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VOL. 18 ISSUE 886, February 23, 2017

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Answers on Pg. 7



It's great to get away from the corral gate for an afternoon once in awhile. I'm not sure how many of the sixteen ladies I chummed with are cowgirls, but I do know they love a good read just like I do! I attended the February meeting of the Bright Star Literary Society, conducted in the meeting room of a Winnsboro eatery.

Literary Guild at Rooster Cafe.

Traditionally, Bright Star Literary ladies (or Literary Lovelies as we are known!) do a "meet and eat" each month, frequently at the home of Lovlies Leader Sharon Feldt, who is herself a published author. We enjoy an afternoon lunch and fellowship, then describe the books we have been reading since last meeting. Many have several books to report on, and their favorite titles and authors are exchanged among other members. Sometimes we do an "away" meeting, and this time, club member Terry Mathews hosted us at The Rooster Cafe in downtown Winnsboro. It also served as a "birthday party" for Terry. Besides the fabulous Rooster burgers, the cake served was over the top! It was dark chocolate with pink pomegranate icing, slathered on and between two enormously tall layers. Though from all walks of life, Society members share a love of reading. Some of the members have an older favorite Kindle, some the new Kindle Fire, some read using the Kindle app on their I-phones. Some listen to stories on Audible and a few listen to audio books on CD at home or while driving. Some recent titles tossed around were "A Man Called Ove", "Mr. Pettigrew's Last Stand" and "A Gentleman in Moscow". I recently enjoyed "The Alchemist" and "The Sparrow" which, by habit, I borrowed with my library card at Sulphur Springs Public Library. I love the feel of a book in my hand, large but lightweight with generous size print. Didn't Oprah say that, as a child, owning a library card was like "American citizenship" to her?



Friends with bolumes in common...Terry Mathews, Enola Gay Mathews, Jo Ann Cross Mathews.



Books and Birthday Cake.

Miss Kadie Lynn may be a country singer but that's certainly not all she has going for her. While barely a teen, she's mature beyond her years in the way she relates to people of all ages. I saw her meeting 2,000 students her own age and younger when she visited Sulphur Springs ISD. She sang for them, told them about her crazy climb on America's Got Talent in 2016, and inspired them to follow their dreams, too. I also witnessed the spark she created with her show's older audience and mature band members she had just met. Everybody loves her! Kadie, an only child and currently home-schooled, is blessed with two great parents, Deborah and Darrell Roberson of Kemp who are as devoted to her music career as she is. Deborah does all the things that a mom/coach/agent would do, while Dad does all the driving and equipment carrying. Kadie continues to take vocal training, and is now giving beginner guitar and vocal lessons herself. She is writing songs on her own and with Music City co-writers. When in Nashville, she appeared at the Bluebird Cafe, making many new friends and contacts. She's got natural star quality, and is riding a wave of fun and crazy popularity, traveling between Hollywood and Nashville and all the little venues in between including the Reilly Springs Jamboree. Her CD entitled "Stronger" is available on I-Tunes, and she is booked somewhere near you this Spring. Don't miss your chance to see and meet this rising star! You won't forget her!

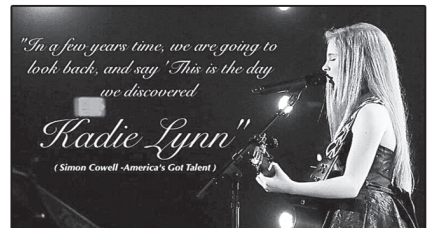


Kadie Lynn with Roger Reed and the Jamboree Band.

Kadie Lynn, award winning teen talent.



Kadie Lynn visits Sulphur Springs middle schoolers.



Award winning young singer/songwriter Kadie Lynn.

Back at the corral gate, it's good to see the horses prefer the tender grass to the bale of hay. The sunshine is bringing some good afternoons for riding. No foals at the home corral this year, but send me photos of any new deliveries at your place, at ads@millenniumshopper.com.

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Are you caring for someone with memory loss? Join "Terrific Tuesdays"

a Sulphur Springs Respite Care Program for seniors with memory loss.

This program is open to everyone with Alzheimer's or dementia. It gives the participants an opportunity to spend each Tuesday meeting new friends and participating in cooperative activities.

It also gives the caregiver a few hours to run errands and to take care of personal healthcare needs, etc. knowing that their loved one is well taken care of in a safe and enjoyable environment.

The cost is \$20 each Tuesday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and that includes lunch!

"Terrific Tuesdays" meets at The First United Methodist Church Family Life Center at 301 Church Street, Sulphur Springs.

Contact Joyce McDonald at 903-243-5620 for more information.

Miscellaneous

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91st Annual Hopkins County Chamber of Commerce Award Winners for 2016.....



Citizens of the Year
Hopkins County Military Coalition



Woman of the Year
Linda Galligher was honored by Sheila Boyd representing Beta Sigma Phi.



Caregiver of the Year
Joy Wilson of The Pilot Club of Sulphur Springs presents the award to Christine Morris.



Growth & Renewal
Sandi Wallace of Plain & Fancy is the winner of the Growth And Renewal Award given by Judy Heilman, President of the Sulphur Springs Downtown Business Alliance.



Ambassador of the Year
Lezley Brown, CEO of The Chamber, presents the ambassador award to Kim Beck.



Community Pride
Judge Newsom presents award to Amanda Thompson-Brandenburgh, Shining Star Productions.



Small Business of the Year
Doug Haston won this award for Channel 18.



Educator of the Year
Jessica Kultgen presents award to Rowena Johnson.



Agriculturist of the Year
Pat Chase was given this award from Gary Spraggins, Professional Ag Workers of Hopkins County.



Large Business of the Year
Joe Don Pogue presents the award to Joe Wallace of Saputo.



Vision Award
Lezley Brown presents the Vision Award to Bobby McDonald's mother and announced that the award will now be called The Bobby McDonald Vision Award.

Obits



Bobby Louise Thompson

Graveside Service for Bobbie Louise Thompson, age 86, of Sulphur Springs, were held at 2:00 P.M. on Tuesday, February 21, 2017 at Restlawn Memorial Park Cemetery with Buddy Wiggins officiating and Randy Reed assisting. Visitation was held Monday, February 20, 2017 from 6-8 P.M. at Murray-Orwosky Funeral Home.

Mrs. Thompson passed away Saturday, February 18, 2017, at Brentwood Terrace Health Care and Rehab. She was born on July 8, 1930 in Bonham, TX, the daughter of Lee, Sr and Mary (Schmitz) Hassell. She married E.M. "Jody" Thompson on October 16, 1948 in Dallas Texas. She was a member of League Street Church of Christ. She taught 2yr old Sunday School class for over 25 years at Lake Jackson Church of Christ, was the nursery coordinator and loved sewing and sewed for her girls.

Bobbie is survived by her daughters, Lynne Payne and husband Paul, Gayla State and husband Bob; Grandchildren, Christie Payne, Blake Payne, Cody State and Travis Strate; great grandchildren, Dawnya Smith, Elodie and Gabriel Strate,

Emma Grace and Hadley Strate.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband; two brothers and three sisters.

The family would like to extend a thank you to Dr. Balkcom and Staff, Hopkins Place and the Staff at Brentwood Terrace Healthcare and Rehab.

Memorials can be made to Arms of Hope, 21300 State Highway 16 North, Medina, Texas 78055 (830) 522-2200.

Arrangements were under the direction of Murray-Orwosky Funeral Home.



Jessica Lorraine Fierst

Funeral services for Jessica Lorraine Fierst, age 30, of Sulphur Springs were conducted at 2:00 p.m., Wednesday, February 22, 2017 at League Street Church of Christ with Rev. Brad Sullivan officiating. Interment followed at Mahoney Cemetery with Sean Parker, Chris Parker, Bill Holden, Sheehab Hossain, Mason Martinez and Johnny Anderson serving as pallbearers. Visitation was from 1:00 to 2:00 one hour prior to service time at League Street Church of Christ. Jessica passed away at Christus Mother Frances Hospital on Sunday, February 19, 2017.

Jessica was born on May 6, 1986 in Kerrville, TX, the daughter of Greg Fierst and Dawn Marie Gunsell Fierst. She worked as a home health attendant. She is survived by her father, Greg Fierst and wife Beverly of Ft. Worth, mother, Dawn Shawn and husband Larry of Sulphur Springs, sisters, Lyndsay Anderson and husband Tommy, Erika Fierst and husband Shahed Hossain and Kaitlyn Allen and husband Mason Martinez all of Sulphur Springs, grandparents, Marilyn Fierst and Karen

and Jerry Brady, nieces, Chloe, Kylee Jo, Mattie, Ayva and Sophia and several aunts, uncles and cousins.

She was preceded in death by one niece Ema Ann Lorraine.

Arrangements were under the direction of West Oaks Funeral Home.



Justin Davis LaCour

Justin Davis LaCour, 74, of Commerce passed away on Saturday, February 18, 2017.

Justin was born in Alexandria, LA., on August 28, 1942, to Stella Helma Barker LaCour and Joseph Wilford LaCour.

He enjoyed fishing, flowers and gardening. Justin opened and ran Red Coleman's Liquor Store in Commerce. He also served as a volunteer on the Commerce Fire Department and as Fire Chief for a combined period of over 20 years.

Survivors include his mother, Stella Helma Barker LaCour of Terrell; his son, Bryan Keith Sewell of Terrell; his daughter, Cynthia Renee LaCour of Sulphur Springs; his grandchildren: Marcus Lee Fortune of Sulphur Springs, William Shade Wadley of Sulphur Springs, Bryan Casey Sewell of Abilene, Texas, and Katlyn Nicole Sewell of Terrell. He also leaves to cherish his memories his three sisters: Linnea Templin of Lake Tawakoni, Helma (Clifford) Rabal of Wills Point and Betsy (Jerry) Petty of Pineville, LA.

Visitation was held on Wednesday, February 22, 2017, from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. at Jones-Walker & Son Funeral Home of Commerce.

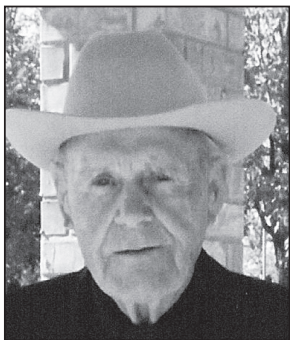
Graveside services will be held on Thursday, February 23, 2017, at 2:00 P.M. at Oakland Memorial Park, in Terrell, Texas, with Bro. Terry Bryan officiating.

Katherine Virginia Waldrop

Funeral service for Katherine Virginia Waldrop, age 87, of Emory, were held 11:00 am Wednesday, Feb. 23, 2017, at Emory Baptist Church. Rev. Randy Lowe and Rev. Richard Piles will officiate. Burial followed in Lone Star Cemetery in Point. Visitation was at 10:00 am, one hour prior to the service.

Katherine was born February 18, 1930 to Henry Andrew and Easter Ely Bryant. She later married Joe Allen Waldrop, in Greenville on Nov. 15, 1945. They were married some 71 years. She was a homemaker, wife, mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother.

Those surviving include: Husband: Joe Waldrop of Emory, Daughters: Virginia McLeroy (Don) of Emory, Donna Dunn (Buddy) of Yantis, Beverly Gaston (Bill) of Point, Rhonda Porter (Wesley) of Brenham, Elizabeth DuCharme (Danny) of Johns Town, CO., Son: Joe Waldrop, II (Dixie) of Boling, Sisters: Joy Horrocks; Evelyn Paddock; Shirley Norris (Gerald); and Helen Barker, Grandchildren: 15, Great-grandchildren: 26, Great-great-grandchildren: 4, Numerous other loving family and friends. Preceded in death by: Parents; 2 Brothers, Earl Bryant, and H.D. "Bud" Bryant; Sister: Pat Bennett.



Linward T. "Trudo" Hurley

Funeral Service for Linward T. "Trudo" Hurley, age 89, of Sulphur Springs, were held at 2:00 P.M. on Tuesday, February 21, 2017 at Murray-Orwosky Chapel with Rev. Lester Harper officiating and Montana Hurley, Len Hurley, Toney Hurley, Brian Gumpert, Eddie Gossett and John McLane serving as pallbearers. Interment with full military honors followed at Union Cemetery. Visitation was held one hour prior to service.

Mr. Hurley passed away Saturday, February 18, 2017, at Trinity Mother Francis, Tyler. He was born on May 2, 1927 in Riley Springs to Horace and Leo (Hicks) Hurley. He married Opal Doris Martin, whom passed away in 1963, then later married Bonnie Harvey. L.T. was a member of Reilly Springs Baptist Church, a veteran of the U.S. Army and served his country in WW II. MR. Hurley was retired Farmer.

He is survived by his son, Len Hurley and wife Alice; sister, Horace Lee Jackson, Mary Arnold; brothers, Virgil Hurley, Rudolph, R.B. Hurley; grandchildren, Toney Hurley, Brian Gumpert, Anette King, Clayton Gumpert, Angela Gumpert; numerous great grandchildren and great great grandchildren.

Mr. Hurley was preceded by his parents; wives, Opal and Bonnie; daughter, Kathleen Gumpert; brothers H.L. Hurley and Leroy Phillips; grandson, Michael Lynn Hurley.

THE IDLE AMERICAN

Wonders of the World?...

Commentary by Dr. Don Newbury

With the rancor running rampant in the world today, it's remarkable that the Seven Wonders of the World are staying stitched, at least so far.

This day, I cite three personal "wonderments," none of which rises to the level of minutia. They have long been bewildering to me. Perhaps you'd prefer making your own list.

Your call.... *****

Recorded messages: We're all weary of the worn response about how much our calls are appreciated, but are disappointed that typically "associates are busy assisting other customers."

My curiosity is piqued by this frequent reminder: "Please listen to the following prompts, since some of them may have changed." Oh, really? Has anyone ever learned--beyond reasonable doubt--that any prompt has ever changed?

Further, when one prompt leads to another, to another and to another, are we finally justified in wondering if our calls are all that important?

Is there a better gamble to reach a "live" person quickly than to immediately hit "0" at the outset of recorded messages? I wonder... *****

Does anyone else tire of TV newscasts invariably beginning with these words, or something akin thereto? "Breaking News." (Brace yourself. If news gets worse, we may be in for "compound fractured news.")

It's a given that most items following lead-ins constitute "bad news," but these unchanging openings cause me to wonder if the networks really believe we "buy" their pitch that each newscast opens at the pre-

cise moment a major event occurs.

I dream of the day when some of the newscasts open with "mending news."... *****

Each of us has a memory of larger-than-life figures believed to best typify THE OLD WEST. How about The Marlboro Man? Roy Rogers? The Lone Ranger?

My vote goes to Dr. Marvin Knight, the Stetson-wearing, cigarette-smoking surgeon who roamed the Dallas Cowboys' sidelines for 27 years. He never had a contract with the team, and never cared if he did. Devoid of pretense, he was recognized as a world leader in orthopedic surgery.

No wonder injured players checked into the 18-bed Muenster General Hospital, where Knight preferred to conduct surgeries during his final 16 years of practice.

This allowed him to return to his beloved ranch ASAP. Next to "doctoring," that's where he most liked to be.... *****

Books could be written--and should be--about this pioneering physician who introduced orthopedic surgery to West Texas. His was a revered name and stories of his experiences are legion. And he was as good at telling them as he was performing surgeries.

Patients came from miles around, particularly for knee surgeries. One he spoke of was a highly successful knee fix-up of an immensely wealthy woman with vast ranching interests.

After several follow-up visits and declared ready to resume normal activities, she mentioned she had yet to receive a bill for the surgery.... *****

Dr. Newbury is a speaker in the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex. Inquiries/comments to: newbury@speakerdoc.com. Phone: 817-447-3872. Web site: www.speakerdoc.com.

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AN UNUSUAL MARRIAGE CEREMONY

Tumbleweed Smith

 Tumbleweed Smith

Greg and Toni Bodin were married in a big chair during Old Sorehead Trade Days in Stanton, an event that draws people from all over Texas and beyond to shop for merchandise from vendors set up in temporary booths on downtown streets. Some people call it a big flea market. Toni is six and a half feet tall and one day she was sitting on an upturned bucket in her furniture-making shop and decided to make a big chair that would be comfortable for her. She made a huge wooden Adirondack chair, big enough to hold two people. It served as an advertisement for Toni's furniture booth at the trade days event.

Toni and Greg had been together a few years and in 2008 decided to tie the knot. They contacted the Martin County judge in Stanton and asked him to marry them during trade days. They wanted to be sitting in the big chair during the ceremony. "Several people wanted to buy that chair that day," says Greg. "I told them they couldn't buy it until after three o'clock. That's when the ceremony was to take place. So at three o'clock a convoy of golf carts converged on our booth. We didn't tell anybody about our plans. We just decided to do it so people wouldn't make a big deal out of it and buy us a bunch of expensive gifts. We didn't want that. We just wanted to get married and be left alone."

Greg says the judge showed up with some Old Sorehead Trade Days officials to serve as witnesses. "We were sitting in the big yellow chair getting married when a guy came up and wanted to buy a piece of furniture. I didn't want him to get away, so I stopped the ceremony, made the sale, collected the money and told him I would deliver the piece of furniture to his vehicle as soon as I got done kissing the bride."

Toni and Greg set up housekeeping in a two-acre fenced in compound in the community of Sand Springs just east of Big Spring. They put the oversized chair (ten feet long and six feet high) just outside the fence and it became a landmark. Interstate 20 is just a few yards away from their place. "We've had all sorts of people stopping to take pictures," says Toni, "sometimes as many as a dozen a week."

The couple went everywhere together, volunteering at frontier forts in West and Central Texas, taking photos and exhibiting them in museums, colleges and other venues. Toni wrote a book about being tall (I See Short People) and made a movie about her favorite sewing shop that was closing.

"We're good at saving money," Toni told me. "We have a wind turbine and solar panels to cut down on our electric bill. I supplement Greg's oil field salary with eggs our chickens produce. I also sew for the public. I use a treadle sewing machine because it's portable and I can take it outside and sew. It's very quiet. I have a collection of those old sewing machines. I also collect wringer washing machines from the 1920's."

Toni stays busy. Greg passed away in January at the age of 43. His memorial service drew a huge crowd.

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