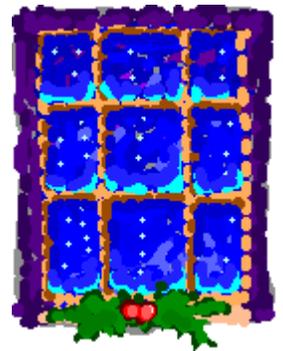


Texoma Enterprise

Howe, Texas
75459

December 22, 2013-January 2, 2014



The “Dock of the Bay” was the End of the Road - by Don Mathis

My high school was somber December 10, 1967, the day Otis Redding died. The socialites, the jocks, the greasers, the hippies, - to mid-60s youth, this was the day the music died. I was 16, he was 26.

Reared in gospel, Otis Redding long believed lyrics didn't matter as long as you had 'the groove.' Listening to the Beatles and Bob Dylan changed his mind about lyrics; he never lost 'the groove.'

California was the center of so much in the 60s and San Francisco was its capital. *The Dock of the Bay* was a real place. Otis was there, he lived what he wrote. Otis had many transitions in this part of his life – his marriage (on the rocks), his career (fixing to fire his manager), his health (injury to his vocal chords).

Dock of the Bay was as much folk ballad as Rhythm and Blues. The sound of the ocean begins my favorite version. A gentle guitar precedes Otis' plaintive voice. His new band, the Bar-Kays, was famous in their own right. Their soft brass creates a texture like a ship's horn through the fog.

The opening stanza, "Sitting in the morning sun," implies the writer has been up all night. The next line, "I'll be sitting when the evening comes," confirms the solitude of this man. Otis' weary voice matches the mood of the text.

A bridge links the pines of his home to the ocean, "Left my home in Georgia, headed for the Frisco Bay." The simplicity of the chord patterns is their beauty. The bass plays short punctuating notes. The drum unifies the performing forces into 'the groove.'

The striding piano stays in the back. Guitar fills answer the vocal melody. *Dock* has dimension in lyrical as well as instrumental content. It is a personal song, introspective – it speaks to every soul.

Fellow musicians worked through their grief by working on *Dock*. They added the sound of seagulls and crashing waves, a touch of realism, a sense of place. *Dock* was released less than a month after Otis' death. His first gold record, it hit number one on both the pop and R&B charts.

Like the ocean rolling in the beginning of the song, the whistling at the end provides a pensive and haunting element. It gives the piece an unfinished aura, another touch of realism that is a metaphor for Otis' life.

Dock was one of the last great soul songs from Atlantic Records. It was the end of an era.

Hall kicks off re-election campaign and announces final run for office

ROCKWALL, TX -- Congressman Ralph Hall announced today in Rockwall at the "Band of Brothers" gathering that he is seeking re-election in the 4th Congressional District of Texas but stated that this will in fact be his final run for public office.

Hall's public service spans five decades; which includes having served as Rockwall County Judge, State Senator, and United States Congressman.

"I have had the privilege of serving the people of Rockwall and East Texas for some time. I look forward to campaigning for re-election the next couple of months and serving one final term in Congress. There are a number of projects in the district that I believe my seniority and leadership are critical to accomplishing. Additionally, I believe Republicans will win a majority in the United States Senate this November and we will finally be able to stop the runaway deficits of the last few years, repeal Obamacare, and address an array of issues like immigration reform that the Democrat majority continues to block."

When asked about the candidates lined up to face him in the upcoming March election Congressman Hall said,

"From what I know of them, they appear to be a fine group of people. I can honestly say I haven't heard any of them say they think I'm doing a bad job or not representing the values and beliefs of the voters in this district. I truly appreciate each of their willingness to represent the citizens of the 4th Congressional District and serve their country and I wish them all well leading up to the March Republican Primary. But make no mistake; I plan on winning this election."

At the age of 90, Congressman Hall still enjoys an occasional morning jog when time permits and boasts that he is often burning the midnight oil in Washington long after others have gone home for the day.

Texoma Patriots Schedule

December 28 – another Overpasses for Obama's Impeachment. We'll meet at 11 a.m. at **Albertsons**, 100 E. Taylor St, Sherman. We will hold our signs on the overpass of Highway 75. Meet in the far corner of the parking lot nearest to the highway. Bring signs or we will have some available for you to wave. Wear comfortable shoes and dress for the weather.

Jan 11, 2014 – *Texans for Freedom & Liberty Freedom Rally* – 7 to 9 pm **NOTE: this is a date change since Sen Reid has scheduled the Senate to convene on Jan 13. Keynote speaker: U.S. Senator Ted Cruz – Cottonwood Creek Baptist Church, 1015 State Hwy 121, Allen, TX – general admission \$10 Ticket On Sale Now!**

January 13 – our next regular meeting at Buck Snort BBQ in Van Alstyne

January 30 – Dan Patrick, running for Lt Governor, and Dan Branch, running for Attorney General will be our speakers. The meeting will be held in the Assembly Room of the Grayson County Courthouse in Sherman starting at 7 p.m.

February 6 – a forum with the candidates running for Congressional District 4. The following candidates have confirmed – Tony Arterburn, Lou Gigliotti, Brent Lawson, John Ratcliffe, John Stacy, and J. P. Raley. Grayson County Courthouse in Sherman at 7 p.m.

We will be starting Poll Watcher training soon. Please let me know if you can help us insure that there is no voter fraud at the polling centers. Or it may just be a case of watching the election officials to verify they are following procedures.





Capitol Watch

By Larry Phillips, State Representative



2013 Capitol Ornament Unveiled

An annual tradition at the capitol is the unveiling of the capitol ornament. The 2013 ornament was just recently unveiled and features the skylights of the legislative chambers of the Texas Senate and House of Representatives. The ornament is finished in 24k gold.

This is the eighteenth in a series of capitol ornaments, which began in 1996. The capitol ornaments have featured some of the most recognizable symbols of our state; more recently, the ornaments represent an architectural or decorative aspect of the capitol building. Past ornaments have depicted the state flag (1998); the lone star (1999); the state seal (2000); the capitol gates (2003); the interior of the capitol dome (2004); the goddess of liberty that sits atop of the capitol dome; the great seal as it appears in the capitol rotunda (2008); and the chamber chandeliers (2011).

Over \$5 million has been raised from ornament sales over the past seventeen years. Proceeds from the sale of these ornaments go toward programs such as brochures for self-guided tours of the capitol and grounds; creating historical and education exhibits at the capitol visitors' center; restoration and maintenance of capitol historic artifacts such as original artwork and furnishings; and other necessary preservation needs.

The 2013 ornament is available online at www.TexasCapitolGiftshop.com and in the Capitol Visitors Center, the Capitol Gift Shop or in the Texas State History Museum Store. The ten most recent ornaments (2004-2013) are also available. Ornaments may also be purchased by calling 1-888-678-5556.

Holiday Traditions at the Capitol

The holiday season is well underway. Cities in Delta, Fannin, and Grayson Counties have decorated their streets and are hosting Christmas events such as parades and holiday concerts. Likewise, at the Capitol in Austin preparations for the holiday season have begun. The Capitol halls are adorned with decorations, and several traditional Christmas trees, including one in the House Chamber, welcome visitors to the Capitol. Throughout the holiday season, school children come to sing and perform under the Capitol dome. This year, the 20-foot Virginia Pine in the House Chamber was supplied by Elves Farm in Denison, Texas. Elves Farm also supplied the House Chamber's 2011 and 2012 Christmas trees.

Each year members of the Texas House are invited to share a visual representation of what makes their district special. For the last several years, these creative works – in the form of ornaments – have decorated the tree that stands in the House Chamber during the holiday season. This year, the ornament from District 62, which encompasses all of Delta, Fannin, and Grayson counties, was painted by artist Beth Hubbert, art teacher at Neblett Elementary in Sherman. It is painted in the manner of a woven tapestry, and shows how many individual threads can create a strong cloth. The ornament celebrates the diversity and unity of the three counties.

The tree will be on display from December 4 through January 3. All ornaments are photographed and descriptions of their individual significance are compiled into an album so that visitors to the House Chamber and House website can enjoy each ornament's unique story.

My staff and I wish everyone a joyful Christmas and happy holiday season. For more information regarding any matter of state government, please contact my office by writing to P.O. Box 2910, Austin, TX 78768-2910 or by emailing me at larry.phillips@house.state.tx.us. My district office phone number is (903) 891-7297.

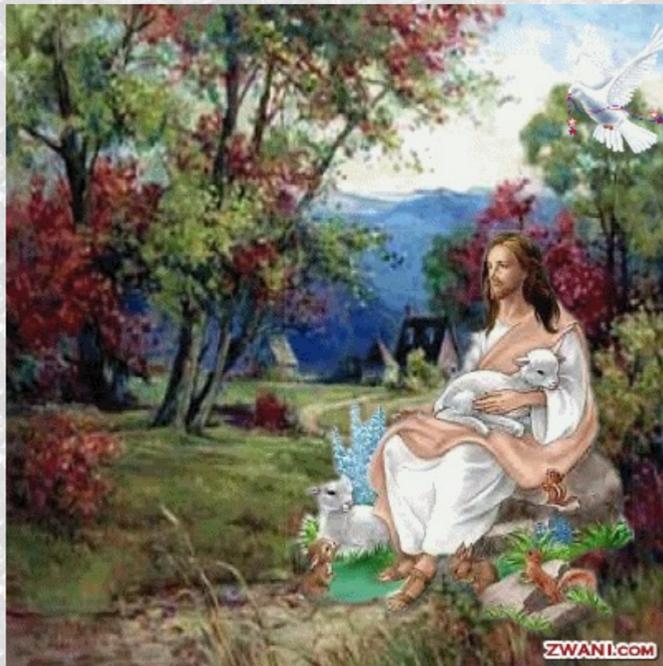
New Laws for the New Year

Most bills that pass during a regular legislative session take effect on September 1 of that same year. A bill can take effect immediately if it receives a 2/3 vote in both the House and Senate. However, it is sometimes necessary to delay the date the new law becomes effective. This week, I will write about a few laws that will take effect on January 1, 2014.

House Bill 97 allows for the exemption from or a limitation on the ad valorem taxation of part of the appraised value of the residence homestead of a partially disabled veteran or the surviving spouse of a partially disabled veteran if the residence homestead was donated to the disabled veteran by a charitable organization. This bill was contingent on the passage of a constitutional amendment presented to voters in November. The amendment, Proposition 4, was passed by voters, and the legislation will take effect on January 1 and will apply to 2014 property taxes.

House Bill 1349 was passed during the regular legislative session and strikes the requirement that an applicant for a concealed handgun license provide the Department of Public Safety with the applicant's social security number. After January 1, 2014 applicants for new licenses or those renewing existing licenses will no longer have to give DPS their social security number as part of the application.

Currently, credit consumers may place freezes on their credit file to prevent identity thieves from opening lines of credit in their name. Because most children have not established a credit file, they are particularly susceptible to tarnished credit histories if their identity is stolen. **Senate Bill 60** allows for a placement of a security freeze on the consumer file or other record created or maintained by a consumer reporting agency regarding a person under 16 years of age. This bill also takes effect on January 1, 2014.



Luke 2:1-20 (KJV)

- ¹ And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed.
- ² (*And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.*)
- ³ And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city.
- ⁴ And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:)
- ⁵ To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.
- ⁶ And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered.
- ⁷ And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.
- ⁸ And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.
- ⁹ And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid.
- ¹⁰ And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.
- ¹¹ For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.
- ¹² And this *shall be* a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.
- ¹³ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,
- ¹⁴ Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.
- ¹⁵ And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us.
- ¹⁶ And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger.
- ¹⁷ And when they had seen *it*, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child.
- ¹⁸ And all they that heard *it* wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds.
- ¹⁹ But Mary kept all these things, and pondered *them* in her heart.
- ²⁰ And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.

Christian Fellowship

Palmer Miller will be leading worship service this week at A Christian Fellowship in Luella. Come on out and join them for coffee and doughnut fellowship at 9:00a.m. Followed by classes for all ages at 9:30. Worship service begins at 10:30.

David Ellis leads praise and worship and it is a contemporary style service. Dress is casual. The church also celebrates The Lord's Supper each week during worship service.

They also have a class for the children ages 2-10 called Kidz in Da Zone for Jesus! They meet during worship service. They learn bible verses, stories and have puppet shows. Lots of fun for Kidz.

Wednesday night begins with a pot-luck dinner at 6:30p.m. Followed by praise and worship and a devotional.

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

Tom Bean Church of Christ

The Tom Bean Church of Christ invites everyone to come and worship with us. Our services begin each Sunday with Bible class for all ages at 9:00 am and worship at 10:00 am with congregational singing. The evening worship service begins at 6:00 pm. The Lord Supper is given each Sunday. Wednesday, we have Bible classes for all ages beginning at 7:00 pm. The church is located at the corner of FM902 and FM2729 South in Tom Bean, TX..

We have radio programs each Sunday at 7:30 am on KFYN 1420AM and KFYZ 93.5FM. The lessons are brought by A.C. Quinn. Also there are two other programs; the North Side church of Christ is on at 8:00 am, and Leonard church of Christ is on at 8:30 am both on KFYN 1420 AM.

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

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

Area Churches

Cannon

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

Cherry Mound

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

Dorchester

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

Gunter

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

Howe

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

Ida

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

Luella

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

Tom Bean

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



More Church Page



LIVING WATER

An Outreach Publication of the Church of Christ

Save Me!

Harrison Odjegba Okene of Nigeria was working as a cook on the Tugboat Jascon when a heavy swell caused the vessel to capsize and his boat sank to the sea bed 100 feet below in the waters of the Atlantic Ocean. Okene's ordeal began around 4:30 a.m. on May 26. He was in the bathroom when the tug, one of three towing an oil tanker off the coast of Nigeria, gave a sudden lurch and then keeled over.

"I was dazed and everywhere was dark as I was thrown from one end of the small cubicle to another," Okene told Nigeria's Nation newspaper. He groped his way out of the bathroom and eventually entered a cabin of the sunken vessel that felt safe. Then he began to wait and he prayed to be rescued.

He had no idea about the well-being of his fellow crew members – 10 Nigerians and the Ukrainian captain. Sadly, these all died in the ordeal. As Okene waited and the cold waters began to rise in the cabin, he thought about his wife, his extended family, and his friends. He also recited the last psalm his wife had sent by text message, sometimes called the Prayer for Deliverance, which begins with the plea: "Save me, O God, by your name" (Psalm 54).

"Surely God is my help;
The Lord is the one who sustains me."
– Psalm 54:4

Divers were called to the scene. By the time they arrived and divers navigated down to the ship, their purpose was only to look for bodies, according to Tony Walker, project manager for the Dutch company DCN Diving.

So when a hand appeared on the TV screen Walker was monitoring in the rescue boat, showing what the diver in the Jascon saw, everybody assumed it was another corpse. But when the diver "went to grab the hand, the hand grabbed him!" Walker said in a telephone interview Tuesday.

After 60 hours of being trapped in a capsized tugboat, breathing the ever-dwindling oxygen left in an air pocket, clinging to thoughts of his loved ones, the words of a beloved psalm, and the prayerful hope of rescue, Okene was found and brought to safety. *

"I will praise your name, O LORD, for it is good.
For He has delivered me from all my troubles."
– Psalm 54:6-7

Okene's desperate circumstances resemble our OWN condition in sin...

When we were drowning in sin, God sent His Son Jesus to our rescue. Jesus gave His life for us, so that we might be saved and receive the gift of eternal life (John 3:16; Romans 6:23).

God will save those who place their faith and trust in Jesus (Acts 16:30-31), turn from their sin in repentance (Acts 17:30-31), confess Jesus before men (Romans 10:9-10), and are baptized (immersed) into Christ for the forgiveness of sins (Acts 2:38). God will continue to "sustain" those who continue to walk in the light of His Word (1 John 1:7). The Lord has promised salvation and eternal life to those who will "cry out" to Him through their trusting obedience.

Won't YOU?

David Sargent, Minister
dauidsargent1@comcast.net

* Information gleaned from www.foxnews.com

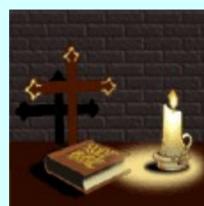
Archived issues of "Living Water" can be viewed and Archived issues of "Living Water" can be viewed and accessed from our website at: www.creekwoodcc.org

HTML version: subscribe-livingwater@lyris.dundee.net
TEXT version: subscribe-livingwater-text@lyris.dundee.net

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

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

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



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dalerideout@cablone.net

lanarideout@cablone.net

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



Grandkids singing at the Elves Christmas Tree Farm, 2007



Dots Dashes

By Dorothy N. Fowler

Bill Gates did not write these rules. A man named Sykes wrote them and should get credit for them. They should be inscribed on the psyche of every kid and every parent

I have taken the liberty of adding a 12th rule that will be seconded by every hard working teacher in the United States and probably in the rest of the world.

Rule No. 1: Life is not fair. Get used to it. The average teen-ager uses the phrase "It's not fair" 8.6 times a day. You got it from your parents, who said it so often you decided they must be the most idealistic generation ever. When they started hearing it from their own kids, they realized Rule No. 1.

Rule No. 2: The real world won't care as much about your self-esteem as much as your school does. It'll expect you to accomplish something before you feel good about yourself. This may come as a shock. Usually, when inflated self-esteem meets reality, kids complain that it's not fair. (See Rule No. 1)

Rule No. 3: Sorry, you won't make \$40,000 a year right out of high school. And you won't be a vice president or have a car phone either. You may even have to wear a uniform that doesn't have a Gap label.

Rule No. 4: If you think your teacher is tough, wait 'til you get a boss. He doesn't have tenure, so he tends to be a bit edgier. When you screw up, he's not going to ask you how you feel about it.

Rule No. 5: Flipping burgers is not beneath your dignity. Your grandparents had a different word for burger flipping. They called it opportunity. They weren't embarrassed making minimum wage either. They would have been embarrassed to sit around talking about Kurt Cobain all weekend.

Rule No. 6: It's not your parents' fault. If you screw up, you are responsible. This is the flip side of "It's my life," and "You're not the boss of me," and other eloquent proclamations of your generation. When you turn 18, it's on your dime. Don't whine about it, or you'll sound like a baby boomer.

Rule No. 7: Before you were born your parents weren't as boring as they are now. They got that way paying your bills, cleaning up your room and listening to you tell them how idealistic you are. And by the way, before you save the rain forest from the blood-sucking parasites of your parents' generation, try delousing the closet in your bedroom.

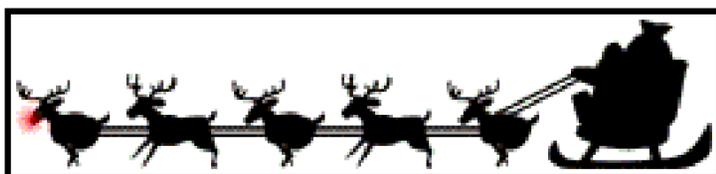
Rule No. 8: Your school may have done away with winners and losers. Life hasn't. In some schools, they'll give you as many times as you want to get the right answer. Failing grades have been abolished and class valedictorians scrapped, lest anyone's feelings be hurt. Effort is as important as results. This, of course, bears not the slightest resemblance to anything in real life. (See Rule No. 1, Rule No. 2 and Rule No. 4.)

Rule No. 9: Life is not divided into semesters, and you don't get summers off. Not even Easter break. They expect you to show up every day. For eight hours. And you don't get a new life every 10 weeks. It just goes on and on. While we're at it, very few jobs are interested in fostering your self-expression or helping you find yourself. Fewer still lead to self-realization. (See Rule No. 1 and Rule No. 2.)

Rule No. 10: Television is not real life. Your life is not a sitcom. Your problems will not all be solved in 30 minutes, minus time for commercials. In real life, people actually have to leave the coffee shop to go to jobs. Your friends will not be as perky or pliable as Jennifer Aniston.

Rule No. 11: Be nice to nerds. You may end up working for them. We all could.

Rule No 12: It is not your teacher's fault if you fail to learn what he or she teaches. It is your responsibility to learn the material presented even if your teacher is not entertaining, interesting or ignores your learning style. Your boss will probably not be entertaining, interesting or care about your learning style. This rule should be recited daily by every student, every parent, every school administrator, every state legislator, every school board member and every other education expert. End of story. Amen.



Statement by Gov. Rick Perry on 2014-2015 Certification Revenue Estimate

AUSTIN – Gov. Rick Perry today released the following statement regarding the comptroller's 2014-2015 Certification Revenue Estimate:

"Texas government budgets like Texas families, limiting spending and saving hard-earned dollars. As a result, Comptroller Susan Combs estimates our current 2014-2015 budget will end with a positive balance of nearly \$2.6 billion. What's most remarkable is we've done this while passing \$1.4 billion in tax cuts, and we've made historic investments in water and, if voters approve, roads. It's a shame Washington still hasn't learned, you can't tax and spend your way to prosperity."

Merry Christmas!

*May you have the spirit of Christmas which is Peace,
the gladness of Christmas which is Hope,
and the heart of Christmas which is Love.*



Rick, Anita & Sydney
Griffin, Meredith & Ella
Perry

*Praise be to the Lord my Rock, who trains my hands for war, my fingers for battle.
He is my loving God and my fortress, my stronghold and my deliverer,
my shield, in whom I take refuge, who subdues people under me.*

Psalm 144:1 - 2



Howe Elementary Students of the Month for December

Row 1: Eli Stoner & Haley White

Row 2: Elijah Morrison, Presley Shockey, Jacob Campbell & Caitlyn Armstrong

Row 3: Austin Haley, Jana Nitchman, Trinity Williams & Luke Catching



Santa Visits Howe Library

Santa visited the library this past Saturday for storytime. He read "Twas the Night Before Christmas" with the children then spent time visiting with each child. The children also made a paper wreath and decorated cookies to eat.

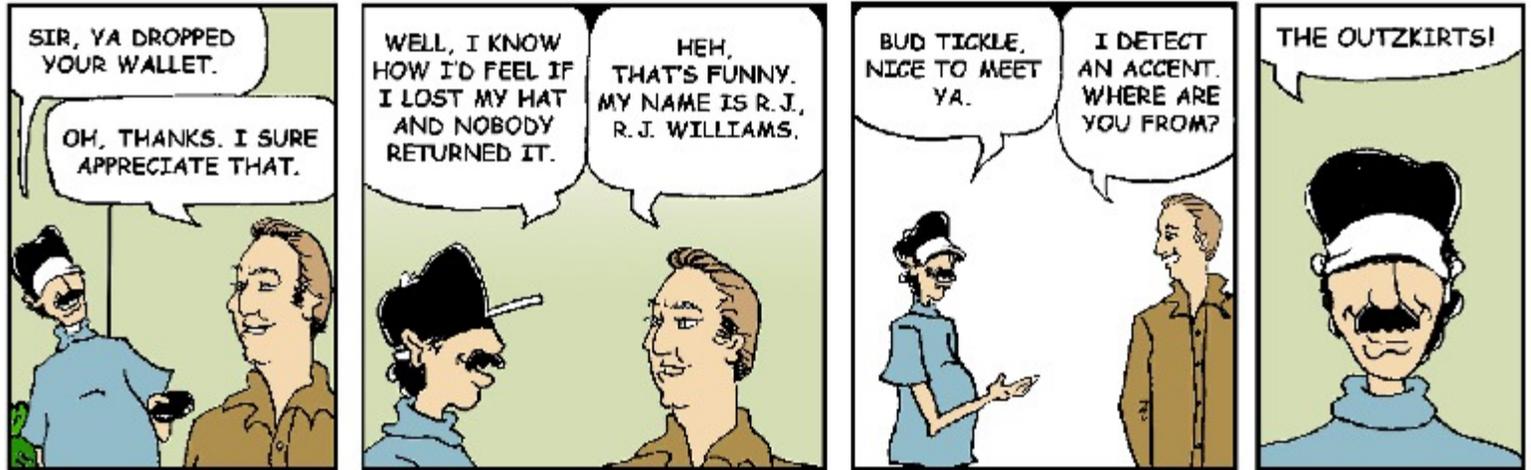
Santa with our teen volunteers - Dottie Darland, Morgan Dyer, Library Director Becky Hogenson, and Amanda Miller



Cierra Brussow, Cody Brussow, Sophie Cherry and Samul Cherry.

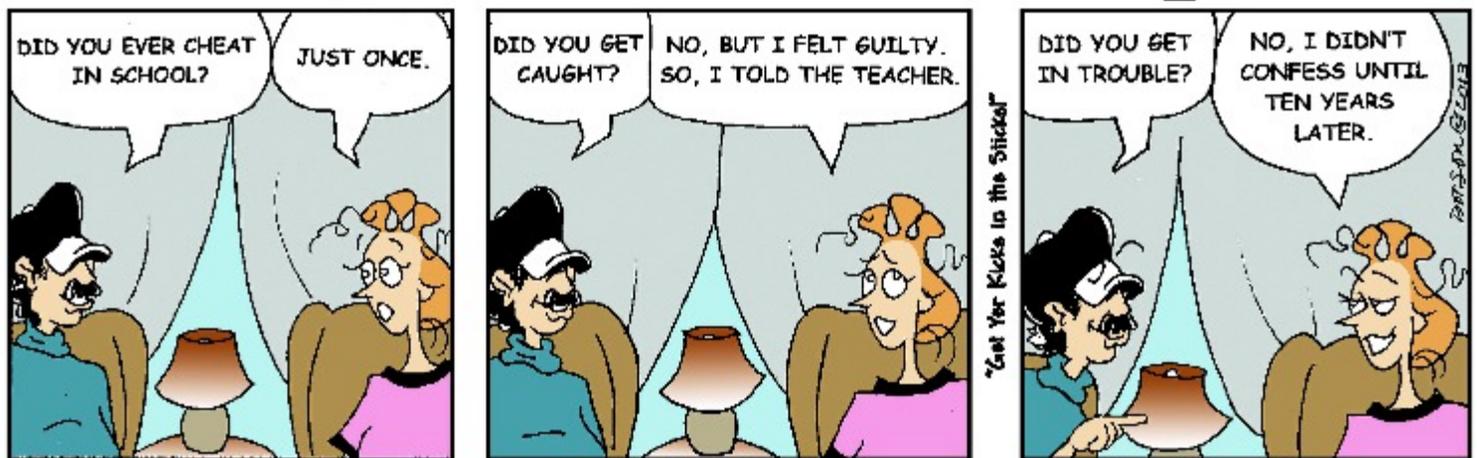
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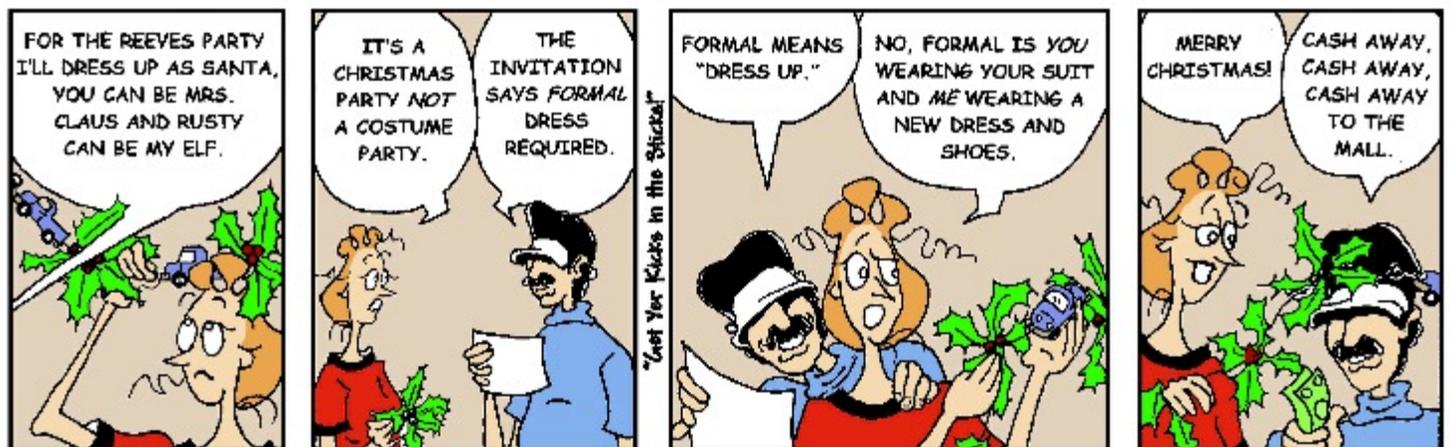
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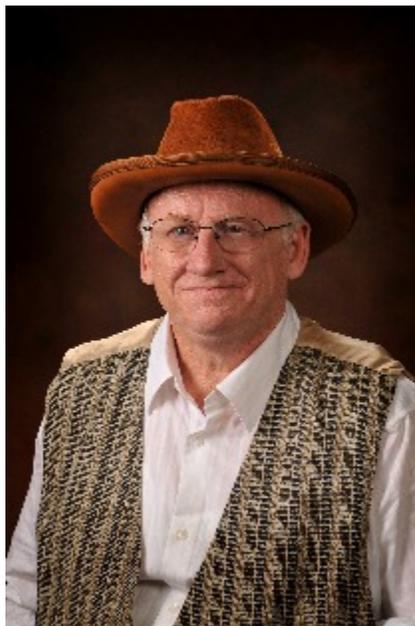
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Jerry Lincecum

Austin College Students walk amid fallen trees on campus in Jan. 1949



LET'S REMINISCE: THE GREAT ICE STORM OF 1949

By Jerry Lincecum

Who besides me remembers the Great Ice Storm of 1949? I'm talking about the one that started on Jan. 22 and didn't end until Feb. 4. I checked the dates on the internet, finding it listed as the worst ice storm in company history of Texas Power and Light. Steel towers crumpled and two inches of ice accumulated on some transmission wires.

I was not quite seven years old, and on our farm near Groesbeck we had several old oak and pecan trees that lost large limbs. There was the fun part, too, in that our pond froze hard enough for skating (using tow sacks). Fortunately, we were still burning wood in stoves and fireplaces, because butane froze in the tanks of some of our neighbors.

Shirley Smith Clark was living on a farm in Celina. She can remember awakening one cold frosty night in January to a loud jarring noise, followed by complete silence. Soon there were crackling and popping sounds outside her bedroom window, followed by a clatter as something fell crashing to the ground. It was an old hackberry tree that stood for years, but was now unable to bear the weight of several inches of accumulated ice on its huge branches. She was frightened, and as the strange sounds continued, she quickly got out of bed, grabbed her clothes and raced downstairs.

Her dad took them outside, and Shirley could hardly believe her eyes. The night was so bright it seemed like day. The dark sky seemed filled with stars. Everything was covered with ice that glistened like million of diamonds in the light of a full moon.

Beauty has its price, however. Their electric lights were off, and her mother had to find her old oil lamps and light them. She made hot cocoa, and they all sat around the kitchen table, listening as the ice continued to take its toll on the trees. When morning finally arrived, their yard was piled high with broken limbs and fallen trees. Because of the severity of the damage to power lines, it was weeks before their electricity could be restored. School was closed for a week.

Elton Clark remembers the arrival of the ice storm in Sherman was a scary night for an eleven year old. His family's neighborhood in south Sherman was an old one with many trees. They sat up and listened as limbs crashed all around. Some of the sounds were like explosions as old trees split and big limbs fell, sometimes on cars and houses.

Very close to the Clark's house was a big elm tree, and several falling limbs from it slammed down on the roof right over their heads. They'd lost electricity early on and the candlelight didn't help much as they huddled, fearing the next sound might be a tree coming through the ceiling.

Elton recalls that the ice storm of '49 left its stamp on Sherman for years to come. The Austin College campus and Birge Street Park were two areas which had many of their mature trees reduced to trunks with few limbs and ugly scars.

-30-

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

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The Tom Bean Beautification Committee selected the winning Christmas Yard of the Month and presented Mary Jones (Hwy 11) with a check for \$50. The beautiful lights and nativity scene is a wonderful site when coming into Tom Bean from the west. We appreciate all the citizens in town that participated in the contest and we had some gorgeous displays in parts of the city. May your holidays be blessed and healthy.



