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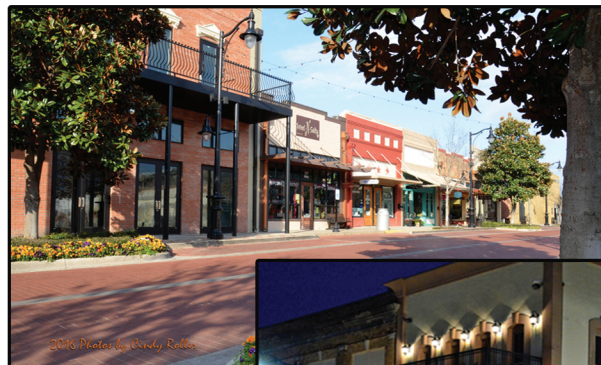


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- ★ A study in Grand Rapids, Michigan, found that if 600,000 people shifted 10 percent of their spending to local stores, the following would be created locally within one year: 1,600 jobs; \$137 million in new economic activity; and \$53 million in new wages.

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- ★ Seek out a local business you’ve never been to and see what they have to offer.
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- ★ Eat lunch at a local eatery instead of a chain restaurant.
- ★ Purchase birthday gifts at a local gift shop.
- ★ Frequent your community’s Farmer’s Market for your produce.
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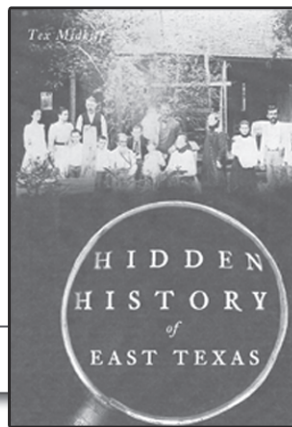


Tex Midkiff in Pursuit of History in Texas

I met a delightful fisherman/author who lives, where else? but on Lake Fork, Texas. He and his wife La Juana built a rustic charmer in a wooded vale teeming with deer a stone's throw from the Birch Creek bridge. I already owned his latest book, Hidden History of Texas... before I was blessed to sit down in his writing study on a pleasant Fall afternoon. Conversation was the relaxed, rambling kind, moving through memorable experiences, bordering on laughter as well as tears, and ending up where we both are now in life, senior citizens with stories we want to share. I found out he loves Texas about as much as I do...and knows much more about the state due to extensive research as broad as our state. Now, I want you to meet him too!

Tex Midkiff is a writer, storyteller, local historian, and a retired VP of an international security concern. Although Tex was 'born here', his ancestors could not make that claim, because they arrived too early! Peter Ellis Bean, the husband of his GGGG Aunt, Candace Midkiff came to Texas with the Philip Nolan expedition in 1800 when it was still "New Spain."

Cover of his current book.



Tex's love of East Texas and Texas history has its roots in these early settlements. The Candace Midkiff Bean 1936 Texas Centennial Marker reads in part: "one of those pioneer women who braved the menace of Indians and frontier life and rocked the cradle of Texas liberty."

Tex was baptized in the Trinity River and raised in the piney woods of East Texas. He is the consummate mythical male Texan, with roots firmly planted in the sandy loam covered by the likes of J. Frank Dobie, John Henry Faulk, and Larry McMurtry. You might even call Tex the "Ditto-head Antonym" of Molly Ivins!

Tex is published - - some of his best work appears in newspapers and magazines. And, he has written three books,

Divorce Made SIMPLE (In 100 Difficult and Very Expensive Lessons)

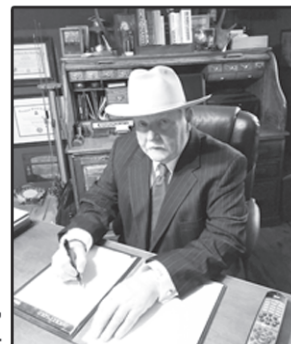
Some People Call It (poetry)

The Midkiffs - Early Tejas Settlers, Sons of Old Virginia

Tex and his wife, LaJuana, reside at Lake Fork near Yantis, Texas.

Although Tex and I don't agree on every subject, I'm sure he will concur that this part of Texas attracts some of the most fascinating people!

Til next week, I will watch for you at the Corral Gate!



Tex Midkiff, historian, writer.

Miscellaneous

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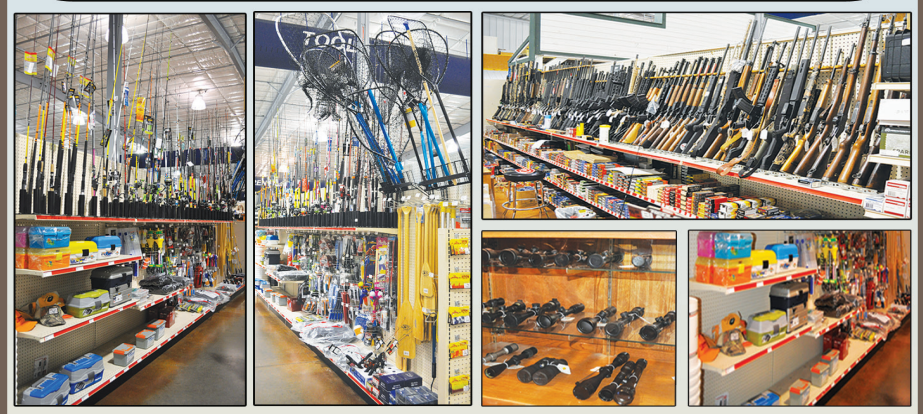
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2. You Embrace What Makes Your Community Unique

You wouldn't want your house to look like everyone else's in the world would you? So why would you want your community to look that way?

3. You Create Local Jobs

Local businesses are better at creating higher-paying jobs for your neighbors. When you shop locally, you help create jobs for teachers, firemen, police officers and many other essential professions.

4. You Help The Environment

Buying from a locally owned business conserves energy and resources in the form of less fuel for transportation and less packaging.

5. You Nurture Community

Local business owners know you and you know them. Studies have shown that local businesses donate to community causes at more than twice the rate of chains.

6. You Conserve Your Tax Dollars

Shopping in a local business district means less infrastructure, less maintenance and more money available to beautify your community. Also, spending locally instead of online ensures that your sales taxes are reinvested where they belong – in your community!

7. You Create More Choice

Locally owned businesses pick the items and products they sell based on what they know you like and want. Local businesses carry a wider array of unique products because they buy for their own individual markets.

8. You Took Advantage Of Their Expertise

You are their friends and neighbors and locally owned businesses have a vested interest in knowing how to serve you. They're passionate about what they do. What not take advantage of it?

9. You Invested In Entrepreneurship

Creativity and entrepreneurship are what the American economy is founded upon. Nurturing local business ensures a strong community.

10. You Made Your Community A Destination

The more interesting and unique your community, the more we will attract new neighbors, visitors and guests. This benefits everyone!

Information was compiled from Civic Economics and Independent We Stand.



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Marlene Kay Icenhower

Visitation for Marlene Kay Icenhower, age 60, of Sulphur Springs, was held from 5:00 to 7:00 P.M. on Tuesday, November 24, 2020 at Murray Orwosky Funeral Home. Ms. Icenhower passed away Friday, November 20, 2020 at her home.

She born June 13, 1960, in Fort Stockton, TX, the daughter of Billy Ray Hatley and Rosie Katie Jones Hatley. She worked as a nurse until she retired.

She is survived by her children; Christie Pierson and husband Greg, of Como and Ronnie Blaine Icenhower of Sulphur Springs; brother: George Hatley of Sulphur Springs; grandchildren: Chasen Icenhower, Talon Pierson, Stevie Pierson, Brooklynn Icenhower, Bentley Icenhower and Cris Cortez.

Marlene was preceded in death by her parents: Billy Ray and Rosie Katie Jones Hatley; sister: Tina Brown; brothers: Billy Hatley, Bobby Hatley and Jesse Hatley.

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



Joe Wayne "Papaw" Jordan

Graveside service for Joe Wayne "Papaw" Jordan, age 94, of Sulphur Springs will be held at 11:00 A.M. on Wednesday, November 25, 2020 at Pontotoc Cemetery, Pontotoc, Oklahoma. There will be no formal visitation. Mr. Jordan passed away on Sunday, November 22, 2020.

Joe was born on September 1, 1926 in Fitzhugh, OK to John and Estelle (Jones) Jordan. He married Meleta Winton on March 21, 1948 in Fittstown, OK. He served in the U.S Army. Joe was a pipefitter and a member of the Pipefitters Union. He was an avid gardener and fisherman. Joe was a member of the Cedar Crest Christian Church.

He is survived by his children, Jo Ann Steele and husband, Keith of Sulphur Springs, Mike Jordan and wife, Gale of Corsicana; grandchildren, KJ Steele and wife, Erin, Casey Steele, Brett Watson Jordan, Tyler Mahan, Tyler Reed Jordan;

brothers, Onus and Cotton Jordan.

Joe was preceded in death by his parents and wife.

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



Phil Gamblin

A funeral service for Phil Gamblin, age 69, of Como was held at 2:00 P.M. on Sunday, November 22, 2020 at First Baptist Church- Sanctuary, Sulphur Springs. Interment followed at the Como Cemetery. Visitation was held from 6 to 8 PM on Saturday, November 21, 2020 at Murray-Orwosky Funeral Chapel. Mr. Gamblin passed away on Thursday, November 19, 2020 at Hospice of East Texas, Tyler.

Phil was born on September 26, 1951 in Sulphur Springs to James Hugh Gamblin and Bennie Lou Nichols. He married Norma Sue Reed in Martin Springs, Texas on June 8, 1974. Phil and Norma worked together in the dairy industry for 43 years. After retiring from the dairy, he enjoyed working at Bell Concrete.

He is survived by his wife, Norma; sons, Philip Gamblin and wife, Angela, Walter Gamblin and wife, Jessica; grandchildren, Clifton Gamblin, Caleigh Gamblin, Cash Gamblin, Sam Gamblin, Bella Gamblin; brother-in-law, Danny Reed;

nieces and nephews, Sara Walker and husband, David, Scotty Reed and wife, Darla; great nephews, Hunter Walker, Haydan Walker, Jackson Reed, Marley Reed. Phil was preceded in death by his father and brother, Randy Gamblin.

Memorials can be made to Como Cemetery Association.

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



Jack Perkins

A funeral service for Jack Perkins, Sr. age 76, of Pickton was held at 2:00 P.M. on Monday, November 23, 2020 at Murray-Orwosky Funeral Chapel. Interment followed at Weaver Cemetery. Visitation was held on Sunday night from 6 to 8 P.M. at Murray-Orwosky Funeral Chapel. Mr. Perkins passed away on Thursday, November 19, 2020.

Jack Hayden Perkins Sr. was born on September 2, 1944 in Weaver, TX to J.C. Perkins and Thelma Chester. He was a Truck Driver by trade. Jack was a supporter of the SW Dairy Museum and a member of Cross Spur Cowboy Church.

He is survived by his daughter, Cindy Butler of Pickton; step-son, Shannon Gaines, Cumby; grandchildren, Hayley Gaines, Brittney Bradley, Hayden Hollen, Jesse Butler and Skylar Gaines; nine great grandchildren; sister, Linda Hall of Mount Pleasant; brother, Billy Perkins of Sulphur Springs.

Jack was preceded in death by his parents; sons, Jack Hayden Perkins Jr, Patrick Lee Perkins; step-daughter, Kelly Ann Gaines.

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

Miscellaneous

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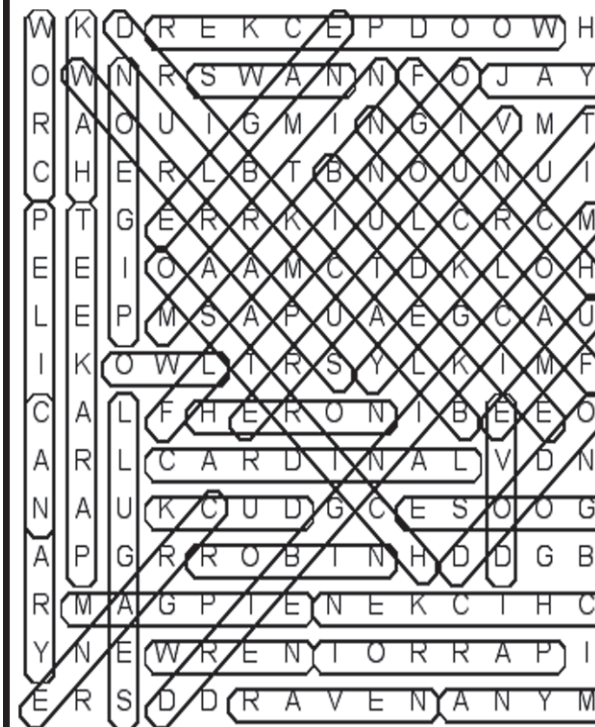
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Tumbleweed Smith

When Clayton Capps of Salado was a youngster, his parents took him to a Disney movie that featured a Volkswagen named Herbie. That fascinated him.

"When I saw this Volkswagen bug doing all these tricks and being very kind to the little boy that was in the movie and stuff like that I thought it was such a neat character. Of course when I was five years old I thought the car was actually alive. From then on, I just always told my parents that when I turned 16 years old I want to get a Volkswagen."

Sure enough, that's what happened.

"I started saving up money and mom pitched in some, too and I bought my first Volkswagen in October of 1990, one month before I turned 16. It was a 1974 model from the year I was born. I still have that car, but it's in the process of being updated. Matter of fact the body is off the chassis and I'm working on it."

Clayton's love of VWs continues. He drives one now.

"I've driven a 1963 Herbie replica from the Disney movie since 2005. I've got it painted like Herbie. It's off white with red, white and blue stripes down it and the number 53 on the front and back and both doors. 53 was the race number they put on the car."

The original owner kept meticulous records of the mileage. He used it as a work car and took it on vacations all over the US, Canada and Mexico.

"He was an auditor for the US Department of Agriculture and he covered Texas, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Louisiana. He had to keep a logbook for the government on his mileage. He drove that car in his career 600,000 miles. And since 2005, when I got it, I've put 420,000 miles on it myself. On May 9th, 2020, I rolled the official, documented millionth mile on that car."

Clayton has a fleet of Volkswagens.

"I currently have 20 Volkswagens, but out of the 20 only 7 run. I keep them on my acreage here in Salado. I drive around a thousand miles a month and I'll be driving along a country road and see one or find one on Facebook. I'll buy it for an inexpensive price. Some I've bought are just wrecks but fortunately I've got a mechanic here who helps me work on them."

Clayton loves to go to VW club events. When I interviewed him he had just returned from one in Weatherford. He left for Weatherford after he finished his job as a school bus driver. He made the drive, went to the meeting and returned home that same night.

"I love to get out of the house and cruise the roads and interstates of Texas."

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Tips for Thanksgiving Safety.....

With Thanksgiving just right around the corner, people are already finalizing their plans for the holiday amid the pandemic. With in-person gatherings still posing a health risk, many are opting to celebrate virtually. Overall, postponing travel and staying home are the best way to avoid contracting the coronavirus and spreading it to loved ones.

For those considering meeting up with families and friends from different households, here are several safety guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) that might be of help when preparing to attend a social gathering:

1. Wear a mask.
2. Stay at least 6' away from people living in other residences.
3. Wash hands.
4. Bring own utensils, plates and cups.
5. Do not go in and out of areas where food is being prepared.
6. Attendees should check themselves for symptoms.
7. Consider the place and duration of the gathering.
8. Avoid contact with anyone who is sick.
9. Avoid taking alcohol or drugs that may alter judgment.
10. Prepare a plan if exposed to the virus.

Before attending the gathering, all guests should have a plan prepared in case they end up being exposed to the virus. All attendees should self-isolate for at least 14 days after contact with the person who has COVID-19. Guests should also watch out for developing symptoms and avoid travel until after two weeks from the last possible exposure to the virus.



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HAPPY
Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving Day is a national holiday in the United States, and Thanksgiving 2020 occurs on Thursday, November 26. In 1621, the Plymouth colonists and Wampanoag Native Americans shared an autumn harvest feast that is acknowledged today as one of the first Thanksgiving celebrations in the colonies.

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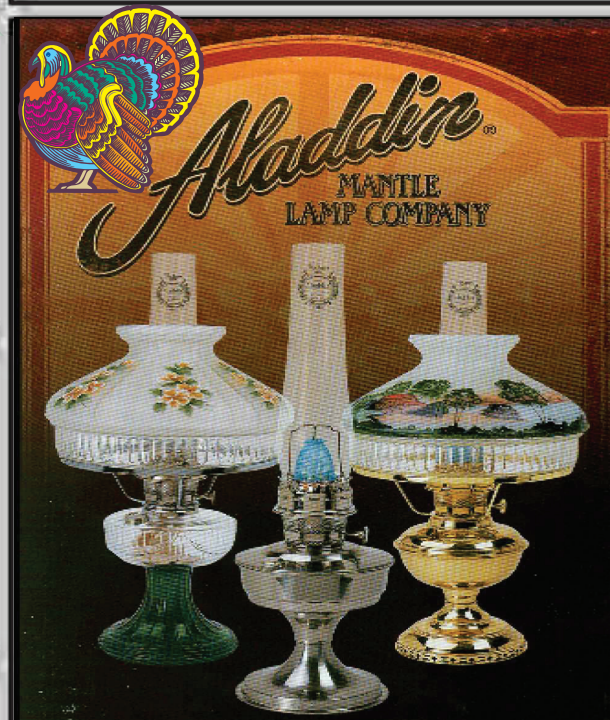
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