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(In The Shade of The Courthouse)  
**903-885-9966**



**VOL. 18 ISSUE 892, April 6, 2017**

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OTHER SIZES w/SPECIAL PRICING AVAILABLE!  
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Four Doors Down From Family Dollar

sears  
**HOMETOWN STORE**  
LOCALLY OWNED AND OPERATED  
**FAMILY & FRIENDS**  
**TWO DAYS ONLY!**  
SUN., APRIL 9TH & MON., APRIL 10TH, 2017

EXTRA **10% OFF**  
**ALMOST EVERYTHING\***

AMERICA'S APPLIANCE EXPERTS  
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PLUS EXTRA **5% OFF** ALL APPLIANCES\* WITH YOUR SEARS CARD

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OR **12 MONTHS SPECIAL FINANCING\*** ON ALL TOOLS OVER \$299 WITH A QUALIFYING SEARS CARD

IMPORTANT SPECIAL FINANCING/DEFERRED INTEREST DETAILS (when offered): Interest will be charged to your account from the purchase date if the purchase balance is not paid in full within the promotional period or if you make a late payment. Minimum payments required. With credit approval, for qualifying purchases made on a Sears card (Sears Commercial One® accounts excluded) Sears Home Improvement Account™ valid on installed sales only. Offer is only valid for consumer accounts in good standing; is subject to change without notice; see store for details. May not be combined with any other promotional offer. Sears cards: As of 2/15/2017, APRs for purchases: VARIABLE 17.99%-27.99% OR NON-VARIABLE 14.99%-29.99%. Minimum interest charge: 1% TO 5%. See card agreement for details, including the APRs and fees applicable to you. Sears cards are issued by Citibank, N.A. APPLIANCE OFFERS: (1) Advertised savings range from 5%-30%. (1,2) Bosch®, Whirlpool®, KitchenAid®, Maytag®, Amana®, LG® and Samsung® appliances limited to 10% off. Others exclude Hot Boys, Super Hot Boys, Special Purchases, Jean-A-P®, Dacor®, GE®, GE Profile®, Crossover®, GE Café®, air conditioners, water heaters, water softeners, dehumidifiers, clearance, closed-end and Everyday Great Price Items. See store for additional exclusions. Offers good thru 4/15/17. (3) Cannot be combined with other Sears card discounts. Excludes Sears Commercial One® accounts and Outlet Stores. Sears Home Improvement Account™ applies on installed merchandise only. (4) 12 months offer applies to appliances over \$499 after discounts and coupons when you use a qualifying Sears card. See above for important Special Financing/Deferred Interest Details. Excludes Outlet Stores. Offer good thru 4/15/17. On all appliances: Colors, connectors, ice maker hook-up and installation extra. \*For Shop Your Way Members in participating stores. Local curbside delivery. Additional fees may apply. See store for details. TOOLS AND LAWN & GARDEN OFFERS: \*Advertised savings range from 5%-20%. Offer excludes Everyday Great Price Items, clearance, closed-end, generators, accessories and attachments. Lawn and garden offer good thru 4/22/17. Tool offer good thru 4/15/17. (1) 18 months applies to Craftsman Pro lawn & garden and excludes clearance, closed-end and Everyday Great Price Items. (2) 12 months applies to tool purchases over \$299 after discounts and coupons when you use a qualifying Sears card. See above for important Special Financing/Deferred Interest Details. Excludes Outlet Stores. Lawn and garden offer good thru 4/22/17. Tool offer good thru 4/15/17. FAMILY AND FRIENDS OFFER: (5) Others exclude Hot Boys, Super Hot Boys, clearance and clearance items. Offers valid 4/9/17 and 4/10/17 only. EXTRA 10% OFF home appliances, home appliance protection agreements, mattresses, tools and tools protection agreements, lawn & garden and lawn & garden protection agreements, fitness, game room & sporting goods, seasonal, patio furniture, grills, water softeners and floor care. 10% savings off regular and sale prices apply to merchandise only. May not be used to reduce a layaway or credit balance. Not valid on Super Hot Boys, Hot Boys, Special Purchases, Everyday Great Price Items, Stearns & Foster, iComfort, iComfort Hybrid, Simmons Beautyrest Elite, Jean-A-P®, Dacor®, GE®, GE Profile®, GE Café®, Dacor®, home appliance accessories, vacuum accessories, laundry pedestals and gift cards. Bosch®, Whirlpool®, KitchenAid®, Maytag®, Amana®, LG®, Samsung®, Electrolux® and Electrolux icon appliance brands limited to 10% off. Not valid on commercial orders or previous purchases. Tax and shipping not included. Available only at Sears Hometown Stores. Family & Friends offers valid for all stores all day Sunday, 4/9/17 and Monday, 4/10/17 only. We offer product warranty. Sears Hometown Stores may be independently operated by authorized dealers of Sears Authorized Hometown Stores, LLC or by authorized franchisees of Sears Home Appliance Showrooms, LLC. THE SEARS mark is a service mark of Sears Brands, LLC.

**Sulphur Springs**  
1402 Mockingbird Lane, Suite 3  
Sulphur Springs, Texas 75482  
903 885 2135

Monday-Friday 9:30 am to 7:00 pm | Saturday 9:00 am to 6:00 pm | Sunday 12:00 pm to 5:00 pm



# CLASSIFIED ADS

Non-Commercial Word Ads Free Under Under 20 Words. Free Garage Sale Ads!  
Call 903-885-9966 To Place Your Ad Today!

Have Your Ad Read By 20,000 People

## At The Corral Gate



As I have mentioned before that I can be easily led away from the corral gate by music. It has happened again! I went to the Cowtown Opry Gala in the Stockyards in March and asked Debbie Davis (Josh' mom) to go with me. We had a fabulous evening in Cowtown! Also attending were John Wayne (impersonator) and Yosemite Pete, one of the daily Cattle Drive crew. Part of the fun was seeing our own little Jack Phillips on stage with the other Cowtown Opry students and award-winning band leader Bobby Flores. Jack and his fellow students were awarded scholarships for more performance training in 2017/2018. This is a wonderful organization which produces youth performers in the country and Western Swing genre. Back home on April 22, Jack will stage his annual Western Swing Roundup at the Reilly Springs Jamboree, so don't miss this amazing show right here in Hopkins County! Veteran musicians who played for Bob Wills will be here as well as budding talent from teens on up! The music starts at 7 pm, tickets are just \$10 person at the door.



Yes, tea parties are still alive and well! At my friends' family home at Rocky Ridge, we sat on the porch awhile and talked then were served tea and coffee in the kitchen. It was impressively informal. The simple, old-fashioned practice of "afternoon tea" can produce such pleasant memories. More people ought to try it. Thanks Julie, Nancy and Ann, all members of the Charleton family for the invitation. I found out that Ann had worked in the Hallmark Card factory in Lawrence, Kansas for 17 years. She described the different presses she operated, and how each machine performed a different task like stamping, folding or embossing, one card at a time, to produce Hallmark's beautiful acknowledgements back in those pre-computer days. Although pay was low in the early years, 85 cents to \$1.50 per hour depending on the equipment you operated, the profit-sharing and retirement programs were generous. Ann feels Hallmark truly valued their employees and showed it!



I came across an attractively aging sign along the roadside in Rocky Ridge. It read "Songbird Hill" and its design and patina spoke of a family enjoying happy years on those acres. It reminded me of a greeting card I received a year or two ago from friends at Pickton, showing the return address as "Redbird Farms". I think I would someday like to visit there. Meantime, I return to my own Pleasant Springs Farm and the home corral for some of my dearest times spent amidst the crowing, clucking and neighing sounds of gentle personalities.



If I were to send a thank-you card for every loving deed and kind word you have done for me over these years, I'd substantially contribute to Hallmark stock. Most often though, I re-live our visits together through memories and our correspondence through phone calls and yes, old-fashioned mail! If you enjoy our visits through this article, drop me a line at P.O. Box 284, Sulphur Springs, Tx 75483.

Though I sometimes travel far, it's always good to be home and watching for you at the corral gate!

### Miscellaneous

Social Disability Unable to work? Denied benefits? We can help! Win or Pay Nothing! Contact Bill Gordon & Associates at 1-855-498-6323 to start your application today!

### Want To Buy

Call Shea to list items for your sale in out Classified Section. We cover several counties. 903-885-9966.

### Cars/Trucks Wanted

**Place A Classified Ad**  
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Or Less - Our Regular Price!  
Call Today  
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Spectrum Triple Play TV, Internet & Voice for \$29.99 ea. 60 MB per second speed. No contract or commitment. We buy your existing contract up to \$500! 1-855-652-9304

HughesNet: Gen4 satellite internet is ultra fast and secure. Plans as lo as \$39.99 in select areas. Call 1-855-440-4911 now to get a \$50 Gift Card!

# Gun & Knife Show

**April 8th & 9th**  
**H.C. CIVIC CENTER**  
**Sulphur Springs, Texas**  
**9-5 Saturday, 9-4 Sunday**

### BUY/SELL/TRADE

- ★ Guns ★ Knives ★ Coins ★ Jewelry
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- For more info. Call (918) 658-4500

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D R A F T E D A L L I C S I R P H O E S

- |                |                  |                  |                  |
|----------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| AARON          | GOOD LUCK CHARM  | LITTLE SISTER    | STUCK ON YOU     |
| ALL SHOOK UP   | GOSPEL           | LOVE ME TENDER   | SUN RECORDS      |
| BLUE HAWAII    | GRACELAND        | MEMPHIS          | SURRENDER        |
| BURNING LOVE   | GYRATING         | ONE NIGHT        | SUSPICIOUS MINDS |
| CLAMBAKE       | HEARTBREAK HOTEL | PRISCILLA        | THE KING         |
| COLONEL PARKER | HOUND DOG        | RCA              | TOO MUCH         |
| DON'T BE CRUEL | IN THE GHETTO    | RETURN TO SENDER | TUPELO           |
| DRAFTED        | JAILHOUSE ROCK   | ROCKABILLY       | U.S. ARMY        |
| G.I. BLUES     | KENTUCKY RAIN    | ROUSTABOUT       | VERNON           |
| GIRL HAPPY     | KING CREOLE      | SHE'S NOT YOU    | VIVA LAS VEGAS   |
| GLADYS         | LISA MARIE       |                  |                  |



# CLASSIFIED ADS

Non-Commercial Word Ads Free Under Under 20 Words. Free Garage Sale Ads!  
Call 903-885-9966 To Place Your Ad Today!

Have Your Ad Read By 20,000 People

## Autos For Sale

FOR SALE: 2005 Nissan Murano SE, fully equipped, clean, will finance. Call 903-439-5514.

FOR SALE: 1996 Chevrolet Corvette, low miles, auto., leather, loaded, good condition. 903-439-5514.

FOR SALE: 2008 Chevy Silverado extended cab, 4 door, 4x4 V-8, auto, very nice, financing available. Call 903-439-5514.

Buy lot 50x100' near Lake Fork, RV ready, \$1200 down and monthly payments under \$150. (903) 878-7265

## Autos For Sale

FOR SALE: 2003 Toyota Corolla, 4 dr., auto., all extras, LOW MILES, loaded, financing available. 904-439-5514.

FOR SALE: 2000 Ford F150, Ext. Cab, 4 door XLT, one owner, LOW MILES, loaded. Financing available. 903-439-5514.

## Rummage Sale

Top Rail Cowboy Church Rummage Sale. April 22, 2017 8am-4pm. 7120 Shelby Ave. Greenville, TX 75402. 4-13

## Autos For Sale

Mother's Day Craft Fair at Top Rail Cowboy Church. May 6, 2017 9am-4pm. 262 Horsemans Rd, Greenville, Tx 75401

## Miscellaneous

Office desk. Excellent condition \$100. Commerce, Tx 386-290-3930

Antique Fire place mantle and matching top with Beveled glass mirror. Golden oak. Two exquisite pieces \$750 Commerce, Tx 386-290-3930

Grill Guard for Pickup. \$50. Call 903-243-2941.

Pickup Nerf Steps. Wheel to Wheel. 2 step. \$200 for Both. Call 903-243-2941

Real Marble Coffee Table(Not cultured marble) \$75. Call 903-243-2941

Antique Oak Wardrobe. 4 ft. wide x 6ft. tall. \$75. Call 903-243-2941

## Real Estate

Lake Fork House For Sale. 279 CR 1942. \$270,000.

Buy-Sell-Trade. Place your ad in the Millenniumshopper. 903-885-9966

**ALBA TIRE SHOP**  
Jose Hernandez Owner  
230 - S - Osborn  
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Cell: (956)-500-0820

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SINCE 1971  
Slabs, pier and beams, blocks. Since 1971, member of BBB, member of Chamber of Commerce.  
Gary Carroll.  
903-885-3051.  
CarrollFoundationRepair.com

## Auto For Sale

2007 Dodge Nitro SUV. Original owner. 172K miles. Everything works very nice. \$4850 Commerce, TX 386-290-3930

## Help Wanted

Drivers: NEW Orientation Completion Bonus! \$4,000.00 Flatbed!! \$3,000.00 Dedicated, Regional, OTR & Point to Point Lanes! (New hires guaranteed \$\$\$ week)! 1yr CDL-A:855-350-5571 AA-4-2A

Drivers CDL-A Company & O/O. WOW!! Finally a Company that respects you. Home time, Pay & Great Benefits. New Model Pete's too! Tank/HAZ End 855-252-1634 AA-4-6A

Advertising In The Millennium Shopper Really Works. 903-885-9966

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**OVERHEAD DOOR**  
• Garage Doors  
• Electric Door Openers  
~Sales  
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~Installation  
Sulphur Springs  
**903-439-1096**

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.

## Help Wanted

Driver CDL-A: It's About You! Sign-On & Referral Bonuses! Weekly Pay, Family Health & Life, No-Touch Freight or Upper East Coast! 855-411-3404 x124 AA-5-18A

## Miscellaneous

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IT'S TIME TO STOCK YOUR POND!!  
Delivery Will Be  
**FRIDAY, April 14**  
EMORY 1:30-2:15 @ Potts Feed Store  
GREENVILLE 4:30-5:15 @ NE TX Farmers Co-op  
**SATURDAY, April 22**  
QUITMAN 8:45-9:30 @ Potts Feed Store  
SULPHUR SPRINGS 10:15-11:00 @ NE TX Farmers Co-op  
MT. VERNON 11:45-12:30 @ TX Country Farm Supply  
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**FISH WAGON**  
To Place An Order Call Toll Free 1-800-643-8439  
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**APRIL 16TH**



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Comcast hi-Speed Internet- \$29.99/mo (for 12 mos.) No term agreement. Fast Downloads! PLUS Ask About TV (140 channels) Internet Bundle for \$79.99/mo (for 12 mos). CALL 1-844-714-4451

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CASH PAID - up to \$25/Box for unexpired, sealed DIABETIC TEST STRIPS. 1-DAY PAYMENT. 1-800-371-1136

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NEW STORE OPENING IN SULPHUR SPRINGS APRIL 4TH



**5 Day Survival Kit**  
 25 year shelf life, just add water

Lots of Camo Clothing Kids to 4x sizes

**B & T KIRKPATRICK SALES**  
 Sulphur Springs, 106 Hinnant Street ★ 903/919-5072  
 Store Hours: Tues. - Friday 10:00 - 5:00  
 Como, 1002 Katy Street ★ 903/488-0000 - Shop 903/348-8749  
 Store Hours: Monday 12:00 - 6:00

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**3.99% Financing** for up to 144 months  
 Discounts for cash, senior citizens & retired military.

**METAL ROOF** Completely Installed

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**NICE HAT!**

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Invitations with pictures make such a nice keepsake for your family and friends.

Order just the amount that you need--10 to 500--at very affordable prices!

Call Pat or Joy.....**903-885-3633**

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- Fellow, Society of Dermatologic Surgery
- Clinical Professor Texas Tech Dermatology

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Sizes	Financing Available	Price
24x30x10	\$ 8,600.....	\$ 98 mo.
30x30x10	\$10,300.....	\$117 mo.
30x40x10	\$12,900.....	\$147 mo.
30x50x10	\$15,400.....	\$175 mo.
40x60x10	\$23,000.....	\$262 mo.

Price includes 4" concrete slab and moisture barrier, one 10x10 roll up door or 10x8 garage door, one 3 foot entry door, concrete aprons, electric stub. \*Dirt may be extra.  
Monthly payments based on approved credit.

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Shops • Garages • Barns • Equipment Sheds • Concrete Work

### Want To Buy

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# Obits

## Gene Henry Tosh

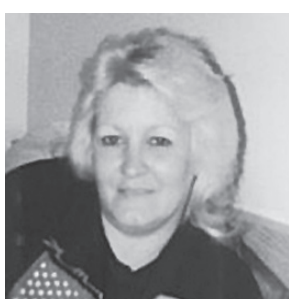
Graveside Inturnment for Retired Lieutenant Colonel Gene Henry Tosh, age 80, of Sulphur Springs will be held at 9:00 A.M. on Friday, April 7, 2017 with military honors at DFW National Cemetery. There will be no visitation. LTC. Tosh passed away Tuesday, April 4, 2017, at his residence. Arrangements are under the direction of Murray-Orwosky Funeral Home.



## Joe Louis Sharper

Mr. Joe Louis Sharper, age 70, of Winnsboro, passed away on Sunday, April 2, 2017 in Winnsboro. Joe was born on August 26, 1939 in Wood County to the late Quinnie and Mae Willie Alexander Sharper. Joe was retired from the City of Winnsboro, and a member of Macedonia Church of Christ. He is preceded in death by his parents, three brothers, and one sister. He is survived by his daughter, Threcee Sharper of Winnsboro; brother, James Sharper of Dallas; sisters, Helen Riley, Louise Grace, Molly Sharper; and two grandchildren.

Visitation will be held on Thursday, April 6, 2017 from 6:00 to 8:00 PM at Beaty Funeral Home; funeral services will follow on Friday, April 7, 2017 at 1:00 PM at the funeral home. Interment will be at Sharon Cemetery in Winnsboro, with Andre Hare, Andrew Ivery, Donnie Duffey, Bobby Stephen, Freddie Jones, and Jimmy Evans serving as pallbearers.



## Melody Ruth Smith

Melody Ruth Smith, age 62 of Sachse, passed away on Sunday, April 2nd, 2017 in Dallas, Texas. She was born on October 5th, 1954 in Odessa to the late Harlin Smith and Shirley Smith. She was a member of Cypress Baptist Church.

She was preceded in death by her parents and grandmother, Mattie Lou Smith.

She is survived by her sister, Melinda Close of Sachse; brothers, Monte Smith of Sachse and Jim Smith of Winnsboro.

Visitation will be held on Saturday, April 8th, 2017 from 10:00 am to 11:00 am at Cypress Baptist Church. Funeral Services will be held on Saturday, April 8th, 2017 at Cypress Baptist Church at 11:00 am, Bro. Steve Smith conducting. Interment will follow at Cypress Cemetery in Winnsboro.

## Thomas George Joiner

Thomas George Joiner (affectionately known as "T" to friends and family) was born in Franklin County on July 30, 1920, to Clemmon Cephas Joiner and Emma Elizabeth Davidson Joiner. The journey of this valiant warrior ended on April 3, 2017, as Jesus welcomed him home at the age of 96.

T met Nova Lourie Wilcox in the Harmony community and they were married in Sulphur Springs, TX on October 19, 1940. There are many things T is remembered for but his loving devotion to Nova, his wife of 68 years, his unwavering devotion and dedication to God and the church, his love and pride of his children and heirs, his civic service to his community, and his extreme passion for the outdoors hunting and fishing. His life and his character embodied the teachings of 1 Timothy 3.

For nine years, Mr. Joiner proudly served the Winnsboro I.S.D. School Board. He was an active member of the Winnsboro Volunteer Fire Department for many years. T served on the First Assembly of God Church Board for 35 years, where he also was the Junior Boys Sunday School Teacher and a Royal Ranger Commander. He held a position on the Harmony Cemetery Board, and was a Charter member of the Kiwanis Club of Winnsboro. He worked for the Chevrolet-Buick dealership in Winnsboro as a mechanic and later Foreman of the body shop for 42 years.

Mr. Joiner is survived by his four children: Dathen T. Joiner, Houston, TX, Hollice Ray Joiner of Winnsboro, TX, Dreabon C. Joiner (Pam), Pickton, TX, and Teresa Joiner Broadus (Steve) of Moss Point, MS. Nine grandchildren: Timothy Dathen Joiner, Ronald Gary Wilson, Pamela Wilson Meyer, Stacy Lourie Joiner Page, Micle Joiner Flora, Patrick Lane Joiner, Benjamin Clark Joiner, Holly Joiner Crow and Erin Lourie Broadus. He also had 14 great grandchildren and 8 great-great grandchildren. T is also survived by 3 Sisters: Mable Joiner Sweat-Slack, Quitman, TX, Don Joiner Frideley, Winnsboro, TX, and Etolia Joiner Pruitt, North Pole, Alaska.

T is preceded in death by his loving wife, Nova Lourie Wilcox Joiner; his parents, Clem and Emma Joiner; his brothers, Edward Lee "Hub" Joiner, Alvin Robert Joiner and Jerry Bob Joiner.

The family wishes to express their appreciation to Julie Perez, Ruth Ward and Melodie Smith with Visiting Angels of Tyler, TX, and Cypress Basin Hospice for the excellent care they provided.

Visitation will be held on Thursday, April 6th, 2017 from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm at Beaty Funeral Home-Winnsboro. Funeral Services will be held on Friday, April 7th, 2017 at Beaty Funeral Home- Winnsboro at 10:00 am, Pastor Eldon Hamilton conducting, interment will follow at Harmony Cemetery in Winnsboro, with serving as pallbearers.



## Faye Hooten Murray

Graveside service for Faye Hooten Murray, age 83, of Sulphur Springs will be held at a later date at Mt. Sterling Cemetery with President Jeff Sant officiating. There will be no visitation.

Faye passed away Sunday, April 2, 2017, at Christus Mother Frances Hospital, Sulphur Springs. She was born on May 20, 1933 in Dike, TX, the daughter of Ora Bascom Johnson and Mildred Faye Stacy. She married William Byrd Hooten in 1950 and then Bruce Murray, whom preceded her in death. She was a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, worked as a teacher's aide and secretary for Calgary, Alberta, Canada School District.

She is survived by her daughters, Teresa Carpenter, Janie McCauley and husband Cody, Millie Shultz, Mattie Jacobs and husband Bryan; 10 grandchildren; 21 great grandchildren; brother, Major Willis and wife Wynona.

Faye was preceded in death by her parents; husbands, William Byrd and Bruce; brothers, William Ollie Johnson and Bascom Eddie Johnson; sister, Kay Hatten; granddaughter, Courtney Shultz.

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

## Laurent Lionel de Rosier

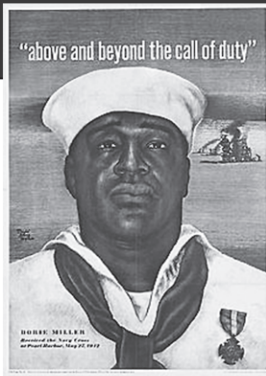
Laurent Lionel de Rosier, infant son of Laurent Paul De Rosier and Emily-Alexa Edwards, passed away on Wednesday, March 29, 2017 at Plano Medical Center. Arrangements are pending with West Oaks Funeral Home.



FAMOUS TEXANS

Doris Miller

WWII Hero



Involved in combat at Pearl Harbor, Battle of Tarawa, Operation Galvanic. Medals Received: Navy Cross, Purple Heart, Combat Action Ribbon, Good Conduct Medal, American Defense Service Medal, American Campaign Medal, Asiatic Pacific Campaign Medal, World War II Victory Medal

Doris "Dorie" Miller (October 12, 1919 – November 24, 1943) was a Messman Third Class that the United States Navy noted for his bravery during the attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941. He was the first African American to be awarded the Navy Cross, the third highest honor awarded by the U.S. Navy at the time, after the Medal of Honor and the Navy Distinguished Service Medal. The Navy Cross now precedes the Navy Distinguished Service Medal. Miller's acts were heavily publicized in the black press, making him an iconic emblem of the war for black Americans. Nearly two years after Pearl Harbor, he was killed in action when USS Liscome Bay was sunk by a Japanese submarine during the Battle of Makin.

Early life and education

Miller was born in Waco, Texas, on October 12, 1919, to Connery and Henrietta Miller. He was the third of four sons and helped around the house, cooking meals and doing laundry, as well as working on the family farm. Miller was a good student and was a fullback on the football team at Waco's A.J. Moore High School. On January 25, 1937, at age 17, he began attending the eighth grade again. Forced to repeat the grade the following year, Miller decided to drop out of school. He filled his time squirrel hunting with a .22 rifle and completed a correspondence course in taxidermy. Miller applied to join the Civilian Conservation Corps, but was not accepted. At that time he was 6 feet 3 inches tall and weighed more than 200 pounds.

Miller worked on his father's farm until shortly before his 20th birthday. On September 16, 1939, he enlisted in the United States Navy, where he became a Mess Attendant, Third Class, one of the few ratings then open to African Americans. Following training at the Naval Training Station, Norfolk, Virginia, he was assigned to the ammunition ship Pyro, but on January 2, 1940, was transferred to the battleship West Virginia, where he became the main cook. In July, he was on temporary duty on the Nevada at the Secondary Battery Gunnery School. He returned to his ship in August and was promoted to Ship's Cook, Third Class.

Miller's nickname "Dorie" apparently originated in a typographical error. After he was nominated for recognition for his actions on December 7, 1941, the Pittsburgh Courier released a story on March 14, 1942, that gave his name as "Dorie Miller." Since then some writers have suggested it was a "nickname to shipmates and friends."

Attack on Pearl Harbor

On December 7, 1941, Miller, a crewman aboard the USS West Virginia (BB-48), awoke at 0600. After serving breakfast mess, he was collecting laundry when at 0757 Lieutenant Commander Shigeharu Murata from the Japanese carrier Akagi launched the first of nine torpedoes that would hit the West Virginia. When the "Battle Stations" alarm went off, Miller headed for his battle station, an anti-aircraft battery magazine amidship, only to discover that a torpedo had destroyed it.

He went then to Times Square, a central spot where the fore to aft and port to starboard passageways crossed, and reported himself available for other duty. Lieutenant Commander Doir C. Johnson, the ship's communications officer, spotted Miller and saw the potential of his powerful build, and ordered him to accompany him to the bridge to assist with moving the ship's captain, Mervyn Bennon, who had a gaping wound in his abdomen, where he had apparently been hit by shrapnel. Miller and another sailor lifted the skipper and, unable to remove him from the bridge, carried him from his exposed position on the damaged bridge to a sheltered spot behind the conning tower. The captain refused to leave his post, questioned his officers about the condition of the ship, and gave orders.

Lieutenant Frederic H. White ordered Miller to help him and Ensign Victor Delano load the unmanned #1 and #2 Browning .50 caliber anti-aircraft machine guns aft of the conning tower. Miller was not familiar with the machine gun, but White and Delano told him what to do. Miller had served both men as a room steward and knew them well. Delano expected Miller to feed ammunition to one gun, but his attention was diverted, and when he looked again, Miller was firing one of the guns. White had loaded ammunition into both guns and assigned Miller the starboard gun.

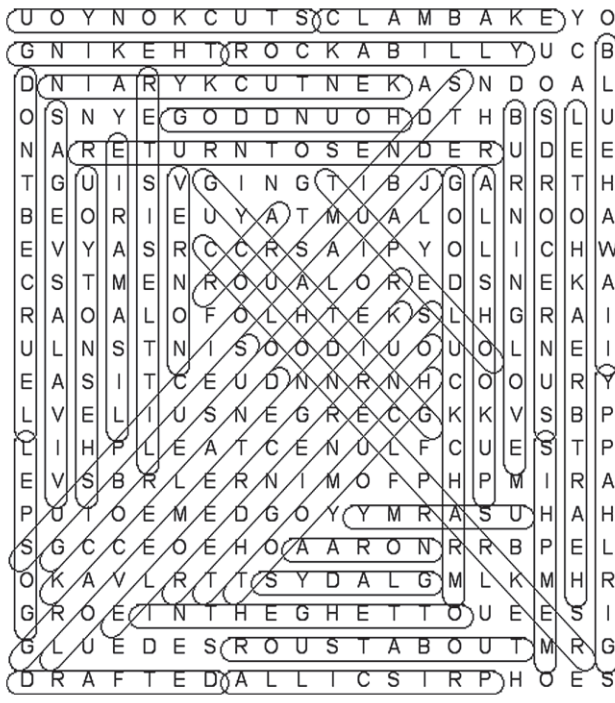
Miller fired the gun until he ran out of ammunition, when he was ordered by Lieutenant Claude V. Ricketts, along with Lieutenant White and Chief Signalman A.A. Siewart, to help carry the captain up to the navigation bridge out of the thick oily smoke generated by the many fires on and around the ship. Bennon was only partially conscious at this point, and died soon afterward. Japanese aircraft eventually dropped two armor-piercing bombs through the deck of the battleship and launched five 18in. aircraft torpedoes into her port side. When the attack finally lessened, Miller helped move injured sailors through oil and water to the quarterdeck, thereby "unquestionably saving the lives of a number of people who might otherwise have been lost."

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SHERMAN'S SACRED LANDFILL

Tumbleweed Smith



Tumbleweed Smith

A small, aging congregation attends Sherman's only synagogue, Temple Beth Emeth. When the president of the congregation, Andy Faber, went to prepare for Friday night services, he discovered the synagogue had been burglarized and vandalized. There was considerable damage to the sanctuary.

The Torah scroll, which had originally been used in Poland prior to World War Two, was missing. The community, like the congregation, was devastated over what happened and offered any assistance necessary. Sherman police called in the FBI, Texas Rangers and Anti-Defamation League to investigate. Within a week after news of the burglary hit the media, two young men confessed to the crime. They said they had buried the Torah in the city's landfill, which covers several acres.

Finding the Torah was out of the question, since it was probably buried several feet and the ground was soggy from recent rains. In Jewish tradition, when books or scrolls are no longer used, they are buried. The sacred space where the items are buried is called a genizah. City and county officials gave their hearty approval to converting the landfill into a genizah.

Rabbi Brian Zimmerman was called in to conduct the ceremony. "The Torah is our most sacred possession and its value emotionally and spiritually is priceless," he said. The crowd gathered at the landfill was small. Members of the congregation didn't want to notify the media about the event, since the solemn occasion was more of a religious service than a public event. Rabbi Zimmerman asked each person to share stories about how the scroll bore testament to the most important moments in their religious and spiritual lives. Each person told of how the Torah had been used at weddings, funerals, and ceremonies involving their children and grandchildren. After the stories, it was time for the memorial prayer. When the group arrived at the landfill, Rabbi Zimmerman said there were hundreds and hundreds of blackbirds making loud screeching noises. "It was sometimes difficult to even hear the people telling their stories about the Torah. The sounds from the birds were just deafening. They were flying back and forth over the landfill. We started saying the Kaddish, which is a prayer asking God to bring life to us, used usually when we mourn loved ones who pass. All of a sudden in the middle of the prayer we noticed it was incredibly quiet. There was complete silence. All the birds were still and sitting on the landfill. There was no sound except for us. We finished our prayer and looked at each other, commenting on the fact that the birds were quiet. It was a powerful moment. It reminded me that there are things in this world that we can't understand. People say there are moments when you really feel connected to something higher. That would be number one in my years as a rabbi."

Because of all the help the community provided repairing the synagogue, it was rededicated less than three months after the burglary. A synagogue in Arkansas provided another Torah.



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