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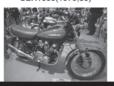
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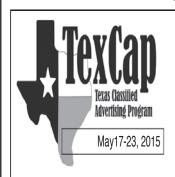
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The Idle American

When Numbers Confound....

Commentary by Dr. Don Newbury

ics is as mystifying to me interrupted, hoping she'd ous quotes-including foreign language, or the even know what 'toot-em' they roared and the jeers dots, dashes and/or buzzes is." from outer space. I can

are busy at this time— just to watch the weigh-in. please try again later" when I try to wrap my for winning is said to be \$125 from Hitzges, shortmind around a wisp of un- in excess of \$200,000,000. ly before entering military derstanding concerning the And Pacquiao—the uh, service. The now long-Floyd Mayweather/Manny "loser"—will net more time New Mexico resi-Pacquiao "fight of the centhan \$100,000,000 when dent attempted to repay tury" financial fall-out.

Vignettes that span time ***** and sports—with baseball it takes....

'toot'em' 'toot-em'

The world of mathemat- what's 'toot-em' four?" I Ruth, famous for numera newly-discovered stop right there. "I don't 'I heard the cheers when

handle dollars represented for the so-called "fight of "I had a better year than by three figures, but my the century," even if it fell the President."... understanding of numbers several levels short of that. ***** accompanied by a comma Spun by social media, antiand three digits is limited. social media and general with numbers even I can You can safely assume, media, fans fell in line to understand. I wrote in then, that figures with shell out hundreds of mil- this space recently about three commas--with a like lions dollars, including Norm Hitzges, the Metronumber of 000's tacked some \$300,000,000 in pay- plex's radio sports guru on--short-circuit all that per-view alone. It's clear to who was on the faculty is within me. Thus, I seek me that thousands of fans at Sul Ross State Univerforgiveness for tiny distant are bamboozled when they sity during the 1967-68 voices saying, "All circuits shell out significant cash school year.

all the ciphering is done... the debt, but Hitzges—

in the mix—lie ahead in 85 years--when baseball SRSU address. Bonds, this piece. There's a third was truly the "national unaware of Hitzges' account of a good deed by pastime." Fans--including move, didn't know how an ordinary "Joe" named President Herbert Hoover- to reach him. Recently, Chuck Bonds. Hopefully, -depended on Babe Ruth he chanced to see the it will be the one worth and associates to take their Hitzges' column online. remembering for us "or- minds off the Great De- Now, their friendship is dinaries" who mostly plod pression. Hoover attended renewed and contact dealong, but still want to games regularly, despite tails re-established. Preget as much right as pos- fans booing him roundly dictably, Bonds mailed sible, no matter how long in disdain for the nation's a check in the amount of plight.

First things first: In third season's work, Ruth was of interest). The 48-yeargrade, here's what I heard paid \$80,000. Some crit- old debt was off his mind. Mrs. Byrd ask: "Don, ics "gruffed" that he made Send comments to: newtwo, more than the President, bury@speakerdoc.com. three, whose salary was \$75,000. Phone: 817-447-3872.

when they echoed'-de-This helps set the stage fended his salary thusly:

Back to the present--

One of his students, Mayweather's total take Chuck Bonds, borrowed starting his new career in Roll the calendar back Dallas--no longer had the \$400 (covering the princi-It was 1930, and for his pal and a good percentage



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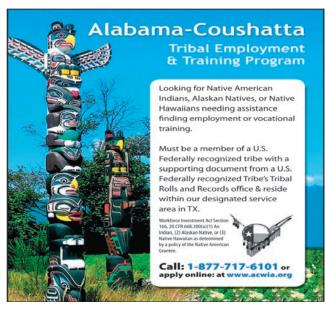
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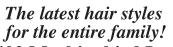
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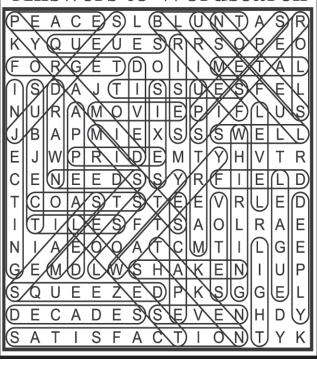
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Just like you, I enjoy meeting new people and seeing old friends again too. Remember the childhood song (sometimes sung as a round) that went like this, "Make new friends but keep the old, One is silver and the other gold"? Life is good when simple values are put to use. Here's some new and old friends who are doing good things for

As a Hopkins County charity-funding organization, Chicks for Charity is unique. The organization structure is almost non-structure, yet each year, the group accomplishes a lot of good in and for the community. Membership is about 130 "chicks" currently. There are no elected officers, no board of directors, no bank account and no annual "fund raisers". The group meets four times per year to hear nominations and select a recipient, but even meeting attendance is not mandatory. A donation of \$50 per quarter is required, with the check written to the selected charity. The most recent recipient, Shadow Ranch, received over \$6,000 in individual checks from "the chicks". If you think you would like to consider becoming a member of Chicks for Charity, you can attend the Second Quarter meeting on Thursday May 21 at 6:30pm at First United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall, or look up chicks-forcharityhopkinscounty on Facebook, or phone Mandy Kennedy at 903-243-2206.



Chicks for Charity-Hopkins County earned the Community Pride Award at the 2015 Chamber of Commerce Banquet. Displaying the award are members Sandra Baucom, Mandy Kennedy, Peggy Deitze, Jane Sargent and Penny West. In 2014, donations totaled over \$84,000 for local non-profits.

Four officers of the Saltillo FFA Chapter stopped by the studios on Monday, May 18, 2015 during a fund raising visit to Sulphur Springs. The group is collecting money and auction items for the upcoming annual FFA Stew and Auction and Scholarship Award. The event will be held on Saturday May 23 at the Saltillo Ag Shop. Stew (and chili) will be served at 5pm at \$5 person, and the auction will follow at 6pm. The "Blue Jackets, Bright Futures" Scholarship Award will be made to two deserving Senior FFA members. The public is invited and your attendance

will be appreciated.

Pictured Are: Haylee Clover, Vice President Jonathan Van Holton, Reporter James Franklin Stretcher, President Kortne Wilson, Treasurer (not pictured Mike Teague FFA Advisor)

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themselves as being different, but in a good way."

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That quote is from Danny Campbell, Dean of Academic Af-

fairs at the Southwest Collegiate Institute for the Deaf in Big

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lege. The school opened in 1980 on the former Webb Air Force

Tumbleweed Smith



Base. "It was a culture shock for me," says Danny, "because I was the only hearing faculty member. All the other instructors here were deaf. So I never saw a hearing person all day long at work. It was a bit of an adjustment that first year."

One hundred twenty students attend the campus in Big Spring, but teaching in American Sign Language goes all over the state from the facility through internet television. Danny is currently teaching a biology class in ASL so deaf students at other colleges can take the course on their own campus.

Forty percent of the students in Big Spring are from Texas. Sixty percent are from out of state. Twenty students are from foreign countries. Danny says it's the only junior college for the deaf in the world. "We're quite proud of that. Deaf students have an opportunity to get an education at a place that is affordable and helpful. We constantly track the students' progress and encourage them to do their best. It's a very deaf-friendly environment." Danny learned sign language because he had a sister with a hearing problem.

The school has basketball and volleyball teams called the Rattlers. The first president of SWID, Dr. Douglas Burke, had a hand in naming the mascot. "The very first day the school opened in 1980, we were meeting with the first group of students, which numbered somewhere between fifteen and twenty. Dr. Burke introduced the faculty to the students. We were all sitting in one room and he went around the teaching staff giving their names and fields of study. When he got to me he introduced me not as Daniel Campbell but as Daniel Boone. He said that I was a direct descendant of the famous Daniel Boone from Kentucky and that he had hired me because I was a specialist in genetics. And he just made this up. I had no idea it was coming.

"He said that I was hired because of West Texas rattlesnakes and the fear that goes along with them. Rattlesnakes warn hearing people but they don't warn deaf people. So he had hired me to mate rattlesnakes with lightning bugs so that the babies' tails would light up instead of rattle, thereby warning deaf people. And he said it was only appropriate because rattlesnakes are deaf. He made up this long tale about why I had been hired and everything. Shortly after that we picked the rattlesnake as our mascot." An artist painted a picture of a rattlesnake with a light bulb on its tail. It hung in Dr. Burke's office.

Tumbleweed Smith wants to interview every character and storyteller in Texas and report on all the unique events around the state. Contact him at ts@tumbleweedsmith.com

Good news! Cooper Lake reached the full level earlier this month, and we've got plenty of water for summer activities. At a reading of 441.5, it's actually a foot and a half over the conservation pool.

Park staff say that fishing is good! The crappie are biting, catfish are coming in, and hybrid and sand bass season is approaching as summer comes on. Campers, fishermen, swimmers, boaters, hikers and other outdoor enthusiasts are welcome to visit Cooper Lake State Park. People with horses love the Equestrian Trails, and all ages like the educational programs and events that are offered free by park staff. For information, call the South Sulphur unit office at 903-945-5256.



Park Peace Office Jim Beach and South Sulphur Unit Manager James Adams

If each raindrop were a blessing, just look at how blessed we are! If each raindrop was worth a penny, think of how rich you'd be in just the drops that fell on your yard or property. And really, we are rich. Many of us get our usable water from an plentiful source, Cooper Lake, which is now full to overflowing. In the past, we never really thought about the value of water, we always had plenty. In recent years of drought, we've begun to realize the value of the water we always took for granted. That's just human nature, though. Reminds me of another old song, "you never think about the water til the well runs dry".

Next week, I'm going to share how country music and country hospitality remains not just alive but thriving, not far from here.

Til then, I'll watch and wait at the corral gate









Denna Riley

Funeral services for Denna Riley, age 57 of Sulphur Springs will be held at 2:00 p.m. Thursday, May 21, 2015 at League Street Church of Christ with Rev. Mike Eason officiating. Interment will follow at Restlawn Memorial Park with Mike Comer, Marlon Comer, Kenny Comer, Brandon Blevins, Reggie Blevins, Jr. Brad Horton and Brian Adams serving as pallbearers. Honorary pallbearers are Kyle Green, Alex Peek, Bradley Peek, Anthony Pennington and Tristen Pennington. Visitation will be held from (Noon) 12:00 - 2:00 p.m., prior to the service at the church.

Denna passed away on Monday, May 19, 2015 at Sunny Springs Nursing Home. She was born on November 11, 1957, the daughter of Virgil Lincoln and Lois Bernice (Sutton) Robinson in Commerce.

She was a homemaker and a member of the League Street Church of Christ.

Survivors include daughters, Joanna Bailey of Sulphur Springs and Christina Pennington and husband, Jason of Sulphur Springs; sons, Tony Peek of Sulphur Springs, Jacob Riley of Sulphur Springs and Justin Riley and wife, Jennifer of Sulphur Springs; sisters, Ermal Williams of Saltillo, Juanita Williams of Sulphur Springs, Mary Stonaker of Sulphur Springs, Suela Hearn of Pickton and Theresa Blevins of Sulphur Springs; brothers, Jimmy Robinson of Sulphur Springs and Gary Robinson of Alba; grandchildren, Kyle Green, Alex Peek, Bradley Peek, Brook Peek, Shane Woodfin, Jaydon Peek, Harley Boles, Sidney Boles, Anthony Pennington, Tristen Pennington, Aiden Riley, Issac Riley and Eli Riley and great-grandchildren, Zakaylan Peek, Alex Peek, Jr., Jacelynn Simmons and Brynlie Swann.

She was preceded in death by her parents and one brother, Marvin Robinson.

Memorials can be made to Denna Riley Fund c/o Alliance Bank, Sulphur Springs.

Andrew Baugh

Funeral arrangements for Andrew Baugh, age 18 of Cumby are pending with Murray-Orwosky Funeral Home. Andrew passed away on Monday, May 18, 2015 at his residence.

Dawson James Hicks

Graveside services for Dawson James Hicks, infant son of Bryan and Rebecca Hicks, will be held at 10:00 a.m. Thursday, May 21, 2015 at the Como Cemetery with Rev. Beverly Olsen officiating.

Dawson passed away on Sunday, May 17, 2015 at Hopkins County Memorial Hospital.

He is survived by his parents; brother, Easton Hicks of Como; sister, Jaci Hicks of Como; grandparents, Mark and Jamie Humphrey and Darrin and Becky Hicks; great-grandmother, Mary Barnhart; great-grandparents, George and Lou Ann Hines.

He was preceded in death by his great-grandfather, James Barnhart and great-grandparents, Aubrey and Rena Humphrey.

Adam Jumper

Funeral services for Adam Jumper, age 39 of Austin, formerly of Sulphur Springs will be held at 3:00 p.m. Saturday, May 23, 2015 at Murray-Orwosky Funeral Home with Michael Coker officiating.

Visitation will be held from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m., Friday, May 22, 2015 at Murray-Orwosky Funeral Home.



Patricia S. Higgins

Funeral services for Patricia S. Higgins, age 81, of Cumby will be held at 1:00 p.m. Saturday, May 23, 2015 at Murray-Orwosky Funeral Home with Pastor Deidra Maples officiating. Interment will be at DFW National Cemetery. Visitation will be held from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m., Wednesday, May 20, 2015 at Murray-Orwosky Funeral Home.

Patricia passed away on Saturday, May 16, 2015 at Carriage House Cottages.

She was born on July 18, 1933, the daughter of Norman Darrell and Lillian (Ingram) Perkins in Dallas. She married Milton Higgins on May 20, 1956 in Durant, OK. He preceded her in death in 2008.

She was a retired principal of A. E. Butler Elementary School in the Quinlan ISD. She was a graduate of SMU where she received her Bachelor's Degree and ETSU where she received her Master's Degree; elder of the First Presbyterian Church in Cumby; Retired Teachers Association and Gamma

Survivors include sons, Raymond Higgins and wife, Theresa of Sulphur Springs and Doug Higgins and wife, Patti of Cash and nephew, Winston Perkins of Sulphur Springs.



Richard Walace "Clem" Clement

Funeral services for Richard Wallace "Clem" Clement, age 95, of Sulphur Springs were conducted at 2:00 p.m., Sunday, May 17, 2015 at West Oaks Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Charles Moore officiating. Interment followed at Sulphur Springs City Cemetery. Visitation was held from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m., prior to service time. Honorary pallbearers were John Christopher Clement, Natalie Ann Clement, Tommy Shelton, Lynn Shelton, Joe K. Shelton, John Campbell, Martin Allain, Ben Dickerson, and Jack Dickerson.

Mr. Clement passed away on Thursday, May 14, 2015 at Carriage House Manor.

He was born on February 17, 1920 in Bay City, Texas the son of John Essery Clement, Sr. and Vera Moore Clement. He married Marjorie Jane Reynolds on October 11, 1947 in San Antonio, TX. She preceded him in death on February 9, 2014.

He attended Victoria Jr. College for 2 years before enlisting in the United States Army Air Cadet Corps in July 1940. He was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant Army Air Corps in September 1941. He was with the first B-17 Bomb Group to fly to England to enter WWII Western European Theater. He was in the first "All-American" air raid against Germany on January 27, 1943 with 50 bombers striking Wilhelmsharen. He completed his 25th combat mission in June 1943. In July 1943 Capt. Clement was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and Air Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters as a B-17E Flying Fortress Navigator. In June 1950, he was qualified as a navigator, bombardier and radar operator. He flew in B-17's, B-29's, and B-36's during his service career.

He was assigned to Carswell AFB, Ft. Worth, TX in January 1951 and was promoted to Lt. Colonel in June 1951. Clem remained at Carswell AFB flying in B-36's with the 9th Bomb Squadron until he resigned from the Air Force in March 1953 to attend pharmacy school at The University of Texas. He graduated "with High Honors" in January 1956 and moved to Sulphur Springs.

He practiced at Askew and Buford Pharmacy on the downtown square from 1956 until his retirement in 2007. He received a 50 year service award from Texas State Board of Pharmacy in 2006. Clem was known locally to many as a proud Texas-Ex and avid Texas Longhorn Fan. The Eyes of Texas are upon you, Hook'm Horns! "Clem".

He is survived by his son, Carlisle Clement and wife Carol Ann Clement, granddaughter, Natalie Ann Clement, grandson, John Christopher Clement, sister, Helen Martin, numerous nieces, nephews, and their families, as well as caregivers, Margaret Harris, Lillian Childs, and Pat Morgan.



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Memorial Day, originally called Decoration Day, is a day of remembrance for those who have died in service of the United States of America. Over two dozen cities and towns claim to be the birthplace of Memorial Day. While Waterloo N.Y. was officially declared the birthplace of Memorial Day by President Lyndon Johnson in May 1966, it's difficult to prove conclusively the origins of the day.

Regardless of the exact date or location of its origins, one thing is clear Memorial Day was borne out of the Civil War and a desire to honor our dead. It was officially proclaimed on 5 May 1868 by General John Logan, national commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, in his General Order No. 11. "The 30th of May, 1868, is designated for the purpose of strewing with flowers, or otherwise decorating the graves of comrades who died in defense of their country during the late rebellion, and whose bodies now lie in almost every city, village and hamlet churchyard in the land," he proclaimed. The date of Decoration Day, as he called it, was chosen because it wasn't the anniversary of any particular battle.

On the first Decoration Day, General James Garfield made a speech at Arlington National Cemetery, and 5,000 participants decorated the graves of the 20,000 Union and Confederate soldiers buried there.

The first state to officially recognize the holiday was New York in 1873. By 1890 it was recognized by all of the northern states. The South refused to acknowledge the day, honoring their dead on separate days until after World War I (when the holiday changed from honoring just those who died fighting in the Civil War to honoring Americans who died fighting in any war).

It is now observed in almost every state on the last Monday in May with Congressional passage of the National Holiday Act of 1971 (P.L. 90 – 363). This helped ensure a three day weekend for Federal holidays, though several southern states have an additional separate day for honoring the Confederate war dead: January 19th in Texas; April 26th in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, and Mississippi; May 10th in South Carolina; and June 3rd (Jefferson Davis' birthday) in Louisiana and Tennessee.

Red Poppies

In 1915, inspired by the poem "In Flanders Fields," Moina Michael replied with her own poem:

We cherish too, the Poppy red That grows on fields where valor led, It seems to signal to the skies That blood of heroes never dies.

She then conceived of an idea to wear red poppies on Memorial Day in honor of those who died serving the nation during war. She was the first to wear one, and sold poppies to her friends and co-workers with the money going to benefit servicemen in need. Later a Madam Guerin from France was visiting the United States and learned of this new custom started by Ms. Michael. When she returned to France she made artificial red poppies to raise money for war orphaned children and widowed women. This tradition spread to other countries. In 1921, the Franco-American Children's League sold poppies nationally to benefit war orphans of France and Belgium. The League disbanded a year later and Madam Guerin approached the VFW for help.

Shortly before Memorial Day in 1922, the VFW became the first veterans' organization to nationally sell poppies. Two years later their "Buddy" Poppy program was selling artificial poppies made by disabled veterans. In 1948, the US Post Office honored Ms. Michael for her role in founding the National Poppy movement by issuing a red 3 cent postage stamp with her likeness on it.

National Moment of Remembrance

The "National Moment of Remembrance" resolution was passed in December 2000 which asks that at 3 p.m. local time, for all Americans "To voluntarily and informally observe in their own way a moment of remembrance and respect, pausing from whatever they are doing for a moment of silence or listening to 'Taps.'

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