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HOPKINS COUNTY DRUG TAKE-BACK DAY A SUCCESS!

On Saturday April 24, the Hopkins County Sheriff's Posse hosted the semi-annual Drug Takeback Day on the Atwoods parking lot. A steady stream of vehicles pulled up to drop off unwanted and expired prescription drugs, and more than 200 pounds were collected in 4 hours. Following Drug Enforcement Administration guidelines, the collected drug are boxed, labeled and turned over to the DEA for disposal. The "Don't Be the Dealer" annual event cuts down on drugs from your medicine cabinet falling into the wrong hands, and also keeps them out of our water system due to unsafe disposal. Many who took advantage of the drop-off event said "thank you!" and that the program is much needed. The next Drug Takeback Day is October 23, 2021.



Miscellaneous

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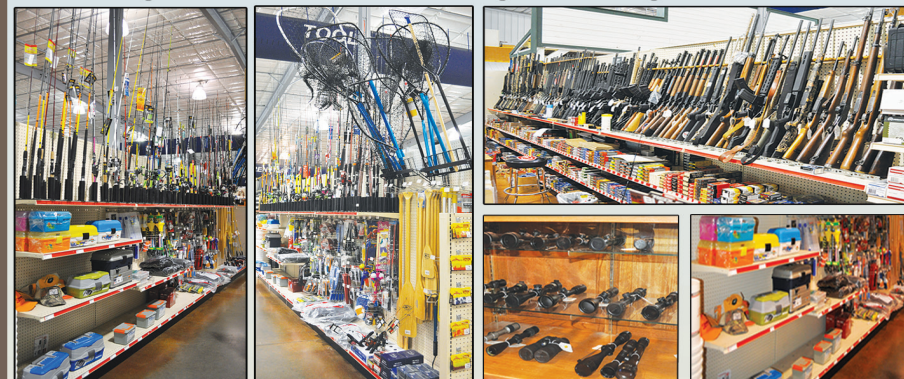


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Obits



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James D. Shelton

A funeral service for James D. Shelton, age 81, of Sulphur Springs, TX was held at 2:00P.M. on Saturday, April 24, 2021 at Murray-Orwosky Funeral Chapel with Joel Tiemeyer officiating. Interment followed at Forest Academy Cemetery with Will Dresh, Kirk Taylor, Cale Shelton, Cody Bradford, Corey Bradford, Charles Spiegel and Colton Shelton serving as pallbearers. James was born on May 21, 1939 in Sulphur Bluff, TX to J.W. Shelton and Joyce (Hamrick) Shelton. He married Peggy George on April 4, 1974 in Sulphur Springs, TX . James graduated from East Texas State University in Commerce with a degree in Business Administration. He and his father then founded Shelton's Propane in the 60s. He had a passion for taking trips on his Harley motorcycles and logged tens of thousands of miles across the United States. Later he enjoyed riding around in his old SSR. James loved his wife (of 46 years) Peggy, his children and his grandchildren very much. He was a member of the First Baptist Church in Sulphur Springs.

He is survived by his wife, Peggy; children; James Chris Shelton and wife, Tammy, Angela Shelton Bradford and husband, Marvin, Nichole Shelton Rosamond and husband Matt; grandchildren, James Cale Shelton, Colton Shelton, Cody Bradford, Courtney Bradford-Spiegel, Corey Bradford, Avery Rosamond and Brooks Rosamond; great grandchildren, Cannan Bradford, Emerson Spiegel and Lane Spiegel; sisters Gloria Shelton, Sharon Dresh, Michelle McKinley. James was preceded in death by his parents.

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



Etta Mae Willey

A graveside service for Etta Mae Willey will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Friday, April 30, 2021, at Gafford Chapel in Hopkins County, Texas, with Brother Terry Bolton officiating. Mrs. Willey passed away on April 26, 2021, at her residence.

Etta was born on December 16, 1929 in Belton, Texas, to Robert L. and Etta Elizabeth (Davidson) Price. She married T.C. Phillips in 1946 and had three children together, Elizabeth Ann, Tommy Ray and Brenda Kay. Etta later married Harlan Willey in 1973 and moved to Euless, Texas. She worked at K-Mart for four years while living in Euless, before moving back to Sulphur Springs. Etta was married for forty-five years to Harlan before he preceded her in death. Her passions included reading, gardening and playing in flower beds. She loved holidays, especially Christmas. Etta was a woman of the Baptist faith.

She is survived by her daughters, Elizabeth Wilburn and Brenda Carey; son, Tommy Phillips; grandchildren, Danny Wilburn, Brian Kellar, Tammy Wilburn, Lisa Phillips Smith, Shannon Mitchell and Billy Phillips; great-grandchildren, Colton Morrow, Morgan McCoy and Macie McCoy; great-great-granddaughter, Averi McCoy; brother, Ed L Price; and sister, Virginia Neal.

Etta was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Harlan; brothers, Eugene Price and Roy Price; granddaughter, Catherine Byrd; and grandson, Robert Andrew Dewitt.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Greenpond Church and Gafford Cemetery. Arrangements are under the direction of Murray-Orwosky Funeral Home. The online register can be signed at www.murrayorwosky.com



Ester Lee Allen

A funeral services for Esther Lee Allen, age 82, of Sulphur Springs, was held at 1:00 p.m., Saturday, April 24, 2021 at Morning Chapel Missionary Baptist Church. Interment followed at North Caney Cemetery. Visitation was held from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m, Friday, April 23, 2021 at West Oaks Funeral Home. Esther passed away on Friday, April 16, 2021. Arrangements were under the direction of West Oaks Funeral Home. www.westoaksfuneralhome.com



Linda Kay Robinson-Taylor

A graveside memorial service for Linda Kay "Cry Baby" Robinson-Taylor, age 57, of Sulphur Springs will be held at 2:00 p.m., Saturday, May 1, 2021 at Oaklawn Cemetery in Cooper with Bro. Perry Johnson officiating. There will be no formal visitation. Linda passed away Thursday, April 22, 2021 at Rock Creek Rehabilitation after a lengthy illness. She was born January 15, 1964 in Cooper, the daughter of James D. Robinson and Minnie Nix Robinson. She worked her early years as a nurse aide in nursing homes and became a homemaker when her health started declining. Linda was of the Baptist Faith. She is survived by brothers, Cecil Robinson (Linda) of Exeter, Mo, William Robinson (Laronda) of Bonham, Danny Robinson and Jimmy Robinson (CJ) both of Cooper, Roger Robinson (Melissa) of Buna, Ron Robinson (Laura) of Sulphur Springs, sisters, Carol Taylor and Sherry Dixon both of Sulphur Springs, Janet Watkins of Hutchings, and a host of nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her

parents, sister, Mary Ann Robinson, and brother, David Robinson.

Arrangements are under the direction of West Oaks Funeral Home. www.westoaksfuneralhome.com

On the Matter of 'Making It'...

Commentary by Dr. Don Newbury

T Wedged in my mind's recesses are these eight simple words: "If you can make it there, go back." They're easy enough to understand, but application is a whole 'nuther thing.

These words captioned a cartoon a while back. It was drawn to warn folks relocating to New York City....

Though probably not intended, the cartoon has a serious undertone that may apply to folks from anywhere--cities, towns or rural.

It suggests that grass probably isn't any greener on their side.

Do you remember when your grass was greenest?...

From a personal perspective--the point of view with which I'm most familiar--such a "magical" time was around 1950.

School days then were generally celebratory. World War II's bloody but successful victory was still on the minds of Americans, and we barely-teen kids were pretty good at "making do" with what we had. We were "making it." Give us a pleasant 15-minute bus ride home--and a lay-out of peanut butter on crackers upon arrival--and we were set.

For the next two hours, we lived in make-believe, thanks to adventures provided on radio. We were eager to share ongoing joys and dangers provided by the likes of Bobby Benson and the B-Bar-B Riders, Sky King, The Shadow

and Tom Mix. After all, Mom had enjoyed her two-hour spate of "serials" prior to our arrival, so it was our turn to "commandeer" the only radio in our home....

In days since, I've wondered why long-ago radio commercials seem far more ingrained than ads today. (Others of a certain age will remember: "My name's Buster Brown. I live in a shoe. That's my dog Tige. He lives in there, too.")

And what about cereal-pushing Tom Mix? "Take a tip from Tom, go and tell your mom, Shredded Ralston can't be beat."

One that held on for years lauded Morton Salt. "When it rains, it pours," the ad proclaimed. Not until college years would I understand that the reference was to two different "its." The first one, of course, was to the elements, meaning while raining. The second "it," however, switched to the king of salts, which don't clot when "it" rains. It still pours! Hallelujah!...

I've noticed that current rules are greatly relaxed when two meanings are ever so close, but "not quite hardly." For example, it seems to me that being further along than I expected refers to an unexacting distance, and farther suggesting a distance that can be more easily measured. Anyways, a current ad says Pep Boys are "going further to help you go farther."

Classified Ads cont.

Miscellaneous

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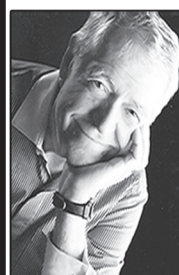
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THE LICENSE PLATE MAN

Tumbleweed Smith

I met Jesse Perez at a car and motorcycle swap shop in Fort Worth 6 years ago. Among the hundreds of vendor booths, Jesse's seemed to be the most popular. For one thing, Jesse is friendly and outgoing and has a personality that makes you want to be around him. Secondly, I found out there is a great demand for old license plates and Jesse is the man who has them. I did a column on Jesse back then and for some reason readers thought I had the license plates. Hardly a month goes by that I don't get a phone call or email from someone looking for a certain old license plate. I keep Jesse's contact info handy and pass it along. He lives at 2214 St. Anthony in San Antonio. His phone number is 210 532-7456.

Jesse and I recently reconnected and I found out he is into the license plate business fulltime. He previously worked at a retail establishment for 18 years but lost his job when the business was downsizing. That was fine with Jesse. In the past he had been going to swap meets and car shows on weekends. Now he can go anytime he wants and can take care of customers who contact him.

Jesse has been collecting license plates since 1960. He has a lot of them. "I think I have more than 200,000 for sure," says Jesse. "I buy collections of old plates all the time. I keep them in my garage and in portable buildings around my house." He sells his plates to people all over the country and beyond. Residents of Germany love Texas plates. One man called, ordered some plates, and said he would come by and pick them up. "He drove all the way from New Hampshire to pick up some license plates."

Jesse has plates from every state and Texas plates from every year since 1917. He gets several calls every day. "The most expensive plate that I sold was \$3,300 and the customer bought 2 of them the same day. It was a special plate for that particular customer who said he was tired of looking for this plate and heard that I might have it. He said he has a lot of money. When they say they have a lot of money you know they have a lot of money. They just want to know if you have the plate or can get it. I had another customer that told me he was looking for this particular plate and would pay me \$10,000. I had that plate he was looking for. But I didn't sell it. He passed away the following week."

A lot of people want a plate from their vehicle's model year. "This week a customer had a 1968 truck and he wanted a 68 plate but with the number 68 in it. Some people want a plate with their lucky number on it. Some might tell me their car has a 327 engine in it and they want the engine size in the number. I'm usually able to accommodate people looking for a certain plate. License plates go with everything. People just like license plates for all kinds of reasons."

Jesse owns several vehicles including 6 Model As from 1928 to 1931. "Their license plates all have the year that goes with the vehicle."

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