

Texoma Enterprise

Howe, Texas
75459

February 2, 2012



Humor



Church



Big AG



Sherman Community Players

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updates & changes
Coming Soon



Austin College Alumna Shares 100 Voices: Americans Talk About Change

SHERMAN, TEXAS-Psychologist Mary Henning Clare, author of the recently released 100 Voices: Americans Talk About Change will visit Austin College Monday and Tuesday, February 6 and 7, to share thoughts about her book and her ongoing research. She will discuss her book February 6 and her research on February 7, with both presentations at 4:30 p.m. in Caruth Administration Building, Room 201. Both events are free and open to the public.

Clare, a 1978 graduate of Austin College, is a professor in the Graduate School of Education and Counseling and director of the Psychological and Cultural Studies Program at Lewis & Clark University in Portland, Oregon. Her research and scholarship have focused on applications of psychology in schools and communities, most recently focusing on the resilience among people of historically marginalized groups to survive and thrive in schools and communities. Her book, 100 Voices: Americans Talk About Change, was released by Loudmouth Press in October 2011.

According to a recent interview with Clare in The Portland Upside, all the "change" language associated with President Barak Obama's campaign led Clare to a project that resulted in her spending the first 100 days of the Obama administration traveling the country to interview 100 Americans of all backgrounds, collecting their thoughts on the state of the country. The article explained that she was inspired by a Studs Terkel book that captured the voices of ordinary Americans. She wrote her book, she said, "with the hope of opening a door for dialogue across our differences."

Clare explained that the idea for her book and the continuing dialogue began with the question, "What if? What if I took a road trip on the highways of the continental U.S. and stopped to listen along the way-to find out what we as American people mean when we say we want change? What if I asked, 'What does change mean to you? How will you recognize it? What do you want to have remain the same?'

What if I listened beyond the political rhetoric to hear the practical ideas at the heart of our shared wisdom?"

Among the voices in the book are the late Mayme Porter, former Austin College education faculty member, and former Dallas mayor Ron Kirk, Austin College Class of 1976, whose confirmation hearings for U.S. trade representative Clare listened to as she drove into Washington, D.C., for interviews for the book. For more information on the project that resulted in Clare's book, visit www.exchange09.com<<http://www.exchange09.com>>.

Clare's talks at Austin College are sponsored by the Gender Studies Committee and the Robert and Joyce Johnson Center for Faculty Development and Excellence in Teaching.

Austin College is a leading national independent liberal arts college located north of Dallas in Sherman, Texas. Founded in 1849, making it the oldest institution of higher education in Texas operating under original charter and name, the college is related by covenant to the Presbyterian Church (USA). Recognized nationally for academic excellence in the areas of international education, pre-professional training, and leadership studies, Austin College is one of 40 schools profiled in Loren Pope's influential book Colleges That Change Lives<<http://www.ctcl.org/>>.



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SE Live set for February 8

DURANT, Okla. - High school seniors and juniors, plus their parents and families, are invited to attend SE Live Open House hosted by Southeastern Oklahoma State University.

SE Live is scheduled for Wednesday, February 8, on the Southeastern campus in Durant, Oklahoma.

“SE Live is a great day for high school seniors and juniors to visit Southeastern’s campus and envision themselves as college students for a day. It’s a chance for students to see our campus and the great opportunities Southeastern provides as a University,” said Marcus High, University Recruiter.

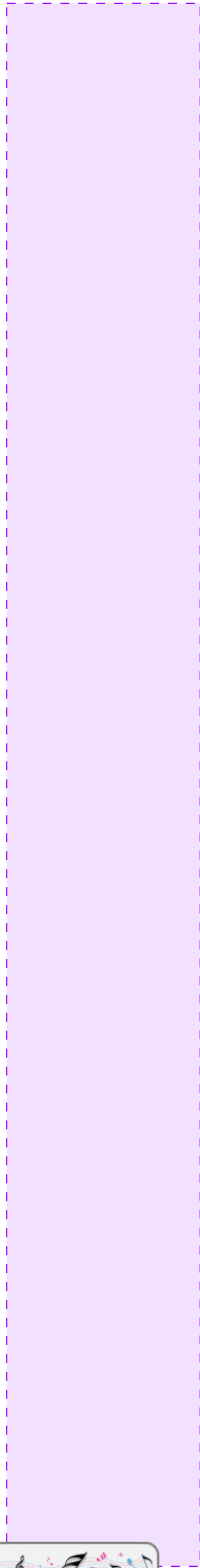
SE Live Open House is an excellent opportunity for high school students to experience what life is like as a Southeastern student. Students will attend workshops on Scholarships and Financial Aid, Southeastern Traditions and a College Success class. Campus tours will also be available in the afternoon.

Other highlights of the day will include entertainment by several of Southeastern’s performing groups, including the Sparks Dance Team. The choir and band will also hold early auditions for scholarships. In the afternoon, students will have an opportunity to visit Eaker Field, home of the Southeastern Aviation Program.

All students attending will receive an SE Sackpack and one free lunch ticket. Lunch is sponsored by First United Bank.

SE Live is an annual event on campus. Last year more than 500 students attended.

To view an event schedule, get directions and register, go online to www.SE.edu/SELive or contact the Office of University Recruitment at 580-745-2060.



Howe's That

Recipe



by Lana Rideout

Last Sunday, my husband and I witnessed an outstanding program at our church.

The guest speaker was Chet O'Doniel, 32-year-old son of our current minister.

Born with no arms and very short legs, Chet has overcome many problems. From the day of his birth, this young man has had a positive outlook.

He drives a car! He types on a computer! He does just about anything other folks can do. He and his wife have a beautiful daughter and another child is soon to be born.

He and his father spoke for about 30 minutes about the challenges and the faith in God this family has experienced.

His dad has written a book titled *You Don't Have To Have Arms To Go To Heaven*.

If you are interested in more information about this amazing story, Google Chet O'Doniel.

Corn Fritters with Orange Sauce

- 1 (10-ounce) package frozen whole kernel corn, thawed
- Milk
- 1/2 cup flour
- 2 Tablespoons melted butter or margarine
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 3/4 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/8 teaspoon pepper
- 2 eggs, beaten
- Vegetable oil for frying

Ingredients for Orange Sauce:

- 1 cup sweet orange marmalade
- 1/4 cup butter or margarine

Drain the corn, reserving the liquid. Combine the reserved liquid with enough milk to measure 1/4 cup. Combine the milk mixture, corn, flour, butter, salt, baking powder, pepper and eggs in a bowl and mix well. Pour the oil into a skillet to a depth of 1/2 inch. Heat until oil is hot.

Drop the batter by Tablespoonfuls into the hot oil. Fry until golden brown of both sides; drain. Drizzle the Orange Sauce over the corn fritters.

To Prepare Orange Sauce: Combine the marmalade and butter in a saucepan. Cook until mixed and heated through, stirring constantly.

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A Honor Roll - 3rd Six Weeks

Kindergarten: Casie Adams Jaeden Howard, Kelcey Ireland, Alex Jones, Carter Layton, Kolton Mitchell, Zeb Montgomery, Jacob Ortega, Autumn Owens, Emery Snapp, Payton Stapleton, Mahlon Walker, Madilynn Douglas, Clayton Duree, Dakota Fetzer, Caden Garner, Cooper Jones, Kayley Laubhan, Jace Martin, Cheyenne Mathews, Brooklyn McCaleb, Paris Menjivar, Lucas Mitchell, Rilyn Murphy, Jenna Roper, Jonathan Smith, Gage Troxtell, Riley Troxtell, Courtney White, Dax Foster, Shianne Freeman-Williams, Emma Hitesman, Kolin Murphy, Sandra Nitchman, Haley Richardson, Fisher Robertson, Matalee Stewart, Ashton Trevino, Emry Woods, Nathan Wooten, Kenneth York, Cody Adams, Mary Burris, Kendall Griffin, Willie Husband, Morgan Pitt

First Grade: Bryan Crees, Danielle Hargrove, Jacob McGill, Madison Morrow, Linda Segura, Kolby Smith, Faith Stallings, Teagan Stubblefield, Yair Ayala, Mackenzie Bryant, Jentrie Doty, Ryan Hough, Janna Nitchman, Keira Robertson, Ethan Strunc, Jacob Upchurch, Austin Haley, Korie Bouse, Ethan Duer, Carson Daniels, Audie Martin, Brody McCollum, Emma Sutherland, Breana Cole, Alex Huerta, Trey Phillips, Dakota Tinker

Second Grade: Jaden Bryant, Ethan Conrad, Jaicob Husband, Jessica Bastida, Harley Brockelman, Zak DeFrange, Will Fleming, John Griffin, Ethan Lopez, Fenix Lugo, Katie Parker, Parker Pecina, Ricky Ramirez, Avery Snapp, Ben Speed, Caleb Wahrmund, Eli Wilson, Kevin Bateman, Cierra Brussow, Luke Catching, Luis Gonzalez, Emma Harvey, Austin Jones, Luke Lopez, Caleb Maddison, Zoey Moore, Ryan Murphy, Alyssa Sharp, Justin Whitaker, Caytie Coco, Kaitlyn Fuhr, Paige Gifford, Colby Hopper, Kailyn Ireland, Brooke Potter, Aiden Roulette, Ethan Turner, Kaleb Strong

Third Grade: Jackson Adkins, Alex Blount, Sierra Copeland, Jake Fabacher, Alex Hernandez, Cameron Lankford, Lizzy Robertson, Camryn Adams, Kriston Harris, David Huerta, Mason Moreau, Grace Brennan, Leah Butcher, Hannah Dwyer, Katie Grogan

Fourth Grade: Cassidy Anderson, Jenna Honore, Magi Watson, Molly Wilson, Kolby Windon, Lane Griffin, Taylor Hinkle, Ally Harvey, Valerie Langford, Lucas Peacock, Paetyn Ford, Zane Hughes

Howe Elementary "Top Dogs" for the week ending January 27th are: Kaden Raborn, Leah Butcher, Grace Lankford, Paige Gifford, Talen Miller, Jared Brussow, Ryan Murphy, Bryan Crees, Britton Burt, Garrett Gibbs, Kayley Laubhan, and Kolin Murphy. Not pictured is Jade Cox.



Accelerated Reader Top Ten -- 3rd Six Weeks

Second Grade: Caleb Wahrmund, Conner Record, Ben Speed, Avery Snapp, Eli Wilson, Jaicob Husband, John Griffin, Ricky Ramirez, Ramie Mosse, Cierra Brussow

Third Grade: Grace Brennan, David Huerta, Lizzy Robertson, Holly Cavender, Seth Key, Kameron Hopper, Katie Grogan, Kriston Harris, Alex Hernandez, Leah Butcher

Fourth Grade: Valerie Lankford, Karsyn Fleming, Jenna Honore, Taylor Hinkle, Bailey Bond, Molly Wilson, Paetyn Ford, Raina Ross, Kacie Morgan, Lane Griffin, Robin Cung



A/B Honor Roll - 3rd Six Weeks

Kindergarten: Catelyn Armstrong, Jayden Bookout, Ebenezer Chawn, Anthony Gardner, Jaycie Grisham, Ryleigh Jenkins, Gracie Max, Dakota Smith, Mia Wilson, Brayden Bahr, Cassie Morrison, Kade Murphy, Nita Olivarez, Jesse Portman, Camryn Boatman, Zoey Bolen, Ryleigh Craven, Ainsley Denham, Mikaylah Komorowski, Thomas Roberson

First Grade: Caleb Fetzer, Kristopher Craig, Bettye DeLavan, Daniel Gonzalez, Matthew Hayes, Korben Kemp, Donna Mendoza, Tate Harvey, Samantha Lowder, Zander Toner, Jordan Brunner, Jalie Hill, Sergio Rico, Ariana Ross, Leo Becerra, Kaylyn Bryant, Ayden Burris, Chesnee Lawson

Second Grade: Stanley Bik, Michelle Caballero, Ashley Crees, Jaryn Grisham, Talen Miller, Christian Moody, Ramie Mosse, Gavin Richardson, Caleb Searcey, Ethan Tindell, Trinity Williams, Hagen York, Sabian Acevedo, Jared Brussow, Lindsey Hymel, Riley Griffith, Tony Howard, Samantha Lemley, David Rocha

Third Grade: Erin Catching, Kayle Chapman, Karrah Gardner, Tatum Hartsfield, Reagan Troxtell, Kameron Hopper, Brooke Robinson, Pablo Segura, Austin Thurman, Aubreh Winegarden, Holly Cavender, Kamryn Gardner, Ethen Grant, Korbyn Thompson, Ava Bader, Brett Burnett, Courtney Hopper, Seth Key, Grace Lankford, AJ Shue, Crista Timmons, Lane Watson

Fourth Grade: Nayely Ayala, Hally Bollier, Layton Elvington, Catherine Switzer, Colton Thurman, Ty Trevino, Kaden Turner, Bethany Van Deren, Karsyn Fleming, Jaron Ing, Kolbe Lappin, Sarah Martin, Braden Monroe, Jamie Taylor, Kaden Bateman, Kylie Hopper, Garrett Grigg, Ethan Sloat, Waylon Knowles, Caden Stewart, Riley Underwood, Jodee Newland, Bailey Bond, Zoie DeFrange, Ivonne Delgado, Madison Kenney, Kacie Morgan, Jacob Roper, Cindy Torres, Jackson Wilson



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Gunter Library Grand Opening

The Gunter Library and Museum has moved and is now located at #4, Gunter Center Plaza (Morgan Center, 110 S. State Highway 289). The grand opening was held on Saturday, Jan. 21 with a fundraising breakfast followed by tours of the new library space.

The Library is staffed by volunteers. Sheri Smith is the librarian. President of the Friends is Jeanine Hawkins. A ribbon cutting was held Saturday and several activities were available to patrons.

New Library hours are: Monday 10-2, Tuesday 2:30-7:30, Thursday 2-6, and Saturday 10-2. Services available include free

Internet, current authors and books, children's and adult programs, reference and homework help, books on CDs, DVD and VHS movies, basic computer classes and Internet use.

Join us for Brown Bag Book Discussion Club each 4th Wednesday at 12 noon. Bring your lunch.

Let us know what other activities you would like the Gunter Library and Museum to provide as we become your Neighborhood Resource Center. For more information, phone: 903-207-4527



Ribbon cutting for the Gunter Library and Museum new facilities



Children's books at Gunter Library



Gunter Museum includes photos, newspapers, maps, and artifacts of Gunter history.





BOOKSHELF

By Tracy Luscombe

February already? Really? Time is fleeting. This is a leap year so we've got that extra day added to February. Calendars are a strange thing. At different times in history and in different parts of the world the holidays are moved around, the work week is shortened or lengthened, and every so many years an extra day is thrown in. Leap Year originated in ancient Rome under Julius Caesar. To keep the seasons steady they had been using a 355 day calendar, then would add a month of 22 or 23 days every two years. Caesar went with a plan designed by a Greek astronomer that had 365 days each year, and added 1 day every 4 years. Pope Gregory XIII then set that this extra day would be at the end of February.

February in America is also Black History Month. Its origins are in Negro History Week which was started in 1926 by Carter G. Woodson, the second African American man to graduate from Harvard. On its 50th anniversary in 1976 it was expanded to be Black History Month. Come check out our resources to learn more about the history of African Americans.

This Saturday, Feb. 4, is the monthly breakfast hosted by the Friends of the Van Alstyne Library. Join us at the Community Center (7 – 10 am) for a great breakfast of eggs, sausage, pancakes, biscuits and gravy, juice and coffee for only \$4.00.

Here are a few new titles added to our collection. *Waking up in Dixie* by Haywood Smith. *Playing the Game* by Barbara Taylor Bradford, *The Silent Girl* by Tess Gerritsen, *House of Dark Shadows* by Robert Liparulo, *Catherine the Great: Portrait of a Woman* by Robert K. Massie.

Hope to see you around the Van Alstyne Public Library.



7th Grade Basketball Results 1/26/12

The 7th Grade "A" Team took the floor on Thursday night against Bells and were looking to improve upon their 5 game winning streak. It was a game that was dominated by the Tomcats from start to finish. All 9 players for Tom Bean managed to get into the scoring column, and defensively the Tomcats limited the opposing team to 4 total points. When the final buzzer sounded, it was the Tomcats who came out on top by a score of 40-4. The season record for the team is currently 7-1, as the team will look to make it 8-1 next Thursday on the road against Whitewright.

JV, V Boys Basketball teams

Friday, Jan. 27, the Boys Basketball teams hosted Bells and played 2 exciting games.

The JV boys battled to come from an early deficit, eventually coming up just short, dropping their record to 2-7 in district.

The varsity Tomcats overcame a 6 point 4th quarter deficit with some fantastic defense, rebounding, and knocking down several big shots as they withstood a Panther charge in the last 2 minutes. The boys were able to ice the game hitting 7-8 free throws to close out a 48-44 victory. It was a total team effort on both ends of the floor. This was the first Tomcat win vs. Bells since 2006, and improved their district record to 3-6, already the most wins in district since 2006, with 5 games yet to play.

Leading the way in scoring were the youngest Cats Hunter Book and Logan LeDane. Defensively the Tomcats were led by the strong rebounding of Caden Gomez and Stephen Kinney, and the all-around energy of Cody Miller.

Both teams are in action tomorrow @ Gunter, currently ranked 23rd in the state.

Upcoming City Election

Posted on January 4th, 2012 at 12:55:01 PM by Mayor Sherry E. Howard

The City of Tom Bean City Council Election Calendar for accepting applications for a place on the ballot for the May 12, 2012 election has been set as February 4, 2012 through March 5, 2012. Places currently being held by Donnie Achimon, Sherry Howard and Janet Schaab expire in May.

Interested persons must file an application at Tom Bean City Hall between the hours of 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information and qualifications/requirements, call the City Hall at 903-546-6321.





**Mary "Memaw" (Bradley) Chumbley
Thompson
(1916-2012)**

Graveside services for Mary "Memaw" Bradley Chumbley Thompson, 95, of Longview, were held at 1 pm, Tuesday, January 31, 2012, at Allen City Cemetery in Allen. Arrangements are by Welch Funeral Home, Longview, Texas.

Mrs. Thompson was born March 13, 1916 in Howe, Texas and died January 28, 2012, in Longview, Texas. She attended Howe schools and graduated in 1933. She married Albert Chumbley on October 30, 1935. Mary lived the majority of her life in communities in Grayson and Collin counties making lifelong friends in each. She owned a restaurant and worked in the corporate offices of J.C. Penney company in Dallas. She married Lowell Thompson in June, 1973 and lived in Howe until 1994. She returned to Allen for several years and then she moved to the Longview area to be close to family there.

She is survived by one son, Sammy Chumbley and wife Sarah of Longview, Texas. One step-daughter, Janie Thompson Finney and husband Harold of Howe, Texas and one step-son, Tommy Thompson and wife Kay of Duncanville, Texas. She is also survived by grandchildren, great-grand children, nephews and a multitude of friends that all loved and adored "Memaw."

The family has requested that in lieu of flowers, please make donations to the charity of your choice. An online registry may be signed at www.new





Photo (left to right) - Jim Barnes, Michael Logan, Ed Richardson, and Ashley Logan

SCP opens “Bus Stop”

On Friday evening, February 3, the Sherman Community Players will open *Bus Stop*, a romantic comedy by William Inge. This endearing funny play tells the story of a group of bus passengers in the 1950's, who find themselves stranded in café in a small town in rural Kansas during a snowstorm. The passengers are an assorted group of colorful characters including a hot-headed, naïve young cowboy who, overnight, has fallen in love with a pretty young nightclub singer, and he's taking her home to Montana to marry, whether she likes it or not.

Other characters in the play include the earthy café owner, Grace, and her innocent young waitress Elma, a former college professor with a shady past, a guitar-playing cowboy, the town sheriff and a jovial bus driver.

The play functions on many levels, with fist fights, laughs, love and a bit of drama as the lonely café comes to life with its new clientele. Some Shakespeare is poorly acted, songs are sung, guitars are strummed, hearts are broken and mended. Although

the movie version starring Marilyn Monroe was played more as a drama, the playwright intend the play to be a comedy with dramatic moments.

Bus Stop will play February 3 through 19 with performances on Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings at 8 pm and Sunday afternoons at 2 pm. Tickets for the Friday, Saturday and Sunday shows are \$14 (adult and senior) and \$7 (students). Thursday shows are \$7 for all seats. There will also be a special preview performance before opening night on Thursday, February 2 with all seats priced at \$5, and these tickets can be purchased at the door.

The box office will open for season member reservations only on Monday and Tuesday, January 30 and 31 at 9 am. Tickets go on sale to the general public on Wednesday, February 1 at 10 am. The box office telephone number is 903-892-8818. Performances are held in the Finley Theatre at 500 N. Elm. The box office is located directly behind the theatre in the Honey McGee Playhouse.



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Chrystal Opry House Bluegrass Events

Regular Bluegrass jam will be Thursday night, Feb. 2, at 7 pm. Doors will open at 6 as usual. Donations accepted at the door to defray expenses.

On Feb. 4, 7 pm we welcome the Melody Ranch Ramblers and Curtis Box and Santa Fe Line. Members of the Melody Ranch Ramblers are George Kirby, fiddle, Mike Gemberling, banjo, Dale Anderson, bass and vocals, Charles Woolly, mandolin and vocals, and Bill Hayes, rhythm guitar and vocals. We welcome Angie Wortham to this band.

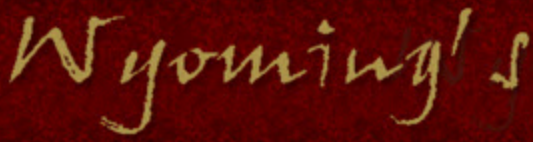
Members of Curtis Box and Santa Fe Line include Curtis Box, lead vocals and guitar, Joel Scarbrough, baritone, tenor, banjo and mandolin, and Del Hill, tenor, baritone and electric bass. We've heard the vocals and you will really enjoy this band.

Mark your calendar for Feb. 25 - regular gospel program night.

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

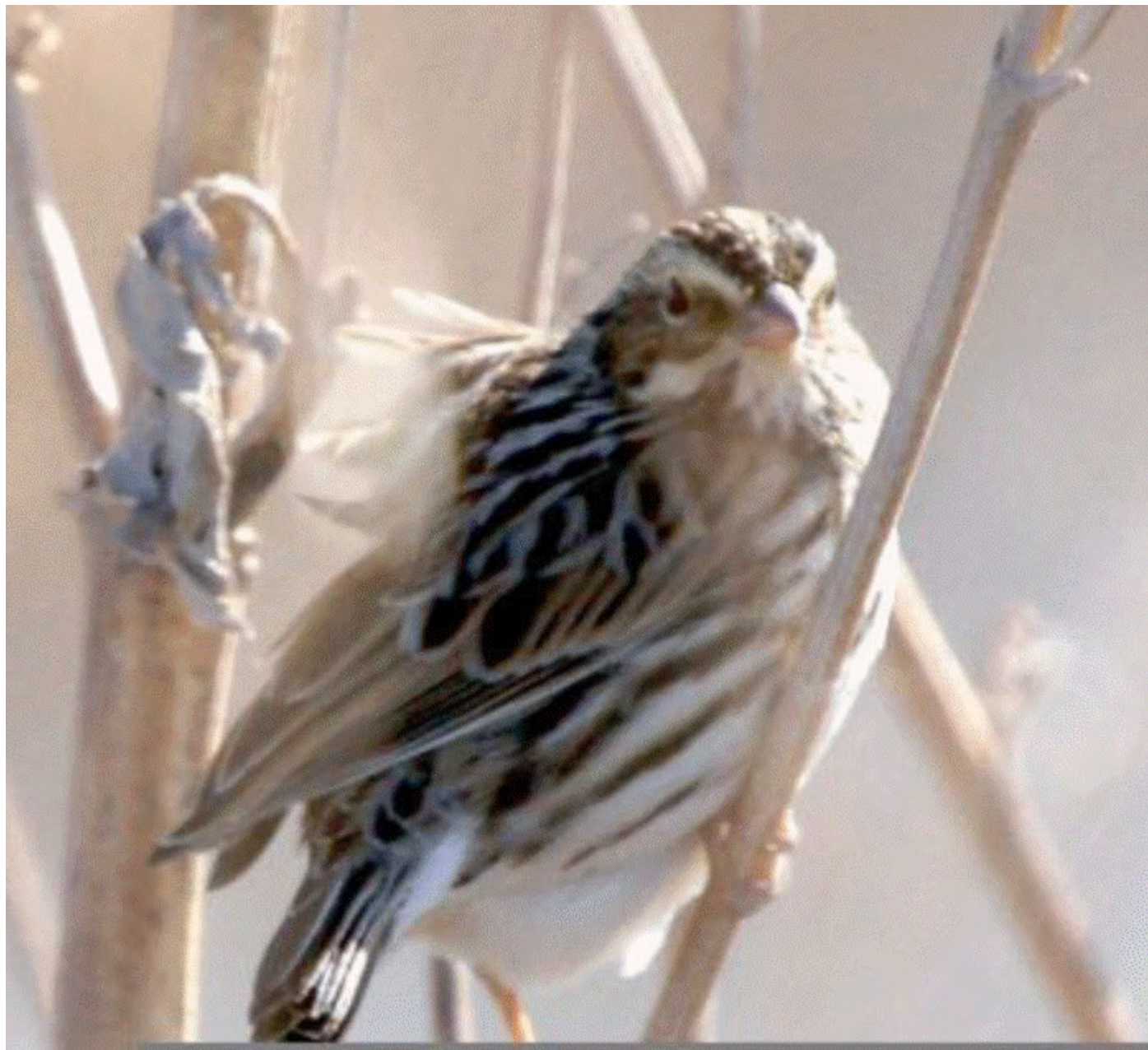
The Chrystal Opry House is located 1.5 miles west of Tom Bean or 6 miles east of Howe on FM 902 and a half mile south on White Mound Road. No alcohol is permitted and there is no smoking inside the building.

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

The logo for Wyoming's, featuring the word "Wyoming's" in a stylized, cursive font in gold color, set against a dark red background.

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Fine Dining**





Sparrows to be topic of Second Saturday program

This song sparrow is one of many species of sparrows that can be found at Hagerman National Wildlife Refuge. The sparrow population will be the topic of this week's Second Saturday program at the refuge.

Sparrows will be the topic of this week's Second Saturday program at Hagerman National Wildlife Refuge. The free lecture will begin at 10 am in the meeting room of the refuge's visitor center, followed by a short field trip on the refuge, weather permitting. Attendees may want to bring binoculars and field guides and dress for the weather.

Presenting the program will be Dr. Wayne Meyer. He will discuss the many kinds of sparrows that migrate to Texomaland during the winter months. He will focus on sparrow identification tips for birders of all levels of ability, including the importance of habitat and recognizing species. Meyer groups the species by habitat such as grasslands or trees and brush, then by physical characteristics such as zebra head, red cap, streaky fronts with stickpins and others.

Meyer earned his doctorate from the University of California, Davis, in 1993 and is an associate professor of biology at Austin College in Sherman. Before joining the Austin College in 1993, Meyer taught field biology courses at Sierra College and Ornithology with Dr. Peter Marler at the University of California, Davis. At AC, he teaches anatomy and physiology, cell biology, systemic physiology, and birds, humans and the environment.

For youngsters, Second Saturday for youth will offer "Recyclerama," a morning of hands-on crafts and activities to encourage recycling. The youth program is for ages 4 to 10, with those six and under to be accompanied by a parent or other responsible adult. Advance registration is requested to insure space for each child and can be made by calling the refuge at 903-786-2826. This program will be from 10 am until 11:30 am in the Friends of Hagerman audio visual classroom at the refuge. Leaders for the event will be Katie Palmer and Sue Malnory.

Also this Saturday at 12:30 pm, the Friends of Hagerman Nature Photo Club will meet for a program by Dale Thoreson. The program is entitled "The Physiology of Photography: Why We See Things the Way We Do," and winter is the theme for photo sharing at the meeting. This session will be held in the audio visual classroom. For photo sharing details, send an email to fohphotoclub@gmail.com.

Second Saturday nature program and the Nature Photo Club are sponsored by Hagerman NWR and the Friends of Hagerman NWR. Programs are free and open to the public. There are nominal dues for the photo club. Hagerman NWR is located at 6465 Refuge Road, Sherman, Texas, 75092. For more information, call the refuge or visit www.friendsofhagerman.com.

Photo courtesy of Carol Ann Sowell

Ghosts In East Texas

By Bob Bowman

To paraphrase a quote by the Marquise de Deffand in 1774, I don't believe in ghosts, but I have a healthy respect for them.

You would, too, if you've ever stood on the banks of Bouton Lake when the fog rolls in from the Neches River bottomlands. Looking across the still, tree-shaded waters, you can almost see the outlines of a young girl wearing a long flowing gown.

The ghost of Bouton Lake is one of several with whom I have developed close friendships over the last 30 or so years. I don't necessarily believe in them, but they've become as much a part of East Texas as the pine forests they haunt, so I accept them in the same way that I accept the fact that gravity works.

Bouton Lake's ghost is as old as the lake itself. The story goes that a man and his daughter were hauling cotton to town when the earth collapsed beneath them. He and his daughter disappeared forever.

Bouton Lake's ghost is mild compared to Oonie Andrews, the ghost who lives in Lady Bird Johnson's family home at Karnack. She is as much a part of the old mansion that Jett Jones, who grew up with Oonie, simply considers her "a lady who lives in the house that nobody else can see."

In 1843, Milt Andrews built a splendid plantation-style mansion near Karnack. Sometime in the 1880s, Andrews' 19-year-old daughter, Eunice, sat alone in an upstairs bedroom when bolt of lightning from a storm struck the chimney, raced down a fireplace, and hit Oonie. She was burned to death.

Over the years, stories arose that the ghost of Miss Andrews never left the bedroom. Eerie noises, odd happenings, and ghostly apparitions soon



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Dot's

D-A-S-H-E-S



By Dorothy N. Fowler

I have decided that a large percentage of North Texans do not know what the word "limit" means, at least as it applies to the speed limit. Apparently many of them think 70 miles per hour is the lower limit and anyone who drives at the rate of 65 miles an hour is a road hazard to be cursed, cut off, passed at a dangerous rate of speed and/or is to be a recipient of the middle finger wave.

Wednesday morning I had an errand in Durant and almost as soon as I entered US Highway 75, where I drove between 65 and 70 miles an hour, 18-wheelers began to pass me as if I were standing still. There were six of them, one pulling an empty flat-bed, the others with box trailers that may or may not have been fully loaded. At least one of the drivers appeared to be racing with the driver pulling the empty flat bed.

By the time I reached the Oklahoma border, the trucks were either so far ahead of me that I couldn't see them or they had turned off.

Several cars and pickup trucks also passed me at a high rate of speed, but most drivers were like me, driving at the upper speed limit, but not exceeding it.

On the way back from Durant, once again huge trucks passed me, apparently anxious to get to the red light at the intersection where the Choctaw Casino is. They were stopped at the red light and I was right behind them. They had gained absolutely nothing by driving too fast and endangering people in smaller vehicles.

Most of them had to turn into the weigh stations that were open and that left me even more puzzled about why they were in such a desperate hurry to get in front of all the cars on the road.

My pastoral mentor, Bob Harrison, urged members of our church to use our Christian imaginations when confronted with people who do things that to us are inexplicable.



BOB BOWMAN'S

EAST TEXAS, continued

became common. When the Andrews family sold the house to T.J. Taylor -- Lady Bird Johnson's father -- in 1902, the ghost went along with the sale. While Lady Bird said she never saw or heard the ghost, she admitted feeling a sense of apprehension and unease in the house as a child.

A more contemporary ghost -- an East Texas phantom of the opera nicknamed Chester -- haunts the Turner Fine Arts Auditorium on the campus of Stephen F. Austin State University in Nacogdoches.

No one has ever actually seen Chester, but dozens of students and instructors swear they've felt his presence with signs like rustling stage curtains, footsteps on the scaffolding, dust sifting down on the shoulders of actors, and cold fingers on the back of the neck.

Chester apparently tried to make himself visible in a 1987 production of Macbeth. In a scene where eight ghosts were projected on a stage screen, a ninth face somehow appeared.

East Texas' most beautiful ghost may be Diamond Bessie, who was murdered at Jefferson in 1877, supposedly by Abe Rothschild, although he was acquitted after two controversial trials. For years, there have been reports of Diamond Bessie's ghost rattling around the Excelsior House, but it certainly hasn't hurt business at the old hotel. When Bessie isn't haunting people at the Excelsior, she can usually be found at Oakwood Cemetery.

Other cemeteries in East Texas also have their special ghosts.

At Dabb's Cemetery, near Frankston, there's the story of "the cage," where legends claim that a man was buried twice, once alive and the second time dead.

Locals claim the man was buried the first time because he was thought to be dead, but dug his way out of his earthen tomb and crawled to a nearby home, where he died. To assure he would not be able to crawl out again, a cage of wooden stakes was built around his grave. It apparently served its purpose, but there are still stories of a ghost roaming the graveyard late at night.

East Texas' best-known "ghost light," belongs to Bragg Road in Hardin County. There, Big Thicket residents have consistently reported sightings of a strange red light in the forest, supposedly the lantern of a railroad switchman who was killed by a freight train more than 50 years ago.

Another Angelina County ghost haunts the banks of Popper Creek. The story goes that an old Indian chief named Popper had a son who killed a white man in an argument and was scheduled to be hanged. Popper went to the white men and pleaded, "I am an old man, and my son is still young with his life still before him. Please let me take my son's place." The old chief was hung along the creek which bears his name.

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

Dot's Dashes, continued

"Perhaps he was on the way to the hospital to be with his wife who was in labor," he said after a young man driving a pickup had raced through a puddle that splashed Brother Bob, whose driver's side window was down. "He ruined my clean white shirt, but I'm sure he had some good reason for running through that puddle," Bob said, although he was gritting his teeth.

I took Brother Bob's advice to heart and have tried hard to imagine why the truck drivers did what they did this morning on US 75.

My first, uncharitable thought, was that they did it because they had their communications systems on and knew there were no law enforcement officers on the road. That meant they did what they did because they could.

My second, far more charitable thought, was that they all had diarrhea and needed to get to a restroom fast.



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Capitol Watch

By Larry Phillips, State Representative



New State Troopers Commissioned

On January 19, I had the honor of speaking at the Department of Public Safety's trooper graduation ceremony. The troopers are the elite law enforcement force in Texas, and 57 new members were commissioned at the ceremony. Also speaking to the class were the chairman of the Public Safety Commission and the director of the department. A trooper from Grayson County, Sergeant Brian Lillie, was a counselor for this class of troopers, and was also a part of the ceremony.

Candidates for the trooper training program are carefully screened and rigorously tested. This class began the 18-week training academy in August. Instruction covered more than 100 subjects, including counter-terrorism, traffic and criminal law, arrest and control procedures, accident reconstruction, first aid and Spanish. They also received extensive use of force, communication skills, firearms, driving, criminal interdiction, cultural diversity and physical fitness training. In the coming weeks, the troopers will move to their new duty stations. They will spend the first six months in training with a senior trooper.

Our state troopers are a vital part of our community and are dedicated to the safety of all Texans. Troopers are involved in preventing terrorism, securing our borders, stopping the shipment and sale of illegal drugs, and combating crime in this state.

For more information on the DPS state troopers or any other matter of state government, please contact my office by writing to P.O. Box 2910, Austin, TX 78768-2910 or by emailing me at larry.phillips@house.state.tx.us. My district office phone number is (903) 891-7297.



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

This Page is a Work in Progress

Howe Public Schools

Howe Public Library

Library information, Language courses, Student events

Van Alstyne Public Library

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

Search Engines-

Yahoo

Alta Vista

Google

Ask Jeeves

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

Quotations Page

Royalty Free Music

Spanish Dictionary

Selected Sites

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

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

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

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

Local Churches

Cannon

CANNON BAPTIST CHURCH
RFD 1, Rev. John Wade, pastor,
903/482-6761

SOVEREIGN GRACE
BAPTIST CHURCH
George Seevers, 903/364-2942

Cherry Mound

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

Dorchester

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

Gunter

COLLEGE HILL
CHURCH OF CHRIST
304 E. College, 903/433-4835
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
300 Pecan, 903/433-3335

GRACE BIBLE
FELLOWSHIP

Pastor Bruce Stinson
Brooks Plaza
Sundays - 9:30 AM Worship
www.thegbf.com

VALLEY
CHURCH OF CHRIST

Howe

APOSTOLIC LIFE UPC
405 S. Collins Frwy,
Jerry Pentecost, 903/821-9166; Sun. 10am & 6pm
NEW BEGINNING FELLOWSHIP/AG,
912 S Denny St.
903/532-6828; Roger Roper,
S-school, 9:30, worship 10:45

BETHEL BAPTIST
Hwy. 902 E & Ponderosa Rd, Weldon Hutson, pastor,
903/532-6032

SUMMIT CHURCH
Howe Middle School Cafeteria,
903/815-1472 ; Kcvin Bouse

CHURCH OF CHRIST
N. Collins Frwy,
903/532-6441;

Toby Socheting
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
100 E. Davis, 903/532-5504;

Roger Tidwell, pastor
FIRST UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH 810 N. Denny,
903/532-6718;

Tom Medley, minister

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

Luella
LUELLA FIRST
BAPTIST CHURCH
3162 St. Hwy. 11,
Harvey Patterson,
903/893-2252

A CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP, 150 Fellowship Ln,
Luella

Mike Ball, 903/870-0219

Tom Bean
CHURCH OF CHRIST
903/546-6620

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
903/546-6231

FIRST UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH 903/546-6898

INSPIRATION POINT
COWBOY CHURCH
FM 2729, 2.5 miles
South of Tom Bean

Psalm 12

*David, destitute of human comfort, craves the help of God
To the chief Musician upon Sheminith, A Psalm of David.*

1 Help, Lord; for the godly man ceaseth; for the faithful fail from among the children of men. 2 They speak vanity every one with his neighbour: with flattering lips and with a double heart do they speak. 3 The Lord shall cut off all flattering lips, and the tongue that speaketh proud things: 4 Who have said, With our tongue will we prevail; our lips are our own: who is lord over us? 5 For the oppression of the poor, for the sighing of the needy, now will I arise, saith the Lord; I will set him in safety from him that puffeth at him. 6 The words of the Lord are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times. 7 Thou shalt keep them, O Lord, thou shalt preserve them from this generation for ever. 8 The wicked walk on every side, when the vilest men are exalted.

Psalms 12:1-8 (KJV)

Christian Fellowship

A Christian Fellowship begins each Sunday morning with coffee and doughnut fellowship at 9:00am followed at 9:30 with classes for all ages. Worship service begins at 10:30. This week's service is led by Mike Ball. Come join them for an inspirational service.

Praise and worship is led by David Ellis and is a contemporary style service. Also dress is casual. The church celebrates The Lord's Supper each Sunday morning during worship service.

C.R. Men's Step Study class meets every Saturday night at 6:30pm at the church building, this program helps those that may be struggling with such things as alcohol abuse, drug abuse, family problems, just to name a few. Wednesday night service begins at 6:30pm with a pot luck dinner followed by praise and worship and a devotional.

The church is planning a VBS for the week of July 16-20. The times will be 6:30-8:30, so mark your calendar for this fun filled week.

The church offers home study groups throughout the week. 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.

“SPIRITUAL PARTNERSHIPS”

By Lowell Howard

II John v.11 “You mark this, anyone who gives such a person any space or room to lead has taken up a partnership with him and bears the same judgment before God as he does.” (Cowboy and Stockyard - Practical Teaching Version - LCH)

God's people are partners with the Lord! Partners are just that, part of everything that drives the Lord and His work on earth.



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 9:00am and worship at 10:00am. The evening worship service begins at 6 pm. The Lord's Supper is given each Sunday. The morning and evening lessons are brought by Kerry King with congregational singing lead by Charles Counts. Wednesday, we have Bible classes for all ages beginning at 7 pm. The church is located at the corner of FM902 and FM2729 South in Tom Bean, TX.

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

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

click for **more Church News**

God's people leave God out of nothing, are thankful in everything and serve the Lord gladly as well as they know how. A partner reaps the benefits of the partnership while they also experience their share of the stresses and labor. People of the Lord gladly enter upon the partnership with God in every way possible and keep the faith while 'waiting' upon the Lord. You may take that 'waiting' thought however you wish!

Any person who is not a partner with the Lord cannot be a partner with God's people! No one can be a partner with the people of God and neglect the God of the people. In



Local Churches

“SPIRITUAL PARTNERSHIPS”, continued

Duane Peters,
903-815-2278
PILOT GROVE
BAPTIST CHURCH
1271 Pilot Grove St.
903/450-3708

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

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

the matter of faith, God is Supreme, at the head of His people, Lord of those who have chosen to follow Him, to represent Him, to live for Him here and with Him in heaven everlastingly. Partnership is serious business and it should be taken seriously by all who are involved with the Lord and His people.

Being a member of the church assumes a relationship with the Lord through faith! The church is no ‘come one come all’ ‘country club’ for the community. There are those who treat the church as a social opportunity rather than a ‘nursery for baby saints’ but socialization is not the primary purpose of the church. Somewhere deeper in the matter is the issue of relationship of the children of God with the God of His children. All who are a part of the church, members in the fellowship of faith, should be also members of the body of Christ or the church is devalued from within.

To allow some a platform from which to argue over issues, and about God’s truth because one does not believe it, is to agree in part with the outsiders who insist upon invading the church! Believers are to be open to the masses to reveal Christ to them and to receive them when they believe what the Word of God teaches about Christ as Lord but the church is not to be a receptacle for the people or ideas of the world just because some ‘member’ considers their beliefs to be superior to those of the church. When people want a platform for their ideas there is no larger platform than the world where they are nothing more than another voice crying out in the wilderness of chaos and rebellion.

The Bible teaches that antichrist will be judged! Have you considered what will be done about those who have partnered with the antichrist and his positions? To join the antichrist is to join with the enemy of God Himself. One giving the antichrist room to work brings the same judgment upon self as is upon that enemy of God! When the enemy is judged all of those who are with him will receive the same judgment. The church cannot join such unbelieving people without joining them in the judgment. Beware of false teachers, leaders and unbelieving persons.

Being of the Lord is about much more than being church members! Those who believe in the Lord are already of the same salvation and the Spirit of the Lord confirms them in the faith. When one is a member of the body of Christ they have become members of one another in the faith. The next step is practical and is a positive witness to the Lord and His people, that is, such people will voluntarily become a part of the church and will act like the Lord, live as unto the Lord and glorify Him!

Beware of those with whom you partner and make alliances since your faith is vitally affected by those with whom you choose to walk! Are you walking true to the Spirit of the Lord living in you? Spiritual partnerships are everlasting in the Lord!

Lowell Howard is a Preacher, Chaplain, Author, Singer, Song Writer, Dr. Lowell Howard, Pastor of Choctaw Creek Cowboy Church, Savoy, Texas
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Phone (903) 482-0099

Fax (903) 482-0098

E-mail matt@sullivanlawfirm.biz

www.mattsullivanattorney.com

LEGAL TIPS:

Estate Planning & Resolutions

By Matt Sullivan, J.D., LL.M.
Attorney & Counselor at Law

Many people resolve to improve themselves for each New Year. For example, they promise to change their diet, lose weight, and avoid voting for liberal politicians. Shouldn't estate planning be on your list of resolutions?

First, what would happen to your kids if something happened to you? Have you taken the time to have your estate planning documents properly prepared and executed? Some of the most important documents to consider are a Will, Durable Power of Attorney, Directive to Physicians, Medical Power of Attorney, HIPAA Release, and a Declaration of Guardian. Each document plays an important part in the overall plan.

The Will can be used to dispose of your property upon your death. Within it, you can also establish trusts and appoint guardians for your kids. A Durable Power of Attorney will authorize someone to act on your behalf if you are unable to do so. The Directive to Physicians is also known as a Living Will and is your opportunity to state in writing how you want to be treated in an end-of-life situation. The Medical Power of Attorney will allow someone to make most medical decisions for you if you can't. The HIPAA Release will allow your representative to obtain your medical information. The Declaration of Guardian can be used to appoint or prevent someone from being appointed as your guardian and it can be used to appoint a guardian for your children.

Second, when was the last time you reviewed the title to your assets or the beneficiary designations of assets you own? These can be extremely important issues in the event of a person's death. Assets that have properly filled out beneficiary designations will be paid to the beneficiary regardless of what is stated in the owner's Will. Such assets include life insurance, IRAs, and 401(k)s to name a few.

Third, what would happen to your pets if you died or became disabled and weren't able to care for them? Pets are extremely important to many people and should be considered when preparing an estate plan.

While estate planning may not be the most fun or exciting undertaking, it can be extremely important and beneficial for your family.

Matt Sullivan, J.D., LL.M., Attorney & Counselor at Law, can be reached at 903-482-0099 or through his law firm's web site, www.mattsullivanattorney.com.

This article is not intended as specific legal advice and you should consult with your own attorney.



Sen. Cornyn Backs Legislation To Exempt Religious Organizations From Overreaching Obamacare Mandates

WASHINGTON-U.S. Sen. John Cornyn, R-Texas, this week, announced he is a cosponsor of the Religious Freedom Restoration Act of 2012, which would provide protections for individuals and organizations who, because of their religious beliefs, are opposed to certain government mandates included in Obamacare. Specifically, the bill would insert a conscience clause to the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act that exempts faith-based organizations from being required to offer their employees private insurance that includes coverage for birth control, sterilizations, and abortifacients if they are contrary to the organization's moral or religious beliefs.

"I'm proud to support this important legislation that seeks to rein in Obamacare's unprecedented government overreach into the religious freedoms of faith-based organizations. I hope my colleagues in the Senate will join me in passing this legislation to affirm the rights of religious organizations in Texas and across the country."

The Religious Freedom Restoration Act of 2012 was introduced by U.S. Sen. Marco Rubio, R-FL, and inserts the following conscience clause into the PPACA law:

“(d) CONSCIENCE PROTECTIONS.-

“(1) IN GENERAL.-No guideline or regulation issued pursuant to subsection (a)(4), or any other provision of the Patient Protection and Affordable Health Care Act, or the amendments made by that Act (Public Law 110-148), shall-

“(A) require any individual or entity to offer, provide, or purchase coverage for a contraceptive or sterilization service, or related education or counseling, to which that individual or entity is opposed on the basis of religious belief;

“(B) require any individual or entity opposed by reason of religious belief to provide coverage of a contraceptive or sterilization service or to engage in government-mandated speech regarding such a service.”

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.

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You could be BIG AG without even knowing it!

By Gene Hall

I am a huge fan of the “redneck” comedian Jeff Foxworthy. I run the gamut from chuckle to guffaw when listening to his “you might be a redneck” routine, even if I’ve heard them before. My own neck is a bit on the reddish side.

I hope Jeff doesn’t mind me paraphrasing his formula when it comes to which and what kind of farmers and ranchers are considered BIG AG, a term so many activists consider agriculture’s ultimate evil.

Be advised that BIG AG is more of a tactic than an actual description. Since I’m often accused of being part of BIG AG — let me attempt to interpret in the spirit of Jeff Foxworthy.

- If you are a member of an organization that speaks for farmers and ranchers ... you could be BIG AG
- If you think science should be part of any discussion about modern agriculture ... you could be BIG AG
- If you don’t run screaming from the room every time the word “corporate” is used ... you could be BIG AG
- If technology does not scare you ... you could be BIG AG
- If you’re impressed by the achievements of U.S. agriculture ... you could be BIG AG
- If you think it’s very cool that we grow several times more food on the same number of acres as 50 years ago ... you could be BIG AG
- If you love the fact that soil erosion has dramatically declined, chemical use is significantly reduced, water use has declined and yields have increased, all with the modern technology of U.S. agriculture ... you could be BIG AG
- If you feel some responsibility for feeding the hungry in the world ... you could be BIG AG
- If you do business with a corporation and don’t consider yourself an indentured servant ... you could be BIG AG
- If your family has been on the land for multiple generations and has grown with each generation ... you could be BIG AG
- If you like growing food that nearly everyone can afford ... you could be BIG AG
- If you identify with Mike Rowe of Dirty Jobs and not PETA or HSUS spokespersons ... you could be BIG AG
- If you don’t feel the need to apologize for growing safe, abundant and affordable food ... you could be BIG AG.

Modern agriculture has real problems begging for solutions, but big is not necessarily bad. Agricultural people accused of being “big” may not, in fact, be all that large. Being demonized for disagreeing with pop culture conclusions does not mean we should stop dealing with the challenges farmer and ranchers face every day.

Visit the Texas Farm Bureau website at www.texasfarmbureau.org .



TELLING OUR STORIES

By Jerry Lincecum

In two decades of listening to elderwriters sharing reminiscences, I have noticed that the Christmas season has often been the setting for unforgettable childhood memories. They are as precious as gold nuggets or polished gems.

One TOS writer who lived more than a century treasured a tiny cup and saucer set she had been given at a Christmas program around 1915. What made it special was her memory of getting there: her grandfather hitched his team of horses to a wagon, they all piled in and jostled their way to the country schoolhouse.

Others recall a tradition of celebrating Christmas by traveling to the home of the children's grandparents on Christmas Eve. Only when all children were asleep did adults put up the cedar tree and other decorations.

Can you imagine the magical feeling experienced by a child waking up on Christmas morning to find a beautiful tree that had appeared overnight, complete with gifts delivered by Santa Claus?

On the other hand, one gentleman remembers the unfortunate year when days of rain on muddy roads made the Christmas Eve journey very doubtful. Then Papa came up with a brilliant solution. He had a sled the horses could pull, and he placed the wagon box on top of it.

With warm lap-ropes to shelter them from the cold, the little family set off through the woods. Then Papa decided he wasn't sure he had securely locked up the corncrib. He was obliged to leave Mama and the children alone in the dark woods while he briskly walked back to make sure. It is no surprise that 80 years later his five-year-old son can revisit his anxiety on that Christmas Eve long ago.

Around 1930 two little girls discovered something amazing: new toys in the smokehouse. A quick-thinking mom advised them that she felt sure Elves from the North Pole had stashed them there. Moreover, this wise adult had heard that children who meddled in Santa's business would receive nothing good on Christmas morning. Mystery solved and lesson learned: stay away from that smokehouse.

Often a child was amazed to receive a gift that had been seen and coveted but seemed too expensive. Somehow a parent knew the child's desire and managed to find a way to pay for it. Mary Ann Wright of Sherman received a suede fringed jacket for Christmas in 1946, and she still remembers how much it cost.

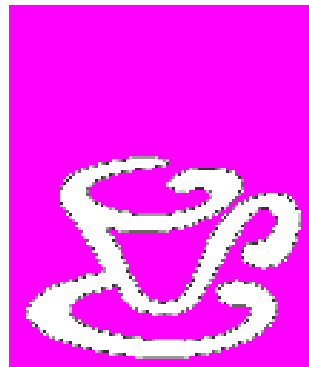
Coming from a large family, I have memories of a very orderly system of taking turns opening gifts. Then chaos ensued and almost inevitably some important tag or leaflet disappeared amid the wrapping paper.

At least one adult would lose patience as the trash had to be sorted a couple of times. Incidentally, these little episodes occurred after WWII, when wrapping paper was cheap and plentiful.

I'm sure you are already remembering your own little nuggets and gems of Christmas past. The scenes we can revisit at will with the mind's eye easily surpass all the digital photos and movies that will be made this holiday season.

-30-

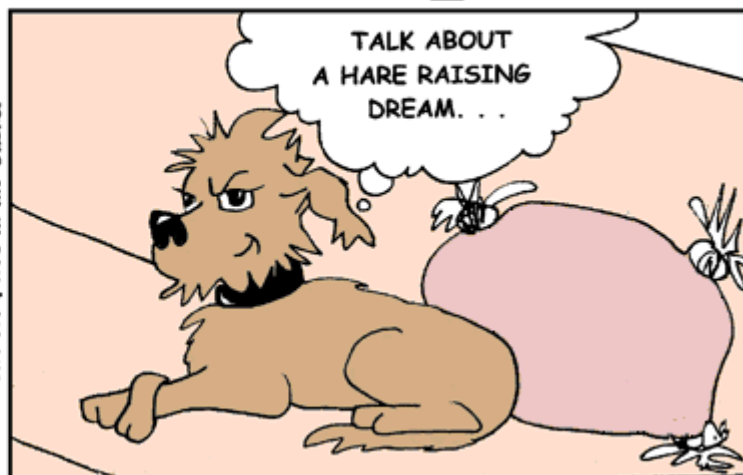
Dr. Jerry Lincecum is emeritus professor of English at Austin College and director of Telling Our Stories.



Church Sign Chuckles

- Fire Insurance Inside
- This Church Is Prayer Conditioned
- God Answers Knee Mail
- PRAY NOW! Avoid Christmas Rush!
- Sign broken, come inside for message
- This is a ch--ch. What's missing? U R!
- Stop in the name of love and meet the Supreme
- Wal-Mart's not the only savings place
- The best position is on your knees!

OUTZKIRTS By: David & Doreen Dotson



Classified Ads

ELM HOUSE ANTIQUES

Doris Hayes, formerly of Elm House Antiques (at 710 N Elm in Sherman) is now located in A Touch of Class Antique Mall on the Square in downtown Sherman, Booth 115. Same fine quality & eclectic collections of fine art, glass, china & pottery.

WHO HAS?

Want to purchase minerals and other oil/gas interests. Send details to: PO Box 13557, Denver, CO 80201.

TILLET GROCERY

102 S. Waco (Hwy. 5),
Van Alstyne, TX, 903-482-5494
Fresh Cut Meat (never frozen), Complete line of groceries, Fishing Equipment & Bait, Great Beer & Wine selection.

AAAA Automotive
3535 Hwy 902
Howe, Texas 75469
Specializing in Ford Automotive repairs
general repairs of all makes of
automobiles and pick-ups, etc.
Please be sure to check our all new website
aaaaautoparts.com for lower prices for our new
items and our monthly specials.
Monday - Friday 8am - 5:30pm **Rob Hunt**
Saturday 9am - 1pm **903-546-0024**

**WALDO FUNERAL
HOME**
619 N. Travis - Sherman
903-893-1101



Texoma Enterprise

Howe, Texas
75459

Texoma Enterprise
805 N. Hughes
Howe, Texas 75459-3587
903-487-0525
dalerideout@cableone.net
lanarideout@cableone.net

Texoma Enterprise is owned and operated by Dale and Lana Rideout. They have been doing this since 1978. The picture on the left is about 5 years old, with Dale shown as "Santa" Rideout at Christmas, 2009. The family shot on the right includes all our grandchildren, plus a couple of Step-grandchildren. It was taken at Elves Christmas Tree Farm. This farm opened to the public in 1990 when Jordan was only 2 months old and he went there with us. Every year since we have taken every grandchild with us. This year was our 20 year to take all our grandchildren to the farm.



Dale & Lana Rideout



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



"Santa" Rideout



Grandkids singing at the Christmas Tree Farm 2007