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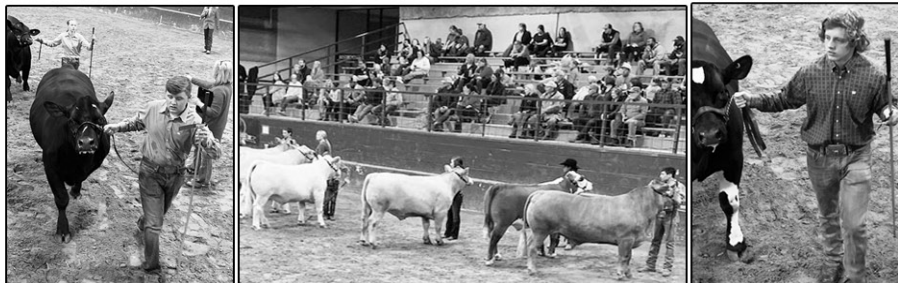
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- Business Page-March 10
- Spring Section-March 17
- Dining Page-March 17

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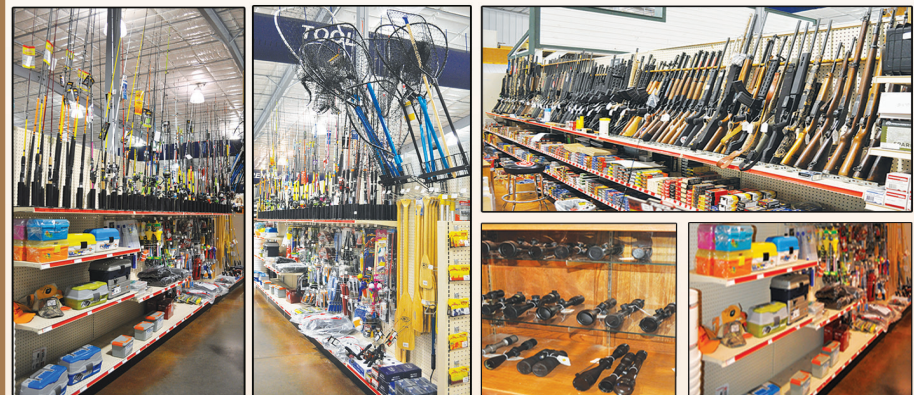
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Elaine Ashby

February 6, 1941 - February 26, 2021 (age 80)

Services pending at Murray -Orwosky Funeral Home.



Nell Payne

Funeral service for Nell Payne, age 88, of Weaver, TX. will be held at 11:00 A.M on Friday, March 5, 2021 at Weaver Baptist Church with Bro. Tom Friday officiating. Interment will follow at Weaver Cemetery with Gary Ross, Rick Shaver, Robert Flewelling, Chuck Rollins, Ricky McCCelland, Brock Mullino, Randy Davison and Mike Payne serving as pallbearers. Honorary pallbearers will be Billy Gene Davison, James Edward, Tommy Winstead, Leo Matthews and James Backster. Visitation will be held on Thursday, March 4, 2021 from 6:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M. at Murray-Orwosky Funeral Chapel. Mrs. Payne passed away on February 26, 2021 at her residence.

Nell was born on August 8, in Cooper, TX to Eutah and Mary (Cavanaugh) McGuyer. She married George Payne on May 12, 1951 in Texarkana, Arkansas.

In a community full of amazing women, Nell was a beacon of strength and beauty. She was a central figure at Weaver Baptist Church as she printed the bulletin until her final year. She also served as Secretary and Treasurer for the Weaver Cemetery for over 25 years. To her kids and grandkids she was simply known as mama or grams. She was the matriarch of the Payne family and the glue that held everything together. After losing her husband 30 years ago, she continued to support and guide the family on a daily basis. She is survived by her sons, Junior, Ricky, and Scott Payne; grandchildren, Jennifer Evans and Cory Payne, Haylee and Daniel Bercaw, Micah and Krystal Payne, Miles and Richelle Payne; great grandchildren, Aubree Evans, Quinn Payne, Isaiah, Ethan, and Titus Bercaw, Ayden, Avery, and Max Payne; brothers, Jimmy McGuyer and wife, Betty, and Charles McGuyer; sister, Delores Osborn and husband, Gerald.

Nell was preceded in death by her parents; husband; grandson-in-law, Clay Evans; brothers, Gary McGuyer and John William McGuyer; father and mother-in-law, Alger and Ola Payne.

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



Juanita "Dimples" Pogue Hooks

Private family graveside services for Juanita "Dimples" Pogue Hooks, age 91, of Sulphur Springs, will be held at Sulphur Springs City Cemetery with Bro. Fred Lewis officiating. There will be no formal visitation. Dimples passed away on Monday, February 22, 2021 at Carriage House Manor. She was born on January 1, 1930 in Bruni, TX, the daughter of Raymond and Jimmie Meek Pogue. She worked as a cook for a preschool for many years and was a member of First Baptist Church of Sulphur Springs. She is survived by brother, Dick Pogue, nieces and nephews, Tamara Pogue Keck and husband Frank, Paul Pogue and wife Stephanie, Jim Gill and wife Twila, Gina Gill Hicks, and many grandnieces and grandnephews. She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, J.W. Hooks, and sister, Alice Pogue Francis. Arrangements are under the direction of West Oaks Funeral Home. www.westoaksfuneralhome.com



Vaden Richey December 13, 1928 - February 24, 2021 (age 92)

Funeral service for Vaden Richey, age 92, of Sulphur Springs, TX will be held at 2:00P.M. on Sunday, February 28, 2021 at Murray-Orwosky Funeral Chapel with Shane Carrington officiating and Andy Wright assisting. Interment will follow at Tira Cemetery with Jordan Grant, Morgan Richey, Klint King, Randy Conley, Mark Conley and Damon Richey serving as pallbearers. Honorary pallbearers will be Dr. Darren Arnecke, Dr. Bill Dietze, Tommy Long, Richard Teer, Lewis Watts, Charley Dickey, Spencer Hinkle, Chad Joslin, Robert Aiguier and Bill Aiguier. Visitation will be held one hour prior to the service. Mr. Richey passed away on February 24, 2021 at Wesley Oaks Memory Care.

Vaden was born on December 13, 1928 in Sulphur Springs, TX to Clarence and Alice Erma (Vaden) Richey. He married Geraldine "Jerry" Chapman on September 1, 1950 in Commerce, TX. Vaden was a 1947 graduate of North Hopkins HS and earned his Bachelor of Science in 1950 and his Master of Science in 1960 from East Texas State University.

He is survived by his son, Michael Richey and wife, Mary; daughter, Deanna Grant and husband, Jackie; grandchildren, Jordan Richey Grant and wife, Leah, Whitney Grant King and husband, Klint, and Morgan Vaden Richey and wife, Kristin; great-grandchildren, Judd King, Grant Klaire King, Lane Richey and Laityn Richey; sister, Joy Conley; special friend, Shirley Evans; and numerous nieces, nephews, family and friends.

Vaden was preceded in death by his parents; wife, Jerry; brothers, Billy Bob Richey and Clarence Harold Richey.

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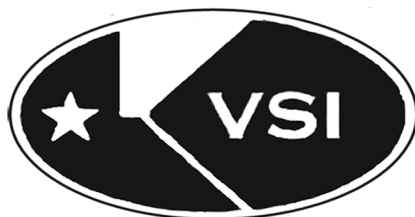
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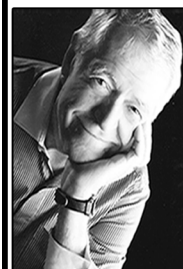
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There's not much hoopla, no organized statewide celebration but March 2nd 1836 is an important day in the history of Texas. That's the day Texas became a republic and declared its independence from Mexico. It was a long time coming.

In 1820 Moses Austin asked the Spanish government in Mexico for permission to settle in Texas. He was granted land, but Austin died soon thereafter and his son, Stephen F. Austin, took over the project. In 1821, Mexico declared its independence from Spain and Austin negotiated a contract with the new Mexican government to allow him to bring 300 families to the undeveloped area. Others joined in the settlement and soon the Mexican settlers were in the minority. Mexico was not pleased with this situation and passed laws to restrict the flow of immigrants to the new land.

In 1833 Austin went to Mexico seeking statehood for Texas within Mexico but was sent to prison. He was released in 1835, the year Mexican dictator Santa Anna demanded that citizens of Gonzales return a cannon that had been used to defend against Indian attack. When Mexican troops were sent to retrieve the cannon, Gonzales residents fired it at them while yelling, "Come and take it." That became known as the first battle of the Texas Revolution.

Texas formed an army under Sam Houston and established a provisional government. A convention of Texans met at Washington on the Brazos with the purpose of drafting a constitution and declaring independence from Mexico. In December of 1835 the Texas Army drove Mexican troops out of Sam Antonio. In January of 1836 Santa Anna's Army began its assault on the Alamo. The delegates in Washington on the Brazos voted in the Declaration of Independence on March 2nd during the siege on the Alamo.

The Alamo battle was fierce. Santa Anna attacked with more than 3,000 soldiers. The Texans were sorely outnumbered with less than 200 troops. For 12 days the former mission was bombarded by cannon and rifle fire. Colonel William Travis smuggled out a message to Texans that read, "I shall never surrender or retreat. Victory or death." The Mexicans claimed victory over the Alamo defenders on March 6, 1836.

Six weeks later, General Sam Houston's Army surprised Santa Anna's troops at San Jacinto with shouts of "Remember the Alamo." The Texans defeated the Mexican troops and captured Santa Anna. The Mexican dictator withdrew his troops south of the Rio Grande and recognized Texas as a republic. For nearly ten years Texas existed as a separate country with Houston as its first president. In 1845 Texas joined the union as the 28th state.

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