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Howe's That *by Lana Rideout*

For the past 33 years and one month since the first week in December 1977, every week of those months I have spent Monday and Tuesday putting together the (Howe) Texoma Enterprise newspaper.

Part of that time I was in an office in downtown Howe; but lately I have published it out of our home.

Other days of the weeks (and some night time hours), I attended meetings, went to an open house, addressed and delivered newspapers to the post office and local stores.

Putting out a weekly paper required us to have a newspaper in the mail all 52 weeks each year. It made it difficult to take family vacations, but we did manage a few here and there ... mostly long weekend trips. A couple of times we managed to get a longer vacation by printing the paper early and leaving as soon as the paper was in the mail.

I am writing this *Howe's That* column on Monday, Jan. 3, 2011. We are changing our newspaper. We have decided to publish to our website only, www.texomaenterprise.net

Several advantages to the website publishing are:

- *Full color photos with the news
- *Breaking news can be on the web very quickly
- *People who live in Oregon or Michigan or Florida can log on and get news of family and friends who live in Howe, Tom Bean, and the surrounding area.

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Darla Williams, Howe Elementary Principal, accepts a check for \$1000 from Sherman Wal Mart Manager, Paul Strunc. The grant money will be used to help fund student incentives.



AEIS Hearing

Howe Elementary will have a 2009-10 Academic Excellence Indicator System Hearing on Jan. 12, 2011 at 3 pm in the Cafeteria. Parents are welcome to attend.

AEIS Hearing

Howe Middle School will have a 2009-10 Academic Excellence Indicator System Hearing on January 10, 2011 at 3 pm in the Cafeteria. Parents are welcome to attend.

New Enterprise Schedule

Our intentions are to have new - current updates to the website, www.texomaenterprise.net, at least once a week, and perhaps daily as news arrives and we have time to process it.

We plan to have a very small printed edition available for free at several locations in Howe. It will give you updates of some of the important news in Howe, and should be ready by Thursday every week.

No longer will be mailing out copies. Your best coverage will be via the internet. We thank you for your patronage the past 33 years and hope you will continue.

No longer will be accept subscriptions, but advertisements are still available at a nominal fee. Please continue to frequent out advertisers and thank them for helping keep us in business.





Dale & Lana Rideout



"Santa" Rideout



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

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.

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SOCK BRIGADE



U.S. TROOPS WARMED BY SOCK BRIGADE

Alpaca provides ideal fiber for harsh conditions

Mallory Lewis and Lamb Chop help spread the word about the alpaca Sock Brigade!

by *Lana Rideout*

According to a news release, the project began when Barbara Coleman asked her son, Army Sergeant Micheal L. Coleman, what he would like in his next care package to Iraq in January 2007, his request was simple: alpaca socks.

Barbara and Randy Coleman own Wings & A Prayer Alpacas in Amity, Oregon, so the request was one she could easily fulfill. Mike went on to explain that since the troops were on their feet all day and had to withstand freezing temperatures at night, he would appreciate as many pairs of socks as she could send so that he could share the comfort of alpaca socks with his platoon.

Why Alpaca?

Because of its soft texture, alpaca fiber is sometimes compared to cashmere. Making the fiber even more coveted, it has the luster of silk. Alpaca is 1/3 the weight of wool, yet just as warm, ensuring warm feet for the soldiers during the cold desert nights.

[Click Here to continue](#)



U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

to host listening session on golf carts and self-propelled vehicles

TULSA - The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Tulsa District, will host a listening session, Saturday, Jan. 8, 2011. The listening session is to gather public input on the allowable use of on-road and off-road vehicles - including golf carts - at lakes managed by the Tulsa District. The listening session will begin at 10 am at the Enos Community Center, 1356 Post Oak Road, Enos, Oklahoma.

The listening session is being held in the Lake Texoma area because the topic is of great interest to locals, weekend visitors, congressional representatives, and the Lake Texoma staff.

“We need your help,” said Col. Michael Teague, commander. “Off-road vehicle use is tearing up the shoreline and destroying public lands. We need a clear policy that protects the land, while accommodating all of our visitors.”

Comments and suggestions will be taken from those in attendance.

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Containing no lanolin, alpaca fiber is also naturally hypoallergenic. Most people who are sensitive to wool find that they can wear alpaca without the itching or irritation they feel from wool because alpaca fiber is smooth. Additional performance characteristics include: stretch, water repellency, and odor reduction. For travelers, clothing made from alpaca is desirable because it is wrinkle-resistant.

These characteristics are what made alpaca socks ideal for troops in harsh climates.

The Colemans sent out a plea to alpaca farms across the country for the 24 necessary pairs of socks to provide a pair for each member of Micheal's platoon. In a short time, over 1,000 socks were donated.

This began the Sock Brigade.

Through the BentStar Project Ltd, a California non-profit corporation formed to further the education of the public to the efforts of recovering POW/MIAs, the Sock Brigade has shipped over 9,000 pairs of alpaca socks to our deployed troops, and that number continues to grow.

The Alpaca Owners and Breeders Association (AOBA) has partnered with the Sock Brigade to help give soldiers warm feet, and more importantly, the reminder that they are not forgotten. Local alpaca farms are encouraging customers to donate a pair of socks to our soldiers during this holiday season.

To further promote this wonderful cause, Lamb Chop now serves as the official "spoke sock." Lamb Chop and Mallory Lewis, daughter of the late Shari Lewis, are helping spread the word that YOU can send socks... and comfoWhen I was a young teen back in the late 1950s, my sister and I were big fans of Shari Lewis and Lamb Chop. After Shari Lewis' death, her daughter Mallory took over performing all over the world with Lamb Chop.

I recently interviewed Mallory Lewis and Lamb Chop over the phone.

Lamb Chop has become a 'Spoke Sock' for a project that is near and dear to her heart as well as well as to those of us who support the US Military personnel.

She is especially proud to promote this program of sending alpaca socks to military. After all, Lamb Chop is a wooly lamb and the Alpaca fiber is naturally hypoallergenic. It is 1/s3 the weight of wool, but is extremely warm for the feet of soldiers during the cold desert nights.

Mallory and Lamb Chop will be in Las Vegas Jan. 20-21 on behalf of the Sock Brigade and promoting this project. Mallory said that 10,000 feet have already received Alpaca socks. You can help too by going to www.alpacainfo.com. **You can donate the money on line to provide socks for soldiers.**

Lamb Chop and Mallory are proud to be part of this program because of the important work our Military personnel are doing for our country.

rt... to our troops!

For more information about how you can help, visit www.alpacainfo.com

Lamb Chop the official spoke sock for the Sock Brigade said, "Help keep our soldier's feetsie warm, donate to the Sock Brigade."

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Dot's Dashes, continued

A Historical Marker for Lightnin'

There has been much debate if he was playing an acoustic or electric guitar, but one musician summed it up with a simple statement: "He played whatever guitar wasn't in hock at the time."

Hopkins could create songs on the spot. Weariness was a common theme, but his songs could also be very funny. "If My Starter Won't Start" wasn't about a car, but about the indignities of growing old.

Hopkins' historical marker stands at the corner of Dowling and Francis in Houston. Fittingly, the ceremony included some of the Hopkins blues songs.

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

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serious damage to ankles and lower legs. When it became clear that the dogs could not be contained and that they were creating a significant hazard, the county was forced to relocate them.

Goodbye prairie dogs, hello squirrels, who are being welcomed with open arms by most Odessans. So great is their welcome that my brother is building squirrel feeders. He builds a box with three holes in it.

One of the holes holds the mouth of a big pickle jar, which lies on its side on a platform. The other two holes, on two sides of the box, are the places the squirrels enter to get the food in the jar.

My brother sent me one as a birthday gift in July and I screwed it into large tree in my backyard. It is located so I can see it from my sewing room and also from the gated driveway when I am coming home from some errand. Sometimes I sit in my car and watch the squirrels, one of whom is a great gray

fellow who is getting fat on the bounty I provide. A redbird also frequents the bird feeder located a few feet from the squirrel feeder.

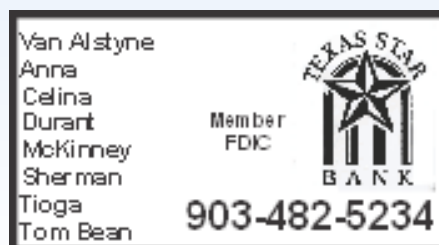
My next project is to get a receptacle that will hold water for the birds.

My brother and his wife are planning to visit me in February and he is bringing some of his squirrel feeders with him with the thought that maybe there are some people in this area who might like to have one at a reasonable price. I can tell you for sure that they create the venue for some inexpensive entertainment if you enjoy watching squirrels tease your dogs at the same time they tussle for supremacy in the feed trough.

If you think you might like to have a squirrel feeder, give me a shout at froggyfowler@hotmail.com and I'll tell you more about them.

Be kind to yourself this week.

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A Casserole Kids Will Love

A Casserole Kids Will Love

1 to 1-1/2 pounds ground beef
1 medium onion, chopped
1 clove garlic, minced
1 Tablespoon salad oil
1 (10-ounce) package frozen chopped spinach
Water
1 (16-ounce) can spaghetti sauce with mushrooms
1 (8-ounce) can tomato sauce
1 (6-ounce) can tomato paste
1/2 teaspoon salt
Dash pepper
1 (7-ounce) package shell macaroni, cooked
1 cup shredded American cheese

1/2 cup soft bread crumbs
2 eggs, well beaten
1/4 cup salad oil

Brown beef, onion, and garlic in oil. Cook spinach according to package directions. Drain, reserving liquid. Add enough water to make 1 cup liquid. Combine liquid with spaghetti sauce, tomato sauce, tomato paste, salt, and pepper. Stir into meat mixture, and simmer for 10 minutes.

Combine spinach with macaroni, cheese, bread crumbs, eggs and oil. Spread in a 13 x 9 x 2-inch baking dish. Top with meat sauce. Bake at 350 degrees for 30 minutes. Before serving, let casserole stand for 10 minutes. This prevents the cheese from being stringy.

Makes 8 servings.

Dot's Dashes



by *Dorothy N. Fowler*

My brother in Odessa tells me that the squirrels are making a comeback. The old timers there say squirrels once were fairly widespread, but I don't remember ever seeing one when I was growing up in the 1940's and 1950's.

Someone tried to introduce the little rodents to the courthouse square several years ago, but they quickly disappeared, perhaps the victims of vandals.

Believe it or not, the desert environment is not hostile to good sized rodents. Many years ago, someone got the idea that a prairie dog park would be a good idea and thus was born a section of an Ector County park called Prairie Pete Park. The prairie dogs were fun to watch. They sat outside their holes looking about them and sounding the alarm to their brothers and sisters, who were safely ensconced underground. As soon as they had whistled the alarm, they too scurried into their holes.

Owls lived in the same environment, frequently sitting at the mouth of the dog's caverns. I was never quite clear on whether the relationship between the dogs and the owls was symbiotic or parasitic. If the dogs were prey, there were not enough owls to reduce the dog population.

Truth is, the dogs reproduced at a fearsome rate and despite mighty efforts to contain them in their enclosure, they kept digging out, creating holes that unwary park goers could and did step into, sometimes doing

A Historical Marker for Lightnin'

by *Bob Bowman*

The news outlets from Houston reported recently that a Texas Historical Marker has been dedicated to Lightnin' Hopkins, whose blues music became famous between 1946 and the 1970s.

But Hopkins' fans in East Texas beat Houston to punch -- and in a more significant way -- years ago.

At Crockett, resting in a little grove across the street from the Camp Street Cafe, is a statue of Lightnin' playing his guitar. Local historians say that Lightnin' often showed up at the Cafe, a Crockett landmark -- to entertain folks.

The statue was the result of Guy and Pipp Gillette, whose grandfather ran the cafe decades ago. The Cafe is now one of the best music venues in East Texas, thanks to the Gillette brothers.

Before Houston decided to erect the historical marker in Hopkins' honor, the only place where he was honored was a modest footstone in Houston's Forest Park Lawndale Cemetery.

For those unfamiliar with Hopkins' music, his approach to the blues was a thing of his own making. It was marked by a laid-back, countrified vocal delivery and a percussive guitar-playing style with his spidery fingers snapping the length of his fretboard like typewriter keys.

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Howe ISD Urges Legislators: Make Education a Priority

Lawmakers must make education a priority this legislative session if they are to find a solution to the broken school finance system and properly fund public schools in Texas.

The Howe Independent School District Board of Trustees adopted a resolution on Dec. 16, 2010 in an effort to raise awareness of the growing financial crisis public school districts are facing. The resolution adoption encourages state legislators to work with local school board members and other stakeholders with an attitude of the highest priority.

With this resolution adoption, Howe ISD joins over 400 school districts across Texas that have done the same as part of the "Make Education a Priority" campaign launched by the Aledo ISD Board of Trustees.

The campaign aims to unite school districts to support and share with our legislators an attitude of making education a sincere priority during the 2011 82nd Legislative Session. The campaign calls for a commitment to fix the broken system of school finance and to properly fund education.

One of the main causes of the current school finance crisis is the 2006 legislation (House Bill 1) that has proven to fall short of properly funding Texas public schools. The state cut property taxes by one third and did not establish a new stream of revenue to completely make up the difference.

In 2007 and 2009, legislators were unsuccessful in addressing school funding shortcomings. Currently, more than half of the school districts in Texas are being forced to use dollars from their fund balances for daily operating expenditures – a practice that is neither financially sound nor sustainable over a long-term. In addition, teaching positions are being eliminated, salaries reduced and local educational programs removed to meet reduced budgets.

"Our united Priority message is respectful and clear. During difficult financial times, the process of prioritizing becomes magnified. A united concern to protect and properly fund education must be found as the highest priority during the 82nd legislative session" says Bobby J Rigues Aledo ISD Board Vice President.

The campaign hopes to secure as many resolutions as possible leading up to the 82nd Legislative Session in January 2011. Board members and superintendents

HISD Menus

Jan. 10-14

Breakfast

Monday- Cinnamon roll, cereal w/toast, graham crackers w/yogurt, pineapple, apple juice

Tuesday- Sopapilla, cereal w/toast, applesauce, orange juice

Wednesday- Breakfast burrito, cereal w/toast, graham crackers w/yogurt, fresh apple, grape juice

Thursday- Breakfast pizza, cereal w/toast, fruit cocktail, orange juice

Friday- Pancakes, sausage, cereal w/toast, graham crackers w/yogurt, diced peaches, orange juice

Lunch

MONDAY – Hamburger, hot dog, chili dog, potato rounds, burger fixins, baked beans, pineapple chunks, peach crisp

TUESDAY – Beef fingers, roasted chicken, mashed potatoes, country gravy, green beans, applesauce, gelatin jewels, hot roll

WEDNESDAY – Chicken sandwich, turkey club wrap, burger fixins, pinto beans, fresh apple, Rice Krispie treat

THURSDAY – Pepperoni pizza, spaghetti w/meat sauce, garden salad, broccoli w/cheese, fruit cocktail, Texas toast, orange sherbet

FRIDAY-Beef & cheese nachos, burrito, cheese sauce, steamed corn, tossed salad, carrots & celery sticks, diced peaches

Milk & juice served with all meals

Menu subject to change according to availability

Exceptional Behavior – 2nd six weeks

Kindergarten: Teagan Stubblefield, Jentrie Doty, Antonio Tapia, Audie Martin, Jordan Brunner, Janna Nitchman, Korie Bouse, Zoey Bolen, Jazmine Bookout, Chelsea Caughlan, Ethan Duer, Daniel Gonzalez, Matthew Hayes, Jalie Hill, Hayley McEwin, Stone Trevino, Adam Young, Yair Ayala, Breana Cole, Bryce Crosby, Carson Daniels, Tate Harvey, Alex Huerta, Dalton Laisy, Trey Phillips, Keira Robertson, Marcus Smith, Faith Stallings, Ethan Strunc, Dakota Tinker, Matthew Bearden, Mackenzie Bryant, Nick Bullard, Kristopher Craig, Hunter Hance, Edith Hernandez, Ryan Hough, Connor Martin, Cody McGill, James Richardson, Brandon Segura, Donna Mendoza, Caleb Brown,

1st grade: Emma Harvey, Kevin Bateman, Harley Brockelman, Luke Catching, John Griffin, Kailyn Ireland, Faith Risinger, Zak DeFrangé, Jared Brussow, Michelle Caballero, Will Fleming, Kaitlyn Fuhr, Luke Lopez, Zoey Moore, Parker Pecina, Caleb Searcey, Alyssa Sharp, Avery Snapp, Kaleb Strong, Trinity Williams, Kelly Caballero, Korben Kemp, Jacob McGill, Emma Sutherland, Sergio Rico, Jacob

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will be invited to deliver their resolutions and community letters of support to the Texas Capitol in Austin at a future date to be determined.

More information may be found at the Make Education a Priority website: www.schoolpriority.com. [A list of school districts adopting the resolution and supporting statements by legislators and educational organizations can also be found within the website.](#)

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Upchurch, Lindsey Hymel, Jennifer Torres, Eli Wilson, Fenix Lugo, Caytie Coco, Ashlyn Beck, Corey Yeager, Ricky Ramirez, Colby Hopper, Benjamin Speed, Cierra Brussow, Jessica Bastida, Stevie Brattain, Luis Gonzalez, Christian Moody, Ramie Mosse, Jordan Troxtell, Ethan Turner

2nd grade: Erin Catching, Ashley Crees, Alex Hernandez, Gracie Lankford, Tess Matthews, Mason Moreau, Hunter Robertson, Kaytee Roper, Dylan Savage, Pablo Segura, A.J. Shue, Gage Streetman, Leah Trevino, Braeden Wise, Luke Young, Joseph Hymel, Seth Key, Jackson Adkins, Alex Blount, Grace Brennan, Lyla Caro, Kayle Chapman, Ruvy Enriquez, Kriston Harris, Cameron Lankford, Kobi Max, Lizzy Robertson, Ethan Sanders, Reagan Troxtell, Mason West, Autumn Bassett, Mason Bearden, Mikal Ann Beck, Brett Burnett, Holly Cavender, Sierra Copeland, Abby Fesperman, Katie Grogan, Makayla Hanson, Tatum Hartsfield, Raul Hernandez, Remington Lowe, Brooke Robinson, Austin Thurman, Clay Barnett, Leah Butcher, Mariana Cano, Hannah Dwyer, Courtney Hopper, David Huerta, Jonathan Meneses, Christian Risinger, Crista Timmons, Aubreh Winegarden

3rd grade: Cassidy Anderson, Melanie Guzman, Mary Henson, Taylor Hinkle, Jenna Honore, Zane Hughes, Sarah Martin, Kaley Norton, Bonnie Olivarez, Jamie Taylor Brian Timmons, Zoie DeFrange, Karsyn Fleming, Paetyn Ford, Ally Harvey, Molly Wilson, Bailey Bond, Jayce Bryan, Taylor Bryan, Lane Griffin, Mikayla Hudek, Jarron Ing, Jacob Roper, Eli Turner, Kira Allen, Nayely Ayala, Valerie Langford, Kolbe Lappin Kacie Morgan, Jodee Newland, Colton Thurman, Hailey Upchurch, Ashlyn Wahrmond

4th grade: Quintan Allen, Cody Brussow, Carly Cannaday, Mikayla Doty, Gage Hendrickson, Mason Riggs, Taylor Thurman, Erin Tyler, Zoe Watson, Spencer Akins, Tanner Barnett, Parker Blount, Levi Cavender, Luis Chacon, Lian Cung, Aubrey Friedman, Dylcia Gilmore, Ty Harrell, Trey Lastor, Taylee Moss, Kelsey Pierce, Jayme Swayne, Dylan Foster, Kaysie Hall, Clayton Haynes, Bethany Masters, Riley Potter, Lane Stracener, Jaime Torres, Kaylin Bouse, Joseph Brennan, Kindle Catching Sheila Finney, Adam Gregg, Carson Grogan, Taylor Hartsfield, Gianna Henry, Caleb Lankford, Tate Matthews, Natalie Murphy, Colten Raisor

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Website www.howelibrary.org



Dirt Buddies Day - The members of the Earth Science Club had a great time helping preschoolers learn about gardening during a recent Dirt Buddies Day at Howe Community Library. The Earth Science Club meets the first Thursday of each month for ages 10 and up. Future plans include creating a community garden just south of the library.



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Tom Bean 7th Grade Celebrates Manzanar Night



The 7th grade reading class of Tom Bean Middle celebrated the culmination of four weeks of research over the novel, *Farewell to Manzanar* by Jeanne Wakasuki Houston and James D. Houston, Thursday night with an open house parent presentation.

The students had read the novel and then were assigned research topics over the World War II time period. Their research spanned the attack on Pearl Harbor and the war in Europe to the internment of Japanese- Americans through out the West Coast to camps as far east as Arkansas.

They completed individual projects over the internment camps and the Japanese- American culture. These projects along with a variety of Japanese cuisine were all on display Thursday night for the parent's viewing.

"This project always teaches the students so much. They learn about World War II and the holocaust in social studies but many know little about the war with Japan and its effect on our country" stated Mrs. Cummings. "This



New Ag Barn

by Lana Rideout

The loss of the Tom Bean ag barn in a fire earlier this year seemed like a tragedy; but from it comes a positive result.

The school district and the students are reaping the benefits of a new completed ag barn with new equipment and more students taking advantage of the ag programs.

On Wednesday, Dec. 15, the school district hosted an open house to show off their new building.

Drinking hot chocolate and munching on cookies, school personnel, students, parents, and area residents strolled along the stalls and visited with friends or watched the students working with their animals.

The Ag programs sometimes help students to earn college scholarships at various shows, plus it helps the students develop a sense of responsibility from being completely involved in caring for their animals.

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Tom Bean 7th Grade Celebrates Manzanar Night - continued



allows the students to demonstrate what we have learned in a variety of venues and subject areas. They not only show what they have learned with their writing skills but this year they are using art, and music.”

This parent night has become an annual event with the 7th grade. They use different novels each year, but they always do research and projects to explore what they learned.

“We have such great parent support. When you schedule something like this during the busiest time of the year and you have over a hundred parents turn out for it, that just speaks volumes about our community,” said Mrs. Cummings.



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New Ag Barn, continued

The new building contains 28 pens for pigs or other small animals line each side of the building. Each pen has a small door that opens to the outside pens; so the animals may enjoy being outside.

In addition to animal projects, the ag program offers shop welding, tractor mechanics, and floral design. A green house will be completed in the near future.

The district’s cattle barn, located near the ag barn, has also benefited with some additions.

The students are responsible for cleaning the stalls and feeding their animals. They also walk the animals every day and see to any other needs of the animals.

The first show they will be competing in this year is the annual Loy Lake Show held in April.

According to Ag teacher Rusty Turner, “The kids spend time here a lot more (at the ag building).”

About 150 Tom Bean students participate in the ag programs.

Supt. Kathy Garrison praised the school board and ag boosters for their work in making the building functional and pleasing to the eye.



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Who's Your Great-great-great-grandfather?

by *Juanita Hazelton*

Do you know who your great-grandparents were? Maybe like I once was, you only know that your "greats" lived in Georgia, or Pennsylvania, or Scotland. Family history can be a fascinating search, but many of us don't know where to begin. Find out where to begin, or what to do if you've run against a research roadblock at the Van Alstyne Library on Saturdays, beginning Jan. 29 thru Feb. 19. Dale Rideout, a knowledgeable family researcher, will present a four part genealogy workshop. Sessions begin at 10 am on Saturdays and last until 11:30 am.

Participants will explore online resources, using organizational tools, working with census records, and saving and organizing research. Handouts and a CD will also be shared. The course is free but there is a \$15 charge to cover the cost of the materials. For additional information, call Rideout at 903-487-0525.

Reservations can be made by calling the library at 903-482-5991. Walk-ins for the workshop will also be welcome. The Van Alstyne Library is located at 151 W. Cooper St.

Computer classes for Spanish speakers will resume on Monday, Jan. 10, at 1:30 pm. Computer classes in English will resume on Thursdays at 6 pm on Jan. 13. Both classes are free and include basic instruction on using Microsoft Word, searching the Internet, using e-mail, and attaching photos and documents to e-mail. Sessions last an hour and continue for six weeks. Please call the library at 903-482-5991 to register for the classes.

Bilingual story time resumes at 4 pm on Tuesday, Jan. 11, with Amy Parrish leading the activities. At the same time, Laura Hornbeck will provide English as a second language

instruction for parents. Ms. Hornbeck is also available for basic literacy tutoring, by appointment. Preschool story time resumes on Wednesday, Jan. 12, at 10:15 am with Deanna Willman. The next Family Night at the Library will be Friday, Jan. 21, at 6:30 pm.

The library's Teen Council resumes meeting on Wednesday, Jan. 12 at 4 pm. Students aged 13-18 are invited to join this volunteer group. The members help shelve library books, plan interesting programs for teens, suggest books to add to the youth collection, and write reviews about their favorite books.

New Books added to the collection: *Remarkable Creatures* by Tracy Chavalier, *Rainwater* by Sandra Brown, *Saving CeeCee Honeycutt* by Beth Hoffman, *Major Pettigrew's Last Stand* by Helen Simonson, Christmas Mourning by Margaret Maron, Cat in an Ultramarine Scheme by Carole Nelson Douglas, *Rembrandt Affair* by Daniel Silva, *Hangman* by Faye Kellerman, *Queen of the Night* by J.A. Jance, *Glass Rainbow* by James Lee Burke, *In Harm's Way* by Ridley Pearson, and Rules of *Betrayal* by Christopher Reich.



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Van Alstyne Voices Toastmasters

The regular meeting of the Van Alstyne Voices Toastmasters was called to order by MJ Presley, Sergeant-at-Arms on Jan. 3 at the Van Alstyne Library. Toastmaster of the Day was Dorothy Bishop with a theme of "Enthusiasm." Merrill Hazelton spoke on "My Hero," about his Dad. Bob Bishop spoke on "Start the New Year with a BANG!" Table Topics Master MJ Presley called on Dorothy Bishop and Jeff Hall to respond to topics of his choosing for two minutes extemporaneously. General Evaluator Jeff Hall evaluated Merrill Hazelton and introduced Juanita Hazelton to evaluate Bob Bishop. MJ Presley was the Timer. Merrill Hazelton was Joke Master. Awards were won by Merrill Hazelton for Best Speaker, Jeff Hall for Best Table Topic, and Juanita Hazelton for Best Evaluation.

A short business meeting followed. MJ Presley announced dates for officers training would be Jan. 15 and 20, and Feb. 5 would be the Last Chance TLI. President Jeff Hall requested Allison Presley to send out the duty schedule for the next meeting by email. All members are requested to bring their manuals to the next meeting. Bob Bishop announced Grayson College South Campus would provide a workshop "What Color is Your Parachute 2011" on Friday, Jan. 14.

Toastmasters International is a not-for-profit educational organization whose mission is to help people develop their communication skills. Toastmasters can help people build their self-confidence and develop speaking skills in a friendly, positive environment. Van Alstyne Voices Toastmasters meets each Monday evening at 7 pm at the Van Alstyne Library. Visitors are welcome. Call Public Relations Officer Juanita Hazelton at 903-482-5991 for more information.





Capitol Watch

By Larry Phillips, State Representative



Pre-Filed Bills

The next meeting of the Texas legislature begins Tuesday, Jan. 11. However, legislators were able to begin pre-filing bills in November, and over the last few weeks I have been giving an overview of some of those bills. This week, I will continue to talk about a few of the bills that have been pre-filed by other legislators from around the state for the upcoming legislative session.

House Bill 127 would prohibit the sale of certain types of beverages on public-school campuses during normal school hours. Approved beverages include water, any fruit or vegetable juice that is at least 50% juice and includes no added sweetener, milk with no more than a 2% fat content, non-dairy milk, and sports drinks with no more than 42 grams of sweetener per 20 ounce serving. These rules would not apply on days when school is not in session, or beginning at least one half hour after the end of the school day. If this bill passes it will apply beginning with the 2011-2012 school year.

House Bill 139 relates to the drug testing of individuals who are applying for financial assistance benefits. This bill requires that any adult applying for financial assistance benefits, except those applying solely on behalf of a child, must submit to a drug test to establish the applicant's eligibility for those benefits. If the test indicates the presence of a controlled substance not prescribed to that person by a health care practitioner

that individual would become ineligible for financial assistance for a period of 12 months from the date the results are received. Persons who do not pass the drug test the first time will be notified, re-tested by another drug test or other appropriate method, and will have the opportunity to have a public hearing regarding the results of the drug test. The denial of financial assistance to an adult in a household would not affect the eligibility of the person's child or other household members for financial assistance. If this bill passes it would take effect September 1, 2011.

House Bill 176 would designate English as the official state language, and repeals a current state code requiring state agencies to make a reasonable effort to ensure that Spanish-speaking individuals with limited English-proficiency can access state agency information online. According to this bill, except where required by federal law, state agencies would not be required to provide documents, publish written materials, or provide website content in any language other than the official language of the state. If this bill passes it would take effect September 1, 2011.

For more information on these bills, or to review all of the legislation that has been filed, please visit the website www.capitol.state.tx.us. You can contact my office by writing to PO 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.

Website <http://www.co.grayson.tx.us>





A Christian Fellowship/Luella

A Christian Fellowship begins each Sunday morning with coffee and doughnut fellowship at 9 am, followed by classes for all ages at 9:30. Worship service begins at 10:30. This week's service is led by Denis Gray. Dress is casual.

Praise and worship is led by David Ellis and is a contemporary style service.

The congregation celebrates The Lord's Supper each Sunday morning during worship service.

Each Wednesday night begins with a pot luck dinner followed by a devotional and songs.

The church offers home study groups throughout the week.

For more information about church events contact Mike Ball at 903-870-0219.

Church News



The Tom Bean Church of Christ invites everyone to come and worship with us.

Services begin each Sunday with Bible class for all ages at 9 am and worship at 10 am. The evening worship service begins at 6 pm. The Lord 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>.

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 ISD Adm. 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

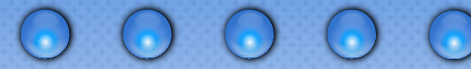
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

903/546-6231

FIRST UNITED METHODIST

CHURCH 903/546-6898

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Local Church Continued

INSPIRATION POINT
COWBOY CHURCH
FM 2729, 2.5 miles
South of Tom Bean
Duane Peters,
903-815-2278

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

Sherman/Denison

THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY
SAINTS
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 Alstyn
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,
FAMILY CHURCH,
201 W. Marshall,
Pastor Mark Arrington,
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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Texoma Republican St★r

The Separation Myth

Roe vs Wade

By Steve Casey

In the 1947 “Everson versus Board of Education” case, the Supreme Court created a myth. The myth (lie) was the idea that the Founding Fathers wanted government to be devoid of any influence of religion. By stating words of Thomas Jefferson out of context, the Supreme Court called this myth “Separation of Church and State.”

Dr. William James, the father of modern psychology, stated, “There is nothing so absurd but if you repeat it often enough people will believe it.”

The present day belief as to what the Founding Fathers intended in the First Amendment fits Dr. James’ statement. The writers of The Bill of Rights believed that government and Christianity were the best of friends, not the worst of enemies, as is now falsely being taught.

The First Amendment simply states: “Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof....”

The phrase “separation of church and state” is not found in any of the Founding Documents of our nation nor is it found in any of the Congressional Records during the time of the writing of the Constitution or the Bill of Rights.

The delegate to Congress who gave us the primary wording for the First Amendment was Fisher Ames of Massachusetts. Ames never spoke of separation of church and state. In fact, Ames, the very author of the First Amendment, wrote a treatise explaining why the Bible should always remain the primary text in our public schools.

There are only two signatures on the Bill of Rights, that of Frederick Muhlenberg, The Speaker of the House and that of Charles Thomson, the Secretary of Congress. Frederick Muhlenberg was a Lutheran minister who, after having his church destroyed by the British during the Revolutionary War, became an officer in the Revolutionary Army and later served in Congress. Charles Thomson gave us our first American translation of the Bible.

The first Bible published in America was published by Robert Aitken by order of Congress “to be used in schools.”

by Steve Casey

January 22 will mark the 38th anniversary of Roe vs. Wade, the court decision that has resulted in the destruction of over fifty-five million unborn lives-the largest holocaust in the history of mankind.

Let’s take a look at the two “hard questions” the pro-abortion crowd hurls at the pro-life crowd to justify the multimillion-dollar industry of abortion: What about saving the life of the mother? And, what about cases of rape?

There are cases where a child has to be delivered early for the sake of the mother’s health. But in ALL of these cases the effort can be made to save both lives. Medical science has developed far past the days when killing the child for the sake of the mother is necessary. There are some extreme cases such as toxic infections where the child cannot be saved. But, that doesn’t mean that the child must be deliberately killed. Every effort to save the life of the child can be made. Plus the mother will be much safer in the care of a life-saving hospital team than she would be at an abortion clinic.

Rape is a horrible crime. The punishment for rapists should be severe. We should give great compassion and support to the victims of rape. But, in the cases where pregnancy occurs, does this include abortion?

You cannot answer this question honestly without considering the humanity of the unborn child. Genetic science has shown us the absolute uniqueness of every human embryo at even its earliest stages. Even though this child’s conception came as the result of a crime, the child is not the criminal. Does this child deserve the death penalty because of the crime of its father?

The victim of rape has severe emotional pain to deal with. Is adding the guilt of destroying another innocent victim the solution or does it add even more anguish to the situation?

Steve Casey lives in Stonewall, LA. He is a frequent contributor to the *Enterprise*.

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The Separation Myth, continued

The first reference in American history to the phrase “separation of church and state” is found in a letter by President Thomas Jefferson to the Danbury Baptist Association of Danbury, Connecticut in 1801. The Danbury Baptists had heard a rumor that Connecticut was going to establish a state church. They wrote to President Jefferson about this. In answering their letter, Jefferson assured them that all Christian religions would always be equally accepted, that freedom to practice their beliefs openly would never be denied, and that there would never be a state church that would restrict the freedom of other churches. He assured them that “The First Amendment has erected a wall of separation between church and state.” The First Amendment would protect the church from government control. There always would be open and free religious expression of all orthodox religious practices, for true religious duties would never threaten the purpose of government.

The present-day myth of separation of church and state is a very recent development in American government and does not have any foundations in the Constitution or the intentions of the Founding Fathers.

Prior to the creation of the “Separation Myth” 1947, Thomas Jefferson had only been quoted one time in a Federal Court Case. Since that time Jefferson has been misquoted over 3,000 times as the primary authority on the Constitution. It is very strange that Jefferson is considered the primary authority on the Constitution since he was not involved in either the writing of the Constitution or the Bill of Rights. At the time of their writing, Jefferson was serving as our ambassador to France and was therefore not present for any of the deliberations over these documents. When looking for a Constitutional authority, our courts have not chosen any of the 55 signers of the Constitution or any of the 96 men involved in the writing of the Bill of Rights. The courts have chosen to quote a secondary, “hearsay” witness who was not present during the writing of these documents.

But even if we look to Jefferson for the intent of the Founding Fathers on the idea of the involvement of government and religion, we would get a radically different view from that which is portrayed today.

Only a few weeks before Jefferson became President, Congress moved into the newly built Capitol Building. Among their early proceedings in December of 1800, it was decided that the new Capitol would be used six days a week

for governmental purposes and, on Sundays, it would be used as a church. When Jefferson became President in January of 1801, he began attending church in the U. S. Capitol. Jefferson thought that the music needed some improvement so, by executive order, he commissioned the Military Band to play for these worship services.

During the snowy winters, when riding horseback to the Capital was often very difficult, Jefferson authorized church services to be held in his two other executive buildings — the War Department and the Treasury Department. He attended services in all three government buildings. This is well documented by the Washington D. C. Historical Society.

While president of the nation, Jefferson was made the president of the school board for Washington, D.C. public schools and authored its original plan of education in which he made the Bible and Watts’ Hymnal the two primary reading texts.

As President, Jefferson authored three treaties with the American Indians. In all three of these treaties, he arranged for government money to be used to send missionaries to evangelize these tribes. He even constructed what he referred to as a “wee little book” entitled *The Life and Morals of Jesus of Nazareth*, which he hoped would be used in instructing the Indians in the teachings of Jesus. He went through his own Bible, cut out all of the words of Jesus and pasted them in this booklet in order that they could be studied together. This volume has ludicrously been called “The Jefferson Bible” and it is stated that his purpose was to cut out everything that he didn’t agree with. That is something that Jefferson never said. He wrote letters about this work to his friends Benjamin Rush and Charles Thomson. In these letters, he only talks about his purposes in what he included - the teachings of Jesus. He never mentioned anything about the things he did not include.

Taking Godly influence out of government is a creation of 20th Century courts. It was never the intention of the Founding Fathers.

(Steve Casey is a resident of Louisiana and a frequent contributor to the *Texoma Enterprise*.)

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