

December 6, 2012

*Now through Christmas we will have
Christmas music on nearly every page.*



Obituary II



Howe Top Dogs



TB Ladycats



GC offers scholarships for nontraditional gender fields

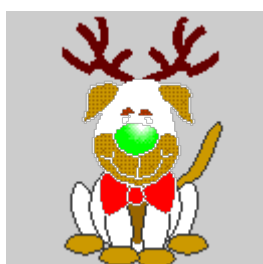
Scholarships are available for new Grayson College students enrolling in non-traditional gender fields thanks to a \$25,000 Carl D. Perkins Grant administered by the Texas Education Agency and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. Eligible students will receive up to \$1,500 to offset tuition, fees, books and equipment expenses.

“Requests will be considered first-come, first-served until funds are expended,” said Steve Davis, GC’s dean of workforce education. “The scholarships can be used only for educational costs associated with their entry into a nontraditional gender field, and no money will be given directly to students.”

Scholarship awards are ongoing, with the deadline for the first round Dec. 14. Students enrolling in qualifying nontraditional gender fields should submit their names to Charles Leslie, enrollment adviser, for consideration by the scholarship committee. Contact Leslie at lesliec@grayson.edu or 903-415-2532.

Examples of non-traditional gender fields for women include: Autobody-Collision Repair, Computer Aided Drafting or Drafting, Computer Maintenance and Networking Technology, Computer Science, Culinary Arts Chef Training, Criminal Justice and Law Enforcement Administration; Heating, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Technology and Welding.

Examples of non-traditional gender fields for men include: Accounting, Administrative Assistant, Banking, Child Development, Medical Laboratory Technician, Cosmetology, Dental Assisting, Facial Treatment Specialist, Food Service and Dining Room Management, Medical Administrative Assistant, Radiologic Technology, Nail Technician, and Nursing.



Howe’s That

by Lana Rideout



On the Friday after Thanksgiving, my husband and I went to the Christmas Tree Farm.

It is a family tradition. We have gone every year since our first grandson was born (he is 22 this year). As other grandchildren were born, we added them to the trip. Some time parents also went to the farm.

This time, Chris, got sick the night before and was not able to go.

Here is a list of the participants shown our photo for this year. Front row, Caleb and Rachel English, and Brianna Rideout; Back row, Jordan and Amber Roe, Dale and Lana Rideout, and Dominique Rideout with her dad and our son Kirby Rideout.



Recipe

Crispy French Toast

- 1 cup milk
- 4 eggs
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1/8 teaspoon nutmeg
- 3 Tablespoons sugar
- 6 1-inch slices sourdough or French bread
- Cornflakes
- Melted butter

Combine milk, eggs, vanilla, nutmeg and sugar. Dip bread slices in milk mixture and roll in crushed cornflakes. Put in buttered skillet over low heat and brown 5 minutes on each side.

NOTE: To serve, butter and sprinkle toast with cinnamon and top with maple syrup. The cornflakes give this fabulous French toast extra crunch.




Bruce E. Maniet, D.O., P.A.
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Accelerated Reader Top Ten
2nd Six Weeks

Second Grade: Brody McCollum, Jentrie Doty, Mackenzie Bryant, Conner Gauntt, Andra Jones, Teagan Stubblefield, Korie Bouse, Janna Nitchman, Alex Huerta, Ethan Strunc

Third Grade: Ricky Ramirez, Eli Wilson, Caleb Wahrmond, Niko Longoria, Jordan Sanderson, Ethan Tindell, Caytie Coco, Katie Parker, Luke Catching, Stanley Bik

Fourth Grade: Lizzy Robertson, Jake Fabacher, Grace Brennan, Reese Smiley, Karrah Gardner, Kriston Harris, Alex Hernandez, Ruvy Enriquez, Raul Hernandez, Kamryn Gardner

Howe Elementary “Top Dogs” for November 12 - November 30 are: Katie Grogan, Rene Spinks, Mariana Cano, Camryn Adams, Caytie Coco, Emma Harvey, Caleb Madison, Alex Huerta, Paige Benum, Alex Jones, Emma Hitesman, Ryleigh Jenkins, Annalys Turci, Logan Smith and not pictured is Rian Cox.

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Upcoming Events at
Howe Community Library

Santa Claus will be visiting the Howe Community Library on Saturday, Dec. 8 at 11 am. Children of all ages are invited to come and make a craft, listen to Jolly St. Nick read a story, decorate a cookie to eat, and drink some hot chocolate. And of course, there will be plenty of time to visit with Santa so parents be sure to bring your camera! This is a free event.

The Friends of the Howe Library are hosting a “Busy Elves Workshop” on Tuesday night, Dec. 11 from 5-7 pm. This is an opportunity for children from pre-school through 4th grade to handcraft 6 gifts to give as presents. Gifts will include items for Mom, Dad, a siblings, and a special card to mail. Crafters will also be able to wrap their presents. The cost for the activity is \$10. Space is limited so please call the library at 903-532-3350 to reserve a spot.



HES Accelerated Reader Goal 2nd Six Weeks

Kindergarten: Aviana Acevedo, William Bik, Hayden Brunner, Rian Cox, Colt Crane, Luke Miller, Presley Quintero, Fernando Rangel, Lucas Reese, Wyatt Renfro, Kamry Snapp, Beau Stephens, Colton Tinker, Ariel Uriostegui, Triston Williams, Kennadi Barrett, Andrew Crane, Olivia Dimayuga, Macy Douglas, Noah Fowler, Williams Fuhr, Shelby Gard, Eduardo Gonzalez, Kenzlee Jones, Seth Lea, Anthony Lowder, Jaedyn Nance, Logan Reese, Gavin Rodgers, Hunter Shaw, Analys Turci, Travis Watson, Elizabeth Word, Hayden Adkins, Tristan Chaney, Parker Daniels, Talan Haley, Heath Hendrix, Nathan Hernandez, Garren Lankford, Bailey McDonough, Kiefer Phillips, Gracie Randall, Brynn Riley, Garrett Rodgers, Presley Shockey, Braden Ulmer, Alizabeth Banda, Stephanie Bastida, Sophie Cherry, Benjamin Garibay, David Grant, Cyri Gurley, Zadavian Haywood, Ava Hodge, McKinzy McCollum, Tristin Smart, Logan Smith, Emaleigh Sweeden, Charles Turner, Devon Wallace

First Grade: Jacob Campbell, Ainsley Denham, Shianne Freeman-Williams, Caden Garner, Kayley Laubhan, Carter Layton, Zeb Montgomery, Sandra Nitchman, Autumn Owens, Jesse Portman, Jake Snodgrass, Matalee Stewart, Riley Troxtell, Charlie Vera, Catelyn Armstrong, Britton Burt, Garrett Gibbs, Kendall Griffin, Alex Jones, Jace Martin, Brooklyn McCaleb, Kolin Murphy, Railyn Murphy, Cameron Pugh, Jenna Roper, Emery Snapp, Mahlon Walker, Mary Burris, Ryleigh Craven, Madilynn Douglas, Clayton Duree, Dax Foster, Jaycie Grisham, Emma Hitesman, Jaeden Howard, Willie Husband, Cooper Jones, Morghan Lamb, Gracie Max, Zadrian Morris, Isaac Vidales, Hunter Wilhite, Mia Wilson, Cody Adams, Dakota Campbell, Dakota Fetzer, Jayde Harris, Kelcey Ireland, Ryleigh Jenkins, Cheyenne Matthews, Gabby McMillen, Noah Riley, Fisher Robertson, Jonathan Sanderson, Payton Stapleton, Courtney White

Second Grade: Kaylyn Bryant, Mackenzie Bryant, Abby Earnhart, Caleb Fetzer, Daniel Gonzalez, Matthew Hayes, Brody McCollum, Trey Phillips, James Richardson, Keira Robertson, A’Niyah Shaw, Antonio Tapia, Korie Bouse, Ethan Duer, Connor Gauntt, Austin Haley, Donna Mendoza, Madison Morrow, Dakota Tinker, Matthew Bearden, Jordan Brunner, Kelly Caballero, Danielle Hargrove, Tate Harvey, Alex Huerta, Korben Kemp, Jacob McGill, Landon Money, Jana Nitchman, Kolby Smith, Teagan Stubblefield, Yair Ayala, Ayden Burris, Bryce Crosby, Carson Daniels, Bettye Delavan, Jentrie Doty, Luke Hardy, Ryan Hough, Andra Jones, Marshal Larsen, Colton Little, Audie Martin, Noah Miller, Ethan Strunc

Third Grade: Michelle Caballero, Luke Catching, Caytie Coco, John Griffin, Jaryn Grisham, Samantha Lemley, Niko Longoria, Ricky Ramirez, Caleb Searcey, Avery Snapp, Jennifer Torres, Eli Wilson, Jessica Bastida, Kevin Bateman, Stanley Bik, Luis Gonzalez, Emma Harvey, Zoey Moore, David Rocha, Kaleb Strong, Sabian Acevedo, Drew Cowin, Ashley Crees, Kaitlyn Fuhr, Colby Hopper, Luke Lopez, Caleb Maddison, Katie Parker, Aiden Roulette, Caleb Wahrmund, Cierra Brussow, Jaicob Husband, Jordan Sanderson, Alyssa Sharp, Ben Speed, Ethan Tindell

Fourth Grade: Jackson Adkins, Leah Butcher, Lizzy Robertson, Grace Brennan, Sierra Copeland, Kamryn Gardner, Kriston Harris, Kameron Hopper, Reese Smiley, Holly Cavender, Ruvy Enriquez, Karrah Gardner, Raul Hernandez, Luke Jackson, Brooke Robinson, Noah Campbell, Hannah Dwyer, Jake Fabacher, Alex Hernandez, David Huerta, Joseph Hymel

In the photo. left to right, Michael Kehrer, Delainey Oliver, and Renae Heilman

Howe High School Teacher, Students for October

Howe High School recently selected the October teacher and students of the month. Receiving the teacher award was five-year Howe High School American Sign Language instructor and Student Council sponsor Renae Heilman. Mrs. Heilman attended Texas Christian University and graduated with a degree in Deaf Education. She taught in several multi-level elementary Deaf Ed classrooms and as an itinerant Deaf Ed teacher for eight years. Mrs. Heilman also holds a Masters in School Counseling from Southeastern Oklahoma State University. She and her husband, Casey, have three sons, ranging in age from 15 years to 1 year. Mrs. Heilman enjoys working with the youth at her church, photography, and most of all, spending time with her family. HHS Principal Michael Smiley says of Mrs. Heilman, “She recently organized a texting and driving assembly for our students. She encouraged our Student Council members to develop a program that would reach each member of our student body, and they were extremely successful.”

Representing the freshmen and sophomore classes is freshman Michael Kehrer. Michael is the son of Robert and Wendy Kehrer and has attended Howe schools for eight years. He participates in football, basketball, and track. Outside of school, Michael enjoys playing select basketball and Xbox 360, shooting hoops with his friends, and working with his dad. Junior Delainey Oliver is the junior-senior representative. Delainey’s parents are Beth and Steven Oliver. She has been at Howe for 10 years and participates in cheerleading, band, Business Professionals of America, and the American Sign Language Club. Delainey’s hobbies include painting with watercolors, reading, and signing.



[Click Here for More Howe News](#)



HES Exceptional Behavior

2nd Six Weeks

Kindergarten: Aviana Acevedo, Hayden Brunner, Colt Crane, Wyatt Renfro, Kamry Snapp, Beau Stephens, Ariel Uriostegui, Triston Williams, Kennadi Barrett, Andrew Crane, Olivia Dimayuga, Macy Douglas, Eduardo Gonzalez, Kennzee Jones, Anthony Lowder, Jaedyn Nance, Gavin Rodgers, Hunter Shaw, Travis Watson, Elizabeth Word, Hayden Adkins, Parker Daniels, Talan Haley, Nathan Hernandez, Garren Lankford, Gracie Randall, Brynn Riley, Hunter Roberson, Garrett Rodgers, Presley Shockey, Marcos Tapia, Alizabeth Banda, Stephanie Bastida, Benjamin Garibay, David Grant, Emaleigh Sweeden, Devon Wallace

First Grade: Brayden Bahr, Camryn Boatman, Jacob Campbell, Ainsley Denham, Shianne Freeman-Williams, Caden Garner, Kayley Laubhan, Carter Layton, Lucas Mitchell, Zeb Montgomery, Sandra Nitchman, Autumn Owens, Jake Snodgrass, Matalée Stewart, Gage Troxtell, Riley Troxtell, Charlie Vera, Catelyn Armstrong, Kendall Griffin, Alex Jones, Mikaylah Komorowski, Jace Martin, Brooklyn McCaleb, Cassie Morrison, Railyn Murphy, Morgan Pitt, Cameron Pugh, Jenna Roper, Dakota Smith, Emery Snapp, Mahlon Walker, Nathan Wooten, Mary Burris, Ryleigh Craven, Madilynn Douglas, Clayton Duree, Dax Foster, Kimberly Gonzalez, Jaycie Grisham, Emma Hitesman, Jaeden Howard, Willie Husband, Cooper Jones, Morghan Lamb, Zadrian Morris, Nita Olivarez, Jonathan Smith, Makayla Smith, Ashton Trevino, Isaac Vidales, Mia Wilson, Jacob Ortega, Haley Richardson, Thomas Roberson, Jonathan Sanderson, Logan Smith, Payton Stapleton

Second Grade: Kaylyn Bryant, Abby Earnhart, Matthew Hayes, Trey Phillips, James Richardson, Keira Robertson, A’Niyah Shaw, Antonio Tapia, Jeslie Toral, Gabrielle Vera, Korie Bouse, Angie Burris, Ethan Duer, Kaden Dunn, Connor Gauntt, Mikya Gurley, Austin Haley, Edith Hernandez, Jalie Hill, Cody McGill, Donna Mendoza, Christian Moody, Madison Morrow, Ariana Ross, Haley Spinks, Emma Sutherland, Dakota Tinker, Matthew Bearden, Jordan Brunner, Kelly Caballero, Tate Harvey, Alex Huerta, Jacob McGill, Jana Nitchman, Za’Niyah Shaw, Teagan Stubblefield, Yair Ayala, Ayden Burris, Bryce Crosby, Carson Daniels, Jentrie Doty, Luke Hardy, Ryan Hough, Andra Jones, Samantha Lowder, Audie Martin, Kaiden Martin, Noah Miller, Sergio Rico, Linda Segura, Ethan Strunc, Stone Trevino

Third Grade: Michelle Caballero, Luke Catching, Caytie Coco, John Griffin, Jaryn Grisham, Niko Longoria, Blain Nuncio, Ricky Ramirez, Garrett Rudd, Caleb Searcey, Avery Snapp, Jennifer Torres, Eli Wilson, Kevin Bateman, Jared Brussow, Luis Gonzalez, Zoey Moore, Ramie Mosse, Trinity Williams, Sabian Acevedo, Drew Cowin, Ashley Crees, Kaitlyn Fuhr, Paige Gifford, Colby Hopper, Austin Jones, Abby Alvarez, Cierra Brussow, Zak DeFrange, Jaicob Husband, Jordan Sanderson, Alyssa Sharp, Ben Speed, Shalimar Terry

Fourth Grade: Brett Burnett, Leah Butcher, Kayle Chapman, Katie Grogan, Cameron Lankford, Lizzy Robertson, Grace Brennan, Sierra Copeland, Kamryn Gardner, Kriston Harris, Rene Spinks, Laine Watson, Mariana Cano, Holly Cavender, Ruvy Enriquez, Karrah Gardner, Mikayla Hanson, Seth Key, Grace Lankford, Mason Moreau, Kaden Raborn, Brooke Robinson, Leah Trevino, Reagan Troxtell, Camryn Adams, Erin Catching, Hannah Dwyer, Jake Fabacher, Tatum Hartsfield, Alex Hernandez, Courtney Hopper, David Huerta, Kaytee Roper

HES Math Blast

2nd Six Weeks

Kindergarten: William Bik, Rian Cox, Colt Crane, Luke Miller, Presley Quintero, Lucas Reese, Preston Reeves, Wyatt Renfro, Kamry Snapp, Beau Stephens, Colton Tinker, Ariel Uriostegui, Triston Williams, Kennadi Barrett, Andrew Crane, Olivia Dimayuga, Macy Douglas, Noah Fowler, Williams Fuhr, Shelby Gard, Eduardo Gonzalez, Kennzee Jones, Seth Lea, Anthony Lowder, Jaedyn Nance, Logan Reese, Gavin Rodgers, Hunter Shaw, Analys Turci, Travis Watson, Elizabeth Word, Hayden Adkins, Tristan Chaney, Parker Daniels, Talan Haley, Nathan Hernandez, Garren Lankford, Bailey McDonough, Kiefer Phillips, Gracie Randall, Brynn Riley, Garrett Rodgers, Presley Shockey, Marcos Tapia, Braden Ulmer, Alizabeth Banda, Stephanie Bastida, Sophie Cherry, Christopher Garcia, Benjamin Garibay, David Grant, Zadavian Haywood, Ava Hodge, McKinzy McCollum, Tristin Smart, Emaleigh Sweeden, Charles Turner, Devon Wallace

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Third Grade: Michelle Caballero, Luke Catching, Caytie Coco, John Griffin, Jaryn Grisham, Niko Longoria, Ethan Lopez, Ricky Ramirez, Avery Snapp, Eli Wilson, Kevin Bateman, Luis Gonzalez, Parker Pecina, Trinity Williams, Drew Cowin, Ashley Crees, Kaitlyn Fuhr, Colby Hopper, Luke Lopez, Caleb Maddison, Ryan Murphy, Katie Parker, Caleb Wahrmund, Zak DeFrange, Kailyn Ireland, Ben Speed, Ethan Tindell

Fourth Grade: Alex Blount, Brett Burnett, Leah Butcher, Kayle Chapman, Katie Grogan, Riley Insall, Cameron Lankford, Cam Bell, Grace Brennan, Rene Spinks, Austin Thurman, Ruvy Enriquez, Mason Moreau, Brooke Robinson, Ethan Sanders, Reagan Troxtell, Noah Campbell, Hannah Dwyer, Jake Fabacher, Alex Hernandez, David Huerta, Jonathan Meneses



HES Perfect Attendance

2nd Six Weeks

Kindergarten: William Bik, Hayden Brunner, Rian Cox, Luke Miller, Preston Reeves, Andrew Crane, Shelby Gard, Eduardo Gonzalez, Anthony Lowder, Parker Daniels, Talan Haley, Garren Lankford, Bailey McDonough, Gentry Morrow, Presley Shockey, Stephanie Bastida, Benjamin Garibay, David Grant, McKinzy McCollum, Tristin Smart, Devon Wallace

First Grade: Paige Benum, Jacob Campbell, Shianne Freeman-Williams, Caden Garner, Lucas Mitchell, Autumn Owens, Jake Snodgrass, Matalée Stewart, Ethan Thompson, Riley Troxtell, Charlie Vera, Catelyn Armstrong, Lacy Hymel, Brooklyn McCaleb, Mahlon Walker, Mary Burris, Jaycie Grisham, Emma Hitesman, Zadrian Morris, Makayla Smith, Isaac Vidales, Casie Adams, Zoey Bolen, Kelcey Ireland, Jacob Ortega, Logan Smith

Second Grade: Kaylyn Bryant, Caleb Fetzer, Matthew Hayes, Brody McCollum, Trey Phillips, James Richardson, Ethan Duer, Kaden Dunn, Connor Gauntt, Austin Haley, Edith Hernandez, Cody McGill, Madison Morrow, Haley Spinks, Emma Sutherland, Dakota Tinker, Jesus Garcia, Danielle Hargrove, Tate Harvey, Alex Huerta, Korben Kemp, Jacob McGill, Landon Money, Taylor Reynolds, Teagan Stubblefield, Yair Ayala, Ayden Burris, Carson Daniels, Jentrie Doty, Marshal Larsen, Colton Little, Ethan Strunc, Stone Trevino

Third Grade: Jaden Bryant, Luke Catching, Ricky Ramirez, Jennifer Torres, Eli Wilson, Kevin Bateman, Luis Gonzalez, Adrianna Money, Zoey Moore, Brooke Potter, David Rocha, Sadie Terry, Ashley Crees, Colby Hopper, Luke Lopez, Caleb Maddison, Ryan Murphy, Katie Parker, Skylar Petty, Caleb Wahrmund, Abby Alvarez, Cierra Brussow, Ethan Conrad, Zak DeFrange, Lindsey Hymel, Kailyn Ireland

Fourth Grade: Kayle Chapman, Audrey Gard, Katie Grogan, Cameron Lankford, Korbyn Thompson, Clay Barnett, Sierra Copeland, Kamryn Gardner, Kameron Hopper, Rene Spinks, Crista Timmons, Holly Cavender, Raul Hernandez, Seth Key, Grace Lankford, Konnor Skaggs, Reagan Troxtell, Noah Campbell, Erin Catching, Tatum Hartsfield, Courtney Hopper, David Huerta, Joseph Hymel





LADYCAT BASKETBALL WON 2ND PLACE IN THE SAVOY TOURNAMENT

THURSDAY-LADYCATS WIN OVER CUMBY 41-34

Katie Jones had 17 points and 7 rebounds, Raechel VanHorn 7 points, Alex Hendry-4pts, Maddi Cavender-5pts, Sarah Henderson-4pts and Sierra Harris-4 pts.

FRIDAY LADY CATS WIN OVER SAVOY 68-19

Everyone on the team scored- Katie Jones-19pts, Sydnee Kane-9pts, Sarah Langford-8pts, Alex Hendry-6pts, Maddi Cavender-6pts, Sierra Harris-6pts, Sarah Henderson-5pts, Ronni Trentman-5pts, Raechel VanHorn-4pts, Ramie Byers-1pt

SATURDAY- LADYCATS LOST TO CELESTE 52-51

Katie Jones-17pts, Sarah Langford-11pts, Alex Hendry-8pts, Sarah Henderson-7pts, Raechel VanHorn-4pts, Maddi Cavender-2pts, Ronnie Trentman-2pts. We played Celeste earlier and lost by 20 points, so I am proud of these young ladies, they are improving every game. We play Anna here Tuesday night, and then we start our district games on the 11th with Whitesboro.

Alex Hendry and Katie Jones were Named to the All Tournament Team



Tom Bean Boys Basketball Results - Savoy Tournament

The Tom Bean Varsity Boys Basketball team was back in action on Thursday night in the opening round of the Savoy Tournament against Sam Rayburn. The boys came out shooting well and managed to stay in control of the game from the opening tip to the final buzzer. The final score was 55-45 in favor of the Tomcats.

In the Semi-final round of the tournament the Tomcats were matched up against Savoy in a rematch of last Tuesdays game. The winner of this game would move on to the championship game against Fannindel. It was a dominating performance once again by Tom Bean as they won in convincing fashion by a score of 65-37, and clinched a spot in the championship round.

In the championship game, the Tomcats were matched up against an extremely athletic Fannindel squad. Tom Bean came out in the first quarter and played terrific defense while maintaining composure against the tough press of Fannindel. It was another convincing win for the Tomcats as they won by a final score of 68-38. TOURNAMENT CHAMPIONS!

Hunter Book and Logan LeDane were both named to the All-Tournament team. These two guys are turning into quite the 1-2 punch for their opponents, as the hard work in practice each and every day is paying off.

Throughout the tournament the Tomcats were able to outscore their opponents by a combined score of 188-120. This team is really coming together and playing terrific basketball right now. I am extremely proud of these guys, but we know that we still have a long way to go if we are to reach our goal of making the playoffs this year.

The Tomcats now have a record of 4-1 on the season and can't wait to get back on the court Tuesday at home against a tough opponent in Quinlan Ford.

Thanks for all of your support. We greatly appreciate it. Wes Chapman, 6th Grade Social Studies/Physical Education, Boys Basketball/Golf/Assistant Football





Letter to the Editor

I was exasperated last year when some atheists and agnostics wanted to take Christ out of Christmas or Christmas out of the Holiday Season. Don’t they realize that the word ‘Holiday’ derives from the word ‘Holy Day’?

Now they want to take A.D., meaning Anno Domini (or more completely, Anno Domini Nostri Iesu Christi, “in the year of our Lord Jesus Christ”) and replace it with C.E., Common Era.

Has anybody considered that various items on our calendar are directly attributed to pagan worship?

For example Sunday comes from the Greek practice of worshiping the Sun. Even its Roman name, dies solis, is a holdover from the ancient deification of the sun.

Monday is from the Greek Moon Goddess, “the most visible symbol of feminine energy in the solar system.” How pagan is that? In Spanish, Monday is known as Lunes; you know, the derivative of lunar and lunatic.

Tuesday is from the Nordic god, Tyr. The mean old wolf Fenir had his hand for lunch (sort of a ranch-hand platter). Tyr is known as the Germanic god of war (as opposed to a God of peace).

Wednesday, as you may remember, is from the Germanic god Woden, Odin in Norse mythology. He is the god of Death. In the good old days, people were sacrificed in his honor.

Thursday is from Thor, Odin’s son. Thor became a cross-dresser so he could deceive the thief who stole his hammer. It is remarkable how our forefathers chose these guys to be days of the week.

Friday is from Frigga, from whence we get our modern word, “friggin.” No, actually, she was Thor’s mom, the only ‘legal’ wife of Odin. And for only \$20 annual dues, you can join a sect that worships her.

The Roman god of the harvest, Saturn, is the root of many words - saturnine (sullen, gloomy), the planet, the car, and Saturday. The festival of Saturnalia began on Dec. 17; many people believe our celebration of Christmas supplanted this party. Saturn was famous for killing and devouring his children. Nice guy.

So the next ‘holier than thou’ agnostic that wants to remove this country’s Christian influences, I want to ask him what he’s doing to remove references to these pagan gods.

Next time, we will discuss all those deities and despots from January to July, from Janus to Julius.

Don Mathis, San Antonio, TX





Sherman Community Players Presents “It’s a Wonderful Life”

Written by: James W. Rodgers
Based on the film by Frank Capra
Story by: Philip Van Doren Stern
Directed by: Anthony Nelson
Sponsored by: John Moseley & Associates

When: November 30th, Dec. 1, 2 (2pm-Matinee), 6,7,8,9 (2pm-Mat.), 14, 15, 16 (2pm-Mat.)

Where: The Historic Finley Theater – 500 N. Elm, Sherman TX 75090. If traveling from out of town, take Highway 75, Washington St. Exit and follow the way finder signs.

Tickets: Go on sale to our season members beginning November 26th & 27th 2012, at 10am. General Admission tickets go on sale beginning November 28th 2012, at 10am. Tickets can be purchased by calling the 903-892-8818, or by stopping by the box office Monday thru Saturday, 10am – 2pm from November 26th through December 15th. The box office is located inside the Honey McGee Playhouse, 313 Mulberry St., Sherman TX. Visit SCPTHEATER.ORG for large group pricing and more details.

Ticket Prices: Adult Tickets: \$16, Students \$8. Thursday Night Performances –December 6th, 14th – bargain night, all tickets are \$8.

What: Come celebrate the classic timeless tale of everyman George Bailey. Whose dreams of escape and adventure have been repeatedly re-routed by notions of family obligations and civic duty. An evening of theater for the entire family, come celebrate the holidays with all your favorite characters: Evil Mr. Potter, the loyal & lovable Mary, the vivacious Violet, bumbling Uncle Billy and everyone’s favorite guardian angel Clarence. Opening November 30th and playing at the Historic Finley Theater in downtown Sherman.

Featuring: Jason Taylor as George Bailey, Burl Procter as Mr. Potter, Jerry Gundersheimer as Clarence, Bruce Butler as Uncle Billy, Madeline Cohn as Mary Bailey, Sandra Linscheid as Violet Peterson, Jared Tredway as Bert, and Paul Jordan as Ernie.



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evening 6; Wednesday, 7pm

Dorchester

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CHURCH**
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Gunter

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300 Pecan, 903/433-3335
GRACE BIBLE FELLOWSHIP
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VALLEY CHURCH OF CHRIST

Howe

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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

Church Page



Luke 1:26-38 (KJV)

²⁶ And in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth, ²⁷ To a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name *was* Mary.
²⁸ And the angel came in unto her, and said, Hail, *thou that art* highly favoured, the Lord *is* with thee: blessed *art* thou among women.
²⁹ And when she saw *him*, she was troubled at his saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be.
³⁰ And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God.
³¹ And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS.
³² He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: ³³ And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end.
³⁴ Then said Mary unto the angel, How shall this be, seeing I know not a man?
³⁵ And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God. ³⁶ And, behold, thy cousin Elisabeth, she hath also conceived a son in her old age: and this is the sixth month with her, who was called barren. ³⁷ For with God nothing shall be impossible.
³⁸ And Mary said, Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word. And the angel departed from her.

Christian Fellowship

Angie Howery will be leading worship service this week at A Christian Fellowship in Luella.

Come join them at 9 am for coffee and doughnuts and fellowship followed by classes for all ages at 9:30 am. Worship service is at 10:30am. The Lord’s Supper is celebrated each Sunday morning during worship service.

David Ellis leads the church in Praise and Worship and is a contemporary style service. Dress is casual.

The church’s regular movie night has been put on hold until January due to all the holiday events. It will resume the third Friday in January. The movie for that month will be announced later.

Coming to ACF is a fun exciting adventure in bible learning for kids ages 2-7. Kidz in Da Zone for Jesus begins Sunday December 2nd at 10:30, featuring puppets, skits, object lessons and games. Come and bring the kitz for lots of fun and learning the bible.

Wednesday nights begin with a pot-luck dinner followed by praise and worship and a devotional. A class for the little kids is being held also. So bring the kids out for some fun, and learn about the bible.

The church will have their Christmas program on the 16th of December. Come join them for a great play about Jesus’ birth.

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 903-870-0219 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 two radio programs each Sunday at 7:30am on KFYN 1420AM and KFYZ 93.5FM. The lessons are brought by A.C. Quinn.

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

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



Texoma Enterprise

Area Churches

**INSPIRATION POINT
COWBOY CHURCH**

FM 2729, 2.5 miles
South of Tom Bean
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**

**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



Gospel Famine

By Willie Sofey

Webster defines famine as “any acute (‘very serious’) shortage”.

America in the past 40 years or so has dramatically slipped down a slippery immoral slope greased by legislated sinful, paganistic laws. The media is filled with the ill consequences of a fall off a “fiscal cliff”. The majority of citizens decided in the past election that their priorities are who can still lead this nation by satisfying the economies of their flesh, instead of leading the people and our nation out of spiritual decadence.

Americans should be more concerned about the deleterious grease (immoral harmful laws) that will eventually catapult our nation over a spiritual cliff. The economic and financial problems, the continual terrorist threats, and natural disasters are just warnings and results of a core sin problem this nation has.

It seems apparent that a majority of the citizenry of America has bought the lie that religion should be separate from the state and that state laws supersede God’s laws in dictating how a nation should be run. This mindset reminds me of an observation the past historian, Alexis de Tocqueville, had about early America in 1791. In his book, Religion in American Public Life, he quoted. “In France, I had always seen the spirit of religion and the spirit of freedom marching in opposite directions. But in America I found that they were ultimately united and that they (freedom and religion) reigned in common over the same country.”

If our present day leadership knew anything about the history of America’s founding fathers, they would realize that the success of a nation has always been based on national obedience to the “laws” of God. Study the history of how this nation was founded on the Judeo-Christian principles described in the Holy inspired Word of God given to us in the Holy Bible.

God’s Word has a lot to say about how nations should be operated. In fact, the prophet Isaiah says ultimately that “the government shall be upon His shoulder” (Isa. 9:6).., speaking of Jesus when He will rule and reign over planet earth for eternity when he returns. The history of the Bible as well as secular history books explicitly define the principles of leadership that will result in the success or failure of a nation.

America, as a nation, has surpassed the sins of ancient disobedient nations (2nd Chron. 33:9; 2nd Kings 17:8; 21:2) even similar to Sodom and Gomorrah, by sacrificing infants (to the tune of 50,000,000 plus) murders in the last 38 years legally. America is the greatest exporter and user of pornography. The legal practice and marriage of homosexuals has been legalized, also similar to ancient Sodom and Gomorrah. God will not be mocked (Gal. 6:7). God is no respecter of persons or nations. “The one who sows to please his sinful nature, from that nature will reap destruction; the one who sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life.” (Gal.6:8). This scripture applies to nations also.

God’s servants from the patriarchs, Moses, Judges, prophets, Kings, the apostles, and Jesus Christ gave warnings as to the consequences of disobedience to God’s Word (Laws). America may still be the richest nation on earth, but is spiritually bankrupt similar to Israel in 782-753 B.C., when the prophet Hosea quoted God, “They set up Kings without my consent; they chose princes without my approval” (Hosea 8:4).

God will break America’s pride (Lev. 26:14-19). America, similar to Israel, will experience economic collapse, bad weather, disease, famine, pestilence (Amos 4:10; Ezk. 5:12; Luke 21:10-11) then wars (Amos 4:10; Ezk. 5:12), culminating in national collapse (Amos 4:2; 5:3; Exk. 5:12), unless she repents from her abominations..

Americans need to focus on Israel and God’s eternal chosen city of Jerusalem (2nd Chron. 6:6; 33:7; Zech. 8:1-3). “I will bless those who bless you” (Israel), “and whoever curses you, I will curse” (Gen. 12:3).

Because America is continually planting sinful seeds (legislating immoral laws in the land), she will not only reap a harvest of destruction, but inherit a harvest of “famine on the land of hearing the words of the Lord” (Amos 8:11). The remnant of God’s people (the church) need to occupy, witness, and disciple until the Hope and Glory, Jesus Christ, takes us from this sinful, dying world and returns with us to set up His “millennium kingdom” to rule and reign with Him for a thousand years and then for eternity from the “New Jerusalem” on a newly created earth (Amos 9:11-15; Rev. 5:10; 20:6).



Making music in Sacul
By Bob Bowman

On the fourth Saturday night each month, the Nacogdoches County community of Sacul hosts one of the best country music venues in East Texas -- a collection of bands playing mostly bluegrass standards.

It had been five years or more since Doris and I sat on the folding chairs in a one-time general store sitting beside Farm Road 204 between Nacogdoches and Jacksonville.

There are other such music venues scattered throughout East Texas, but Sacul is unique because there is no admission fee. You simply walk in, enjoy the music, and leave when you're ready.

There is, however, a "free will offering" to help pay for expenses.

The bands don't show up in fancy outfits as they do in Branson, Nashville or Granbury, but the music is rich and the voices are enthusiastic. You'll see an array of overalls, baseball caps, blue jeans and plaid shirts.

If you're a fan of the old country music, you'll hear such favorites as "Remember Me," "Big Fun on the Bayou," "The Old Country Church," and "Don't Leave Me Here to Cry."

While a band plays on the stage, other bands warm up with jam sessions outside.

I have a special affinity for Sacul. As a one-timer reporter for the Houston Chronicle, I did a series of stories about ghost towns in East Texas and included Sacul.

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



By Dorothy N. Fowler

First it was the garage door. It went down and hit the potted plant that I forgot to move. The flower pot was in shards before the garage door would respond either up or down. Once down, the motor wouldn't move it up, although I did get it up manually. Pushing the up/down button elicited a buzz at first and then not even that.

The problem, of course, was the opener motor. The young man who came to install it and the peripherals that went with it got the job done in about an hour and left after I wrote a check for about \$330.

The next day, the alternator on my car went out and as long as it was in the shop, it also needed motor mounts. Motor mounts had been on the to-do list for more than a year and the need was getting critical. Those repairs cost \$1,500.

Sunday night, Angel Bear, my 12 year-old diabetic Schnauzer became terribly ill. She had all the symptoms of pancreatitis, which she has had before. Tender belly, repeated vomiting -- but she was sicker than she had ever been before. Our veterinarian gave her a shot to stop the vomiting and put her on a slow IV drip, but both he and I thought the end result of this episode would be her passing. He called me about 3:30 pm to tell me she was eating tiny amounts of dog food and was drinking on her on. "This is a dog with nine lives," he said. I said, "She's not ready to leave us." That overnight stay cost nearly \$500.

Wednesday I leaned on the glass that covered my desk. The glass was no ordinary glass. It was 55 inches long by 26 inches wide and had survived two moves in Odessa and the move from Odessa to Sherman with nary a nick. Wednesday, the right end of it shattered. Binswanger Glass sent a man to measure the desk and take the substantial piece of glass that was left away. Replacing it with plexi-glass will cost nearly \$90.

This is the first time in a long time that so many disasters have befallen me at one time. As they day, "When it rains, it pours."

If you review these disasters, you can see that only the repair to the car was a necessity. I have to have a vehicle and since I can't possibly pay for a new one, there was no choice but to repair the one that is already paid for.

The garage door could have stood open until I got ready to sell the house or my heirs are ready to sell it; after all, it is

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Texoma Enterprise

BOB BOWMAN’S
EAST TEXAS, continued

Dot’s Dashes, continued

The town’s people bombarded me with letters and telephone calls, complaining that Sacul was not a ghost town. But the Chronicle story spurred the town to do something about its condition.

Buildings were repaired, streets were improved, new businesses were opened, and the Sacul Bluegrass Festival was born.

Today, Sacul isn’t much larger when it was ten years ago, but it has a greater pride in its history.

The town was founded just after 1900 when the Texas and New Orleans Railroad was built through the area. Townspeople wanted to name the community after the original owners of the land, the Lucas family, but postal officials denied the application because a Lucas post office was already in existence

The town resubmitted its application with the name spelled backwards. By 1914, Sacul had a population of 400, two churches, six general stores, two cotton gins, a bank, a sawmill and a blacksmith shop.

Sacul continued to prosper in the 1920s, but declined during the 1930s. Today, its population is about 170.

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

open most of the time as the dust and dirt on it attest when the door is put down. I could have paid something less than half of what it cost to save Angel Bear to have her put down. The desk could remain uncovered and subject to scratches that will diminish its value at the estate sale.

Fortunately, I’ve had enough good fortune in my life to have accumulated enough to be able to meet these emergencies even though it will take me several months to get it all paid for.

Not everyone has had that much good fortune. Maybe they didn’t have parents who instilled the Puritan work ethic in them; maybe, as one high school student I know just had to do, they left school before graduation to help support parents who are old and sick; maybe they weren’t very able mentally or physically; maybe they were so poor they never caught the gleam that they could be anything but poor; maybe they were fundamentally and terminally lazy; maybe the people who could have given them a hand up, didn’t.

One of the things I’ve learned over the course of 76 years is that it’s hard to know and understand the forces that shape our own lives and destinies and harder still to know and understand the forces that shape the lives and destinies of other people. It ill-behooves any of us to condemn either ourselves or others for the choices made in the circumstances that exist when they are made.

 **Return**

 **Return**



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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.



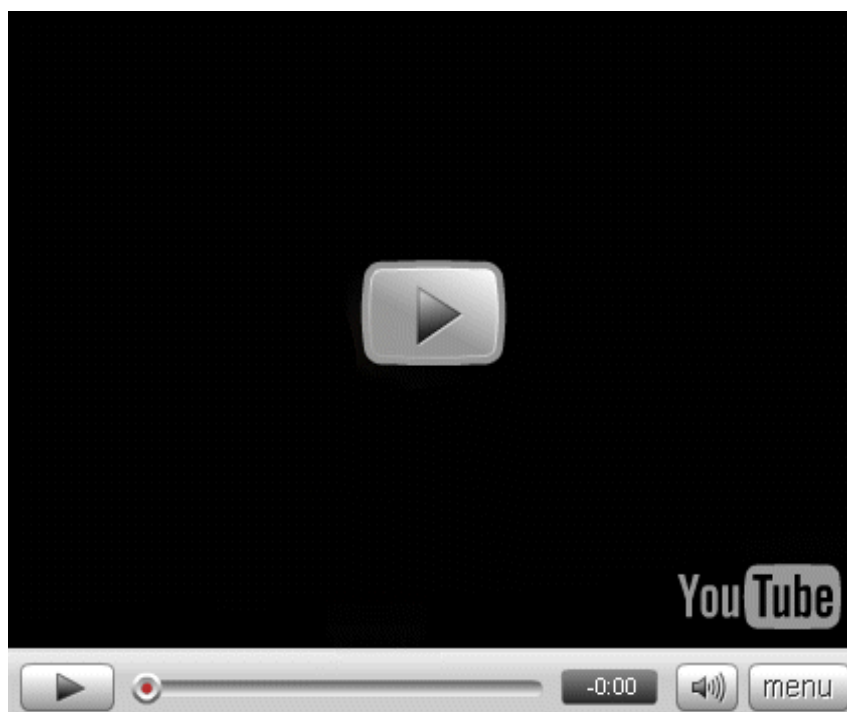
Dale & Lana Rideout



Lana, Dominique, Rachel, Briana, Amber, "Santa"
Jordan, Caleb, Chris



"Santa" Rideout



Grandkids singing at the Christmas Tree Farm 2007



20 Questions – Texas agriculture

By *Jessica Domel*

Growing up spending most of my time riding on county roads in the middle of nowhere, I began to play a game with my dad called, “What crop is that?”

I realize that to some people it may sound a little weird, but it was just one way I found to entertain myself as we were driving hour after hour from one location to the next.

It would go something like this:

“Dad, what the heck is that?”

Maize outside of Walburg, Texas

“That’s maize,” he said.

“Oh. Okay. What’s that over there?”

I was an inquisitive little child, trust me. I’ve also realized recently that I’ve turned into quite an inquisitive adult, as well.

Right after I was hired as the field editor for the Texas Farm Bureau, Video Services Director Ed Wolff and I took a trip to Harlingen. It was my first trip to the Valley, and I have to say for most of the trip I would say, “Ed, what’s that?”

I had never seen sugarcane or soybeans before. The planting, growing and harvesting processes are so intriguing to me. I must have asked a dozen or so questions an hour.

Two months later, and I’m still asking questions. I’ve found that Texas agriculture is vast and intriguing. Did you know that there are people who grow aloe vera? There are fields and fields of it. It blew my mind.

I cannot wait to visit one of those farms and learn all about how they operate.

To me, it’s just a testament to the dedication and resilience of Texas farmers and ranchers. When one crop doesn’t work, they find another.

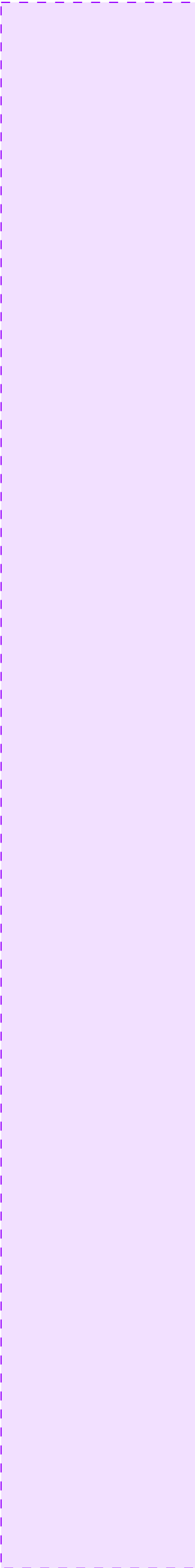
I love it.

Everywhere I go, I’m continually amazed at the vast array of things people grow to sustain their lifestyles and our food and fiber supply.

By the way, 28 years later, I’m still asking my dad, “What’s that?” He still answers, and he’s still a great resource for me as we’re on the road working to tell the stories of Texas farmers and ranchers for our publications.

That’s just one of my stories. Have you told yours? Let’s share the stories of Texas agriculture because even those of us who have grown up in the fields have something we can learn from each other.

Have you told your story?



Democrats Object to Bipartisan STEM Jobs Act

Cornyn Pushes Bipartisan Immigration Bill

WASHINGTON – This week U.S. Sen. John Cornyn (R-Texas) along with several of his colleagues went to the Senate floor to call up H.R. 6429, the bipartisan STEM Jobs Act, which passed the House earlier this week. Senate Democrats objected to the bill, which would boost job creation and spur economic growth by reallocating up to 55,000 green cards a year to the top foreign graduates of U.S. universities with advanced degrees in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) fields.

You can watch Sen. Cornyn's entire floor speech here<<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0jRytBOjXtg&feature=youtu.be>>.

“We all know that America's immigration system is broken, but in particular by diving away highly skilled foreign workers who want to start businesses and create jobs right here in America.

“We are cultivating human capital and then sending those individuals back home. Now, this is an area where there is broad, broad support.”

The bipartisan STEM Jobs Act would establish new visa categories for 55,000 STEM graduates of American research institutions and it would eliminate the random diversity-visa lottery to offset the new green cards. It would also provide for a “V” visa, allowing immediate family members of lawful permanent residents (LPRs) to be reunited and reside in this country while they wait in line for their green card to be issued. More information can be found from the House Judiciary Committee here<http://judiciary.house.gov/issues/issues_STEM%20Jobs%20Act.html>.

Senator Cornyn serves on the Finance, Judiciary, Armed Services and Budget 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.

Report Shows Obama Administration is Ignoring FOIA Law

WASHINGTON – This week, U.S. Sen. John Cornyn (R-Texas) issued the following statement responding to a study by the National Security Archive<<http://www.gwu.edu/~nsarchiv/NSAEBB/NSAEBB405/>> of The George Washington University that found a majority of President Obama’s federal agencies are not in compliance with the 2007 Cornyn-Leahy OPEN Government Act streamlining the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request process:

“When President Obama took office, he pledged that his administration would be the most transparent in history. This report reveals how hollow that pledge was, and can be added to the long list of broken promises from his Administration.”

The OPEN Government Act passed Congress with bipartisan approval and was signed into law in 2007. It required federal agencies to update their process for handling FOIA requests.

Senator Cornyn serves on the Finance, Judiciary, Armed Services and Budget 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.

Rep. Hall returns to energy and commerce committee

WASHINGTON, DC . . . This week, Energy and Commerce Committee Chairman Fred Upton (R-MI) announced Rep. Ralph Hall (TX-04) will be returning to serve on the Energy and Commerce Committee for the 113th Congress. Rep. Hall has served on the Committee since 1981 and took a leave of absence in 2011 to serve as Chairman on the Science, Space, and Technology Committee.

“We have a great team from top to bottom - with the experience and diverse backgrounds to further our record of success in the next Congress,” said Upton. “I look forward to working closely with all of our members as we build upon bipartisan efforts to create jobs and boost economic growth, protect families, communities, and successful civic initiatives, and modernize government to foster growth in a new era of innovation.”

In response, Hall said "I am pleased to return to the Energy and Commerce Committee whose jurisdiction covers a range of issues, including energy policy, interstate and foreign commerce, and public health research. It is an opportunity to directly help our Nation's economy, and I am eager to work with my colleagues to advance good policies that will help keep America strong and competitive."

The Committee on Energy and Commerce is the oldest standing legislative committee in the U.S. House of Representatives. The Committee is responsible for overseeing the Departments of Energy, Health and Human Services, Commerce, and Transportation, as well as the Environmental Protection Agency, the Federal Trade Commission, the Food and Drug Administration, and the Federal Communications Commission.



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Letter To The Editor

THE NATIVITY

“And the angel said to them, “Be not afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all the people; for to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a babe wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.”” (Lk 2, 10-12).

This verse encapsulates in itself the very essence of Christmas: the feast of saving joy! This salvation is joyful because the Saviour has come to save us from the shackles of sin and the dominion of darkness.

Christmas is a season of universal festivity. Even non-believers perceive something extraordinary and transcendental about the Christmas season.

At Christmas we pause to contemplate the Nativity. There we find the Virgin Mother offering to everyone the Baby Jesus. The devotion of the Christian people has always considered the birth of Jesus and the divine motherhood of Mary as two aspects of the same mystery of the Incarnation of the Divine Word.

In 1223, to rekindle the awareness of Baby Jesus who had effectively fallen into the sleep of oblivion in many hearts, St. Francis of Assisi simply and joyfully commemorated the scene of the Nativity according to the infancy Gospel, and the Crib thus became one of the traditional and best-loved symbols of Christmas. In the crib we contemplate the One who stripped himself of divine glory in order to become poor, driven by love for mankind. We see the almighty God revealing Himself to us as a poor infant in order to conquer our pride. In the Baby Jesus we discover the defenselessness of God’s love: God comes to us unarmed, because he does not intend to conquer externally, but rather to win us over and transform us internally - to lead us to our true selves.

The cave stall, where the Baby lay, was not inhabited by refined persons. Are we very far from that stall precisely because we are too refined and intelligent? Don’t we perhaps live too much closed in on ourselves, in our self-sufficiency, our fear of persecution, such that we are no longer able to perceive in the night the voices of angels so that we may join them in adoring Him?

Beside the crib the Christmas tree, with its twinkling lights, reminds us that with the birth of Jesus the tree of life has blossomed anew in the desert of humanity. The tree that was brought to us from the dark and shadowy forest is now in the light and covered in decorations like many marvelous fruits. Leaving behind its somber robe for a sparkling radiance, it has been transformed into a carrier of a light that is no longer its own but bears witness to the true Light that comes to the world.

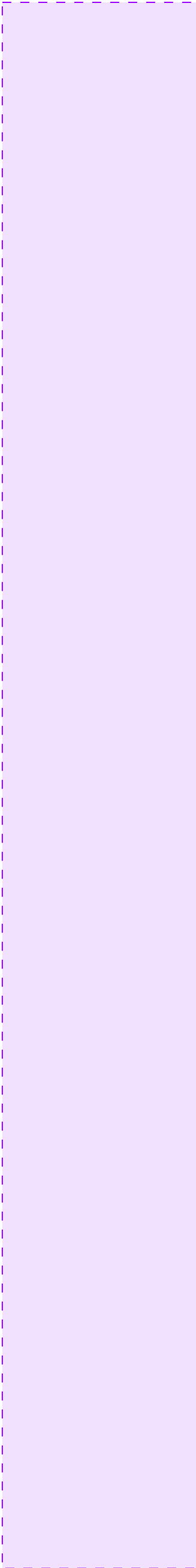
One can compare the tree’s presence to our existence in the world in which we are also called to bear good fruits to show that the world has truly been visited and redeemed by the Lord. The crib and the tree: precious symbols, which hand down in time the true meaning of Christmas!

Today, amid a politically correct and consumerist Christmas attitude, we are allowing ourselves to be stripped of our traditions, the dearest and most venerable, the oldest and sweetest, the truest and most beautiful, so that carelessly, through neglect, we are abandoning Christ to follow the latest futile fad. Christmas thus runs the risk of losing its spiritual meaning, reduced to a mere commercial occasion to buy and exchange gifts. What was once a time to celebrate the birth of a savior has somehow turned into a season of stress, traffic jams, and shopping lists. And when it’s all over, many of us are left with presents to return, looming debt that will take months to pay off, and an empty feeling of missed purpose.

A sensitive Christian would not let anything replace the Crib and Christmas tree. Commemorating these means passing on the history of popular piety and religiosity. Putting up the Crib and Christmas tree in homes and public places, not in a folkloric manner but as symbols of faith, prayer and offering, means rediscovering joy and the solidarity of friendship, the human tenderness of relations and the piety of souls of enchanted children and adults.

In advancement of faith, family and fraternity may we all strive to keep Christ in Christmas!

Paul Kokoski, Hamilton, Ontario





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Medicare to End 'Improve or You're Out' Standard for Coverage of Skilled Services

In a major change in Medicare policy, the Obama administration has provisionally agreed to end Medicare’s longstanding practice of requiring that beneficiaries with chronic conditions and disabilities show a likelihood of improvement in order to receive coverage of skilled care and therapy services. The policy shift will affect beneficiaries with conditions like multiple sclerosis, Alzheimer’s disease, Parkinson’s disease, ALS (Lou Gehrig’s disease), diabetes, hypertension, arthritis, heart disease, and stroke. (See companion article, "Who Will Benefit From the New Medicare Policy Change?".)

For about 30 years, home health agencies and nursing homes that contract with Medicare have routinely terminated the Medicare coverage of a beneficiary who has stopped improving, even though nothing in the Medicare statute or its regulations says improvement is required for continued skilled care. Advocates charged that Medicare contractors have instead used a covert "rule of thumb" known as the “Improvement Standard" to illegally deny coverage to such patients. Once beneficiaries failed to show progress, contractors claimed they could deliver only "custodial care," which Medicare does not cover.

In January 2011, the Center for Medicare Advocacy and Vermont Legal Aid filed a class action lawsuit, Jimmo v. Sebelius, against the Obama administration in federal court aimed at ending the government’s use of the improvement standard. After the court refused the government’s request to dismiss the case, and the administration lost in similar individual cases in Pennsylvania and Vermont, it decided to settle.

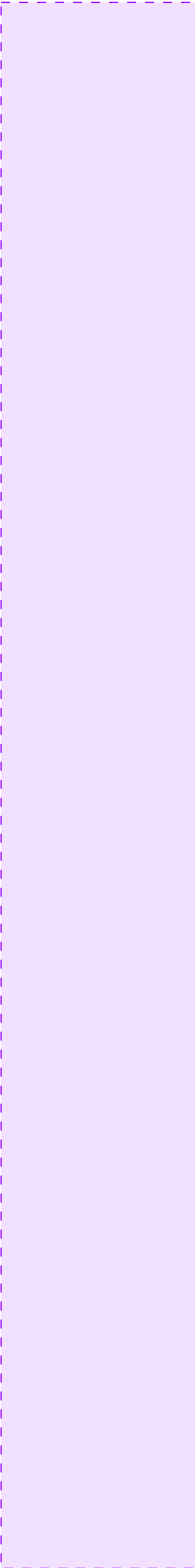
As part of the proposed settlement, which the federal judge must still formally approve, Medicare will revise its manual that contractors follow to clarify that Medicare coverage of skilled nursing and therapy services “does not turn on the presence or absence of an individual’s potential for improvement” but rather depends on whether or not the beneficiary needs skilled care, even if it would simply maintain the beneficiary's current condition or slow further deterioration.

In addition, under the settlement Medicare beneficiaries who received a final denial of Medicare coverage after January 18, 2011 (the date the lawsuit was filed) are entitled to a review of their claim denial.

“The Jimmo settlement provides hope for thousands of older and disabled people with chronic and long-term conditions who will now have a fair opportunity to get access to Medicare and necessary health care,” Judith Stein, Executive Director of the Center for Medicare Advocacy, told ElderLawAnswers.

In an article about the accord, the New York Times notes that Medicare’s coverage of skilled care for beneficiaries with chronic conditions “could also provide relief for families and caregivers who often find themselves stretched financially and personally by the need to provide care.”

Although the Times quotes a trustee of the Medicare program that the change will cost Medicare more money, it could also save some money because physical therapy and home health care may help keep beneficiaries out of more expensive institutions like nursing homes and hospitals.





The Office of the Secretary of State

Last week, the Texas Secretary of State Hope Andrade announced her retirement from that office. Ms. Andrade was the first Latina to serve as secretary of state in Texas, and was the fourth-longest serving secretary. Andrade was appointed to the office by Governor Rick Perry in 2008. She has also previously served on the Texas Transportation Commission.

This week, the governor announced his appointment of San Antonio attorney John T. Steen Jr. to serve Secretary of State. Secretary Steen most recently served as a member of the Texas Public Safety Commission, but has been involved in governmental Commissioner Steen graduated with honors from Princeton University and received his law degree from the University of Texas. He served as a lieutenant in the U.S. Army Reserve. He is an honor graduate of the Army's Military Police School and twice has received the Commander's Award for Public Service from the Department of the Army. Secretary Steen is the 108th Secretary of State; the first Secretary of State of the Republic of Texas was Stephen F. Austin.

The Secretary serves as Chief Election Officer for Texas, assisting county election officials and ensuring the uniform application and interpretation of election laws throughout Texas. The Corporations Section of the Office is responsible for the receipt, filing and retention of documents that create or affect business organizations and non-profit entities. The Secretary publishes government rules and regulations and commissions notaries. The Secretary also serves as keeper of the state seal and attestor to the Governor's signature on official documents. In addition, the Secretary serves as senior advisor and liaison to the Governor for Texas Border and Mexican Affairs, and serves as Chief International Protocol Officer for Texas. The Secretary will also preside over the Texas House of Representatives on the opening day of the legislative session.

For more information on the Office of the Secretary of State or any other matter of state government, please contact my office. You can contact me by writing to P.O. Box 2910, Austin, TX 78768-2910 or by e-mailing me at larry.phillips@house.state.tx.us.





Geese topic of Hagerman Second Saturday program

A winter flock of 5,000 geese has arrived at Hagerman National Wildlife Refuge and will be the topic of this Saturday's monthly program at the refuge. The 10 am program will be held in the meeting room of the refuge's Visitors' Center and is free and open to the public. The refuge is located at 6465 Refuge Road, Sherman.

Presenting a program on winter waterfowl will be Dr. Wayne Meyer, associate professor of biology at Austin College.

"Many species of waterfowl visit Hagerman NWR each winter to take advantage of the protected waters and food provided for them in ponds and fields of the refuge," says Meyers. "Come learn about the different kinds of ducks and geese that visit each year and join us for a guided tour through the refuge aboard TAPS buses to look at them."

For more information on this or any of the activities held at the refuge, call 903-786-2826 or visit www.friendsofhagerman.com.

Undercover Clergy

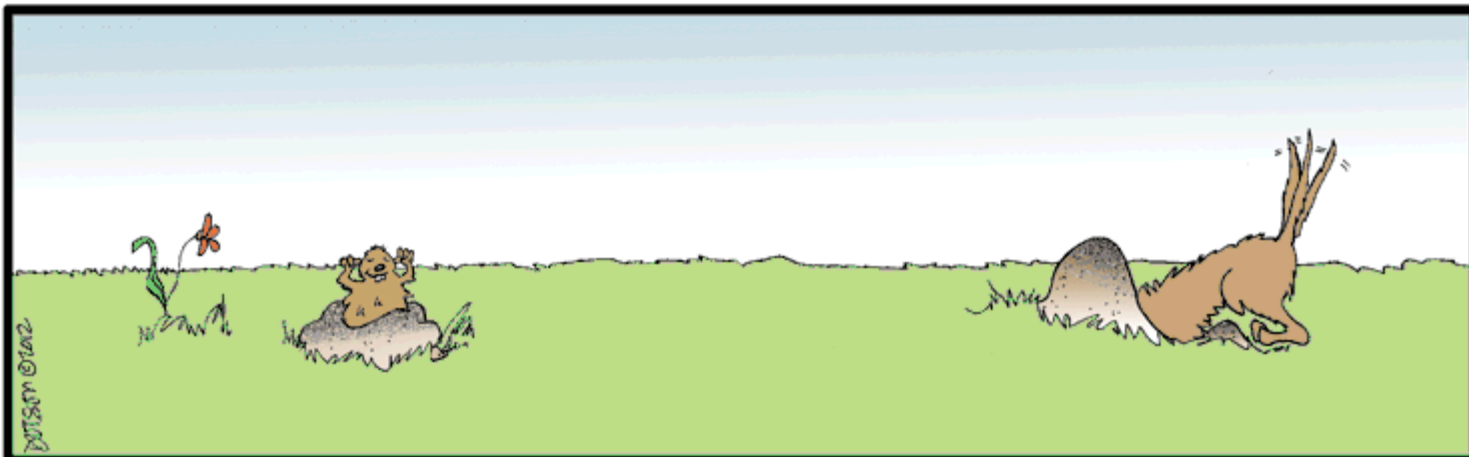
A minister, a priest and a rabbi went for a hike one day. It was very hot. They were sweating and exhausted when they came upon a small lake. Since it was fairly secluded, they took off all their clothes and jumped in the water.

Feeling refreshed, the trio decided to pick a few berries while enjoying their “freedom.” As they were crossing an open area, who should come along but a group of ladies from town. Unable to get to their clothes in time, the minister and the priest covered their privates and the rabbi covered his face while they ran for cover.

After the ladies had left and the men got their clothes back on, the minister and the priest asked the rabbi why he covered his face rather than his privates. The rabbi replied, “I don’t know about you, but in MY congregation, it’s my face they would recognize.”

OUTZKIRTS By: David & Doreen Dotson

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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.



LET’S REMINISCE: Unusual Thanksgiving Dinner *By Jerry Lincecum*

How do you manage to put together a traditional American Thanksgiving dinner in a country that neither celebrates the holiday nor cares to eat turkeys? In the fall of 1973, Dr. Ann Thomas and her husband A.J. were in Madrid, teaching in the SMU in Spain program.

Just before they left Dallas, A.J. threw a 10-pound sack of corn meal in the trunk of the car, with this explanation: “Europeans are ignorant of cornbread and I’m not about to give it up.” That meant they had the first ingredient for Southern style dressing.

They had 25 SMU students with them in Madrid, some of whom felt they needed to stay there and study for the final exams that would be coming up in a couple of weeks. Another SMU prof and his wife who were there said, “We should give ourselves and the students a real Thanksgiving dinner.”

Turkeys were unknown in Spanish cuisine, so finding one to cook was almost impossible. Finally, in a department store that sold American goods, they found one turkey squashed in the bottom of a small freezer. It was so bright yellow that its diet much have included multitudes of marigolds.

Another store had two cans of Franco-American turkey gravy. The turkey was thawed and baked on Thanksgiving Day, with giblet gravy from the can. A.J. Thomas made his own favorite brand of cornbread dressing, which included sausage (Spanish zoriso this time) as well as plenty of sage and garlic. Ann cooked fresh asparagus with tiny artichokes (fresh from the nearby outdoor market), and her mother (who was in Spain with them) made a leek and potato casserole, which had already been tried out on the students, with favorable results.

Just down the street from their residence was a store called “Mary’s American Pies.” They ordered two kinds, apple and pumpkin (knowing that squash would probably be the main ingredient in the second one). Having already learned that Mary used unpitted cherries, they passed up this American favorite fruit pie.

With appetizer dishes of olives, celery stalks, and tiny pickled carrots, the two families were all set for a traditional (if somewhat modified) American Thanksgiving dinner.

The yellow turkey had been baked to perfection, and it turned out to be one of the tastiest turkeys ever. One of the students ate so much that her swollen stomach was evident. She explained, “I do not much care for the food served at my boarding house.”

With five students plus five other adults (and two children), there was very little food left over. The students offered to do the dishes, but an electric dishwasher took care of that job.

Thus was a great American dinner and celebration accomplished in Madrid, Spain, where Thanksgiving is not even a holiday. Have you ever taken part in one that was unusual?

By the way, I’m working on a column about small town life and need some stories. I never lived in a small town, so help me out.

-30- Jerry Lincecum is a retired English professor who now teaches classes for older adults who want to write their life stories. He welcomes your reminiscences on any subject: jlincecum@me.com





Bonnie Jo Gleaves

(August 5, 1928 - December 4, 2012)

Mrs. Bonnie Jo Gleaves, of Howe, TX, passed away on December 4, 2012 at her residence in Howe, at the age of 84 years. She was born to Burrell Howell and Bonnie Lee Crook Howell in Van Alstyne, TX on August 5, 1928. She married Ector S. Gleaves on October 17, 1954 in Dallas, TX.

Bonnie was a high school and college graduate and worked for Pioneer Air Lines as a stewardess. She loved poetry and was a member of the First Baptist Church in Howe, TX.

She is survived by her husband, Ector C. Gleaves, 4 children, Varina Spray Gleaves, Arlington, TX, Jeffrey L Gleaves, Sherman, TX, Cindy Jo Gleaves & spouse Alan Blanche, West Port, CA and Jeanette Gleaves, Ft. Worth, TX. Bonnie has 2 sisters, Dorothy Marshall of Boise, Idaho and Edith Barnett of Van Alstyne, TX. There is a host of other relatives and friends.

Mrs. Gleaves was preceded in death by her parents, sister Marie Langford and brother, Raymond Howell. Funeral services will be held on Saturday, December 8, 2012 at 11am at the First Baptist Church in Howe, TX, with Roger Tidwell officiating. Interment will follow at the Hall Cemetery in Howe, TX. Visitation was held at the American Funeral Services, 4312 W. Crawford St. Denison, TX.

All arrangements are being handled by American Funeral Services in Denison, TX. The online registry may be signed at www.americanfuneralservice-fh.com





Wallace Tooley (1921-2012)

Van Alstyne - Graveside services for Wallace Tooley, 91, of Van Alstyne were held at 4 pm, Wednesday, Dec. 5, 2012 at the Van Alstyne cemetery. Wallace passed away Saturday, Dec. 1, 2012 at the Meadowbrook Care Center in Van Alstyne. He was born May 14, 1921 in Van Alstyne to Roscoe and Sallie Kerr Tooley. He married Betty Harris Oct. 14, 1950 in McKinney.

Wallace served in the United States Army, was a member of the First Christian Church in Van Alstyne, and a 65 year member of the Mantua Masonic Lodge 209 where he was a past Master. Wallace was also a member of the Eastern Star, served on the Van Alstyne School Board and was the Van Alstyne Panthers football announcer for many years. Wallace and his wife Betty owned and operated the Tooley Variety store in Van Alstyne for many years.

Wallace is survived by his wife, Betty Tooley of Van Alstyne; son, Joe Tooley of Rockwall; son and his wife, Jimmie and Linda Tooley of Texarkana, Texas; five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Wallace was preceded in death by three brothers, Paul, Alton and Clifton. Memorials may be made to the Meadowbrook Care Center or the 1st Christian Church in Van Alstyne. Services are under the direction of Scoggins Funeral Home, 637 W Van Alstyne Parkway, Van Alstyne. 903-482-5225. You may sign the online guest book at www.scogginsfuneralhome.com.



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In 2005 we began publishing a history magazine about the Texoma area, North Texas and Southern Oklahoma. We continued through 2008 with publication. Many folks really enjoyed our publication so we are now adding it to our Texoma Enterprise website. Our aim is to reprint some of the articles we used in our print issue, but we may add from time to time.

A special thank you goes to Dorothy Fowler and Jerry Lincecum for giving us permission to reprint articles they prepared for the magazine. Also thank you to both of them for their great contributions writing for Texoma Enterprise. They have been doing this for many years.

This section of the website will only be updated every other month or so. We hope you enjoy it.

Dale and Lana Rideout

Texoma Montage



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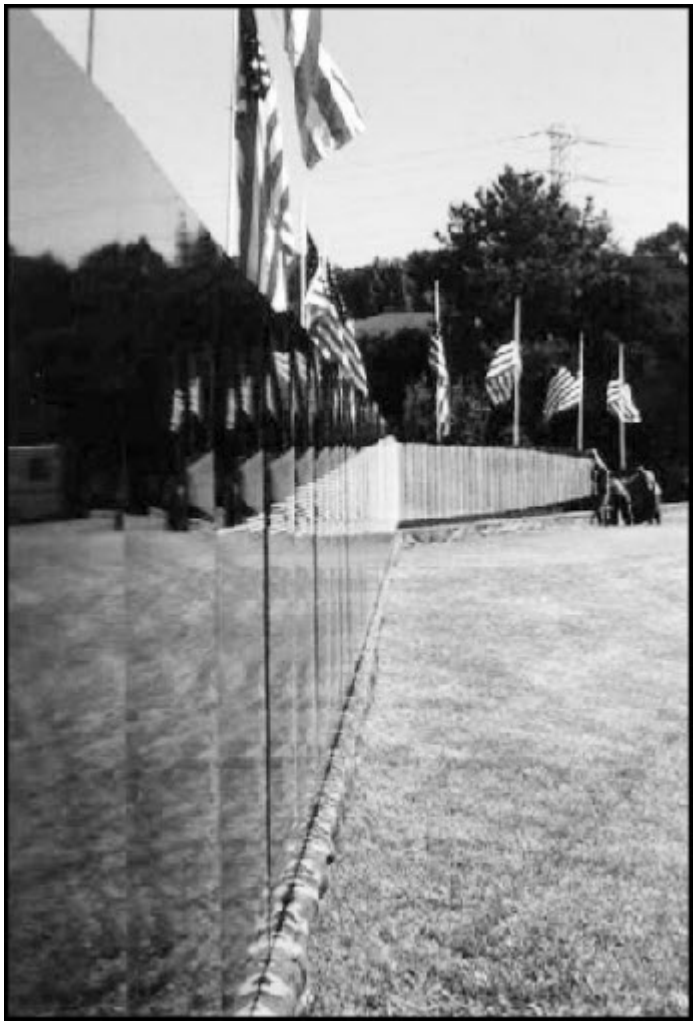
- Traveling Vietnam War Memorial
- Cooking During Wartime
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- Dining Out with my Grandson
- REMEMBERING ARMISTICE DAY, 1918
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This is the cover of
our first issue



Texoma Montage



The Wall, looking East
photo courtesy of Vietnam Combat Veterans, Inc.

by Dorothy N. Fowler

The first time I saw the Vietnam War Memorial in Washington, D.C., I was with my 80 year-old mother. She broke down and cried as she looked at the wall bearing the names of more that 58,000 dead and missing in action.

“Such a waste,” she said through her tears. “ Such a waste.”
Mama had opposed the war to start with, not because she believed members of the armed services were doing anything wrong, but because she thought the policy behind it was a failed policy and that the United States had no vital national interest there.

When the war began, I was a hawk, but as it dragged on, I wanted nothing so much as to bring home the men and women whose lives were in danger every day in a cause that clearly seemed to be lost as a result of policy failures. I watched helpless every year as some of my brightest and best students were drafted, went to fight, and either came home in military caskets or terribly wounded either in body or spirit.

When I saw the wall for the first time, I visualized a baseball stadium that seats 60,000. I saw it full and then suddenly irrevocably empty. As I walked the length of the wall, seeing the gifts that had been laid beneath some of the names, watching people take rubbings of the names of their children, their friends, their husbands, brothers, sisters, lovers, I too began to cry.

I was not alone. Many of the people who were walking near me were crying. Nothing outside the sudden death of my three-year old granddaughter has ever affected me as much as that first visit to the wall.

It’s a fact that the Vietnam War Memorial is the most visited National Park Service Site in Washington, D. C. It’s also a fact that most Americans will never get to Washington to see the memorial.

That’s why, when the replica of the Vietnam War Memorial comes to Denison on July 22, sponsors will keep the practice field at Denison High School open 24 hours a day for its three day stay.

“We want as many people as possible to be able to visit it,” Horace Groff, former Grayson County Judge and one of the organizers of the wall’s visit, said. “There is never any charge whatsoever to visitors to the wall.”

After his retirement from political life, Groff went to work part-time for Bratcher Funeral Home, which is now part of Dignity Memorial Funeral, Cremation and Cemetery Providers. The company commissioned the traveling replica, which was completed in 1990.

“Sponsors who want the wall to come to their city put their names in and Denison got picked for this summer,” Groff said. “Sponsors make contributions and sometimes individuals who visit the wall make contributions to have it come, but the wall is truly a service that the company makes possible.”

At 240 feet long and eight feet high, it is sometimes hard to find a place large enough to hold it and the crowds of people who visit it. Security is also a problem. “We needed to have it in a place that was accessible and at the same time secure,” Groff said. “The practice field at DHS was the best spot.”

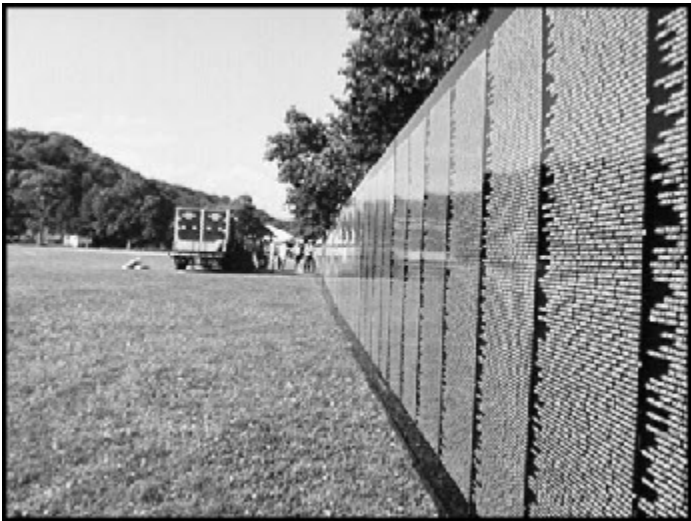
Local veterans groups will provide some of the security and other organizations and individuals will also volunteer to be on guard. Opening ceremonies will be July 22 at 9 a.m. at the practice field, located just behind Denison High School, which is at 1901 S. Mirick in Denison.

Learning that the wall was coming to Denison sent me on a quest for other war memorials in Grayson, Cooke, Fannin, Bryan and Collin Counties. I didn’t find all of them, probably overlooked some that were right under my nose, but looking for them and thinking about the uncommon valor that each represented was a life affirming experience.

If you and your family go looking for the memorials described on page 14 and following, I hope you will come away from the experience with a renewed sense of the sacrifices that others have made to make it safe for you to travel freely, to speak freely, to read whatever you choose to read, to attempt any job you want to do. I hope you will think what it means to be free.



The Moving Wall - in Spencerport, NY.
photo courtesy of Vietnam Combat Veterans, Inc.



The moving wall - set up and ready for visitors.
photo courtesy of Vietnam Combat Veterans, Inc.



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What’s Cookin... Texoma Montage

By Lana Rideout

Cooking During Wartime

War time is a difficult time for all involved: the soldiers on the battlefield and the family members back home.

The Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941 just as Americans were coming out of the Great Depression. People were used to doing without and making do with what they had. They were used to sharing with others.

The folks back home did all they could to get those American soldiers back home. They participated in scrap iron drives; they rationed gas and many food items such as sugar and eggs.

One creation of the time was a sweet treat known as the "Eggless, Milkless, Butterless Cake" also known as the Depression Cake.

Eggless, Milkless, Butterless Cake

- 2 Cups Brown Sugar
- 2 Cups HOT Water
- 2 Tablespoons. Shortening
- 1 Teaspoon Salt
- 1 Teaspoon Baking Soda
- 1 Package Seedless Raisins
- 1 Teaspoon Cinnamon
- 1 Teaspoon Cloves
- 3 Cups Flour (Sifted)
- 1 Teaspoon HOT Water

Boil together the Sugar, Water, Shortening, Salt, Raisins and Spices for five minutes. When Cold, add the Flour and the Soda (dissolved in a tsp of Hot Water). This makes two loaves--Bread Pan Size.

Bake in 325F oven for about 45 minutes. This Cake is of good texture and keeps moist for some time. Note: You can Ice this cake with your choice of Icing.

My friend Betty Weaver of Sherman was 10 when the U.S. entered WWII. She remembers her mom baking this cake usually at Thanksgiving and Christmas. She would store it in an old pressure cooker, wrapped in waxed paper and a heavy towel (trying to hide it from the children). Betty says the cake is a favorite at her family reunions and usually sells for upward of \$40. Her recipe calls for lard, but she uses canola oil which makes for a very moist cake.

In researching this recipe, I found several versions: Some use brown sugar and others white sugar. Spices include nutmeg, cinnamon, cloves, and/ or allspice. One recipe said that 1 cup of nuts adds flavor to the cake.

During WWII people on farms did better than some of the city folks since farms had chickens for a steady supply of eggs. Also vegetables grown in the gardens were plentiful. On the farms and in the towns lots of folks grew "victory gardens" – vegetables they could eat or can.

Although sugar was rationed, folks on the farm who did their own canning were allowed more sugar.

My Dad served in the Army and was overseas in England when I was born just two weeks before D-Day – June 6, 1944. My Mom was living with her parents in Fort Worth; all of them were praying for a speedy end to the war and the safe return of their loved ones.

Another recipe used during World War II is the Spam and Egg Sandwich - good any time of day--breakfast, lunch, dinner, or midnight snack!

WWII Spam and Egg Sandwich

- 1 Tablespoon butter
- 2 Tablespoons finely

- chopped onion
- 1 Slice fully cooked luncheon meat (e.g. Spam)
- 1 Egg, beaten
- 2 Slices bread
- 1 Slice American cheese (optional)
- 1 Slice tomato (optional)

Melt butter in a small skillet over medium-high heat. Saute the onion in butter until soft. Mash up the slice of luncheon meat with a fork, and add it to the skillet. Cook for 2 or 3 minutes, until browned. Pour the egg into the skillet so that it covers all of the meat and onion. Cook until firm, then flip to brown the other side.

Place the egg and meat onto one slice of the bread and top with cheese and tomato if desired. Place the other piece of bread on top. Bread can also be toasted first.)

I also did a little research on recipes from the American Civil War or the "War Between the States." From some of the websites I visited, it looks like some folks are still fighting that one. While no one advocates a return to slavery, the issue of states' rights versus the federal government is a hot issue in many southern political discussions.

My great-great-grandfather on my mother's side was a plantation overseer in Tennessee. He was off serving in the Confederate Army when his daughter was born near the end of the war. I remember my great-grandmother. She died when I was six and I still remember receiving hugs from her. Her daughter, my mother's mother told me many stories about the family members.

During the Civil War, soldiers on both sides carried an item called hard tack. It is a simple cracker made of flour, salt and water. They could be very hard and some soldiers called them "tooth dullers" or "sheet iron crackers." The soldiers softened them by soaking them in their coffee, frying them in bacon grease, or crumbling them in soup.

Hard Tack

- 1 Cup Flour
- 1 Teaspoon Salt
- Water

Mix the flour and salt with just enough water to bind the ingredients. Flatten the dough to about ¼ inch thick on a cookie sheet. Cut into 3 inch by 3 inch squares. Pierce with 16 holes about ½ inch apart. Bake at 400 degrees F. 20-25 minutes.

Another popular recipe during the Civil War time is Southern Johnny Cake – a cornbread variation good with your favorite beans or stew.

Southern Johnny Cake

- 2 Cups Cornmeal
- 2/3 Cup Milk
- 2 Tablespoons Lard (Vegetable Oil)
- 2 teaspoons Baking Soda
- ½ teaspoon Salt

Mix into a stiff batter and form into 8 biscuit-sized "dodgers." Bake on a lightly greased cookie sheet at 350 degrees F 20-25 minutes or spoon batter into hot cooking oil in a frying pan over flame. Optional: spread with a little butter or molasses for a real southern treat.

As a part of this new magazine, I will be sharing recipes and stories with you. If you have recipes or ideas you would like to share, contact me at lanarideout@texomamontage.com or call 903/532-6012.



Betty Weaver of Sherman found this one-piece metal tube cake pan in an antique store. It was made by E. Katzinger Co. of Chicago (date unknown) and printed on the bottom of the pan is the following: "Swan's Down Cake Flour Makes Better Cakes." On each side of the pan is a movable vent so the cake won't sweat and to aid with removal of the cake. Does anyone know the date it was made or have other information?



WW II Ration Book and Stamps were needed for many of the necessities.



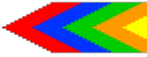
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Texoma
Montage

Texoma Remembers Its Heroes

Bryan, Collin, Cooke, Fannin, and Grayson Counties all have monuments honoring their veterans who gave their lives in support of our great nation. While we know that we have missed some, we have tried to give good examples from each county.

by Dorothy N. Fowler

“This will be a lead pipe cinch,” I said to myself. “After all, this is the place where everywhere you look there is an MIA flag and there is more red, white and blue than any place you’ve ever been. You’ll be able to find dozens of war memorials in Grayson, Cooke, Fannin, and Bryan Counties.”

Thus armed, with more enthusiasm and optimism than information, it seemed to me to be good sense to start at home on the quest for photographs and information about memorials to men and women who have died serving the United States in any one of its last eight major wars. Named, those wars include the Civil War, the Spanish-American War, World War I, World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Iraq the First and Iraq the Second.

It seemed equally good sense to start the quest by visiting the VFW in Sherman to talk with people who had been combatants in one or more of those wars. Surely those folks would have a special interest in war memorials.

VFW Post 481-2772
Sherman, Texas

If anyone in the main room at Sherman’s VFW is watching or listening to the wall mounted television set, it isn’t obvious on this wintry Thursday night.

Nearly all the people present are men. One woman is a server behind the bar and at 7:30 or so, another woman comes in and joins a group at a large round table. It isn’t clear whether she is a member of the auxiliary or a veteran, but whatever her status, it is clear from her reception that she is well-liked. The easy conversation at the table continues, punctuated by soft, well-controlled laughter.

The men at the table with me are Henry Salisbury, Doyle Sloan and Jessie Goodman. Later in the evening, Franklin “Andy” Anderson joins us.

Salisbury is the memorial chairperson for VFW Post 481-2772 and is a past commander of the post. He’s an army veteran of the Vietnam War. He arrived there in 1968 just in time for the TET offensive. He was there through 1969.

Sloan, nicknamed “Mr. VFW” by his comrades, fought in World War II, Korea and Viet Nam. Salisbury says Sloan has held nearly every office possible in the local VFW.

Anderson, a Vietnam veteran, and chaplain of the post, is personable as he pours his Sprite. He provides snippets of information about how VFW members went about building the war memorial in Sherman’s Fairview Park.

It is clear that these men, along with the other people in the room, and the hundreds of thousands of men and women who have shared the experiences unique to war, are living memorials. But they are not interested in being living memorials. People die, they say. Families get separated. Kids either don’t remember or don’t care about the role their parents played in wars. The only way to be sure that future generations remember is to build memorials of granite and cement, to inscribe the names of the dead in stone.

“It’s a shame it took so long to get the memorial for World War Two,” Salisbury says. “I don’t think we can do enough to honor the people who serve their country, especially the ones who paid the ultimate price and didn’t come back.”

The other men nod agreement.

Doyle Sloan says the most recent memorial in Sherman is at Fairview Park. “H. K. Lyde was instrumental in getting it started. He was the Grayson County Council Commander and he wanted the VFW, the American Legion, the AmVets and the DAV to be involved in building it. About 10 years ago the veterans organizations raised about \$40,000 and combined it with lots of manual labor to build that softball field and the granite monuments.”

It’s the same with most war memorials, they say. It’s a dream that starts with one or maybe a few people and they work at raising the money for a memorial that has to be placed somewhere. Someone has to design it. Someone has to raise the money to pay for it. Someone has to navigate the myriads of red tape with local, state and sometimes the national government before the monument can be built. Someone has to plan the dedication ceremony, arrange for the speakers, the music if there is to be any.

These men have done all those things and helped others do them. Each year on special days, they visit the memorials, lay wreaths or light candles, leading the public as they remember their wars and the wars of fathers and grandfathers.

They do much more, working to improve the lives of veterans who are facing hard times, visiting veterans confin-ed to nursing homes, taking people to the nearest veterans hospitals for their check-ups, working with young people in the community.

“May I take some pictures?” I ask. There is a moment of hesitation.

“Most reporters want to take a picture of someone sitting at the bar, drinking,” Salisbury says. “But we’d like to have our picture taken with the national award the post won for its work on Poppy Day.”

“That’s just the picture we want,” I say.

“Thanks.”

“Wow! What nice people and what a treat to meet them,” I thought as I made my way through the parking lot to my maroon pickup. “They’ve given me two new ideas and the location of a war memorial that must be pretty close to brand new in Gainesville. If the weather holds, I can visit the memorials in Sherman, go to Gainesville and Bonham the next day and into Bryan County the next.

The weather did not hold. Rain and cold were the order of the day for the next two weeks. I had surgery on my right foot and the ensuing swelling kept me out of the pickup except for the brief ride to the doctor’s office for follow-up.

Undiscouraged, I went to the Internet, typing in war memorials Grayson County Texas, war memorials, Fannin County Texas, war memorials Bryan County Oklahoma, war memorials Cooke County Texas.



Doyle Sloan, Henry Salisbury, and Jessie Goodman stand in front of the VFW Post 481-2772 Poppy Project Award.

Photo by Dorothy Fowler



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Texoma Remembers Its Heros, cont.

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The notice that the search engine had found thousands of bits of information about war memorials in each of the counties was misleading, at best. The truth was that there was a plethora of information about the subject of war memorials and that there were a few privately produced reminiscences about coming home from WWII, but there was almost nothing about war memorials in general and nothing at all about war memorials in any of the counties included in the question.

Questions to local historians elicited interest in the project, but no new information. “I guess you already know about Ely Park,” one Austin College professor said. “And there’s that newer one at Fairview Park. Those are the only ones I know anything about.”

“What about the statue on the courthouse lawn?” I asked.

“I thought you wanted to know about memorials for men and women who died in the service of the United States,” he replied. “That’s a monument to men who died in service to the Confederate States of America. If you want to broaden your search, you’ll find many more monuments to the soldiers of the Confederacy than to the soldiers of the United States.”

Ely Park World War II Memorial

At first glance on this almost balmy February Sunday afternoon, Sherman’s Ely Park, bordered on the east by Rusk Avenue, on the north by Steadman, on the west by Austin and on the south by Moore, looks like the kind of family-friendly park one might find anywhere in the country.

There is a softball diamond on the northeast end, a big covered picnic pavilion on the south, typical playground equipment nearby and in between, a vast expanse of grass.

The abundance of crepe myrtle trees, planted at regular intervals around the perimeter of the park are a bit unusual, considering the sparse plantings in the rest of the park. Closer inspection indicates they are unique, for each of the 72 trees flanks a small white concrete marker that bears the name of one of the 72 men from Sherman who died during World War II.

Also on the markers is the birth year and the death year of the man commemorated by the marker. Most were in their late teens or 20s. A few were older. About one-third of the 72 died in 1944-45, which makes me wonder if they were part of the D-Day invasion or perhaps part of the Battle of the Bulge.

Beyond their names, which are also inscribed on a plaque placed on the west side of the park as part of an Eagle Scout project, there is no information at the park. However, people who are looking for more information might find it at the Sherman Public Library, which has a fine genealogy section and which also maintains excellent newspaper files.

On Memorial Day and Veterans Day and other national holidays, veterans groups and others place flags and flowers beside each marker.

The location of the park, bounded as it is by neat, well-kept houses that look as if they belong to blue collar workers, adds to the poignancy of the markers, for it’s likely that most of the men whose names are on the stones lived in neighborhoods much like this one.

It takes about 15 minutes to walk the perimeter of the park if you stop to read the names and to think about how young were the people memorialized there.

Fairview Park War Memorial

In late winter, almost warm but not yet early spring, two of the three flags at the Liberty Memorial Garden in Sherman, Texas, crackles in the southwest wind.

The stars and stripes and the dark flag bearing the acronyms MIA and POW straight out from the poles from which they are suspended. The top of the third flag, the Texas flag, worked itself loose from the hooks that should have held it, leaving it drooping, hanging only by the lower grommets.

There is no way a passerby could repair the damage. The poles are state-of-the art, with the mechanism that raises and lowers the flags locked behind plates in the substantial poles. People who frequent the park have no doubt that the flag will be back in its proper place before sunset.

Local veterans organizations are proud of the memorial they built with what one of them described as “an excess of sweat” after they raised \$40,000 to build the monument.

The monument is roughly in the center of a giant park complex bordered on the east by Ricketts Street and on the north by Taylor Street. It is in a place that is strangely quiet, even when families with their children are on the playground equipment a-cross the park road and east of the monument. Soccer players, on the field immediately east and north of the monument do not make enough noise to be heard.

Two well-maintained park benches provide places for visitors to sit and examine the memorial, which consists of four gray marble stones on which the names of every man or woman in Grayson County who died in World War II, Korea, or the Vietnam War carved. There is also a list of MIA’s.

Two hundred and forty men from Grayson County died in action during World War II, 26 in Korea and 26 in Vietnam. The names of the five MIA’s are at the end of the list.



Ely Park



Ely Park



Fairview Veterans Stadium



Texoma Remembers Its Heros, cont.

Members of the local veterans' organizations are always on the alert for the names of men and women they might have overlooked when the memorial was first erected. Several names are obviously new, their black outlines much darker than the names that were part of the original monument.

The names of the dead are inscribed on four slabs of granite, each about five feet tall and set in concrete. The granite slabs face each other. On the north, a fifth granite slab bears the names of each branch of the United States armed forces. Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines and the Coast Guard are there, along with the names of local veterans organizations that helped build the memorial. They include the Order of the Purple Heart, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Disabled Veterans and the American Legion.

The monument is open every day of the year. Because it is near the park, it’s a good place to bring a picnic on days when the weather is good.

Confederate Monument on Grayson County Courthouse Grounds

Thirty-one years after the United States Civil War ended 20,000 people gathered on the northeast corner of the block where the Grayson County Court house stands in Sherman to witness the dedication of the first Confederate monument erected in Texas.

An article in the Sherman newspaper, dated April 21, 1897, said “(the statue) *represents not only the confederate dead who are sleeping in West Hill (the oldest cemetery in Sherman), but those who are sleeping from Gettysburg to the Rio Grande, from Missouri to the Atlantic Seaboard.*”

The monument is 45 feet tall, including the six foot statue of a Confederate infantryman standing at parade rest and gazing toward the north east. Most of the monument is made of light gray granite mined from Stone Mountain, near Atlanta, Georgia. The blocks that bear the inscriptions came from quarries at Lexington, near Atlanta.

Ironically, the statue of the soldier, which is crafted of a material characterized as “white bronze,” was created in Bridgeport, Connecticut.

In 1996, under the auspices of the Daughters of the Confederacy, the monument was rededicated.

The inscriptions on the sides of the base are typical of the prose of the Victorian age in general and Southerners in particular.

One of them reads, “*And the fame of that nameless nation on history’s page shall shine as our heroes’ grand oblation in our hearts has found a shrine.*”

Another reads, “*Sacred to the memory of our Confederate dead: true patriots. They fought for home and country. For the holy principles of self government—the only true liberty. Their sublime self-sacrifice and unsurpassed valor will teach future generations the lessons of high born patriotism, of devotion to duty, of exalted courage, of southern chivalry. History has enshrined them immortal.*”

Three Texas historical markers are clustered near the monument. One of them tells the story of Grayson County. Another tells of the exploits of the Ninth Texas Cavalry, which started with about 1,000 men and by war’s end had only 110. The third tells the story of the 11th Texas Cavalry.

Because the soldier is perched so high on the shaft of the monument, it’s not possible to see him in detail without binoculars, but you do get the feeling of just how important it still is to many people to have him there, overlooking the business at the intersection of Travis and Lamar 140 years after his war was lost.

For visitors who want to just sit for awhile, the citizens of Grayson County provided benches in honor of much-loved Grayson County Judge Horace Groff when he retired and re-entered life as a private citizen in 2002.

The Union Soldier at Fairview Cemetery in Denison, Texas

An eternal flame honoring veterans of all wars burns near Katy Depot in Denison, but the most impressive and surprising monument stands north of the city, in the northwest corner of Fairview Cemetery.

The existence of a monument honoring Union soldiers may be the best kept secret in Grayson County. A quick survey of 10 lifelong residents of Grayson County netted 10 people who not only didn’t know it exists, but also doubted that it does.

The monument, which is 15 feet, six inches tall, includes a five foot square base. It appears to have been made of limestone. The statue of the Union Infantryman wears a cap, a coat, brogans and other items typical of soldiers of his era. He is carrying a rifle that may have been a Springfield rifle.

Dan Bray, who wrote a local history that included a chapter on the Union soldier, speculated that the statue itself was made of pre-cast concrete and had been cast in four separate castings.

He also noted that the gaze of the statue, which faces southeast, intersects at some point with the gaze of the Confederate soldier on the Grayson County Courthouse lawn.

The inscription on the south side of the base reads:

G. A. R.
1906
Erected by
Nathaniel Lyon
Post No 5
Department of Texas
In Memory of
the Loyal Soldiers
and Sailors

Texoma Montage



Texoma Remembers Its Heros, cont.

Six Union soldiers are buried just to the west of the statue. Each headstone bears the name of the soldier buried there and the federal shield. Information provided by the cemetery says that several Union soldiers are buried throughout the cemetery, each identified by a federal shield on the headstone.

After visiting and photographing war memorials in Sherman and Denison, I turned east, toward Cooke County and the monument to veterans of 20th Century wars. On the way, I stopped in Whitesboro, a small town about half way between Sherman and Gainesville on Highway 82.

In Whitesboro, at the intersection of Highway 56 and Main Street, students from Whitesboro High School maintain an informal and surprisingly touching memorial. It is nothing more than an open space on the northwest corner, but the corner is filled with American flags and tied to a post nearby are tattered yellow bows and ribbons.

“There used to be a lot more ribbons and bows,” a man who works in a nearby building says. “But they got pretty torn up and I think the kids took some of them down and haven’t put up replacements yet.”

Dozens of such monuments may exist in small towns across the nation and where you find them, it’s a good thing to stop and think about what they mean.

The War Memorial at
Frank Buck Park,
Gainesville, Texas

A big renovation project makes it difficult to get access to the war memorial in Gainesville.

The renovation is to the small zoo and the park that holds it and has nothing to do directly with the war memorial, but signs denying access to park roads and parking can confuse the faint of heart. But faint heart ne’er won anything much, so I went into the park on a road clearly marked “Construction Workers Only,” and found at the end of the lane, not only construction workers, but also a good many park visitors.

Where I needed to be, however, was at the entrance to the park, so I turned the pickup around, threaded my way through the traffic and parked on the shoulder of the highway so I could walk up the steps to the newest of the war memorials that I visited.

The Stars and Stripes hold center stage at the monument. To the left of the pole, a large marble slab holds the names of those killed in the service of the United States in World War I, World War II, Korea and Vietnam.

Like the similar monument in Sherman, there are recent additions to the original list, which was dedicated in 1996.

War Memorials in
Fannin County, Texas

If there were other memorials in Cooke County, no one could tell me where they were, although everyone seemed familiar with the one at Frank Buck Park, so I turned east, to drive back through Grayson County and into Fannin County to the county seat, Bonham.

A police officer in Bonham told me the only war memorials he knew about in Bonham were on the courthouse square. “I guess there might be some out at the VA hospital, but I don’t remember seeing any,” he said.

Bonham’s courthouse square is typical of every courthouse square in North Texas, surrounded as it on four sides by businesses of almost every stripe, but it does have something that most squares don’t have: a statue of the man for whom the county was named.

The metal representation of James Butler Bonham wears boots with spurs, carries a hat and a powder horn and over his left shoulder, there’s a strap that supports a pouch. If the statue looks like Bonham, Bonham was a handsome fellow.

There are two inscriptions on the base of the statue. One of them provides a brief biography of Bonham. The other reads: “*At the call of his boyhood friend William Barrett Travis, He came to Texas in 1835 and engaged in the war for independence as aide and messenger for Travis. He was faithful unto death at the Alamo March the sixth 1836.*”

Bonham’s statue is the only one I found that made mention of Texas’ war for independence from Mexico.

The other memorial, a statue of a Confederate soldier, is on the northwest corner of the courthouse. The soldier is not nearly so high as the one in Sherman, but it is still too high to permit viewers to make out details clearly without binoculars.

Inscriptions on each face of the base, however, are for the most part, quite clear.

The inscription on the east face reads: *Battles fought, 2242. Total enlistment Confederate Army 600,000. Total enlistment United States Army 2,278,304. Federal Prisoners captured by Confederates 270,000. Confederate prisoners captures by federals 270,000. Co. E 11th/TX CAV and Co. F 11th TX CAV.*

On the south face, between crossed sabers are the words from 1861 to 1865. Below are the following words: “*They fought for principle, their homes, and those they loved. On fame’s eternal camping ground, Their silent tents are spread, and Glory guards, with solemn round, The bivouac of the dead.*”

On the west face, below the bold, black letters Confederate, are these words:

“*To the Confederate soldiers who sacrificed their lives for a just cause This monument is lovingly dedicated by the daughters of the Confederacy aided by the Confederate Veterans Association of Fannin County.*”

On the north face are the words: “*The great war/un-rivaled in history for bravery, gallantry, daring and dash. E Anderson, AD 190 (perhaps 5)*”

From the court- house square, I went to the VA hospital, but found no statues dedicated to the servicemen and servicewomen who seek treatment for their wounds and their illnesses there.

While I was looking for memorials in Bonham, my colleague Dale Rideout was in another part of Fannin County, in Leonard, where he found two memorials. Both of them are dedicated to all veterans of all wars.

One of the memorials is located near the center of town. On both front and back of a granite slab, the citizens of Leonard, who maintain both memorials, have had engraved the names of all service personnel from the town who have died in the service of their country.

Rideout says the memorials includes the names of veterans from the Civil War through Vietnam.

The other memorial is at the cemetery.

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Texoma Remembers Its Heros, cont.

On the same day he visited the cemeteries in Leonard, Dale also visited cemeteries in Collin County. He found a variety of memorials, including the gravesite of John Abston (1761-1856), a soldier in the American Revolution. Abston is buried in the Old Belew cemetery, near the city of Lavon. Rideout also visited the cemetery at Farmersville, where he found Freedom Plaza, a memorial that includes a granite slab on which are engraved the names of “*Farmersville heroes (who) died to keep the torch of freedom burning.*” The names of veterans of World Wars I and II, Korea and Vietnam are listed on the slab. At the bottom are words attributed to Audie Murphy, “*The real heroes of the war are those who never came home.*” The memorial was dedicated in 1998 by the community of Farmersville.

Pecan Grove Cemetery
 McKinney, Texas

In the Pecan Grove Cemetery, Dale found a granite marker engraved with the Stars and Bars of the Confederacy and the names of all Civil War veterans buried in the Pecan Grove Cemetery. A historical marker in the Pecan Grove Memorial Park “*commemorates the courageous and compassionate pioneer men and women of this vicinity.*” It mentions in particular Dr. James Webb Throckmorton, who was a Texas legislator during the 18950’s, a brigadier general in the Confederate Army, Governor of Texas from 1866-1867 and a member of Congress intermittently between 1875 and 1888. In the same cemetery there is a medallion, dedicated in 1970, dedicated “*To those who served for freedom’s just cause.*” In McKinney, Dale found a granite marker “*Dedicated in honor the men and women who served in the Armed Forces of our country.*” The Sons of Confederate Veterans, William H. L. Well Camp #1588, dedicated a marker to Confederate soldiers in Plano in 2000.

Fort Washita

There are probably other memorials in North Texas that we overlooked, but it wasn’t because Dale and I didn’t try to find them all. As soon as I was through with the Texas side of Texoma, I went looking in Oklahoma. Lifelong residents of Durant told me they didn’t know of any monuments, but directed me to Ft. Washita, about 18 miles west and north of Durant. “It isn’t really a war memorial, I guess,” one man said. “There aren’t any statues or anything out there. But in another way it’s better than statues or plaques because you can almost hear the way it was when it was a fort.” Restoring the fort, which is on Oklahoma State Highway 199, is a work in progress. The fort office, made from a building that once was officers’ quarters, is complete and so is a barracks building across the road and to the south. Several smaller buildings are also in good repair. One of the major barracks buildings is in ruins, however. It is covered by vines with branches thick enough to be tree branches. Two burial grounds are on the fort grounds. The post burial ground is at the north end of the road into the fort. It is an active cemetery. On the day I was there, flowers from a recent funeral were still fresh on the mound of red earth that covered the grave. A visitor told me she had “put my husband here two years ago.” The other burial ground is inactive, but it is well kept. The Stars and Bars flies from a low flag pole there and there is a marker telling visitors that 200 unknown Confederate soldiers are buried there. Ft. Washita, which was established in 1842 to keep peace among the Indians and white settlers, was abandoned by the federals in 1861 and was used by Confederate troops until the Civil War ended in 1865. It has a resident ghost, Aunt Jane, who is listed among the prominent ghosts of the frontier. Each of these places is worth a visit. A little planning would make it possible to visit several memorials in the same day and get home before dark. It would be a good thing, if you’re interested in history or you want to teach your kids to be proud of their heritage, to set aside a day every now and then to visit one or more of them.

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Linceum holds a bachelor's degree from Texas A&M University. He earned a master's degree and PhD from Duke University.[1]

Lincecum is owner of Big Barn Press which publishes autobiography and local history books by local authors. Their most recent publication in the "Telling Our Stories" series is Volume 10, entitled "20 Years of Telling Our Stories." It includes 48 stories by local writers who have participated in TOS, which began in 1990. Check out their webpage: <http://www.austincollege.edu/Info.asp?4124>

- *collecting life stories from geriatric patients with early dementia

*training Home Hospice volunteers to collect life stories and edit them for publication in booklet form

*Chautauqua programs on Dr. Gideon Lincecum (1793-1874), pioneer Texas scientist and physician

Lincoam has been awarded the Silver Certificate of Merit by the Daughters of the Republic of Texas and the Miss Ima Hogg Historical Achievement Award for Outstanding Research on Texas History. His book on the pioneer naturalist Gideon Lincoam, *Science on the Texas Frontier: Observations of Dr. Gideon Lincoam* has been reviewed by several academic journals both in history and in the sciences, as have some of his other books.

DINNER FOR THE MINISTER

It was one of those awful years during World War II. We were all subservient to "The War Effort", and we were convinced that it would be unethical to complain, under the circumstances.

Since Betty and I had married cousins, both of whom were serving their country in the armed forces, we determined to live together "For the Duration."

Betty was a devout person, I attended the community church with her. The minister, living alone, was an admirable gentleman whom we considered to be in the category of the elderly. Betty, devoted to the church, had a wild idea. She suggested to me that we invite the minister to a Saturday, early-evening dinner. We did. Because of the "War Effort", we all worked six days a week. By the greatest happenstance, she and I expected to be free at noon on that certain Saturday.

We checked our ration books and found meat was a possibility. A trip to the neighborhood grocery market was reasonably productive. The meat looked good, and we were able to get enough for three servings. Sugar was in very short supply, but we were able to get one pound. We would be able to make a little custard or pudding. At the right time, the gentleman arrived. We were not at all embarrassed about the fact that our tiny apartment was so unpretentious. Anyone who was able to acquire more than one room during that period was happy.

After our greetings, we sat at our little table and prepared to enjoy a delightful meal. The minister politely asked us about our husbands and we told him what we knew, although the actual location of any of the military men was a secret.

I was having difficulty cutting my meat. I glanced at Betty and found her having no less trouble. At last, I hacked off a bit, but masticating it was another problem. I looked at the minister's plate.

He was pretending. The conversation continued.

The War Effort always offered subjects for discussion. I repeated the story my husband had told. In England, where there was no ice, the bartender would sally forth with the jolly admonition, "Drink 'er up, Boys, afore she gets cold!" We laughed. We tried the meat again. We were having no luck.

Betty told of an experience concerning her brother and sister-in-law. The couple wished to drive to another town 120 miles distant so the young lady could visit her ailing mother. Their tires were bald, and buying gasoline was a near impossibility, but the young man thought he could manage. Betty ended the tale by revealing that the couple had experienced six flat tires before arriving back home. She laughed. Our hesitation was hardly noticeable as we joined her.

"Well, maybe the war will be over soon," the minister offered. We were all worrying with the meat. Betty wondered aloud about it and I made a remark.

"You know what I think?" the minister said. "I think this is horse meat!"

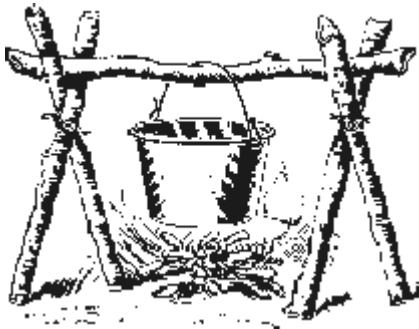
"Horse meat!" Betty and I gasped in consternation.

"Yes. It's on the market, now, you know. It 's not labeled, and it's difficult to distinguish it from steak."

Sure enough, we had fed the minister a dinner of horse meat.



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Dutch Ovens and Dump Cake

by Dale Rideout

I have enjoyed cooking since I was a very young boy. It is a real treat to hear others comment about my cooking, when it is a success. If it turns out to not be the success I hoped for, then I can take the heat.

Cooking outside is especially rewarding. You can cook over an open fire, over a grill, use the fancy propane cookers of various types, or just put a hot dog on a stick and roast it. My favorite is using cast iron Dutch ovens for cooking. You can prepare just about anything in the Dutch ovens, and with a collection of several sizes you can accomplish some great feats of culinary delight.

Do not start out with a brand new utensil. A new Dutch oven needs to be properly seasoned or it just won’t do the job intended. A new oven is covered with a waxy type of material to protect it from rusting. This must be thoroughly washed off with soap and water. Rinse it well, and quickly dry it. Your oven will rust very quickly if you do not use care.

Now you must coat your Dutch oven with salad oil, Crisco, or lard using a cotton cloth. Make sure the entire oven, inside and out, including the lid are coated with your shortening. Now put it in your home oven, with the temperature set for 350 degrees. Be careful on you timing for this because there will probably be a slightly unpleasant odor, along with some smoke. You wouldn’t want to do this when planning a formal party for friends. “Cook” that oven for one hour. Turn the oven off, and when your Dutch oven has cooled, but still warm, wipe it again to make sure the oil film covers all all surfaces. Your oven will now be a golden color, and is ready to use.

Do not wash you Dutch oven with strong soapy water, or you will need to re-season it. Clean it with a very mild soap, or plain water.

The more you use your oven the better. It will develop a dark color with use, even turning black. It will have a surface that is almost stick proof. Store you Dutch oven in a warm, dry place. Put a sheet of paper towel or newspaper in the oven to absorb any moisture that may get in, and keep the lid slightly ajar.

Cooking with your Dutch oven is easy. Temperatures are controlled by counting the charcoal briquettes used. You will need to experiment some, but a general rule of thumb is to multiply the diameter of your oven by 2 to get the number of briquettes to use for a 350 degree oven temperature. When you do your cooking use more coals on top and fewer on the bottom. This chart will help get started.

- 8 inch oven - 10 briquettes on top – 6 briquettes on bottom.
- 10 inch oven - 12 briquettes on top – 8 briquettes on bottom.
- 12 inch oven - 14 briquettes on top – 10 briquettes on bottom.
- 14 inch oven - 16 briquettes on top – 12 briquettes on bottom.
- 16 inch oven - 18 briquettes on top – 14 briquettes on bottom.

Two additional briquettes, one on top and one on the bottom will increase the temperature by about 25 degrees.

Dump Cake

A favorite dessert of mine is quite simple. In the Boy Scouts we call it Dump Cake, because all you need do is dump the ingredients into your Dutch oven. You will need:

- ¼ pound butter or margarine*
- 1 can pie filling (any flavor you like, apple, cherry, etc.)*
- 1 box cake mix (again any flavor, yellow or white works great.)*

Do not mix. Just Dump the ingredients into your Dutch oven and cook 30 minutes to 45 minutes. You can add cinnamon, nuts, brown sugar, pats of butter, etc to the top for extra special effects. This is easily doubled or more just by adding more of each ingredient.

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Southern Algebra

We are sick and tired of hearing about how dumb people are in the South. We challenge any so-called smart Yankee to take this exam administered by the University of Mississippi Engineering Department. (Well, maybe/maybe not. Who knows?)

1. Calculate the smallest limb diameter on a persimmon tree that will support a 10-pound possum.
2. Which of these cars will rust out the quickest when placed on blocks in your front yard? A '65 Ford Fairlane, a '69 Chevrolet Chevelle or a '64 Pontiac GTO
3. If your uncle builds a still which operates at a capacity of 20 gallons of shine produced per hour, how many car radiators are required to condense the product?
4. A woodcutter has a chainsaw which operates at 2700 RPM. The density of the pine trees in the plot to be harvested is 470 per acre. The plot is 2.3 acres in size. The average tree diameter is 14 inches. How many Budweisers will be drunk before the trees are cut down?
5. If every old refrigerator in the state vented a charge of R-12 simultaneously, what would be the percentage decrease in the ozone layer?
6. A front porch is constructed of 2x8 pine on 24-inch centers with a field rock foundation. The span is 8 feet and the porch length is 16 feet. The porch floor is 1-inch rough sawn pine. When the porch collapses, how many hound dogs will be killed?
7. A man owns a house and 3.7 acres of land in a hollow with an average slope of 15%. The man has five children. Can each of his grown children place a mobile home on the man's land and still have enough property for their electric appliances to sit out front?
8. A 2-ton truck is overloaded and proceeding 900 yards down a steep slope on a secondary road at 45 MPH. The brakes fail. Given average traffic conditions on secondary roads, what is the probability that it will strike a vehicle with a muffler?
9. A coalmine operates a NFPA Class 1, Division 2 Hazardous Area. The mine employs 120 miners per shift. An explosive gas warning is issued at the beginning of the 3rd shift. How many cartons of unfiltered Camels will be smoked during the shift?
10. At a reduction in the gene pool variability rate of 7.5% per generation, how long will it take a town which has been bypassed by the Interstate to produce a country-western singer?





Texoma Montage

Turkey Vultures

Turkey Vultues are plentiful here in North Texas. They make their roost in groups as the evening approaches. This tree has been serving for several years as the night resting place for this group. In the morning these birds will spread their wings to dry in the sun before departing on their day’s activity of cleaning up the environment of dead and dying critters. You will often see them individually or in groups of two or three on the roadside cleaning up the roadkill that gets left behind when other animals are not quick enough to make it across the road.

One Vote

This is an election year. Just how important is ONE VOTE? YOUR VOTE? The following facts may astound you, however, they are true.

In 1645, One Vote gave Oliver Cromwell control of England.

In 1649, One Vote caused Charles 1 of England to be executed.

In 1776, One Vote gave America the English language instead of the German language.

In 1839, One Vote elected Marcus Morton governor of the State of Massachusetts.

In 1845, One Vote brought Texas into the Union.

In 1868, One Vote saved President Andrew Jackson from impeachment.

In 1875, One Vote changed France from a Monarchy to a Republic.

In 1876, One Vote gave Rutherford B Hayes the Presidency of the United States.

In 1923, One Vote gave Adolph Hitler leadership of the Nazi Party.

In 1941, One Vote saved Selective Service twelve weeks before Pearl Harbor.

In 1960, Richard Nixon lost the Presidential election and John F. Kennedy won it by less than One Vote per precinct in the United States.

Dining Out with my Grandson

By Dale Rideout

Of course every grandchild is special. Also each one is unique. Old grandpa loves them all equally but they all have their differences, too. Our experiences with each one make those differences special, as well.

Our first grandchild was a boy. His name is Phillip Jordan Roe. He was born in 1990 and took the place of just about everything of any importance in Papa’s life. Jordan’s Mom and Dad both worked, so we (Nanny and I) often would get to baby-sit with him. As he grew older he would go everywhere with Papa, and we both enjoyed it.

When Jordan was about two years old, his family moved to San Antonio for four years, then back to Howe. During that four-year time period, Papa did not have the opportunities to take Jordan on the outings we used to take. When he moved back to Howe, he was in school, he had a sister, and there were five other grandchildren who joined the family. All of this slowed down the Jordan and Papa routine of going everywhere together.

This brings us to the story I want to tell you, about eating out. You need the background to help understand the rest. When Jordan was about seven years old I invited him to go with me delivering newspapers. My wife and I own a weekly newspaper and every Wed-nesday it is my job to deliver them to the various stores where they are sold and to various post office locations in about three counties. Jordan liked the idea, so he took off with me for a full day in the car together.

We were getting hungry as it neared dinnertime. I began to ask what he would like to eat, and he said it didn’t matter. Well, I knew that he was a little picky about what he eats and didn’t want him to get hungry because he couldn’t find something he liked.

Our discussion of available menus was somewhat limited because we were approaching Tioga and there were limited choices. I asked Jordan if he liked catfish and he answered with a big “**Yes.**” I told him about the Tioga Catfish Restaurant and asked if he would like to eat there, and again received a “**Yes.**”

Our waitress for the day was Kim Hilliard. She and her husband, James, were the owners of Tioga Catfish Restaurant, and they did an excellent job. The food was always superb, served fresh and tasty. The portions were generous and satisfying. The service was great, anticipating your every need.

I am sure Jordan felt like the “Big Man,” eating out with Papa and getting to choose for himself what to order. In fact he placed his own order for the meal. I ordered the fish basket, which included a large serving of fish, lots of french fries, a bowl of red beans, and hush puppies. I chose iced tea for my drink.

Jordan’s turn to order came. I tried to explain to him that there was a smaller fish dinner, more to the size of a seven year old, but I let him order what he wanted. Much to my surprise he ordered the same fish basket and iced tea that I had ordered. The little fellow was trying to be just like Papa. I felt flattered, but at the same time remembered again that we should be careful of our actions because there are little eyes watching us all the time. Often they imitate what they see us do.

We sat there enjoying our table conversation. You need to know that Jordan has a certain look when something is going on. It is a grin that differs from his usual grin but is quite unmistakable. He sat there with that grin as our food was served. We began to eat.

I certainly enjoyed my entire meal, as usual when dining at Tioga Catfish Restaurant. Jordan began sampling his fish and did a good job making it disappear. He only nibbled at the hush puppies. The french fries he really enjoyed, though like a seven year old he began to get silly and dipped some of them into his iced tea before eating them. I prefer catsup on mine.

During this whole time, Jordan had that grin on his face. I knew something was up, but just couldn’t figure it out. At first I thought he was just really pleased to be eating out with Papa. Finally I ask him why the big smile.

He said, “I fooled you, Papa!”

“What do you mean?” I asked.

Jordan replied, “I’ve never had catfish before!”

To this day, catfish is still one of Jordan’s favorites when he eats out.

Well, that was seven years ago. Jordan is now 14, nearing 15. The Hilliards have bought Clark’s Outpost, a fantastic bar-b-cue restaurant in Tioga. For several years they operated both restaurants, but staffing difficulties and increasing competition forced them to close the catfish restaurant.

During our past Christmas holidays I invited Jordan to join me again for a day of newspaper deliver as we had done so many years ago. He readily agreed. The day we set off was icy and snowy. We had storms the day before, and while the weather was much nicer the roads were still a lot of “fun” to negotiate. We stopped a couple of times to help others get out of the ditch. We carefully made the trip, and Jordan served as chief cameraman taking quite a few pictures as a record of our trip.

Lunchtime arrived and we were nearing Tioga. I asked if Jordan likes bar-b-que and he answered, “Yes.” Déjà vu all over again.

We entered Clark’s and were showed to our seats by a very helpful waitress. The walls are covered with old west memorabilia. One wall has a beautiful mural of a wild west scene. Furnishings are rustic and you feel sort of like you are in a bunkhouse eating your main meal of the day.

Looking over the menu, which has an extensive listing of gourmet foods, we began to make our choices. I took a full rack of ribs, with the deep-fried corn on the cob, cole slaw, and french fries.

This time, Jordan was a little more selective in ordering. After asking about some of the various items, he asked if they had just meat on a bun. I directed him to the brisket sandwich. He ordered a side of french fries to go with it. Again I took iced tea, but Jordan had a soda to drink. We were both more than pleased with our meal. I shared some of my ribs with Jordan so that next time he would know what they were and could try them without worrying if he would like them.

Clark’s Outpost slow smokes all their meat. Everything is cooked over hickory from eight hours to 20 or more depending what is being cooked. The meat is tender, falling off the bone and flavorful from the natural smoke. Nothing artificial is added and no shortcuts are taken in making this authentic old time bar-b-que.

Let me know if you plan to make this little trip. Maybe Jordan and I can go along. We sure enjoy the travel and eating.



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Telling Our Stories

REMEMBERING ARMISTICE DAY, 1918

by Jack Frost McGraw

The Jefferson School was located on Chaffin Street in Sherman. Students gathered in the yard, and when they heard a bell, they all ran to see which teacher was standing in the doorway. On a bright November morning in 1918, Miss Knox called her second grade class. We lined up and marched single-file up the steps, down the hall, and into the cloakroom. There we hung up our coats and carried our bookbags into the classroom.

Our opening exercise was a recitation in unison of the Lord’s Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Then we started our reading lesson. On this morning we were interrupted by Miss Evorie, who came in to announce that “the war was over” and we should go home to “celebrate.”

I knew what “cele-brate” meant. At our house we celebrated holidays and birthdays all the time. It meant fried chicken and blackberry cobbler and all the aunts and cousins coming in to eat with us. It meant the dining room filled with grown-ups and the children waiting or being served at the kitchen table. It meant deviled eggs and pickles and, if it was a picnic, bread-and-butter sandwiches made from that delicious brown bread.

As I hurried home that morning, I disobeyed a standing rule: I cut through the park and walked by the Interstate Cotton Oil Mill.

Goodness! The whistles were stuck and they kept going off. They were awfully loud, and someone was shooting a gun! It, too, kept going: Bang! Bang! Bang! Then the streetcar came down Grand Avenue and the bell was ringing. The noise around there was really something!

But I hurried on thinking of our celebration. Then when I reached home, I stopped in my tracks. My grandmother was dressed in her Sunday clothes. She was even wearing her hat. How could she fry chicken and make pies dressed like that? What’s more, she said, “Put your things away and come with me, we’re going to town to celebrate the end of the war.”

There was nothing to do but follow instructions. We rode the streetcar with the clanging bell and where we got off at Travis and Lamar streets downtown, we could barely get through the crowds. The big red fire truck pulled by giant horses was coming down the street and Dad Hill was trying to hold the crowd back so they would not be trampled. We work-ed our way down to the bank, where Mother was waiting for us. She said, “We are really going to celebrate” but she took my hand and led me into a big restaurant. The man at the door took us to a table already set with napkins and silver and glasses of water.

I wondered how he knew we were coming and if he could fry chicken. He sure didn’t look like he could bake pies. He wore a black suit and a white shirt and his tie was black too. He seemed like maybe he would preach or lead us in prayer. He seemed friendly, though, when he pushed my chair up to the table. Then he left and another man came with big cards. I thought surely this one was going to have a reading class; but Mother talked to him using words I didn’t know, like “oyster” and “a-la-mode.” I was anxious to get through with this visit so we could go celebrate with maybe a cake and candles to blow out. Pretty soon that last man returned and set some plates of food in front of us. It wasn’t chicken or black-eyed peas but Mother said I should taste it and see if I liked it.

It was oysters! That was the most delicious food I’d ever eaten. I ate all of mine and was about to ask for more when Mother said, “Wait a minute! You have a surprise coming.” It was pie—cherry pie, my favorite that we rarely had at Grand-mother’s house—and on top of it was a big serving of ice cream.

Well, this was a celebration after all. I knew “celebrate” meant a big fancy meal. I just had never eaten fried oysters or pie-a-la-mode before. We really did celebrate Armistice Day, November 11, 1918.

Jack Frost McGraw

Jack Frost (on right) waiting with a friend and her grandmother to ride the trolley to downtown Sherman for the first Armistice Day celebration, Nov. 11, 1918



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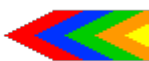
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