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*Business Page* Pg. 8

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VOL. 22 ISSUE 1107, July 14, 2021

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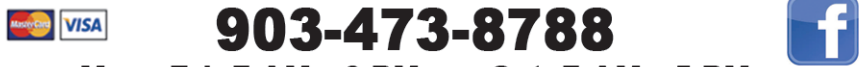
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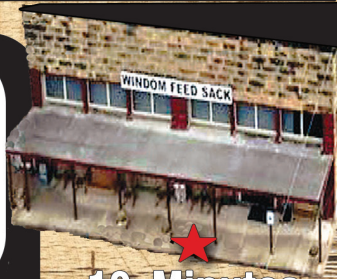
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## OLD SALTILLO CEMETERY ASSOCIATION BUSINESS MEETING/MEMORIAL DAY

Plans are being made for the Annual Old Saltillo Cemetery Association Business Meeting/Memorial Day to be held at 10:30 a.m., July 18, 2021, in the Old Saltillo United Methodist Church, located at 664 County Road 3357, Saltillo, Texas.

Keeping with tradition, a Memorial Program eulogizing loved ones buried in the Old Saltillo Cemetery will be conducted. Due to the Covid-19

pandemic the 2020 annual meeting was not held. Names to be honored will be all who have been buried in the Old Saltillo Cemetery from July 19, 2019 – July 18, 2021.

The unveiling of a historical marker will also take place at the meeting.

The Old Saltillo Cemetery has received the very prestigious recognition by the Texas Historical Commission with an Official Texas Historical Marker. A dedication ceremony will be the program for this year's annual meeting. John Sellers, Chair of the County Historical Commission, will preside at the dedication. This is a very historic Hopkins County Cemetery. It received the Historic Designation in 2018 and the subject marker completes its story.

Following the Unveiling of The Marker, lunch will be served in the air-conditioned Kirby Memorial Center. You are asked to bring some of your favorite dishes – enough to feed all in your party and share some with others. Lunch will be served immediately after the program in a buffet manner with all eating utensils, plates, iced drinks, and coffee provided. Seating in the serving area is limited; however, space is plentiful under the huge oak trees around the church. Feel free to bring lawn chairs, card tables, etc. to enjoy your lunch and fellowship with others in attendance.



Traditional annual dinner under the oaks after the Memorial service



Old Saltillo Cemetery is just across from the Old Saltillo Methodist Church

At 1:30 p.m., an unveiling ceremony will be held approximately one-half of a mile north of the church/cemetery on County Road 3357 to dedicate an Official Texas Historical Marker for the Old Jefferson Road. The Old Saltillo Cemetery originated as the burial place of a child who died near Saltillo in 1870s, while traveling the Jefferson Road with his family. His name and the burial plot are unknown. There were two marked burials in 1873, one in 1875, one in 1876, and two each in 1878 and 1879.

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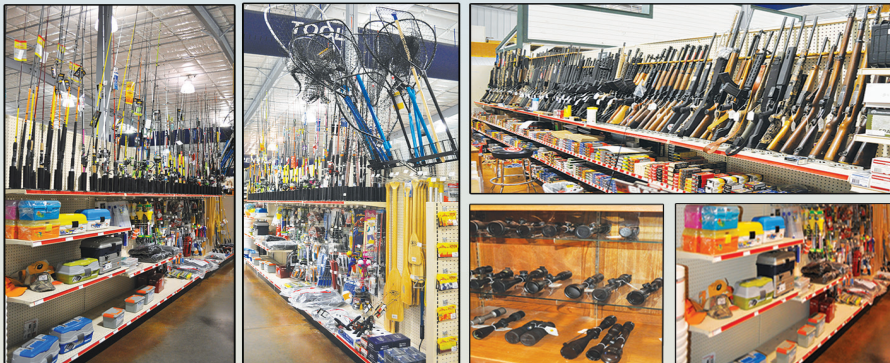


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## WEST OAKS FUNERAL HOME

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### **Casey Lee Chester**

Funeral services for Casey Lee Chester, age 34, of Sulphur Springs, were held at 3 p.m. Saturday, July 10, 2021, at West Oaks Funeral Home with Rev. Ron Smedley officiating. Interment followed at Sulphur Springs City Cemetery with Ryan Chester, Kody Chester, Kehl Chester, Blake Chester, Eric Roland, Brian Floyd, AJ Powless, Chance Massey, Josey Hicks, James Carter, Lee Boles, and Trent Miller serving as pallbearers. Honorary pallbearers were Dennis Marshall, Devon Martinez, Todd Williams, Brandon Fowler, Steven Lamb, Cody Tully, David Rawson, Jason Gibbs, Kevin Thomas, Chris Ray, and Jacob Corona. Visitation was held from 6 to 8 p.m., Friday, July 9, 2021, at West Oaks Funeral Home.

Casey went home to be with his Lord and Savior on Monday, July 5, 2021. He was born on October 6, 1986, in Sulphur Springs, the son of Jimmy Lee Chester and Wende Gibbs.

Casey was a hard-working man, anyone who knew him or worked with him knew what a hard worker he was. He worked as a boiler maker/ welder alongside his dad and brother. Casey was the most loving father. He lived to provide for the loves of his life, Wendy and his pooty girl, Lynnix. He loved his family, brothers, sisters, nieces, and nephews. He would do anything for anyone, whether that meant giving the shirt off his back or the last dollar in his wallet. When he wasn't working, Casey was fishing. He fished every chance he got. He was a mischievous guy always laughing and playing pranks on his loved ones. He loved the lord and strived to be the best man he could be.

Casey's passing leaves a huge void in our hearts. We will all miss his fighting spirit and courageous laugh. We love you, Casey Lee. You will never be forgotten.

Casey is survived by the love of his life, Wendy Williams; their daughter, Lynnix Lee Chester; father, Jimmy Lee Chester; mother, Wende Gibbs; brother, Dylan Chester; sisters, Laci Lamb and husband Steven, Maci Fowler and husband Brandon, Kayla Tully and husband Cody; nieces, Jersie Fowler, Jabrie Fowler, Paityn Tully; nephews, Paxton Tully, Pearson Tully; and grandparents, Larry and Sarah Gibbs.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Joe and Uila Chester; aunt, Jacqueline Chester; and great-grandparents, Houston and Alva Wattenbarger, and Amos and Gladys Gibbs. Memorials may be made to the Lynnix Lee Chester Scholarship Fund at City National Bank.



### **Thomas "Tom" Calvin Dixon, Jr.**

Funeral services for Thomas "Tom" Calvin Dixon, Jr., age 53, of Van, were held at 11 a.m. Saturday, July 10, 2021, at West Oaks Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Tiny Freelen officiating. Interment followed at Reilly Springs Cemetery with Ethan Dixon, Collin Jelinek, Justen Jelinek, Danny Hubbell, Kevin Wingfield, Toby Fowler, Gerald White, and Wes Armstrong serving as pallbearers. Visitation was held at 10 a.m., prior to service time. Tom passed away on Sunday, July 4, 2021.

He was born on August 6, 1967, in Sulphur Springs, the son of Thomas "Tommy" Calvin Dixon, Sr. and Linda Gayle Causey Dixon. He attended Sulphur Springs High School, where he received the Forrest Gregg Award playing football. He was also on the powerlifting team, where he won 1st place in the state powerlifting championship and 1st place in two different national powerlifting championships. After high school, he served with the Sulphur Springs Police Department and later with the Allen Texas Police Department.

Tom is survived by his sons, Daniel Jordan Dixon and Riley Austin Dixon; grandson, Colt Allan Dixon; parents, Tommy and Linda Dixon; brother, John David Dixon; and sisters, Tammy Lynette Jelinek and Nancy Ruth Hubbel.

Arrangements were under the direction of West Oaks Funeral Home



### **Jerald "Jerry" Edward Whitson**

Jerald Edward Whitson ("Jerry") passed away peacefully on July 7, 2021, at the age of 87 years, at his home in the Reilly Springs community, surrounded by his family. Jerry was born July 4, 1934, in Knoxville, Tennessee, to Paul and Elsie (Michaels) Whitson. He was of the Baptist faith. He proudly served his country in the U.S. Navy during the Korean War. In the early 70's, Jerry received a job transfer to Dallas, Texas, and there he met the love of his life, Betsy Allison. They were married three months later and celebrated their 49th wedding anniversary this year. In 1976, Jerry and Betsy moved to Sulphur Springs. Jerry worked for Texas Utilities Mining Company for many years, where he was called "Fossil" by his co-workers, as the oldest employee on staff. Jerry and Betsy co-owned the Sulphur Springs Gold Connection, where he used his mechanical and artistic talents as a jeweler, until he and Betsy retired in 1998. Following Jerry's retirement, the role he enjoyed most was being a grandfather, known as "Puh" to his grandchildren, who loved and adored him.

Jerry was preceded in death by his parents. In addition to his wife, he is survived by his twin sister, Joetta Goosie, and nephew, Larry Goosie, of Knoxville, Tennessee, as well as his children, Wade Whitson and wife, Vickie, of White, GA., Sabrena Aaron and husband, Ed, of Huntsville, AL., Steven Osborn, of Sulphur Springs, Texas; Susan Periquet and husband, Arnel, of Prosper, Texas; and Shawn Whitson and wife, Sharee, of Scottsdale, Arizona. Jerry is also survived by his grandchildren, Lee J Osborn, Joshua Whitson, Wynter Langley, Shelton Whitson, Shandler Whitson, Shelby Whitson, Vivianne Periquet, and Spencer Periquet; and great-grandchildren, Jasper Whitson, Jenner Whitson, Rymyngton and Ryland Langley.

Arrangements were under the direction of West Oaks Funeral Home. Graveside services with military honors provided by the Hopkins County Military Coalition were held at Reilly Springs Cemetery on Saturday, July 10, 2021, at 11 a.m. with Pastor Paul Newby officiating. Wade Whitson, Steven Osborn, Shawn Whitson, Shelton Whitson, Shandler Whitson, and Lee J Osborn served as pallbearers.

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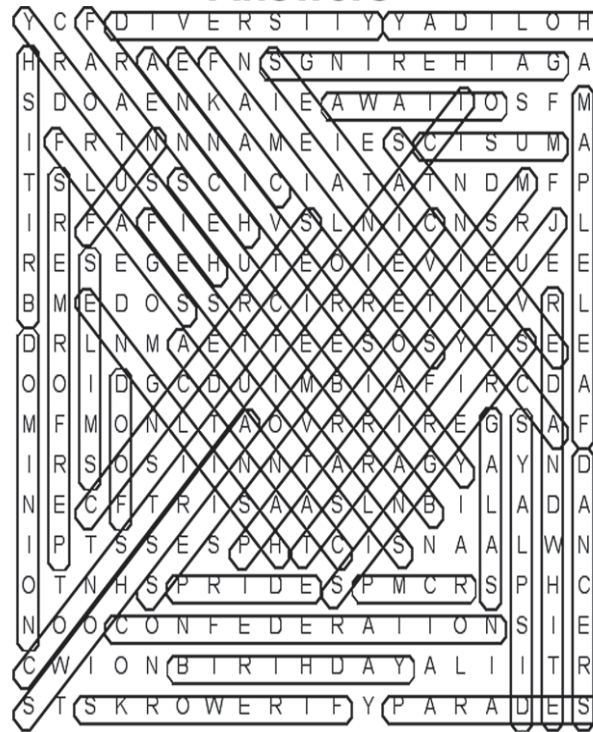
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### Answers



## RUNNING FOOT RACES AROUND THE COUNTRY

Tumbleweed Smith



Tumbleweed Smith

Mary Kaplan lives at Sunrise Beech near Kingsland. She has an unusual addiction: she runs foot races. She has run at least a 5K in every state, winning first place every time. She has run in every Texas county, all 254 of them. Her final county was Sterling and the event was celebrated in Sterling City's 1910 State Hotel. Members of the 254 Running Club were on hand to congratulate Mary. She is the first person to do that. Since then, 3 other members have accomplished the same thing. The club has 30 members and runs in counties that don't have an organized race. "We don't have meetings, we don't have officers, we just have a good time," says Mary. "Anyone can join."

Mary grew up in Ohio and graduated from nursing school there. "My sister was a nurse, too and we were moving around every two years and didn't make any plans for retirement and what have you so we decided to go into the Air Force for 2 years and it wound up to be 30. We went in as First Lieutenants." Mary earned BA and MA degrees while in the Air Force and retired at age 56.

Mary started running while serving in the military. "At our annual physical we had to walk 3 miles or run a mile and a half. I chose to do the walking. But in 1983 they changed and said everybody had to run 3 miles. So I started then and haven't stopped."

Mary weighs 115 pounds and stands 5 feet 2 inches. She runs 6 days a week. "I run for an hour and cover about 4 miles. I try to do about 100 miles a month. I've done that for the last 2 years. I don't run on Fridays because I usually race on Saturdays and Sundays. So far I've run 1,610 races." I interviewed Mary on her 82nd birthday last April. That day she ran 8.2 miles. "That was my present to me, the fact that I could do it. I usually run a 5K in 35 minutes." She is running out of space to hold all her trophies. Mary keeps setting new goals. Besides running in every state, and every Texas county she is now running in towns with unique names.

"Like Bangs, Best, Veribest, Cut 'n Shoot, Dime Box, Fairy, Turkey, Tarzan, Weeping Mary. Last weekend I ran in Wealthy. I've also run in Welfare. When my friends hear about a town with a funny name, they tell me about it. And I've done most of my family names. I ran in Lorena, which is my aunt's name. I ran in Jean, which is my sister's name and Harold, my husband's name."

She competes in the Senior Games, both short and long races, including one half marathon. She has also competed in swimming events. She was the Senior Games Athlete of the Year last October. She has been featured in the magazine Runner's World. When I asked Mary about the benefits of running she replied, "I can eat what I want to eat." Then she was off to run in Kyle and Gustine.

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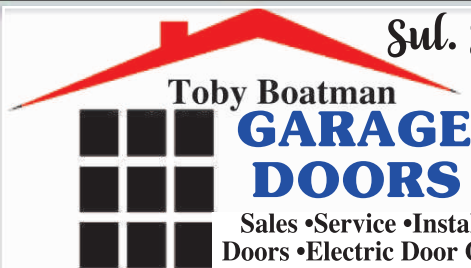
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