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LIBERTY HAS CONCRETE BELLS

Tumbleweed Smith

Liberty, Texas has an exact replica of the original liberty bell in Philadelphia. It hung for a long time in a downtown plaza and was rung on special occasions. The bell is inoperative now due to damage from hurricanes. Various fundraisers are in place to get the bell repaired.

Bill Brackin of Liberty has a lake house in Jacksonville, which is known as the tomato capital of the United States. All over town concrete tomatoes are displayed in front of businesses and homes. These are giant tomatoes weighing hundreds of pounds and decorated in different colors and designs. Some offices or stores put their business names on the tomatoes and place them at the entrance of their buildings.

Bill was in Jacksonville at a time when he was looking for a fundraiser for his Rotary club. He's been a Rotarian 33 years.

"All of a sudden when I saw those concrete tomatoes it just kind of rung a bell with me. I thought it would be a great idea to have bells made of concrete and sell them to residences and businesses in Liberty."

He searched Google and discovered that Texas Tradition Molds in Lufkin makes molded concrete.

"I called and said what I wanted to make and the person I talked to was very interested and said the company could make the concrete bells. It just so happens that Liberty National Bank had just come out with a commemorative mug in the shape of the Liberty Bell. I sent one of these and asked if it was possible to make a replica in concrete. I said it must weigh at least 300 pounds so it can't be stolen and I want it to be at least three feet tall so if a lawyer buys one the name of the firm or street address can go on the bell."

Personnel at the company said they could comply with the requirements and sent Bill a design.


"I showed it to the Rotary club and the members gave their enthusiastic approval. We made sure we had Rotary International on the back of the bells, which sell for \$300. Half goes to Rotary, half goes to repair the city's bell."

When word from the company came that a sample bell was ready, Bill drove to Lufkin to pick it up.

"I loaded it on the back of my trailer, took it to the Rotary meeting and all the Rotarians got to come out and look at it. I was a little nervous but the bell looked so good I just knew they would like it and of course they did. We pre-sold approximately 20 bells right away."

Now the concrete bells are all over Liberty.

"I enjoy driving through town and seeing the ideas people have come up with."



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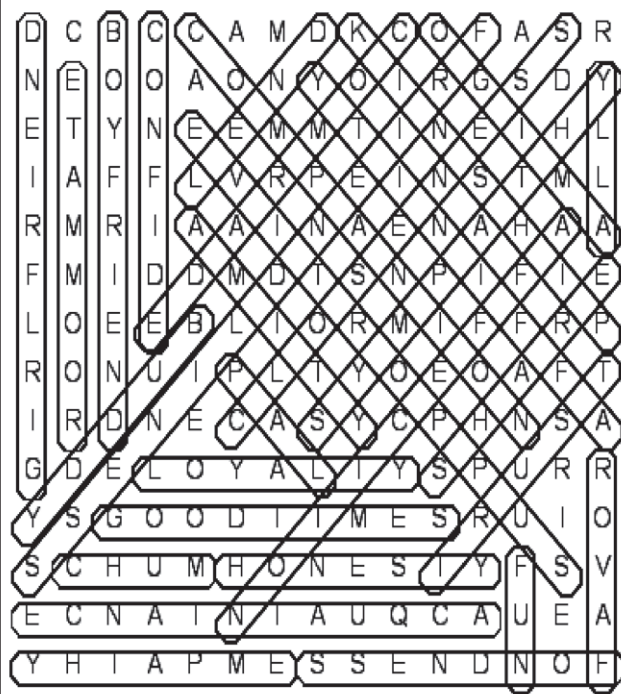
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Commentary by Dr. Don Newbury

If all of his certificates, proclamations and other awards were tacked up, Hershel Kimbrell would

need a bigger room, hopefully with at least six sides. Still, there'd be other memorabilia stored, and that's fine with him.

He's not an award-seeking guy. At age 90, memories of a life well lived are best tucked in the heart than tacked on the wall.

More than 100 family members, former players and friends helped him blow out candles at his recent birthday party held in Kimbrell Arena at his beloved McMurry University, where he was a basketball star, 1946-1950,

and coach, 1959-1995. hours of surgery--doctors proved them wrong, just Brain surgery cost him said if Kimbrell would take as he did many oppos- one coaching season. care of himself, he could ing coaches.... *****

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Obits



Wanda Jean Morgan Adair

Funeral service for Wanda Jean Morgan Adair, age 90, of Sulphur Springs were held at 2:00 p.m., Tuesday, April 18, 2017 at West Oaks Funeral Home Chapel with Bro. Fred Lewis officiating. Interment followed at Restlawn Memorial Park with Preston Adair, Brad Adair, Chris Davis, Clint Sanderson, Kevin Adair, and Kiffer Davis serving as pallbearers. Honorary pallbearers were Larry Vititow, Loyd McCord, Del Ray Jenkins, Larry Looney, and Amos Walker. Visitation was held from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., Monday, April 17, 2017 at West Oaks Funeral Home.

Wanda passed away peacefully surrounded by her loving and devoted family on Thursday, April 13, 2017 at Carriage House Manor. Wanda was born on October 18, 1926 to Wiley and Sallie Craig Morgan at their farm home in the Star Ridge Community with Dr. W.S. Southerland and ladies of the community attending.

Wanda attended Star Ridge grade school and then commuted by bus to Sulphur Springs High School where she graduated in 1943. Wanda joined Star Ridge Baptist Church in 1941, where she and nine others were Baptized in the pond on her fathers' farm. Wanda continued her walk with Christ through her membership at First Baptist Church, Sulphur Springs.

Wanda was a sales clerk for Duke & Ayers 5&10, Davenport's 5&10, and worked in bookkeeping at Pratts Federated Department Store where she met the love of her life George Adair and they were married one year later, on March 18, 1946 in the First Baptist parsonage by the Rev. C. Wade Freeman. Wanda and George were married fifty-nine years at his death in January 27, 2005. During this time, she kept books for George Adair Trucking, Adair Truck and Trailer Sales, and Owners of Sulphur Springs City Taxi which they ran for fifteen years. However, Wanda's greatest accomplishment was playing an integral part in the lives of her daughter, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and great-great-grandson.

Wanda is survived by a loved daughter Brenda Ann Babb and husband Ronnie of Sulphur Springs, TX, granddaughters, Sherrie Ann McCoy and husband Tony of Whitehouse, TX, Shelia Kay Sims of Sulphur Springs, one grandson Brian Wayne Sims and wife Stephanie of LaRue, TX, great-grandchildren, Wendie Ann Turner and husband Daniel of Whitehouse, TX, Morgan Andie McCoy of Whitehouse, TX, great-great-grandson, Cade Turner of Whitehouse, TX, sister, Patsy Ruth Gibson of Sulphur Springs, TX, brother, Wiley Avon Morgan and wife Sandi of Fargo, ND, nieces, nephews, and special friends Pam Black and Jajan Davis.

She was preceded in death by her husband and her parents. Arrangements are under the direction of West Oaks Funeral Home.



Mrs. Bobbie Ragsdale

Mrs. Bobbie Ragsdale, age 87 of Winnsboro, passed away on Monday, April 17th, 2017 in Tyler. She was born on February 7th, 1930 in Pickton to the late James Crofford and Mary Crofford. She was a seamstress a member of First United Methodist Church of Winnsboro. She was preceded in death by her parents and husband, Clayton Leroy Ragsdale.

She is survived by Sons Clayton Leroy Ragsdale, Jr., Thomas Wayne Ragsdale and Walter James Ragsdale all of Winnsboro; daughters, Bobbie Linton of Bedford, Cheryl Lindley and Alicia Ragsdale both of Winnsboro; sister, Ann Powell of Dallas, eighteen grandchildren, thirty-one great grandchildren and one great great grandchild.

Graveside Services will be held on Saturday, April 29th, 2017 at Hopewell Cemetery at 11:00 am, Rev. Henry Suche conducting,



Leland Nolan Campbell

Funeral service for Leland Nolan Campbell, age 96, of Beaumont, TX formerly of Emblem, will be held at 2:00 p.m., Saturday, April 22, 2017 at West Oaks Funeral Home Chapel. Interment will follow at Ridgeway Cemetery. Visitation will be held from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m., prior to service time. Leland passed away on Monday, April 17, 2017 at Pelican Bay Assisted Living in Beaumont, TX.

Arrangements are under the direction of West Oaks Funeral Home.

Mr. Joe Ziegler

Mr. Joe Ziegler, age 80 of Troup, passed away on Thursday, April 13th, 2017 in Troup. He was born on August 24th, 1936 in Hopkins County to the late Jacob Ziegler and Gladys Ziegler.

He was preceded in death by parents; infant daughter, Patricia Renee Ziegler; brothers, Jerry Ziegler and J.L. Ziegler; and sister, Christine Broadstreet. Mr. Ziegler is survived by, wife, Juanita Narramore Ziegler of Troup; son, Darwin Duane and wife Kathy Ziegler of Kosse; daughters, Charlotte Laquita and husband Carlos Gomez of Tyler, and Debra Denee and husband Kevin Rogers of Wills Point; six grandchildren and six great grandchildren; sister-in-law Clara Ziegler of Winnsboro and nieces and nephews; and best friend George Aiken.

Visitation was held on Monday, April 17th, 2017 from 2:00 pm to 3:00 pm at Beaty Funeral Home-Winnsboro 816 W. Broadway Winnsboro, TX 75494. Funeral Services were held on Monday, April 17th, 2017, at Beaty Funeral Home-Winnsboro 816 W. Broadway Winnsboro, TX 75494 at 3:00 pm, Mr. Nolan Scrubbs and Bro. Larry Craig conducting, interment followed at Smyrna Cemetery in Winnsboro,

Ms. Dot Coker

Funeral services for Ms. Dot Coker were held at 2pm Friday April 14 in the Yantis Cemetery under direction of Murray Orwosky Funeral Home. No formal visitation was planned. Ms. Coker passed away April 12 at Sulphur Springs Health and Rehab.

Neva "Lou" Louise Thompson

Neva "Lou" Louise Thompson, age 92, of Emory, passed away Wednesday, April 12, 2017, at Senior Suite Care & Rehab in Emory. Memorial service is scheduled for Sunday, April 23, 2017, 2:00 PM, at Emory Baptist Church. Cremation arrangements under the direction of Wilson-Orwosky Funeral Home of Emory. Online guestbook at www.wilsonorwoskyfuneralhome.com

Beverly Janzen

Services for Berlyn Janzen, of Quitman are pending with Tapp Funeral Home. She passed away Saturday, April 15, 2017 at her home in Quitman.



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ACQUAINTANCE
 AFFECTION
 AFFINITY
 ALLY
 AMIGO
 AMITY
 BOYFRIEND
 BUDDY
 CHUM
 CLOSENESS

COMPANION
 COMRADE
 CONFIDE
 EMPATHY
 FAVOR
 FONDNESS
 FRIENDLINESS
 FUN
 GIRLFRIEND
 GOOD TIMES

HONESTY
 KINSHIP
 LEND
 LOYALTY
 PAL
 ROOMMATE
 SHARE
 SUPPORTIVE
 SYMPATHY
 TRUST



At The Corral Gate



The first day of Spring 2017 was March 20 and Easter fell on Sunday April 16. Within the four weeks between those important dates, many of us gardeners anticipated the hazards of the season... frost, hail or damaging conditions...to harm our cultivated patches. Guess what...so far they haven't. Most of us have been blessed instead with smiles from heaven, and rewarded with verdant growth. Here's a few peeks at Nature in her everyday clothes.



Been a good Spring for Poke Salad. It's everywhere. Pick the leaves when young. Go ahead and put it through two par-boilings and change water between each, before finally cooking it to your taste. The extra step may not actually be necessary health-wise, but some of us remain obedient to the traditional ways anyhow. A meal or two of poke salad serves as a tonic and improves sluggish "wintertime" bowels. I checked the fencepost on Easter weekend and sure enough, the bluebird is nesting there. The female Eastern Bluebird lays 4-5 eggs, one per day, in loose nests or natural cavities in tree trunks. The eggs hatch after 11-19 days of incubation, and babies stay in the nest about 19 days. After learning to fly, the young remain with their parents in family groups before relocating as mature birds. A pair may raise 2-3 broods per year.



Sandy-land garden and young peach tree.

The Brashear area of Hopkins County has sandy land and grows great gardens and fruit trees. This photo shows the onions at the right, which have been vigorous and are now making nice large bulbs. The cabbage and broccoli took off well and quickly doubled then tripled in height and width. Squash, on the left, came up from seed in a hurry, made sturdy roots and is setting blooms. The new little peach tree is barely waist-high and is covered with 200 or more peaches, some now about as big as a regular-size peach seed and turning a rosy red. I don't know how all these peaches can possibly mature, but even in high winds with the last storm, they all stayed on their stems. I also don't know what variety of peach this is, because it was a rescue tree. It came up in a neighbor's flowerbed from a seed and got too big for it's space She dug it up and gave me the tree, but had cut most of the roots. It lived anyway, and is now at home in full sun in sandy soil. I'm getting my peach ice cream recipe ready.



FFA North Hopkins Carli Withrow, Chapter VP Faith Wheeler, Amy Sprague, Breeana Hicks and Rachel Stanley. Stew and Auction April 27, 6pm.



Sulphur Springs FFA Advisor John Holland, Kendall Blake, Brennan Murray and Marissa Greenway. Show and Sale 9am April 29, Civic Center.

Please support your local FFA Chapters...they grow future farmers!

It's been a great Spring for young things. New foals, calves and baby goats everywhere out in the country....litters of baby bunnies and barn kittens delighting youngsters we know. Praises! Everything is new again on God's footstool! Til next week, I'll watch for more good news and wait for you at the corral gate.

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