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★ Good Day from the Corral Gate! ★

Hope this finds you well and ready to celebrate!

Let's celebrate our nation's birthday together on Saturday July 3, 2021 on the Sulphur Springs downtown plaza. Bring your lawn chair for an evening of music and friendship topped off by fireworks! The Independence Concert and Fireworks starts at 8pm, compliments of the Sulphur Springs Symphony League and generous sponsors!

Here are some other ways you can get involved in the community, help others, and reap the benefits of giving.



Meal A Day is in need of 2 Permanent Drivers for an In Town Route on Wednesday and the Como Pickton Route on Tuesday. Drivers are needed for both of these days. Also, if you are a teacher and just want to Volunteer in the Summer that would be great. Meal a Day can find another driver hopefully in the Fall. It will Bless you more than you will know.

This Affiliated Driving Class is coming up shortly at the Sulphur Springs Center Citizens Center. At least 6 people are needed to make this class happen. The class is an excellent way to save 10% off of your Liability Insurance, and the Discount is good for 3 Years. This class is also good for a Ticket Dismissal. Please let Karon Weatherman know if you want to sign up.

Libby Daves with Angels Care Home Health will be starting Community Classroom - "Learning with Libby" on Friday, July 16, 2021. Also, Libby will be at the Sulphur Springs Senior Citizens Center on the 3rd Friday of each month at 10:45 to talk about a different topic each month. They will also be doing Blood Pressure Checks, and snacks and door prizes will be given out. Don't Miss Out! You are NEVER too old to learn something new.

For information on all these topics and more, contact Karon Weatherman at (903) 885-1661 or email at mealaday@yahoo.com or see her at 150 MLK Drive in Sulphur Springs, Texas

Friends, we are encouraged to love our neighbors as ourselves, and also to love others too. While we may feel love in our hearts, we are also encouraged to show it through our actions and an open helping hand. As you have probably learned, it always gives us a fresh perspective when we do an act of kindness for someone else.



Til next week, wave the red, white and blue and I will watch for you at the Corral Gate!

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Answers On pg. 10

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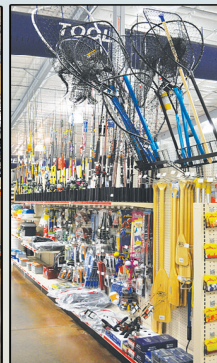


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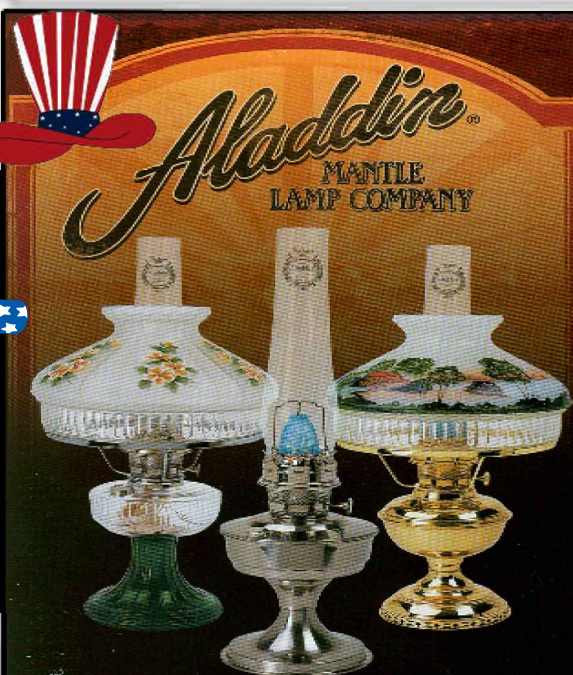
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Independence Day In The United States - July 4th

Significance Of The day in 1776 that the Declaration of Independence was adopted by the Continental Congress

Independence Day (July 4) is a federal holiday in the United States commemorating the Declaration of Independence of the United States, on July 4, 1776. The Continental Congress declared that the thirteen American colonies were no longer subject to the monarch of Britain, King George III, and were now united, free, and independent states. The Congress had voted to declare independence two days earlier, on July 2, but it was not declared until July 4.

Independence Day is commonly associated with fireworks, parades, barbecues, carnivals, fairs, picnics, concerts, baseball games, family reunions, political speeches, and ceremonies, in addition to various other public and private events celebrating the history, government, and traditions of the United States. Independence Day is the national day of the United States.

During the American Revolution, the legal separation of the thirteen colonies from Great Britain in 1776 actually occurred on July 2, when the Second Continental Congress voted to approve a resolution of independence that had been proposed in June by Richard Henry Lee of Virginia declaring the United States independent from Great Britain's rule. After voting for independence, Congress turned its attention to the Declaration of Independence, a statement explaining this decision, which had been prepared by a Committee of Five, with Thomas Jefferson as its principal author. Congress debated and revised the wording of the Declaration to remove its vigorous denunciation of the slave trade, finally approving it two days later on July 4. Jefferson had written the following indictment against King George III:

He has waged cruel war against human nature itself, violating it's most sacred rights of life and liberty in the persons of a distant people who never offended him, captivating and carrying them into slavery in another hemisphere, or to incur miserable death in their transportation hither. this piratical warfare, the opprobrium of infidel powers, is the warfare of the Christian king of Great Britain. determined to keep open a market where MEN should be bought and sold, he has prostituted his negative for suppressing every legislative attempt to prohibit or to restrain this execrable commerce determining to keep open a market where MEN should be bought and sold: and that this assemblage of horrors might want no fact of distinguished die, he is now exciting those very people to rise in arms among us, and to purchase that liberty of which he had deprived them, by murdering the people upon whom he also obtruded them: thus paying off former crimes committed against the liberties of one people, with crimes which he urges them to commit against the lives of another.

A day earlier, John Adams had written to his wife Abigail:

The second day of July 1776, will be the most memorable epoch in the history of America. I am apt to believe that it will be celebrated by succeeding generations as the great anniversary festival. It ought to be commemorated as the day of deliverance, by solemn acts of devotion to God Almighty. It ought to be solemnized with pomp and parade, with shows, games, sports, guns, bells, bonfires, and illuminations, from one end of this continent to the other, from this time forward forever more.

Adams's prediction was off by two days. From the outset, Americans celebrated independence on July 4, the date shown on the much-publicized Declaration of Independence, rather than on July 2, the date the resolution of independence was approved in a closed session of Congress.

Historians have long disputed whether members of Congress signed the Declaration of Independence on July 4, even though Thomas Jefferson, John Adams, and Benjamin Franklin all later wrote that they had signed it on that day. Most historians have concluded that the Declaration was signed nearly a month after its adoption, on August 2, 1776, and not on July 4 as is commonly believed.

By a remarkable coincidence, Thomas Jefferson and John Adams, the only two signatories of the Declaration of Independence later to serve as presidents of the United States, both died on the same day: July 4, 1826, which was the 50th anniversary of the Declaration, Jefferson even mentioning the fact. Although not a signatory of the Declaration of Independence, James Monroe, another Founding Father who was elected as president, also died on July 4, 1831, making him the third President who died on the anniversary of independence. The only U.S. president to have been born on Independence Day was Calvin Coolidge, who was born on July 4, 1872.

Observance

In 1777, thirteen gunshots were fired in salute, once at morning and once again as evening fell, on July 4 in Bristol, Rhode Island. An article in the July 18, 1777 issue of The Virginia Gazette noted a celebration in Philadelphia in a manner a modern American would find familiar: an official dinner for the Continental Congress, toasts, 13-gun salutes, speeches, prayers, music, parades, troop reviews, and fireworks. Ships in port were decked with red, white, and blue bunting.

In 1778, from his headquarters at Ross Hall, near New Brunswick, New Jersey, General George Washington marked July 4 with a double ration of rum for his soldiers and an artillery salute. Across the Atlantic Ocean, ambassadors John Adams and Benjamin Franklin held a dinner for their fellow Americans in Paris, France.

American children of many ethnic backgrounds celebrated noisily in a 1902 Puck cartoon.

In 1779, July 4 fell on a Sunday. The holiday was celebrated on Monday, July 5.

In 1781, the Massachusetts General Court became the first state legislature to recognize July 4 as a state celebration.

In 1783, Salem, North Carolina, held a celebration with a challenging music program assembled by Johann Friedrich Peter entitled The Psalm of Joy. The town claims it to be the first public July 4 event, as it was carefully documented by the Moravian Church, and there are no government records of any earlier celebrations.

In 1870, the U.S. Congress made Independence Day an unpaid holiday for federal employees.



A lot of American cities traditionally display fireworks on July 4th in remembrance of that day.

Obits



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Freida (Teer) Beezley

Funeral service for Freida (Teer) Beezley, age 86, of Greenpond, will be held at 2 p.m. Wednesday, June 30, 2021, at Greenpond Baptist Church with Bro. Terry Bolton and Adam Teer officiating. Interment will follow at Greenpond Cemetery with Adam Teer, Evan Teer, Weston Teer, Hayden Howard, Heath Howard, and Karson Williams serving as pallbearers. Visitation will be held one hour prior to the service. Mrs. Beezley passed away Saturday, June 26, 2021, at Rock Creek Nursing and Rehab.

Freida (Teer) Beezley was born October 23, 1934, in Greenpond to Joe Teer and Ivo (Stinson) Teer. She married John Beezley in Dallas, Texas, on July 9, 1960; he preceded her in death in 2017. Mrs. Beezley was a homemaker and a longtime member of Greenpond Baptist Church.

Survivors include son, Danny Teer of Como; daughters, Becky Wix and husband Roy of Como, Melissa Harris and husband Bunky of Sulphur Springs; grandchildren, Cydney Williams and husband Clint, Adam Teer and wife Stephanie, Evan Teer and wife Candy, Weston Teer, Bailee Hunt and husband Cody, Chelsea Cockrum and husband Jordan, Shelby

Ivey and husband Koby, Hayden Howard and wife Wilke, Heath Howard, John Harris, and Hannah Harris; numerous great-grandchildren; brother, Richard Teer and wife Linda; and sister, Peggy Pullen.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband; sons, Rick Teer and Roy Lee Beezley; brother, Max Teer; and sister, Elaine Frasher Cashion.



Lewis Dean Watts June 18, 1934 ~ June 26, 2021 (age 87)

Lewis Dean Watts, age 87, of the Miller Grove Community, went home to be with his Lord and Savior on June 26th, 2021, after a lengthy illness. Funeral services were held June 29, 2021 at 1:00 p.m. at County Line Baptist Church with Bro. Wayne Darty officiating. Interment followed at Miller Grove Cemetery with Chris Voorheese, Corey Voorheese, Jimmy Barrett, C. T. Hunt, Carson Voorheese, Breck Barrett, and Codey Hunt serving as pallbearers. Honorary Pallbearers were Clinton Lennon, George Back, Mac Garrett, Stevie Tipps, Logan Holden, Larry Peek, Woody Garmon, Terry Hoff, and Rickey Moore. Visitation was on Monday, June 28, 2021 from 6:00 p.m. till 8:00 p.m. at West Oaks Funeral Home. Lewis was born on June 18th, 1934, in the County Line Community, the fifth of six children, to Carletta and Buck Watts. He was married to Shirley Smith on December 24, 1952.

Lewis completed his Masters in Education at East Texas State University in Commerce. He was a school administrator for 33 years, retiring from the Sulphur Springs ISD in 1991. Lewis was a member and deacon of County Line Baptist Church. He is survived by his wife, Shirley of 68 years; daughters, Sandra Steed of Sulphur Springs, Sharon Hunt and husband C. T. of Lone Oak; grandchildren Stacey Barrett and husband Jimmy of Greenpond; great-grandchildren Breck, Brooke, and Bryc; grandchildren Chris Voorheese and wife Lori of Sulphur Springs; great-grandchildren Valori and husband Drew, Calli, and Carson; grandchildren Corey Voorheese and wife Christi of Miller Grove; great-grandchildren Sara and husband Blake, Catelynn, and Peyton; grandchildren Codey Hunt and wife Angie of Plano; great-grandchildren Aiden and wife Lace, Phaedra, and Lexi.

Lewis was preceded in death by his parents, and a sister, Ruth Ivetta Hines, and brothers, Curtis Watts, Edward Watts, and Elwood Watts.

Roy Farler Herman

Funeral services for Roy Farler Herman, Jr., 58, of the Nelta community, will be held at 4 p.m., Wednesday, June 30, 2021, at West Oaks Funeral Home, with Jason Cunningham, Sulphur Bluff Baptist Church deacon, and the Reverend Mark Bryant officiating. Interment will follow at Old Tarrant Cemetery. Visitation will be from 6-8 p.m. on Tuesday, June 29. Roy passed away on Saturday evening, June 26.

Pallbearers will be James K. Bassham, Tony Coffman, Leroy Cox, Scott Henderson, Jeremy Herman and Aldo Molteni. Honorary pallbearers will be Carl Coffman, Erick Coffman, Bennie Deaton, Fred Fielden, Eddy Morton and the employees of Aldo Molteni Trucking.

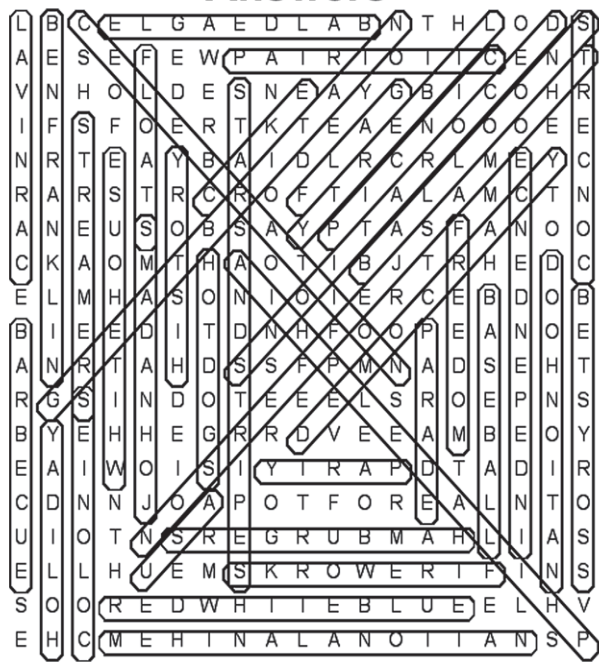
Roy was born on December 6, 1962, in Sulphur Springs, Texas, to Roy Herman and Doris Smith Herman. He married Gina Lynn Fite in Sulphur Springs on April 3, 1993. He was a member and deacon of Sulphur Bluff Baptist Church and had many friends at Lake Highlands Baptist Church. He managed the family cattle operation and was a truck driver.

He was preceded in death by his parents. He is survived by his wife, sisters Gail Herman and Gina Wilder, and brother-in-law Bill Wilder, all of the Nelta community. Survivors also include a niece, Emily Glass, her husband Garrett, and their children Katherine, Grant, and Connor of Sulphur Springs, and a nephew, Everett Wilder, and his wife Jenny of Rockwall.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Sulphur Bluff Baptist Church, Old Tarrant Cemetery Association, or the American Cancer Society.



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THE SYMBOL OF A NEW BEGINNING

Tumbleweed Smith



Tumbleweed Smith

When she was 9 years old Tina Siemens of Seminole considered apricots as candy. "We were so poor we couldn't afford candy," says Tina, who loved canned green beans. "That was my favorite thing to eat, just straight out of the can. I had an apricot for dessert. Once after eating an apricot I wondered what would happen if I planted the apricot pit. So I dug a little hole about 3 inches deep and planted the pit in it. I cut the top and bottom of the can the green beans were in so it was open at both ends and put it over the pit to mark the spot. Every day I'd go and pour some water on it. In less than a year it sprouted. So it was about 4 or 5 inches tall when we moved from that location to another place nearby. I couldn't leave my little apricot seedling behind so I went and dug it up and replanted it in the new place. It grew to be a tall tree and for years and years we got apricots off of that tree. In winter we would cover it with plastic and do other things to make it survive the cold."

The tree produced 5 gallons of apricots a year for 16 years. When Tina married at age 19, she and her husband moved to Canada for a year. "When we came back I just picked up making apricot jams from either that tree or other trees that were in town. People started bringing me apricots because they knew I loved them. Sometimes they would call me and say the apricots were ready to be picked."

Tina's enjoyment of apricots began in 1977 when her family and other Mennonites moved to Seminole from Mexico. A neighbor gave the family some apricots. The planting of that seed in their new home in Seminole represented a new beginning for her and the other Mennonite families. "It was so similar to us having been uprooted in Mexico and transplanted here in Gaines County. It was just like when I dug up that little seedling and transplanted it in the new place when we moved. It grew and produced a hundredfold, symbolizing a new beginning."

Tina hired artist Jammey Huggins to create a sculpture of her planting that seedling when she was 9. Jammey took a year to complete it. "I had her come over a couple of times and check it, you know, see if that was what she wanted," says Jammey. "I just love the story behind it." Tina says Jammey got it just right. "I couldn't be more pleased." The sculpture is titled New Beginning. Setting up the scene and models for the sculpture is a story in itself. The sculpture shows a little girl planting the 4-inch seedling while her parents look on. The girls' father is standing nearby holding a shovel while his wife looks on as the little girl puts the seedling into the ground. Tina's 9-year-old granddaughter posed as Tina planting the little tree. Tina's brother posed as the father. Tina posed as her mom. Jammey took several photos of the planting scene from different angles. Every detail was covered, including the ribbons on the little girl's hat and the name of the used implement dealer on the man's cap. Jammey says she loved doing it. Tina says she will always have an apricot tree no matter where she lives..

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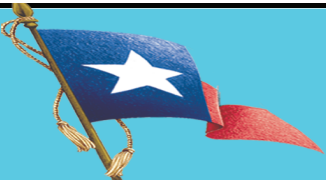
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TEXAS

Palo Duro Canyon

Great Place To Visit!

Palo Duro Canyon is a canyon system of the Caprock Escarpment located in the Texas Panhandle near the cities of Amarillo and Canyon. As the second-largest canyon in the United States, it is roughly 120 mi long and has an average width of 6 miles, but reaches a width of 20 miles at places. Its depth is around 820 ft, but in some locations, it increases to 1,000 ft. Palo Duro Canyon (from the Spanish meaning "hard stick") has been named "The Grand Canyon of Texas" both for its size and for its dramatic geological features, including the multicolored layers of rock and steep mesa walls, which are similar to those in the Grand Canyon.

The canyon was formed by the Prairie Dog Town Fork Red River, which initially winds along the level surface of the Llano Estacado of West Texas, then suddenly and dramatically runs off the Caprock Escarpment. Water erosion over the millennia has shaped the canyon's geological formations. Notable canyon formations include caves and hoodoos. One of the best-known and the major signature feature of the canyon is the Lighthouse Rock. A multiple-use, 6 miles round-trip loop trail is dedicated to the formation.

GEOLOGY

Palo Duro Canyon was downcut by the Prairie Dog Town Fork Red River, during the Pleistocene, when the whole region was uplifted. Most of the strata visible in the canyon were deposited during the Permian and Triassic periods. From oldest to youngest, and each separated by an unconformity, the formations are: **The Quartermaster Formation** - **The Tecovas Formation** - **The Trujillo Formation** and **The Ogallala Formation**.



Palo Duro Canyon

CAPITOL CREEK HISTORY

The first evidence of human habitation of the canyon dates back about 10,000–15,000 years, and it is believed to have been continuously inhabited to the present day. Native Americans were attracted to the water of the Prairie Dog Town Fork Red River, as well as the consequent ample game, edible plants, and protection from the weather the canyon provided.

The first European explorers to discover the canyon were members of the Coronado expedition, who visited the canyon in 1541. Apache Indians lived in Palo Duro at the time, but they were later displaced by Comanche and Kiowa tribes, who had the advantage of owning horses brought over by the Spanish. They had contact with traders, called Comancheros, in nearby New Mexico.

A United States military team under Captain Randolph B. Marcy mapped the canyon in 1852 during their search for the headwaters of the Red River. The land remained under American Indian control until a military expedition led by Colonel Ranald S. Mackenzie was sent in 1874 to remove the Indians to reservations in Oklahoma. The Mackenzie expedition captured about 1,200 of the Indians' horses and slaughtered them in nearby Tule Canyon during the Battle of Palo Duro Canyon. The Comanche and Kiowa conceded and left the area.

Soon after, in 1876, Charles Goodnight and a wealthy Ulster Scot named John Adair established the JA Ranch in Palo Duro Canyon. Col. Goodnight helped manage the ranch until 1890. Over the next half-century, the canyon remained in private hands but was an increasingly popular tourist spot for local residents.

Charles N. Gould made a geologic map of the canyon and named the formations in 1905.

In 1931, a major landowner signed a two-year contract with the local chamber of commerce to allow public access to the canyon. The upper section of the canyon was purchased by the State of Texas in 1934 and turned into the 20,000-acre Palo Duro Canyon State Park. Amarillo is the largest city near Palo Duro Canyon State Park, but the smaller city of Canyon is nearer. In 1976, Palo Duro Canyon State Park was designated as a National Natural Landmark by the National Park Service.

Seven units of the Civilian Conservation Corps developed the park from 1933 until 1937. Four groups of veterans, two groups of African Americans, and one junior group, took part in various construction projects, starting with the construction of Park Road 5, a two-lane road from the rim to the floor of the canyon. Other projects included the headquarters building, culverts, low-water crossings, bridges, Spring House, Well House, the Coronado Lodge interpretive center, 4 overnight cabins known as Cow Camp, and the 3 rim cabins. In addition, picnic and camping areas were built, complete with tables, seats, fireplaces and garbage receptacles.

The Texas Department of Transportation has built bridges over Water crossings 1, 2, and 6 to allow motorists easier access during and after heavy rains. Paving work has been completed at the Juniper Multi-use Area, with the addition of utilities pending. Campsites and pavilions have also been added, along with several hiking trails.

TOURISM AND ACTIVITIES

Palo Duro Canyon is part of the Texas State Parks system under Texas Parks and Wildlife. Day entry into the park is covered by the Texas Parks Pass. Palo Duro Canyon hosts a number of activities throughout the park. There are 16 trails for hiking, biking, and horseback riding, ranging in length from .05 miles to 4.4 miles. There are options for camping, with sites for tents with water access and RV campers alike. There are also sites for keeping horses available to campers planning to horseback ride in the canyon. In addition, lodging cabins are available for rent that sit on the outer rim of the canyon, providing an impressive view of both the canyon and the sunrise.

Group sites and spaces are available for group retreats, youth groups, and weddings. The Mack Dick Pavillion is a popular location for weddings and receptions, as the canyon provides a beautiful backdrop.



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