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Mon.-Fri. 7 am - 6 pm - Sat. 7 am - 5 pm www.hootensteel.net PAGE 2 THE MILLENNIUM SHOPPER May 19, 2021





The Josh Wilburn fam-

ily and the OVET nonprofit organization hit a home run with their annual BBQ Cookoff held in Sulphur Springs on May 14 and 15, 2021. It's success proved a couple of things; that people ar ready to leave COVID behind and get back to having fun, and that our community has a heart for giving where there is a need, namely local veterans. Not all veterans are in need, however there is significant need out there in a 6-county area. Funds raised stay local and are implemented by OVET (Operation Vicor Echo Tango.

Their BBQ Cookoff is not new, but it has evolved over the past ten or more years. Once sponsored by a radio station and Fall Festival, the Hot August Nights fundraiser became OVET and

continues on a mission. ally began on Saturday About 25 BBQ cooks morning. Positioned from all over the area right along I-30, the got wind of the upbeat VFW Post 8560 hosted event and signed up to the event and the 'old compete. Arriving on rodeo grounds' outside Friday afternoon with the post proved to be their vehicles, cooking the perfect home for tents and team mem- the 2021 event. bers proudly bearing Josh and his OVET

bers proudly bearing Josh and his OVET their identities, and with team send a big thank a great DJ keeping the you out to everybody music going into the who sponsored, volunnight, the setting had teered, competed and/a colorful festival feel or attended. HERE'S to it. Competition actu- THE WINNERS!

WINNERS ARE:

People's Choice: Nolen Johnson/Team Kookin

Cook's Choice: Logan Vaughn/Tableleaf

Beans: Adrian Sitzes/Off Duty BBQ
Sauce: Brandon Wynn/NE TX Coop
Dessert: Angela Allen/KG Crew

Quick Fire Challenge:

1st: Logan Vaughn/Tableleaf

2nd: Todd Daniel

Brisket:

1st: BackStory Brewery 2nd: Fast Times BBQ 3rd: Fallen S BBQ

Ribs:

1st: LugNut BBQ

2nd: Safety Control BBQ

3rd: Off Duty BBQ

Pulled Pork:

1st: Slaughter's BBQ 2nd: Hopkins Co EMS

3rd: Hopkins Co Sherrif's Office

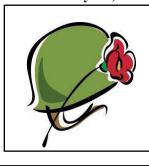
Reserve Grand Champion:

Grand Champion:

Derek Fort/Woody's BBQ

50/50 Raffle Winner: Fallen S BBQ





















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Obits Cont. From Page 9

Donie Fay "Granny" Brumit Weatherly

A Celebration of Life service for Donie Fay "Granny" Brumit Weatherly, 86, will be held on Sunday, May 23, at 2:00 p.m. at the Emory City Centre, located at 735 N Texas St. in Emory. Pastor Kevan Brown will officiate. Interment will follow in Miller Grove Cemetery.

Mrs. Weatherly died on May 16, 2021, in Sulphur Springs surrounded by family. She was born on November 29, 1934, in Rains County near Emory, to Robert Martin Brumit and Addie Mae Christopher. She was the 11th of 13 children. She married Donald Edwin Weatherly on September 7, 1950, in Durant, Oklahoma, and together they had five children. She was a member of the Freedom Church of God in Emory, and her faith was present in all that she did throughout her life. She was a housewife.

Mrs. Weatherly was a caretaker for her son, Bobby. She was an adored mother and grandmother. Family members and friends benefited from the clothes, costumes and quilts that she crocheted and sewed. She taught us so much. She never opened her door to a stranger, all were welcomed in her home and everyone ate at her table.

Mrs. Weatherly is survived by her children, Sharon Kay Wilson and husband William of Sulphur Springs, Debbie Lynn White and husband Les of Sulphur Springs, Bobby Don of Sulphur Springs, and Mary Catherine of Mesquite; four grandchildren, Melissa Lynn Timmons and husband Mark of North Little Rock, Arkansas, Rachel Leigh and Tracy Burns of Miller Grove, William Christopher Wilson and wife Brittany of Crandall, and Rebecca Woodard and husband of Miller Grove; four great-grandchildren, Maci JoLynn Shelton of North Little Rock, Arkansas, Hunter Warren of Point, and Amelia Caye and Daphne Blake Wilson of Crandall: two brothers, Garl Brumit of Las Vegas, Nevada, and Becton "Becky" Brumit of Emory; and numerous nieces and nephews and their

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband; daughter, Judy; and 10 siblings, Viola Mae "Bill", Joe, Howard, Gyula, Houston, David, Heneretta Louise "Sissy", Robert Martin, Lloyd and Johnny Lou.

Cremation arrangements were handled by West Oaks Funeral Home in Sulphur Springs.

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BLANCHETT, Cate

BLETHYN, Brenda

BLUNT, Emily

CLOSE, Glenn

CONNELLÝ, Jennifer

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RICCI, Christina

SWANK, Hilary

THERON, Charlize THOMPSON, Emma

WATSON, Emily



KEENER, Catherine **Answers On Pa. 10**

FOSTER, Jodie

GUGINO, Carla

HATHAWAY, Anne

HUNTER, Holly

HUSTON, Anjelica

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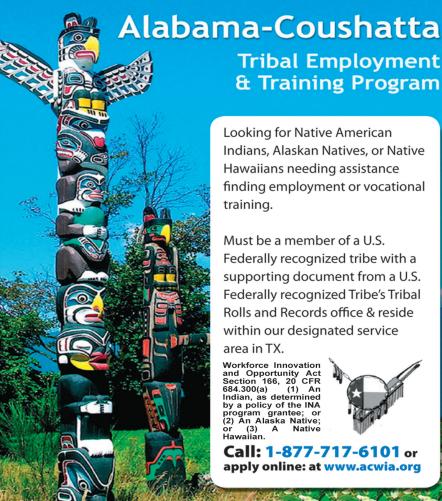
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PAGE 6 THE MILLENNIUM SHOPPER May 19, 2021



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William Pennington II "Wild Bill"

Memorial Service for William Pennington II "Wild Bill", age 60, of Sulphur Springs will be held at 2:00pm on Sunday May 23, 2021 at Ridgeway Church of Christ in Ridgeway, TX. William Pennington passed away in Tyler, Texas on May 9, 2021.

William Pennington was born on March 5, 1961 in Dallas, Texas to William Valton Pennington I and Edith Eloise Patterson. He worked as a delivery driver and enjoyed watching football, spending time with family and Rock and Roll.

Wild Bill is survived by children: Cheryl "Paige" Pennington, Kimberly "Brooke" Karr and Husband John Karr, Susan "Denise" Pennington, Michael Pennington and Wife Emily Pennington; grandchildren, Ryan Taylor Karr, Gracey Kay Lynne Doss, Dawson Jace Mclaughlin; siblings, Gena Upchurch, and husband Earnest Upchurch, Emily West, Brian Pennington; Aunt, Ann Doss; Nephews and nieces Randy West, Daci West, Sonny Upchurch, Tiffony Upchurch, Regina Upchurch, Mason Pennington, Taylor Pennington, Megan Pennington; Special Family Friend Susan.

William Pennington was preceded in death by his parents. Arrangements under the direction of Murray-Orwosky Funeral Home.

In lieu of flower please donate to Ridgeway Cemetery Society, 8481 FM 2653 N., Sulphur Springs, TX 75482.

The online register can be signed at www.murrayorwosky.com



Pete Darlin

Funeral service for Pete Darlin, of Sulphur Springs, TX was held at 1:00 P.M. on Monday, May 17, 2021, at Murray-Orwosky Funeral Chapel, with Buddy Gore and CJ Duffey officiating.

Interment followed at Pleasant Grove North with J.C. White, Kason Matthews, Zach Adair, Tobie Buie, James Morris and Danny Hammons serving as pallbearers and Billy Wayne Frazier, Jason Frazier, Josh Nicholson, Buddy Gore, Bill Owens, Ronny Parris, Justin Coleman, Jerry Miller, Larry Walls, John Wiler, Chris Ray, Tim Tanton and Justan Stubblefield serving as honorary pallbearers. Visitation was held from 6 to 8 P.M. on Sunday, May 16, 2021 at Murray-Orwosky Funeral Home. Mr. Darlin passed away on Monday, May 10, 2021 in Sulphur Springs.

Peter Timothy was born on May 5, 1984 in Sulphur Springs, to Richard and Kim Darlin. He married Lisa Wilks. Pete worked in the construction field. He is survived by his wife, Lisa; parents, Richard and Kim Darlin; aunts and uncles, Jim and B.J. Sells, Michael and Teresa Mathews, Jerry Pat and Linda Kay Adair, Mike and Kim McCoy, Gloria and Rick Kearby; numerous cousins;

grandfather, Karl Carlson.

Pete was preceded in death by his grandparents, Peggy and Pete Darlin and Clarice Carlson.

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



Horace "Elton" Stewart

Horace "Elton" Stewart was born January 16, 1930 to Emmet and Lucy Stewart on the Stewart homestead that was settled by his grandparents in 1898.

Elton received the Family Land Heritage Certificate of Honor in 1998 at the State Capitol of Texas for continuous ownership and operation as a family agricultural enterprise.

Elton was raised farming with his dad, Emmet Stewart, milking cows and selling grade B milk. His mother, Lucy Moore Stewart, sisters Marge and Carolyn were involved in all the activities on the farm.

June 25, 1949, Elton married Louise Gilbreath, the love of his life and began their lifetime journey. He continued milking cows and raising cotton. He was also involved in FFA at Cumby High School where he graduated in 1947. He received his American Farmer Degree in 1949. In 1951 he built one of the first Grade A dairy barns in Hopkins County. Elton and Louise raised Ronny, Randy, Judy and Billy Bob who were all involved

in farming, milking cows and baling hay.

During Elton's life, he was involved in many activities: Brashear Cemetery Chairman, director of Farmers Home Administration, director of Northeast Texas Farmers Co-op, Wesley Methodist Church Administrative Board Chairman, Farm Bureau Member, eight years as Hopkins County Commissioner Precinct 1, Charter Member of the Hopkins County Sheriff's Posse, Elton & Ronny Stewart Equipment & Cattle Auction.

Our Lord called Elton to his eternal home May 13 with his wife, sons and daughter by his side.

He is survived by his wife Louise, sons Randy Stewart and wife Chris of Blanchard, Oklahoma, Judy Stewart of Brashear, Billy Bob Stewart of Brashear. Grandchildren, Scotty Stewart, Andi Hinton and husband Trey, Mindi Manning and husband Todd, Dusty Stewart and wife Rhonda, Will Bryant and wife Terra, Karla Burnett and husband J.W., Megan Ragan and husband Mat, and Brady Stewart.

Great Grandchildren, Hallie Hinton, Wayne Hinton, Avery Hinton, Ella Manning, Colt Stewart, Kayla, Kassidy, Kristopher, Kyleigh, Karter Stewart, Peyton, Harley, Willow, & Norah Bryant, Maddox Brown, Lainy & Landon Burnett. Sisters Marge Johnson, Carolyn Nance, Brother-in-law Carl Davis, Nephews Jimmy Davis, Kent Johnson & wife Josie, Jeff Johnson & wife Debbie, Todd Nance nieces Jill Kelly and husband Chris, and Tammy Summers. Elton was preceded in death by his parents, son Ronny Stewart and sister-in-law Dorthy Davis. Funeral services were held at 2:00 p.m., Monday, May 17, 2021 at West Oaks Funeral Home Chapel. Interment followed at Brashear Cemetery. Visitation was held one hour prior to service time.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Wesley United Methodist Church, 614 Texas St., Sulphur Springs, TX 75482.

Arrangements were under the direction of West Oaks Funeral Home.

Obits Continued On Pg 4

PAGE 10

THE MILLENNIUM SHOPPER May 19, 2021

THE CORSICANA LEGEND OF ROPE WALKER

Tumbleweed Smith

The legend: In 1884 a man with a wooden leg carrying a cast iron cook stove was trying to cross a tightrope stretched between two buildings in downtown Corsicana when he lost his balance and fell, suffering painful injuries. Tumbleweed Smith death he mentioned he was a Jew.

A Jewish merchant was summoned and prayed with the crippled acrobat. He later died and was buried in the Hebrew cemetery in Corsicana. No one ever knew his name so his gravestone carries the words ROPE WALKER.

It's a story repeated many times when Texans start talking about interesting legends. It's strange that not much research had been done on the story until a man from Acton, Massachusetts, Jim Yarin got hold of it. He spent years investigating the legend and wrote a book about it. The title is ROPE WALKER A TEXAS JEWISH HIS-TORY MYSTERY. It's available at Amazon, Barnes and Noble and other sources.

Jim Yarin told me by telephone that he heard about the story while doing his family genealogy. One branch of his family was in Waco and Corsicana. "I went to the Corsicana Hebrew Cemetery listing in Find A Grave, the data base of gravestones, and came across the gravestone of this fellow named Rope Walker. That was about 15 years ago. I tried to find out everything that was said about Rope Walker and there has been a lot. I thought it would be pretty nifty if I could figure out some details about this longtime mystery so I took a shot at it."

The book he wrote is nearly 400 pages and contains a lot about the Jewish community in Corsicana. It also details another Texas legend about Black Diamond, a killer elephant. Jim's book is well documented and written in a scholarly manner. "I can spend a lot of time looking into ship manifests and so forth to find the right thing I'm looking for. It takes a lot of time but the rewards are usually worth it."

About the identity of the tightrope walker, Jim thought it was unreasonable that a guy with one leg who walked on a tightrope should be unknown. "So looking into this seemed to be about the same kind of research I had been doing in genealogy. I wanted to find out the answer to this longtime mystery. The more I looked into it, the more interesting it became. Some say this guy was a stove salesman but I don't think so. He was an entertainer. He had traveled to Corsicana and a number of other places I don't want to ruin the legend by revealing his name in the book, but I'm sure other people will think it's unfortunate that I've ruined a really good legend."

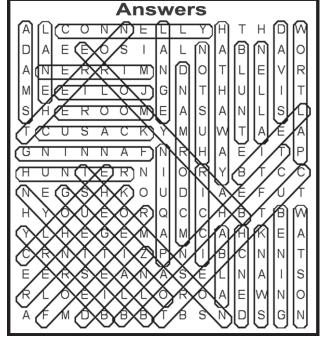
Jim says it is a true story. "To back that up I have 1,126 footnotes, 2 indexes and 3 appendixes. I found out his name and all about this guy. I've been researching this for 5 years since I discovered his identity. I went to Corsicana twice and have been in touch with a number of people there. The book has a lot of answers but it also asks a lot of questions. One is why didn't someone figure this out before me?"

Jim recently retired after a career as a paralegal in a big law firm in Boston.

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Palo Duro Canyon United States Second Largest Canyon

Palo Duro Canyon is 120 miles long, up to 20 miles wide, and up to 820 feet deep, making it the United States' second largest canyon. HISTORY

Archaeological findings indicate that humans inhabited the canyon as many as 12,000 years ago. It was long home to various native American tribes as well, including Apache and Comanche. The JA Cattle Ranch was established there in 1876, after the expulsion of the natives. Landscape: The canyon was formed by erosion from the Little Prairie Dog Town branch of the Red River.

The park is home to many unique geological formations, including many hoodoos-- thin, irregular columns of sedimentary rock sticking up from the canyon floor, capped with a harder rock which prevents further erosion. The Lighthouse is the most famous of these in park, and is one of the quintessential postcard shots in the state.

Prominent features: the Lighthouse, reachable via a 5.75 mile-long round trip on the Lighthouse Trail. Capital Peak, the Spanish Skirts, the Devil's Slide, Flora and fauna, Aoudad sheep are agile climbers, a rare but special sight. Whitetail deer and Mule deer, Coyotes and red foxes, Bobcats and mountain lions. Diamondback rattlesnakes and Bullsnakes, Longhorn cattle, but only two of them. They are named "Biscuits" and "Gravy". Wild boar and wild turkeys.

If your going by car. Amarillo, located at the intersection of Interstates 40 and 27, is the gateway to Palo Duro Canyon. From I-27 take the exit for Texas 217 eastbound at Canyon, just 20 minutes south of Amarillo. If staying in Canyon, know that 4th Avenue is part of Texas 217. Palo Duro Canyon is about 33 minutes east of the town. If your going by air. Amarillo's Rick Husband International Airport is served by American, Continental, and Southwest.

A road winds down into the floor of the canyon where you will find the visitor center and the amphitheater. The road continues on to some campsites, but many areas of the park can be reached only on foot or horseback. It is possible to rent horses for exploring the park, and some of the campsites allow horses. Inquire at the visitor's center.

TEXAS, the Musical, 806 655 2181. In production for over 40 years, the show plays nightly Tues. to Sun. from early June to mid-August at Pioneer Amphitheater. There is a steak dinner before the show which is catered by the Big Texan Steakhouse in Amarillo.

Charles Goodnight's Dugout, near the entrance of the park. This is a replica of the dwelling of the first white man to colonize the park. Charles Goodnight started the JA Ranch in 1876, raising up to 100,000 head of cattle here. A small portion of the ranch is still in operation today, in the lower parts of the canyon.

Do Hit the trails. The park has over 30 miles of marked trails for hiking, mountain biking, or horse riding.

Elkins Ranch, at the entrance to the park on Texas 217. This working cattle ranch spans part of the canyon. It offers horse and jeep rides, cowboy poetry and music, chuckwagon meals, and its authentically-costumed staff do their best to make you feel you are out on the range in the mid-1800s.

Old West Stables, 11450 Park Road 5 (on the entrance road inside the park, 806 488 2227. Guided horse rides. Various routes are available, Reservations are required for the 6-mile loop route to see the Lighthouse formation. Chuckwagon meals and other food items are also available.

Chuckwagon meals of smoked ribs and chicken, corn, mashed potatoes, beans, and cowboy coffee. Available at Elkin's Ranch or Old West. There are a few cabins available for rent with nice views of the canyon. Reservations can be made with the Visitor Center.

Cow Camp Cabins - 4 vintage cabins built in 1933 by the Civilian Conservation Corp workers who initially developed road access into the canyon. Now renovated, they provide microwave and refrigerator, as well as cots. No bedding is provided. \$60/night plus entrance fee. CCC Rim Cabins - Two 2-room cabins on the canyon rim. Both have a bathroom/shower and twin futon beds with bedding provided. \$110/night plus entrance fee. Sorenson - A single cabin on the rim of the canyon. A large deck gives a panoramic view of the canyon below. Bedding provided. \$125/night plus entrance fee.

Camping

There are many campsites throughout the park, all of which charge \$12 per four persons. Amenities range from sites with electricity and public bathrooms and showers to those with only a picnic table and fire pit.

Stay safe: Beware of rattlesnakes while hiking. Following severe rains, six river crossings in the park may be impassible due to flash-flooding. Although many trails remain open, check ahead for weather information. Bring plenty of water when hiking. It gets hot and dry and there is seldom a water source nearby.

Caprock Canyons State Park - 80 miles to the southeast, off the beaten track, the same river cut another set of canyons where the Caprock Escarpment gives way to the North Central Plains, with some spectacularly long trails to follow.

This article has information about the park, for getting in, about a few attractions, and about accommodations in the park. An adventurous person could use this article, but please plunge forward and help Palo Duro Canyon grow!

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