

Texoma Enterprise

Howe, Texas
75459

December 1, 2011



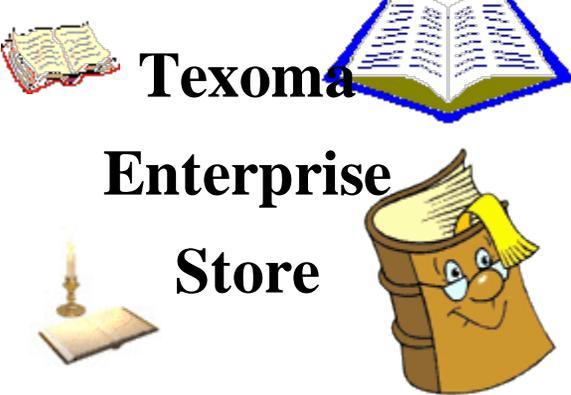
HHS School News



Local



Haggerman



HUMOR



Church



Howe's That

by Lana Rideout



Every year the day after Thanksgiving, the Rideout clan makes a trip to the Elves Christmas Tree Farm.

This year was no exception. Our group was a bit smaller, but all the grandkids were in attendance. Son Kirby was also with us.

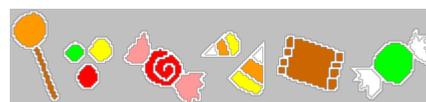
Shown in the photo accompanying this article you will see Lana Rideout, Dominique Rideout, Rachel English, Brianna Rideout, Amber Roe, and Dale Rideout (on the back row) and on the front are Jordan Roe, Caleb English, and Christian Raisor.

Our annual pilgrimage to the tree farm began 22 years ago after the birth of our first grandchild. It has continued each year as we added new grandchildren. I expect that the grandchildren are all here. But someday soon we hope to add some great-grandchildren.

After the pictures were taken and snacks eaten, we all went our merry way. Dale and I went to the town of Munday, Texas where Dale was Santa for a parade and visiting with Santa. It was my first time as Mrs. Santa on the float and giving peppermint candies to the children.



Recipe



Chocolate Chip Ice Cream Pie

- 1 6-ounce package, semi-sweet chocolate bits
- 3 tablespoons butter
- 2 cups crisp rice cereal
- 1/2 gallon vanilla ice cream, slightly softened
- Fresh or frozen sliced strawberries

In top of a double boiler, melt chocolate and butter over hot water. Blend and add rice cereal. Press into unbuttered 9-inch pie plate. Chill until firm.

Spoon in vanilla ice cream until filled. Top with strawberries and freeze until firm. Let stand at room temperature 10 to 15 minutes before serving.

City Drug Co.



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Saturday 8 am to 2 pm
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Jack Strickland - 903-482-5830

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209 E. Jefferson -- Van Alstyne





Student, Teacher of the Month

Howe High School recently selected a teacher and students of the month for November. Receiving the teacher award was Howe High School business instructor **Martha Wilson**. Mrs. Wilson has taught at Howe for ten years and holds a Master's Degree in Educational Administration from SOSU. She is currently completing a second Master's in Psychological Services. At HHS she sponsors National Honor Society and the Business Professionals of America, as well as being the Grayson College Tech Prep Coordinator. Mrs. Wilson and her husband, Winston, have three children, Oliver, Bethany, and Baileigh, and two grandchildren. HHS principal Shawn Martin says of Mrs. Wilson, "We are very proud of the time and effort that she spent preparing for our recent Veteran's Day program. It was a great success and very appreciated by our community."

Representing the freshmen and sophomores is sophomore **Jonathan Maniet**. The son of Bruce and Kathie Maniet, Jonathan has attended Howe schools for two years and currently participates in band, golf, and theater. Outside of school, his hobbies include Boy Scouts, Karate, and playing piano. The junior-senior representative is junior **Taylor Defrange**. The daughter of Tom and Leslie Defrange and Stacy Anderson, Taylor has attended HISD for nine years and participates in volleyball and the American Sign Language Club. In her spare time, Taylor enjoys art.



Attention children of all ages -- Santa Claus will visit the Howe Community Library at 11 am on Saturday, Dec. 3. He will read a story and will visit with children about their Christmas lists.

Howe ES/MS Menus

Dec. 5- 9

Breakfast

Monday – Glazed donuts, cereal/toast, graham crackers w/yogurt, Shamrock pears, apple juice

Tuesday – Biscuit & sausage, country gravy, cereal/toast, rosy applesauce, orange juice

Wednesday – Pancake on a stick, cereal/toast, graham crackers w/yogurt, diced peaches, grape juice

Thursday – Blueberry muffins/toast, cereal/toast, orange halves, orange juice

Friday – Eggs, toast/sausage, cereal/toast, fresh apple, orange juice

Lunch

Monday – Hamburger or Frito pie, burger fixins, potato chips, corn cobbette, Shamrock pears, apple crisp

Tuesday –Chicken rings or roasted chicken, mashed potatoes, country gravy, green beans, wheat roll, rosy applesauce, gelatin jewels

Wednesday –Hot dog or corn dog, pinto bean, diced peaches, mac & cheese, chocolate chip cookie

Thursday – Cheese pizza ravioli casserole/toast, garden salad, carrots & celery sticks, orange halves, frozen fruit bar

Friday – Chicken crispeto or fajitas quesadilla, garden salad, refried beans, fresh apple, Spanish rice



Click for **more Howe news**



Texoma Enterprise

Howe, Texas
75459

A Honor Roll – 2nd Six Weeks

Kindergarten: Dax Foster, Shianne Freeman-Williams, Emma Hitesman, Sandra Nitchman, Haley Richardson, Matalee Stewart, Emry Woods, Nathan Wooten, Kenneth York, Zoey Bolen, Morgan Pitt, Casie Adams, Catelyn Armstrong, Garrett Gibbs, Jaeden Howard, Kelcey Ireland, Alex Jones, Carter Layton, Zeb Montgomery, Jacob Ortega, Autumn Owens, Emery Snapp, Payton Stapleton, Mahlon Walker, Madilynn Douglas, Clayton Duree, Dakota Fetzer, Caden Garner, Cooper Jones, Kayley Laubhan, Jace Martin, Cheyenne Mathews, Brooklyn McCaleb, Paris Menjivar, Lucas Mitchell, Railyn Murphy, Jenna Roper, Gage Troxtell, Riley Troxtell, Courtney White, Mia Wilson

First Grade: Caleb Fetzer, Bettye Delavan, Korben Kemp, Jacob McGill, Madison Morrow, Linda Segura, Teagan Stubblefield, Donna Mendoza, Yair Ayala, Mackenzie Bryant, Jentrie Doty, Tate Harvey, Ryan Hough, Kaylee Jones, Janna Nitchman, Keira Robertson, Ethan Strunc, Jacob Upchurch, Samantha Lowder, Korie Bouse, Jordan Brunner, Carson Daniels, Ethan Duer, Audie Martin, Kaylyn Bryant, Alex Huerta, Trey Phillips, Dakota Tinker,

Second Grade: Ethan Conrad, Jaicob Husband, Talen Miller, Gavin Richardson, Trinity Williams, Jessica Bastida, Zak DeFrange, John Griffin, Avery Snapp, Ben Speed, Caleb Wahrmond, Eli Wilson, Kevin Bateman, Cierra Brussow, Luke Catching, Lindsey Hymel, Austin Jones, Luke Lopez, Caleb Maddison, Zoey Moore, Ryan Murphy, Alyssa Sharp, Caytie Coco, Kaitlyn Fuhr, Paige Gifford-Lamb, Riley Griffith, Alexis Gruszka, Colby Hopper, Kailyn Ireland, Brooke Potter, Aiden Roulette, Kaleb Strong, Ethan Turner

Third Grade: Jackson Adkins, Alex Blount, Lizzie Robertson, Camryn Adams, Kriston Harris, Mason Moreau, Leah Butcher, Hannah Dwyer, Seth Key

Fourth Grade: Cassidy Anderson, Bailey Bond, Zoie DeFrange, Jenna Honore, Molly Wilson, Lane Griffin, Taylor Hinkle, Valerie Langford, Jamie Taylor, Paetyn Ford

A/B Honor Roll – 2nd Six Weeks

Kindergarten: Brayden Bahr, Kimberly Gonzalez, Cassie Morrison, Kade Murphy, Kolin Murphy, Juanita Olivarez, Fisher Robertson, Ashton Trevino, Charles Vera, Jesse Portman, Cody Adams, Morrigan Booth, Ainsley Denham, Willie Husband, Mikaylah Komorowski, Thomas Roberson, Camryn Boatman, Ryleigh Craven, Kendall Griffin, Lacy Hymel, Zadrian Morris, Jayden Bookout, Ebenezer Chawn, Keyshun Collins-Toney, Anthony Gardner, Jaycie Grisham, Kolton Mitchell, Ryleigh Jenkins, Gracie Max, Dakota Smith, Jonathan Smith

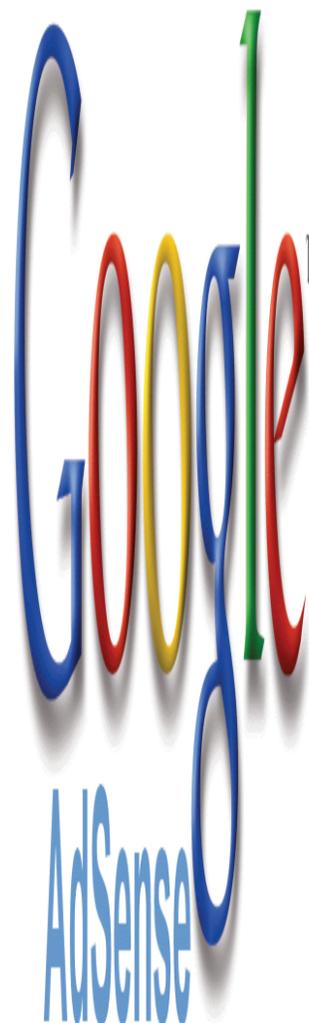
First Grade: Bryan Crees, Danielle Hargrove, Matthew Hayes, Dalton Laisy, Kolby Smith, Eli Lewis, Zander Toner, Christina Harper, Dabney Henry, Edith Hernandez, Jalie Hill, Connor Martin, Brody McCollum, Taylor Reynolds, Sergio Rico, Ariana Ross, Emma Sutherland, Leo Becerra, Jazmine Bookout, Breana Cole, Kaylee Hunnel, Chesnee Lawson, Cody Richards

Second Grade: Jaden Bryant, Michelle Caballero, Ashley Crees, Jaryn Grisham, Ramie Mosse, Conner Record, Caleb Searcey, Hagen York, Sabian Acevedo, Harley Brockelman, Jared Brussow, Will Fleming, Ethan Lopez, Fenix Lugo, Katie Parker, Parker Pecina, Ricky Ramirez, Luis Gonzalez, Emma Harvey, Tony Howard, Samantha Lemley, David Rocha, Jennifer Torres

Third Grade: Erin Catching, Sierra Copeland, Jake Fabacher, Tatum Hartsfield, Alex Hernandez, Cameron Lankford, Dylan Savage, Reagan Troxtell, Kameron Hopper, David Huerta, Brooke Robinson, Pablo Segura, Austin Thurman, Aubreh Winegarden, Grace Brennan, Holly Cavender, Kamryn Gardner, Ethen Grant, Remington Lowe, Korbyn Thompson, Ava Bader, Brett Burnett, Katie Grogan, Courtney Hopper, Grace Lankford, Brennan Speed, Laine Watson

Fourth Grade: Robin Cung, Kacie Morgan, Jacob Roper, Magi Watson, Jackson Wilson, Kolby Windon, Nayely Ayala, Hally Bollier, Layton Elvington, Allie Gleason, Catherine Switzer, Colton Thurman, Bethany Van Deren, Karsyn Fleming, Mikayla Hudek, Jarron Ing, Kolbe Lappin, Sarah Martin, Lukas Peacock, Maci Watson, Kaden Bateman, Kylie Hopper, Garrett Grigg, Zane Hughes, Waylon Knowles, Caden Stewart, Riley Underwood, Arturo Lowder

[More Howe News](#)



Perfect Attendance – 2nd Six Weeks

Kindergarten: Matalee Stewart, Charles Vera, Kenneth York, Ryleigh Craven, Ainsley Denham, Lacy Hymel, Zadrian Morris, Caden Garner, Jace Martin, Jonathan Smith, Gage Troxtell, Riley Troxtell, Mia Wilson, Ebenezer Chawn, Keyshun Collins-Toney, Garrett Gibbs, Carter Layton

First Grade: Cody McGill, Yair Ayala, Ryan Hough, Janna Nitchman, Colton Little, Keira Robertson, Vel Chin, Kelly Caballero, Jesus Garcia, Andrew Harper, Alex Huerta, Dakota Tinker, Stone Trevino, Gabrielle Vera, Danielle Hargrove, Matthew Hayes, Madison Morrow, Kaden Dunn, Connor Gauntt, Christina Harper, Dabney Henry, Edith Hernandez, Taylor Reynolds, James Richardson, Emma Sutherland

Second Grade: Michelle Caballero, Jaicob Husband, Caleb Searcey, Zak DeFrange, Will Fleming, Parker Pecina, Eli Wilson, Caytie Coco, Paige Gifford-Lamb, Colby Hopper, Brooke potter, Aiden Roulette, Kevin Bateman, Cierra Brussow, Emma Harvey, Lindsey Hymel, Zoey Moore

Third Grade: Clay Barnett, Grace Brennan, Holly Cavender, Hannah Dwyer, Kelynn Jaresh, Erin Catching, Kayle Chapman, Jake Fabacher, Tatum Hartsfield, Raul Hernandez, Cameron Lankford, Lizzie Robertson, Katie Grogan, Sean Husband, Courtney Hopper, Grace Lankford, Kriston Harris, Brooke Robinson, Austin Thurman, Leah Trevino

Fourth Grade: Robin Cung, Zoie DeFrange, Ivonne Delgado, Logan Farrell, Jenna Honore, Kacie Morgan, Cindy Torres, Hally Bollier, Ethan Chambers, Colton Thurman, Bethany Van Deren, Kirstyn Wheeler, Ally Harvey, Lukas Peacock, Ethan Quintero, Kira Allen, Zane Hughes, Arturo Lowder, Kayley Norton, Paetyn Ford



Math Goal – 2nd Six Weeks

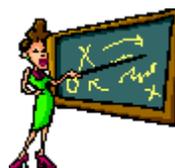
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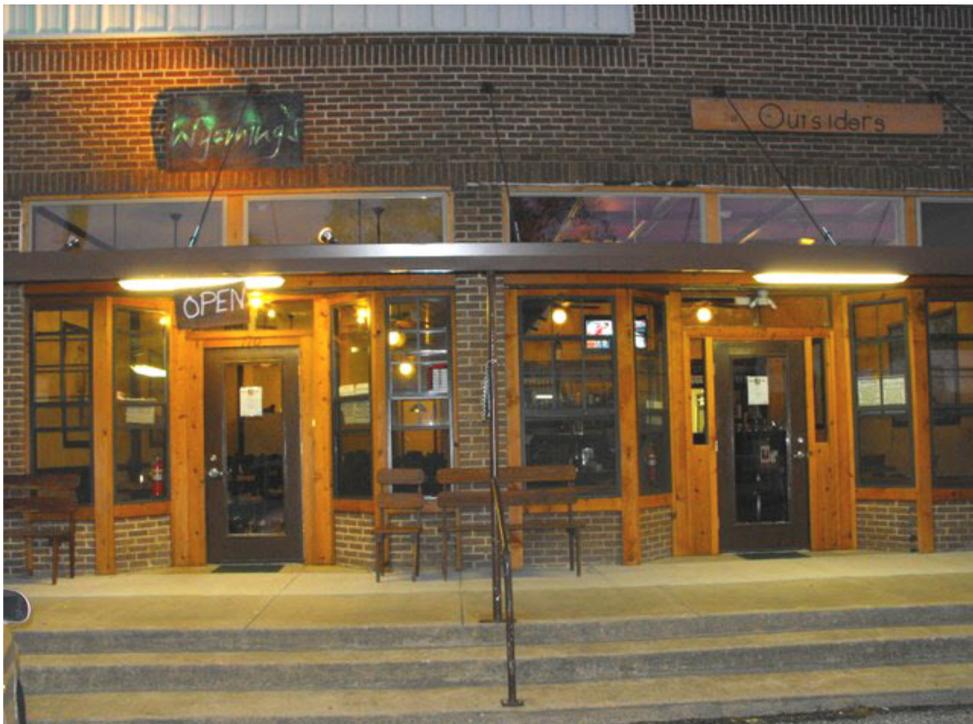
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Second Grade: Michelle Caballero, Ethan Conrad, Ashley Crees, Jaicob Husband, Ramie Mosse, Gavin Richardson, Trinity Williams, Eli Wilson, Ethan Lopez, Jessica Bastida, Benjamin Speed, Kaitlyn Fuhr, Paige Gifford-Lamb, Aiden Roulette, Ethan Turner, Cierra Brussow, Luke Catching, Luis Gonzalez, Emma Harvey, Lindsey Hymel, Austin Jones, Luke Lopez, Caleb Maddison, Zoey Moore, Ryan Murphy

Third Grade: Grace Brennan, Leah Butcher, Holly Cavender, Hannah Dwyer, Kamryn Gardner, Remington Lowe, Kendell Posey, Ethan Sanders, Destiny Wood, Erin Catching, Kayle Chapman, Sierra Copeland, Tatum Hartsfield, Alex Hernandez, Cameron Lankford, Lizzy Robertson, Jonathan Meneses, Braeden Wise, Katie Grogan, Brennan Speed, Kriston Harris, David Huerta, Austin Thurman

Fourth Grade: Kira Allen, Cassidy Anderson, Nayely Ayala, Kaden Bateman, Hally Bollier, Ireland Bryant, Robin Cung, Zoie DeFrange, Morgan Dyer, Karsyn Fleming, Paetyn Ford, Alli Gleason, Corbin Gleason, Lane Griffin, Ally Harvey, Danaeja Harvey-Toney, Taylor Hinkle, Mary Henson, Jenna Honore, Zane Hughes, Jarron Ing, Madison Kenney, Valerie Langford, Arturo Lowder, Kacie Morgan, Lukas Peacock, Matthew Robison, Jacob Roper, Ethan Sloat, Kaleigh Smith, Caden Stewart, Jaime Taylor, Colton Thurman, Brian Timmons, Cindy Torres, Eli Turner, Riley Underwood, Bethany Van Deren, Ashlyn Wahrmond, Maci Watson, Magi Watson, Kirstyn Wheeler, Jackson Wilson, Molly Wilson, Jada Wood





Wyoming's Welcomes New Additions

For some time now we have been enjoying the pleasures afforded by Wyoming's Restaurant. How many small towns can brag that they have a restaurant with a fully trained chef as well as beer and wine available for their meals. Those of you who have enjoyed these pleasures know of the delicious choice of meals and the offering of some items not found anywhere else. I have enjoyed shark steak as well as bison burgers here in Howe, Texas.

Now we are bragging about some changes that should improve what was a tremendous restaurant to begin with.

We begin with a new owner and general manager, John Leavenworth. John lives in Dallas, but has close ties here in Howe. His parents live here, and until recently his sister lived here, too. John graduated from Southeastern Oklahoma State University in 1991 with a degree in math and computers. He has worked in Dallas for PricewaterhouseCoopers, LLP and for IBM. He also has experience in a major games, bar, and fast food restaurant. John continues to work in Dallas with contract work in IT while spending some time here in Howe during the week and on weekends with his restaurant.

At the same time, a new Executive Chef has been hired for Wyoming's. Andrew Shaffer was born in Keokuk, Iowa but moved to the Howe area while still only about 4 months old. His grandparents are Bob and Dorothy Young who owned and operated Dorothy Bobs Bakery in Sherman from about 1993 until 2000. Andrew grew up in their restaurant and learned to love the business. He graduated from Howe High School in 2005.

Continuing his education, Andrew graduated in February, 2011 from Le Cordon Bleu College of Culinary Arts in Dallas. He has worked in the Old Hickory Steak House at the Gaylord Texas Hotel in Grapevine. Andrew has over 12 years experience cooking. Eight of those years are professional cooking. He recently accepted his position in Howe with Wyoming's.

Wyoming's is open Tuesday through Saturday from 11am to 2pm for lunch and 5:30pm to 10pm for dinner. They will also stay open on Fridays after home football games for your enjoyment.

They are now open on Monday nights for Monday Night Football. Doors open at 6:30pm and remain open until the game is over. You can watch the game on either of two large screen TVs and enjoy your dinner, or hors d'oeuvres and drink specials. When football season is over there will be other special occasions celebrated.

Menus will be changed quarterly. Being a seasonal restaurant, some of your favorites will continue to be on the menu but seasonal dishes will be featured as they become available.

Your waiters and waitresses will be spruced up with new uniforms. They will be wearing black slacks with wine colored shirts and "Wyoming's" embroidered on them.

John also wants to recognize area artists of all kinds. Perhaps an artist's works will be featured for a month, with a new artist the next month. Perhaps the works will be both on display and/or for sale. Perhaps your art work is painting, or wood work, or jewelry, or whatever. You can have a place to show off your talent.

Stop by and try the local delights you have right here in Howe, Texas. Wyoming's is located at 110 E. Haning Ave, downtown Howe.



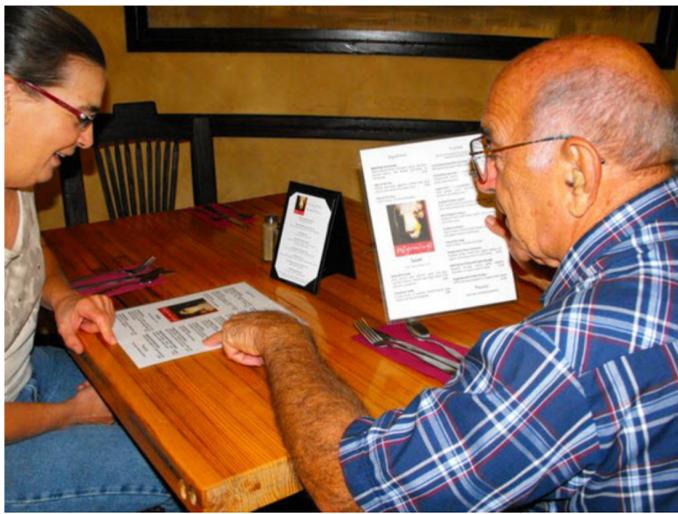
Order your favorite beer or wine at the bar



Sit with your family in the dining room.



Myka Reeder, John Leavenworth, Justin Bailey, and Mechele Carver



Scan the menu to choose your favorite entree



Come in with a grin to join the fun.



Andrew passes through a fresh from the stove order.



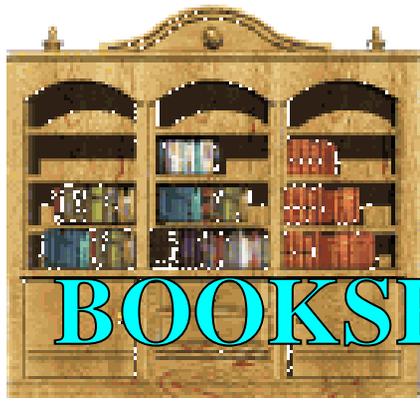
Treat yourself to delicious appetizers.



Mechele Carver, John Leavenworth, Andrew Shaffer, and Myka Reeder

Wyoming's
110 E. Haning Ave.
Howe, TX 75459
903-814-2128
Fine Dining





BOOKSHELF

By Tracy E. Luscombe

Welcome to December and the holiday season. Hope you all had a great Thanksgiving. A special thanks to those who supported our Teen Council bake sale. I know those goodies made your Thanksgiving weekend even better.

Story time hours will continue through Wednesday, December 7 and then we'll take a planning break to begin getting stories and supplies together for the new year. However, we'll still have a craft hour on Monday, December 19 at 11:00am for ages 6-12.

December is a great time to curl up with a good book. Here is the recommendation from Teen Council member Taylor Benson.

Paper Towns by John Green. "A young boy named Quentin is in his senior year in high school, when the girl of his dreams goes missing. Quentin and his friends spend their year looking for clues to find her." Taylor says the "humor and jokes are flawless and every character is relatable."

Teen Council member Bailey Smith recommends *The Host* by Stephanie Meyer of *Twilight* fame. "A new take on a classic love story. Everyone hates Melanie, but an interesting boy named Ian falls for her, and teaches her of the human life. But can Melanie give up her old life for the love of her life?" Bailey says every girl should read this book and the "take on love, war, and even aliens made this a book for everyone."

Here are a few titles new to our collection:

Explosive Eighteen by Stephanie Plum

Justicia divina (Spanish) by David Baldacci

Minding Frankie by Maeve Binchy

Skin map (audiobook) by Stephen r. Lawhead

Hope to see you around the Van Alstyne Public Library.





Christmas Events

Christmas time is getting underway in Tom Bean! The annual Christmas Parade kicks off at 10:30 on Saturday, December 10th. Parade lineup starts at 10 and the ladies at KC Foods Deli have worked hard this year to get things rolling on the parade event. Judging the parade this year includes Maureen Kane (Anchor and Executive Producer--KXII), Mike Crist (Deputy Mayor Pro-tem of Anna), Bill Farmer (Councilmember of Melissa) and Greg Pittman (Executive Director of Meals on Wheels Texoma). The parade will start at the Tom Bean Middle School parking lot and go directly down Garner Drive and turn back onto FM902 and then to King Street and back to the school parking lot.

Leading off the parade will be the Tom Bean Police followed by the local 4-H Color Guard, Mayor Sherry E. Howard and TBISD Superintendent Kathy Garrison in the Mayor's car, Tom Bean Volunteer Fire Department, Tom Bean Public Works, local politicians, Tom Bean Tomcats Band, other school organizations, several churches with their floats, cars, other floats, and last but not least will be Mr. and Mrs. Santa.

After the parade, the children are invited to visit with Santa at KC Foods. The City of Tom Bean and all businesses invite all to attend the event. See you there!



**Elementary Student of the Month
Hayden Thompson**



**Middle School Student of the Month
Hailey Robinson**



**High School Student of the Month
Ryanne Jordan**



click for **more Tom Bean News**

Frontier Village Brings History Alive for 5th Graders

Fifth grade went on an exciting field trip to Frontier Village and watched history come alive. Both Confederate and Union historical re-enactor troops were there to share with the students. As we moved from station to station, we were able to hear and see demonstrations of life for the common man and soldiers in the 1800s. We got to sit in a one room school house without the technology we have today. The students had a blast purchasing root beer in bottles from a tap and candy from vendors dressed in time-period clothing. At noon, we gathered at the Eisenhower statue for a Veterans Day Observance and a 21-gun salute.



Stephen Fite Concert

Pre-K, Kindergarten and 1st grade took an exciting trip to see a Stephen Fite concert in Sulphur Springs. Stephen is a renowned children's entertainer and musician. While at the concert, the kids had a "fantastic" time singing and dancing in the aisles. The classes enjoyed a picnic lunch in the park and played outside in the beautiful weather. A great time was had by all!

Tom Bean Elementary Receives Grant from Exxon Mobil/Kwik Check

Tom Bean Elementary has received a \$500 education grant from the good folks at McCraw Oil Company of Sherman and Kwik Check Food Stores, Inc. of Bonham. The \$500 was awarded by the Exxon/Mobil Education Alliance program and will go towards enhancing math and science instruction on the elementary campus. Approximately 4,000 schools were nominated but only 3,400 grants were awarded. A special "THANK YOU" goes out to Sherry Capehart of Kwik Check Food Stores, our local KC Foods and McCraw Oil Company for their support of our community and our kids!

Student Council Food Drive

The Tom Bean Elementary Student Council sponsored a food drive November 7—11 to benefit local area food pantries. These pantries feed several families in our community throughout the year. This year, Tom Bean Elementary students partnered up with students from the Middle School and High School. Together, a grand total of over 1,900 products were donated. Thank you for participating in this year's food drive!

First Baptist Church of Tom Bean, sponsored Mr. Glenn Little on November 9 at the Elementary School. Mr. Little presented the students many science experiments about the different states of matter concentrating on the element of gas. Thank you First Baptist Church!

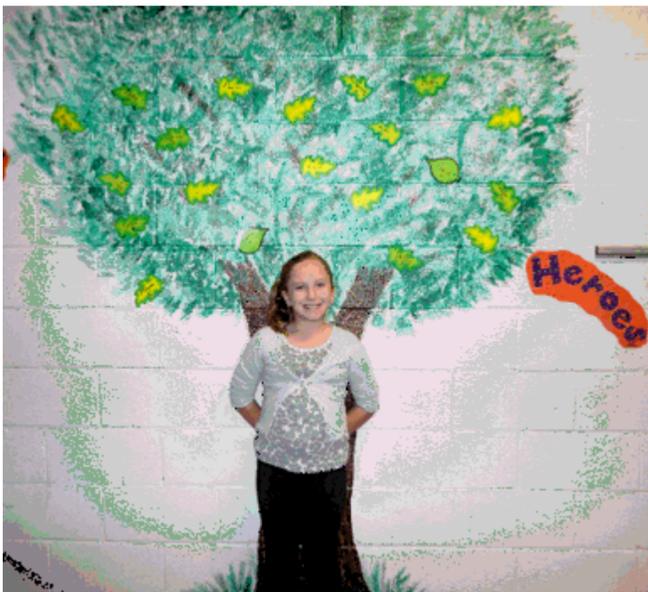
Great big thanks to our Elementary PTO!! Through their generous gift, the Elementary School purchased 18 new desktop computers for the teacher classrooms for student use. Because of a deduction in technology funding, we would not have been able to replace these computers in our conversion process this year. These computers are used by the students to access different education software available to us through the internet.

THANKS PTO and Parents for all of your hard work and donations!



Counselor's Corner

This year, like last year, the elementary school will again be in partnership with Grandma's Holiday Helpers with their "Blanket Drive." During the week right after the Thanksgiving holiday, November 28—December 2, we are asking that you donate blankets to help needy children and families in the area. Last year, we received over 100 blankets to help children and families stay warm during the winter. And like last year, the classroom donating the most blankets this year will be treated to a Pizza Party!



Student of the Month -- November 2011

Our November Student of the Month is 3rd grader Hayden Thompson from Mrs. Adam's class. She would like to be introduced to the School Board by Mrs. Clark because "she is nice and she was my kindergarten teacher."

Hayden's hobbies include swimming, racing, skating, drawing, playing dress-up with her brother and writing stories. Hayden's family members include her Nana, Papa, Grampa, Mom, Dad and brother.

Congratulations, Hayden!

December Dates to Remember

- 5-9 Santa's Workshop
- 5-16 Student Council's Crisis Center Stocking Drive
- 7-3rd 6 weeks Progress Reports go home
- 8 - Christmas Choir Program:
- MS Cafeteria
- PK-2 @ 6:30pm/3rd-5th @ 7:30pm
- 16 - Early Release
- 19-30 Winter Break/Students come back January 3.

PTO News:

- Volunteers Needed for Santa's Workshop
- Week of December 5- 9
- 8 - 11:30 morning shifts
- 11:30 - 3:00 afternoon shifts

Contact/text 214-364-0149
Alyssa Mathes

November Jr. Tomcats

Ashley Canania, Bryce Robinson, Kaylin Cripe, Ryan Hall, Caden Ford, Delaney Hemming, Kirklyn Smith, Fallon Clark, Kara Mathes, Emma Lowing, Riley Ford, Alexa Foy, Briana Yale, Katy Allen, Jacob Mathes, Alex Perdue, Lindsey Garner, Kirsten Duncan, Ellie Bailey, Chris Garrison, Brantly Flynn-Winters, Colby Jones, Lexi Williams, Kyleigh Oates



SCP presents 'Christmas Belles' in time for the holidays

Begin the holiday season with laughter when the Sherman Community Players opens its Texas comedy Christmas Belles on Dec. 2.

Written by playwrights Hope, Jones and Wooten, the play is a sequel to Dearly Beloved which the SCP players performed last February to sold out crowds. In Dearly Beloved, audiences were introduced to the three Futrelle sisters of Fayro, Texas – Twink, Frankie and Honey Raye. Twink was desperate to marry her fiancé of 10 years, and it looked like she was finally going to nab him. Frankie had just married off one of her twin daughters, only to find out she was pregnant again – with twins again. Honey Raye, the black sheep of the family, had returned to Fayro to patch up old wounds with her two sisters and raised lots of havoc in the process.

Christmas Belles finds the three sisters not in a very holiday mood. Hot-flashing Honey Raye is turning the church Christmas pageant into a Las Vegas-style revue called "Bethlehem-a-palooza!" Twink is in jail for burning down half the town in an act of revenge on her cheating ex-fiance, and pregnant Frankie's twin boys are too many weeks overdue.

Director Ron Cassady is excited for audiences to revisit the colorful, eccentric characters of Fayro, with the original cast returning.

"The play is a delightful change from our regular holiday fare," says Cassady. "Audiences can put all their helter-skelter holiday shopping aside for an evening or an afternoon, and just enjoy some good yuletide fun and lots of Christmas cheer."

A preview performance is set for 8 p.m. on Dec. 1 with all tickets priced at \$5 and available at the door.

The play officially begins on Dec. 2 and will run through Dec. 18 with performances at 8 p.m. on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays, and at 2 p.m. on Sundays. For reservations, call the SCP box office at 903-892-8818. For early discounted group reservations, call Darlene Schweizer at 903-893-7652. Performances are held in the Finley Theatre in Sherman.



**110 E. Haning Ave.
Howe, TX 75459
903-814-2128
Fine Dining**

Read about Wyoming's new Chef, new menu, new hours. [Click here.](#)

Chrystal Opry House Bluegrass Events

Are you ready for some Bluegrass? Do we have a show for you!! Hope you can come!

The following websites have information about us. www.ntx-news.com

www.SceneInTown.com , www.texomaenterprise.net, and www.whitewright.org www.facebook.com/chrystalopryhouse.

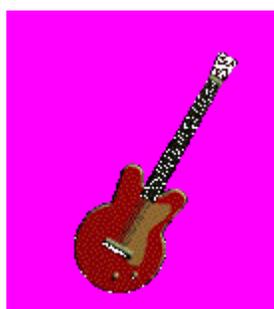
On December 3rd. We welcome Copper Canyon and the Melody Ranch Ramblers to our stage. You won't want to miss this opportunity to hear some wonderful bluegrass music! Members of Copper Canyon are Jim Hughes, mandolin, Celesta Hughes, guitar, Joe Hood, banjo and Tom Smith, bass. All member sing.

Members of the Melody Ranch Ramblers are George Kirby, fiddle, Mike Gemberling, banjo, Dale Anderson, bass and vocals, Charles Woolly, mandolin and vocals, and Bill Hayes, rhythm guitar and vocals.

Doors open at 6 pm for a 7 pm performance. Admission to this event is \$6 for adults with children under 12 admitted free. The concession area has brisket sandwiches and hot dogs as well as coffee, soda, water, popcorn, and candy.

The Chrystal Opry House is located 1.5 miles west of Tom Bean or 6 miles east of Howe on FM 902 and a half mile south on White Mound Road. No alcohol is permitted and there is no smoking inside the building.

Individuals or bands interested in performing at the Chrystal Opry House should contact Bill Hayes at 903-546-6893 or <http://www.chrystalopryhouse.com>



[click for more Area Events](#)



Fiction chronicles the story of Santa Claus before we knew him best

Glen Rose, Texas – Ever imagine what Santa Claus' childhood was like?

Just in time for the holidays, D. R. Strahan reveals the story behind the legend in *Throwaways: The Claus Chronicles (according to me)*.

Geared toward young adults, the story begins in the town of At il, located north of the Arctic Circle. Two laws were strictly enforced: It was against the law to feed the children and number two, it was against the law to leave the city. Fox, the 13-year-old son of the governor, had done both.

When he and two friends were invited to visit a family compound outside the city, Fox deliberated hard and long about the situation. Breaking the law as a loner was one thing but when it involved others the decision was much more difficult.

As this adventure-driven story unfolds, we see how daunting adversity shapes young Fox's story into the holly, jolly legend we all know and love.

Strahan weaves carefully researched elements of the Aurora Borealis phenomenon, topical regions north of the Arctic Circle, and real-time terrain in these regions into her story, giving it an authenticated feel. The stature, habits and lifestyles of the regional populations were also included in her research.

The oldest of four children, Strahan has long been telling bedtime stories about Santa Claus. "I wrote *Throwaways: The Claus Chronicles (according to me)*, to give Santa Claus a history," says Strahan. "Similar to Wicked and the Wizard of Oz, my book gives you the background of one of the world's most beloved legends Santa Claus. Who he really is, who his relatives were, why he gave yearly gifts to children and where he got his magical powers."

Throwaways: The Claus Chronicles (according to me)

By D. R. Strahan

Hardcover, \$36.99. Paperback, \$21.49

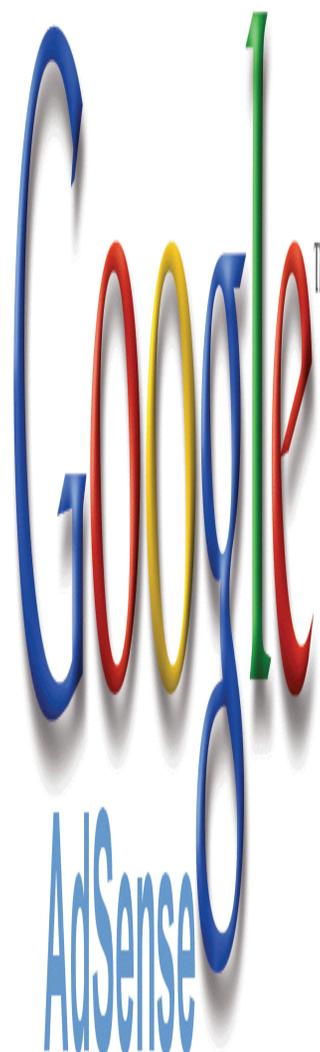
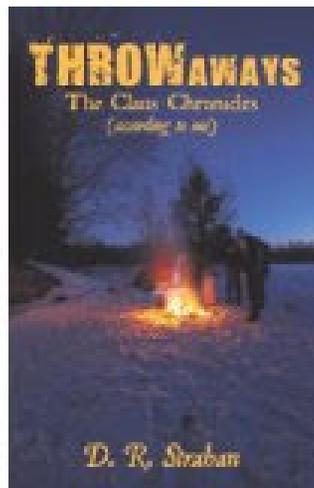
Dimensions: 9 X 6"

Page Count: Approximately 264

ISBN: 1452081719

Available at www.amazon.com

About the author: D.R. Strahan has lived in Glen Rose, Texas for the past 30 years. She is the mother of three, grandmother of four and great grandmother of five. Strahan earned her Bachelor of Science degree in fashion design at the University of Texas in Austin at age 32. At age 57, Strahan returned to school and earned a Bachelor of Science degree in education.





December at Hagerman NWR

Yes, the winter birds have arrived at Hagerman NWR, creating a lot of excitement for visitors and offering many great birding and photo ops.

On Second Saturday, the programs - both the general program led by Dr. Wayne Meyer and the youth program led by Katie Palmer - will include guided field trips along Wildlife Drive aboard TAPS buses to view the geese.

(Reservations required for youth program, 903 786 2826)

See this month's edition of the Featherless Flyer <<http://cts.vresp.com/c/?FriendsofHagermanNWR/bfa2b34109/1d7325d2cb/872e0ab94d>> for dates, times, plus info on the Christmas Bird Count and more.

December 3 will be the last chance for High on the Hawg 2011, serving wild hog BBQ at the Refuge from 5:30 - 8 pm. Purchase tickets at the door, \$10/person, \$5 for age 12 and under.

Holiday hours for the Refuge Office and Visitor Center are posted on the FOH website.

Corina Garayua - December Photographer of the Month

[image: Scissortailflycatcher_CorinaGarayua] A sample from Corina's virtual album is shown at right, Scissor-tailed Flycatcher. To view her album, please go to gallery <<http://cts.vresp.com/c/?FriendsofHagermanNWR/bfa2b34109/1d7325d2cb/7de1fb03e6>>

A big Thank You to all the Photographers of the Month for 2011. And we already have many committed for 2012. If you are interested in this program, see

tails <<http://cts.vresp.com/c/?FriendsofHagermanNWR/bfa2b34109/1d7325d2cb/ab959e0e4e>> on the FOH website.

The next Nature Photo Club meeting will be January 14, at 12:30 pm, at the Refuge.

Time for Adopt a Nest Box 2012. We have 20 boxes available for the 2012 nesting season. Adopters help provide a home for nesting bluebirds, warblers, chickadees and more. You may request adoption forms by email (friendsofhagerman@gmail.com) or in the Nature Nook at the Refuge. See the Featherless Flyer <<http://cts.vresp.com/c/?FriendsofHagermanNWR/bfa2b34109/1d7325d2cb/46f50fe633>>.

If you would like to have more information about the Refuge and the Friends activities, see our Facebook Page <<http://cts.vresp.com/c/?FriendsofHagermanNWR/bfa2b34109/1d7325d2cb/d4a15da895>> and our weekly blog <<http://cts.vresp.com/c/?FriendsofHagermanNWR/bfa2b34109/1d7325d2cb/cf146ebf72>>

As we begin the final month of 2011 we want to extend best wishes to all for the holidays and thank all the Friends members and other friends who have visited and supported the Refuge and our activities. To become an "official" Friend, you can download a form at Membership <<http://cts.vresp.com/c/?FriendsofHagermanNWR/bfa2b34109/1d7325d2cb/a4967d790e>> or pick one up in the Nature Nook.

Friends of Hagerman NWR
6465 Refuge Road, Sherman, TX 75092
www.friendsofhagerman.com
Refuge - 903-786-2826

Read more about Hagerman NWR on the Friends' Blog at <http://www.friendsofhagermannwr.blogspot.com/>

Find us on Facebook:
<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Friends-of-Hagerman-National-Wildlife-Refuge/157317297471>

Texoma Enterprise

Howe, Texas
75459

(Dec. 1)

Creating a Gospel Classic

By Bob Bowman

Songwriter Stuart Hamblen, the son of an itinerant East Texas preacher, wrote hundreds of successful songs during his lifetime, but his most enduring composition was a gospel classic inspired by, of all people, John Wayne.

Hamblen was born in 1908 at Kelleyville, west of Jefferson, but strayed from his father's Methodist teachings when he became a western singing success, a radio star, and a Hollywood cowboy

He started drinking, gambling and brawling -- a lifestyle befitting his frequent role as a bad guy in films with Gene Autry, Roy Rogers and Wild Bill Elliott. His wife Suzy frequently prayed for him and Hamblen experienced a religious conversion at a 1949 Billy Graham evangelism crusade in Los Angeles. Hamblen stopped drinking and ran for president in 1952 as the Prohibition Party's candidate.

He encountered John Wayne, with whom he had appeared in "Flame of the Barbary Coast," and Wayne asked him, "What's this I hear about you, Stuart?"

"Well, Duke," answered Hamblen, "I guess it's no secret what God can do."

"Sound like a song," said Wayne.

The casual remark provided a creative spark for Hamblen. One night, sitting alone at home, he began writing a song. When he heard a clock strike the hour, he wrote, "The chimes of time ring out the news. Another day is done. Someone slipped and fell. Was that someone you?"



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Dot's

D-A-S-H-E-S



By Dorothy N. Fowler

I grew up devoutly Southern Baptist and I am very proud of my Baptist heritage. Nevertheless, I missed a lot being in a non-liturgical church. Liturgical churches -- Lutherans, Presbyterians, Methodists, Roman Catholics, Episcopalians -- are examples of liturgical churches. Each of them celebrates seasons of the church year. These seasons are part of church tradition and they involve lovely ceremonies and glorious music.

The first season of the church year is Advent. As the church year progresses, I will try to explain each one.

About Advent

Advent, the word, means variously, start, beginning, arrival or dawn. For those of us who celebrate Advent as a part of the church year, the fourth Sunday before Christmas marks the start, the beginning of 28 days of reflection before Christmas day arrives and the dawn of salvation renews the hopes of a weary world.

For those who have met Jesus, the Advent season is a time to reflect on what it meant to our ancestors to anticipate the coming of the Christ and what it means to us to participate in the wonderful stories of his birth. It is a time for us to remember and renew our baptismal vow to follow Him wherever He may lead. It is a time for us to rejoice because He has come into our presence to give us abundant life.

As part of the Advent celebration, people in many churches will light the candles on a wreath each Sunday. Some of us will have Advent wreaths in our homes and will light the candles and read Scripture that is particularly important to us as part of our ritual. We will pray for justice and peace throughout the world.

The wreath itself is an ancient symbol of victory; for Christians it is a symbol of Christ's victory over sin and death. The circle, like other ceremonial rings, is a symbol of eternity, of a reality that has neither beginning nor end. The evergreens that usually make the wreath are symbols of God's faithfulness, a sign that he is always with us. When holly berries are included in the wreath, they are symbols of Christ's blood.

Candles bring light. On the Advent wreath, they symbolize the light of God coming into the world through the birth of his Son. When they are lit, they remind us that "all that came to be was alive with his life, and that life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness and the darkness has never mastered it." John 1:4-5 NEB

The colors of Advent candles are also symbols. The first two or three are usually purple, the color not only of royalty, but also of repentance and suffering. If a blue candle is used, it is a symbol of the sky and life. If a pink candle is used, it is a



BOB BOWMAN'S

EAST TEXAS, continued

In 17 minutes Hamblen had created. "It Is No Secret," a gospel classic which would be translated into nearly every language in the world.

Hamblen, who left East Texas in the 1920s to attend McMurray College in Abilene, started his career by becoming a singing cowboy on an Abilene radio station. In 1929 he won a talent contest in Dallas, using his \$100 cash prize to travel to the East Coast, where he recorded four songs for the forerunner of RCA Victor.

Hamblen then traveled to Hollywood, becoming the lead singer of a radio singing group known as the Beverly Hill Billies. He was soon a West Coast hit, headlining such programs as Stuart Hamblen and the Lucky Stars, the Covered Wagon Jubilee, and King Cowboy and his Woolly West Review.

Following his success with "It Is No Secret," Hamblen wrote more than 225 other songs, including "Remember Me" and "Open Up Your Heart and Let the Sunshine In."

His songs were recorded by Elvis Presley, Eddy Arnold, Pat Boone, Johnny Cash, Hank Snow, and Ernest Tubbs.

Next to "It Is No Secret," his biggest hit was "This Ole House," which was recorded by Rosemary Clooney. Hamblen didn't particularly like the way Clooney recorded the song, but it became a leading hit in seven countries and was 1954's song of the year.

Many people thought Hamblen wrote the song about a deteriorating old country home, but it was actually about the body of an aging Christian.

Hamblen was inducted as a charter member of the Nashville Songwriters Hall of Fame in 1970, was honored in 1971 by the Academy of Country and Western Music as radio broadcasting's first singing cowboy, was given a star on Hollywood Boulevard's Walk of Fame in 1976, and received a Golden Boot Award in 1988 for his work in motion pictures.

Hamblen, who made his home on a ranch outside Los Angeles, died at the age of eighty in 1989.

Hamblen was also honored posthumously by the Texas Country Music Hall of Fame in Carthage.

Appearing on stage to accept the award, his daughter Lisa said Hamblen was once approached by a Christian fan who said the East Texan didn't really write "It Is No Secret." The fan insisted that Hamblen "only held the pen."

(Bob Bowman of Lufkin is the author of more than 50 books about East Texas history and folklore. He can be reached at bob-bowman.com)

Dot's Dashes, continued

symbol of joy. A white candle, placed in the center and lighted last, is a symbol of purity.

Each of the candles may be given a name -- the candle of hope, the candle of promise, the candle of the shepherds, the candle of the wise men. There is no hard and fast rule about the names or the Scripture to be read as they are lighted. However, in many liturgies, the first candle is always the candle of hope, the second the candle of preparation, the third, the candle of joy, the fourth, the candle of love and the center candle is always the Christ candle, lighted during Christmas Eve services or on Christmas Day.

All five candles should be lighted in worship services through Epiphany, on Jan. 6.



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Interim Charges for House Committees

This week I will discuss the interim charges recently issued to the House Committee on Business and Industry and to the House Committee on Corrections. Interim charges are the issues that the Speaker asks committees to study during the time between regular legislative sessions in order to make recommendations for legislation for the following legislative session. The charges are good indicators of what legislation the legislature will take up during the next session. Legislators rely on public input when crafting legislation, and it is important that they hear from people during the interim.

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY:

- *Review existing lien laws in Texas and make recommendations for improvement.
- *Review the current statutory requirements to obtain real property by adverse possession in Texas. Recommend any changes to existing law that may be needed to ensure equitable real estate transfers in the state.
- *Examine current deed restriction laws and make recommendations to encourage efficiency in homeownership and conveyance.
- *Monitor the implementation of legislation that was passed during the 82nd session regarding homeowners associations.

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CORRECTIONS

- *Monitor the implementation of SB 653 (82R), which created the Texas Juvenile Justice Department. Make any recommendations needed to enhance the integration of the Texas Youth Commission and the Texas Juvenile Probation Commission.
- *Study ways to reduce the number of youth referred to the juvenile justice system. Consider the availability of mental health services, diversion and early intervention programs, and other prevention methods.
- *Study and make recommendations about issues related to the certification of juveniles as adults.
- *Review current parole supervision strategies to ensure that resources are being used efficiently to maximize the state's need for public safety and rehabilitation.

The House Committee on Business and Industry can be reached at 512-463-0766 and the House Committee on Corrections can be reached at 512-463-0295. For more information on these charges or any other matter of state government, please 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.



We believe that your local news provided should provide you with news, information, facts, and sources to further study that information. Here are some websites that are providing those facts, at least at the time of their listing on our page. If you know of others that our readers would enjoy send them to us. Or if some of these are no longer working let us know.

This Page is a Work in Progress

Howe Public Schools

Howe Public Library

Library information, Language courses, Student events

Van Alstyne Public Library

Library information, Library Catalog, Library Calendar, Online information, Research tools, Resume Maker

Search Engines-

Yahoo

Alta Vista

Google

Ask Jeeves

Class Tools - for classroom use - games, tests, timer, tools.

Quotations Page

Royalty Free Music

Spanish Dictionary

Selected Sites

[Texas Records and Information Locator \(TRAIL\)](#) searches and locates information from over 180 Texas state agency web services.

[The Handbook of Texas Online](#) is a multidisciplinary encyclopedia of Texas history, geography, and culture sponsored by the Texas State Historical Association and the General Libraries at UT Austin.

[Texas Online](#): The official website for the Great State of Texas and provides instant access to almost 800 state and local government services.

[Library of Texas](#): Immediately start searching multiple Texas library catalogs and other knowledge collections in one sitting.

Local 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
Dennis Stewart, pastor,
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

Psalm 92

The prophet exhorts men to praise God

1 It is a good thing to give thanks unto Jehovah, And to sing praises unto thy name, O Most High; 2 To show forth thy lovingkindness in the morning, And thy faithfulness every night, 3 With an instrument of ten strings, and with the psaltery; With a solemn sound upon the harp. 4 For thou, Jehovah, hast made me glad through thy work: I will triumph in the works of thy hands. 5 How great are thy works, O Jehovah! Thy thoughts are very deep. 6 A brutish man knoweth not; Neither doth a fool understand this:

Christian Fellowship

Merry Christmas from A Christian Fellowship in Luella! ACF would like to invite you to join them during this holiday season, they begin the week on Sunday morning at 9 am with coffee and doughnut fellowship followed by classes for all ages at 9:30. Worship service begins at 10:30. This week's speaker is Palmer Miller. Come on out and join them for praise and worship. Praise and worship is led by David Ellis and is a contemporary style service. Also dress is casual. The church celebrates "The Lord's Supper" each Sunday morning during worship service.

C. R. Men's Step Study class meets every Saturday night at 6:30 pm.

Wednesday night begins at 6:30 pm with a pot luck dinner 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 @ 903-870-0219 and remember don't take "Christ" out of Christmas!

Divine Initiative

"The man I ate dinner with tonight killed my brother."

These words were spoken by a stylish woman at a Prison Fellowship banquet in Seattle, Washington. She told how the man had murdered her brother during a robbery, served 18 years at Walla Walla prison, then settled into life on a dairy farm, where she had met him in 1983, 20 years after his crime. Compelled by the love of Christ, Ruth Youngsman had gone to her enemy

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. The evening worship service begins at 6 pm. The Lord's Supper is given each Sunday. The morning and evening lessons are brought by Kerry King with congregational singing lead by Charles Counts. 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 two radio programs each Sunday at 7:30am on KFYN 1420AM and KFYZ 93.5FM. The lessons are brought by A.C. Quinn.

The Gospel of Christ news letter can be found at <http://www.thegospelofchrist.com/newsletter>.

and pronounced forgiveness. Then she had taken him to her father's deathbed, prompting reconciliation.

At the same banquet that night, the forgiven murderer's voice cracked as he addressed the assembly, "Christians are the only people I know that you can kill their son, and they'll make you a part of their family. I don't know the Man Upstairs, but He sure is hounding me." *

You and I are essentially guilty of murder, for it was OUR SINS that made the death of Jesus necessary (2 Corinthians



Local Churches

Divine Initiative, continued

Duane Peters,
903-815-2278
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. Bierschen, 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

5:21). Yet, it was also for OUR FORGIVENESS that Jesus died that cruel death (Ephesians 1:7). We “killed” the Son of God, but through His atoning sacrifice, we can be forgiven, become a part of God’s family (the church), and receive the gift of eternal life (Acts 2:38-41; Romans 6:23)!

Barry Newton has written, “We were the ones who broke the relationship by sinning [see Isaiah 59:1-2]. And yet, it was God who took the first step toward healing our relationship. Furthermore, although he was entirely without guilt, Jesus bore our penalty for sin by suffering an ignominious death upon the cross.”

“God made the FIRST move! God placed greater value upon restoring our relationship with him than avoiding suffering an injustice. And so, Jesus died for us.” **

“But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us... For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life” (Romans 5:8,10).

When WE were the offenders, GOD made the “first move” toward reconciliation. In fact, reconciliation to

God is ACCOMPLISHED through Jesus Christ. All we must do to be reconciled to God and thus receive forgiveness and the gift of eternal life is to ACCEPT His offer on His terms.

Through Jesus Christ, we may be reconciled to God when we place our faith and trust in Jesus (Acts 16:30-31), turn from our sins in repentance (Acts 17:30-31), confess Jesus before men (Romans 10:9-10), and are baptized (immersed) into Christ for the forgiveness of our sins (Acts 2:38).

The problem of sin that separates us from God (Isaiah 59:2) has been addressed and removed in the cross. It was accomplished by God in Christ (2 Corinthians 5:18).

Won't YOU accept His offer?

David A. Sargent, Minister, Church of Christ at Creekwood, 1901 Schillinger Rd. S., Mobile, Alabama 36695

* Albert H. Quie, President of Prison Fellowship Ministries

** Barry Newton, “Reconciliation,” in Forthright Magazine
<http://forthright.net/>

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



[Back to first page of Church News](#)

Neighborhood Genealogist - In The Cemeteries

By Dale Rideout

In an earlier article I suggested that you should always be ready to do research. This means to have your list of names, places, etc. always with you in some form. You never know when the perfect opportunity will arise to do research.

This past weekend my wife and I took a short vacation. We stayed in a motel in Mt. Pleasant, Texas. Our visit was not primarily to Mt. Pleasant, but that was just where we stopped. One morning we were "sight seeing" and stopped in the Mt. Pleasant library. They had an historical museum in their basement along with genealogy books.

As we finished looking through the museum, I sat down at a table with an open book on it. This book was an index to the cemeteries of Titus County, Texas. My wife's great-grandparents had lived in Titus county, so we took time to research the book.

We found the family name and began to take notes on various family members and the cemeteries they were buried in. This is where we were not totally prepared. My wife's grandmother had many brothers and sisters. Of course the brothers last names were the same as the great-grand parents, but we could not remember the married names of all the sisters. Because of that we were limited in our research.

After making notes of all the "Landrums", we looked at the individual cemeteries for each name we found.

Now, let me explain something. These books were one of a kind. They were hand made and likely there was only one copy available anywhere. Books like this are difficult to find. Sometimes there will be handmade copies of these book in other libraries but there will not be hundreds of copies available in many different location. The main index told us the name of the individual, and the cemetery he was buried in. The second group of books gave an index by cemetery of the individual buried there, along with the birth and death dates from their marker, and name of spouse if both were buried in the same cemetery.

As I said, when we finished in the first book, we looked up all the other cemeteries to get the birth and death dates and spouse names and dates. This filled in a lot of information we did not have for those family members.

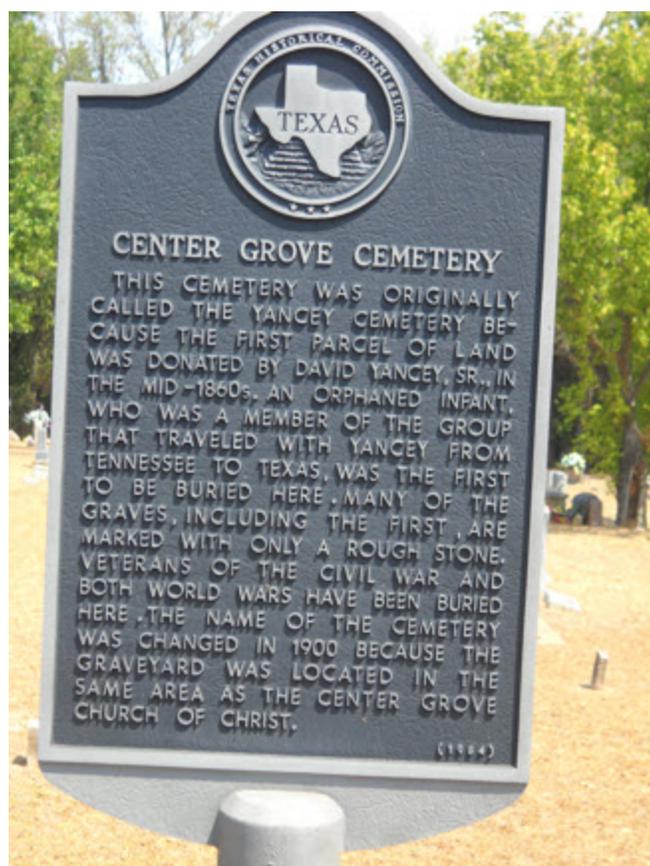
Now came the fun part. We chose the closest cemetery with the most family members buried there and visited that cemetery. The temperature was about 104 degrees. My wife took her umbrella for shade, and we began walking that cemetery looking for the markers, and photographing those of her family members. This gave us a good record of information necessary in completing your genealogy.

We had three extra surprises that we enjoyed. First, as we were walking, my wife saw a familiar name. It was the married name of the youngest sister. So we now had her information along with her husbands information, and a photo of the tombstone.

While back in the library reading about the cemeteries, I had read the name of the man who gave the land for a cemetery and church. Our second pleasant surprise was to find his family plot in this cemetery. We photographed that as well to add to our records.

Our third surprise was the church building we found. My wife's family history shows that many of her family were members of the Church of Christ. The cemetery was the Centergrove Cemetery. Across the street from the cemetery was the Centergrove Church of Christ. This was an old building with only the church name on it. There were no other signs. It was difficult to tell whether it was still in use. It was new enough to have air conditioning, and the yard area was mowed. The front door was locked with a chain and pad lock which is unusual for a building that is being used. The electric power lines were still connected, but we could not tell whether they were being used.

We feel that we found a real treasure of information. We also probably missed a lot because we did not know the married names of some of the women. We will have to make a trip back sometime after preparing better with a complete list of family names to look for.





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Phone (903) 482-0099

Fax (903) 482-0098

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3 Ways a Spouse Can Boost Your Social Security

By Jonnelle Marte

Married couples can boost their lifetime benefits further if they time their retirements carefully, analysts say.

These spousal benefits allow one spouse to receive half of the retirement amount awarded to their husband or wife. Benefits can be greater for both spouses if they can wait at least until full retirement age before they start collecting payments. But both spouses don't have to collect at the same time.

Here are some tips for getting the most out of your marriage when it comes to Social Security:

Lower earner gets a boost. A married person could see their benefits grow thanks to spousal benefits if one person earned much more than the other. For example, even if the lower earning spouse worked and is eligible for their own retirement benefits, their minimum benefit should be equal to at least half of the benefits awarded to the higher earning spouse. So if their full benefits fall short of that, they could get a combination of benefits that add up to the higher amount.

One spouse delays benefits, the other collects. Individuals can boost their retirement benefits by up to 32% if they wait until age 70 to start collecting Social Security. But married couples

don't have to go without income while they wait: one spouse can start collecting spousal benefits, even while the other is holding off payments. Say a husband decides to put off collecting full retirement benefits until age 70. He can still apply for retirement benefits and then ask to have payments suspended. That way his wife can receive a benefit one she reaches full retirement age of up to half of his regular retirement benefit would be, not including the boost he should get for delaying retirement. When he reaches age 70, he can collect his bigger check, and she can keep collecting her spousal benefits.

Collect while you wait. In a similar scenario, a person who has reached full retirement age and is eligible for spousal benefits and his or her own retirement benefit can choose to collect spousal benefits and to delay receiving their own retirement benefits. When they decide to collect their own retirement benefits at a later date, they can receive larger benefits if they've waited beyond their full retirement age. It doesn't matter if the other spouse is collecting retirement benefits or also delaying payments past retirement age.

But readers should keep in mind that regular benefits as well as spousal benefits are reduced if you start collecting them early at age 62. And once you reach age 70, there is no added incentive to either spouse to keep putting off payments.





U.S. energy policy is blind, deaf and really dumb

By Gene Hall

The Obama Administration's decision to delay a decision on the Canada to Texas Keystone XL pipeline is another of those head scratching decisions. The president has deferred a verdict, ostensibly to study environmental impact and other factors. But it's no accident that the final decision will be made after next year's presidential elections.

The leftward edges of the environmental movement have won for now. There's been caterwauling about the environmental impact, mostly because the XL will transect ground that lies above the Ogallala Aquifer. That underground ocean of fresh water is important all right, but the XL would not be the first fossil fuel pipeline to cross it. From what I've been able to determine, the risk is minimal.

Agriculture cares about this from both sides. The Ogallala is lifeblood to Texas agriculture and farmers from other states. It's the primary source of irrigation water on the U.S. High Plains, much of which lies in Texas. So I don't take any threat to it lightly. The flip side is the cost of energy and agricultural inputs made from fossil fuels. We've been through two periods of \$5 per gallon diesel fuel in the last four years, fertilizer that farmers couldn't afford to put on the fields and other high priced petroleum adventures. We need to do this, but we need to get it right.

Some in the farm and ranch community will object to the pipeline crossing private property. This will undoubtedly happen, but we've beefed up our eminent domain laws in Texas for cases just such as this. Property owners must be treated fairly.

What would really be dumb is to let an extremely vocal minority of green enthusiasts torpedo U.S. energy policy. If it has to do with oil, they don't like it. I read a piece last week that called the delay a victory for "climate change policy." Come again? Canada has opened negotiations with China and perhaps other parts of Asia to buy the oil. The Chinese—correct me if I'm wrong—plan to refine and burn that oil to fuel their growing economy. Our loss is their gain. Every drop of fossil fuel brought forth from the oil is destined to be burned. Why not here, where it would benefit the U.S. economy, create thousands of jobs and hopefully moderate fuel prices?

Considering that the XL oil will be burned somewhere on the planet, the net gain for positive impact on climate change is ... let me see now...zero.

The whole of the American population is getting greener. Agriculture is doing its part with conservation and other advances. Biofuels are starting to transition from corn ethanol to other sources. Wind turbines generate electricity across wide swaths of Texas and the Southwest. Most people, including me, have picked up green habits. The nation is better for it.

There is, however, an element of the green movement that wants to curtail fossil fuel energy and many in Washington are listening to them: green good, oil bad. But, as usual, it's not that simple.

The much discussed green energy economy may happen eventually, but we're not yet ready for it. The technology is simply not there. In the meantime, why not promote the responsible use of petroleum while we develop green energy resources. The decision to delay Keystone XL is big mistake. This is not a "laser-like focus on jobs." This is economic folly. Somewhere, Asian policy makers are shaking their head in disbelief at their good fortune.

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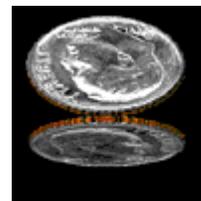
Dear Editor,

Now that Suzanne Wooten of Collin County has been found guilty of six counts of bribery and three other charges, I wish North Texas newspapers would stop referring to her as a District Judge. I would hope she has lost her license to practice law as well. Or does Texas allows such criminals to remain as judges and attorneys?

Also, I recall in cases of prostitution, the hooker and the john are both considered to be law-breakers. Perhaps the prosecutor should go after the donor of money contributed to influence his child custody case.

Ms Wooten wanted to serve as district judge to make certain that litigants were treated fairly. I trust that her jurors will see that she gets what she deserves - a long time and a big fine.

Don Mathis San Antonio, TX
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Many Ways To Bag A Turkey

By Jerry Lincecum

Recently news programs and talk shows have been filled with disheartening chatter about holiday meals overdosed with salt and turkeys so broad-breasted they can hardly walk. Fortunately, I have heard and read a few good reminiscences from the past about alternatives to buying the Thanksgiving bird.

In a local history column there was an account of a “turkey shoot” held at Grayson County College in 1971. The competition included slingshot, bow and arrow, shotgun, and skeet shooting as well as rifle. Ten 20-pound turkeys were on offer to men and women contestants, with entry fees (one dollar each) going into a scholarship fund.

From the same era roughly, one Sherman physician’s wife recalled her shock and dismay on Thanksgiving eve when the “free turkey” promised her husband by a patient was delivered. It was a live bird.

Recognizing how unprepared they were, the farmer walked the turkey to the backyard. There and then he guided the physician in butchering and cleaning the large bird. Meanwhile, the Missus was bringing large pans of water to a boil, in preparation for plucking the plumage.

Remember when your mother killed a chicken to serve when the preacher came for Sunday dinner? In this case, however, the story did not end well. Lesson learned: Dr. X might still buy a pig in a poke (sack), but no more gift turkeys (sight unseen)!

For the best story of all, go back several decades with Nina Marshall Garrett, to rural Oklahoma, around 1930: “Mom and Dad planned to go to a community Turkey Trot, and I was the one who got to go with them. I remember it was not too far from where we lived and Dad said, ‘Mom’s going to do the trotting.’

“I knew there was a dance called the ‘Turkey Trot,’ but I couldn’t imagine what her part would be. A lot of people came and we sat around visiting until time for the event. Each one who was to take part paid to enter and the host explained the rules.

“When the time came to start, they all lined up, east to west, and each one had a wheelbarrow in front of them. The host told them: ‘All of you to look ahead at the turkey that’s in a pen about 150 yards in front of you; also look from side to side, and remember what’s behind you.’

“A helper then blindfolded each contestant, and they were instructed to pick up their wheelbarrow in front of them and do their best to trot up to the turkey’s pen. First one there was the winner.

“Well, after they were blindfolded the helpers took hold of each one’s shoulders and turned them around twice. The host told them to ‘GO’ when they heard the shot.

“It was fun to watch them, as they were somewhat disoriented and undecided which way to go. Each family began to cheer their loved one on, but were told NOT to tell them which way to trot. For a little while this was a fun time.

“Mom didn’t win, so I was really disappointed. In fact she was a long way from the turkey. However, they were each given a small consolation prize for entering, and we applauded for their entertaining us.

“I think we had chicken for dinner that Thanksgiving.”

Dr. Jerry Lincecum is professor of English emeritus at Austin College and director of Telling Our Stories.



Thanksgiving Prayer

A 4-year-old boy was asked to pray before Thanksgiving dinner. The family members bowed their heads in expectation.

He began his prayer, thanking the Lord for all his friends, naming them one by one.

Then he thanked the Lord for Mommy, Daddy, brother, sister, Grandma, Grandpa, and all his aunts and uncles. Then he began to thank the Lord for the food. He gave thanks for the turkey, the dressing, the fruit salad, the cranberry sauce, the pies, the cakes, even the Cool Whip.

Then he paused, and everyone waited -- and waited.

After a long silence, the young fellow looked up at his mother and asked, "If I thank the Lord for the broccoli, won't he know that I'm lying?"

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Cat Chat



by C. Cat Jr.

¿ Que es ¿

I have been very busy the past few weeks. Old Man is now volunteering three days a week at an elementary school. He works with 5 kindergarten classes.

Several days ago, old man was teaching Spanish to his hispanic kids. Yep, that's right. He has not yet learned Spanish and these kids all speak Spanish, but that's what he was doing. The kids are now into their fifth week and beginning to write. While Old Man has learned a lot of Spanish in the past year he still struggles. But in writing, the teacher gives them three words and then asks them to select a fourth to complete their sentence. For example they might have to write, "Yo soy un_____." Then they can fill in the blank with, "gato, perro, nino, or mono." This makes it simple for Old Man because he knows all these word.

Something else Old Man is learning in the Spanish is that rules for capitalization are different. Of course you capitalize a persons name, but you do not capitalize their title. For example in English we would capitalize Mister Smith. In Spanish it is mister Smith. Unless you choose to abbreviate to Mr., then in Spanish you would capitalize - not because of the name but because of the abbreviation. Same goes for the days of the week and the names of the months.

While you try to remember all that, you must remember that there is a different vocabulary and even punctuation. The period and comma remain the same. But if you use an exclamation or question mark, you turn it upside down and place it both at the beginning and the end of the sentence. Confused yet? Well, we do have fun. Will visit you again in a few days.



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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 20 year to take all our grandchildren to the farm.



Dale & Lana Rideout



"Santa", Amber, Dominique, Timothy, Jordan, Rachel, Caleb, Chris, Cassie, Brianna, Lana



"Santa" Rideout



Grandkids singing at the Christmas Tree Farm 2007

