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VOL. 21 ISSUE 1058, July 22, 2020

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Co-Owner Jo Ann Taylor



Jo Ann's Mother Rose Mary Hilderbrand Beaudin



Jo Ann's Grandmother Connie Nichols.

If you've noticed The Produce Stand near downtown on South Davis Street and you haven't stopped, make it a point to soon! Pick out watermelon, cantaloupe, strawberries and free stone peaches and don't forget garden-fresh veggies! Not only do they stock the freshest local produce, the stand is a charming store brimming with thoughtful variety and country tastes. How long has it been since you've tasted pickled okra or corn relish straight from the canning jar, or selected a melon based on it's fragrance? Well, that's too long! Owners Jo Ann and Richard Taylor are family farmers whose roots run very deep. They farm land in Wood County which belonged to Jo Ann's mother and grandparents, and today, their thriving

business is located in Sulphur Springs on a lot purchased by her mom some 30 years ago. Jo Ann grew up on the farm and assisted her mom every weekend at the Dallas Farmers Market, where they sold whatever was in season. Jo Ann reminisced, "Rose Mary Hilderbrand Beaudin was my mother and she could raise anything as well as market it. She was raised in the business and had the strength as well as the savvy to make it work. Later in life she married Frenchie Beaudin, and together they worked hard and earned a reputation for quality produce at their stand at the lake spillway on Main Street in Sulphur Springs. They were a fixture in town! She taught me a lot about not only hard work but offering a quality product, and she had learned the same thing growing up. My grandparents were Mr. and Mrs. Nichols who farmed 200 acres at Grubb Toe, a community and school between Reilly Springs and Yantis in the County Line area where Hopkins and Wood Counties meet. After her mother retired, Jo Ann and Richard took

over the produce stand at the spillway location, until 2018 when the property became part of Crosstown Trail. That Fall, they moved to the 316 South Davis site and it took them a year to actually get up and running with a seasonal building. But now, they can handle most anything. "This summer, we've sold some of the prettiest watermelons, both red and yellow West Texas cantaloupe that everybody wants. This year's tomatoes have been the best ever for all the local farmers. We've got fresh shelled peas frozen in pints and quarts. We carry local honey, ribbon cane syrups, jams, jellies and preserves, pecan halves and vanilla year round, and fresh blueberry and zucchini bread just as fast as Mary Day can bake it! The Produce Stand doubles as a gift shop too, with a line of handmade aprons, tea towels and COVID masks in country prints. In each season, we have whatever Mother Nature gives us. In the Fall of the year, be sure and come for greens, freshly dug sweet potatoes, and harvest-time pumpkins and gourds, and in the



Jo Ann as an 8th grader working at Dallas Farmer's Market.

## A FARMING FAMILY!!



At the Spillway Produce Stand, Rose Mary helps a customer.



The Produce Stand at 316 S. Davis in Summer 2020

and I had both grown up in the Yantis and Wood County area, and his sister had been my best friend in school. We had re-met in McKinney during adult life and after we got married, we began to talk about "going home". Believe me, that was the best move we ever made, when we gave up our lives to become farmers! We love carrying on this family tradition, especially today when 'farm to table' is finally being recognized as the healthiest way to eat. Stop and see us soon at The Produce Stand!

early Spring, our produce will include fresh onions, greens and new potatoes plus lots of plants and beautiful hanging baskets.

Jo Ann is proud of her heritage, but she didn't always work in the family business. "I had my

own 20-year career in the grocery industry, and for a time I worked as a meat cutter. I'd visit Mama down here as often as I could, and I could tell after Frenchie passed away that she was going to need some help. Richard

## WORD SEARCH

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Answers On Pg. 7



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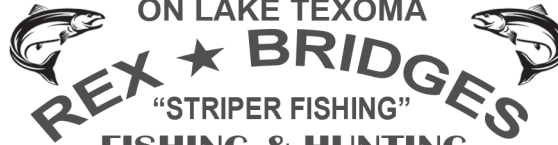
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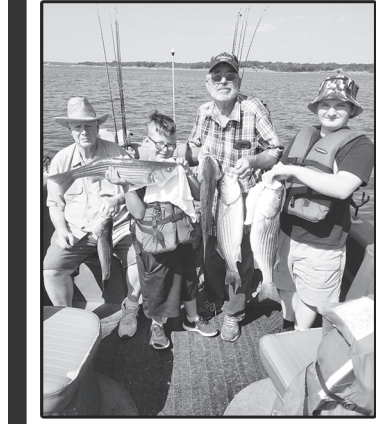
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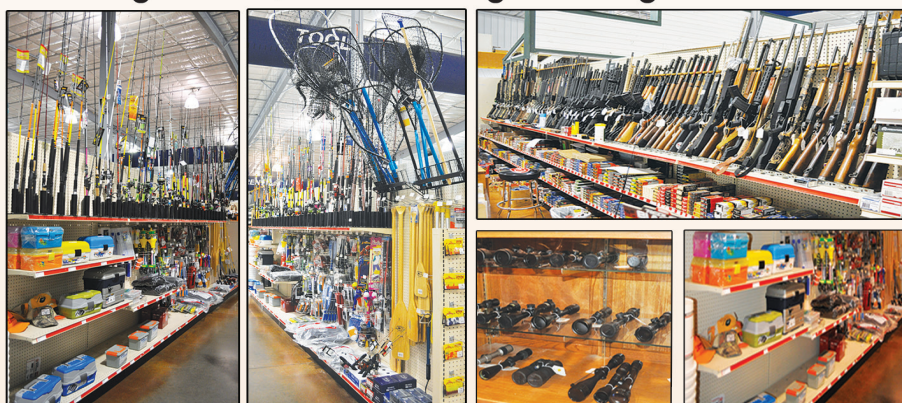
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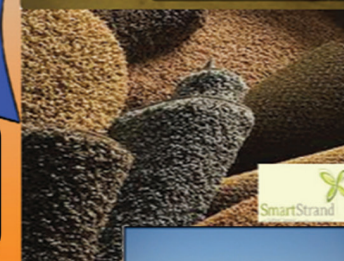
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## Local Events Cancelled

- ★ The NE Texas Symphony League's Independence Concert for Sept. 5 Cancelled for 2020.
- ★ The Hopkins County Dairy Festival set for Aug. 8 is cancelled for 2020.
- ★ The Ms. Hopkins County Senior Classic Pageant set for Aug. 15 is cancelled for 2020.
- ★ The Lone Star Heritage Quilt Guild's annual Quilt Show set for Sept. 19 is cancelled for 2020, however, the Quilt Raffle is going on til that date.
- ★ The Sulphur Springs Corvette Club's Corvette Show set for the 4th Saturday in Oct. is cancelled for 2020.
- ★ The Cattlemen's Classic Ribeye Roundup fundraiser for NETBIO set for Oct. has been cancelled for 2020.

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# Obits



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### **Anthony "Tony" Glenn Peek**

Anthony "Tony" Glenn Peek, age 44, of Brashear passed away on Monday, July 13, 2020, in Sulphur Springs, Texas. There was a come and go visitation held from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, July 18, 2020, at West Oaks Funeral Home. There were no formal funeral services.

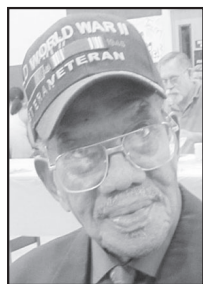
Honorary pallbearers were Luis Alvarez, Jesse Alvarez, David Alvarez, Luis Alvarez, Jr., James Gray, Bobby Joe Griner, Brad Horton, Stevo Olker, Junior Underwood, Terry Dutton, Tommy Poe, and Marlon Comer.

Tony was born on October 28, 1975, in Sulphur Springs, Texas, the son of Joe Peek and Denna Robinson. He worked as a heavy equipment operator for Junior Underwood Sand and Gravel for several years and enjoyed fishing in his spare time.

He is survived by fiancée, Kim Vickery of Sulphur Springs; sons, Alex Peek and Bradley Peek, both of Brashear, Shane Woodfin, Jadon Peek, Kidman Norfleet, Kade Vickery, and Cy Killam, all of Sulphur Springs; daughters, Brooke Michelle Peek of Lewisville and Kyndal Norfleet of Sulphur Springs; brothers, Justin Riley and Jake Riley, both of Sulphur Springs; sister, Joanan Bailey of Sulphur Springs; and grandchildren, ZaKaylin Porter, Alex Peek, Ryleigh Vickery, and Lincoln Vickery.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Joe Peek and Denna Robinson Riley; sister, Christina Poe; and grandson, Kain Ibarra.

Cremation arrangements were under the direction of West Oaks Funeral Home. [www.westoaksfuneralhome.com](http://www.westoaksfuneralhome.com)



### **Cleotha Miller**

Minister Cleotha Miller was born to the parentage of Cal & Annie (Payne) Miller March 15, 1920 in the city of Frankston, TX. In 1955, Minister Miller married Minnie Jean Robinson and to this union a son was born Paul C. Miller on February 23, 1963. Minister & Sis. Miller was married for 45 years before her earthly departure November 24, 2000.

Once completing his education, Minister Miller enlisted into the United States Army in 1940 during WWII and completed five years of service prior to receiving his honorable discharge. Minister Miller was also a Licensed Barber and during this tenure he mentored other barbers. Minister Miller relocated to Fort Worth, TX where he was converted from the Baptist persuasion to Church of Christ. He was baptized into Christ January 1, 1950 under the leadership of Bro. Shelton Gibbs II (Church of Christ at New York & Lauder).

Minister Miller earnestly desired to preach the gospel to many whereas, on the first night of his baptism he preached his first sermon. He served under his mentor Pastor Gibbs II before taking a ministry in Cisco, TX where he ministered for one year.

During his ministry tenure, Minister Miller also worked along with Bro Jesse Vaughn at the Worth Hill congregation. He went on to minister in Longview (4yrs), Big Sandy (1yr), Ardis St. (4yrs), Greenville and Gilmer, TX before planting his roots in the Arbala Community.

In 1970, Minister Miller purchased land in Arbala along with his wife Minnie Jean. Later, they purchased a frame building in which they deeded both (land/building) to the church in Arbala.

As the Lord continued to increase the blessings upon this ministry, a new auditorium was dedicated to the glory of God in 1984. Bro. Miller has labored with the Arbala congregation for over 50yrs. During this tenure, Bro Miller has extended his pulpit to former ministers such as: Pastor David Williams, Pastor Fred Weeks, currently, Pastor Valanderous Bell.

Minister Cleotha Miller leaves to mourn his beloved son Paul C. Miller, Wife (Shirley), grandchildren Schaneil Persley, Darreil Persley and Patrick A. Miller and a brother Willie G. Miller. His parents, wife and other siblings preceded him in death.



### **Ronald Shafer**

Ronald Shafer, age 63, of Sulphur Springs, TX will not have any services at this time. Ronald passed away on Sunday, July 12, 2020 at his residence, in Sulphur Springs, TX.

Ronald was born on July 10, 1957 in Yakima, WA to Vernon and Evelyn Shafer. He worked as a Customer Service Representative for Sprint.

He is survived by his wife, Debra Shafer; children, Chris Deen and wife, Rhonda, Candie Rose and husband, Stephen, and Brandon Deen and wife, Jennifer; and grandchildren, Caleb Deen, Spencer Dilling, McKenzie May, Matthew Deen, Brayden Rose, and Kyler Rose.

Ronald was preceded in death by his parents and grandson, Payton May.



## Miscellaneous

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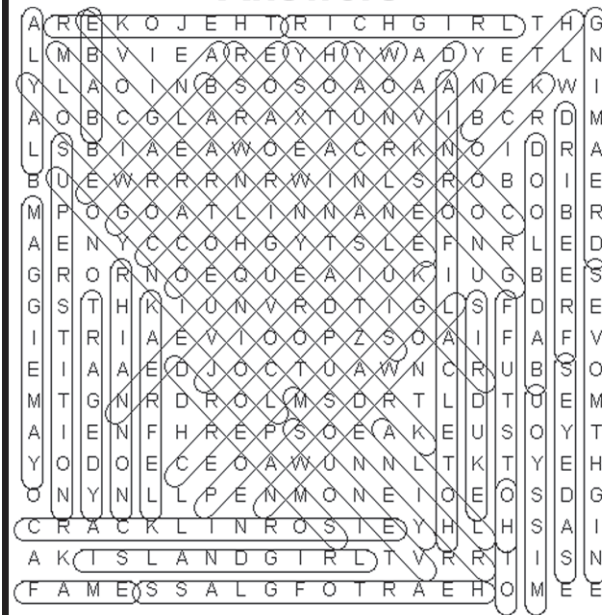
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## EXPLORING TEXAS UNDERGROUND

### Tumbleweed Smith



Tumbleweed Smith

Bill Bentley of Midland belongs to a spelunking group that explores Texas caves. He has been in dark places beneath Texas 40 years.

"I went with some friends back in May of 1980 into some caves near Carlsbad, New Mexico. While we were caving that weekend I got bit by the cave bug."

He's been to a bunch of caves, mostly in Texas and Eastern Arkansas and other states. He has had some interesting adventures.

"I've seen some awfully pretty places. It's really exciting to find what is called virgin passage when your eyes are the first ones to ever view a new cave or a new area of an established cave. It's a thrill to know that no other human has ever looked at what you're seeing. That's when the exploring really pays off."

He says Midland is a good place for cavers because you can go 200 miles in almost any direction to find lots of caves.

"New Mexico's Lincoln National Forest has some of what I call world class caves. They're highly decorated and extremely deep. You have to have ropes to get in and out."

Bill admits that one of the most beautiful caves in Texas is Sonora Caverns. It gets loads of tourists especially in the summer because people are looking for a cool place. It's also warmer than the outside temperature in winter. It's not as deep as some of the caves Bill has visited.

"There's a place in Carlsbad Caverns called Lake of the Clouds. It's the lowest point in Carlsbad Caverns, somewhere around 1,100 feet. Rocks are arranged to look like clouds and there's water all around below. It's a beautiful area. It's also quite warm because we're closer to the center of the earth."

Bill has discovered some new caves.

"Caves are being found all the time. I've found 3 or 4 in my 40 years of exploring. Down in Terrell County we found a cave called Troll Cave, which turned out to be the 11th deepest cave in the state. We explored it thoroughly. In 1981 we found one that had never been fully explored before called the Wizard's Well. I was on one of the last exploring trips in there before the landowner shut it down. We were in there 28 or 30 hours non-stop, just constantly going."

He says Texas has so many caves there's no way to get to all of them. "I think there's something like 20,000 caves in Texas. Some are quite small, but I'd like to try to go to all of them. It would take a lifetime to do that."

The walls of Bill's house have some of the dramatic photos he has taken underground. Some have won national awards.



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