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VOL. 18 ISSUE 891, March 30, 2017



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At The Corral Gate



Who are the heroes in your hometown? Do you know them? I am proud of the Como-Pickton CISD Junior class for the "Hometown Heroes" project about the quality of courage that they have undertaken. I was invited to the school to see what the project was about and talked with students Briley Adcock, Jorge Solis and Maria Rodriguez.

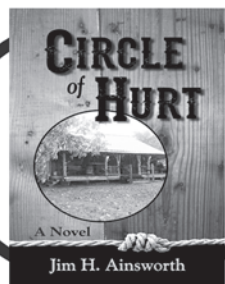


English students Jorge Solis and Maria Rodriguez.



Mrs. Wilder, an English teacher, is on the Hometown Heroes Task Force along with a dozen other community leaders from school, politics, law enforcement and media. Mrs. Wilder is allowing her students exposure to the different types of courage at work in the community by interviewing individuals. Some of these individuals have made news already. Other stories are life experiences of everyday people which will probably never make the news. All the interviews have value in this study about courage. Following the interview process, video, photos and audio will be combined to create Public Service Announcements about the individuals. This unusual class project will honor local heroes who act with courage. I wish to say Thank You to Mrs. Wilder and Como-Pickton CISD for your sincere efforts to point out the good things in our community, a great place to learn, live and work!

I recently renewed my friendship with a local author who writes about heroes. Jim H. Ainsworth first became a writer of training manuals and books from his career in investment banking... then during his so-called retirement, he began to write historical fiction novels. This has become a full-time interest and a business passion. Jim writes about people and places from the history of NE Texas and from the stories of his family, as storytelling was, and is, their tradition. Here's how his first book came about. Only a week after retiring, Jim got a call from his cousin suggesting they take a wagon ride to re-trace the family's move across the Brazos north to Klondike, Now, they had no wagon but found one...and that trip yielded his first novel, "Biscuits Across the Brazos". Ten books later, his newest self-published novel "Circle of Hurt" is just out, based on factual events connected to Jim's family line. Just as captivating as his previous characters is Tee Jessup, who lives in a dilapidated farm house on the hill and Clayton Dupree who has secretly returned to Riverby to the abandoned shack below the hill. Both men have come to the attention of the exclusive membership of The Circle. With a combination of the West, adventure and romance in the writing, Jim's novels embrace a world where horses and land, rough men, vendettas, love and finally, truth and faith play towering roles. Interested already? Well, here's extra incentive...you'll get Jim's book "Believing in a Grand Thing" when you purchase "Circle of Hurt". Get these crafted works and enjoy them! They are available on Amazon and from the author. Learn more at jimainsworth.com or call him at 903-886-3293 and make a friend with Jim Ainsworth, a historian and writer headquartered at his horse ranch in Campbell, Texas near his alma mater Texas A and M Commerce.



Jim H. Ainsworth pictured with Enola Gay.

Friends, I hope the world treats you fair and you treat others as you would yourself. These "old fashioned" tenets are not so out of date, you know!

Til next week I'll watch for you at the corral gate.

Miscellaneous

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Obits

Dennis Griffin

Dennis Griffin, age 57 of Mineola, passed away on Sunday, March 26th, 2017 in Winnsboro. He was born on October 3rd, 1959 in Rockwall, TX to Warren Griffin and Gaynell Moore Griffin.

He was preceded in death by his father, Warren Griffin.

He is survived by, mother, Gaynell Griffin of San Antonio; wife, Sandra Griffin of Mineola; sons, Walter Hall and wife Sherry of Garland, Charley Posey and wife Sherri of Flowermound and Sandy Ritchey and wife Mary of Mineola; daughters, Brenda Henderson of Winnsboro and Dollie Stewart and husband Chris Hawkins of North Richland Hills; brother, Jack Griffin of Corsicana; sister, Saleta Chatterton of San Antonio; 21 grandchildren and 21 great grandchildren.

Memorial Services will be held on Saturday, April 1st, 2017 at Beaty Funeral Home-Winnsboro 816 W. Broadway Winnsboro, TX 75494 at 2:00 pm, Rev. Billy Condrey and Rev. Ronny Higgins conducting.

Keron Perry

Keron Perry, of Sulphur Springs, passed away Tuesday, March 28, 2017 at her daughters residence in Little Elm. Arrangements are pending with West Oaks Funeral Home.

Bruce Rogers

Funeral Service for Bruce Rogers, age 62, of Sulphur Springs will be held at 1:00 P.M. on Thursday, March 30, 2017 at Church of the Nazarene on League Street, Sulphur Springs. Interment will follow at Memoryland Cemetery, Greenville. There will be no visitation. Mr. Rogers passed away Tuesday, March 28, 2017, at Rock Creek Health & Rehab.

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



June Ann Jones

Graveside services for June Ann Jones, 72, of Sulphur Springs, were held at 11:00 a.m., Wednesday, March 29, 2017 at Peerless Cemetery with Janette Harris officiating. There will be no formal visitation. June passed away on Sunday, March 26, 2017 at Rock Creek Health and Rehab.

She was born on February 18, 1945 in Kilgore, TX, the daughter of Roland and Bertha Wood Crow. She was a homemaker and also worked at Furr's for several years.

She is survived by son, Donald Jones of Sanders, AZ, daughters, Deborah Reimer and husband Bill of Longview, Deanna Jones of Sulphur Springs, Donna Roach and husband Daniel of Yantis, sister, Julia Flanery and husband Gerald of Sulphur Springs, grandchildren, Christopher Gessman, Jessica Pierson, Jeremy Jones, Constance Stieber, Robert Lynn White, Desiree Shadwell, Donald Jones Jr., Makesha Jones, Felicia Jones, Jonathan Jones, Jerimiah Jones, and many great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents and one son, David Jones.

Arrangements are under the direction of West Oaks Funeral Home.



Jo Beth Dickerson

Jo Beth Dickerson, 71, of Quitman, TX passed away on Friday, March 24, 2017, in Quitman, TX. She was born on Tuesday, May 1, 1945 in Sulphur Springs, TX to the late Drue and Margaret Jennings.

She is preceded in death by son, Robert Dickerson in 1994.

Mrs. Dickerson graduated from Sulphur Springs High School in 1963, then she would go on to receive her Bachelor of Education in 1968 and then her Master of Education in 1972 both from East Texas State University. She taught school for 32 years in Daingerfield, Commerce, Sulphur Springs, Henderson, Yantis and Quitman. Mrs. Dickerson also worked as a realtor at Century 21 in Sulphur Springs for 2 years and as an Interior Designer for 5 years. She was also the co-owner of Old Settlers Inn Restaurant in Quitman with her husband for 11 years where she had the reputation as the "pie maker".

Mrs. Dickerson was the past President of Hi-King Club, member and officer of several other clubs throughout the years:

Junior Waverly, University Women of America, Pilot Club, Palace Club, Women's Forum, Women's Golf Association and numerous bridge clubs, and served on several committees at the Mineola Country Club.

She enjoyed traveling throughout the world with her husband, friends and family, playing golf, cooking, playing bridge and decorating.

She is survived by her husband of 51 years, Jack Dickerson; two sons, Phil Dickerson and wife Nicole of Tyler, TX, Chad Dickerson and wife Starr of Houston, TX; special daughter-in-law, Amy Dinger and husband Troy of Colmesneil, TX; brother, Jerry Jennings and wife Lequida of Sulphur Springs, TX; sister, Rose Giles and husband Terry of Tyler, TX; four grandchildren, Brayden Dickerson and Addison Dickerson both of Tyler, Ellory Dickerson and Juniper Dickerson both of Houston; several nieces and nephews.

Visitation is scheduled from 6:30 – 8:00 pm on Friday, March 31, 2017, at Beaty Funeral Home, Mineola, TX.

Graveside Celebration of Life service is scheduled for 11:00 am, Saturday, April 1, 2017, at Restlawn Memorial Park, Sulphur Springs, TX.

In lieu of flowers the family kindly requests that donations be sent to the Robert D. Dickerson Memorial Scholarship in honor of Jo Beth Dickerson. Donations can be made online at www.sfasu.edu/give, by phone at (936) 468-5406, or by mail to the SFASU Foundation, P.O. BOX 6092, Nacogdoches, Texas, 75962 (check made payable to the SFASU Foundation) or to Wood County Healthcare Foundation, 117 N. Winnsboro St., Quitman, TX, 75783.

Janice E. (Kerbow) Smith

Janice E. (Kerbow) Smith, 76, of Sulphur Springs, passed away Saturday, March 25, 2017 at Carriage House Manor. There will be no formal services or visitation.

Mrs. Smith was born August 19, 1940 in Cooper the daughter of Conrad Hall and Ruth Dee Turner Kerbow. She was married to Alvin L. Smith on September 5, 1970 in Miami, FL. He preceded her in death in 2007. Janice worked for many years as an assistant at Dr. Donna Gregory-Edgar Chiropractic office.

She is survived by a brother James Kerbow of Garland, TX and several nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents, brother, Donald Dale Kerbow, and sister, Dyann Poulter. Arrangements are under the direction of West Oaks Funeral Home.

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CADDO MILLS ISD WORKING TO RAISE \$6,000 WITH SOUTHWEST FORD AND LOCAL COMMUNITY BY "TAKING THE WHEEL" WITH FORD

Exciting test-drive fundraising event will generate much-needed money for innovative ideas and project grants that cannot always be funded through public school resources.

CADDO MILLS, TX –Across the United States, there are vital arts, music and sports programs that are being cut annually due to growing budgetary constraints and lack of funding in our public schools. Today's youth are missing out on extremely valuable opportunities to expand their knowledge and diversify their interests, as well as the chance to have a little fun! Southwest Ford wants to keep these opportunities available for our local students at Caddo Mills Independent School District.

Caddo Mills ISD Foundation, a 501c3 organization dedicated to academic initiatives, curriculum material, and an array of programs that meet students' special needs, is bringing Ford Motor Company's Drive 4 UR School program to the Caddo Mills community in an effort to raise up to \$6,000. For every person who takes the wheel and test-drives a new Ford vehicle at Ed Locker Football Stadium on Saturday, April 1st, 8am – 3 pm, Ford Motor Company will donate \$20 to the Foundation.

"We know funding for school programs is hard to come by, and we want to do our part to help make sure these programs remain available," said Chance Donoghe, co-owner at Southwest Ford. "We're excited to raise money for Caddo Mills ISD!"

The event, which will be held from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm will feature many vehicles from Ford's impressive line-up. "Whether you are looking to test out our fuel efficiency vehicles, like the Focus, or want to try out technology features like Active Park Assist in the escape, we will be able to put you behind the wheel of your favorite Ford vehicle," said Chance Donoghe. Dealership staff on site will be able to assist with all Ford vehicles and provide additional information about each vehicle available for test-drive.

To date, Ford dealerships across the United States have helped raised more than \$35 million for local schools and non-profits thanks to their hard work and partnership with the Drive 4 UR School and Drive 4 UR Community programs.

To participate in this exciting event and get behind the wheel of your favorite Ford vehicle, please visit Ed Locker Football Stadium, 2700 Gilmer Street, Caddo Mills, TX. between 8:00 am and 3:00 pm on Saturday, April 1st.

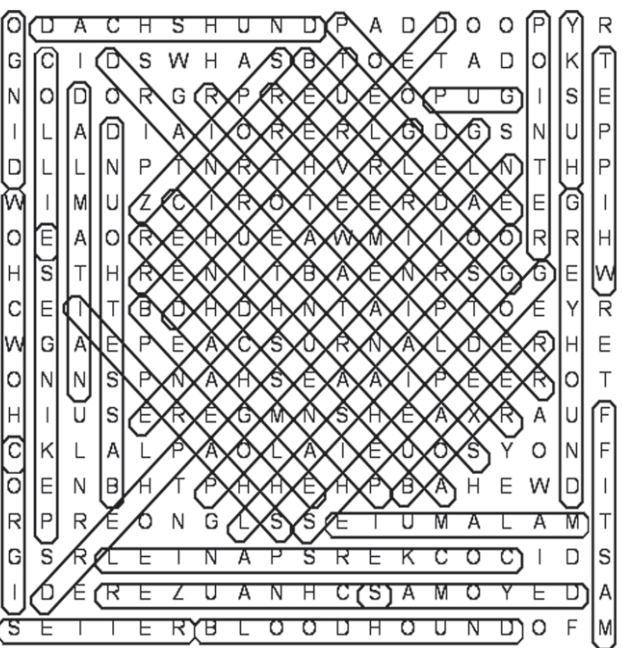
Participants must be 18 or older and have a valid driver's license. There is a limit of one test-drive per household. All test-drive will last approximately 7-10 minutes.

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ABOUT FORD MOTOR COMPANY

Ford Motor Company, a global automotive industry leader based in Dearborn, Mich., manufactures or distributes automobiles across six continents. With about 197,000 employees and 67 plants worldwide, the company's automotive brands include Ford and Lincoln. The company provides financial services through Ford Motor Credit Company. For more information regarding Ford and its products worldwide, please visit www.corporate.ford.com.

Answers to Word Search



DEBORAH JUST CAN'T STOP WRITING

Tumbleweed Smith



Tumbleweed Smith

I met Debra Burkett a few years ago when she had just retired from a 21-year career of teaching medical doctors (she has a PhD in the field of medical education) and moved onto some family land near Mixon in Cherokee County. Although she grew up in Florida, she spent summers with her grandparents who lived on that East Texas land.

Deborah is an adventurous sort. In the 1970's she took a teaching job in Alaska. "They were paying big salaries for teachers back then," she says, "a lot more than I was making as a teacher in Houston. I went to Alaska on a whim and stayed there eight years. My parents had recently died and I was getting away, trying to explore a new life." Her house in the woods has artifacts from her time in Alaska.

Deborah became interested in local and area history and got involved with historical groups. She put her research skills to work and collaborating with other kindred souls started producing books. One is about veterans; another is the history of the community of Troup, where she had an antique store for a number of years. It was while she had the store that she almost got completely consumed by quilts. She had an annual quilt show at her store and met many quilters. She produced a handsome coffee-table book about quilts that has become sort of the encyclopedia of quilting. It is full of pictures and stories from the quilt makers. In fact the title is Quilts and Their Stories. It's 357 pages and is documented like a dissertation.

Deborah can't get away from her time spent doing diligent research. She loves digging through old newspapers, magazines, personal letters, archives and interviewing the people who appear in her books. She took an oral history seminar from Baylor University to learn how to conduct interviews and what to do with them. She uses a video camera on her interviewing trips. "I know it sounds hokey, but doing this interviewing, researching and writing has really changed my life because after I work on a project for a long time, the people I talk to (or listen to) become like family."

Deborah makes speeches about some of the women whose stories she has discovered. In one of her presentations she mentioned four women who hiked from Colorado to Texas in 1914 to protest women not being allowed to vote. Someone told her those women had spunk. That triggered something in Deborah's mind and she set out to find stories about spunky women in East Texas. After about three years that effort resulted in a book titled East Texas Piney Woods Spunky Women 1830s-1950s. It is 240 pages and is full of photos and stories. It is her latest book and is just now available. The book is dedicated to Angelina, an Indian woman who served as a translator and guide to Spanish and French explorers in the early 1700s. Angelina County is named for her. It's the only county in Texas named for a woman.

As Deborah was putting away her equipment after interviewing a woman in her 90's who had worked in a bra factory in Jacksonville, the woman said in addition to her duties at a sewing machine, she was also a model. "I was a perfect 36," she said.

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