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Northeast Texas Becomes a One-Day Winter Wonderland in New Year

On Sunday January 10, 2021, a pristine afternoon snowfall delighted youngsters and sent families outdoors to snap photos of the snowpeople they constructed. In Sulphur Springs, the snow began just after church was over, and by early afternoon the big fluffy flakes briskly pelting Snowman-building became the excitement of the day and I saw moms and dads making videos of the young ones who'd never seen



Snowfall at Coleman Lake in Sulphur Springs

snow before! I heard happy cries and laughter in my neighborhood as kids romped outdoors. And though quite large already, my neighbor's puppy was pawing and cavorting in the cold, white stuff and yipping his excitement. The snow gave me a chance to briefly wear a new pair of boots I bought for cold weather before I went in for a hot cup of tea.

I reflected that snowfalls are rare now in NE Texas. More rare than in decades past. While staying near my living room heat source, I decided to clean out a storage tub of old clippings and articles. In there I found an amazing fact from an interview I'd done years ago with a young woman from Russia. Kristina, the visiting missionary, was talking about her impressions of being in Texas, and mentioned that there are no tornadoes in Russia. (See why I save this valuable information?) Yes, they have them but are quite rare. There were only eleven tornadoes in Russia on record between 1904 and 2011. See, we might never have known this fact if not for my habit of saving stuff! And did you know that Russia is fifth in the world for the most annually consumed tea? Black tea is most popular there. Although I do not like cold weather one single bit, learning of their affinity for tea did make me feel a bit closer to the people of frigid Russia. Like me, they turn to tea to bring a sense of warmth, love and momentary peace. I say Bravo for them! (and in Russian that would be "Epabo" but the pronunciation eludes me). So, before I tossed out the space-gobbling final vestiges of the 'forgotten archives', I harvested just enough to share with you on the occasional 'slow week' we writers must deal with.

I hope you are warm, well and content as we enter January 2021. Will it be friendly or fierce, tumultuous or tranquil? I guess we are all wondering that. Armed with personal balance, frequent prayer and a fortifying cup of strong tea, let's forge ahead and find out, what do ya say?



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

Moving Sale

Moving Sale! 906 S. Da- GENERAC vis. 9 am til dark. House by Generators. all is sold.

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Miscellaneous

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Miscellaneous

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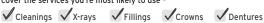
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Miscellaneous

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Tractors, clean & kept in barn: JD 4440, late model, C/A, s/n 95830R; JD 4640, C/A, s/n 19416; JD 4430, C/A, loader, s/n 12275R; Ford 3000 diesel; MF 65 LP; set of 18.4-38 duals. Hay Equip.: like new, JD 348 wire square baler; JD 567 round baler, net wrap; Case-IH 133 GN 13ft. mower conditioner; Kuhn GMD 700 3-pt. disc mower. Bermuda King 6-row 20"grass Sprigger, very little use, kept in barn. Combine: JD 4420 w/JD 220 header. **Equip.:** JD 235 21ft. disk; JD square beam 28 disk surflex; JD 8300 23x7 grain drill; JD 7000 6-R 30" planter; 3-pt. 15' chisel plow; 3-pt. 24' field cultivator; JD 3-pt. 3-bottom roll over plow; pull type 300 gal., 26ft. boom & 500 gal 3-pt, 24ft. boom sprayers; Kiser Edge 3-pt . 8ft. arena leveler; 8ft. HD drag chain harrow; Frontier 3-pt. 5ft. landscape rake; 3-pt. 3-shank ripper. **Vehicles:** 2004 Ford F150XLT extended cab pickup; 1990 Ford F350 flatbed service truck. Trailers: BP 20ft. 3'6"sides, 4-wheel; 16ft. 3'6" sides, 4-wheel; GN 12ft. tandem axle grain box; BP 16ft. w/high sides & top, tandem axle; (4) BP 4-wheel flat beds. Livestock panels; (19) Priefert 5'x12' brown, (3) w/gates. **Hay:** approx.. (50) 5'x6' Bermuda round bales. Shop tools and shop related items. Also selling the Hodgkinson Estate Tractors: JD4320, s/n 015163; JD 3020, s/n 068357; Case 730 wide front, s/n 8276627, showing 4783 hrs. and **Equip.:** Tyler bulk spreader, pto driven; Crustbuster 13ft. offset disk; Mohawk 1360 15ft. hyd. folding shredder; JD 260 hay cutter; 8ft. angle blade; 8ft. box blade; WW 16ft. tandem axle livestock trailer; Ford 3-pt. hay rake. Much more.

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Obits



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500 Hillcrest Dr., Sulphur Springs, Tx. 75482

http://www.westoaksfuneralhome.com



Gaylon Claude Price

Graveside service for Gaylon Claude Price, age 88, of Sulphur Springs, were held at 2:30p.m. Tuesday, January 12, 2021 at Restlawn Memorial Park with David Froneberger officiating. Pallbearers were his grandsons, Adam Abercrombie, Trey Neighbors, Dustin McClendon, Brent McClendon, Don Bell, Jr. and Jeremy Froneberger. Visitation was 1:00-2:00p.m., Tuesday, January 12, 2021 at Murray- Orwosky Funeral Home. Gaylon passed away Saturday, January 9, 2021 at his residence.

Gaylon Claude Price was born in Dallas, TX on March 26, 1932. He was the son of Gaylon Clyde and Eva Mable (Lusk) Price, both preceded him in death. He also had four sisters who preceded him in death, Val Birdsong, Mary Wegley, Shirley Nichols, and Leila Edwards. He was of the Methodist faith. Gaylon graduated from Pickton High School in 1950 and attended Texas A&M University in College Station, TX prior to enlisting in the U.S. Navy. After four years in the Navy, he worked for Braniff Airways in Dallas, TX and at the same time went to Aviation School to become a pilot. In 1960, he started flying for Airlife International,

Inc. in Miami, FL. During his career, he earned Airline Transport Rating, Multi-Engine Rating, and an Aircraft and Powerplant certificate. He flew Captain on the C-46 and DC-7. He flew the Argosy (a four engine turboprop), DC-707 and DC-8. He retired from Airlift and went to work for E-Systems in Greenville, TX for three years. He entered private business, owning P&G Flower Nursery for ten years. After leaving the nursery business, he drove 18-wheelers for J.B. Hunt, Challenge Door and Golden Transport. He also drove cars for Gober-Merrell Chevrolet Co. in Sulphur Springs, TX.

He married Peggy Murl Norman in Pine Forest on August 31, 1952; she survives. Together they had four daughters, two of which preceded him in death, Peggy Anne Price and Salli Price McClendon. Two other daughters, Patti Price Froneberger and husband, David, of Sulphur Springs and Cindy Price Neighbors and husband, Richard, of Quitman, and Jay McClendon, son-in-law of Sulphur Springs survive. In addition, he is survived by twenty grandchildren, Don Bell, Jr. and wife, Marchelle; Kelly Bell Shutt and husband, Brent; Lisa Bell Williamson and husband, Dan; Dee Ann Hoelscher; Jeremy Froneberger and wife Kari; Dustin McClendon and wife, Janiece; Brent McClendon and wife, Lacey; Cassie Maness and husband, Jason; Adam Abercrombie and wife, Jennifer; and Trey Neighbors and wife, Katlyn.

In addition he is survived by 19 great-grandchildren, Juliette and Emma Bell, Sadie and Sawyer Shutt, Braelynne and Avery Williamson, Jessica Hoelscher Hall and Macey Hoelscher, Kate and Lauren McClendon, Slayton and Elle McClendon, Charlie Jo Maness, Parker Abercrombie, Mary Caroline and Mackenzie Neighbors, Luke Froneberger, Ava Lynn and Ben Draper, as well as several nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews.

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



Mattie Lou McCracken Mannon

Funeral services for Mattie Lou McCracken Mannon, age 80, of Sulphur Springs, were held at 2:00 p.m., Saturday, January 9, 2021 at West Oaks Funeral Home Chapel with Bro. Johnny Wheat officiating and Bro. Donny Berry assisting. Great-grandson, Levi Barnes will be reading The Lord's Prayer. Interment followed at Sulphur Springs City Cemetery with Brian Beadle, Jason Beadle, Stan Fisher, Wayne Wilkerson, Bo Bratton, Asher Dial, and Tim Power serving as pallbearers. Visitation was held from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., Friday, January 8, 2021. Lou passed away on Wednesday, January 6, 2021 at Christus Trinity Mother Frances Hospital in Tyler.

She was born on February 29, 1940 in Sulphur Springs, the daughter of William E. and Mary Elizabeth Smith McCracken. She married Russell Mannon on March 9, 1957 in Sulphur Springs. He preceded her in death November 11, 2003. She retired from Alliance Bank as bank teller and was a member of Lake Highlands Baptist Church. Lou loved her church, loved spending time

with her family, her Alliance Bank alumni, and never missed her favorite show, Wheel of Fortune.

She is survived by son, Walt Mannon and wife Cindy of Sulphur Springs, grandchildren, Rusty and Natalie Mannon, Brandy and Stan Fisher, Jennifer and Bo Bratton, Shane and Wendee Mannon, Meredith and Asher Dial, Minta Mannon and fiance Wayne Wilkerson, numerous great-grandchildren, brother, Raymond Byrd McCracken and wife Sandra of Greenville, and numerous nieces, nephews, and friends. In addition to her husband, Lou was preceded in death by son, Marty Mannon, parents, and numerous brothers and sisters.

Arrangements were under the direction of West Oaks Funeral Home.



Charles Froneberger

Dr. Charles William Froneberger of Ira, Texas, formerly of Sulphur Springs, passed away Monday, January 11, 2021 of Covid. He was a retired veterinarian.

He was the son of Mr. and Mrs. E.L. Froneberger and a 1963 graduate of SSHS where he was an exceptional athlete. He attended Baylor University on a football scholarship and then graduated from East Texas State University where he also had a football scholarship. After graduation he coached high school football for a few years and then went back to college and graduated from Texas A&M Veterinarian school.

He is survived by his wife, Lynda of Ira, and daughters Elizabeth Rae McManus of Atlanta, La., and Kali Sorrels of Snyder, Texas, and a brother Gerald Froneberger and sister Kay Froneberger Vondall both of Sulphur Springs and many friends in this area.

Memorial services will be held at a later date.

THE MILLENNIUM SHOPPER January 13, 2021

PAGE 7

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GOING BACK HOME TO MERKEL

Tumbleweed Smith

There must be a strong pull for people who grew up in Merkel, left to have successful careers, then returned to their hometown. I met a bunch of them recently. They are confident, poised

and happy to be back home. One is a former NASA scientist who is now writing poetry. Another was a real estate mogul in Austin who returned to Merkel and opened two restaurants. Roger Moore had an awardwinning advertising agency for 25 years, and then came home to manage Merkel's Chamber of Commerce and Economic Development.

The group of about a dozen gets together every morning at 10 on a sidewalk across the street from the coffee shop where they used to meet. The coffee shop closed due to the Corona virus. They are a happy bunch. I'll call them curbers because sometimes they'll sit on the curb. The city has provided a bench, but it's seldom used.

The conversation is constant and loud, laced with laughter. These guys have a good time. They've known each other most of their lives and their friendships are solid. Sometimes neighbors will drive by, stop in the middle of the street, have a short visit (while staying in their vehicle) with the curbers, and then drive off. A passing train gets lots of attention. "It's going to New York City," someone will say. Now that cold weather is here, the meetings are shorter. Usually the "stay time" is about an hour.

Roger is still doing some advertising for long-time clients. He has drawn pictures since he was three, something his mother encouraged him to do. He enjoyed doing cartoons while in college at McMurry where he had a track scholarship. He majored in English Literature. Roger is a former teacher and coach (Sterling City and Hamlin) and has a big interest in Texas History. He worked for a textbook company for 6 years, then decided to get serious about his cartooning. He walked into a small newspaper office in Austin and said, "You need a cartoonist." The owner agreed and told Roger he could do a weekly cartoon for \$25 each. That led Roger into the advertising business.

Roger's cartoons now appear weekly in 25 Texas newspapers. "I come up with an idea first, do the caption, then draw the cartoon," he says. "The hard part is coming up with some clever idea." He has written a number of books on Texas history. His latest two are aimed at pre-kindergarten age kids. They are designed so parents can teach their kids to read. One is titled CRITTERS OF THE LONE STAR STATE and has cartoons of some legendary Texas critters: rattlesnake, javelinas, jackrabbit, armadillo and horny toad. Another book is called SLIM'S HAT and shows the many uses of a cowboy hat. He calls his books Tex Books.

Roger is best known for his Texas Calendars that start every year on March second. "That's Texas Independence Day. We start our calendars when Texas started." Throughout the year the calendar mentions Texas historical events and personalities. He has been producing his calendar 23 years. His books and calendars are available at texascalendars.com.

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|----------------------------------|-------------|------------------------|
| 2018 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 LT | .stk# P1801 | Sale Price \$38,500** |
| 2018 GMC Sierra 1500 SLT | stk# 3974A | .Sale Price \$37,680** |
| 2014 Chevrolet Malibu LT | stk# 3834A | Sale Price 9,834** |
| 2017 Chevrolet Trax LS | stk# 3855B | Sale Price\$10,773** |
| 2019 Chevrolet Cruze LT | stk# P1835 | Sale Price \$15,034** |
| 2018 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 LT | | |
| 2015 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 LT | .stk# 3935A | Sale Price \$25,805** |

SALES HOURS:

Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-7:00 PM Sat. 9:00 AM-6:00 PM Sun.

Closed

(1) NOT AVAILABLE WITH SPECIAL FINANCE OR LEASE OFFERS, TAKE NEW RETAIL DELIVERY BY 1/31/21, **SALES PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE TAX, TITLE, LICENSE, AND ALL APPLICABLE FEES, SEE

HUNDREDS OF CARS & TRUCKS HAVE BEEN ASSEMBLED

LOCAL TRADE-INS, DEALERSHIP PRE-OWNED VEHICLES RENTAL AND LEASE RETURNS AND PRE-AUCTION