

Rene Robert Cavalier, Sieur de la Salle



Anson Jones



Barbara Jordan



Mirabeau Buonaparte Lamar



Sam Houston



Francisco Vásquez de Coronado



Barbara Jordan (1934-1996)

(1934-1996)

birthplace: Houston, Texas

- First African-American U.S.
 Congresswoman from the South, elected 1972
- Served in the Texas Senate 1966-1972
- Earned national recognition during the Watergate hearings, 1974
- Time Magazine's Woman of the Year in 1975

Francisco Vásquez de Coronado (1510-1554)

birthplace: Spain

- Opened the southwestern portion of North America to Spanish colonization
- Searched unsuccessfully for the Seven Cities of Cíbola and Quivira
- Explored in present day Texas, Arizona, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Kansas, 1540-1542

Anson Jones

(1798-1858)

birthplace: Great Barrington, Massachusetts

- Appointed Minister to the U.S. in 1838
- Last President of the Republic of Texas
- Elected in 1844 Killed by his own men while attempting to locate the Mississippi River
- Retired to Washington-on-the Brazos after Annexation (when Texas became a U.S. State)

Sam Houston

(1793-1863)

birthplace: Rockbridge County, VA

- Commander of the Texas army and hero of the Battle of San Jacinto
- First Republic of Texas President, elected 1836 and 1841
- Supported annexation of Texas by the U. S.
- Elected as U. S. Senator, 1845
- Elected as Governor 1859, and resigned in 1861 in opposition to the secession of Texas from the Union

Rene Robert Cavalier, Sieur de la Salle

(1643-1687)

birthplace: France

- First European to travel the length of the Mississippi River
- After a brief return to France, La Salle came back to establish a colony on the Mississippi River
- The expedition landed in Texas by mistake in Matagorda Bay, establishing Fort St. Louis in 1685
- Killed by his own men while attempting to locate the Mississippi River

Mirabeau Buonaparte Lamar (1798-1859)

birthplace: Jefferson Co., GA

- First Vice-President of the Republic of Texas, and Second President
- Wanted Texas to stay a republic, and opposed annexation to the U.S.
- Lamar moved the Texas capitol from Houston to Austin

Patillo Higgins



Lorenzo de Zavala



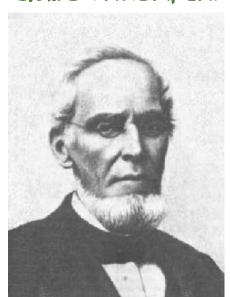
Christopher Columbus



Joseph Glidden



Gail Borden, Jr.



Miriam "Ma" Ferguson



Gail Borden, Jr. (1801-1874)

birthplace: Norwich, NY

- Inventor, publisher, surveyor and founder of the Borden Company
- Helped survey the Austin colony, created the first topographical map of Texas, and platted the towns of Galveston and Houston
- Secured patents for condensed milk, and made a fortune as "Dairyman to a Nation"

Christopher Columbus (1451-1506)

birthplace: Genoa, Italy

- Navigator and explorer who led a voyage to the West Indies in 1492
- The expedition was looking for a trading route to the East
- On his second voyage to the New World, he established a colony in Cuba
- Columbus made four trips in all

Patillo Higgins

(1863-1955)

birthplace: Sabine Pass

- "Prophet of Spindletop"
- Self-educated geologist, draftsman, inventor, cartographer, and engineer
- Formed the Gladys City Oil, Gas, and Manufacturing Company in 1894, and eventually struck major oil at Spindletop on January 10, 1901

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- After husband James Ferguson was barred from public office, her campaign slogan was "Two governors for the price of one"
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(1813-1906)

birthplace: Charleston, NH

- Invented the first commercially successful barbed wire
- Founder of the Barb Fence Company of De Kalb, Illinois
- His product was heavily used by farmers to protect crops, livestock and water supplies
- Barbed wire opened the plains to large-scale farming and marked the end of the open range

Lorenzo de Zavala

(1788-1836)

birthplace: Tecoh, Mexico

- Governor of the State of Mexico, and influential in Mexican politics
- Established a colony in East Texas, and supported the Independence of Texas after Santa Anna becomes dictator
- First interim Vice-President of the Republic of Texas
- Designed the first flag of the Republic of Texas

Audie Leon Murphy



Cleto Rodriguez



John Tower



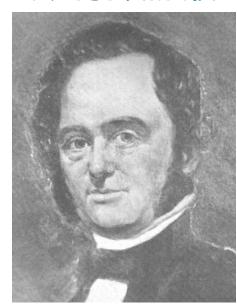
Cabeza de Vaca



Stephen F. Austin



Moses Austin



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(1793-1836)

birthplace: Southwest, Virginia

- "Father of Texas"
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- Imprisoned in Mexico 1834-5
- Supported organized opposition to Mexico
- First Secretary of State of the Republic of Texas

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(1761-1821)

birthplace: Durham, CT

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- Proposed settlement of 300 Anglo families in Texas to the Spanish government
- His dying request was for his son, Stephen F. Austin, to move forward with his plans for the Austin Colony in Texas

John Tower

(1925-1991)

birthplace: Houston, Texas

- U.S. Senator for 24 years, and was the first Republican Senator in Texas since 1870
- Chaired the special review committee convened by President Ronald Reagan to investigate the Iran Contra affair. The committee was known as the Tower Commission
- As Chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, he worked to strengthen the nation's defenses

Cabeza de Vaca

(c. 1490- c. 1556)

birthplace: Jerez de la Frontera, Spain

- Early Spanish explorer
- Shipwrecked in Texas and lost for eight years
- First geographer, historian, and ethnologist of Texas
- His written account of the journey is La Relación; the English translation is The Journey of Álvar Núñez Cabeza de Vaca

Audie Leon Murphy

(1924-1971)

birthplace: Kingston, Texas

- Most decorated Army soldier in U.S. history, earning 33 awards, citations, and decorations
- Became a successful actor starring in 39 films
- Wrote 14 songs, two of which were in the top ten
- Wrote best-selling book To Hell and Back (1949) about his WWII experiences

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(1923-1990)

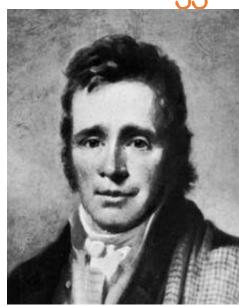
birthplace: San Marcos, Texas

- Joined the Army in 1944, and fought in the Philippine Islands in **WWII**
- Fifth Mexican-American to receive the Congressional Medal of Honor, the highest military decoration in the United States
- Served in the military until 1970

Martin de León



James Hogg



Henry Cisneros



Juan Seguin



Thomas Jefferson Rusk



William B. Travis



Thomas Jefferson Rusk (1803-1857)

birthplace: Pendleton, SC

- Early political and military leader of the Republic of Texas
- Served as its first Secretary of War as well as a general at the Battle of San Jacinto
- Later became a US politician and served as a Senator from Texas from 1846-1857

Henry Cisneros

(1947-)

birthplace: San Antonio, Texas

- Mayor of San Antonio for four terms, beginning 1981
- Appointed by President Bill Clinton as Secretary of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in 1993
- Became CEO of Univision Communications in 1997

Martin de León

(1763-1833)

birthplace: Burgos, Mexico

- Only Mexican Empresario to establish a colony in Texas
- One of the first trail drivers in Texas
- His petition to form a colony is approved in 1824, after earlier denials in 1807 and 1809.
- Settled the town of Nuestra Señora Guadalupe de Jesús Victoria with forty-one Mexican families

William B. Travis

(1809-1836)

birthplace: Saluda County, SC

- Texas commander at the Battle of the Alamo
- One of the first to join the Texas forces when friction developed between Texas and Mexico
- His appeal from the Alamo for reinforcements has become an American symbol of unyielding courage and heroism

Juan Seguín

(1806-1890)

birthplace: San Antonio, Texas

- Political and military figure of the Texas Revolution
- Helped establish the independence of Texas
- Carried the Alamo letter through enemy lines that declared that the Texans "shall never surrender or retreat"
- Tejano leader who signed the Texas Declaration of Independence

James Hogg

(1851-1906)

birthplace: Rusk, Texas

- First native governor of Texas (1890)
- Became known as the most aggressive and successful district attorney in Texas
- Became Attorney General in 1886

James Bowie



Lizzie Johnson



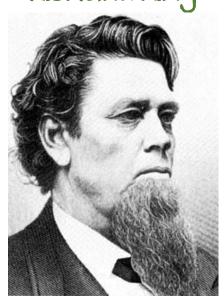
Charles Goodnight



Scott Joplin



Richard King



Stanley Marcus



Richard King

(1824-1885)

birthplace: New York City, NY

- Riverman, steamboat entrepreneur, livestock capitalist and founder of King Ranch
- Bought and traded land and adopted patron-peon "feudal rule" for reliable and cheap labor
- Invested heavily in the railroad, packing houses, and ice plants.
- Kingsville named after him

Charles Goodnight

(1836-1929)

birthplace: Macoupin County, Illinois

- Rancher, cattle trader, scout and guide
- Guided rangers to Peta Nacona's Indian camp initiating the rescue of Cynthia Ann Parker
- First President of the Panhandle Stock Association and rancher to use barbed wire

James Bowie

(1796-1836)

birthplace: Simpson County, Kentucky

- Lumber trader, hunter, fisherman, wild horse rider and bear trapper
- Set up the first steam-powered sugar mill in Louisiana
- Slave trader, gambler, land speculator, hero
- Defended Bexar in the Battle of Concepcion

Stanley Marcus

(1905-2002)

birthplace: Dallas, Texas

- Eldest son of Herbert Marcus cofounder of specialty clothing store Neiman Marcus Company
- Driving force behind expansion of the ready to wear high quality fashion merchandising store
- Served as the President of the War Production Board in Washington

Scott Joplin

(1868-1917)

birthplace: Linden, Texas

- Composer, pianist, and "King of Ragtime"
- Age 7 proficient in banjo
- Toured with band Texas Medley Quartette
- Posthumously indicted into Songwriters Hall of Fame by the National Academy of Popular Music (1970), first African American Grand Opera

Lizzie Johnson

(1840-1924)

birthplace: Cole County, Missouri

- School teacher, cattle dealer and investor
- First woman to register cattle with own brand and to ride Chisholm Trail with own herd
- Pioneer of Hays City colony which later ceased to exist
- At time of her death her holdings were said to equal a quarter of a million dollars

Bessie Coleman



Vicente Filisola



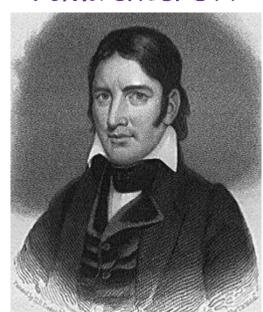
Ann Richards



Benavides Placido



David Crockett



Susanna Dickenson



Ann Richards

(1933-2006)

birthplace: Lacey-Lakeview, Texas

- State Treasurer
- Forty fifth (45th) governor of Texas
- Served as administrative assistant in the Texas House of Representatives
- The Texas Lottery was instituted during her term as governor, Robin Hood law, and vetoed the right to carry a concealed gun in public places

Vincente Filisola

(1789-1850)

birthplace: Ravello, Italy

- Military Officer and second in command for Santa Ana's army
- Ratified public treaty of Valesco
- Accused of being a traitor to Mexican Army
- Defended his court martial and was exonerated
- Published a defense of his conduct in Texas which was translated into English by the Republic of Texas in 1837

Bessie Coleman

(1892-1926)

birthplace: Atlanta, Texas

- First, female African American to be a licensed pilot
- Spent early years of World War I working as a manicurist at a Barbershop
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- Her daredevil stunts earned her nickname of "Brave Bessie"
- Died during a test flight in a airshow April 30th, 1926

Susanna Dickenson

(1814-1883)

birthplace: Williamson County, TN

- Survivor of the Alamo
- Colonel for the military post on the Brazos
- Released by Santa Ana and given two silver dollars and a blanket she made her way to Gonzales
- Filed the first divorce petition in 1857

David Crockett

(1786-1836)

birthplace: Green County, Tennessee

- Frontiersman, Congressman, and Defender of the Alamo
- Reputation as a sharpshooter, hunter, and yarn-spinner
- Justice of the peace (1817)
- Town Commissioner and Colonel of the 57th militia regiment
- Moved to Texas and became a Land agent, died defending the Alamo March 6, 1836

Benavides Placido

(?-1837)

birthplace: Reynosa Tamaulipas, Mexico

- Known for his contribution to the settlement of Victoria, Texas
- One of the important "Ten Friends" for whom Victoria main street was named "Calle de los Diez Amigos"
- Successfully led resistance against Mexican forces to support Texas Revolution

Enrique Esparza



Sidney Sherman



Sidney Sherman

(1805-1873)

birthplace: Marlboro, Massachusetts

- Soldier and Entrepreneur
- Invented first cotton bagging machine, and sheet lead maker west of the Alleghenies
- Captain of band of volunteer soldiers, for the Texas army that carried the only flag in the Battle of San Jacinto
- City of Sherman and Sherman County named after him.

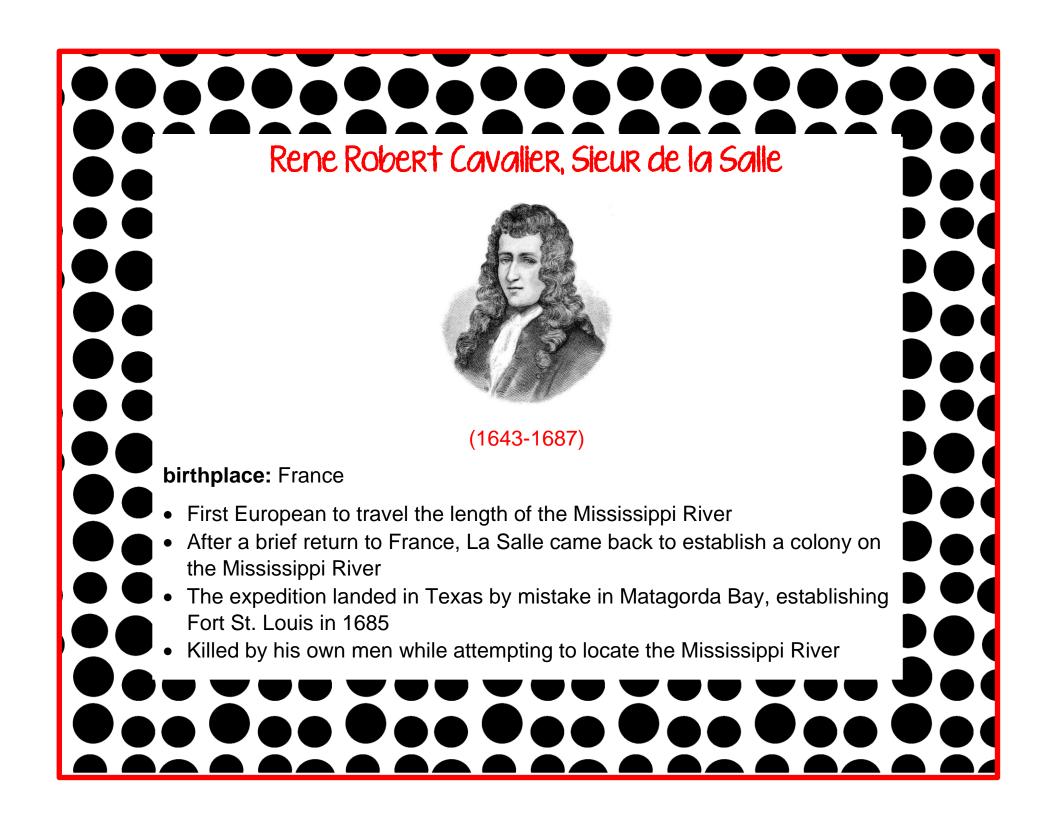
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- Witness of the Battle of the Alamo
- He recounts "all the others are dead. I alone live of they who were within the Alamo when it fell. Neither age nor infirmity could make me forget for the scene was one of such horror that it could never be forgotten."
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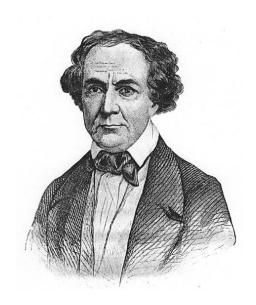


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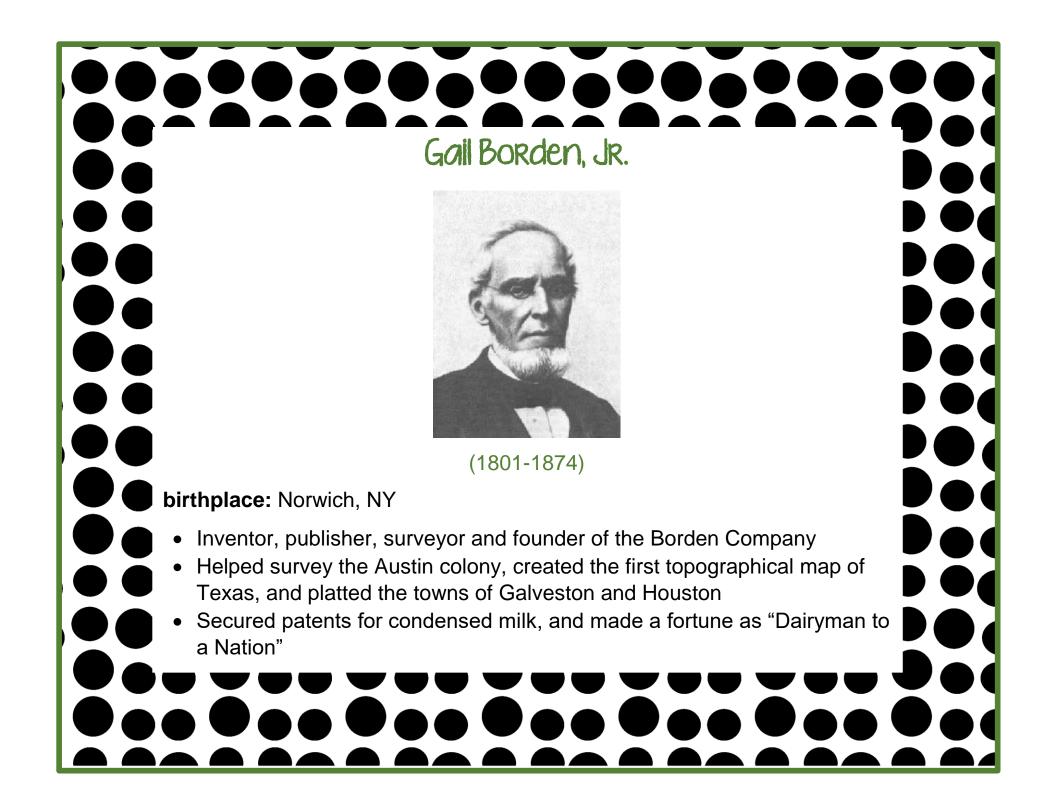
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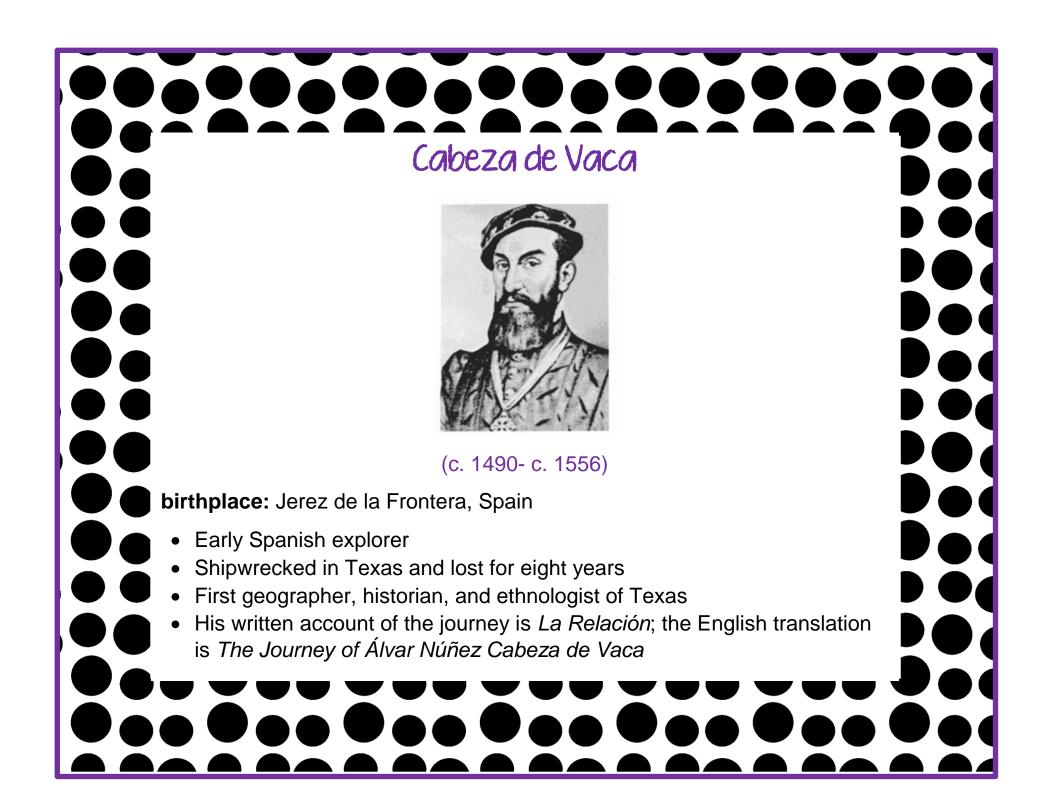
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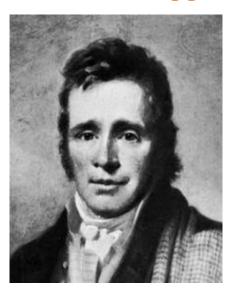


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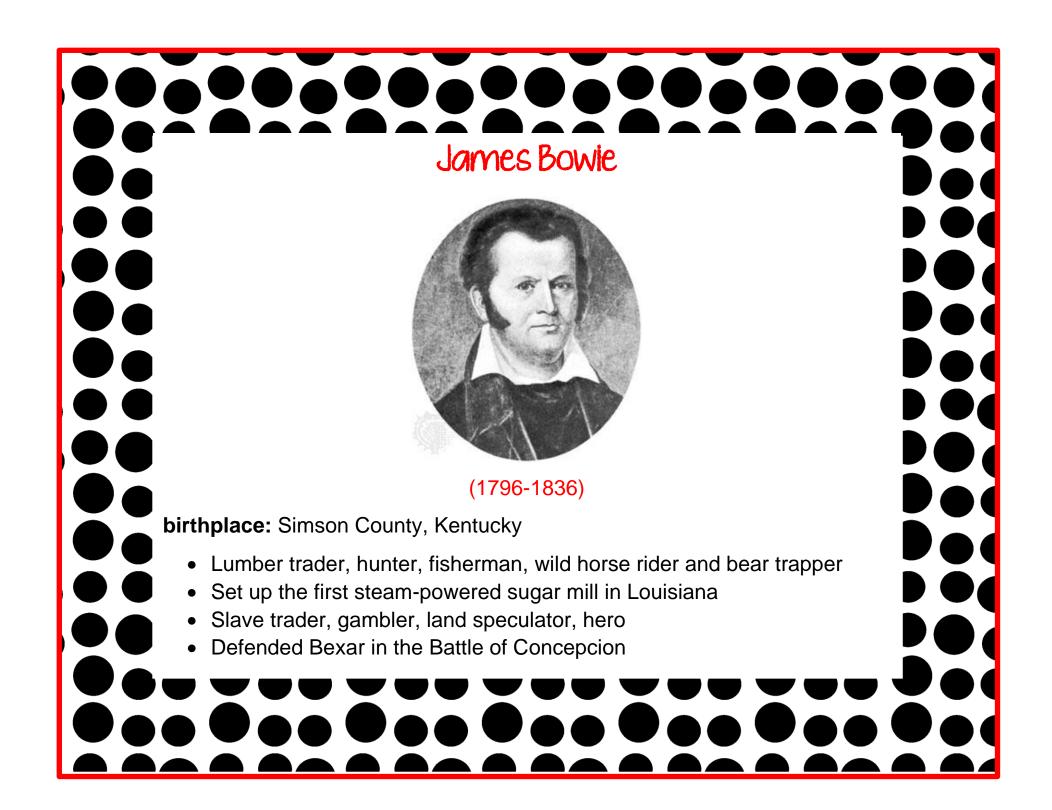
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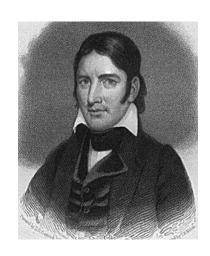


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Sidney Sherman

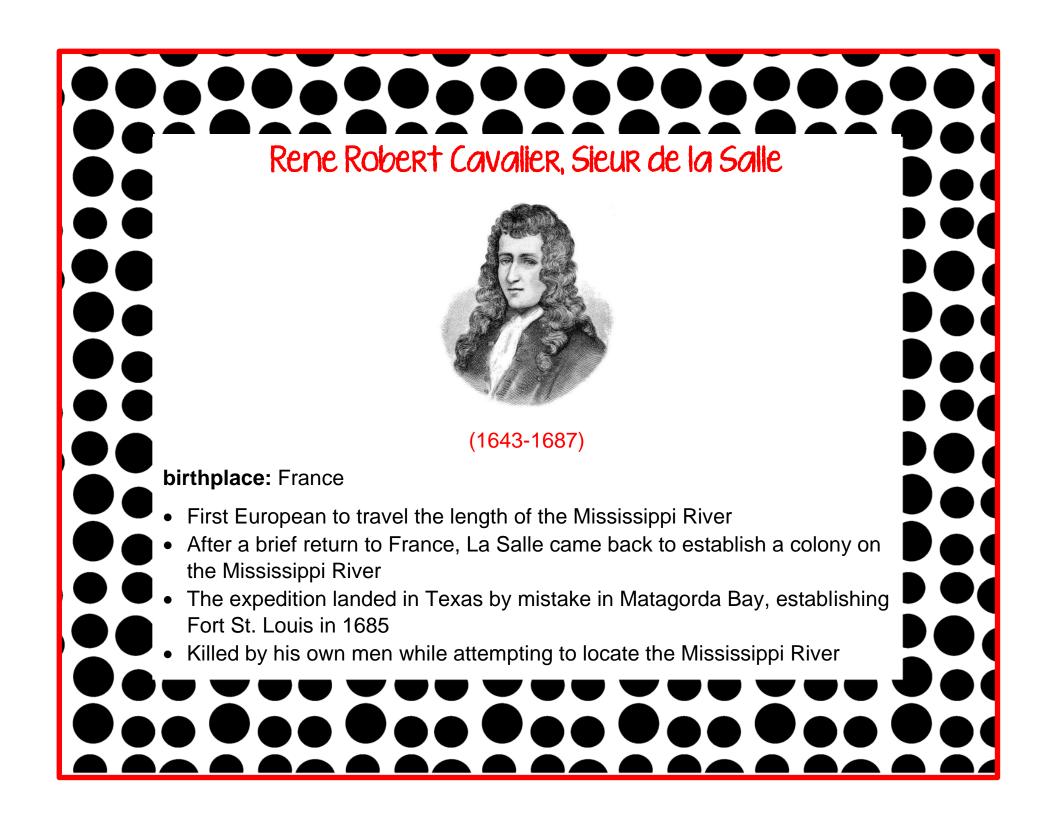


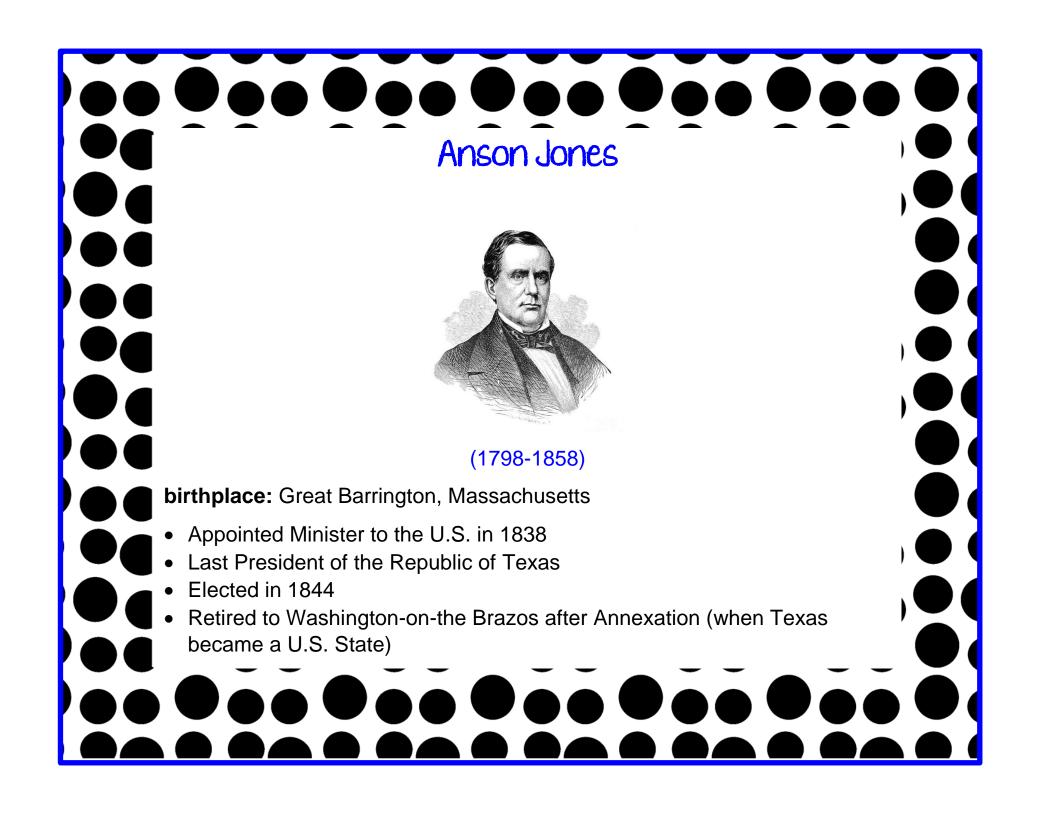
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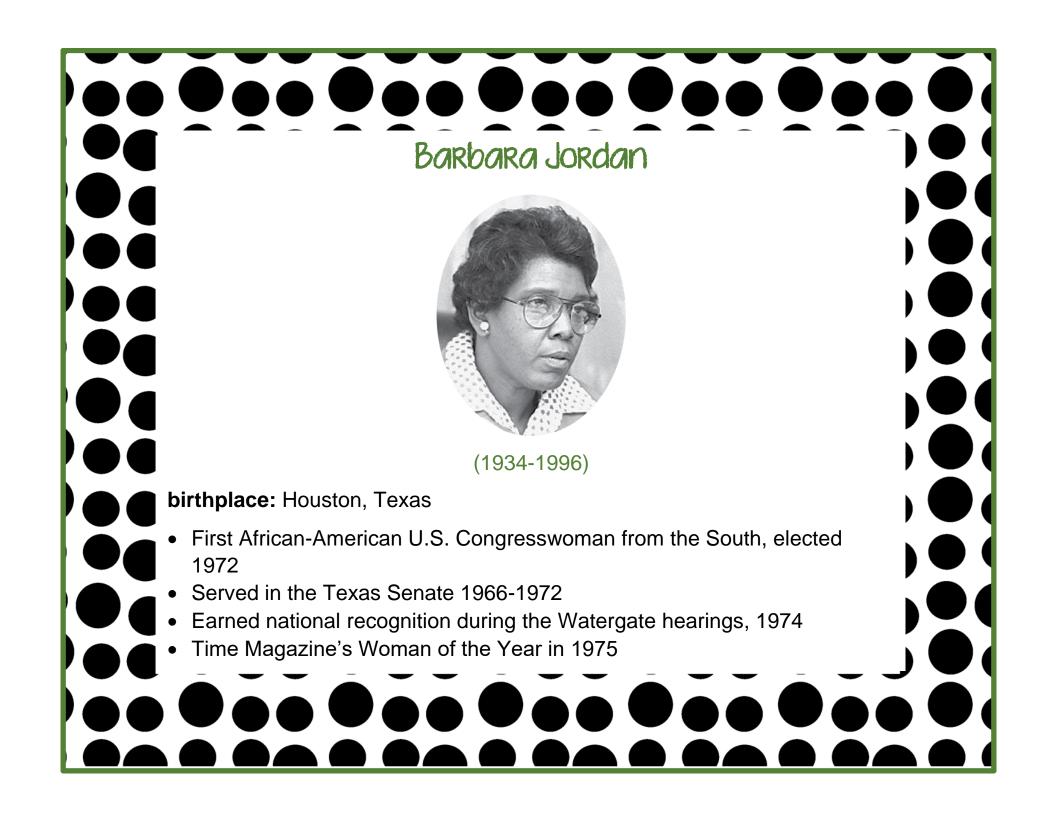
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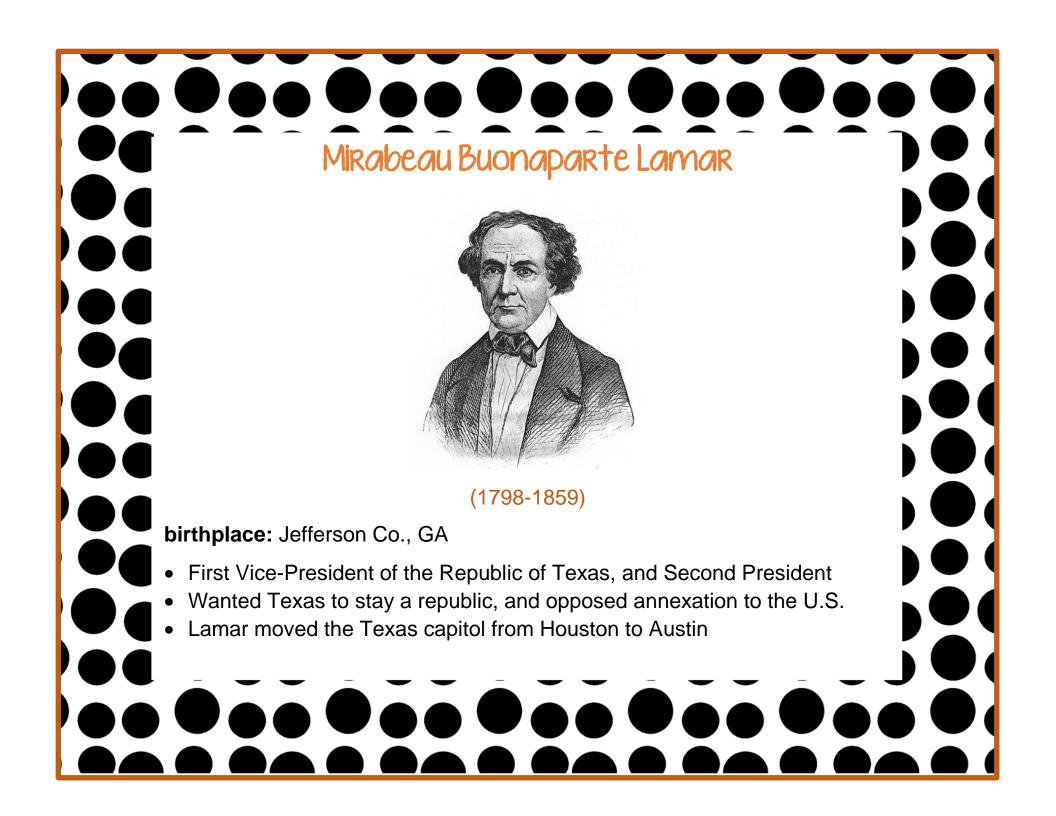
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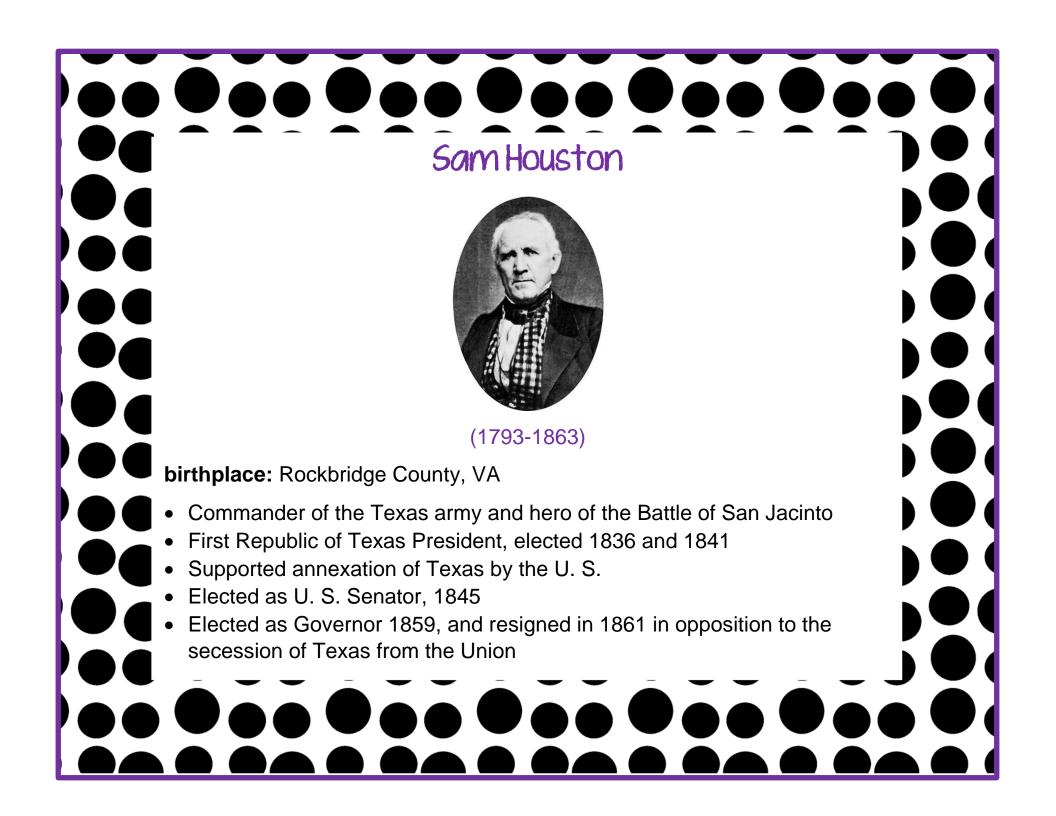














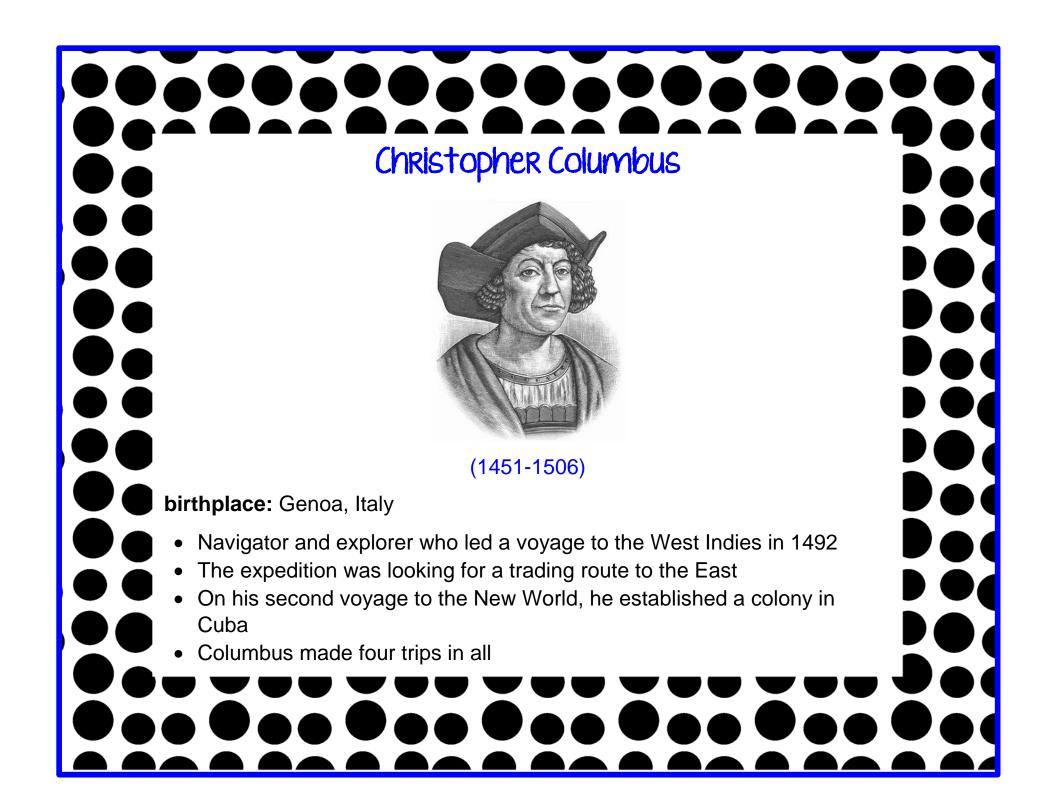
Patillo Higgins

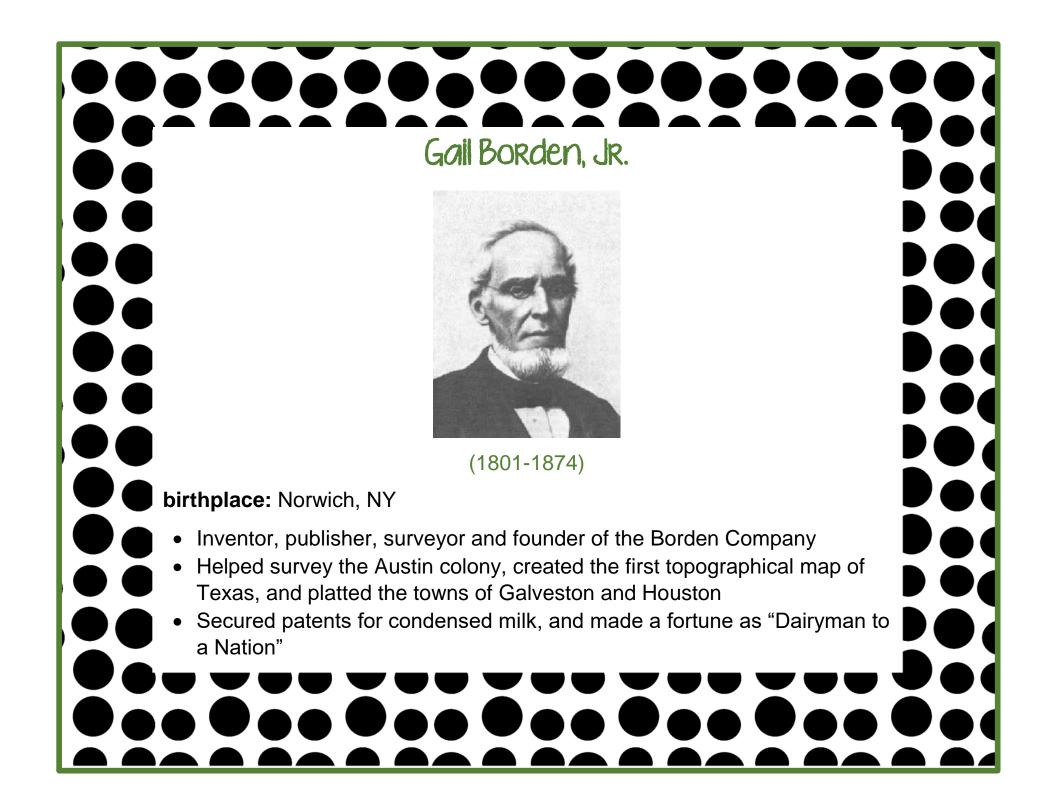


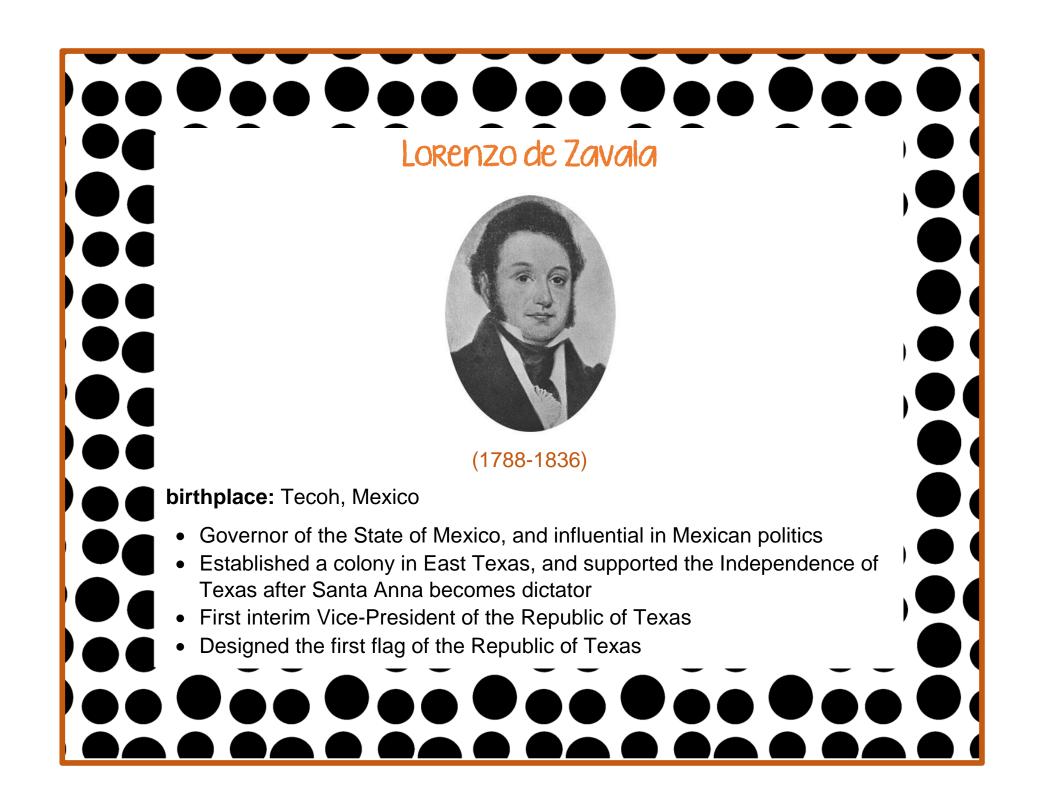
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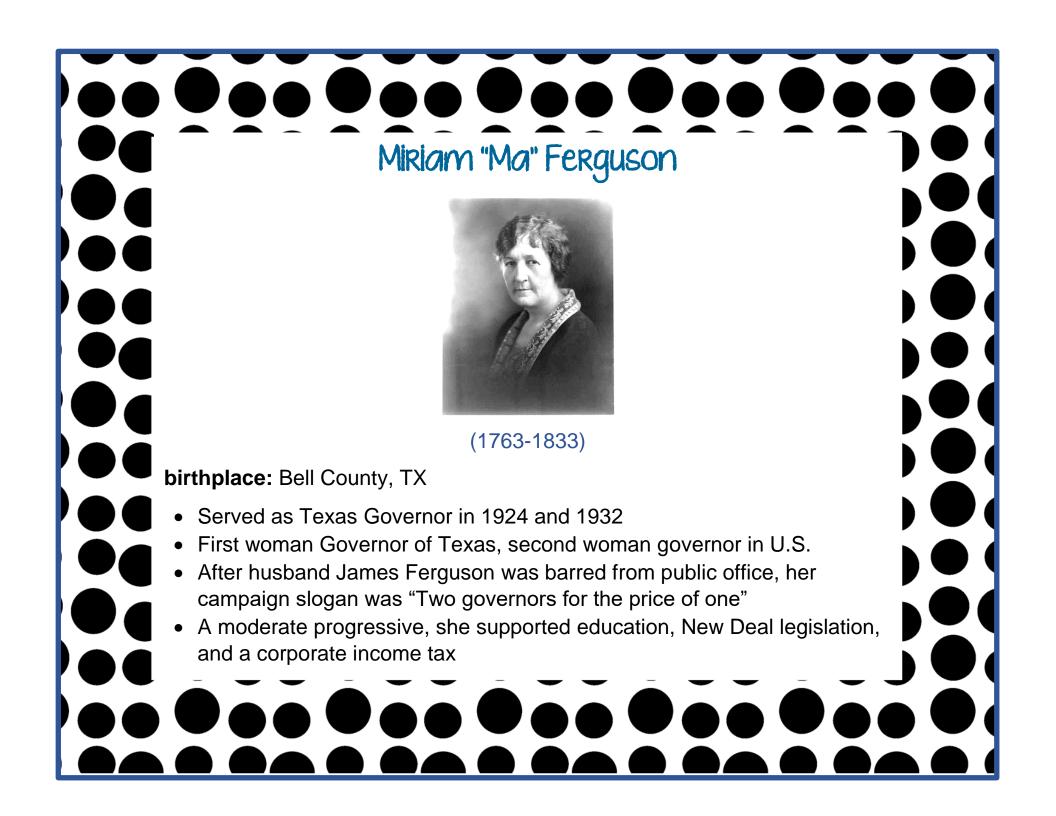
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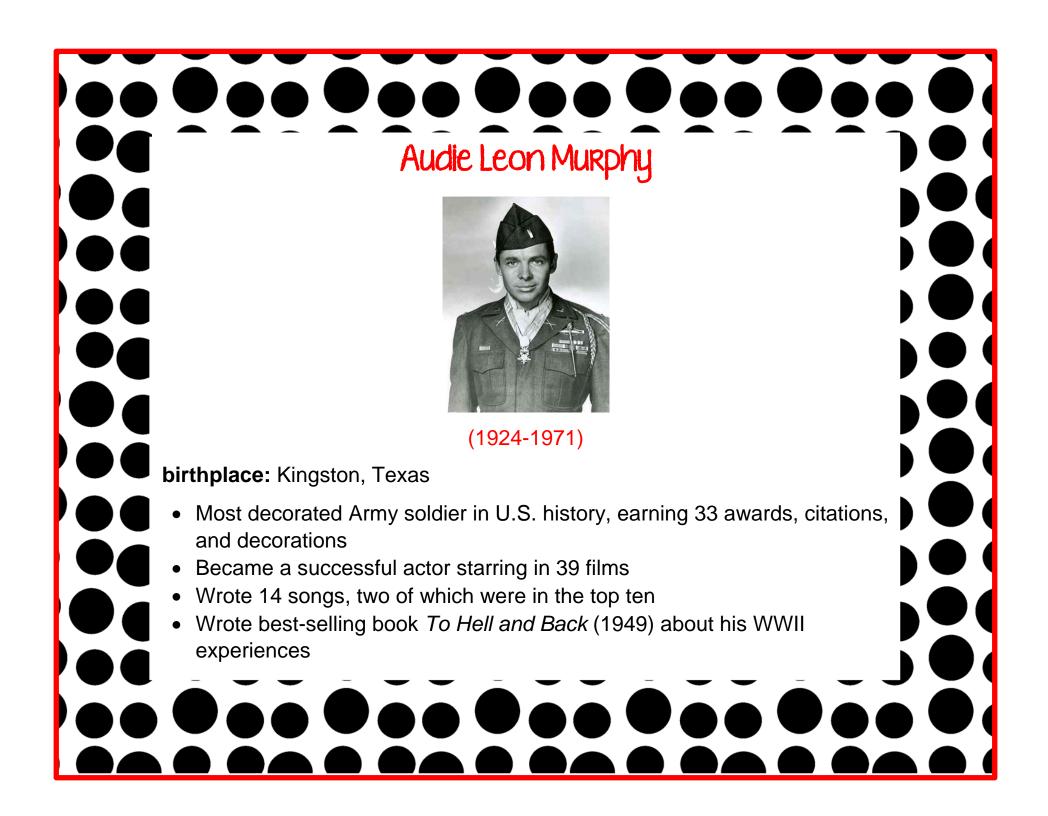












John Tower

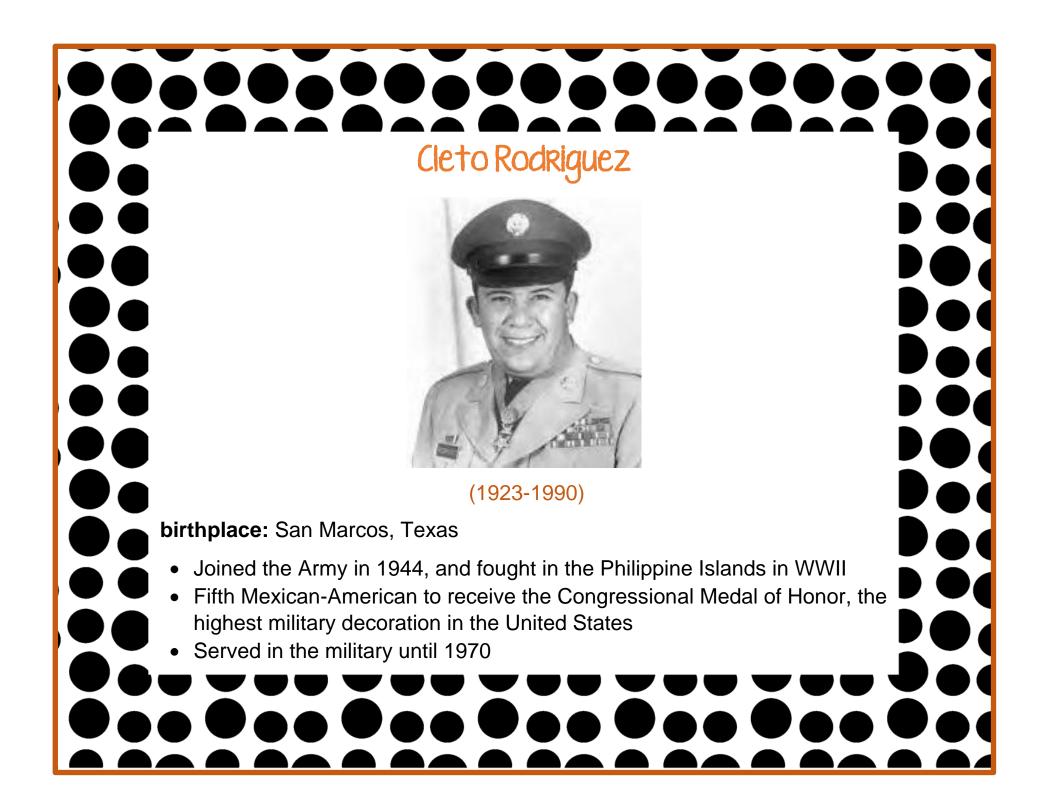


(1925-1991)

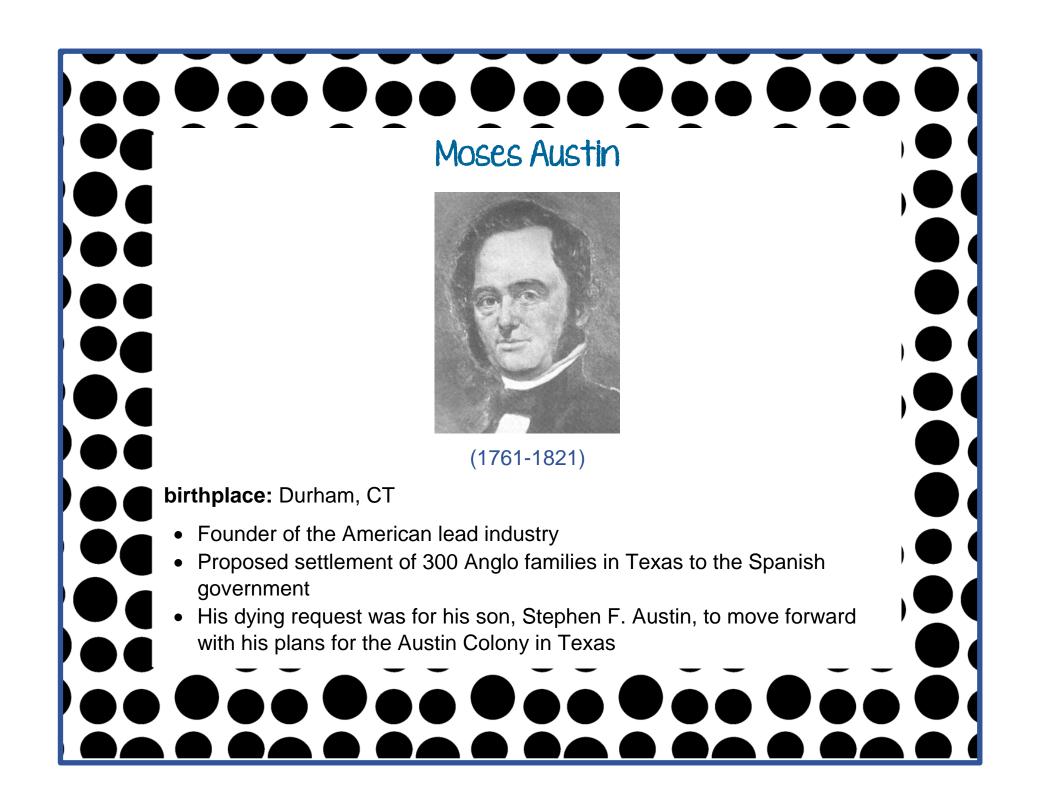
birthplace: Houston, Texas

- U.S. Senator for 24 years, and was the first Republican Senator in Texas since 1870
- Chaired the special review committee convened by President Ronald Reagan to investigate the Iran Contra affair. The committee was known as the Tower Commission

Stephen F. Austin (1793-1836)birthplace: Southwest Virginia "Father of Texas" Settled the Old Three Hundred families in the Austin Colony Imprisoned in Mexico 1834-5 Supported organized opposition to Mexico First Secretary of State of the Republic of Texas

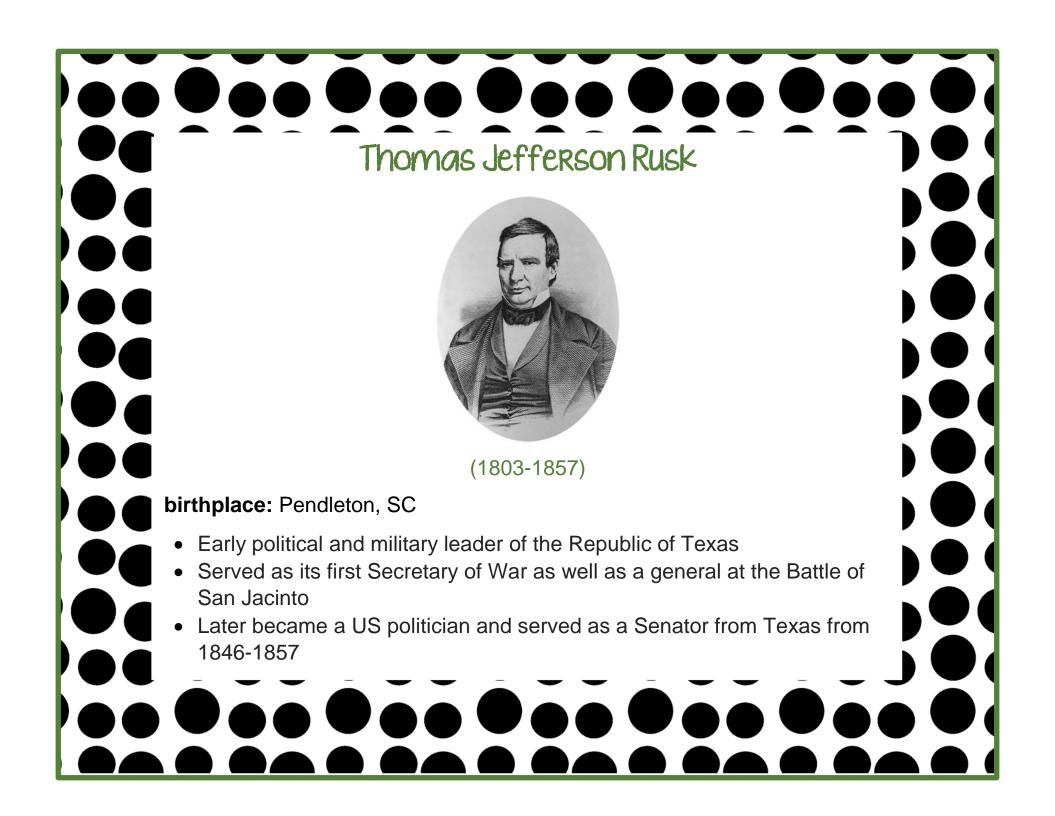




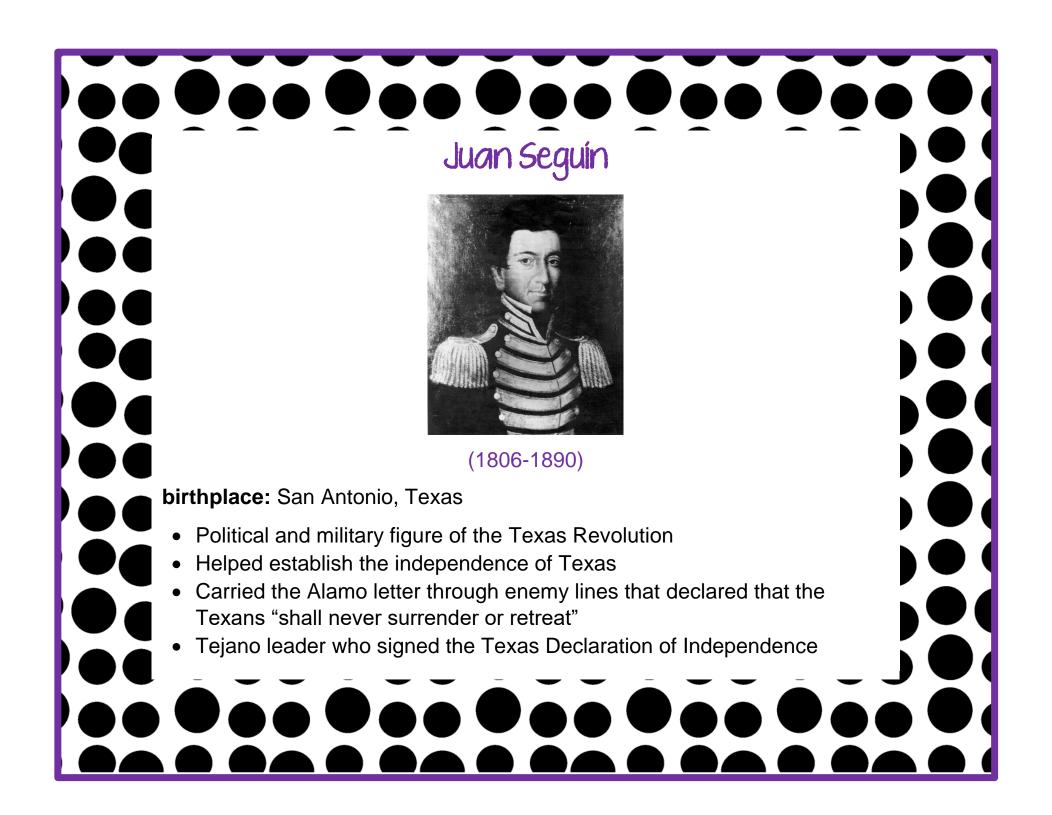




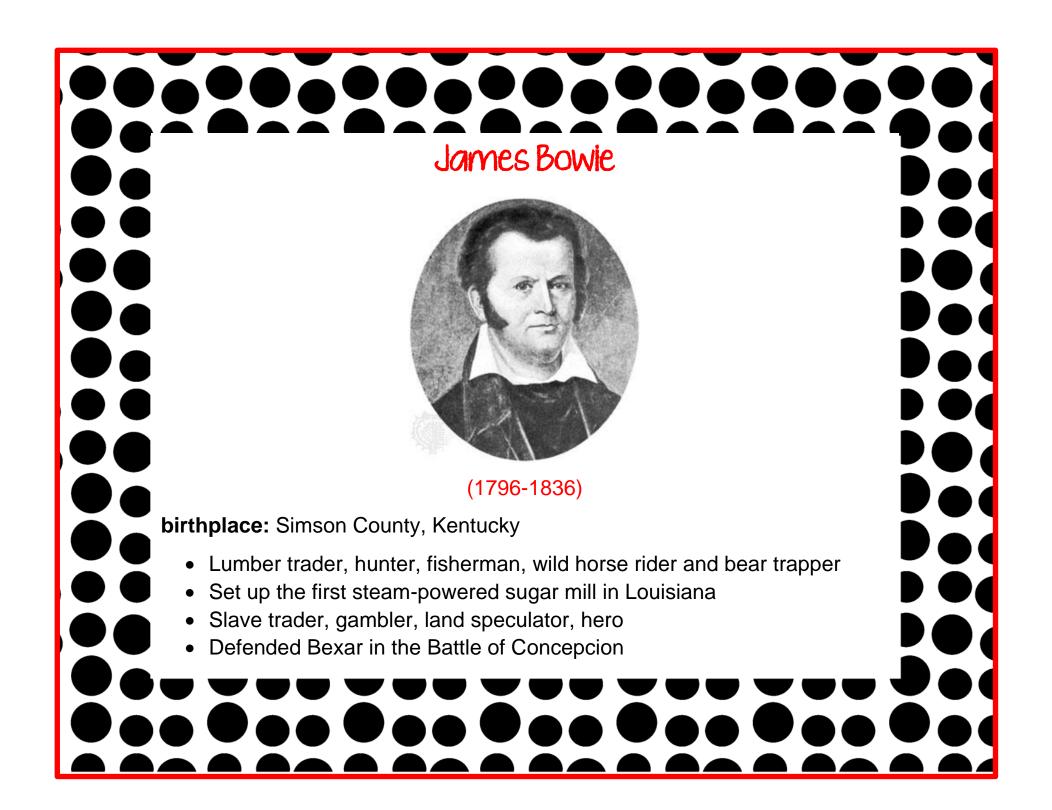
Henry Cisneros (1947birthplace: San Antonio, Texas Mayor of San Antonio for four terms, beginning 1981 Appointed by President Bill Clinton as Secretary of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in 1993 Became CEO of Univision Communications in 1997

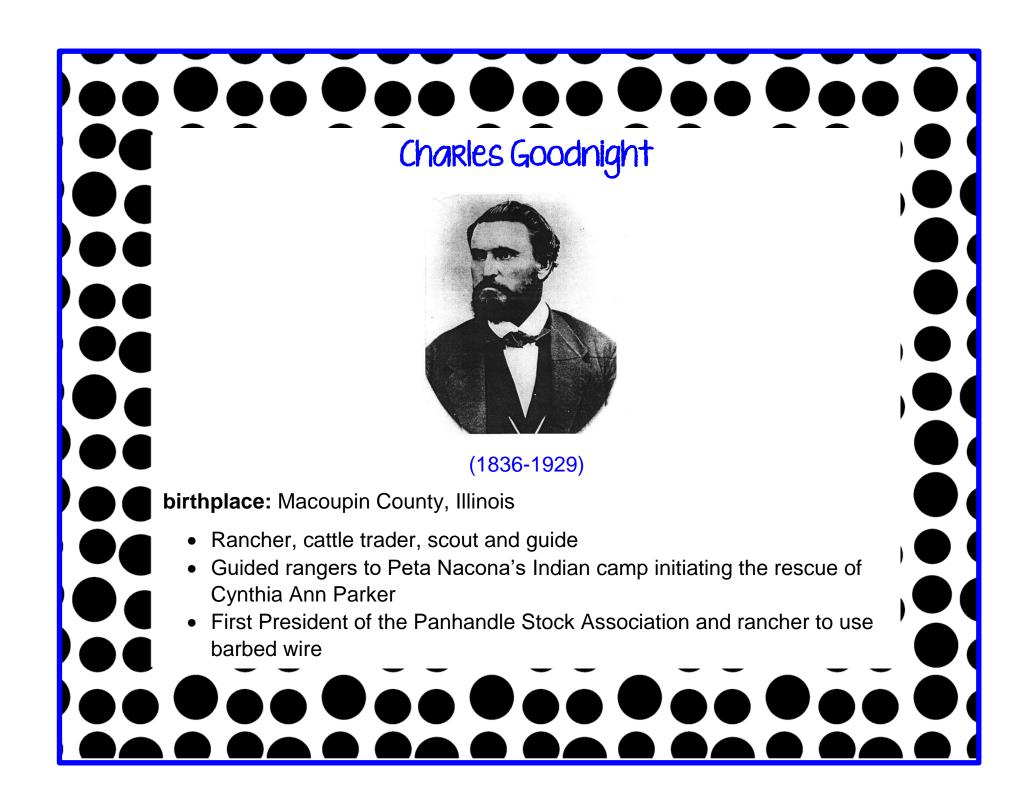


James Hogg (1851-1906)birthplace: Rusk, Texas First native governor of Texas (1890) Became known as the most aggressive and successful district attorney in **Texas** Became Attorney General in 1886

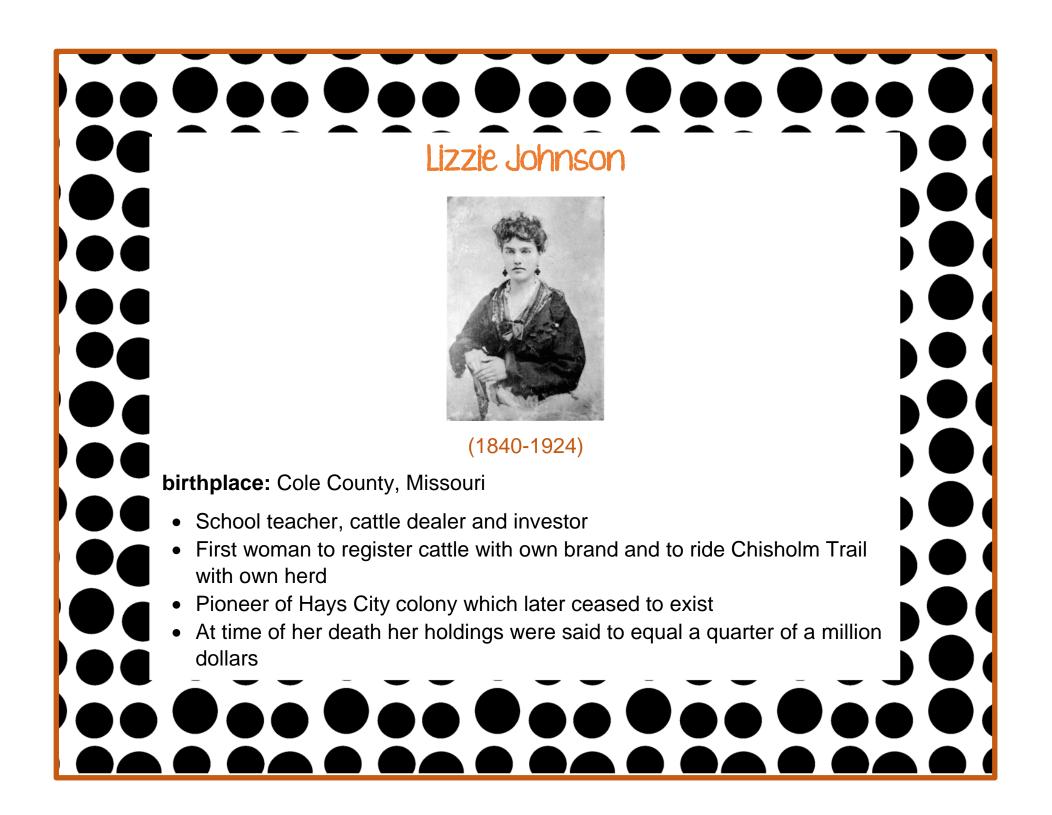


William B. Travis (1809-1836)birthplace: Saluda County, SC Texas commander at the Battle of the Alamo One of the first to join the Texas forces when friction developed between Texas and Mexico His appeal from the Alamo for reinforcements has become an American symbol of unyielding courage and heroism





Richard King (1824-1885)birthplace: New York City, NY Riverman, steamboat entrepreneur, livestock capitalist and founder of King Ranch • Bought and traded land and adopted patron-peon "feudal rule" for reliable and cheap labor Invested heavily in the railroad, packing houses, and ice plants. Kingsville named after him





Stanley Marcus (1905-2002)birthplace: Dallas, Texas Eldest son of Herbert Marcus cofounder of specialty clothing store Neiman Marcus Company Driving force behind expansion of the ready to wear high quality fashion merchandising store Served as the President of the War Production Board in Washington





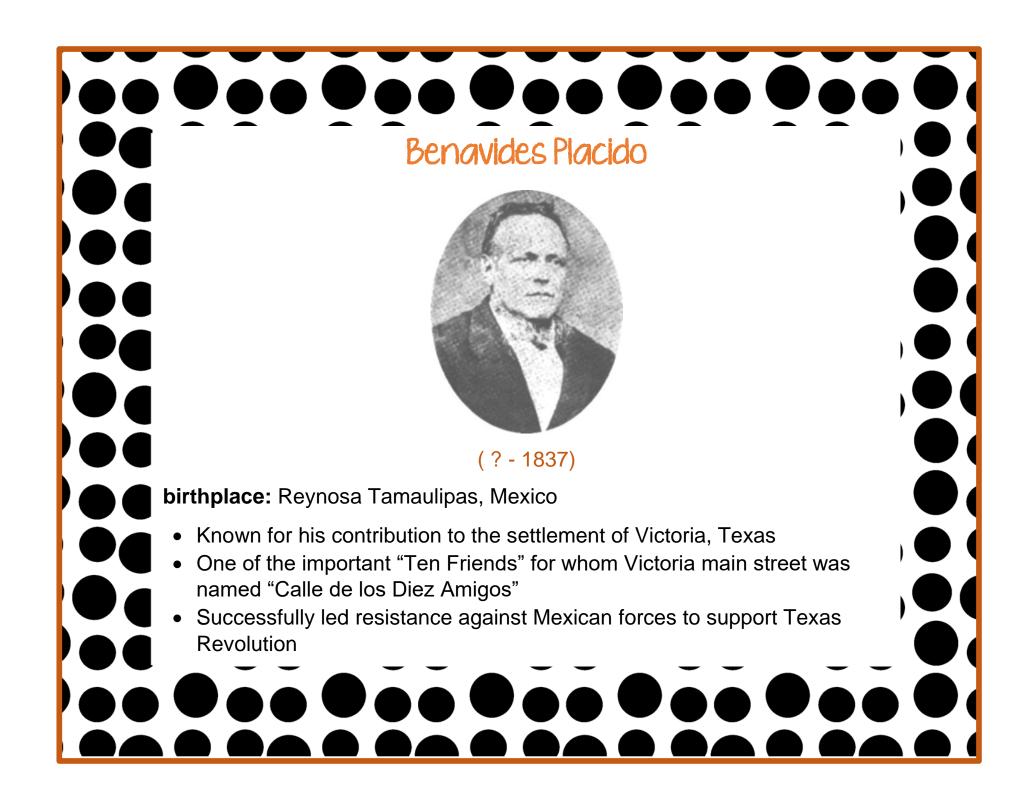
(1892-1926)

birthplace: Atlanta, Texas

- First, female African American to be a licensed pilot
- Spent early years of World War I working as a manicurist at a Barbershop
- Attended aviation school in Le Crotoy, France
- Her daredevil stunts earned her nickname of "Brave Bessie"
- Died during a test flight in a airshow April 30th, 1926

Vincente Filisola (1789-1850)birthplace: Ravello, Italy Military Officer and second in command for Santa Ana's army Ratified public treaty of Valesco Accused of being a traitor to Mexican Army Defended his court martial and was exonerated Published a defense of his conduct in Texas which was translated into English by the Republic of Texas in 1837





David Crockett (1786-1836)birthplace: Green County, Tennessee Frontiersman, Congressman, and Defender of the Alamo Reputation as a sharpshooter, hunter, and yarn-spinner Justice of the peace (1817) Town Commissioner and Colonel of the 57th militia regiment Moved to Texas and became a Land agent, died defending the Alamo March 6, 1836

