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August 1, 2013

New Look

We are using new, updated software to make our pages. We have made some changes in the look of the pages and the overall design. We hope you like these changes. Please excuse any errors that may crop in while we are learning the new software.

A little more tweaking, using some new fonts, new music. Hope you like it.



Sen. Cornyn: West Victims Need Assistance,

Calls On President To Finally Issue Disaster Declaration, Deliver Real Help To Victims

WASHINGTON-U.S. Sen. John Cornyn, R-Texas, issued the following statement regarding the President's executive order, issued today, establishing a "Chemical Facility Safety and Security Working Group" in response to the deadly explosion in West, Texas, on April 17. According to the White House, the working group will be formed to "improve chemical facility safety and security in coordination with owners and operators." President Obama denied Texas Governor Rick Perry's original request for a Major Disaster Declaration for West on June 10 and has yet to respond to the Governor's appeal.

"Those affected by the tragedy in West deserve immediate assistance, not another working group from this Administration armed only with a mission statement. If President Obama is serious about helping those still suffering in West, he should issue the disaster declaration requested by Governor Perry and supported by myself and our fellow Texas officials from across the state. This would bring real help to those who need it most," Sen. Cornyn said.

Sen. Cornyn and his colleagues sent a letter<http://www.cornyn.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?p=InNews&ContentRecord_id=c8d2d6da-c596-4612-9bdb-5381c30bbc43> to President Obama on July 12 supporting Texas Governor Rick Perry's appeal for a Major Disaster Declaration for West, TX.

Senator Cornyn serves on the Finance and Judiciary Committees. He serves as the top Republican on the Judiciary Committee's Immigration, Refugees and Border Security subcommittee. He served previously as Texas Attorney General, Texas Supreme Court Justice, and Bexar County District Judge.

Senate Passes Senate Joint Resolution 1 and Senate Bill 1

Austin - Beginning the Third Called Session, Senator Estes voted in favor of a legislative package that will increase transportation funding and ensure a healthy balance in the Economic Stabilization Fund, known as the Rainy Day Fund.

On his vote Estes said, "This is a commonsense conservative approach. It increases transportation funding to ease traffic congestion without a tax increase or adding to our debt."

Senate Joint Resolution 1 provides that 50 percent of oil and gas severance tax revenues currently allocated to the Economic Stabilization Fund be allocated to the State Highway Fund for the construction and maintenance of roads. If approved by the voters, it is estimated to increase transportation funding by \$878 million in fiscal year 2015, while leaving a balance of more than \$7 billion in the Rainy Day Fund. Transfers to the State Highway Fund as a result of SJR 1 cannot be used to finance toll roads, or to pay for old or new transportation-related debt.

Senate Bill 1 requires a safe balance be set for the Economic Stabilization Fund and prohibits the allocation of oil and gas severance tax revenues to the State Highway Fund until this balance has been reached. Additionally, the bill stops the allocation of oil and gas severance tax revenue to the State Highway Fund if a safe balance is not set.

Explaining further Estes said, "It is absolutely critical to the future of Texas that we find additional funds for transportation. Over the last decade our great state has experienced tremendous population and economic growth, and our infrastructure needs to keep pace in order for the next ten years to be as prosperous as the last ten."

Estes serves nearly 820,000 constituents across Senate District 30 which includes all of Archer, Clay, Cooke, Erath, Grayson, Jack, Montague, Palo Pinto, Parker, Wichita, Wise, and Young counties and parts of Collin and Denton counties.



A WORKSHOP to prep for the 100 ANNUAL POETRY CONTESTS sponsored by the

Poetry Society of Texas will be this Sat., 2:00-4:00

AUGUST 3, Sherman Public Library, Hope Waller Community Room

Postmark deadline for entry: AUGUST 15, 2013, (any age may submit)

Each contest is separately judged, but all entries go to one address. All first place winners receive monetary awards of varying amounts & are honored at a Dallas banquet in Nov. Members may send an unlimited number. Non-members may submit 3 poems for \$5.00. All entries must be original and unpublished.

The workshop will provide a list of all contests and specific rules required for typed entry, etc. Subjects include love, pain, animals, family, death, joy, humor, and many more. Many contests invite "any subject, any style." Most allow rhymes or no rhymes. A few require formal patterns like sonnets, haiku, etc. The number of lines requested by each contest is listed.

Poem readings at the WORKSHOP are encouraged, as well as the giving and receiving of positive feedback and ideas for polishing. WORKSHOP IS FREE & OPEN TO ALL. COME & bring your poems!

Questions? Frances Neidhardt, V. Pres., Texoma

Poetry Society; council member, Poetry Soc. of Texas.

Fight or Flight from a Sting or Bite

by Don Mathis

They call 'em bugs for a good reason.
They all bug you, even the no-see-em.

That little gnat will choke you to death
if he gets in your mouth while drawing a breath.

The flying palmettos give me the jitters.
Nasty cockroaches - what good are those critters?

Horse flies and house flies make me ill at ease.
If they don't bite, they may carry disease.

What's worse than a wasp? Maybe a dozen!
I don't want to see a bee or hear one buzzin'.

Same goes for yellow jackets or daubers of mud
or any flying varmint out to suck my blood.
I don't want a mosquito to ever come near.
I hate it when one gets in my ear.

Even a June bug may cause you grief
if you're on a Harley and it hits your teeth.

Allergies to insects may cause you to swell.
And I could do without that stink bug smell.

Farmers consider grasshoppers as evil
and cotton deplores the little boll weevil.

Termites may eat you out of house and home.
I wish all those bugs would leave me alone.

Swarming insects give me cause for alarm.
I always get fearful I may be harmed

What we need is a little truth in advertising

by Jessica Domel

I pride myself in not being the type of person who becomes wrapped up in some of the drama that comes with being actively involved on social media outlets on a daily basis, but last week I found myself entranced with a series of posts on Twitter regarding an advertising campaign that essentially called farmers who use antibiotics lazy.

A restaurant chain launched the campaign to promote its antibiotic free chicken. The premise is that farmers who don't give antibiotics to their animals work harder than those who do. In the process, they called conventional farmers lazy, and that went over like a lead balloon.

Respected blogger Dairy Carrie brought the campaign to the social media sphere with her post, responding factually to the company's criticisms.

The response from the agricultural community and consumers on Twitter has been amazing. In fact, it prompted an apology from the company, who later deleted a Twitter account they set up for the new campaign.

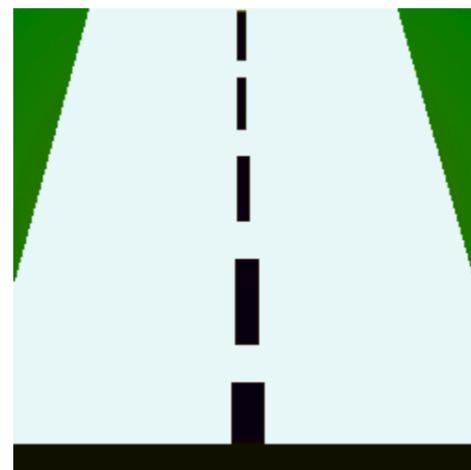
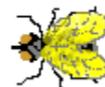
I don't trust companies who feel like they need to use fear to demonize conventional agriculture and sell a more expensive product.

If your product is good enough on its own, why do you need to scare customers into buying it?

Just a little food for thought.

Jessica Domel, Field Editor, Texas Farm Bureau

As a farmer's daughter and granddaughter, I believe life is best experienced on the farm. I believe Texas agriculture is the backbone of our economy, and we should be proud to show our Texas roots.



Texoma Enterprise

Howe, Texas
75459

What's Happening?

August 2013						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6 Carol Kanirie	7	8	9	10
11	12	13 Jamie English	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

This calendar is new to the Texoma Enterprise. It is our intent to include National Holidays, local events, and birthdays/anniversaries. If you wish to include an event please let us know. Email lanarideout@cableone.net with your information.



Capitol Watch

By Larry Phillips, State Representative



Shoppers Can Save During Sales Tax Holiday

For many Texas parents the upcoming month of August means time to start getting the kids ready to head back to school for a new year. Those making trips to local stores to purchase school supplies and clothing will benefit from the annual Sales Tax Holiday weekend. The state's tax holiday will take place on August 9, 10, and 11. During the regular session, the legislature passed Senate Bill 485, which moved the tax holiday one week earlier to allow more time for parents to prepare for the start of school.

As in years past, the law exempts most clothing, footwear, and backpacks priced under \$100 from sales and use taxes, which means shoppers save about \$8 on every \$100 they spend. While the August tax holiday is aimed at helping parents save money on back-to-school items, anyone can take advantage of the tax-free weekend. The exemption applies to eligible items that sell for less than \$100, regardless of how many items are sold on the same invoice to a customer. For example, if a customer purchases two shirts for \$80 each, then both items qualify for the exemption, even though the customer's total purchase price (\$160) exceeds \$99.99. Lay-away plans can be used again this year to take advantage of the sales tax holiday.

Backpacks and book bags under \$100 and used by elementary and secondary students are also exempt. A backpack is a pack with straps one wears on the back. The exemption during the sales tax holiday includes backpacks with wheels, provided they can also be worn on the back like a traditional backpack, and messenger bags. The exemption does not include items that are reasonably defined as luggage, briefcases, athletic/duffle/gym bags, computer bags, purses or framed backpacks. Ten or fewer backpacks can be purchased tax-free at one time without providing an exemption certificate to the seller.

Additionally, items used primarily for athletic activity, such as football uniforms, are excluded from the exemption. However, tennis shoes, sweatshirts, and swimsuits, which are commonly worn for purposes other than athletic activity, qualify for the exemption. Other excluded items include accessories, jewelry, and handbags. You can find a detailed list of what is exempted and what is not exempted during the tax free weekend on the internet at www.texasaxholiday.org.

The Sales Tax Holiday has been in effect since 1999. The comptroller estimates that shoppers will save more than \$65 million over the weekend.

You can contact my office by writing to P.O. Box 2910, Austin, TX 78768-2910 or by emailing me at larry.phillips@house.state.tx.us. My district office phone number is (903) 891-7297.



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Psalm 26:1-12 (KJV)

- ¹ Judge me, O LORD; for I have walked in mine integrity: I have trusted also in the LORD; *therefore* I shall not slide.
- ² Examine me, O LORD, and prove me; try my reins and my heart.
- ³ For thy lovingkindness *is* before mine eyes: and I have walked in thy truth.
- ⁴ I have not sat with vain persons, neither will I go in with dissemblers.
- ⁵ I have hated the congregation of evil doers; and will not sit with the wicked.
- ⁶ I will wash mine hands in innocency: so will I compass thine altar, O LORD:
- ⁷ That I may publish with the voice of thanksgiving, and tell of all thy wondrous works.
- ⁸ LORD, I have loved the habitation of thy house, and the place where thine honour dwelleth.
- ⁹ Gather not my soul with sinners, nor my life with bloody men:
- ¹⁰ In whose hands *is* mischief, and their right hand is full of bribes.
- ¹¹ But as for me, I will walk in mine integrity: redeem me, and be merciful unto me.
- ¹² My foot standeth in an even place: in the congregations will I bless the LORD.

Christian Fellowship

David Ellis will be leading worship service at A Christian Fellowship in Luella. Join them at 9 am each Sunday morning for coffee and doughnut fellowship followed by classes for all ages at 9:30 and worship service at 10:30. Dress is casual.

David Ellis will be leading praise and worship and it is a contemporary style service. The church celebrates The Lord's Supper each Sunday morning during worship service.

ACF announces that they are also a part of the "One" movement.

ACF has a special class for kids ages 2-10 each Sunday morning called "Kidz in Da Zone for Jesus". Bible stories and a journey on Rt 66 to learn books of the Bible.

Wednesday night begins with a pot-luck dinner at 6:30 pm followed by praise and worship and a devotional.

The church is located on the West side of Hwy 11 in Luella. Look for the red brick building with the green metal roof on the hill. The cross will light the way for you for more information contact Mike Ball at 903-271-1870 or David Ellis at 903-815-1333.

Tom Bean

Church of Christ

The Tom Bean Church of Christ invites everyone to come and worship with us. Services begin each Sunday with Bible class for all ages at 9 am and worship at 10 am with congregational singing. The evening worship service begins at 6 pm. The Lord's Supper is given each Sunday. Wednesday, we have bible classes for all ages beginning at 7 pm. The church is located at the corner of FM902 and FM2729 South in Tom Bean, TX.

We have radio programs each Sunday at 7:30 am on KFYN 1420AM and KFYZ 93.5FM. The lessons are brought by A.C. Quinn. Also there are two other programs; the North Side church of Christ is on at 8 am, and Leonard church of Christ is on at 8:30 am both on KFYN 1420 AM.

The Gospel of Christ news letter can be found at <http://www.thegospelofchrist.com/newsletter>. Their television program comes on CBS at 7:30am.

"A Woman's Choice" a WEB video concerning a woman's pregnancy can be seen on www.PregnancyDecisions.org.

Area Churches

Cannon

CANNON BAPTIST CHURCH
RFD 1, Rev. John Wade, pastor,
903/482-6761
SOVEREIGN GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH
George Seevers, 903/364-2942

Cherry Mound

BAPTIST CHURCH,
6335 FM 1753, Denison
Sun School 9:45; worship, 11,
evening 6; Wednesday, 7pm

Dorchester

DORCHESTER BAPTIST CHURCH
Hwy. 902W, 903/476-5525

Gunter

COLLEGE HILL CHURCH OF CHRIST
304 E. College, 903/433-4835
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
300 Pecan, 903/433-3335
GRACE BIBLE FELLOWSHIP
Pastor Bruce Stinson
Brooks Plaza
Sundays - 9:30 AM Worship
www.thegbf.com
VALLEY CHURCH OF CHRIST

Howe

APOSTOLIC LIFE UPC
405 S. Collins Frwy,
Jerry Pentecost, 903/821-9166;
Sun. 10am & 6pm
NEW BEGINNING FELLOWSHIP/AG,
912 S Denny St.
903/532-6828; Roger Roper,
S-school, 9:30, worship 10:45
BETHEL BAPTIST
Hwy. 902 E & Ponderosa Rd,
Weldon Hutson, pastor,
903/532-6032
SUMMIT CHURCH
Howe Middle School Cafeteria,
903/815-1472 ; Kcvin Bouse
CHURCH OF CHRIST
N. Collins Frwy,
903/532-6441;
Toby Socheting
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
100 E. Davis,903/532-5504;
Roger Tidwell, pastor
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
810 N. Denny, 903/532-6718;
Tom Medley, minister

Ida

IDA BAPTIST CHURCH,
903/813- 3263. S- School
10 am, Worship 11 am
Charles Morris, pastor

Luella

LUELLA FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
3162 St. Hwy. 11,
Harvey Patterson,
903/893-2252
A CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP,
150 Fellowship Ln, Luella
Mike Ball, 903/870-0219

Tom Bean

CHURCH OF CHRIST
903/546-6620
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
903/546-6231
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
903/546-6898
INSPIRATION POINT COWBOY CHURCH
FM 2729, 2.5 miles
South of Tom Bean
Duane Peters,
903-815-2278

More Church Page



One With Us

Have the you seen the picture of former President George H.W. Bush sitting in a wheelchair with his head shaved and holding a little boy with a bald head? Do you know WHY the 41st President of the United States shaved his head on this occasion?

I didn't until I saw Neal Pollard's article entitled, "Why George Bush Shaved His Head." *

Here's the rest of the story...

89-year-old former President Bush saw members of his secret service detail suddenly walking around baldheaded. Upon investigating, Mr. Bush learned that one of the agent's sons, Patrick, was being treated for leukemia. The 2-year-old lost his hair due to the treatments he has been taking for the cancer. So former President Bush shaved his head to show his support.

But there's more to it than that...

Bush was motivated by more than a feeling of solidarity; it was sympathy. He and his wife, Barbara, lost their second child, Robin, at 4-years-old nearly 60 years ago.

Former President George H.W. Bush and his family know from experience the toll that cancer can take on a person's life and the lives of his family members. So as little Patrick and his family continue their battle with leukemia, the former U.S. Commander-in-Chief wanted to show his support, so he shaved his head so that Patrick wouldn't be the only one who had lost his hair.

Here's another question: Why did Jesus become a man?

Notice part of the Bible's answer: "14 Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might destroy him who holds the power of death – that is, the devil – 15 and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death." – Hebrews 2:14-15

"For this reason he had to be made like his brothers in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that he might make atonement [propitiation] for the sins of the people. Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted." – Hebrews 2:17-18

God put on human flesh to identify with us! He wants us to know that He knows all about us, not just because He created us and He observes us, but because He lived like us.

God became man in order to become the perfect sacrifice for us. He became "one of us" to save us. "For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus, who gave Himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time." 1 Timothy 2:5-6

The sinless Son of God took upon Himself the sins of the world to pay the price for our redemption. He will save those who accept His offer of salvation and life on His terms: placing our faith and trust in Him (Acts 16:30-31), turning from sin in repentance (Acts 17:30-31), confessing Jesus before men (Romans 10:9-10), and being baptized (immersed) into Christ for the forgiveness of our sins (Acts 2:38). He will continue to cleanse those who continue to walk in the light of His Word (1 John 1:7).

Jesus became "one of us" so that we might become "one with God."

Won't YOU accept His offer of salvation and eternal life?

David Sargent, Minister

dauidsargent1@comcast.net

Church of Christ at Creekwood

<http://www.creekwoodcc.org>

* Neal Pollard, "Why George Bush Shaved His Head," Daily Bread, 7/25/13, Bear Valley church of Christ, Denver, Co.

Archived issues of "Living Water" can be viewed and Archived issues of "Living Water" can be viewed and accessed from our website at: www.creekwoodcc.org

**PILOT GROVE
BAPTIST CHURCH**
1271 Pilot Grove St.
903/450-3708

**Sherman/Denison
THE CHURCH OF JESUS
CHRIST OF LATTER DAY
SAINTS**
1900 Lamberth Rd, Sherman.
**FRIENDSHIP UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH**
RFD 2 off Hwy. 56; 903/892-8450
**WESTERN HEIGHTS
CHURCH OF CHRIST**
800 Baker Park Dr.,
903/892-9635, Sun. 10
**CHURCH OF THE
NAZARENE,**
601 Hwy. 1417, Pastor,
Rev. Mack Rogers
**RED RIVER
COWBOY CHURCH**
3800 Hwy. 691 (w of Hwy. 75);
Novice Northington, 903/463-5840

**Van Alstyne
COMMUNITY BIBLE
CHURCH**
Northwest corner Hwy 5 &
County Line Rd.
CHURCH OF CHRIST
105 Hopson,
Shannon Jackson, minister,
903/482-6033
**EAST SIDE
CHURCH OF CHRIST**
PO Box 141, Larry Shead,
minister; worship 11am
ELMONT BAPTIST CHURCH
FM 121 W, Elmont;
Jim Poole, pastor,
903/482-6356
FAITH TEMPLE CHURCH,
corner of Pearl & Nash,
Pastor Kenneth L. Price,
972/547-0243,
LIFE CHURCH,
201 W. Marshall,
Pastors – Lance/ Mary Baker
903/433-8089
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
102 E. Marshall, 903/482-6334,
Jimmy Tarrant, pastor
FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
206 Waco, 903/482-5515,
Gary Gibbs, pastor
**FIRST PENTECOSTAL
CHURCH**
903/482-6646,
Rev. J.R. Thornhill, pastor
**FIRST UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH**
301 S. Preston,
Rev. Jack Wallace, minister
**GREYWOOD HEIGHTS
WORSHIP CENTER**
On Hwy. 75 just north of Dairy
Queen, 903/482-6700;
Chris Jones, pastor
**HOLY FAMILY
CATHOLIC CHURCH**
Father Stephen W. Bierschenk,
972/562-0752
**MORNING CHAPEL
CHRISTIAN METHODIST
EPISCOPAL**
103 Bowen, 902/482-5431
SAMARIA BAPTIST CHURCH
702 E. Fulton, 903/482-5664, Rev.
Arnold Baker, pastor





GC offers T-STEM scholarships

Several Grayson College students will receive scholarship help for the 2013-2014 academic year, thanks to a new grant the college received from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. Awarded \$163,200 for its Texas Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (T-STEM) Challenge Scholarship, the college expects to allot up to \$2,500 per qualifying student for the 2013-2014 academic year.

“These 62 T-STEM scholarships are available to students majoring in certain science, technology, engineering and math programs at Grayson,” said Janis Thompson, grant writer and program development specialist at the Grayson College Foundation. “Students can apply the funds toward tuition, fees, necessary textbooks and classroom supplies.”

Some of the fields included in this scholarship opportunity are: computer science and information systems, computer maintenance and networking, engineering, drafting/CADD, electronics, HVAC, biological sciences, mathematics, chemistry, geology, physics, dental assisting, EMT/paramedic, radiologic technology and medical lab technician. To qualify, applicants must have a 3.0+ GPA on all math and science courses on their high school transcripts (or equivalent on GED scores) and be a self-declared major in one of the qualified T-STEM programs at Grayson College.

Awards such as the T-STEM Challenge Scholarship are good for the community, too. “This is a great opportunity for local employers and service providers who need skilled employees or who wish to improve their own skills,” Thompson said.

Established by the 82nd Texas Legislature, the T-STEM Challenge Scholarship Grant Program provides Texas public community and technical colleges with grants for merit-based scholarships for qualifying, high-achieving students. Participating colleges like Grayson develop partnerships with local business and industry to identify local employment needs in T-STEM occupations and develop part-time employment opportunities for T-STEM scholarship recipients.

“These prestigious awards are provided to assist Grayson College full-time students, of any age, who are self-declared majors in a T-STEM instructional program,” said Tina Dodson, director of annual giving for the GC Foundation. “Recipients must complete at least 80% of all semester credit hours to retain his/her T-STEM scholarship for the following semester. All applicants, unless exempt, must have a statement on file that he or she is registered with the Selective Service System. Part-time employment is limited to 15 hours per week in a STEM-related field.”

For more information about the T-STEM Challenge Scholarship or to complete the scholarship application, go to www.grayson.edu and click on “New Scholarship Opportunity for STEM Students” under News & Announcements, or call Dodson at 903-463-8716.



Texoma Enterprise

Howe, Texas
75459

Texoma Enterprise

805 N. Hughes

Howe, Texas 75459-3587

903-487-0525

dalerideout@cableone.net

lanarideout@cableone.net

Texoma Enterprise is owned and operated by Dale and Lana Rideout. They have been doing this since 1978. The picture on the left is about 5 years old, with Dale shown as "Santa" Rideout at Christmas, 2009. The family shot on the right includes all our grandchildren, plus a couple of Step-grandchildren. It was taken at Elves Christmas Tree Farm. This farm opened to the public in 1990 when Jordan was only 2 months old and he went there with us. Every year since we have taken every grandchild with us. This year was our 23rd year to take all our grandchildren to the farm.



Grandkids singing at the Elves Christmas Tree Farm, 2007



Dot's D-A-S-H-E-S

By Dorothy N. Fowler

“Why in the world are you cutting up that piece of fabric and then sewing it back together? Why can’t you use it the way it is?” Those are questions quilt makers often hear from non-quilt makers.

The answer to the first question is elusive and may well be that quilt makers are nutz. Or it may be that quilt makers are cutting up whole cloth, combining it with pieces from other whole cloths and creating a new piece of fabric, often in an intricate pattern in order to satisfy some primeval creative instinct to create something not only beautiful, but also useful.

The answer to the second question is that you can, indeed, use it the way it is. You can add borders to the perimeter to make the fabric the length and width you want it, or you can simply lay the original piece on the batting (the inside of the quilt) and the lining, the back of the quilt and then sew the quilt sandwich together. You can make sewing the sandwich together as simple or as complex as you want.

By definition, a quilt is a blanket composed of three layers. The top, the batting (the Brits call it stuffing) and the back, also called the lining, stitched together so that the components are stable.

That definition is far too simple. For one thing, American quilt makers go quietly berserk when someone calls a “quilt” as “blanket.” Blankets are something you can buy at WalMart or Bed Bath and Beyond. Of course, you can buy quilts at those places, also, but a blanket is one ply of some kind of reasonably heavy fabric of a size and shape designed to provide warmth. For another, not all quilts are stitched. Some are tied.

If a quilt is tied, its maker has pulled thread or string of some kind or other through the layers of the quilt at regular intervals so that two tails of the thread or string are close together and then tied tightly so that the batting and the other two layers of the quilt don’t shift. Tied quilts are quicker to make than quilted (stitched) quilts and were likely the choice of most 19th century and early 20th century American quilters. That’s because so many of their quilts were purely utilitarian.

There is a great debate among dedicated quilters about fabric appropriate for quilts. Some quilters will use only 100 percent cotton fabric they buy from local quilt shops, also known as LQS. Some love

WalMart, Hobby Lobby, JoAnn’s because the fabrics there are considerably less expensive. Others use polyester and cotton blends. Still others haunt garage and estate sales hoping to pick up the stash someone has left behind. (It is a given that the quilter who dies with largest stash, wins, although it is yet to be determined the extent to the prize.) Still others haunt second hand shops, looking not only for fabric stashes, but also for men’s shirts, which come in an amazing array of colors, prints and fabric types. In addition, there are hundreds of places that offer fabrics of all kinds on the Internet. I recently bought a piece of fabric printed with some Pokemon characters from a vendor in Malaysia, the only place I could find a Pokemon themed fabric.

Quilters make quilts for all kinds of reasons. Some quilters make heirloom quilts designed to be oohed and aahed over 100 years hence. Some make quilts hoping their children and grandchildren love the quilts so much they are worn out in one generation (although no quilters wants his/her creation used to warp the refrigerator when the kids are moving from one place to another). Others take pride in making quilts for people who are sick or homeless or scared or just plain cold.

Quilters wield their art/craft all over the world. I belong to an online group of quilters that has members on every continent. Most are women, but there are a good number of men, some of whom quilt with their wives and others who use quilting as an outlet for their creativity or because they like to use their engineering skills to make patterns.

Quilters come in all ages, all sizes, all colors, all religious persuasions, united by a passion for creating something beautiful.

If you would like to join the quilters of the world, there are quilt guilds in Van Alstyne, Sherman, Gainesville, Dallas, Denton, Durant, Oklahoma and perhaps other nearby places. If you want to know where to find one, Google Texas quilt guilds. You might be surprised at what you find.



Hall Supports 4th District Coal Jobs And Affordable Energy

WASHINGTON, DC . . . Last week, Rep. Ralph Hall (TX-04) supported and the House passed H.R. 2218, The Coal Residuals Reuse and Management Act of 2013, by a vote of 265-155. This bill replaces the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) proposal to regulate coal ash as a hazardous waste with state-oriented regulation programs.

"The top priorities of Americans across the country continue to be jobs and economic security," said Hall. "That is why I am pleased the House passed this bill, which works to support jobs across the country and in the 4th District, and also works to give families economic security through more affordable energy."

Hall continued, "On June 25, the President made a 'climate change' speech where he discussed plans to circumvent Congress and the will of the American people by executive order to impose expensive new EPA regulations on new and existing power plants. Daniel P. Schrag, a White House climate adviser, then told the New York Times that 'a war on coal is exactly what's needed.'

"I'm proud of the coal miners and producers in the 4th District. Thanks to their responsible coal residual reuse efforts, in the last year alone 2.7 billion pounds of combustion byproduct were recycled. The President's new regulations would essentially penalize them and put them out of business, despite the fact they have steadily lowered their emissions over the past decades. These producers are a valuable asset to the 4th District who provide affordable energy and good jobs, and I stand with my constituents in opposition to the President's 'war on coal' and his 'cap-and-trade' approach.

"The Coal Residuals Reuse and Management Act is a responsible bill that safeguards jobs, builds the economy, provides affordable energy, and protects the environment through recycling waste, and I will continue to support legislation that upholds these ideals on behalf of my constituents and all Americans."

Specifically, The Coal Residuals Reuse and Management Act of 2013 would:

- * Put regulatory authority regarding coal residuals reuse back in the hands of state regulators, who have first-hand knowledge of their communities and a personal stake in making the places they live environmentally safe.
- * Protect the 316,000 jobs currently at risk due to the Administration's new EPA proposal;
- * Lower electricity costs;
- * Provide for low-cost construction materials (cement, concrete, wallboard, and roofing materials) that coal ash is used to produce;
- * Reduce the amount of waste going in surface impoundments and landfills; and
- * Save \$79-\$110 billion in taxpayer dollars over 20 years that would otherwise be used for compliance costs to enforce the EPA's proposal.

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House Passes Seven Oversight Bills, Affordable Student Loan Bill

WASHINGTON, DC . . . This week, Rep. Ralph Hall (TX-04) supported and the House passed seven bills to increase government oversight and transparency, including a bill that specifically targets overreaching regulations imposed by the Environmental Protection Agency - H.R. 1582, The Energy Consumers Relief Act.

“Washington works for the American people, and the American people deserve a federal government that is efficient, effective, and transparent,” said Hall. “It is the responsibility of Congress to provide oversight, and I am pleased the House passed these necessary and common-sense bills that hold the federal government accountable and respect taxpayer dollars.”

The Energy Consumers Relief Act, which passed the House 232-181, would require the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to submit a report to Congress before finalizing any energy-related regulations costing more than \$1 billion. The report must detail the cost, benefit, energy price, and job impacts of the rule. If the Secretary of Energy determines the new regulation would cause significant adverse effects to the economy, the regulation would be prohibited.

Yesterday, Rep. Hall also voted in favor of and the House passed H.R. 1911, The Bipartisan Student Loan Certainty Act of 2013, the Senate’s amended version of the House’s affordable student loan bill which originally passed May 23, 2013 under the title Smarter Solutions for Students Act. This bill, which passed 392-31, returns loans to a system under which interest rates are tied to market rates - but with fixed rates for the period of the loan.

“Quality education for our nation’s students is directly tied to their future opportunities, as well as America’s innovation and competitiveness. That is why I want to ensure students across the nation can pursue affordable higher education. I am pleased Senate Democrats finally joined House Republicans to pass this important bill to ease the burden of student loans, particularly when the economy is weak and so many Americans are struggling,” said Hall.

“I will continue to support legislation that encourages economic growth, job creation, and financial security for all Americans.”

Complete list of House-passed government oversight bills this week:

- *H.R. 1582, Energy Consumers Relief Act
- *H.R. 2565, STOP IRS Act
- *H.R. 2769, Stop Playing on Citizens’ Cash Act
- *H.R. 2768, Taxpayer Bill of Rights Act of 2013
- *H.R. 2879, Stop Government Abuse Act
- oH.R. 2711, Citizen Empowerment Act
- oH.R. 1541, Common Sense in Compensation Act
- oH.R. 2579, Government Employee Accountability Act
- *H.R. 313, Government Spending Accountability Act
- *H.R. 1660, Government Customer Service Improvement Act

Cornyn: Jones Nomination Indicates

Reckless Behavior Rewarded In Obama White House

WASHINGTON - U.S. Senator John Cornyn (R-TX) issued the following statement today after voting against the nomination of B. Todd Jones for Director of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF):

“What could have been an opportunity for the President to bring competent leadership to a department wrought with mismanagement is instead a signal from the top that reckless behavior is not only permissible in his administration, but rewarded,” Cornyn said.

“Mr. Jones’ nomination is an insult to the memory and families of those who fell victim to the botched Fast and Furious program. While I’m deeply disappointed this nomination is going forward, I will continue to push for answers for these families and hold this Administration accountable.”

Senator Cornyn serves on the Finance and Judiciary Committees. He serves as the top Republican on the Judiciary Committee’s Immigration, Refugees and Border Security subcommittee. He served previously as Texas Attorney General, Texas Supreme Court Justice, and Bexar County District Judge.

Cornyn Calls on IRS Chief to Endorse Bill Removing IRS from Obamacare If IRS Chief Doesn’t Want Obamacare, He Shouldn’t Be Enforcing It Either

WASHINGTON - U.S. Senator John Cornyn (R-TX) today called on IRS Chief Daniel Werfel to endorse his legislation blocking the IRS from enforcing Obamacare after he testified that he does not want to switch to the President’s health care law<http://www.weeklystandard.com/blogs/irs-chief-i-want-keep-my-health-care-plan-not-switch-obamacare_742429.html>:

“Count the head of the IRS among the growing list of folks that includes Big Labor and the law’s chief architect who are deeply skeptical of the President’s signature achievement and don’t want any part of it.

“No American - even the head of the IRS - should be subjected to Obamacare. The wheels are coming off this monstrosity before our very eyes, and we must fully defund, repeal, and replace it before it collapses under its own weight.”

Sen. Cornyn has introduced the “Keep the IRS Off Your Health Care Act of 2013<http://www.cornyn.senate.gov/public/?a=Files.Serve&File_id=a383a416-87fd-4e57-a9ac-0ade1a99fedc>,” which would prohibit the Secretary of the Treasury, or any delegate, including the IRS, from enforcing Obamacare.

Senator Cornyn serves on the Finance and Judiciary Committees. He serves as the top Republican on the Judiciary Committee’s Immigration, Refugees and Border Security subcommittee. He served previously as Texas Attorney General, Texas Supreme Court Justice, and Bexar County District Judge.





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Should You Prepare a Medicaid Application Yourself?

Whether you should prepare and file a Medicaid application by yourself or should hire help depends on answers to the following questions:

How old is the applicant?

How complicated is the applicant's financial situation?

Is the individual applying for community or nursing home benefits?

How much time do you have available?

How organized are you?

Medicaid is the health care program for individuals who do not have another form of insurance or whose insurance does not cover what they need, such as long-term care. Many people rely on Medicaid for assistance in paying for care at home or in nursing homes.

For people under age 65 and not in need of long-term care, eligibility is based largely on income and the application process is not very complicated. Most people can apply on their own without assistance.

Matters get a bit more complicated for applicants age 65 and above and especially for those of any age who need nursing home or other long-term care coverage. In these cases, availing yourself of the services of an attorney is practically essential.

Medicaid applicants over age 65 are limited to \$2,000 in countable assets (in most states). It's possible to transfer assets over this amount in order to become eligible, but seniors need to be careful in doing so because they may need the funds in the future and if they move to a nursing home, the transfer could make them ineligible for benefits for five years. Professional advice is also crucial because there is a confusing array of different Medicaid programs that may be of assistance in providing home care, each with its own rules.

All of that said, the application process itself is not so complicated for community benefits (care that takes place outside of an institutional setting, such as in the beneficiary's home). In short, those over 65 in many cases will need to consult with an elder law attorney for planning purposes, but they or their families may be able to prepare and submit the Medicaid application themselves.

But submitting an application for nursing home benefits without an attorney's help is not a good idea. This is because Medicaid officials subject such applications to enhanced scrutiny, requiring up to five years of financial records and documentation of every fact. Any unexplained expense may be treated as a disqualifying transfer of assets, and many planning steps -- such as trusts, transfers to family members, and family care agreements -- are viewed as suspect unless properly explained. Finally, the process generally takes several months as Medicaid keeps asking questions and demanding further documentation for the answers provided.

Many elder law attorneys offer assistance with Medicaid applications as part of their services. This has several advantages, including expert advice on how best to qualify for benefits as early as possible, experience in dealing with the more difficult eligibility questions that often arise, and a high level of service through a long, grueling process. The one drawback of using an attorney rather than a lay service is that the fee is typically substantially higher. However, given the high cost of nursing homes, if the law firm's assistance can accelerate eligibility by even one month that will generally cover the fee. In addition, the payments to the attorney are generally with funds that would otherwise be paid to the nursing home -- in other words, the funds will have to be spent in any event, whether for nursing home or for legal fees.



Monica Babin Muil is photographer of the month

for Hagerman National Wildlife Refuge as selected by the Friends of Hagerman.

Born and raised in Houma, Louisiana, Muil moved to Sherman in 1971 while still in high school. She says she always had a love of wildlife and that she has a passion for photography.

Muil, who works at a Grapevine company, spends each weekend at the refuge. She is often accompanied by her dog/or her photography friend Pam Porter.



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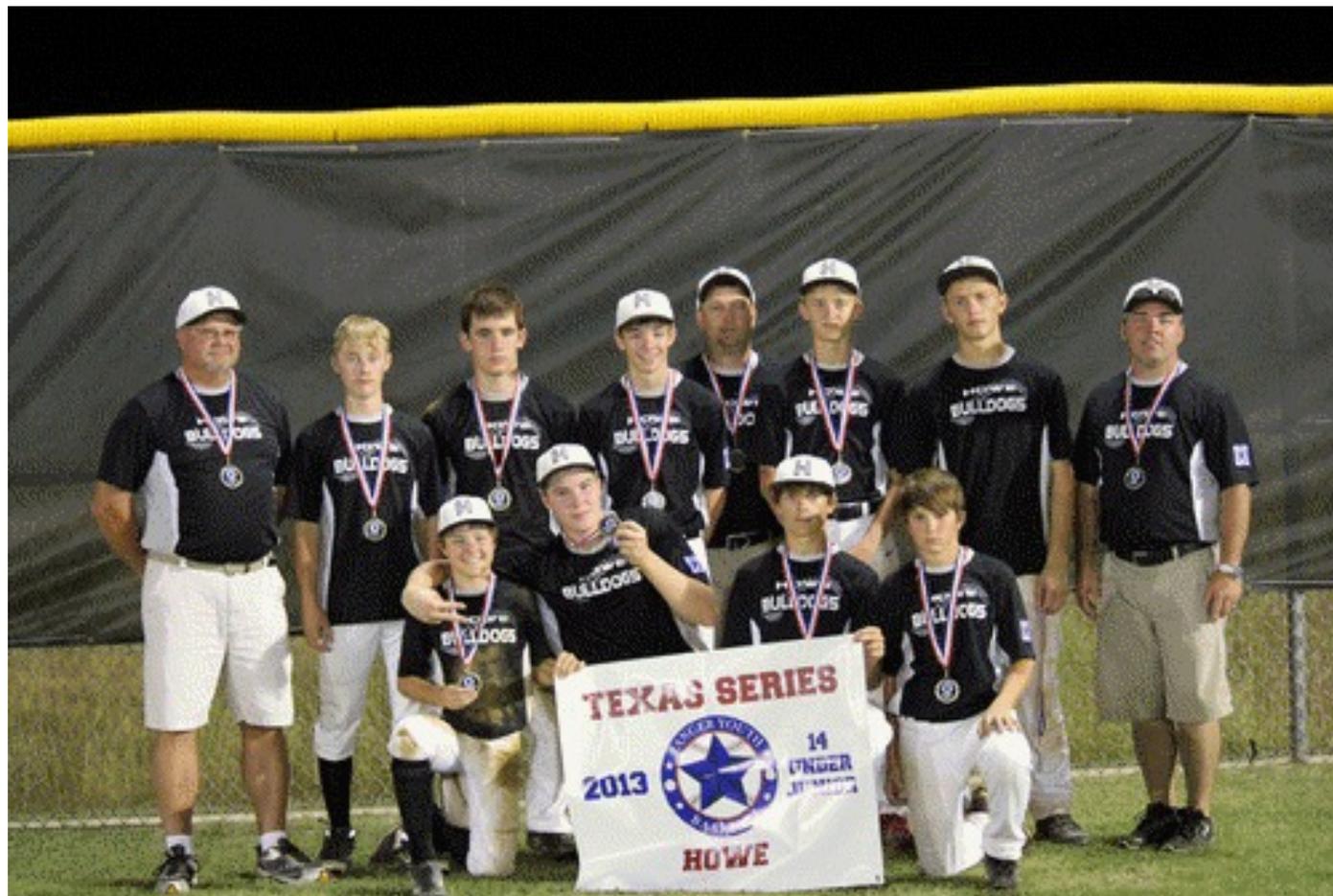
Join forces with international award-winning astrophysicist and former consultant to NASA, Kevin Manning, a man on no ordinary mission. Kevin founded Look Up to the Stars with a mission to generate interest and foster scientific literacy in the general public nationwide through the delivery of awe-inspiring, education and entertaining programs. Your family will love going on an unforgettable cosmic journey though the universe with Kevin as their captain, expertly able to field a meteor shower of diverse questions and to push back the dark side with the latest scientific knowledge.

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Howe team places 3rd at state tournament

This group of Howe 14-and-under All-Stars participated in the Ranger Youth Baseball tournament in Longview, July 12-18. They faced a tough battle in their first game against Whitewright, where they lost 8-7 in extra innings. Following the loss, they beat Commerce (4-0), Hawkins (7-0) and Union Grove (14-13). They lost their final game to eventual tournament winner, Pineland (8-6), with Howe finishing third. Members of the team pictured above are (back row, left to right) Coach Stephen Braswell, Cooper Akins, Hunter Morrow, Landry Elvington, Coach Eric Underwood, Seth Seibold, Tyler Grisham (who hit 3 home runs during the tournament), Coach Brian Ross, (front row, left to right) Brennan Ross, Matt Griffin, Zachariah Braswell and Gage Underwood.

Caught on the Job

The new army recruit was given guard duty at 2 a.m. He did his best for a while, but at about 4 a.m. he went to sleep. He awakened to find the officer of the day standing before him.

Remembering the heavy penalty for being asleep on guard duty, this smart young man kept his head bowed for another moment and looked upward and reverently said, "A-a-a-men!"

Pun With Monks

Lost on a rainy night, a nun stumbles across a monastery and requests shelter there. Fortunately, she's just in time for dinner and was treated to the best fish and chips she's ever had.

After dinner, she goes into the kitchen to thank the chefs.

She is met by two brothers, "Hello, I'm Brother Michael, and this is Brother Charles."

"I'm very pleased to meet you. I just wanted to thank you for a wonderful dinner. The fish and chips were the best I've ever tasted. Out of curiosity, who cooked what?"

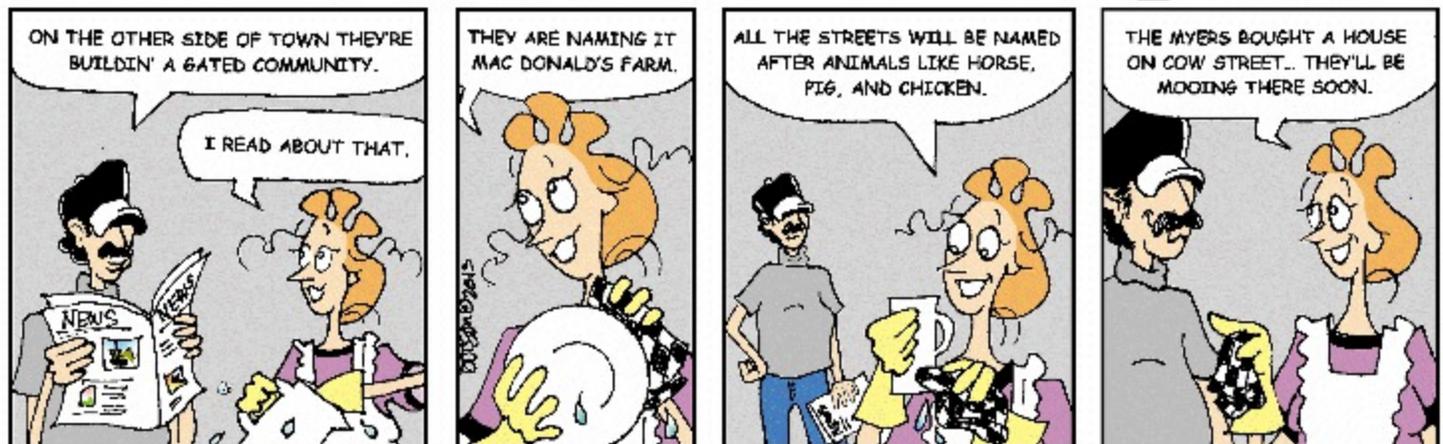
Brother Charles replied, "Well, I'm the fish friar."

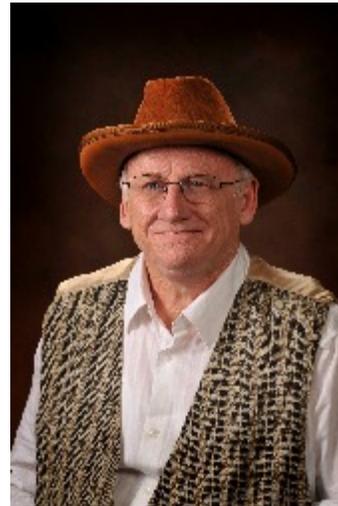
She turns the other brother and says, "Then you must be...?"

"Yes, I'm the chip monk."

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LET'S REMINISCE: MEDICINAL REMEDIES FOUND IN THE HOME

By Jerry Lincecum

One of my ancestors was a botanical physician, which means he favored medicines made from plants and avoided strong drugs used by allopathic doctors. The allopaths became dominant, but today alternative meds are often recommended by MD's.

For instance, my dermatologist said if I didn't want to take an expensive drug for my toenail fungus, he'd recommend applying Mentholatum to the nail on a regular basis. Here are several home remedies you might try. This is just information, not recommendations. I have not tried all of these.

1. Drinking two glasses of Gatorade can relieve headache pain almost immediately.
2. Toothpaste made with baking soda makes an excellent salve for burns.
3. Before you head to the drugstore for a high-priced inhaler, try chewing on a couple of curiously strong Altoids peppermints. They'll clear up your stuffed nose.
4. For aching muscles, mix 1 Tablespoon of horseradish in 1/2 cup of olive oil. Let the mixture sit for 30 minutes, then apply it as massage oil.
5. Sore Throat? Just mix 1/4 cup of vinegar with 1/4 cup of honey and take 1 Tablespoon six times a day.
6. Cure urinary tract infections with Alka-seltzer. Just dissolve two tablets in a glass of water and drink it at the onset of the symptoms.
7. Eliminate puffiness under your eyes with a dab of preparation H, carefully rubbed into the skin, avoiding the eyes. The ointment acts as a vasoconstrictor, relieving the swelling instantly.
8. Another remedy for toenail fungus is Listerine therapy for toenail fungus. Soaking your toes in original strength Listerine mouthwash leaves your toenails looking healthy again.
9. Smart splinter remover.....just pour a drop of Elmer's glue over the splinter, let dry, and peel the dried glue off the skin. The splinter sticks to the dried glue.
10. Hunt's tomato paste will take care of a boil. Cover the boil with tomato paste as a compress. The acids from the tomatoes bring the boil to a head.
11. Heinz vinegar will heal bruises. Soak a cotton ball in white vinegar and apply it to the bruise for 1 hour. The vinegar speeds up the healing process.

Now a few items for your dogs and cats.

- A. Dawn dishwashing liquid Kills fleas instantly. Add few drops to your dogs bath & shampoo the animal thoroughly. Rinse well to avoid skin irritations.
- B. Rainy day cure for dog odor. Next time your dog comes in from the rain, simply wipe down the animal with Bounce or any scented dryer sheet, instantly making your dog smell fresh.
- C. Eliminate your cat's ear mites. All it takes is a few drops of Wesson corn oil in your cat's ear. Massage it in, then clean with a cotton ball. Repeat daily for 3 days.
- D. Vaseline cure for hairballs. Apply a dollop of Vaseline petroleum jelly to your cat's nose. The cat will lick off the jelly, lubricating any hair in its stomach so it can pass easily through the digestive system.

-30-

A retired Austin College professor, Dr. Jerry Lincecum teaches classes for older adults who want to write their life stories. He welcomes your reminiscences on any topic: jlincecum@me.com

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