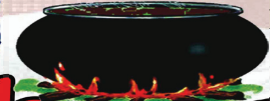


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**VOL. 22 ISSUE 1121, October 20, 2021**

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# At The Corral Gate



Enola Gay

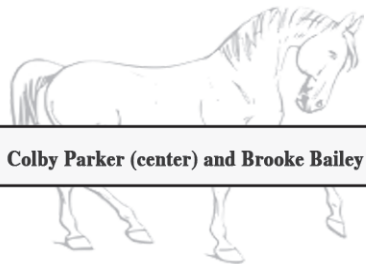
## Things That Swing are Happening Around the Area!

Hey readers, I am tackling another bucket-list dream. I am signed up for a Swing Dance Class and have had one lesson so far. The instructors are Shawn Ditto and his lovely wife who actually met at a Swing Dance club. They married, moved from Winnsboro to Sulphur Springs, and have started a family. Back in September, I attended the class at Winnsboro Center for the Arts. From our nattily-costumed instructor, we students learned four different steps, which can be used singly or combined into a sequence which will get even a beginner through an entire favorite Big Band tune. At the initial class, we danced to Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy of Company B and other fun classics. I hear the class will be held on a monthly basis starting in November. So plan to brush off your dancing shoes and be ready for this fun and fit social diversion! Guys and gals, accomplished dancers and beginners like me are welcome! Check out the WCA website and or their Facebook page for details!



Beginner Enola Gay Mathews and Instructor Shawn Ditto

Sulphur Springs has a horse sale...again! It's been a few years since economic shifts brought a close to many towns' regular horse sales. Sulphur Springs was one of those casualties. But now, due to the youthful energy and interest in the horse industry by a pair of locals, we again have a monthly horse sale. The first one was held on October 1, and about 50 horses came through the ring plus about a trailer load of tack. It's home location will be the Colby Parker of Parker Auction on State Hwy 19 south of Sulphur Springs, formerly Marvin Jones Stockyards and home of Gilbreath Horse Auction. Colby Parker and Brooke Bailey are partners in the endeavor. Starting in November, the sale will be held on the final Friday of each month, with the next sale set for Saturday November 27, 2021. Tack starts at 6:30pm and horses start at 7:30pm. Address is 4163 Tx Hwy 19 South, and phone number is 903-348-2577.



Colby Parker (center) and Brooke Bailey (right)



The Wall That Heals is coming to Sulphur Springs in a Texas-exclusive visit. This is a traveling 3/4 size replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall in Washington, DC which will arrive on November 2. Sulphur Springs will be hosting the display for the public November 4-7 on the track of Sulphur Springs High School. Mandy Kennedy and the Yellow Ribbon Campaign army of volunteers are heading up plans for this once-in-a-lifetime experience. It's how our nation is observing 50 years since the Vietnam War, as well as extending a belated and much deserved "welcome home" for the soldiers of that era! Get your yellow ribbons up in your community and plan to visit The Wall That Heals in Sulphur Springs, free to all Americans!



Mandy Kennedy explains The Wall That Heals and Yellow Ribbon Campaign to committees

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Answers On Pg. 10



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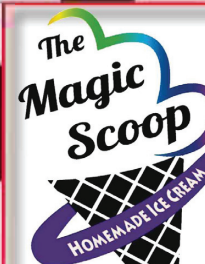
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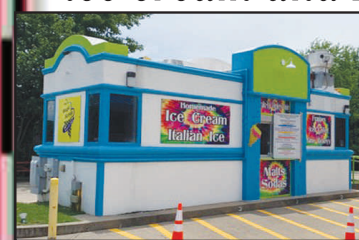
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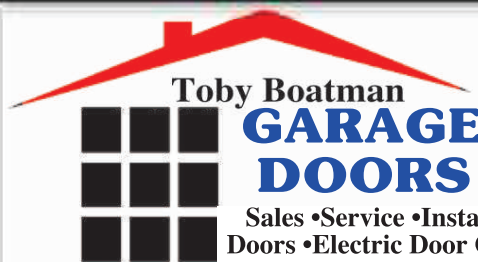


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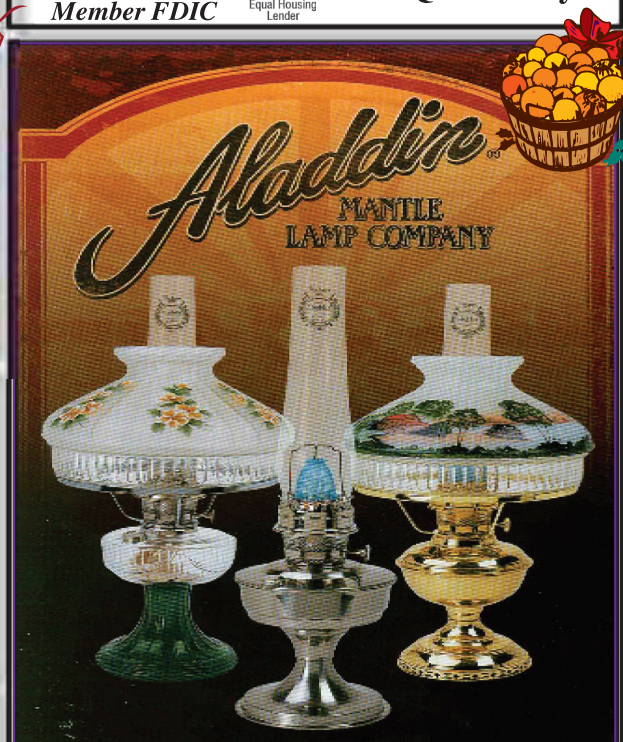
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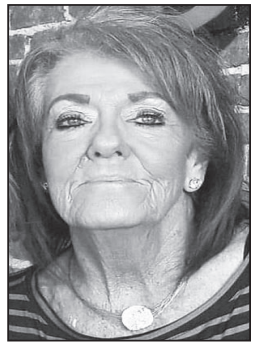


### **Patricia Hogan**

Memorial service for Patricia Hogan, age 79, of Sulphur Springs, Texas, will be held at 10 a.m. Friday, October 22, 2021, at First Baptist Church in the Main Sanctuary with Pastor Jeff Gravens officiating. Visitation will be held at 9 a.m. Mrs. Hogan passed away on October 10, 2021, at Christus Mother Frances – Sulphur Springs.

Patricia was born on January 1, 1942, in Youngstown, Ohio, to Andrew and Anges (Hatala) Rebic. She married David William Hogan on August 14, 1971, in Sulphur Springs, Texas. Patricia worked at the Summer House Lawn and Garden. She was a member of the First Baptist Church Community Bible Study and the Sunday School Class. Patricia was the Hopkins County Horticulturist of the year. She was also apart of the FBC Radio and TV ministry.

She is survived by her son, John Hogan and wife, Karin; daughter, Monica Robinson and husband, Jeremy; grandchildren, John David Hogan Sr., Conner Lee Hogan, Aaliyah Hogan, Madison Hogan, Colby Hogan-Robinson, Lexi Robinson, Charles Ray Massey and Richard Wayne Massey; great-grandchild, John David Hogan Jr.; brothers, Andrew Rebic and Robert Rebic; and sisters, Elaine Price and Rosemary Rebic. Patricia was preceded in death by her parents, Andrew and Anges, and husband, David. Arrangements are under the direction of Murray-Orwosky Funeral Home.



### **Jackie Hudson**

Funeral Service for Jackie Hudson, age 71, of Sulphur Springs will be held at 3 p.m. Wednesday, October 20, 2021, at Murray Orwosky Funeral Home Chapel with Debbie Jones officiating. There will be a visitation on Tuesday, October 19, 2021, from 6-8 p.m. at Murray-Orwosky Funeral Home. Jackie passed away on Sunday, October 17, 2021, at Christus Mother Francis Hospital in Sulphur Springs.

Jackie Lynn Hudson was born on October 2, 1950 in Vernon, Texas, to Jack and Mary Nix. Ms. Hudson was a teacher's aide for over 15 years and an Optician at Southern Optical.

Jackie is survived by her loving husband, Troy Stout; daughters, Shanna Smith, and Misty Dixon and her husband, David; grandchildren, Aaron Chennault and Kaylee, Shayla Kuhl, and Sam Shepherd; great-grandchild, Brooklynn Smith; brother, Ronnie Nix and wife, Lori; nieces, Jena Penny and Jennifer Hawkins; and cousin, Tana Womack and husband, Larry. She was preceded in death by her parents and sister-in-law, Joyce Nix. Arrangements are under the direction of Murray-Orwosky Funeral Home.



### **Charles Lewis Lowry** October 15, 1930 – October 8, 2021 (age 90)

Charles Lewis Lowry, age 90, of Mt. Vernon, Texas passed from this earth into the presence of his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on Friday, October 8, 2021, in Sulphur Springs, Texas, just one week shy of his 91st birthday. A Celebration of Life service was at 1 p.m. on Saturday, October 16, 2021, at the First United Methodist Church in Mt. Vernon. Family greeted friends at the church following the service. A separate, private graveside service for family was held prior to the church service.

Charles was born on October 15, 1930, to L.D. Lowry, Jr. and Frances Fayrine (Hickman) Lowry in Mt. Vernon. In 1948, he graduated as Valedictorian from Mt. Vernon High School and then attended Texas Christian University on a football scholarship, and it was there he met the love of his life – Peggy Sue Watson of New London, Texas. They were married on June 6, 1951, in Palmer, Texas, and upon his college graduation in 1952, they moved to Mount Vernon, where they would raise their three children and spend many wonderful decades in loving service and support to their family, friends, neighbors, church and community.

He was very instrumental in laying the groundwork for what would become Lake Cypress Springs. In 1954 he served as chairman of the first committee to study the possibility of bringing a lake to Franklin County and then worked tirelessly for the next 16 years to help make it a reality, including making multiple trips to Washington, D.C., Austin, Shreveport and other cities to gain support for

the lake. He served his beloved Mt. Vernon ISD as a School Board Trustee for more than two decades, much of that time as president. He even became president of the Texas Association of School Boards, which was quite an honor for not only him but also for Mt. Vernon ISD. To the very end, he was extremely proud of Lake Cypress Springs and Mt. Vernon schools.

He served several terms on the Mt. Vernon City Council, and was very active for many years in numerous civic organizations, including the Mt. Vernon Rotary Club, the Franklin County Chamber of Commerce, the Franklin County Industrial Foundation, and the Mt. Vernon Economic Development Corporation. As president of the Franklin County Youth Baseball Association back when youth baseball games in the community were played at the outdated Little Creek Park, Charles led the effort to build a new baseball stadium for Franklin County youth.

Though he served many worthwhile organizations and causes, none were more important to Charles than his beloved First United Methodist Church, where he was a devoted member for nearly 70 years, many as its Chairman of the Administrative Board. During that amazing span, he taught Sunday School, sang in the choir and contributed in countless other ways, including supporting Peggy during her 56 year tenure as the church's organist.

He did all this and much more while working six days a week much of his adult life at the family furniture, appliance and floor covering business. In 1990, Charles was inducted into the Franklin County Hall of Fame – his first year of eligibility. In 1995, he was named Franklin County Man of the Year. In 2009 he was inducted into the Franklin County Schools League of Honor.

Charles is survived by his daughter, Lisa Lowry of Mt. Vernon; son, Brad Lowry and wife, Cari Lowry, of Argyle, Texas; son, Stan Lowry and wife, Jill Lowry, of Mt. Vernon; grandchildren, Jared Williams of San Antonio, Bradleigh Coats and husband Jason Coats of Argyle, Texas, Layton Lowry of Dallas, Laine Sadler and husband Ian Sadler of Argyle, Texas, Charleigh Lowry of Argyle, Texas, Grant Lowry and wife Bekah Lowry of Mount Vernon, and Samantha Lowry of Mount Vernon; great-grandchildren Cason Coats and Camden Coats of Argyle, Texas; sister, Jeanie Hayes and husband, Jere Hayes, of Dallas; brother, Len Lowry and wife, Vickie Lynn Lowry, of Mt. Vernon; and numerous nieces, nephews, cousins and extended family.



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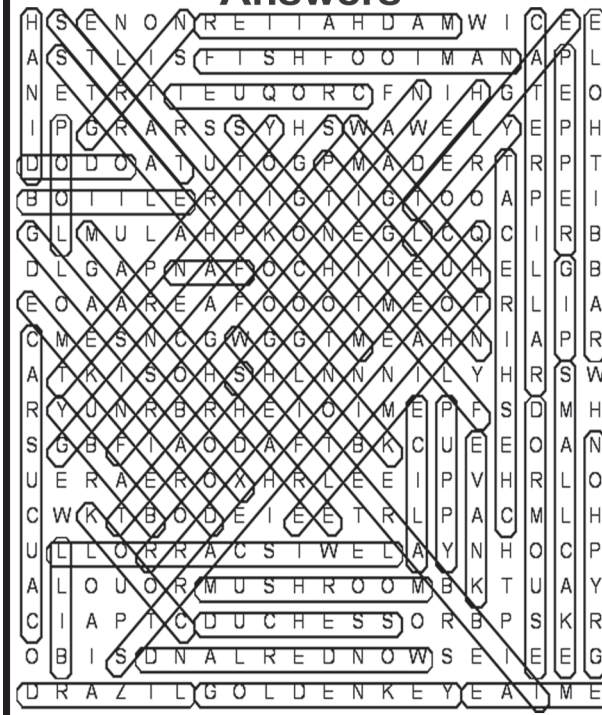
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## FAREWELL TO SUMMER

**Tumbleweed Smith**

I hate to see summer go. It is the fun time of year.

I hear the howl of locusts on a scorching afternoon. The Monarch butterflies wiggle in their sunlight flight. Pure white clouds slowly float across a royal blue sky. Birds sing their lilting arpeggios. A distant lawnmower roars. Children's laughter floats in the air. It's summer. I was born in a summer month. I was married in the summer. Our first son was born in the summer. I started my business in the summer. Good things happen in the summer. It's my favorite season.

It's a time to relax, enjoy the flowers and the rich dark green of well-kept lawns and trees. It's when you think about things you don't think about during other seasons. It's baseball and vacations and seeing the ordinary in a different light. It is a time when you get perspective on your life. You contemplate the future.

It is a time when trees, plants, bushes and vines bring forth delicious fruit. I've always made a trip to East Texas during summer months. That's when the berries, plums, peaches apricots and grapes are at their peak. A few years ago I was interviewed on a radio station in Crockett and mentioned that I loved wild berries, grapes and plums. When I got off the air, I learned that a listener had brought me a sackful of freshly picked plums. I ate every single one of them.

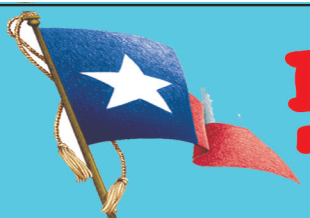
My neighbors have a grapevine that produces the sweetest purple grapes I've ever tasted. I check the progress of the vine during late spring, anticipating the time when I can stand there and graze. I start sampling the grapes just before they turn purple so I can taste the ripening.

And is there anything better than a newly ripened peach that's just been snatched off the tree? The simple act of reaching up and pulling down a perfect peach, rubbing it between your hands and eating it right then is one of life's greatest thrills. The juice runs down your face and arms and you're transformed into a six-year old licking the streams of juice heading for your elbows. Few things are better than that.

I have a friend who picks fresh blackberries from a field near his home and puts them over his cereal on summer mornings. That's really living.

Near a spring in our town there is a mulberry tree that produces an amazing dark fruit. We discovered it on a summer afternoon with our young son years ago. When I see that tree now, I recall that pleasant day made better by the discovery of the sweet tasting fruit, which was there for the taking. Blueberries have become a popular Texas fruit. Blueberry farms give customers the chance to pick their own. Some people like the cultivated fields for picking. I prefer open fields or woods that offer the fruits of the season in the wild, like the Indians found them. Burl Ives said in one of his movies: "O, the sweet tastes and joys of this world." I repeat that line often in the summer.





# FAMOUS TEXANS

## Charlie Pride

Country Music Singer, Musician/Guitarist,  
Recording Artist, Performer & Business Owner.



Charley Frank Pride (born March 18, 1934) is an American country music singer, musician/guitarist, recording artist, performer, and business owner. His greatest musical success came in the early to mid-1970s, when he became the best-selling performer for RCA Records since Elvis Presley. During the peak years of his recording career (1966–87), he garnered 52 top-10 hits on the Billboard Hot Country Songs charts, 29 of which made it to number one. He has appeared with country music star Brad Paisley and was featured in the 2016 CMA Awards.

Pride is one of the few African Americans to have had considerable success in the country music industry and one of only three (along with DeFord Bailey and Darius Rucker) to have been inducted as a member of the Grand Ole Opry. He was inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame in 2000.

In 2010, Pride became a special investor and minority owner of the Texas Rangers Major League Baseball club.

### EARLY LIFE

Pride was born in Sledge, Mississippi, one of 11 children of poor sharecroppers. His father intended to name him Charley Frank Pride, but owing to a clerical error on his birth certificate, his legal name is Charley Frank Pride. Eight boys and three girls were in the family. He married Rozene Cohan in 1956.

### CAREER

When Pride was 14, his mother purchased him his first guitar and he taught himself to play. Though he loved music, one of Pride's lifelong dreams was to become a professional baseball player. In 1952, he pitched for the Memphis Red Sox of the Negro American League. He pitched well and in 1953 signed a contract with the Boise Yankees, the Class C farm team of the New York Yankees. During that season, an injury caused him to lose the "mustard" on his fastball, and he was sent to the Yankees' Class D team in Fond du Lac, Wisconsin. Later that season, while in the Negro Leagues with the Louisville Clippers, another player (Jesse Mitchell) and he were traded to the Birmingham Black Barons for a team bus. "Jesse and I may have the distinction of being the only players in history to be traded for a used motor vehicle," Pride mused in his 1994 autobiography.

He pitched for several other minor league teams, his hopes of making it to the big leagues still alive, but the Army derailed this. After serving two years in the military, he tried to return to baseball. Though hindered by an injury to his throwing arm, Pride played three games for the Missoula Timberjacks of the Pioneer League (a farm club of the Cincinnati Reds) in 1960, and had tryouts with the California Angels (1961) and the New York Mets (1962) organizations, but was not picked up by either team.

Pride's singing ability soon came to the attention of the team manager, who also paid him to sing for 15 minutes before each game, which increased attendance and earned Pride another \$10 on top of the \$10 he earned for each game. He also played gigs in the local area, both solo and with a band called the Night Hawks, and Asarco asked him to sing at company picnics. His job at the smelter was dangerous and difficult; he once broke his ankle. He routinely unloaded coal from railroad cars, shoveling it into a 2,400 °F furnace while keeping clear of slag, a task which frequently gave him burns. In a 2014 interview, Pride explained, "I would work at the smelter, work the swing shift and then play music," said Pride. "I'd work 11-7. Drive. Play Friday. Punch in. Drive. Polson. Philipsburg."

Between his smelter job and his music, he made a good living in the Helena area. He moved his wife and son to join him and they lived in Helena until 1967, purchasing their first home there, and with their children Dion and Angela being born at the local hospital. The Pride family moved to Great Falls, Montana, in 1967, because Pride's music career was taking off and he required quicker access to an airport. The family ultimately left Montana and moved to Texas in 1969. In a 1967 interview with the Helena Independent Record, Rozene commented that the family encountered minor racism in Montana, citing an incident where they were refused service in a restaurant and another time when a realtor refused to show them a home, but she felt that the family endured less racism than she saw leveled against local Native American people, whose treatment she compared to that given to black people in the South. Pride has generally spoken with fondness of the near-decade he spent there. "Montana is a very conservative state...I stood out like a neon. But once they let you in, you become a Montanan. When the rumor was that I was leaving. They kept saying, 'we will let you in, you can't leave.'"

### RISE TO MUSIC FAME

While he was active in baseball, Pride had been encouraged to join the music business by country stars such as Red Sovine and Red Foley, and was working towards this career. In 1958, in Memphis, Pride visited Sun Studios and recorded some songs. One song has survived on tape, and was released in the United Kingdom as part of a box set. The song is a slow stroll in walking tempo called "Walkin' (the Stroll)".

He played music at clubs in Montana solo and with a four-piece combo called the Night Hawks during the time he lived in Montana. His break came when Chet Atkins at RCA Victor heard a demonstration tape and got Pride a contract. In 1966, he released his first RCA Victor single, "The Snakes Crawl at Night". Nashville manager and agent Jack D. Johnson signed Pride. Atkins was the longtime producer at RCA Victor who had made stars out of country singers such as Jim Reeves, Skeeter Davis, and others. Pride was signed to RCA Victor in 1965. "The Snakes Crawl at Night" did not chart. On the records of this song submitted to radio stations for airplay, the singer was listed as "Country Charley Pride". At this time, country music was a white medium. Jack made sure that no pictures of Charley were distributed for the first two years of his career, to avoid the effects of Jim Crowism. Pride disputes that the omission of a photo was deliberate; he stated that getting promoters to bring in a black country singer was a bigger problem: "people didn't care if I was pink. RCA signed me... they knew I was colored.

Soon after the release of "The Snakes Crawl at Night", Pride released another single called "Before I Met You", which also did not chart. Soon after, Pride's third single, "Just Between You and Me", was released. This song finally brought Pride success on the country charts. The song reached number nine on the US country chart.

### HEIGHT OF HIS CAREER

The success of "Just Between You and Me" was enormous. He was nominated for a Grammy Award for the song the next year.

In 1967, he became the first black performer to appear at the Grand Ole Opry since harmonica player DeFord Bailey, who was a regular cast member of the Opry from 1925 through 1941, and made a final appearance in 1974. Pride also appeared in 1967 on ABC's The Lawrence Welk Show. In 1975, he was one of the stars of Bob Hope's Stars and Stripes show emceed by John Davidson and filmed in front of a live audience in Oklahoma City to celebrate the United States Bicentennial.

Between 1969 and 1971, Pride had eight single records that simultaneously reached number one on the US Country Hit Parade and also charted on the Billboard Hot 100: "All I Have to Offer You (Is Me)", "(I'm So) Afraid of Losing You Again", "I Can't Believe That You've Stopped Loving Me", "I'd Rather Love You", "Is Anybody Goin' to San Antone", "Wonder Could I Live There Anymore", "I'm Just Me", and "Kiss an Angel Good Mornin'". The pop success of these songs reflected the country/pop crossover sound that was reaching country music in the 1960s and early 1970s, known as "Countryopolitan". In 1969, his compilation album, *The Best of Charley Pride*, sold over one million copies, and was awarded a gold disc. Ultimately, Elvis Presley was the only artist who sold more records for the RCA label than did Pride.

Pride sang the Paul Newman-directed film *Sometimes a Great Notion's* main soundtrack song "All His Children" in 1970. The film starred Newman and Henry Fonda and received two Oscar nominations in 1972, one being for the song that Pride sang. Charlie Pride died from Covid at the age of 86.





# 2021 Sulphur Springs

# SS

# Wildcats

## WILDCAT SCHEDULE 7:30 p.m.

Aug. 27-Wakeland- <b>Here</b>	Oct. 8- Royse City- <b>Here</b>
Sept. 3-Lovejoy-There (7:00)	Oct. 15-Corsicana-There
Sept. 10-Kaufman-There	Oct. 22-Greenville- <b>Here</b>
Sept. 17-Crandall- <b>Here</b>	Oct. 29- Forney- <b>Here</b>
Sept. 24-Ennis-There	Nov. 11-North Forney-There

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