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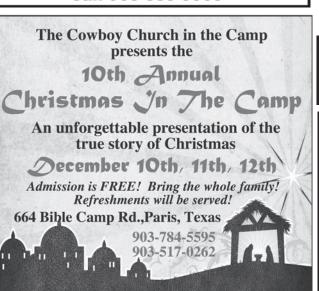
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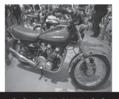
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Tis the season, for OVEREATING! Christmas week isn't even here yet, and I'm WAY OVER QUOTA! But, Christmas is also the time for enjoying oneself, and I plan to do it. My P-31 Class (5:30pm weeknights at Bowie School gym) is also one of the good things I do for myself on an ongoing basis. So, I shall not fear as pounds increase and waistline expands,,,, it's a brief season!

The Cookie Exchange...an annual, brilliant happening, brought by Sharon Feldtupon her arrival in town when she and husband John retired to Sulphur Springs. It's simple....ladies are invited on a certain Sunday afternoon in December to arrive, place three dozen homemade cookies on the dining table for donation, and then spend the rest of the afternoon eating and talking! There's truly no program, no obligatory salute or support of a cause, and practically no rules. Except laughter rules! John (as typical) made himself scarce (hunting?)

and surrendered their Briarwood home to Sharon's friends (including the Blah-Blahs...kind of like the Ya Ya Sisterhood), and the cookies.







BRADY MAN WAS B-17 MACHINE

Tumbleweed Smith

Herb Cavness of Brady was a teenager when he entered World War Two in 1943. He was a waist gunner on a B-17 and flew 25 missions in Europe with the 8th Air Force.

"We were stationed in England and flew out of there," he says. "Our missions were mostly over Germany."

Mr. Cavness handed me a sheet of paper that gave an accounting of all his missions. Many of them lasted ten hours.

His plane was shot at during 22 of the 25 missions. He rated the flak as weak, moderate and heavy. Ten missions rated heavy. His plane bombed tanks, plane factories, oil refineries, naval yards, barracks, armament plants, submarine depots and airfields. Targets included Dresden, Frankfurt, Bremen, Hamburg, Dortmund, Hanover, Nuremburg and 14 other places. His squadron lost 13 planes. He had to make two emergency landings but was not hurt. His plane had a

"My pilot was just two months older than me. It was just a bunch of boys. Our radio operator was 31. We called him Pop."

In addition to manning a fifty-caliber machine gun, he had another duty.

"When we got on a bomb run, the bomb bay doors would be open.

"When we got on a bomb run, the bomb bay doors would be open. I took a walk-around oxygen bottle and went into the bomb bay and pulled the safety pins on the bombs so they would drop. And at 20,000 feet up with the bomb by doors open, it is cold."

The missions were long and crewmembers got hungry.

"Before we left they gave each of us a candy bar. When we'd come down to 12,000 feet we took our oxygen masks off and ate that candy bar. That was our lunch. We didn't have any water because it would have frozen."

When the war ended, he came home.

"We flew our old combat plane back to the states. We got out of the airplane and two pilots got in it and took off for the junkyard. It was scrapped in December of 1945."

Mr. Cavness and his 9-man crew were to get a short course in the B-29 and go to the Pacific and join the fighting there.

"But they gave us 30 days leave and while I was at home the Japanese surrendered and I didn't have to go."

Although he served less than two years in the military, the memory of that time remains fresh in his memory. He has attended reunions of 8th Air Force personnel. Mr. Cavness is in great health at age 90. He weighs 115 pounds. The most he has ever weighed was 149 and a half. He said he tried for 150 but just couldn't quite do it.

Tumbleweed Smith lives in Big Spring and travels the state listening to stories. Contact him at ts@crcom.net

About 20 ladies attended, and so at three dozen cookies each, that made 620 cookies of a wide variety which were celebrated, (none eaten!) photographed and packaged for distribution to local first responders and emergency workers.

The refreshment table (really Sharon's kitchen island) was loaded with gorgeous Christmas-party treats, delectably displayed, and prepared as a thank-you for the bakers! As promised, the group was fed royally!







The hostess' living room Christmas tree served as a backdrop to express her appreciation for everyone who helped with the Cookie Exchange, and to introduce her "sisters" Judy Murphey and Linda Ferrell (the Blah

Blahs) of their Southwest Texas University days from the 1970's. They really share a rich and funny history and remain close friends even though they live all over the state

now. If you get an invitation to next year's Cookie Exchange, don't miss it! friends.)



Another unique Christmas-time event was the Corvette Club "Santa for Seniors Drive". With the assistance of Karon Weatherman, Director of the Senior Citizen's Center, blankets will be supplied to needy Sr's this holiday. If you'd like to help out, it's not too late! Call Karon at 903-885-1661.



There's plenty of need in Hopkins County! There's always a person or a family in need of the help you are able to give, in your own unique way. And it can truly be a blessing to both of you! Let us all display hearts that are willing to help others. May peace and love be your Christmas gifts, and your blessings all year through!

Until next week, get in the habit of saying" Merry Christmas!" to everyone you encounter, and keep the magic of Christmas growing. I'll be watching for you

at the corral gate.





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Patsy Swayze

Mother of Patrick Swayze & Don Swayze

Yvonne Helen "Patsy" Swayze (February 7, 1927 – September 16, 2013) was an American film choreographer, dancer, and dance instructor. Her credits included the choreography for Urban Cowboy, Liar's Moon and Hope Floats. Her five children included the actors Patrick Swayze and Don Swayze. She has been credited with having trained Patrick in dance, leading to his starring role in Dirty Dancing in 1987. Life and career

A native of Houston, Texas, and surrounding Harris County, Swayze was born Yvonne Helen Karnes (nicknamed Patsy) on February 7, 1927. Swayze was the daughter of Gladys Mae (Snell) and Victor Elliott Karnes. She married Jesse Wayne Swayze (1925-1982), an engineering draftsman. The couple had five children. The family lived on Wakefield Street in the Garden Oaks

neighborhood of Houston. They later moved to another home on Del Norte Street. Patsy Swayze's interest and career in dance began in the aftermath of a car accident as a child. Her mother had her take dances classes as part of her recovery.

Swayze founded the Houston Jazz Ballet Company and served as the ballet's director. She also opened a Houston dance studio, the Swayze School of Dance. Her son, Patrick, met his future wife, film director and actress Lisa Niemi, while they were enrolled as her students at the Swayze School of Dance. (The couple married in 1975). In addition to her own dance studio, Swayze taught dance and choreography at the University of Houston for eighteen years. Patsy Swayze's former students included future Emmy Award winner Debbie Allen, Randy Quaid, Jaclyn Smith and future ten-time Tony Award winner Tommy Tune.

Patsy Swayze transitioned to film by choreographing her first movie, Urban Cowboy, starring John Travolta and Debra Winger. The success of Urban Cowboy essentially launched her career as a film choreographer. In 1980, Patsy Swayze moved from Houston to southern California. She choreographed numerous films over the next three decades including Liar's Moon in 1982 and Hope Floats, directed by Forest Whitaker, in 1998. She teamed with her daughter-in-law, director Lisa Niemi, to choreograph the 2003 film, One Last Dance, which starred Niemi, Patrick Swayze and George de la Peña.

In addition to her film work, Swayze also directed a dance studio in Simi Valley, California, for more than twenty years.

Patsy Swayze suffered a stroke in September 2013. She died of stroke complications at her home in Simi Valley, California, on September 16, 2013, at the age of 86.



Mark Ballas

Dance Instructor, 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 the fall of 2007. He was nominated for an Emmy for Outstanding Choreography in 2011. He is also a singer/songwriter/musician and

released his first solo CD HurtLoveBox in March 2011.

Ballas was born in Houston, Texas, the son of dancers Corky Ballas and Shirley Ballas (née Rich). His paternal grandparents were of Mexican, Spanish, and Greek background, and his mother is English, originally from the United Kingdom. His paternal grandfather, George Ballas, was the inventor of the Weed Eater lawn-trimming device.

Ballas attended Rosemead Preparatory School in South London, and was in the same year as acclaimed British ballet dancer Max Westwell of the English National Ballet.

At the age of 11, he earned a full-time slot at the Academy, as well as earning a full scholarship to the college. 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 Olym-

As a youth, Ballas was a member of a pop singing trio called "2B1G" (2 Boys 1 Girl), along with Julianne Hough and Derek Hough.

Ballas' mother, an award-winning Latin American dancer, was recently featured on Dancing with the Stars.

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. In September 2010, Ballas had a guest appearance on his former Dancing with the Stars partner Melissa Joan Hart's new series, Melissa & Joey.

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' 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. These were just the beginning. Courtesy of Wickapedia

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Geneva Charlene McKee Ishmael

Geneva Charlene McKee Ishmael, 85 of Powderly, Texas went to be with the Lord on Thursday, December 3, 2015. She was born to the late Stan Watie McKee and the late Ida Leota (Roden) McKee on November 4, 1930. Charlene graduated from Soper High School in 1948. She married Lanning Ishmael on December 22, 1951 in Dallas, Texas. Charlene was a member of Bounds Baptist Church. She was a loving wife and dedicated Christian.

Charlene is survived by her husband, Lanning Ishmael of Powderly, Jodie and Pam Waugh of Tuskahomma, Oklahoma and children, Barbara Trapp of Hugo, Oklahoma and children and Robbie and Mickey Armijo of Parker, Texas and children. She is also survived by sisters, Evelyn Juanita Smith and Faye Pillars of Soper, Oklahoma and Mary Ruth Blan of Antlers, Oklahoma and numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Stan Watie McKee and Ida Leota McKee, and a brother Stanley Ray McKee. Funeral services will be held at 11:00 a.m. Friday, December 11, 2015 at Bright-Holland Funeral Home in Paris, Texas with burial to follow at Sherley Cemetery in Sulphur Springs, Texas. The family will receive friends at the funeral home one hour prior to the service.

Pallbearers - Ron Smith, Don Smith, Jay McKee, Raymond Moffat, Daniel Overton and Samuel Overton.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Sherley Cemetery, P.O. Box 493, Sulphur Springs, Texas 75483.



Billy Jack Allen

Funeral services for Billy Jack Allen, 83, of Sulphur Springs will be held at 10 a.m., Thursday, December 10, 2015 at West Oaks Funeral home with Rev. Kenneth Rhoades, Rev. Bruce Stinson and Rev. Tommy Burton officiating. Interment will follow at Richland Cemetery with his grandsons serving as pallbearers. His honorary pallbearers will be Gerald and Sherri Walters, Billie Jean and Nancy Davidson, and his Sunday School Class at Central Baptist Church. Visitation was from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Wednesday, December 9, 2015 at West Oaks Funeral home. Mr. Allen passed away in his home on Monday, December 07, 2015 after a brief illness.

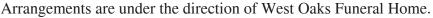
He was born on May 8, 1932 in Sulphur Springs, the son of O.D. and Una Faye Palmer Allen. He was a graduate of Sulphur Springs High School in 1950. After graduation he worked in his father's family farm. Mr. Allen served in the US Army in the Korean War. He married Roxie Joy Cobb on June 3, 1957 in Hugo, OK. and started in the dairy business in

November of 1958. Mr. Allen was a well-known registered Holstein dairyman. During his 43 years as a dairyman, he received numerous awards for his accomplishments and served on numerous board of directors related to the dairy industry. He received Holstein Association Progressive Breeder of the years 1977 through 1988. In 1979, he was honored by the Chamber of Commerce as the Hopkins County Farmer of the year. After retirement, his favorite activities included attending Central Baptist Church where he was a member. He loved making angle food cakes for his family and friends, he was the State Homemade Ice Cream Champion for several years and loved spending time with his great-grandchildren on the farm.

He is survived by his wife of 58 years, Roxie Joy Cobb Allen and two sons and one daughter: Laura Burton and her husband Tommy of Troup, Robert Allen and wife Kathy of Combine, and Bill Allen of College Station, and daughter-in-law Chris Allen of Sulphur Springs. His grandchildren include James Allen, Richard Allen, and Christopher Allen, all of Sulphur Springs; Mandy Burton of Ft. Worth, Sandy Burton of Texarkana, John Earl Burton of Mount Pleasant, and Anna Faye Craig and husband, Matt of Mount Pleasant; Colte McCorkle of Mineola, Connor McCorkle of Lewisville, Skyler Holley and wife Delane of Kaufman and Shana Lane and husband Eric of Flower mound. He also has great grandchildren Bailey, Machelle, Kyleigh, Kyrsten, Maci, Phoebe, Enoch, Joni, and Sam.

Other survivors include a brother, Buddy Ray Allen and his wife Patricia of Houston and sister-in-law Kay John Plath of Tyler. He was preceded in death by his parents, O.D. and Una Faye Allen, one son, Jimmy Don Allen, and brother, Bobby Joe Allen.

In lieu of flowers, memorials can be made to the children's center at, Central Baptist Church at 840 Connally Street, Sulphur Springs, Texas; Cypress Basin Hospice, 950 Main Street Sulphur Springs, TX, and Richland Cemetery C/O Joann Cross, 4553 FM 1563, Wolf City, Texas 75496.





Cleo Tolleson

Funeral services for Cleo Tolleson, age 93 of Sulphur Springs, were held at 10:00 a.m., Wednesday, December 9, 2015 at Murray-Orwosky Funeral Home with Rev. Tommy Johnston officiating. Interment will military honors will follow at Restlawn Memorial Park. Serving as pallbearers are Mack Phillips, Kenneth Goggans, David Kelly, Mike Heard, Charles Cromer and Brad Morris. Honorary pallbearers are Jim Morris and Loren Sealey. Visitation was held from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 8, 2015 at Murray-Orwosky Funeral Home.

Cleo passed away on Monday, December 7, 2015 at Hopkins County Memorial Hospital. He served in the U.S. Marines during World War II, was a member of the Oddfellow Lodge and then retired from the Carnation Milk Plant and Yellow Freight in Dallas.

He was born on December 28, 1921, the son of R.H. "Hobb" & Carry (Davis) Tolleson in the Ridgeway Community. He married Argieree Heard on May 29, 1947 in Yantis. She survives.

Other survivors include his daughter, Sue Keith and husband, Larry of Como; son, Brian Tolleson and wife, Ambie of Sulphur Springs; grand-children, Robert Tolleson, Teresa Tolleson, Michael Tolleson, Lesli Davis, Lanny Keith, Branson Ledbetter and Courtney Tolleson; six great-grandchildren; brother, Richard Tolleson of Sulphur Springs and sisters, Dorothy Parker of Houston and Laverne Ford of Dallas. He was preceded in death by his parents; one son, Robert Tolleson, one brother, James Tolleson and one sister, Patsy Burton.

Memorials can be made to the Sulphur Springs Veterans Memorial on the square.

Robert "Bob" Smith

Graveside Services for Bob Smith, age 93 of Sulphur Springs, will be held at 2:00 p.m., Thursday, December 3, 2015 at Shooks Chapel Cemetery with Rev. Paul Bailey and Rev. Tommy Hall officiating. There will be no formal visitation.

Bob passed away on Wednesday, December 2, 2015 at Sulphur Springs Health & Rehab. He was born on March 22, 1922, the son of Alba R. and Marie Cecilia (Weidman) Smith in Alliance, Ohio. He married Sarah Cantrell on February 19, 1949 in Sherman. She survives. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II, retired from Texas Instruments as a circuit design engineer and was a member of Birthright United Methodist Church. Bob was an amateur radio operator for sixty-five years. His call sign was W5FRC.

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Commentary by Dr. Don Newbury

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age is within a quar- es limits on his "wag- Maude laid down the she'll be "judge and ter-century of my on-hitching." He's law to "clean out" jury" in application of Uncle Mort's 103- determined to seek his workshop. It's a strictest definitions plus years are hap- trajectories aimed stance she always for "substantial" and py to be moving at upward toward new takes when contents "immediately." all. A few are willing heights. He contin- fall from the windows to catch falling stars, ues to be an enigma, and through door tickled at the pros- bearing head-on the cracks, winding up in of her threat, Mort pect of experiencing challenge of "gear- the backyard—"her got "high behind." one final "whoosh," ing up" to the year's space." if downward.

pointed hardest work during the holiday season while many other se- serious when she to fuel a bonfire for niors relax.

> He envisions days ress" between now and December 25 to be equivalent to the workload of Santa's elves. It's a strong claim by a guy committed to putting off

He recently vowed to join others in "taking it easy" as the holidays grow near. But

Mort, though, plac- that was before Aunt And it's dead certain

set a deadline calling a "thicket-wide," allfor "substantial prog- night wiener roast.... immediately.

Feeling the barbs He assigned numerous wooden items to Mort knew she was a stack big enough

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day....

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Thursday, 12/10 - 6pm - 7pm - Celebration Plaza, Sulphur Springs, Texas (map) - Join Kevin Woolley as he and the Haystack present their 2015 Christmas Concert! Bring your lawn chairs and blankets!

Thursday, 12/10-13, 7pm — 9pm - It's A Wonderful Life. 227 Main St, Sulphur Springs, TX 75482 - Main St. Theater

Saturday, 12/12, 7pm - 9pm, Sunday, 12/13, 2-4 pm also 7-9 pm - First United Methodist Church, 301 Church St, Sulphur Springs, TX 75482, Join the North East Texas Choral Society as they proudly present Celtic Christmas. Tickets are available for purchase online or at local banks.

Join Us Downtown For New Year's Eve Countdown Dec. 31!!!



Answers on Pg. 4





10th Annual Heritage Square Car Show

Winners....



Best of Show

1967 Mustang

Owned by country singer, Pat Green, and built and shown by A&R Restorations, Emory, Texas



Participants Pick

1937 Packard

Owned by Mike and Annette Bearden, Emory, Texas

Car Show Quilt

This quilt was made from the past 10 years of car show t-shirts and was raffled by the members of the Sulphur Springs Downtown Business Alliance. The quilt was quilted by the Lone Star Heritage Quilt Guild of Sulphur Springs.

Winner of the quilt was Jerry Edwards of Sulphur Springs.



The 11th Annual Heritage Square Car Show will be

November 5, 2016.

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