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Over 60 - Free Lunch

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BINGO and LUNCH

Start Date: April 2, 2016

11:00am Bingo with give-aways

~ Noon Lunch ~

60 and over: Free or Donation

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Location: Hunt Regional Community Hospital In Commerce, Texas When: Tuesday-Wednesday-Thursday

Reservations would be nice - call 903-454-1444 Join us for a great time!

When: Every Tuesday-Wednesday-Thursday

Time: Noon



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JOURNAL OF TEXAS' PATH TO INDEPENDENCE continued...

This heartrending historic tale is true Texan and part of a "trilogy" of battles in our war for independence from Mexican rule. The Goliad Massacre occurred only three weeks after the Battle of the Alamo. It was a muderous incident which brought intense national attention and outrage. As the ashes of the Alamo continued to smolder, General Sam Houston feared more catastrophe for his Texas army. Santa Anna, the self-proclaimed "Napoleon of the West" continued to sweep across the middle of Texas, and he was aiming next for a presidio in Goliad that had been rebel-held for about six months. On March 14, 1836, Houston ordered Fannin to evacuate his 400-man force from Goliad and retreat to Victoria, 30 miles to the east on the Guadalupe River.



Fannin lacked urgency (again) and the finely-bred West-Point-trained officer lingered at Goliad until March 19. He abandoned the site but even in retreat, he moved slowly, allowing horses to graze and stopping for wagon maintenance. He even failed to pack food for the men. When Mexican forces were encountered along the way to Victoria, he decided against taking cover in the woods and ordered his men to make a square formation on the open prairie with cannons at each corner. They held off their attackers successfully until dark, then they dug trenches and buttressed for protection with overturned carts, carcasses of horses and even those of fallen comrades. The men were wounded, exhausted, hungry and thirsty. Toward morning, it became evident that the arrival of more Mexican forces had made their situation hopeless, so they raised the white flag at dawn. The small army was marched back to the Goliad presidio where other rebel captives were being held. Santa Anna's original orders held...those captured would not be treated as prisoners of war with clemency, but would be treated as pirates and shot. They were held for about a week, then on Palm Sunday, March 27, 1836, the prisoners were divided up with the sick and wounded remaining in the chapel, and the rest divided into three groups and marched out onto separate roadways for about a half-mile. When ordered to halt, Mexican officers opened fire and slaughtered every man. The sick in the chapel were executed against the wall or in their makeshift beds. Fannin was executed last, his body burned and his pocketwatch taken as a war prize. The 350 rebels massacred at Goliad almost doubled that of the Alamo dead. A few survived, thanks to a woman known as "the Angel of Goliad" who convinced a colonel to spare the lives of about 20 who were doctors, orderlies and interpreters. Now viewing Santa Anna as a cruel despot, the nation was even more up in arms over the plight of the Texians. Sam Houston began to prepare his men for a decisive battle, one that would take place less than a month later. As he concluded his rallying speech with 'Remember the Alamo, the Alamo, the Alamo!", his men thundered back "Remember Goliad!" Waterloo was waiting at San Jacinto (from History in the Headlines, History Channel online)



Bailey Braddock, a senior at Cumby ISD, is a state champ in the Texas High School Women's Power Lifting Association. She qualified in the 165 pound weight class. Bailey and four classmates were medalists in the Corpus Christi meet.





Til next week, I'll watch for you at the corral gate

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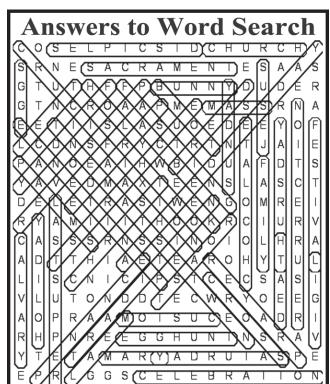
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BRIAN FOUND A HOME IN SONORA

Tumbleweed Smith



maintains the grass, watering system, the tractors, mowers and other machinery. He does a good job because the course is ranked as the 18th best course in the state. He does not play golf.

"I left the bay area of California 33 years ago," he says.

Brian Rhodes takes care of the golf course in Sonora. He

"Just left everything and went for a walk. I went from coast to coast twice, back and forth. I ended up at this intersection and couldn't go anymore. So I stayed here. Got a job within two hours."

He got his job at the golf course after he saw two men trying to fix a golf craft. He told them he could fix it and did. He understands mechanical things. The golf course hired him to maintain it and he moved into some modest quarters on the premises

"There was nothing here, just a shed. I camped out in there the first four months or so, then built a house next to it. I like building things. I like woodworking. I build rocking horses, furniture, all kinds of things."

A lawnmower used on fairways had been in a repair shop in San Antonio for more than a year. Brian arranged to get it back in Sonora and he got it running. Some time ago Brian worked for eight years repairing power tools and table saws, then started building telescopes. One had a 24-inch mirror and was 12 feet tall.

"I took that telescope to national parks and monuments for years. I went to Yosemite, Grand Canyon, Death Valley, all over the place. I went to universities and schools, showing the stars to the public."

He joined a religious cult and started his walks across the country.

"I only ate what people gave me, what I asked for. I asked for beans, bread, peanut butter. I also asked for bed sheets that I cut up and sewed to make clothing. I went barefoot on my treks across the country. It hurt sometimes when I walked on the shoulders along the highway. The gravel is very big and grinds into your feet. That sojourn was something I just had to do. I just had to go find my way."

When he decided to give up that life, he got some regular clothing.

"I stopped in San Antonio at a garage sale and a woman was selling her husband's clothes. He had just died. I got some tennis shoes, a pair of pants and a shirt. She gave them to me."

From San Antonio he headed west with a new frame of mind.

"I wanted to be normal. I didn't want to go on any more. I had no desire to move another inch. I got to that intersection of the Interstate and Highway 377 and settled down."

Brian has a pet goose named Goose. He says they have bonded for life. Golf balls on the Sonora course are yellow with black stripes. Birds pecked at the white ones. Once Goose thought the white balls were eggs and she put them in her post.

Tumbleweed enjoys hearing good stories and sharing them with readers of his column. Contact him at ts@tumbleweedsmith.com.



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Sat, April 2, 9am - 10pm - Barrels for Bryson. Hopkins County Civic Center, Sulphur Springs, TX 75482. Call Dawn Elmore at 903.450.3139 or visit their Facebook page.

Thu, April 7, 1pm – 2:30pm - The Sulphur Springs Library, 611 Davis St. N. Our Computer Coach will be available for questions and guidance with newly learned computer skills from Paris Junior College. No signs ups needed; attend 1 or all 6 sessions.

Sat, April 9, 9:30am - 12:00pm - Adult Coloring and Coffee The Sulphur Springs Library, 611 Davis St. N. It's the latest trend in relaxation. Studies show coloring has a calming effect and promotes overall wellness. Bring you favorite drink with a

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Obics



Ron Branom

Graveside services for Ron Branom, age 64, of Cumby, are set for 2:00 pm Thursday, March 24, 2016 at Pippin and Hill Cemetery. Serving as Honorary Pallbearers will be Johnny Lennon, Lewis "Kip" Knowles. Rex Lennon, Tim Wilson and Roger Smith.

Ronald Paul Branom was born on September 16, 1951 in Sulphur Springs, the son of Paul Branom and Rachel (Randall) Branom. He was a computer programmer and an entrepreneur and was of the Methodist faith. Mr. Branom passed away on Monday, March 21, 2016, at Heritage Garden in Carrollton.

Survivors include, two daughters, Rebecca Garrett, and husband, Matthew, of Grapevine and Victoria Branom of Austin; and two grandchildren, Griffin and Breccan Garrett.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

In lieu of flowers please make a donation to the charity of your choice.

Arrangements are under the direction of Tapp Funeral Home.

Wenona Loraine Westbrook

Wenona Loraine Westbrook, age 93, of Sulphur Springs, passed away at Paris Regional Hospital, Monday, March 22, 2016. Arrangements are pending with West Oaks Funeral Home.



Joe Dan Karney

Funeral services for Joe Dan Karney, age 82 of Sulphur Springs will be held at 3:00 p.m. Thursday, March 24, 2016 at Murray-Orwosky Funeral Home with Andy Wright officiating. Interment will follow at Tira Cemetery with Bryan Kraatz, Mark Kraatz, Keith Kraatz, Kevin Kraatz, Bruce Olson and Pedro Salazar serving as pallbearers. Visitation was held from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., Wednesday, March 23, 2016 at Murray-Orwosky Funeral Home.

Joe Dan passed away on Tuesday, March 22, 2016 in Tira, on his land that he loved and on which he raised his cows. He was born on June 28, 1933 in Sulphur Springs, to his beloved parents, Thelma Vandever and Dooley D. Karney.

In the interim, he had a forty year career in the Texas Utilities Systems in Dallas, where he began as a meter reader at Dallas Power & Light in 1952 and retired in 1992 as Controller of Texas Electric Utilities. He graduated from North Hopkins High

School in 1951, served in the U.S. Army during the Korean conflict and received his Bachelor of Business Administration degree from night school at Southern Methodist University in 1961. He was awarded his Certified Public Accounting certificate in 1963. He was a member of the Dallas Chapter the Institute of Internal Auditors, the American Institute of Certified Public Accounts, the Texas Society of CPA's and the Dallas Chapter of CPA's. He was also a member of the Oak Cliff Rotary Club. After his retirement and return to Tira, he served on the North Hopkins Scholarship Foundation.

He is survived by his wife of forty-four years, Gwendolyn Kraatz Karney, his beloved sister-in-law and brother-in-law, Jodell and Martin Kraatz, his very loving niece and nephews, great nieces and nephews, and great-great nephews.

Ivy Ross

Graveside services for Ivy Ross, age 77 of Wills Point were held at 2:00 p.m. Wednesday, March 23, 2016 at Shiloh Cemetery with Rev. Charles Rawlinson officiating. There was no formal visitation.

Ivy passed away on Monday, March 21, 2016 at East Texas Medical Center in Tyler.

Vickie Annette Bassham

Funeral services for Vickie Annette Bassham, age 53 of Trinidad were held at 2:00 p.m. Tuesday, March 22, 2016 at Murray-Orwosky Funeral Home with Rev. Roger Bynog officiating. Interment followed at Sulphur Bluff Cemetery with Billy Bassham, Jr., Ricky Williams, Brett Bassham, Joey Williams, Bryan Williams, Mark Bassham, James Bassham, Jr., Tony Bassham and Barry Bassham serving as pallbearers. Visitation was held one hour prior to the service.

Vicki passed away on Saturday, March 19, 2016 at Hospice of East Texas in Tyler. She was born on December 24, 1962 in Sulphur Springs, the daughter of Larry Bassham and Billie White. She was married to Nicki Landi, Sr. She was a volunteer of Faith in Action Outreach and a member of Caney Creek Baptist Church.

She is survived by her husband, along with sons, Derrick Knight of Quitman and Nick Landi, Jr. of Mesquite; daughter, Nicole Curry of Quitman; grandchildren, Cody Wayne White and Evan Zackary Webber; father and step-mother, Larry and Georgia Bassham of Overton; mother and step-father, Billie Ruth White and husband, Billy Wayne of Quitman; grandmother, Linda Knight of Quitman; step-brothers, Billy Oliver of Arp and Lonnie Oliver of Turner Town and step-sister, Pam Lopez of Arp.

She is preceded in death by her grandparents, Clarence and Jewel Bassham and Bill Knight, along with one step-sister, Sharon Oliver Tiner. Memorials can be made to Hospice of East Texas, 4111 University Blvd., Tyler, TX 75701.

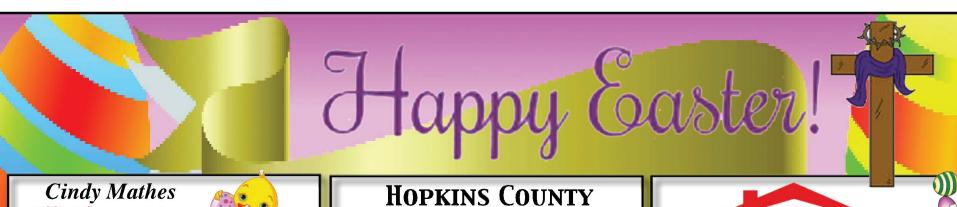


Fayrene Wade Green

Funeral services for Fayrene Wade Green, age 69, of Sulphur Springs have been set for Saturday, March 26, 2016 at 1:00 p.m. at Greater Emanuel Baptist Church with Rev. R. Ellis officiating. Interment will follow in East Caney Cemetery with Laurance Green, Gary Green, James Eric Green, Dakerryon Harrison, Keidrick Green and William Harrison, Jr. serving as pallbearers. Visitation has been scheduled for Friday March 25, 2016 from 5:00PM to 7:00PM at Tapp Funeral Home. Mrs. Green passed away on Saturday, March 19, 2016.

Mrs. Green was born on May 20, 1946, in Sulphur Springs, the daughter of Sylvester Wade and Audrey Marie (Thompson) Wade. She was married to James Clifton Green, who preceded her in death in 1997. She was housekeeper for a hotel service and was a member of the Church of Christ.

Survivors include three sons, Gary Green, James Eric Green and Laurance Green all of Sulphur Springs; two daughters, Audrey Harrison of Sulphur Springs and Laura Ann Green of Greenville; and three brothers, Noble Wade and Sylvester Wade both of Sulphur Springs and Sammy Wade of Haskell, TX; seven grandchildren, Ashlie Green, Keidrick Green, Sharnice Green, Jasmine Green, Sulena Lindley, Jana Lindley and Da'Kerryon Harrison and five great grandchildren, Teasia Hopkins, Shalice Green, Giovanni Green, Jacianna Green and Dagualin Green.



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