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VOL. 26 ISSUE 1282, January 15, 2025

Sulphur Springs, Greenville, Commerce, Lone Oak, Emory, Quinlan, East & West Tawakoni, Cash, Caddo Mills, Pickton, Como, Point, Winnsboro, Lake Fork, Yantis and Farmersville

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***Pat Looney, Joy Wilson, Peggy Bunch,  
Sarah Gibbs and Jan Massey Richardson***

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# *The* Millennium Shopper

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## A FISHING TRIP TO REMEMBER

### Tumbleweed Smith

You never know what's going to happen when you go fishing In Alaska. Some fishermen up there are set netters.

"They set their nets out," says Joe Bob Brewster who ranches around Crystal Falls just outside of Breckenridge. He calls his ranch NPR, No problem Ranch. He had an oil field supply business in Alaska for thirty years.

**Tumbleweed Smith**

"In other words, they run the net out, like in the ocean. They run it out with a boat and they have something anchored out there that they hook the net on and they sit for two hours, ten hours, whatever. As the fish swim they get hung up in the net. Then they take the salmon out, throw them in the boat, take them to the shore and sell them." Joe Bob was never too busy with his business to go fishing.

"My brother-in-law and I were out there fishing one time in the middle of nowhere along the Naknek River when this lady drove up with her daughter and asked us if we had a can opener. We told her that we had one and asked if we could help her.

"She had a can with her, handed it over and asked if we could open it. She told us she had the remains of her husband in there, and that he had wanted to be cremated. He had been a set netter out here on he Naknek River and died during the winter. They couldn't dig a hole to bury him because it was frozen. The lady said 'I didn't know what to do with him so I just canned him. Like we can fish. I figured since we preserved fish, we'd just preserve him.'

"So we opened the can full of the woman's husband's ashes. She took it and she and her daughter went down to the river, had some sort of little service and Ker plunk, you know, and poured out the ashes into the river. Then they came back, thanked us and took off.

"We went down to the river and saw a circle of gray ashes where they had poured out the remains of her husband. About that time a guy came up and was going to clean his fish. He was a set netter. He asked us what we were doing. "We told him we were just fishing ad asked him not to clean his fish where those gray ashes were because the woman had just buried her husband. We told the man that the woman's husband had been a set netter. The man pondered a moment and said 'I wonder if I knew him. What's his name?' We told him his first name was George but we didn't remember his last name.

"So this guy goes out there, looks into the river and sees that gray circle. He came back up and said 'one thing about it, I'll have to say that I don't recognize him.

"The man then said 'out of respect I'll go down the river a little ways to clean my fish.'"

Joe Bob says that is sure one fishing trip he'll remember for a long time.

### Miscellaneous

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## WORD SEARCH (Movie Actresses 1)

Find and circle all of the Movie Actresses that are hidden in the grid. The remaining letters spell the name of a movie for which Jodie Foster won an Oscar.

A	L	C	O	N	N	E	L	L	Y	H	T	H	D	W
D	A	E	E	O	S	I	A	L	N	A	B	N	A	O
A	N	E	R	R	I	M	N	D	O	T	L	E	V	R
M	E	E	I	L	O	J	G	N	T	H	U	L	I	T
S	H	E	R	O	O	M	E	A	S	A	N	L	S	L
T	C	U	S	A	C	K	Y	M	U	W	T	A	E	A
G	N	I	N	N	A	F	N	R	H	A	E	I	T	P
H	U	N	T	E	R	N	I	O	R	Y	B	T	C	C
N	E	G	S	H	K	O	U	D	I	A	E	F	U	T
H	Y	O	U	E	O	R	Q	C	C	H	B	T	B	W
Y	L	H	E	G	E	M	A	M	C	A	H	K	E	A
C	R	N	T	T	I	Z	P	N	I	B	C	N	N	T
E	E	R	S	E	A	N	A	S	E	L	N	A	I	S
R	L	O	E	I	L	L	O	R	O	A	E	W	N	O
A	F	M	D	B	B	B	T	B	S	N	D	S	G	N

ADAMS, Amy  
ALBA, Jessica  
ALLEN, Joan  
BARRYMORE, Drew  
BENING, Annette  
BERRY, Halle  
BIEL, Jessica  
BLANCHETT, Cate  
BLETHYN, Brenda  
BLUNT, Emily  
CLOSE, Glenn  
CONNELLY, Jennifer  
CUSACK, Joan

CUTHBERT, Elisha  
DAVIS, Hope  
DENCH, Judi  
DIAZ, Cameron  
FANNING, Dakota  
FOSTER, Jodie  
GUGINO, Carla  
HATHAWAY, Anne  
HUNTER, Holly  
HUSTON, Angelica  
JOLIE, Angelina  
KEENER, Catherine

LANE, Diane  
LANGE, Jessica  
MCDORMAND, Frances  
MIRREN, Helen  
MOORE, Demi  
PALTROW, Gwyneth  
PAQUIN, Anna  
RICCI, Christina  
SWANK, Hilary  
THERON, Charlize  
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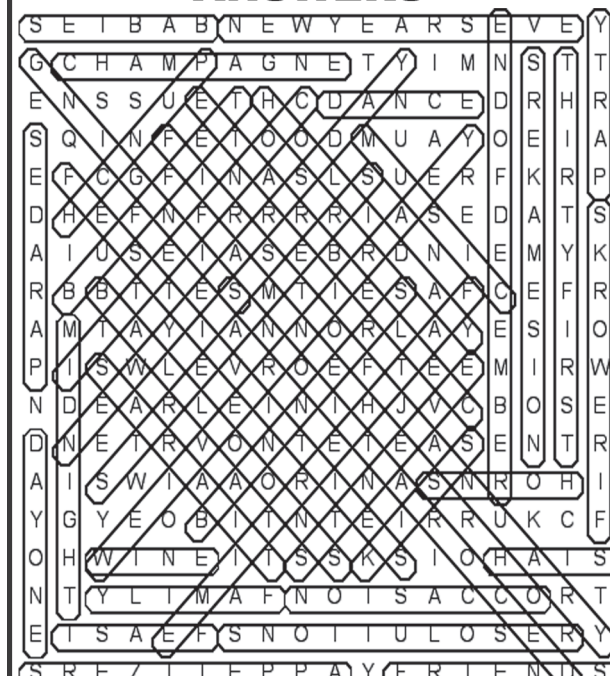
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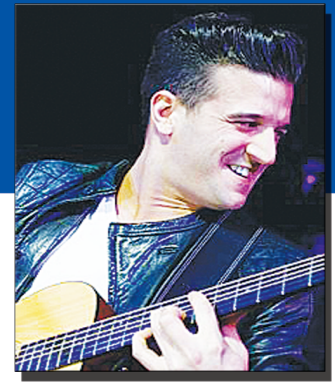




## FAMOUS TEXAN

# Mark Ballas

*Dancing With The Stars*



Mark Alexander Ballas Jr. (born May 24, 1986) is an American dancer, choreographer, singer-songwriter, musician, and actor.

Ballas is a professional ballroom dancer on the ABC program *Dancing with the Stars*. He began competing on the show in season five during the fall of 2007 and was nominated for an Emmy for Outstanding Choreography in 2011. Ballas released his first solo CD *HurtLoveBox* in March 2011.

Ballas was born in Houston, Texas, the son of dancers Corky Ballas and Shirley Ballas. His paternal grandparents were of Mexican, Spanish, and Greek background, and his mother is originally from the United Kingdom and is of English heritage. His paternal grandfather, George Ballas, was the inventor of the Weed Eater lawn-trimming device. His Greek paternal great-grandparents, Karolos ("Charles") Ballas and Maria Lymnaos were immigrants to the United States from Greece.

Ballas is a member of singer-songwriter duo Alexander Jean along with his wife, BC Jean. The two became engaged in November 2015 after three years of dating, and were married on November 25, 2016, in Malibu, California.

## CAREER

### Early life

Ballas attended Rosemead Preparatory School in South London. At the age of 11, he earned a full-time slot at the Italia Conti Academy of Theatre Arts in London, as well as earning a full scholarship. In 2005, he was awarded "Performer of the Year". He then moved on to win championships at The British Open to the World, The US Open to the World, and The International Open to the World. With his former partner Julianne Hough, he won the Junior Latin American Dance Championship and the gold medal at the Junior Olympics.

## ACTING

### Ballas in 2013

As an actor, Ballas played the lead role of Tony in the musical *Copacabana* and was the lead dancer in the UK national tour of the Spanish musical *Maria de Buenos Aires*. He was also the understudy for the role of Ritchie Valens in the UK national tour of *Buddy, The Buddy Holly Story*. Ballas played an extra in *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone* as part of the Hufflepuff House. In October 2008, Ballas made a guest appearance on the season premiere of *Samantha Who*.

On September 6, 2016, it was announced that Ballas would be the final actor to portray the role of Frankie Valli in the Broadway cast of *Jersey Boys* before it closed in 2017. On May 26, 2018, it was announced that he would play the role of the Teen Angel in the 2018 Toronto revival of *Grease* in a limited engagement from June 7–10. From September 11, 2018 to November 18, 2018, Ballas portrayed Charlie Price in the musical *Kinky Boots* on Broadway.

### *Dancing with the Stars*

On the fifth season of *Dancing with the Stars*, Ballas was partnered with Cheetah Girls star Sabrina Bryan. On October 30, 2007, the pair was voted off the show. They have been the only couple invited back for an exhibition dance.

Ballas's partner for season 6 of *Dancing With The Stars* was Olympic Gold Medal-winning figure skater Kristi Yamaguchi. They won the series.

On August 25, 2008, ABC announced the cast of the seventh season of *Dancing with the Stars*, with Ballas paired with reality television star Kim Kardashian. They were the third couple eliminated, finishing in eleventh place, on September 30, 2008.

For the eighth season of *Dancing with the Stars*, Ballas was paired with Olympic gold-medal winning gymnast Shawn Johnson, winning that season's competition on May 19, 2009.

He was partnered with actress Melissa Joan Hart for the show's ninth season. They were voted off in week six and came in 9th place.

For season 10, Ballas was partnered with actress Shannen Doherty. They were the first couple eliminated, on March 30, 2010. Despite that, Shannen & Mark hold a higher average than a few celebrities who lasted longer than they did.

For season 11, Ballas was partnered with Bristol Palin, daughter of former Alaska governor and U.S. Vice Presidential candidate Sarah Palin. They made it to the finale and finished in third place.

For season 12, Ballas was partnered with Disney Channel star Chelsea Kane. They made it to the finals where they finished in third place. For his choreography with Kane, specifically the Jive ("I Write Sins Not Tragedies"), Viennese Waltz ("Hedwig's Theme") and Waltz ("My Love") dances, Ballas was nominated for that year's Primetime Emmy Award for Outstanding Choreography.

For season 13, Ballas was partnered with reality star Kristin Cavallari where they were the 3rd couple eliminated finishing in 10th place.

For season 14, he was partnered with Classical Singer Katherine Jenkins. They made it to the finale where they finished as the runners-up, losing to Donald Driver & Peta Murgatroyd.



# Obits



## WEST OAKS FUNERAL HOME

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### **Matt Young**

A memorial service for Matt Young, age 49, of Lindale, Texas will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, January 18, 2025 at the Hopkins County Civic Center Auditorium with Greg Owens officiating. Visitation will follow the service. Honorary pallbearers will be his brothers-in-law. Matt, who was diagnosed with cancer in June of 2022, passed away at Christus Mother Frances Hospital in Tyler on Sunday, January 5, 2025.

Matthew Thomas Young was born on March 19, 1975 in Paris, Texas to Tom and Debbie (Wrenn) Young. He married Jamie McGraw in Cooper, Texas on June 16, 2001. Matt graduated as the SSHS Salutatorian in 1993, and went on to The University of Texas where he earned a kinesiology degree.

Matt believed in following the “greatest commandments” – loving God and loving others – and he modeled this in his daily life. When his desire to be a life-long learner was paired with his passion for football, it led him to follow his parents’ footsteps into the field of education. Over the course of his 27-year teaching career, Matt taught a variety of high school math classes, coached football and track, and even had short stints with basketball and baseball.

Matt attended the First United Methodist Church in Mt. Sylvan, and was a member of the Texas High School Coaches Association. He enjoyed spending time dancing in the kitchen with Jamie, hosting dinner and game nights with friends or football players, reading historical nonfiction and positive mindset books, traveling with his family (and the Holts,) cooking up his favorite recipes, and the occasional golf scramble with coaches or a few brothers-in-law. Over the years, there were times when athletes didn’t have rides or breakfast, when little soccer players needed a camp coach, when Jamie needed a co-pilot during a sweltering week of Backyard Bible Club and there was always Matt. Without fanfare or publicity, he was graciously serving, patiently leading, hand-rubbing-belly-drumming joyful, and always kind. His life, fueled by his love for Jesus, is a great example to us all.

Matt is survived by his wife, Jamie; children, Rorie, Khira, Tate, Zack, and Kymora; parents, Tom and Debbie Young; sisters, Jessica Swatsell and husband Chad and Kathleen Wade and husband A.B.; mother-in-law & father-in-law, Jimmie and Renee McGraw; beloved aunts, uncles, cousins, and enough nieces and nephews to keep him invited to birthday parties year-round.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Charles and Mary Jo Young and Clyde and Barbara Wrenn.



### **Clifton Odell Pryor** October 5, 1950 - December 30, 2024 (age 74)

It is with profound sadness we announce the passing of Mr. Clifton Odell Pryor of Sulphur Springs, Texas. Please continue to pray for this family.

A visitation was held on Friday, January 10, 2025, 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM Green Leaf Mortuary 200 Putman Street Sulphur Springs, Texas, TX 75482. A funeral Service was held on Saturday, January 11, 2025, 11:00 AM Morning Chapel Missionary Baptist Church, Fuller Street Sulphur Springs, Texas



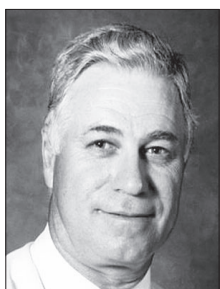
### **Virginia Bishop**

A visitation for Virginia Faye Bishop was held from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, January 12, 2025, at West Oaks Funeral Home. Virginia passed away on January 6, 2025, in Sulphur Springs, Texas.

Virginia was born on November 4, 1939, to J.B. and Mildred Weeks in Tawakoni, Texas. She loved to travel and adored spending time with her family especially her grandchildren.

She is survived by her daughter, Teresa Birchfield and her husband, Howard, one son, Jimmy Wallace, her grandchildren, Amanda Oyler and her husband, Bryan, Josh George, Blake Birchfield and his wife, Asheley, Breiann Leslie and her husband, Paul Micheal, Jason Wallace and his wife, Morgan, and Cody Wallace and his wife, Shelbi as well as eight great-grandchildren.

Virginia was preceded in death by her parents.



### **Marvin Hart** July 31, 1941 — January 12, 2025

A funeral service for Marvin Hart, age 83, of Dike, Texas was held at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, January 14, 2025, at Murray-Orwosky Funeral Home in Sulphur Springs, Texas with Mike Eason and Bill Grant officiating. Interment followed at Gafford Chapel Cemetery with Cody Hart, Clinton Degen, Ty Eason, Brandan Hart, Shane Horne, John Wayne Massey, and Ethan Phillips serving as pallbearers. Honorary pallbearers were the Elders of League Street Church of Christ. Visitation was held one hour prior from 10:00-11:00 a.m. at Murray-Orwosky Funeral Home. Mr. Hart passed away at his home, surrounded by his family, on Sunday, January 12, 2025.

Marvin Merrill Hart, was born on July 31, 1941 in Silsbee, Texas to Merrill Eli and Jennie C. (McDonald) Hart. He married Linda Kay Foster in Nuevo Larado, Mexico on June 23, 1961. Marvin obtained a bachelor’s degree in social work from East Texas State University and worked at Boles Home. He later retired as a Probation Officer from Dallas County. Marvin was an Elder at the League Street Church of Christ.

Marvin is survived by his wife, Linda Hart of Dike, Texas; son, Clinton Hart (Ann) of Buffalo, Missouri; daughter, Jana Eason (Mike) of Dike, Texas; grandchildren, Cody Hart (Ashley), Tiffany Horne (Shane), Brandan Hart, Ty Eason, Allie Eason, and John Wayne Massey; great-grandchildren, Stormie Brown, Clinton Degen, Riley Hart, and Laney Hart; brother, Derrill Hart (Anne); and sisters, Brenda Gangawere (Harry) and Pat Pate (Al). He was preceded in death by his parents, Merrill Eli and Jennie C. Hart; and son, Brent Hart.



# Obits

Continued . . . . .



## **Sandra Bryant** July 23, 1943 — January 8, 2025

Sandra Bryant, a beloved mother, grandmother, and friend passed away peacefully on January 8th, 2025 at her home in Cumby, TX surrounded by her family. Sandra was born on July 23, 1943, in Saltillo, Texas to James Wesley Beasley and Gladys Ellen Buckholt Beasley. She married Arlie Wayne Bryant on August 21, 1964, in Copeville, Texas. Sandra retired from the U.S. Postal Service after many years of dedicated service. She was an avid reader with a profound knowledge of the Bible, living its teachings with unwavering faith, and found great joy in thrifting and discovering hidden treasures. Most of all, Sandra cherished her family. Time spent with her loved ones was precious to her, and she will be remembered for her soft, sweet, and tender spirit. She had a genuine love for people and was known for her caring and nurturing nature.

Sandra is survived by her husband, Arlie; her daughter, Vicki Trentham, and husband, Jackie; her grandchildren, Phillip Edwards, Kati Glasgow and husband, Jamie; and her great-grandchildren, Gavin and Tate Glasgow. Sandra was preceded in death by her parents; son, Steve Bryant; grandson, Wesley Higginbotham; sisters, Altha Barrett and Bobbie Petty.

A visitation for Sandra Bryant was held at 1:00 P.M. on Sunday, January 12, 2025, at Murray-Orwosky Funeral Home with funeral service following at 2:00 P.M. same location. Brother Gary Fallis officiated. Interment followed at Prairie Valley Cemetery in Campbell, Texas. Pall Bearers included Cody Monroe, John Moore, Donald Higginbotham, Keith Yarborough, Jeff Kinsey, and Phillip Edwards.

Sandra will be deeply missed by all who knew her. Her legacy of love and kindness will continue to live on in the hearts of those she leaves behind.



## **Sandra Jean Miller** August 17, 1957 - January 10, 2025 (age 67)

Funeral Services for Shirley Jean Miller, age 67, will be at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, January 18, 2025, at West Oaks Funeral Home with Bro. Don Ross officiating. Koltain Winchester, Chase Stucky, Aaron Shanks, Cauby Owens, Carnell Smith, Matt Potts, James Voss, and Denton Winchester will be serving as pallbearers. Honorary Pallbearers will be John Allen and Colton McGill. Visitation will be from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Friday, January 17, 2025, at West Oaks Funeral Home. Interment will follow the service at Nelta Cemetery. Shirley passed away on January 10, 2025, in Tyler, Texas.

Shirley was born on August 17, 1957, to Raymond and Marie Sanders Powers in Idabel, Oklahoma. She enjoyed watching her son rodeo and later her grandson. Shirley also enjoyed watching Miracle play basketball, mainly just being involved in anything her kids and grandkids were involved in. She worked for many years at Christus Mother Frances — Sulphur Springs until her retirement in 2020.

Shirley loved spending time with her retired nurse friends. Her favorite thing to do was vacation no matter her destination.

She is survived by her daughters, Stephanie Winchester of Garvin, Oklahoma, and Miracle Miller-Ramon of Sulphur Springs, Texas; sister, Judy Phillips and her husband, Matt of Garvin, Oklahoma; grandchildren, Wessa Miller, Koltain Winchester, and Ryder Miller-Guy; great-grandchildren, Catherine Allen, Cinch Miller, and Bexleigh Miller; nephews, Jake Phillips and Lan and Cody Powers and two nieces, Katelyn Phillips, Josha Powers Smith.

Shirley is preceded in death by her parents, son, Mikey Miller, brothers, Bill and Max Powers, sister, Susan Barnes and her husband, Charles.

Arrangements are under the direction of West Oaks Funeral Home. [www.westoaksfuneralhome.com](http://www.westoaksfuneralhome.com)



## **Betty Lindsey**

Funeral services for Betty Ruth Lindsey, age 90, of Sulphur Springs will be conducted at 11:00 a.m., Thursday, January 16, 2025, at West Oaks Funeral Home with Bro. Dennis Erwin officiating. Abigail Alexander, Elisabeth Stutzman, Katelyn Alexander, Brennan Lollar, Andrew Alexander, and Caleb Stutzman will be serving as pallbearers. Honorary Pallbearers will be Zane Lollar, Arie Lollar, Joshua Alexander, Scarlett Plunk, and Witten Plunk. Visitation will be held at 10:00 a.m., one hour prior to the service. Interment will be at 11:00 a.m., Saturday, January 18, 2025, at Mt. Olive Cemetery in Scurry, TX. She passed away on January 1, 2025, in Sulphur Springs, Texas.

Betty was born on April 14, 1934, in Dallas, Texas to Barney Eugene McKee and Mollie Lee Anna McKee. She married Roy Fay Lindsey on February 14, 1955, in Lancaster, Texas he preceded her in death on October 17, 2020. Together they owned House of Realty in Balch Springs. Betty Loved flower gardening, her family, and above all else her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

She is survived by her daughter, Molly Plunk, raised along with her children, Frank McKee, Jonnie McKee, and Tammi Anstead; grandchildren: Nicholas Plunk and his wife Rachel, Rebecca Alexander and her husband, Daniel, Sarah Plunk, and Lindsey Lollar and her husband, Ronnie; great-grandchildren, Abigail Alexander, Elisabeth Stutzman and her husband, Caleb, Katelyn Alexander, Andrew Alexander, Joshua Alexander, Brennan Lollar, Zane Lollar, Arie Lollar, Scarlett Plunk, Witten Plunk and one great-great-grandchild on the way.

Betty was preceded in death by her parents, her loving husband Roy Lindsey, one daughter, Juiquitta Hilton and granddaughter, Sue Ellen Hilton, two brothers, Silas McKee and Harold McKee, and three sisters, Mural Mitchell, Laverne Mitchell, and Jewel McNew.

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## **Walter Lee Roland** June 5, 1951 - January 2, 2025 (age 73)

An obituary is not available at this time for Walter Lee Roland.

An open viewing was held Friday, January 10, 2025, 10:00 AM to 10:50 AM Morning Chapel Missionary Baptist Church, Fuller Street Sulphur Springs, Texas. A funeral service was held Friday, January 10, 2025, 11:00 AM Morning Chapel Missionary Baptist Church, Fuller Street Sulphur Springs, Texas.



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