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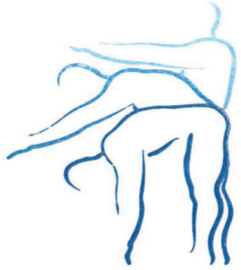
**VOL. 26 ISSUE 1310, August 6, 2025**

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## A Tavern Becomes A Community Center

Tumbleweed Smith



Some 300 people live in the community of Burton, not far from Brenham. In 1823 the Schwartz and Schwartz Mercantile opened for business in Burton. During the past 102 years the building has been a variety of stores, caf s, beer joints and various other enterprises. The woman who had it the longest, Annie Boehnemann, named it the A TAVERN White Horse Cafe and placed a statue of a white horse in front of the building.

**Tumbleweed Smith**

Allison Crowson of Brenham had a 29-year career as a school teacher, ending up as assistant principal at Brenham High School. She was also a church organist and played piano Saturday nights at the Pig and Whistle, a London style pub in Burton. "The White Horse became available and the landlord talked me into buying it and I've had it 13 years." You can't help but like Allison. She is extremely outgoing and loves people. She also plays polka music on accordion for an audience of people with Czech and German origins. "We have so much fun. They sing along with me. I don't speak either language, so sometime I don't know what I'm singing. But I love the music. It's happy music and has a lot of humor in it. Polka is very popular in this part of the state."

She also does tribute shows all over the state. "The first one I did was Loretta Lynn. It was a big hit. Then I did Tammy Wynette, Patsy Cline, Dolly Parton and Jeannie C. Riley. Jeannie lives in Brenham and came to see me singing her songs. That was a fun night." She does a big show in the American Legion Hall every summer that draws a big crowd and is a benefit for Burton Bridge, a non-profit ministry that provides medical and nutritional help for seniors and others who need help. It also has a food pantry.

Allison named her place the White Horse Tavern and cafe and has beer and wine. "I'm open for lunch Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, then open evenings Thursday, Friday and Saturday." On special occasions, she'll serve a meaty concoction called Cowboy Spaghetti served with creamed corn and fresh hot garlic bread.

After dealing with school kids for so long, she has learned a lot about human behavior. "I've found out that being a bartender is a lot like being an assistant high school principal. "She sometimes rents out the tavern. People have a lot of fun here. It's used for pizza parties, Bible study, LEGO sessions for kids, wedding showers and other activities. "Anything to pay the bills." she says. "There's a group of retired men who come here on Tuesdays to drink and visit. They kept me afloat during Covid. I have a lot of fun here and get to hear some good stories. It's a great place to play music, enjoy a meal and be with friends."

I had the privilege of performing my one man show OUTRAGEOUS TEXANS at the White Horse Tavern a few months ago. Allison served her famous Cowboy Spaghetti.

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T	N	L	E	S	R	E	K	C	I	L	S	Y	T	I	C	R	L
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R	I	T	O	T	H	E	Y	O	M	T	O	L	B	A	T	P	H
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BABE  
BEING THERE  
BIG  
BOB ROBERTS  
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Answers On Page 3

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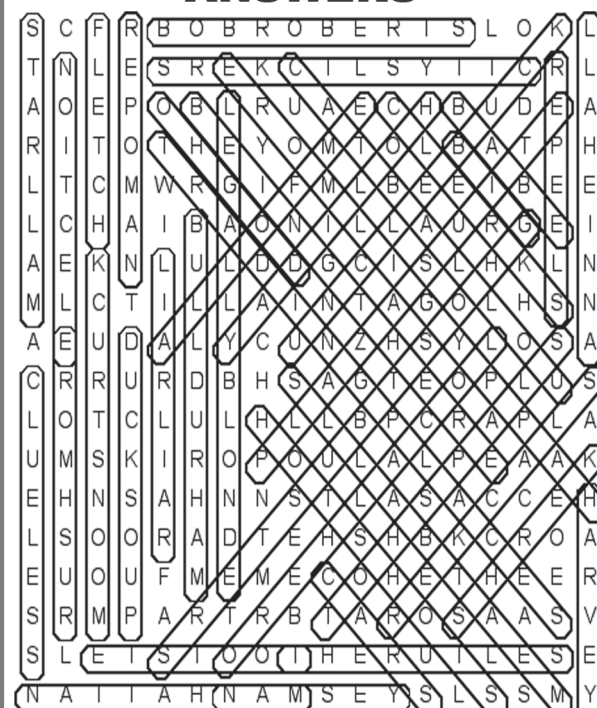
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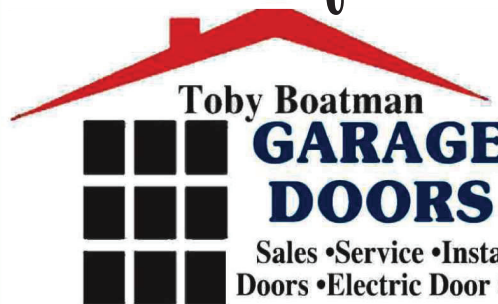


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### **Max Jones Fletcher** September 10, 1944 — August 2, 2025

Funeral services will be held on Thursday, August 7, 2025, at 11:00 a.m. at the United Methodist Church in Emory, Texas, for Max Jones Fletcher, age, 80. It will be officiated by Reverend David Banks and Pastor Larry Myers. A private burial for immediate family and close friends will follow at Prospect Cemetery in Emory, Texas. Pallbearers will be Alvaro "ED" Giron, Rhea Stroope, Jim Mack Taylor, Cal Qualls, Jenkins Franklin, Filigonio "Lala" Giron and honorary pallbearer, Randy Calhoun.

It is with deep sorrow that the family of Max Jones Fletcher announces his passing on August 2, 2025, at his home in Emory, Texas, surrounded by his loving family.

Born September 10, 1944, to Joseph (Joe) Lee Fletcher, Jr. and Velma Jones Fletcher, Max lived a life filled with love for his family and community. He was a member of the United Methodist Church in Emory, Texas and will be remembered for his warmth, dedication, and the many cherished memories he leaves behind.

Max was very successful at everything he did. After high school, he began farming while working as a security guard at LTV in Greenville, Texas. He later started an unclaimed freight business, buying salvaged goods from railroad companies and large grocery distributors, from there he opened grocery stores throughout the surrounding areas, beginning with a Piggly Wiggly in 1972.

Over the years, Max went on to open multiple grocery stores and convenience stores. He was a cattle rancher, owned a dairy farm, farmed wheat and watermelons, owned a Warehouse Distribution Center in Dallas, Texas and owned and operated Tower Crane Company erecting and dismantling tower cranes in Dallas, Texas. Max was never afraid of hard work or conquering new challenges. In recent years, he expanded his ventures and opened and owned liquor stores, continuing his lifelong entrepreneurial spirit.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Joseph (Joe) Lee Fletcher, Jr. and Velma Jones Fletcher, his brothers, Joseph Lee (Joe L.) Fletcher III and Robert Gayle Fletcher, and his beloved grandson, Dakota Ryan Barker.

He is survived by his sister, Leslyn Ann Murphy, and by his children, Staci Maxanne Fletcher of Emory, Texas, Tonja Fletcher-McCoy (John) of McKinney, Texas, Christopher Brant Fletcher of Emory, Texas and Taylor Maxlynn Fletcher (Tracy Kirby) of Lone Oak, Texas. He is also survived by his grandchildren, Mackenzi Meagan Christian (Justin), Krista Marie McCoy, Makala Madison McCoy, Joseph "Josey" Jones Fletcher, Tatum Lynn Kirby and Traeger Max Kirby, as well as his great grandchildren Skylar Kate, Lincoln Brant, Dakota Ryan, and Baby Christian, expected to arrive in 2026. Funeral services will be held on Thursday, August 7, 2025, at 11:00 a.m. at the United Methodist Church in Emory, Texas. A private burial for immediate family and close friends will follow at Prospect Cemetery in Emory, Texas.



### **Charles Hill Obituary**

Funeral Service for Charles Randel Hill will be at 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 7, 2025, at West Oaks Funeral Home with Codydale Williams officiating. Brandon Teague, Dakota Hrabal, Keith Harvey, Codydale Williams, Brian Blackwell, Travis Bilueu, and Michael Hrabal will be serving as pallbearers. Interment will follow the service at Rockdale Cemetery. Charles passed away on July 31, 2025, at his residence.

Charles was born on January 3, 1939, to Wilber and Dorothy Hill in Sulphur Springs, Texas. He served in the United States Army. Charles enjoyed building model cars, loved his tractors but above all adored spending time with his family especially his grandchildren. He is survived by his sons, Charles Ray, Larry Wayne, Bobby Lynn, and James Wilbur; daughters, Barbara Marie (Ed Corson), Marsha Hill, and Bessie Mae Stean; daughter-in-law, Christy Guest; brother, Jerry Wayne Hill (Connie); sister, Dot Hrabal, as well as 15 grandchildren and numerous great-grandchildren and a host of loving relatives and friends.

Charles was preceded in death by his parents, Wilber Rufus Hill and Dorothy Ann Robinson Hill, his wife, Barbara Ruth Armstrong, one daughter, Geneva Michelle Pearce and daughter-in-law, Trina Hill.

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



### **Jean Lummus** January 26, 1935 — August 1, 2025

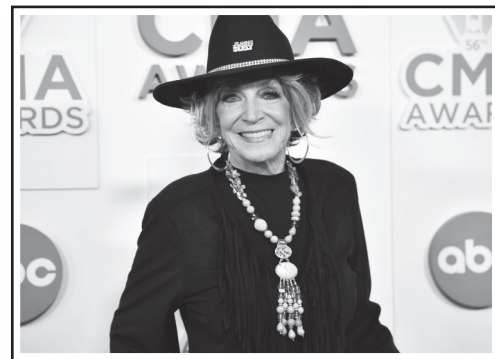
Funeral service for Jean Lummus, age 90, of Sulphur Springs, Texas will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, August 8, 2025 at Murray-Orwosky Funeral Home in Sulphur Springs with Kevin Brown officiating. Interment will follow at Shooks Chapel Cemetery with Anthony Skeen, Mike Wesson, Shelby Hodges, Michael Crotzer, Nathan Speake, and Brian Ogles serving as pallbearers. Visitation will be held one hour prior to the service from 9:00-10:00 a.m. at Murray-Orwosky Funeral Home. Ms. Lummus passed away at her home on Friday, August 1, 2025.

Ali Jean Lummus was born on January 26, 1935 in Summerfield, Oklahoma to Eugene White and Doshie Louella (Earls) Robinson. She married Aubrey Lee Lummus, Jr. in Levelland, Texas on July 10, 1959. Jean worked as a waitress and as a meat wrapper in a packing plant. She was a caregiver in her later years as well as a homemaker. Jean was a member of the League Street Church of Christ in Sulphur Springs. She enjoyed raising Schnauzers and Lhasa Apo dogs and also had an adorable cat. Jean looked forward to singing at the Klondike Flea Market and loved fishing.

Jean is survived by her son, Chris Lummus (Tammy) of Sulphur Springs; grandchildren, Brandi Skeen (Anthony) of Sulphur Springs, Jarrod Phillips of Tennessee, Michael Crotzer (Kalea) of Caddo Mills, and Samantha Crotzer of Garland; great-grandchildren, Nathan Speake, Makenna Crotzer, and Sadie Crotzer; and numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Eugene and Doshie Robinson; husband, Aubrey Lummus; son, Tim Lummus; sister, Opal Box; brothers, Virgil Robinson and Carl Robinson; and great-granddaughter, Tessa Skeen.





**Jeannie Seely**

# Country Singer Jeannie Seely dies at 85

NEW YORK (AP) — Jeannie Seely, the soulful country music singer behind such standards like “Don’t Touch Me,” has died. She was 85.

Her publicist, Don Murry Grubbs, said she died Friday after succumbing to complications from an intestinal infection.

Known as “Miss Country Soul” for her unique vocal style, Seely was a trailblazer for women in country music, celebrated for her spirited nonconformity and for a string of undeniable hits in the ‘60s and ‘70s.

Her second husband, Gene Ward, died in December. In May, Seely revealed that she was in recovery after undergoing multiple back surgeries, two emergency procedures and spending 11 days in the ICU. She also suffered a bout of pneumonia.

“Rehab is pretty tough, but each day is looking brighter and last night, I saw a light at the end of the tunnel. And it was neon, so I knew it was mine!” she said in a statement at the time. “The unsinkable Seely is working her way back.”

Dolly Parton was one of several country music luminaries paying her tribute on Friday, saying she met Seely when they were both young and starting out in Nashville.

“She was one of my dearest friends,” Parton said on her social media accounts. “I think she was one of the greater singers in Nashville and she had a wonderful sense of humor. We had many wonderful laughs together, cried over certain things together and she will be missed.”

Seely was born in July 1940, in Titusville, Pennsylvania, about two hours north of Pittsburgh and raised in nearby Townville. Her love of country music was instant; her mother sang, and her father played the banjo. When she was a child, she sang on local radio programs and performed on local television. In her early 20s, she moved to Los Angeles to kick-start a career, taking a job with Liberty and Imperial Records in Hollywood.

She kept writing and recording. Nashville was next: She sang on Porter Wagoner’s show; she got a deal with Monument Records. Her greatest hit would arrive soon afterward: “Don’t Touch Me,” the crossover ballad written by Hank Cochran. The song earned Seely her first and only Grammy Award, for best country & western vocal performance in the female category.

## The Silent Regulator: Why Your Thyroid Health Deserves Attention

**By Gabriela Camacho, BSN, RN-BC – Integrative Functional Health Practitioner**

The thyroid may be small, but its impact is mighty. This butterfly-shaped gland, located at the base of your neck, is the unsung hero of metabolism, energy regulation, hormonal balance, and even mental clarity. Yet, thyroid health remains one of the most overlooked and misdiagnosed issues in modern medicine especially among women.

The thyroid produces hormones primarily T3 (triiodothyronine) and T4 (thyroxine) that regulate how your body uses energy. Every cell in your body depends on thyroid hormones. When your thyroid is out of balance, you feel it everywhere: fatigue, weight changes, hair thinning, mood swings, constipation, dry skin, irregular periods, and even brain fog. These symptoms are often dismissed as “just stress,” aging, or even depression, when the root cause may be a dysfunctional thyroid.

Thyroid dysfunction primarily comes in two forms: hypothyroidism (underactive thyroid) and hyperthyroidism (overactive thyroid). Hypothyroidism is far more common and occurs when your body doesn’t produce enough thyroid hormone. It can leave you feeling sluggish, puffy, and mentally foggy. Conversely, hyperthyroidism may cause anxiety, palpitations, and unexplained weight loss.

One of the most misunderstood aspects of thyroid disease is its complexity. Many conventional tests only measure TSH (thyroid-stimulating hormone), which is a pituitary hormone that signals the thyroid but that’s just part of the picture. Comprehensive testing should include free T3, free T4, reverse T3, and thyroid antibodies to detect autoimmune conditions like Hashimoto’s or Graves’ disease. Unfortunately, many people are told their TSH is “normal,” while their symptoms continue to interfere with daily life.

Thyroid disorders also don’t occur in isolation. They often connect with gut health, adrenal fatigue, hormonal imbalance, and chronic inflammation. Nutritional deficiencies like low iodine, selenium, zinc, and vitamin D can impair thyroid function. Stress, processed foods, and environmental toxins only add fuel to the fire.

This is why an integrative and functional approach is essential. We don’t just look at lab numbers we look at how you feel. Are you waking up tired even after a full night’s sleep? Do you gain weight despite eating clean and exercising? Are you experiencing mood swings, memory issues, or cold hands and feet? These are real signs your thyroid needs support, not dismissal.

The good news? With proper diagnosis and personalized care, thyroid imbalance is manageable. Nutritional support, stress management, targeted supplementation, and in some cases, hormone replacement therapy can restore balance and bring back vitality.

Don’t ignore the whisper of your thyroid until it becomes a scream. Advocate for full testing. Ask questions. Track your symptoms. Your energy, mood, weight, and wellness are not just about will power they’re deeply tied to your biology.

At Omega Hydration & Wellness, we believe in treating the root, not just the symptoms. If you suspect your thyroid is holding you back, don’t wait. Your health is worth investigating.



**Gabriela Camacho**





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## Can you believe that a new school year is already here?



With a new school year comes excitement, nerves, or both. Whether your child is excited for school or is a bit nervous for the new year, here are a few easy steps that you can take to help make the transition from summer to school a smooth one:

**Don't over pack their backpacks:** The pack should weight NO MORE than 10% of your child's body weight. A backpack that is too heavy can cause early childhood neck and back pain and even scoliosis.

**Stick to a bedtime routine:** We know, easier said than done. Adequate sleep promotes focus and learning making it essential for your little one. It is likely they will have some back to school jitters, so if you start ahead of time it will make the first night before school starts a bit easier.

**Kickoff the school day with a healthy breakfast:** We have all heard it before; breakfast is the most important meal of the day. Starting off with a complete, healthy breakfast like oatmeal or eggs (rather than a sugary cereal) will fuel your child for a full day of learning. If your child is not hungry when they first wake up, no problem – pack some healthy, on-the-go options such as trail mix or a banana with peanut butter to eat on their way to school.



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