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VOL. 19 ISSUE 945, April 12, 2018

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Who celebrated a milestone birthday? A pretty lady from Yantis, Mrs. Sonya Baker Norton! Proudly going into her 8th decade, Sonya shows that gray is just a neutral and shouldn't dictate your lifestyle! I attended her birthday bash where her kin(about half of Yantis) was gathered. Her numerous children had gone above and beyond to compile scrapbooks documenting Sonya's life as a school cheerleader and teen beauty queen, a glowing mother of a big family and in more recent years wearing the crown of Ms. Hopkins County Senior Classic. She's always a class act.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!!

One of the joys in my life is music performed with joy and enthusiasm. You will usually encounter music performed that way when you come to the Reilly Springs Jamboree! and our April 21 show is the poster child for what I mean. Young Jack Phillips, local fiddler, is bringing his annual Western Swing Roundup with the accompanying crowd of young as well as seasoned musicians. If you don't know what Western Swing music is, try googling it. You'll find that it's a fusion of jazz and blues, defined by dance-able rhythms with a mixture of rural, cowboy and folk lyrics that glorify the farming and working-man roots of early American life. It's flavor comes from the instruments necessary to perform it, like fiddle and steel guitar, and a sophistication in musical ability such as jazz improvisation requires. Dancing is by no means prohibited! BECOME A JACK PHILLIPS FAN LIKE ME! You can start following his travels and career at his website, jackphillipsmusic.com. Jack and his Cowtown friends will have their CD's available for sale at this show...the 4th annual Western Swing Roundup, Saturday April 21, 2018 at 7pm at the Reilly Springs Community Center, home of the Reilly Springs Jamboree since 1956. That's 109 CR 1439 in Southeastern Hopkins County. \$10 admission per person. Smoke and alcohol-free family entertainment. I hear there's going to be a Fish Fry for supper too!



I've been a Jack Phillips Fan since be was 7

RILLY SPRINGS AND ORDER

Some how vision has been

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Now, May 2018 will bring two great shows. The first is a traditional Jamboree featuring Shanna Carter and Walk the Line, a North-Dallas trio with a blend of country and gospel that's pure listening pleasure. Shanna's natural-blonde beauty is straight from the country and her two "fellas" add comedy and harmony. The Jamboree band headed up by Roger Reed will present traditional country music with newcomer Zac Clifton from the Austin area.. That's a lot of talent and entertainment for \$10! The Saturday May 19 Jamboree starts at 6pm.

A second May show is Friday May 25 at 6pm with a concert by the Blackwood Quartet. They are on their 85th Anniversary Year Tour with a theme of "The Gospel Side of Elvis". Here's your chance to hear America's longest-running and most respected family gospel group, up close and personal, along with Elvis Tribute Artist Josh Davis along with Buddy and Ina Gore. We are more than privileged to get this concert and share it with you. If you'd like to meet the quartet, a Meet and Greet time is planned along with a special reserved seating area. Meet and Greet tickets are \$25 and regular admission tickets are \$15. Don't miss this exclusive concert in our historic venue. Please call me for tickets and reservations at 903-438-3568 or see the Reilly Springs Jamboree Facebook page.

Pretty busy at the corral gate these days...not much time for taking it slow. I'll be ready for the lazy days of Summer to arrive!

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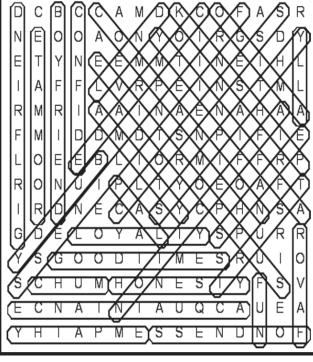
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LE FOWLER: WOOD CARVING FISHERMAN

Tumbleweed Smith



When I drove up to LE Fowler's house at White Oak, near Longview, half the driveway was taken up with a huge, well-equipped fishing boat. I could tell I was in the right place. Lots of people had told me about this legendary fisherman. Some call him a fish witch because he can catch fish where nobody else can.

Some say he's psychic. Whatever you call him, he knows where and when to catch fish.

He has won some big tournaments and has been a fishing guide. Once on a successful outing, one of his customers asked him how he was catching all those fish. LE's girlfriend, who was along on the fishing expedition, was quick with the answer. She said, "I'll tell you how he's catching all those fish. He thinks like a fish."

Another time LE was with some fishing buddies swapping stories at Uncle Ed's Tackle Shop in Longview.

"They were talking about people being lucky," says LE. "This one guy said, 'I'll tell you who the luckiest man in this country is and that's LE Fowler. He'll catch a ten pound bass out of a bar ditch.' I don't wan to sound like I'm bragging but you know, some people are talented to do different things. I've always been able to catch fish. There were 12 of us kids and we ate what we caught or killed."

LE makes fishing lures that look like museum quality pieces of art. He carves them with simple tools while sitting in his easy chair watching television.

"Everything is done with my pocket knife, my eye and my imagination."

His calls them baits and has sold them in 25 states under the name WHAT A LURE.

"I sell one of these baits for \$50. It takes me about 8 to 10 hours to make one. People seem to treasure them and won't hardly fish with them because they're afraid they'll lose them. For years I wouldn't let 'em have one that they had paid for until I caught a fish or two with it just to make sure it would catch fish."

His lures are in such demand that he traded a dozen of them with Bass Pro Shop, which outfitted his fishing boat, putting equipment and supplies worth thousands of dollars. Both Bass Pro shop and LE were happy with the trade.

He patented a device called a hypnotizer that attracts fish. He teamed up with some marketing people but that didn't last long.

"They wanted to fly me all over the world and I didn't want to do that. I sold them just out on the water, people were following me around wanting me to sell them one."

presidents, movie stars, animals and birds. They are carved from California walnut. He has another house and it's full of his carvings.

Obits



James Doyle McDonald

Graveside service for James Doyle McDonald, age 80, of Sulphur Springs, TX will be held at 2:00 P.M. on Thursday, April 12, 2018 at Greenview Cemetery. Serving as pallbearers will be Darrell Coleman, John Edwards, Tim Scott, Kaleb Edwards, Nick White and Nolan White. Visitation was held from 6 to 8 P.M. on Wednesday, April 11, 2018 at Murray-Orwosky Funeral Home. Mr. McDonald passed away at Sunny Springs Health & Rehab on Monday, April 9, 2018.

James was born on December 25th, 1937 in Sulphur Springs, the son of James "Jimmy" and Lula Mae McDonald. James was retired

He is survived by his children, James McDonald, Kathy Coleman, Susan White, Jerry McDonald and wife, Loretta; grandchildren, Jammi McDonald, Krista Edwards and husband, John, Nick White, Nolan White and wife, Amanda; eleven great grandchildren; sister, Irene McDonald; niece, Hollie McDonald. James was preceded in death by his parents.

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



Willie Raymond Crook

Funeral services for Willie Raymond Crook, age 75, of Sulphur Springs were conducted at 11:00 a.m., Wednesday, April 11, 2018 at Morning Chapel Missionary Baptist Church with Dr. Harold B. Nash officiating. Interment followed at Mel Haven Cemetery. There was no formal visitation. Willie passed away on Friday, April 6, 2018 at his residence.

Willie was born on March 25, 1943 in Sulphur Springs the son of John E. Crook and Anita Roland Crook. He married Betty Souder Crook and she preceded him in death. Willie was a carpenter and a member of Morning Chapel Missionary Baptist Church. He also served in the United States Army.

He is survived by three sons: Raymond Crook and wife Donna of West Virginia, Benjamin Crook and wife Greta of Sulphur Springs, Willie Crook and wife Pamela of Virginia, Kayrathie Crook of Washington DC, Cynthia Crook of Maryland; brother,

George Crook and wife Ivey Jo of Sulphur Springs; sister, Wynette Miller and husband Sanford of Washington; 18 grandchildren; 29 great-grandchildren and 14 great-great grandchildren, sister-in-law, Ester Crook, life long friend and companion, Belinda Webb, many nieces, nephews and cousins. In addition to his wife, he was preceded in death by his parents, and brother, Hubert Crook.

Arrangements were under the direction of West Oaks Funeral Home.

Richie Ewton

A graveside funeral service for Richie Ewton, age 48, of Sulphur Springs, TX was held at 11:00 A.M. on Monday, April 9, 2018 at Peerless Cemetery with Rev. Brock Mitchell officiating. Mr. Ewton passed away on Friday, April 6, 2018 at Christus Mother Frances Hospital in Sulphur Springs. Richie Ewton was born on May 28, 1969 in Dallas, Texas, the son of Gene and Julie (Crow) Ewton. Richie worked at Sulphur Springs Livestock as a cattle wrangler.

He is survived by his daughters: Misty Bailey and husband Jimmy, Meagan Michael and husband Brandon, and Katelynn Ewton; Parents: Julie and Gerald Flannery; Grandchildren: Jace Bailey and Grayson Michael; Brothers: Cary Shoults and wife Trish, Troy Ewton and wife Donna, Anthony Ewton and wife Lynn; Sister: Missy Litrell and husband Melvin; Brother: William Ewton; Step-brothers: Russell Flannery, Reeford Flannery; exwife: Cuba Mick; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Richie was preceded in death by his father: Gene Ewton; Grandchild: Jayden Bailey; Step-brother: Lewis Flannery and step-sister Carol Lynch. Funeral arrangements were under the direction of Murray-Orwosky Funeral Home.



Ronnie Dean Jones

Memorial service for Ronnie Dean Jones, age 57, of Emory, will be held 12:00 Noon, Saturday, April 14, 2018 at Wilson-Orwosky Funeral Home Chapel. Bro. Todd Magahee will officiate. Mr. Jones passed away at his home on Monday, April 2, 2018. He was born Sept. 11, 1960, in Dallas to James Norvell and Susette Martin Jones.

Ronnie was a mechanic by trade, and owned his own shop for several years.

Survivors include: Mother of his children: Diane Jones Valentine of Lone Oak, Sons: Jason Jones and wife Amanda of Scurry; and, Brandon Jones and Judy Busbee of Alba, Daughter: Sheila Grimes of Emory, Grandchildren: Katelenn Jones, Raven Ayers, Kayla Jones, Kayden Jones, Mason Jones, Marissa Smith, and Jamon Bushman, Grandfather: Will Allen Lee (Papa Lee) of Terrell, Sister: Luwanna Jones May of Waxahachie, Brother: Dennis Keith Jones of Mabank. Numerous other loving

family and friends. Preceded in death by: Brother, Ricky Don Jones; and Grandmother, Emma Lee (Mama Lee) Cremation arrangements are under the direction of Wilson-Orwosky Funeral Home in Emory..

Reverend Ray Edward Trimble

Funeral services for Reverend Ray Edward Trimble age 67 of Lancaster, husband of Linda Thomas, formerly of Sulphur Springs, were held Saturday April 7 at 11 am in the Macedonia Baptist Church of Dallas with Pastor Jerry Vaughan. Reverend Trimble passed away March 31, 2018 in Methodist Hospital of Dallas.

Evergreen Funeral Home of Dallas was in charge of arrangements.



Billie Buckelew

Billie Buckelew, 79, of Campbell, passed away on Tuesday, April 3, 2018 in Greenville.

Billie was born in Porterville, CA. on February 8, 1939, to Annie Belle Britt and Martin Frank Buckelew. He was a forklift operator and a United States Army Veteran.

Survivors include his son, Billie Gene Buckelew Jr., of Spokane Washington, Son, David Wayne Buckelew, of Duncan Oklahoma, son, Michael Edward Buckelew, of California and a daughter Judith Ann Buckelew of Campbell Texas, eleven grandchildren; five boys and six girls and 5 great grandchildren; three boys and two girls.

He is preceded in death by his wife Marian Elaine Hughes Buckelew, his parents and eighteen siblings.

The Buckelew family will hold a private service.

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