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See page 8!





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PAGE 2

#### THE MILLENNIUM SHOPPER August 19, 2020



#### THE EGG-STROADINARY, EGGS-ASPERATING EGG-SPLOIT... **CAN YOU BELIEVE THIS?**

I enjoy having a 'country kitchen''. My farmhouse (actually just a few blocks from downtown Sulphur Springs) has a big kitchen and there's a lot of activity in there all year round. Possibly like your own, we've doctored animals, raised orphaned offspring, stored seed and started plants in there. Today, whether bringing vegetables in from my garden or fresh eggs from my neighbors' chickens, canning or cooking up big meals (now, mostly when some of the kids come home), the kitchen is still the major hub of the house. There's not much that 100-year-old kitchen hasn't seen! It's decor is 'casually haphazard' with a country rooster-and-hen theme. That brings me to my subject today...a true tale I dare to tell only to close friends like you. The  ${}^{\parallel}$ "Egg-stroadinary and Egg-zasperating Egg-sploit" (or, Egg-zactly What Caused the Eggsplosion in My Kitchen?)

Above the refrigerator, next to the brick chimney which once heated the farmhouse, is a wire egg basket, one like you would use to gather eggs, sitting right next to a statue of a colorful rooster. In the egg basket I have about a dozen fake eggs. Lightweight and hollow, these eggs look quite real, and have been the fascination of several of the grandchildren when they visit Maw. After taking them down and handling them gently, we put them back in place for another time. Truthfully, over the past few years, the egg basket has been undisturbed by little hands as the children have grown, and just receives an occasional dusting. But unbeknownst to me, something truly history-making was looming in the life of the tired old egg basket.

Last Sunday, I was cleaning in the kitchen alone with the doors closed off from the rest of the house. I was over by the windows and doorway to the deck, sorting through some potatoes I planned to cook. Suddenly, I heard a rather loud POP! which really grabbed my attention. I froze, listened and looked. Everything looked normal. The sound from right there in the kitchen had been small but forceful, such as an exploding light bulb might make. But there was no sign of an exploded bulb, jar or anything else which might explain what I'd heard. My eyes scanned the countertops and while I continued looking, an odor began to fill the room, wafting a slightly unpleasant chemical-like smell which grew stronger by the moment. After another glance, I went to wake up Garland who was napping in his recliner. Both he and I looked everywhere in the kitchen from the floor to eye level, finding nothing to solve the mystery! And that's when I decided to look up higher. On top of the refrigerator was the egg basket...could it be? No, it couldn't! Those are only fake eggs! Nevertheless, I reached up for the basket and handed it down.

We noticed bits of egg shell scattered in it as well as the unmistakable goo of a freshly broken egg. Our unbelieving eyes took in the tiny black feathers on the chick-shaped blob! We both stood staring wide-eyed at what could have no explanation! While not alive, the inert chick represented a mystery that was too far-fetched to comprehend, and which could not logically have even happened! After some minutes of expressing surprise, disbelief and head shaking, Garland left me with the basket and trundled back to the recliner (where he claims to do his best thinking). Meanwhile, I cleaned up the mess, restored the egg basket to its place, and cooked lunch. Later that day, Garland revealed a well-formed theory of the exploding egg. He asked. you get fertilized eggs from the neighbor, right? And we had the (16-year-old) twins here earlier this summer, right? You left them alone in the mornings while you went to work, right?" I had to answer yes to all. His conjecture was this: if one of the now-tall boys had reached up and placed a fresh egg into the basket on top of the refrigerator, and the kitchen frequently stays closed off from the air-conditioned dining room, the elevated, warm environment could possibly explain what happened, by adding in it's possible incubation time from mid-July to early August. As a friend, I ask you, do you believe that?



To 'Egg-zactly What Caused the Egg-splosion in my Kitchen', I just draw two truths...only the rooster statue knows for sure, and just wait til those twins come back at Thanksgiving. That will give me time to come up with a good practical joke for those boys! Since August is my birthday month, let me say thanks for all your calls, texts and cards. As 2020 unfolds, let's find the fun in life where we can, and show kindness and love in all things. It's free! Til next week, I will watch for you at The Corral Gate!

Driving, East Texas, hosts erless, as survivors when port for the development of its 8th annual Walk Like we have been victimized, MADD in Sulphur Springs, and with purpose when we Texas, Aug. 3, 2020

ing® (MADD) will host its vision of No More Victims®. Driving®.

main components:

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those who no longer can and alongside those who ity law enforcement, igniare learning to walk again.

Mothers Against Drunk ered even when we feel pow- victed drunk drivers, suphave lost our way.

The East Texas Affiliate of ★ Commit: We walk with Mothers Against Drunk Driv- supporters who share our unique. Due to restrictions signature non-competitive "We walk to finish the job 5K fundraising walk in Sul- that was started by a griev- 5k this year. Rather than phur Springs on Saturday, ing mother in 1980. Now in meeting at Southern Oaks September 26, 2020. The our 40th year, MADD has Church in Sulphur Springs walk will raise funds and ral-saved more than 385,000 and literally walking a 5k, ly support for MADD's Cam- lives and has served more paign to Eliminate Drunk than 840,000 victims," said will be walking on their Tammi Branch, Victim Ser- own. Our walk will kick-Walk like MADD has three vice Specialist with MADD. off with a 10:30 am pre-"Walk Like MADD will raise

help save lives in East Tex-

Funds raised through Walk Like MADD help further MADD's lifesaving mission and the Campaign to Eliminate Drunk Driving, which calls for high-visibiltion interlocks or "in-car ★ Inspire: We walk empow- breathalyzers" for all conadvanced technology and public support for these initiatives.

This year's walk will be on public gatherings we will be walking in a virtual this year our participants sentation on Facebook (continued on pg. 7)

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Miscellaneous

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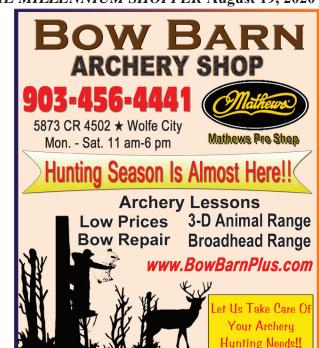
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#### Bonita Lou (Kiker) Bassham

A funeral service for Bonita Lou (Kiker) Bassham, age 91, was held at 11 a.m. Tuesday August 18, 2020, at Murray-Orwosky Funeral Chapel, and visitation began at 10 a.m., prior to the start of the service. Her son-in-law, Bro. Verner Ulrich, officiated and her grandsons served as pallbearers. Honorary pallbearers were her granddaughters. Interment followed at Sulphur Bluff Cemetery.

A resident of Carriage House Manor, Mrs. Bassham passed away Friday, August 14, 2020, at Christus Mother Frances Hospital in Sulphur Springs. She was born October 14, 1928, to Leonard Barclay Kiker and Martha (Fletcher) Kiker in Nelta,

Texas. She attended both Nelta and Sulphur Bluff High School before marrying George Alison Bassham on November 6, 1944, in Sulphur Springs. He preceded her in death in January of this year. In addition to being a devoted wife and mother, Mrs. Bassham worked for 23 years as a supervisor at the H.D. Lee Company and was a faithful member of the Nelta Church of Christ.

She is survived by her son, Michael Bassham and wife Peggy of Sulphur Springs, Texas; daughters, Carolyn Freeman and husband Jimmy of Royse City, Texas, Linda Ulrich and husband Verner of Garland, Texas, and Sharon Rinewalt and husband Mike of Fairview, Texas; 12 grandchildren, Kenneth Freeman of Watauga, Texas, David Freeman of Houston, Texas, Kathleen Demuth of Mansfield, Texas, Christina Jones of Allen, Texas, Keith Dagen of Richardson, Texas, Stephanie George of Greenwood, Arkansas, Kendra Korthauer of Brenham, Texas, Jennifer Dagen of Lucas, Texas, Jonathan Ulrich of Grapevine, Texas, Susan Heflin of Spring, Texas, Jason Ulrich of Garland, Texas, and Lucas Ulrich of Garland, Texas; 21 great-grandchildren; and sister-in-law, Joyce Kiker of Lubbock, Texas.

Mrs. Bassham was preceded in death by her parents; her husband of 75 years; brothers, Barclay Kiker and Billy Kiker; and an infant baby sister.

Memorials may be made to the Sulphur Bluff Cemetery Association.

Arrangements were under the direction of Murray-Orwosky Funeral Home. The online register can be signed at www.murrayorwosky.com



#### Jerri Cross

Graveside service for Jerri Cross, age 81, of Sulphur Springs will be held at 10:00 A.M. on Thursday, August 20 at Restlawn Memorial Park with Bro. Jim Moore officiating and Shane Darlin, Eldon Reynolds, David Townsend, Stanley Townsend, Russell Rollins and Josh Hudson serving as honorary pallbearers. Visitation will be held from 6 to 8 P.M. on Wednesday, August 19, 2020 at Murray-Orwosky Funeral Chapel. Mrs. Cross passed away on Monday, August 17, 2020 at her home. Geraldine "Jerri" Rollins Cross was born on May 16, 1939 in Miller Grove to Frank Rollins and Stella (Brown) Rollins. She married W.E. Cross. She worked for both Rockwell International and J.B. Weld. Jerri was a member of First Baptist Church, Sulphur Springs.

She is survived by her husband, W.E.; son, Robert D Smithers; daughters, Vickie L Smithers and partner, Kay Hudson, Debbie Smithers Darlin; grandchildren, Letha Darlin Reynolds (Eldon), Shane Darlin (Mia), Breanna Koon, Brilynn Hudson, Josh Hudson; fourteen great grandchildren; sisters, Doris Farris, Wanela Townsend, Dollie Barboza.

Jerri was preceded in death by her parents; son, Cory Smithers; brother, Joe Rollins.



#### Bro. Troy Watson

Private graveside service for Bro. Troy Watson, age 65, of Edgewood, Texas will be held at Tira Cemetery with Bro. Charlie Gowin and Bro. Benny Craft officiating. There will be no formal visitation.

Bro. Watson passed away on Thursday, August 13, 2020, at Christus Mother Frances, Tyler, Texas. Troy Lynn was born on November 22, 1954, in Sulphur Springs, Texas, to William Troy and Leveta (Chapman) Watson. He married Maxine Gowin-Cassidy on July 8, 1994, in Balch Springs. Bro. Troy was ordained by Missionary Baptist Association and was Associate Pastor at Silver Lake Baptist Church in Grand Saline, Texas. He also worked as a sales associate at KMOO Radio.

Bro. Troy Lynn Watson was a devout man of God, loving husband, father, grandfather, son, brother, and friend to many others. He is survived by his wife, Maxine; children, Jeremy Lynn Watson and wife, Maria, Tiffany Lashelle Watson and husband, John, Cody Lynn Watson and wife, Chelsea; stepchildren, Marty Cassidy and Nicki Self, Mary Ann Cassidy Brown and Steve Metz; grandchildren, Junior, Shaynie, Johnathan, Kristopher, Jaelynn, Dylan, Hailey, Rusty, Kylie, Kason, Kinzlee, McKenzie, Aaron, Bam; mother, Leveta Watson; sister, Laddie Lovelace and husband, Greg; and many other family members.

Bro. Troy was preceded in death by his father, William Troy Watson, and daughter, Shanda Watson.

Arrangements under the direction of Murray-Orwosky Funeral Home. The online register can be signed at www.murrayorwosky.com

### Walk Like Madd (continued from pg 2)

(facebook.com/MADDTex- 290,000 are injured in drunk as). Participants will then driving crashes every year. money for their teams.

decline in drunk driving time. deaths since MADD was

walk on their own raising In fact, two in three people will be impacted by a drunk Despite a nearly 50 percent driving crash in their life-

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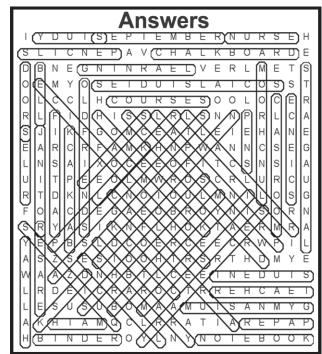
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MADD in their efforts to end designating a non-drinking drunk driving, and we en- driver. MADD's Campaign courage everyone to regis- to Eliminate Drunk Driving® calls for law enforce-There are several ways to ment support, ignition participate in Walk Like interlocks for all offenders and advanced vehicle ★ Donate – Give to a par- technology. MADD has proticipant or a team to help vided supportive services them reach their fundraising to nearly one million drunk and drugged driving victims ★ Be a virtual walker – Walk and survivors at no charge on your own and raise mon-through local victim advoey for this important cause. cates and the 24-Hour Vic-★ Sponsor - Consider be- tim Help Line 1-877-MADDcoming an official event HELP. Visit www.madd.org

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#### THE MASK MAKERS IN SEMINOLE



Tina Siemens works with the Heritage Project in Seminole. It's a group that does research on the history of the Mennonites. Tina wrote a book titled SEMINOLE about the immigration of Mennonites to Seminole. Tina says the group was looking for ways to help out during the Corona crisis. They looked into making masks for medical personnel and first responders.

"I know a lot of people who have sewing machines. All of the Mennonite ladies can sew. On our Facebook page I posted a message that said if anyone with a sewing machine would be

interested in making masks, be at my house at 4 PM tomorrow." Ten women were at her door at 4 PM the next day. Eventually the number of women making masks in Seminole was seven times that.

"I have coordinated seventy plus women. Two of them were non-Mennonites and the others were all Mennonite ladies. The number included many grandmas, daughters, daughters in law and granddaughters. Mostly they make the masks individually at their homes. But I went into one home and around a large table six women were at the sewing machines making masks."

Tina made a sample mask as a pattern. She got it from the Internet. She added one special feature.

"I came up with the idea of having a slit in the face side so you can insert a panty liner as a moisture barrier as well as a filter. I heard that in China ladies were using a feminine napkin as a mask. I didn't think that was appropriate." The project has been going on 4 months now. The ladies have created 2,363 masks so far. Tina is a pro now and can make a mask in ten minutes. She has sent them all over the country, some to elected officials in Austin and Washing-

Tina did some research and found out cotton was the preferred material to use. The pastor of the First Baptist Church in Seminole helped out.

"He announced to his congregation that anybody that has cotton material please get it to Tina Siemens. I now have bags and bags of cotton material that has been donated. We can make lots of masks."

Tina's 74-year-old father got involved.

"He saw me being busy with the masks and said he wanted to try it. So he got out his sewing machine that he had bought at an estate sale in Canyon years ago. He said he had it tuned and asked me to show him how to make a mask. So I have pictures and videos of my dad sewing masks for this project at age 74.

"Tina says there are other women in Seminole making masks. They just wanted to help. It seemed like the natural 1 thing to do.

"It has been such a great experience to see the community come together. When our country is in need there are always people to step up to the plate and help."



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