a ballistic app. When you give it the information about where you are, the air, wind, humidity, elevation, altitude and environment it'll tell you what you need to do to hit the target."

To say that Bill is a good shot is an understatement. We stood outside his gunroom and saw a bird fly up about 50 yards away. He got it with a pistol. He has a selection of powerful guns and uses them on hunting and shooting ranches around the state.

Bill shoots bows and arrows, too and wants to set a world record with a crossbow, shooting an arrow 700 yards. "I'm working on it. I've had a couple of goes at it and I keep improving."

Love

Valentine's Day, also called Saint Valentine's Day or the Feast of Saint Valentine, is celebrated annually on February 14. Originating as a Western Christian feast day honoring one or two early saints named Valentinus, Valentine's Day is recognized as a significant cultural, religious, and commercial celebration of romance and romantic love in many regions around the world.

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