

Saturday, April 27, 2024 - Come Join Us!!!

Bring your classic car,
truck, or motorcycle to
downtown Commerce and
join us!
Registration: \$20—
8 to 10 a.m.
Participant Judging:
10:30-11:30 a.m.
Awards in 30 classes

Time: 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. Date: Sat. April 27, 2024



• Door prizes
• Vendors
• 50/50 Pot
• Dr Dave & Bro Gary DJ's

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Commerce Chamber of Commerce presents our 9th AnnuaBois d'Arc Spring Car Show!

Downtown Commerce on the historic town square.

MIKE BLUM: THE VALLEY SUPERMAN



Tumbleweed Smith

Mike Blum seems to be everywhere doing everything in the Rio Grand Valley. He lives in McAllen and knows all about the valley. He says the area covered by 11 states is smaller than the area covered by the Rio Grand Valley. "Geographically, the valley is 90 miles from east to west and 40 miles north to south. It's home to 1.2 million people in Cameron, Hi-Tumbleweed Smith dalgo, Willacy and Starr Counties."

Mike was McAllen's city planner, was museum president, played Santa Claus for 20 years (even though he's Jewish), is in real estate and is an active civic worker among other things. "I am a twelve-string guitar player and I've been doing music with our Sunday School kids for 30 years, teaching them Jewish songs. I love doing that."

He also plays guitar at services in his synagogue. He is Humanitarian of the Year for Easter Seals. "When I was seven years old I had polio. I only had it four days. The first day I was almost unable to move. The second day I was paralyzed. The third day things started easing up and the fourth day it was gone. I never had another problem from the polio. But in high school I realized how important it is to take care of kids who have polio and I volunteered at the American Red Cross to learn how to be a baby sitter for kids in a wheel chair or have braces on their legs."

What he really likes to do is create works of art in wood. I'll put some wood on the machine and something will come of it. I've got to have an idea going in, but sometimes the wood tells you what to do and you just let the wood talk." He goes to meetings of the Wood Turners Association where he learns new techniques and buys exotic woods. A bowl he made in a high school shop class sits on his desk. "Fifty years after I made that bowl, my daughter was having a baby in Spring, Texas. Her husband took me to what I call a big boy toy store. It was a woodcraft store. I saw a mini-lathe designed to turn pens, as in ballpoint pens. I bought it, took it home and within a matter of days I turned my first piece since I was sixteen. I was hooked. For the next ten years I made a lot of little pieces, little bowls, little nothings. Periodically I'd experiment."

He spent two years studying with a professional wood turner. He did some favors for that person and to show his appreciation he gave Mike a two thousand dollar lathe. "I can now turn 48 inches long and 18 inches in diameter."

Some of his pieces sell for thousands of dollars. He uses wood and epoxy to create a gallery of award-winning fine art. He makes lamps, vessels of all sorts and even wooden eggs that have become collectors' items.

"I have developed a skill set that allows me to look at a piece of wood and imagine what it would look like if I did this or that. I can take a piece of ugly wood, put it in a pot of epoxy, turn it and the epoxy fills in all the imperfections and you wind up with a spectacularly different piece of wood." The international Museum of Art and Science in Houston has recognized his work.

Miscellaneous

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WORD SEARCH (Astronomy 2)

Find and circle all of the Astronomy related words that are hidden in the grid. The remaining letters shell a secret message

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Answers On Page 3

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PULSARS

QUASARS

RED GIANT

SATELLITE

SUPERNOVA

TELESCOPE

TIDES

UNIVERSE

WHITE DWARF

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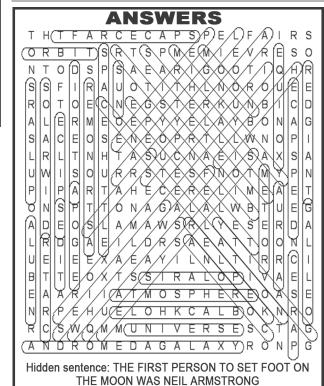
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West Oaks Funeral Home

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http://www.westoaksfuneralhome.com



Sandra Kay Phillips

Funeral Service for Sandra Kay Phillips, age 77, of Sulphur Springs will be at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 27, 2024 at West Oaks Funeral Home Chapel with Bro. Fred Lewis officiating. Payton Hammons, Ryan Hammons, Ben Brown, Adam Peckham, Tim Sink and Brian Bell will be serving as pallbearers. There will be a visitation one hour prior to the service and interment will follow the service at Rock Hill Cemetery in Yantis, TX.

Sandra was born on March 14, 1947 to Bobby and Iretta Stokes in Tyler, TX. She married Kenneth Phillips on September 1, 1967 in Sulphur Springs, he preceded her in death. Sandra was a long time member of First Baptist Church in Sulphur Springs. She worked for City National Bank for 53 years where she retired. She adored spending time with her family especially those grandkids.

She is survived by her son, Michael Phillips and his wife Janet; grandsons, Jacob Phillips, Chad Brown and his wife, Stephanie; granddaughter, Rachylle Hammons and her husband, Russell; great-grandchildren, Payton Hammons, Ryan

Hammons, Laney Hammons, Aubree Hammons, Ben Brown and Briell Brown; brother-in-law, Glenn Hart and her aunt, Johnita Oaks. Sandra was preceded in death by her parents; her loving husband, Kenneth Phillips; brother, Timothy M. Stokes, sister, Suzy Hart and one nephew, Cody Massey.

Arrangements are under the direction of West Oaks Funeral Home. www.westoaksfuneralhome.com

Mark Rhodes

A Celebration of Life service was held for Mark Rhodes, age 65, of Yantis, Tx at 4:00 pm on Saturday April 20, 2024 at Richland Baptist Church in Sulphur Springs, TX

Mr. Rhodes passed away at his home on March 10, 2024.

He was born on October 7, 1958 to L.D. and Delores Rhodes. He was a lifetime Boat Mechanic and a Boat Racing Competitor. He enjoyed Hunting and Fishing in his spare time.

Mark is survived by his brother, Mike Rhodes.

He was preceded in death by his parents L.D. Rhodes in 1988 and Delores Rhodes in 2021.

Elizabeth Ann Gideon



A funeral service for Elizabeth Ann Gideon, age 89, of Sulphur Springs, TX was held at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, April 19, 2024 at Murray Orwosky Funeral Home in Sulphur Springs, TX with Rev. Ed Lantz officiating. Interment followed at Restlawn Memorial Park with Dustin Gideon, Gage Gideon, Brandon Comer, Tanner Cordova, Lee Clarac and Dalton Irby serving as pallbearers. Visitation was held from 6:00-8:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 18, 2024 at Murray Orwosky Funeral Home. Mrs. Gideon was called home to be with her Heavenly Father on Monday, April 15, 2024 surrounded by family.

Elizabeth Ann Gideon was born on July 29, 1934 in Commerce, TX to Menzo and Margaret (Wheeler) Salmon. She married her high school sweetheart, Bobby "Bob" Gerald Gideon in Greenville, TX on November 26, 1953. They celebrated their 70th anniversary this past fall. She was a graduate of Sulphur Springs High School and East Texas State University where she participated in band and choir. Ann was a devout Christian and lifetime member of the First United

Methodist Church where she enjoyed singing in the choir for many years. She was a past member of the Northeast Texas Choral Society and the Dial Study Club. One of her greatest joys in life was being involved in her children's many activities including the local Parent Teacher Association (PTA), Boy Scouts of America, Girl Scouts, and the many sports they chose to play.

Ann and her husband Bob owned and operated Salmon Cleaners for over 30 years. She loved interacting with all her customers and prided herself in their exceptional service. She loved the Texas Longhorns and traveled all over the U.S. to attend their football games. She had a large circle of friends that she enjoyed and would use any excuse to celebrate and go out to dinner. Her pride and joy were her grandchildren. From school lunch visits, graduations, sporting events, weddings and ceremonies, she was their biggest supporter and loved being a huge part of their lives.

Ann is survived by her husband, Bob Gideon of Sulphur Springs, TX; sons, Robert Gideon (Sandra White) of Austin, TX and David Gideon (Kim) of Sulphur Springs, TX; daughter, Allison Martin (Greg) of Sulphur Springs, TX; grandchildren, Whitney Comer (Brandon), Dustin Gideon (Christine), Sloane Martin (Tanner), Spencer Clarac (Lee), Skyler Irby (Dalton), and Gage Gideon; great-grandchildren, Knox Chan, Stella Comer, Saylor Comer, Sirenna Gideon, Lincoln Gideon, Piper Cordova, and Copeland Clarac.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Menzo and Margaret Salmon. Arrangements were under the direction of Murray-Orwosky Funeral Home.





www.ssisd.net/bond

PROPOSED PROJECTS

CONSTRUCT NEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS



New Campus 1

Site: Sulphur Springs Elememtary Name: TBD



New Campus 2

Site: Requires Land Purchase Name: Rowena Johnson Elementary School

Both New Campuses:



will serve students in grades K-5.

will be roughly the size of the current Sulphur Springs Elementary School.



will provide updated spaces to facilitate the needs of modern learning.



will provide enhanced safety and security to meet current requirements.

will have the capacity to accommodate SSISD enrollment growth.

RENOVATE ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS



Barbara Bush

Renovate to serve students in K-5 New Playground ADA-compliant accessibility Enhance learning spaces



Douglass

Renovate to serve students in Pre-K
Update brick and masonry
ADA-compliant accessibility
Enhance learning spaces



Bowie

Office space conversion for special programs staff

RETIRE ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS







Johnson

Sulphur Springs ES

Travis

REASONS TO CONSIDER THE 2024 BOND PROPOSAL

1. STUDENT IMPACT

The 2024 bond proposal will impact learning spaces for more than 2,100 students in PreK through 5th grades, which is about half of SSISD's student enrollment.

2. K-5 GRADE CONFIGURATION

This proposal creates K-5 elementary schools, which research shows is better for young students by eliminating multiple school transitions.

3. MODERNIZE FACILITIES

New schools and the K-5 configuration would allow SSISD to replace schools that are now 58, 65, and 70 years old.

4. MINIMAL TAX INCREASE

The maximum impact of the 2024 bond is 1/4 penny to the tax rate, which equates to \$1.47 annually for the average home value in SSISD.

5. FIRST STEP IN LONG-RANGE PLANNING

The 2024 bond is focused on SSISD's oldest campuses and youngest students. Future bonds could address the middle school and high school.

EARLY VOTING: **APRIL 22-30** ELECTION DAY: **SATURDAY, MAY 4**SSISD ADMINISTRATION BLDG. - 631 CONNALLY ST. - MAY 4, 7 AM - 7 PM

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