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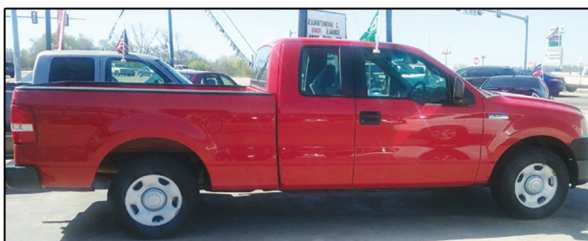
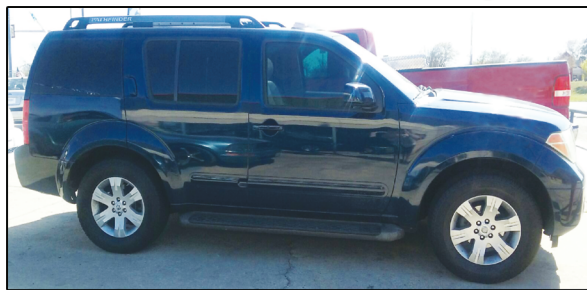
VOL. 18 ISSUE 889, March 16, 2017

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 H S E A P E Y B A B Y R U T H U E R A W U J
 C G W R S P S I R C E E F F O C D R S A H U
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CANDY NECKLACE	JAW BREAKERS	OH HENRY	SWEETARTS
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**THE IDLE AMERICAN
 A Reach for the Stars...**

Commentary by Dr. Don Newbury

When folks strive greatly to take from life what matters most--learning along the way that it's mostly about giving-phrases like "giant strides" or "standing tall" come into play. It seems "Texan to the core" to do so.

Sometimes, though, along comes someone who learns early on that noteworthy accomplishments also can accrue from taking smaller steps, reaching higher and working harder.

Such was a delightful man named Richard (Dick) Collins, a favorite by any measure. On graduation day in 1948, he and 23 classmates proudly accepted diplomas at Chillicothe, TX, High School. Under four feet tall, this oldest of five children endeared himself to his family, school and the community, a pattern that defined him throughout life. He loomed large in giving back.

Having taken more in hardscrabble values from the Great Depression than it robbed of him, this 18-year-old visited Hardin-Simmons University in Abilene, hoping to study journalism there.

He wasn't optimistic, since he had no folding money and little that jangled, but President Rupert Richardson bade him enroll, if he'd work in the kitchen. (It's worth noting that while many students were on the "freshman 15" weight-gain list, he added height instead. At graduation four years later, he had gained about a foot in height.)

Kitchen duty was short-lived. Soon he was writing sports for the campus newspaper, followed by work alongside coaches, promoting H-SU sports across the land....

Never forgetting his roots, he made sure to return to family gatherings--as well as those at H-SU--throughout his life. Even at age 86--months before his death--he arose early, slapped a sandwich together and headed for Oklahoma City. He allowed himself just one stop so he could arrive by mid-afternoon for maximum time with family.

He led the laughter, requiring little coaxing to tell and-retell stories kin always wanted to hear.

"If you didn't love Uncle Richard after just five minutes, you just weren't paying attention," said nephew Bob Renn, whose wife Debbie is writing a book about their hero....

Stories abounded at Collins' Austin funeral recently and at his Chillicothe burial. Bill Allred, a favorite cousin, spoke of their African safari. Carlene Spicer, an H-SU colleague at whose home Collins and other campus visitors landed regularly, told about his once asking her to reach a book from a high shelf. Standing a millimeter over five feet, she said, "Dick, you're the first person who has EVER asked me to reach for something." He chuckled, "Well, that's one more than has asked me."

Collins loved life, serving as Sports Information Director at H-SU (and later, briefly at Howard Payne), as well as writing sports in Wichita Falls, Amarillo, Abilene, Pampa and Austin.

He won awards both as a journalist and a realtor. While in Austin, he struck up friendships with the late Darrell Royal and renowned golfer Ben Crenshaw. At the funeral, Crenshaw mentioned enjoying numerous rounds of golf with Collins. "It was Dick," he said, "who first called me 'Gentle Ben'." (Dick wrote about all sports, favoring track and field, and covered several Olympics.)...

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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At The Corral Gate



Unsettled weather is so typical of March. Cool then warm, wet then dry, and windy!!! We never know what to expect or how to dress for it. But the beat goes on, as Sonny and Cher's million-seller lets us never forget. That's wisdom that's truly timeless.

The Reilly Springs Jamboree features country music talent in monthly shows and takes particular pride in the area's youthful musicians. Plan now to attend the March 18 and April 22 Jamborees and meet some very talented youth who live in the Hopkins County vicinity and share their music on the historic stage.



When you arrive for the show, be sure and notice the new sign, painted and installed by friendly volunteers Ed and Brenda Payne.

"Two Hearts" Hanah and Hailee, sister singer/songwriters from Winnsboro, will be featured at 7pm on Saturday March 18. They have formed their own band "Scatterproof" but will be performing country standards and originals with the house's Roger Reed and the Sunshine Band for the Jamboree audience. The pair are busy in band and drill team at Winnsboro ISD, perform concerts around the area and are nominated for an Academy of Western Artists award this month! Good luck girls!



Two Hearts!!!



Fiddlin' Jack Phillips will headline his annual "Western Swing Roundup" Jamboree on April 22, 2017 at the Reilly Springs Jamboree. He's bringing some notable players along including Louise Rowe. Louise has been a singer and stand-up bass player in Western Swing circles since age 18 when she was hired by Bob Wills as the first, and only, female "Texas Playboy". Louise had seven talented musician brothers known as the "Seven Rowe Brothers" and came to Wills' attention because she was "always around" at the dances and backstage. Jack is making a name for himself across Texas as one of youngest (age 11) accomplished fiddlers in the field of Western Swing, and he's picking up guitar too. He makes his home in the Sulphur Bluff area of Hopkins County, Texas.



Jack Phillips 2014 and 2016



A few words to note the passing of a lady who deserves much more than a few words; Mary A. Estes. A teacher by profession and by nature, Mary A. (Alice) was an instructor and a human being because to her, the two causes were inseparable. During her career, Mary taught children and adults to read and through reading, to develop an aptitude for learning. In the classroom, her skills shone brightest when she was challenged by a student's special learning needs. Beyond the classroom, her wide range of contacts allowed her to teach lifetime skills too, like sewing, cooking and household management. At the piano, she helped boys and girls develop an ear and love for music. With Mary A, useful basics like listening, being on time, using good manners, keeping your word and showing respect for others were all features of her curriculum provided at no extra charge. Mary's strengths were simplicity and practicality, cemented with a firm belief that with good sense and a fair amount of try, anybody could improve their situation and find personal pride. She looked for and found good in people all across the intellectual spectrum. On the site of Murray-Orwosky Funeral Home, her obituary states that she graduated from Texas Tech in Lubbock with a Music Education degree and from Phillips University, Enid Oklahoma with a degree in Religious Education during the 1940's. She taught school at Matthews Jr. High in Lubbock, Indian Reservation Schools in Enid, Oklahoma, at Roxton ISD and for 17 years at North Hopkins ISD at Birthright, Texas, teaching a total of 34 years. She was a 4-H Leader and Girl Scout Leader in Hopkins County, a member of Beckham Baptist Church and sang with the Silvertone Choir at First Baptist Church in Sulphur Springs. She loved playing the piano for her churches and schools, and was a passionate artist. In late 2016, I found Mary A. at the piano in the dining room of Sulphur Springs Health and Rehab. At 91, she was almost totally blind and wheelchair-bound but was deftly finding her way on the keys, playing music for Johnny Parker's afternoon program. As always, Mary A. was giving of herself within the scope of her talent and skills. I'm glad I got to see her one last time. She graciously allowed me to take her photo.



Mary A. Estes

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 E A F S R G H A A L U P A W B A A V H D O L
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AUSTIN COLLEGE AND LIBERAL ARTS

Tumbleweed Smith



Austin College in Sherman was founded in 1849 and is named in honor of Stephen F. Austin. "It is among the oldest colleges in Texas," says Dr. Marjorie Hass, president. "In fact it's the oldest college still operating under its original charter."

Austin College is a liberal arts college, which Dr. Hass says is different from a major university or junior college. "Large universities focus more on graduate schools, publications and grants. Community colleges are for basic and vocational education. Liberal arts schools focus on undergraduate study of language, philosophy, literature, art and abstract science. We try to teach the students how to think for themselves. We have a very strong reputation for producing the finest professionals in Texas and the country. A lot of our students go on to medical school, law school, they go into the ministry, they become teachers, they go into a variety of professions and of course we have many students who pursue business careers."

Marjorie says the college was founded by Presbyterian ministers who wanted to create a place where young men could receive the kind of high quality education that they formerly had to go to the east coast to receive. "Eventually and overtime the college started admitting women and now we're coming upon the one hundredth year of co-education. We have a very diverse student body, ethnically, religiously and socio-economically. Seventy-two percent of Austin College students have a roommate of a different religion or ethnicity than they are before they graduate. That's such good preparation for moving out into a diverse world."

The college doesn't have or desire a large student body. "Classes are very small. It's not unusual for our students to be in a class with five, ten or fifteen students. Our faculty members really know their students and understand how they function as thinkers, what their dreams and visions might be. To do that, we keep our college population small. We really are a community. We have just under thirteen hundred students."

Dr. Hass is the first woman president and the first Jewish president the college has ever had. "When a former moderator of the Presbyterian Church heard that a Jewish woman had been named president, she commented, 'how Presbyterian of us.'"

The mascot of Austin College is a kangaroo. "One story is the students had a very strong honor court to make sure students lived up to their highest ideals. That court was known as the kangaroo court. Another story is about our prowess on the football field. In the early days our little college used to play some of the larger football powerhouses. One of those coaches was so impressed with our players he said they hopped around that field like kangaroos."

Dr. Hass has a doctorate degree in philosophy. "When I started my education at a liberal arts college, I kept choosing courses that had to do with thinking."

Obits

Kay Chastain

Funeral service for Kay Chastain, age 67, of Emory, will be held on Thursday, March 16, 2:00 pm, at Emory Baptist Church. Bro. Richard Kellam will officiate. Interment will follow the service at Emory City Cemetery. Visitation was held on Tuesday evening, 6:00-8:00 pm, at Point Church of Christ. Kay passed away unexpectedly Sunday, March 12, in Tyler, at Christus Trinity Mother Frances Hospital.

She was born November 25, 1949, in Greenville, to Leon Allen and Jannie Pearl Fenter Shelton. She married Robert Clifton Chastain in Point, at Woosley Baptist Church, on May 31, 1969. Kay was a member of several clubs including TEEA and TEHA, and was a past president of the TEEA. She was a member of Point Church of Christ.

Survivors include: Husband: Robert Chastain of Emory, Sons: Robert Joel Chastain (Wendy) of Emory, Kurt Brandley Chastain (Randa) of Point, Sister: Brenda Hooten (Larry) of Point; and Linda Sikes (Bill) of Sachse; Brother: Frank Shelton of Point, Grandchildren: Coltan Chastain, Makayla Chastain, Karlee Chastain, and Alli Chastain, And, a host of nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents.

Arrangements are under the direction of Wilson-Orwosky Funeral Home.

Jeffrey Wayne Gideon

Funeral services for Jeffrey Wayne Gideon, 53, of Sulphur Springs will be held at 10:30 a.m., on Friday, March 17, 2017 at First Baptist Church, Sulphur Springs, TX. Interment will follow at Restlawn Memorial Park. Visitation will be held from 6-8 P.M., Thursday, March 16, 2017 at Murray-Orwosky Funeral Home. Jeff passed away on Sunday, March 12, 2017 at Baylor University Medical Center, Dallas Texas.

Memorials can be made to Hanna4hope.com, 610 Price Drive, Rockwall, TX 75807; First Baptist Church Building Fund, 116 Oak Avenue, Sulphur Springs, TX 75482 or a memorial of your choice.

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



Micheal "Mike" Colley

Michael "Mike" Colley passed away Saturday March 11, 2017 at his home surrounded by the love of his family and friends following a brief battle with cancer.

He is survived by his wife Rebecca Booker-Colley; their children Denise Morris-Bybee, Heath Colley, Susan Colley, & Cody Colley; grandchildren Garrett, Jordan, Sydney, & Taylor Swatsell, Bryson & Taelor Rawson, Lana, Lexi, & Lola Colley, Jackson Kinsey, Clair & Ty Bybee, and one great grandchild on the way Wyatt Swatsell. He is also survived by his brothers Rick, Tony, and Rocky Colley and sister Connie Pace. As well as many other family members & special friends.

There will be a private memorial for his family & friends scheduled at a later date to celebrate the life of this amazing man.

Arrangement are under the direction of West Oaks Funeral Home.



Patrick Neal Reed

Funeral services for Patrick Neal Reed, age 49, of Sulphur Springs were conducted at 2:00 p.m., Wednesday, March 15, 2017 at West Oaks Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Edgar Clements and Rev. Bobby Keller officiating. Interment followed at North Hopkins Cemetery with Joe Vickers, Tyrone Clayton, Mark Davenport, Joe Goodson, David Whitaker, Tim Anderson, Jason Anderson, Chad Joslin and Robert Hinson serving as pallbearers. Honorary pallbearers were Charles Murray, Coy Vickers, Gary Anderson, Pee Wee Woodard, Paul Laco, and Benny Bryant. Visitation was from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., Tuesday, March 14, 2017 at West Oaks Funeral Home. Pat passed away Friday, March 10, 2017 at Trinity Mother Frances Hospital in Tyler.

Pat was born on July 19, 1967 in Sulphur Springs the son of Lloyd Ray Reed and Robbie Nell Goldsmith. He married Lisa

Ann Self on February 14, 1985 in Cooper, TX. She survives. Pat was a self-employed mechanic.

In addition to his wife Pat is survived by his mother, Robbie Nell Goldsmith Dixon of Sulphur Springs, son William "Bubba" Reed and wife Crystal, daughters, Patricia "Sissy" Reed Bennett and husband Cole, Jacqueline Wooten and husband Morgan, Destanie Walls and husband Buddy all of Sulphur Springs, brothers, Glen Howle, James Dewey Dixon and wife Gail, sisters, Robin Taylor and husband Robert Orsburn, Tina Thompson and husband Ronny all of Sulphur Springs, Cindy Price and husband Pete of Cooper, grandchildren, Brooklynn "Boo Boo" Reed, William Ray "Peanut Reed, Jr., Colby Wayne Wilson, Rylee "Ry Ry" Bennett, Coleson "Baby Bubba" Bennett, Jayleigh "Jelly" Bennett, Ethan Wilson, Abby Wooten, Hunter Walls and Bela Walls, and father-in-law, Kenney Wayne Self, Sr.

He was preceded in death by his father and brother, Andy Reed.



Sherrie Davis Penson

Funeral service for Sherrie Davis Penson, age 57, of Dike, were held at 2:00 P.M. on Saturday, March 11, 2017 at Murray-Orwosky Funeral Chapel in Sulphur Springs with Rev. Paul Pogue officiating. Interment followed at Sulphur Springs City Cemetery with Shannon Davis, Dusty Davis, Austan Davis, William Penson, J.J. Price and Shane Russom serving as pallbearers. Visitation was held one hour prior to the service.

Ms. Penson passed away Thursday, March 9, 2017, at Sulphur Springs Health & Rehab. She was born in Sulphur Springs on February 29, 1960, the daughter of Mershell Dell and Billie (Gregory) Davis. She married David Penson on August 2, 1980 in Las Vegas, NV. She was a member of Weaver Baptist Church and a retired Respiratory Therapist.

Sherrie is survived by her sons, Daniel Ray Penson, David Michael Penson and wife Anne-Michelle; father, Mershell Davis; brother, Ricky Davis; grandchildren, Gage Penson and Rafe Penson; niece, P.K. Harlin; nephew, Dusty Davis.

She was preceded in death by her mother; husband; sister, Donna Harlin.

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

Clydema Boyd

Funeral arrangements for Clydema Boyd, age 76, of Sulphur Springs are pending with Murray-Orwosky Funeral Home.

Mrs. Boyd passed away Wednesday, March 15, 2017, at Christus Mother Frances Hospital Sulphur Springs.