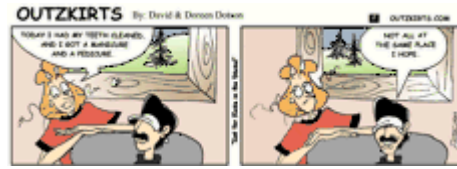


Texoma Enterprise

Howe, Texas
75459

January 19, 2012



Humor



Church



Howe Top Dogs



**Gunter
New
Library**



**Van Alstyne
Library**



**One regulation away
from being out of
business**



Texoma Enterprise

Howe, Texas
75459

Austin College Concert Band Seeks Performers

SHERMAN, TEXAS-The Austin College Concert Band seeks qualified musicians from the community to audition for performance, with openings in most sections of the band. Robert Archer, Concert Band director and Austin College adjunct instructor in music, explained that the group is a full concert band, doubling many parts. The spring season begins February 1 at 7 pm with an organizational meeting and short rehearsal in Craig Hall, Room 114.

Individuals seeking more information about the ensemble or wishing to participate should contact Archer at barcher@austincollege.edu or call the Department of Music at 903.813.2251.

Archer said the large ensemble is dedicated to reading and performing traditional and contemporary band literature. This spring, the music will include some newer compositions by Gorb, Bryant, Sheldon, Rhea, and Karrick, pieces that Archer described as “challenging but fun.”

Now in its ninth season, the band is a joint effort of Austin College and community musicians. Band members include Austin College students-music majors and non-music majors, Austin College faculty, area high school band directors, music professionals, and community members who enjoy playing music.

Once the season begins, rehearsals are held each Wednesday, 7 to 9 pm, in Craig Hall, Room 114 on the Austin College campus. The band’s spring concert is scheduled for April 25 at 7:30 p.m. in Wynne Chapel.

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.

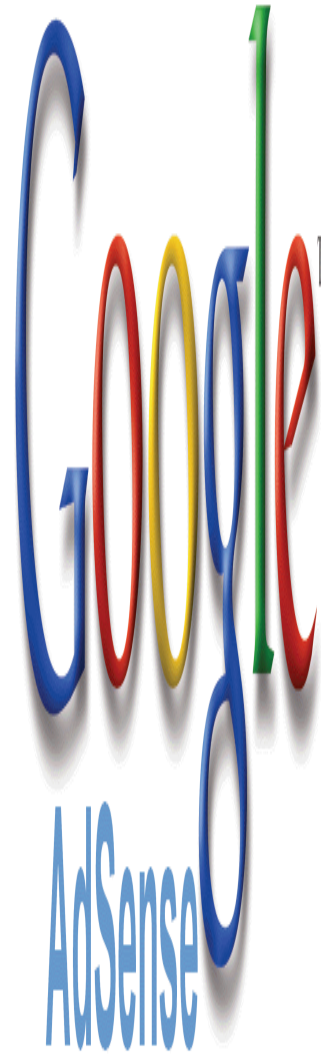
SE Live Open House is an excellent opportunity for high school students to experience what life is like as a Southeastern student. Students will attend workshops on Scholarships and Financial Aid, Southeastern Traditions and a College Success class. Campus tours will also be available in the afternoon.

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

As I write this column it is Monday, Jan. 16. It is the 15th birthday of my youngest grandchild. Rachel English is a beautiful young lady. It seems impossible that she is now 15.

My husband reminded me of several events in the lives of Rachel and her older brother (Caleb will be 17 in March).

Seems that their Mom did not always pay close attention to her children: Caleb kept telling his Mom that baby Rachel was crawling around the room and had found some dead crickets to eat. Caleb told her several times before she realized what Rachel was doing. (I understand that crickets are a good source of protein.)

Also, one day when Caleb was about three or four, he told his Mom that he was hungry. She placed a frozen corny dog on a plate and then evidently got distracted.

Caleb began saying, "Mom, it's cold." Then he repeated the phrase until Mom realized she had not heated the corny dog and Caleb had already eaten about half of it.

Cheese Custard with Mushroom Sauce

INGREDIENTS for Cheese Custard:

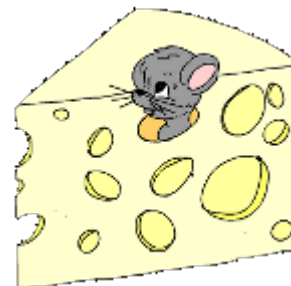
- 6 eggs, well beaten
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon dry mustard
- 1 cup milk
- 1 cup grated Velveeta cheese

INGREDIENTS for Mushroom Sauce:


- 2 Tablespoons butter
- 1-1/2 Tablespoons flour
- Salt and pepper
- 1 cup cream
- 5 Tablespoons grated cheese
- 1 can (4 ounces) mushrooms, drained

TO PREPARE Cheese Custard: Combine eggs, salt, dry mustard, milk and cheese and pour into greased 1-1/2-quart baking dish. Set in pan of water and bake at 350 degrees for 45 minutes, or until set. Serve with Mushroom Sauce.

TO PREPARE Mushroom Sauce: Melt butter in saucepan; stir in flour, salt and pepper. Add cream slowly, stirring constantly. Cook 2 minutes. Stir in grated cheese and mushrooms. Heat thoroughly. Spoon sauce over Cheese Custard.



City Drug Co.



Available 24 hours.
M - F 8 am to 5:30 pm
Saturday 8 am to 2 pm
After hours call:
David Schatz - 903-482-6063
Jack Strickland - 903-482-5830

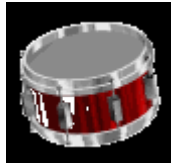
(903) 482-5279

209 E. Jefferson -- Van Alstyne



Texoma Enterprise

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75459



Howe ES/MS Menus

Jan 23-27

Breakfast

Monday – Cinnamon roll, cereal/toast, fruit cocktail, apple juice

Tuesday – Waffles w/sausage, cereal/toast, strawberry cups, orange juice

Wednesday – Oatmeal w/toast, cereal/toast, graham crackers w/yogurt, Shamrock applesauce, grape juice

Thursday – Breakfast pizza, cereal/toast, diced peaches, orange juice

Friday – French toast, cereal/toast, fresh apple, orange juice

Lunch

Monday – Cheeseburger or stuffed potato/ham boat, potato rounds, ranch beans, fruit cocktail, chocolate pudding

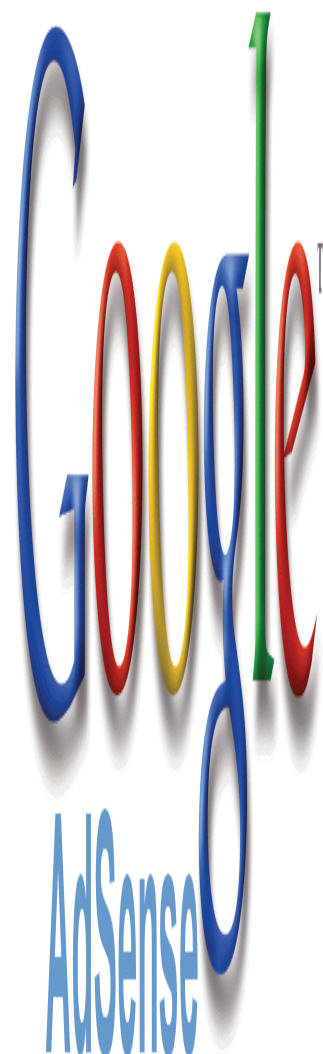
Tuesday – Beef fingers or turkey, mashed potatoes, country gravy, green beans, hot roll, strawberry cups

Wednesday – Chicken sandwich or grilled cheese, burger fixins, pickle spear, chicken noodle soup, crackers, Shamrock applesauce

Thursday – Sausage pizza or Laid Back LaSagna, steamed corn, garden salad, diced peaches, frozen fruit bar

Friday – Soft beef tacos or Mexican salad, refried beans, corn cobbette, fresh apple, Spanish rice

Howe Elementary "Top Dogs" for the week ending January 13, 2012 are: Matthew Robison, Hunter Brussow, Kaden Bateman, Tatum Hartsfield, Kaytee Roper, Mason Bearden, Riley Griffith, Ethan Conrad, Ricky Ramirez, Caleb Madison, Kolby Smith, Kiera Robertson, Carson Daniels, Ebenezer Chaw, Cooper Jones, and Kade Murphy.



City of Howe, Regular Meeting, January 17, 2012

Mayor Stanley called a regular meeting of the Howe City Council to order on Tuesday, January 17, 2012 at 6:30 pm.

Members present were Dale Rideout, Jack Leavenworth, Georgia Richardson, Sam Haigis, and Scotty Harris.

Invocation was given by Mayor Stanley; Mayor Stanley led the pledges to the United States of America and Texas flags.

Public Request

None

Consent Agenda

Motion by Sam Haigis, second by Dale Rideout to approve the consent agenda which included December 2011 finance statements and minutes of December 13, 2012 council meeting. Motion carried 5 Yes 0 No.

Current Business

Motion by Sam Haigis, second by Jack Leavenworth to approve order of General Election for May 12, 2012 for the purpose of electing three council places for two-year terms. Motion carried 5 Yes 0 No.

Motion by Jack Leavenworth, second by Sam Haigis to approve Interlocal Agreement with Region VIII Education Service Center. Motion carried 5 Yes 0 No.

Motion by Jack Leavenworth, second by Dale Rideout to approve Resolution 12-0001 granting authority to the Mayor to sign the Interlocal Agreement. Motion carried 5 Yes 0 No.

Motion to approve Yearly Racial Profiling Report as presented by Chief of Police John Cherry. Motion carried 5 Yes 0 No.

Executive Session

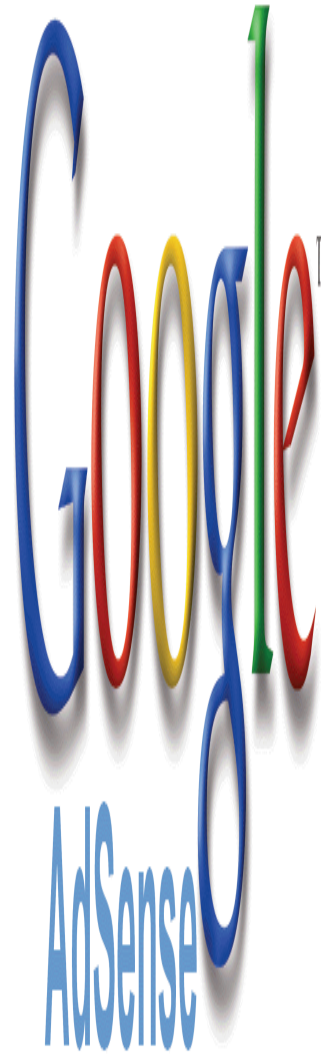
The City Council met in closed session at 6:37 p.m. pursuant to the provisions of the Open Meeting Law, Chapter 551, Government Code Vernon's Texas Codes Annotated in accordance with the authority contained in Section 551.074 – Personnel.

City Administrator review and evaluation.

End Executive Session -- Return To Open Session

The Council returned to the regular session at 8:12 pm.

No action was taken on the City Administrator review and evaluation. The meeting adjourned at 8:13 pm.



Texoma Enterprise

Howe, Texas
75459

Gunter Library Grand Opening

The Gunter Library and Museum has moved! We are now located at #4, Gunter Center Plaza (Morgan Center, 110 S. State Highway 289). We invite you to visit us on Saturday, January 21, for our Grand Opening. Join us for a fundraising breakfast at Andrea's Pizza, Pasta, and More between 8-10 am Saturday morning, in the same Plaza. Breakfast will be followed by other activities at the Library until 2 pm. Join us for library tours, free books, and other door prizes. Enter our drawing to win a free Kindle.

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. Pick up a schedule of hours and activities at the Library.

Join us for Brown Bag Book Discussion Club each 4th Wednesday at 12 noon. Bring your lunch! Books to discuss on January 25 are *All the Flowers in Shanghai* by Duncan Jepson and *Shanghai Girls* by Lisa See. Both books present a picture of life for women in China just prior to World War II and how life has changed for them.

Let us know what other activities you would like the Gunter Library and Museum to provide as we become your Neighborhood Resource Center.

Join us at

Andrea's Pizza, Pasta & More!

THIS SATURDAY, JANUARY 21, 8 am TO 10 am

**FOR A BREAKFAST TO BENEFIT
THE GUNTER LIBRARY AND MUSEUM
AND THEIR GRAND OPENING**

All Breakfast Plates \$6.50
(beverages included)

Menu



Breakfast Burrito Plate

Breakfast burrito, fruit cup, beverage

Biscuits and Gravy Plate

Biscuits, sausage, gravy, fruit cup, beverage



Breakfast Biscuit Plate

Breakfast biscuit sandwich, fruit cup, beverage



Fruit and Biscuit Plate

Biscuits, large fruit cup, beverage

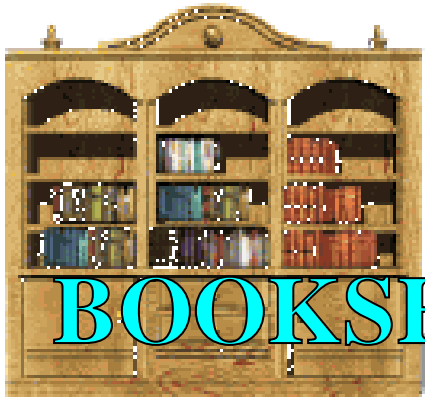


***A portion of the proceeds of each meal and all tips
directly benefit the Gunter Library and Museum!***



Texoma Enterprise

Howe, Texas
75459



BOOKSHELF

By Tracy Luscombe

If you missed Gaming Night at the Van Alstyn Library you missed a lot of fun. More than 50 kids and teens played Rock Band III, Battle Front II, Super Mario World, Super Smash Brothers Brawl, and Mario Kart WII. Those who wanted more of a challenge competed in tournaments for these games. Rusty Jones really came through as the winner of two of the competitions. Thanks to Teen Council Alumnus Ellen Thompson, Greg Lawson, Aaron Emdy, and Cody Lewis for helping make this event possible.

With the day off from school on Monday we had craft hour for kids 6-12. They made paper flowers, magic trees, and origami animals and boxes. Thanks to teen volunteers Taylor, Aubrey and Lizzie for providing some extra help with this craft hour. The school calendar doesn't show any days in February that the students are out of school, so look for our March special events to take place during Spring Break week.

Family Bedtime Stories continue on Thursday nights. This past week we read *Horton Hatches an Egg* and sang *Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star*. We hope you'll plan to join us on Thursday nights at 7: pm with the kids already dressed for bed. The family can sit together for the story and wind down from the day.

Mark your calendars now for our Open House on March 31. It will be a great night to see what's new at your library. More information to come.

Hope to see you around the Van Alstyn Public Library.



Origami - You fold it here, and tuck it here, then fold again and pull that tab....



Game night brings out the computer "Geeks" to try their hand in many different competitions.



FCCLA Week, February 12-18, 2012

“Raising the Bar”

WHEREAS,

Family, Career and Community Leaders of America, the national nonprofit student organization for Family and Consumer Sciences students through grade 12, helps youth assume their roles in society through Family and Consumer Sciences education in areas of personal growth, family life, vocational preparation, and community involvement; and

WHEREAS,

the organization extends classroom learning through chapter projects that develop leadership and initiative and helps young men and women learn how to plan, make decisions and carry out and evaluate programs of action as they work with other youth and adults in their school and community; and

WHEREAS,

Family, Career and Community Leaders of America, offers members an opportunity to work together for common purposes for the improvement of themselves, their families and their communities; and

WHEREAS,

The week of February 12 through 18, 2012, has been designated NATIONAL FCCLA WEEK with the theme, *“Raising the Bar”*.

NOW, THEREFORE,

I, Sherry E. Howard, hereby proclaim the week beginning February 12th as NATIONAL FCCLA WEEK in Tom Bean and urge all citizens to acquaint themselves with the activities and values of Family, Career and Community Leaders of America, to show interest in it and give help and encouragement to these young men and women who are working to achieve knowledge and experience that will help prepare them for future responsibilities as active and concerned adult members of society.



Schools to Watch - Tom Bean Middle School

Exceptional Middle-Grades ‘Schools To Watch’ Announced In Texas

Austin, Texas – Six exemplary middle-grades schools in Texas have been named “Schools to Watch” as part of a recognition program developed by the National Forum to Accelerate Middle-Grades Reform. Last year, Texas became the 16th state to partner with the program when the Texas Middle School Association (TMSA) became the sponsoring organization of the Texas Schools to Watch® (<http://www.texaschoolstowatch.com>) program.

Each school was selected for its academic excellence, its responsiveness to the needs and interests of young adolescents, and its commitment to helping all students achieve at high levels. In addition, each school has strong leadership, teachers who work together to improve curriculum and instruction, and a commitment to assessment and accountability to bring about continuous improvement.

These schools demonstrate that high-performing middle grades schools have a clear focus on academic growth and achievement. They also recognize the importance of meeting the needs of all of their students and ensuring that each and every child has access to a rigorous, high-quality education. The state of Texas is proud to have these schools serve as models from which others can learn.

Selection is based on a written application that required schools to show how they met criteria developed by the Forum. Schools that appeared to meet the criteria were then visited by state teams who observed classrooms, interviewed administrators, teachers, students, and parents, and looked at achievement data, suspension rates, quality of lessons, and student work. Schools are recognized for a three-year period, and at the end of three years must repeat the process in order to be re-designated. The schools vary in size from several hundred to several thousand students and represent urban, suburban, and rural communities.

Launched in 1999, Schools to Watch began as a national program to identify middle-grades schools across the country that were

meeting or exceeding 37 criteria developed by the Forum. In 2002, the Forum began working with states to replicate the Schools to Watch program as a way to introduce the Forum's criteria for high-performance and identify middle grades schools that meet or exceed that criteria.

For 37 years, the Texas Middle School Association (<http://www.tmsanet.org>) has been the premiere association for young adolescents in the state of Texas. Envisioning all middle level students as fulfilled, productive and healthy citizens of their communities and of a global society, TMSA is dedicated to implementing student-centered programs and highly effective practices for young adolescents.

Congratulations to the 2012 Texas Schools to Watch® campuses:

Leander Middle School
Leander ISD
Leander, TX

O.Henry Middle School
Austin ISD
Austin, TX

Gene Pike Middle School
Northwest ISD
Justin, TX

Shallowater Middle School
Shallowater ISD
Shallowater, TX

South Texas Preparatory Academy
South Texas ISD
Edinburg, TX

Tom Bean Middle School
Tom Bean ISD
Tom Bean, TX

Tom Bean Middle School Honored as a ‘School To Watch’

Tom Bean, TX – As part of a prestigious recognition program developed by the National Forum to Accelerate Middle-Grades Reform, the Texas Middle School Association announced Tom Bean Middle School as a Texas and National “Schools to Watch” on Monday, January 13, 2012. Tom Bean Middle School was selected by state leaders for its academic excellence, its responsiveness to the needs and interests of young adolescents, and its commitment to helping all students achieve at high levels. In addition, Tom Bean Middle School has strong leadership and teachers who work together to improve curriculum and instruction. Their commitment to assessment and accountability has brought about continuous academic improvement. Tom Bean Middle School will be showcased at the Texas Middle School Associations Annual Conference held in Galveston, Texas in March and at the National Schools to Watch Conference held in Washington, D.C. this June. The schools honored with this designation vary in size from several hundred to several thousand students and represent urban, suburban, and rural communities. Tom Bean Middle School was the only small middle school (< 400 students on campus) in the state to receive the distinguished 2012 School to Watch National and State honor!

Tom Bean Middle School principal, Dewitt Smith, commented: “I am so proud of our teachers. It is our teachers who do the ‘heavy lifting’ every day -- teaching our students. I believe that the Schools to Watch recognition is a direct reflection of our teachers’ commitment to doing whatever it takes to ensure that our students experience success. This commitment starts with prioritizing students’ needs first above all else. The Schools to Watch recognition is rewarding, but the real joy and sense of accomplishment has been in systematically working side-by-side with an incredible group of educators in order to realize a set goal geared toward improving student achievement. I am very excited for our students, teachers and the entire Tom Bean community.”

Middle School Teacher, Sarena Owens said: “I think it is a great honor for our students, faculty, and community. The award is a result of hard work by everyone working together as a family, and our students’ buy-in to our expectations and rising to those expectations. They (students) would do it anyway without the honor, but it is gratifying that our school did receive the honor.”

The Tom Bean Middle School culture of excellence has led them to be a high-performing campus. The results are evidenced in the following Academic Excellence Indicator System (AEIS) data from the Texas Education Agency (TEA):

Math Data (2007 – 2011 comparison):
* 6th Math: Increased by 17% points (79% to 96% passing)
* 6th Math Economically Disadvantage: Increased by 37% points (63% to 96% passing)
* 7th Math: Increased by 9% points (87% to 96% passing)
* 7th Math Economically Disadvantage: Increased by 17% points (75% to 92% passing)
* 8th Math: Increased by 19% points (76% to 95% passing)
* 8th Math Economically Disadvantage: Increased by 14% points (81% to 95% passing)
* All Math: Increased by 20% points (76% to 96% passing)
* All Math Economically Disadvantage: Increased by 28% points (67% to 95% passing)

Science Data (2008 – 2011 comparison):
* 8th Science: Increased by 23% points (71% to 92% passing rate)
* Commended: Increased by 21% points (15% to 36% commended rate)
* Economically Disadvantage: Increased by 28% points (63% to 91% passing rate)
* Commended Economically Disadvantage: Increased by 26% points (<1% to 26%)

Tom Bean ISD Superintendent, Mrs. Kathy Garrison stated: “I am extremely pleased that the Tom Bean Middle School was selected

as a “School To Watch” for both the state and national level. They richly deserve the recognition and accolades for their excellence, enthusiasm, and concern for the students. TBMS have consistently demonstrated that “high expectations” bring “high performance”. They exemplify the Tom Bean ISD motto -- Achieving Excellence!”

Through the Schools to Watch initiative, the National Forum identifies schools across the United States that are well on their way to meeting the Forum’s criteria for high performance. Following the initial identification, selection is based on a written application that requires schools to show how they meet the criteria developed by the Forum. This year there were 6 schools in Texas that met the initial 37 point criteria including: Leander Middle School (Leander ISD) O. Henry Middle School (Austin ISD), Gene Pike Middle School (Northwest ISD), Shallowater Middle School (Shallowater ISD), South Texas Preparatory Academy (South Texas ISD), and Tom Bean Middle School. These select schools were then visited by state teams who observed classrooms, interviewed administrators, teachers, students, and parents, and looked at achievement data, suspension rates, quality of lessons, and student work. Sites selected as Schools to Watch exemplify the National Forum’s vision and serve as resources for other schools. Tom Bean Middle School met this extremely rigorous criterion.

According to the Schools to Watch National Form, schools that achieve this level of performance have established norms, structures, and organizational arrangements. In order to support and sustain their trajectory toward excellence, high-performing schools have a sense of purpose that drives every facet of practice and decision-making. While each school faces different challenges relative to its location, student demographics, levels of district support, and other factors, the Forum’s site visitors observe some common themes across all schools:

- * The schools know and articulate the academic outcomes they seek.
- * The schools are taking deliberate steps to help students achieve those outcomes by making strategic changes in curriculum, teaching, and school services.
- * The schools have set benchmarks for implementing their strategies, and hold themselves accountable for specific results -- data guide instructional planning and campus decisions.
- * Each school strategically concentrates its energies on important focus areas. As a result, the changes in each school are burrowing deeply into its culture.
- * The schools have strong, visionary leaders who can articulate challenging goals, and motivate faculty and staff to reach those goals.

The National Forum to Accelerate Middle-Grades Reform is an alliance of 50 educators, researchers, national associations, and officers of professional organizations and foundations dedicated to improving education in the middle grades. Launched in 1999, Schools to Watch began as a national program to identify middle schools across the country that were meeting or exceeding 37 criteria developed by the Forum. The Texas Schools to Watch web site (<http://www.texaschoolstowatch.com>) and the National Forum (<http://www.schoolstowatch.org>) features detailed information about the selection criteria. The STW process provided the framework for the successful Investing in Innovation (i3) Development grant received in October 2010 from the U. S. Department of Education. Current and past funders of the National Forum include the College Board, the Lumina Foundation for Education, the Edna McConnell Clark Foundation, the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation, JP Morgan Chase and the United States Department of Education (Comprehensive School Reform Quality Initiative and i3 grant). Executives from AMLE, NASSP, NAESP, and Learning Forward are all members of the National Forum.



Tom Bean Boys Basketball
Wednesday, January 18

The Tomcat JV lost to S&S last night 43-36, dropping their record to 5-12 on the season, 2-4 in district. The Tomcats were led by Tyler Danner with 10 points, Sheldon Roberson with 8, and Nathan Banks and Tanner Ellis with 5 each.

The Varsity Tomcats won their 2nd game in a row defeating the visiting Rams 35-25, bringing their season record to 7-14, 2-4 in district. Leading the scoring were Hunter Book with 11 and Logan LeDane with 8. Defensively the Tom Bean forced 18 turnovers, and hit 7 of 8 free throws down the stretch to close out the game.

The Tomcats next play Friday night at Howe, beginning at 4:30, following the girls.



Math Moves U Scholarship Opportunity At Tom Bean

How does Math put the action in your passion?

That's the question that middle school students are trying to answer at Tom Bean Middle School this week. Students are creating power point presentations and writing papers illustrating the importance of math in the hobby or sport or activity that they care about the most. They are including math equations showing their daily use of math, all while applying for a \$1000 scholarship through Raytheon. If a student wins, the school will receive a matching grant of \$1000 to be used for math-related programs.

Students have demonstrated an enthusiasm for their passion and have spent quality time in Math, Technology and Language Arts classes to create their projects. Many have added animation to their slides as well as sounds or music. Other students have written reports to describe how they use math in their extra-curricular activities.

Mr. Smith, Principal at Tom Bean Middle School, says he is "very proud of the students and what they have accomplished." He also reports that while completing the application, they have learned new computer skills and writing techniques as well as brought home how math is used in real-life experiences.

Math Moves U is a program hosted by Raytheon. Mrs. Sherry Howard, Mayor of Tom Bean and also an employee of Raytheon, is very proud to volunteer in bringing the Math Moves U Program to Tom Bean each year. This is the first time students have had the opportunity to apply for a scholarship.



Jessica Boren Receives Scholarship

This past weekend while at the ATSSB Region 25 All-Region Band Clinic in Prosper, Jessica was selected as the recipient of the Region's \$500 scholarship. This scholarship is in addition to the state level ATSSB scholarship she will receive for being a 3 time all-State Musician. She was selected by a panel of the Region's band directors based on her achievements and an essay she submitted. Please join me in congratulating her on this award.

Submitted by Jason Matherly, Director of Bands, Tom Bean ISD





Kenneth Ray Vickers (1933-2012)

Graveside services for Kenneth Ray Vickers, age 78, of Howe, Texas were held at 11 am Tuesday, January 17, 2012 at the Hall Cemetery in Howe, Texas. Arrangements are under the direction of Waldo Funeral Home in Sherman.

He passed away on January 12, 2012 at his residence in Howe.

Kenneth was born in Lawton, Okla. on August 29, 1933, the son of William Ralph and Blanche Irene Gilbreth Vickers. He first started working in furniture delivery and then he joined the United States Air Force serving for 21 years. Kenneth later started his 25 year career in law enforcement during this time he served as Howe Police Chief and a Constable. Kenneth then worked in the maintenance at Hurricane Creek Golf Course in Van Alstyne. He loved acting as a clown with the Shriners at Scottish Right Hospital. Kenneth married Ruth Humphrey on August 28, 1998.

He is survived by his wife Ruth Vickers of Howe, Texas, two daughters, Terry Lynn Collier-Riley of Bossier City, Louisiana and Tammi Lea Hightower and husband Bobby of Howe, Texas, son, Michael Ray Vickers of Corinth, Texas, eight grandchildren, Calisa Anderson and husband Chris of Hawkins, Texas, Sgt. James Justin Butler and wife Tabitha of Ft. Drum, New York, Jeremy Marshall Hightower of Howe, Texas, Astin D'Nell Robinson and husband Jonathan of Shawnee, Okla., Cynthia Dawn Treaster and husband Sgt. Ronnie Treaster of Guam, Allison Renee Turner and husband Sean of Howe, Texas, Tyler Ray Hightower and wife Amber of Sherman, Texas and Lindsey Morgan Vickers of Corinth, Texas. Kenneth is also survived by 12 great-grandchildren, one brother, Alva Jay Vickers and wife Pat of Lawton, Okla., one sister, Vivian Tatar of Sherman, Texas, several nieces, nephews, close friends and his beloved dog Mitzi.

He was preceded in death by his parents and brother, Jimmy Vickers.

Pallbearers were John Dast, Michael Vickers, Jeremy Hightower, Tyler Hightower, Sgt. James Butler and Jim Tatar.

Honorary Pallbearers were Ronnie Bearden, Jim Bailey, James Upton, Brent Kirby and Richard Lankford.

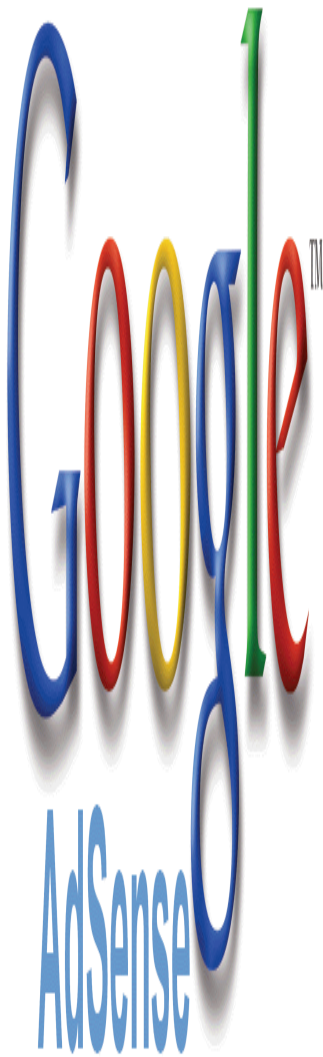
The online register book may be signed at www.waldofuneralhome.com

Private Applicator Training and Testing

Tuesday, January 24
Grayson County Courthouse, 2nd floor Assembly Room,
Sherman, TX

Agricultural product producers or homeowners who wish to acquire a Private Applicators License through the Texas Department of Agriculture should plan to attend a training and testing program scheduled for Tuesday, Jan. 24, in the 2nd Floor Assembly Room of the Grayson County Courthouse in Sherman. The training will begin at 7:45 am sharp and last until about 12:30 pm. Study manuals are available for \$50 for the set in the Grayson County Extension Office. It is suggested that you pick up these study manuals and review the material and questions prior to the training and testing date. Please bring a pencil and a calculator to the class. After the training, the test will be administered by a Texas Department Of Agriculture representative at 1:30 pm. Upon passing the Private Applicator test, there are forms and a license fee that will need to be sent to TDA in Austin. Persons wishing to become licensed in order to buy and use "Restricted Use" chemicals on their own private property need to take this training and testing. Please call the Extension Office at (903) 813-4202 to reserve a space for the class.

Educational programs of the Texas AgriLIFE Extension Service are open to all people without regard to race, color, sex, disability, religion, age, or national origin.



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

A rectangular advertisement for a dining establishment. The top part features the word "Wyoming's" in a gold, cursive script on a dark red background. Below this, on a light beige background, is the address, phone number, and the phrase "Fine Dining" in a bold, black, sans-serif font.

click for **more Area Events**



Fourth Annual Recycling Fund-raiser

The 4th annual recycling fund-raiser benefiting Texoma Community Center (formerly Mental Health Mental Retardation Services of Texoma) will be held on Saturday, March 3, 10 am-2 pm, at 315 West McLain, Sherman. The Volunteer Services Council of MHMRST is conducting the event. For more information: call 903-957-4865. If you call and no one answers, please be sure to leave a telephone number on the voice mail.

It is time to clean out the house and garage and get rid of those items that are no longer useful to you. The items can be in any condition: damaged, obsolete, non-working or fully operational. Instead of putting them in the trash donate them. Collections will include the following items:

- Computer Equipment-desktops, laptops, servers, monitors, mice, speakers, and all other computer components
- Cameras-camcorders and all non-disposable film and digital cameras
- Apparel-clothes, shoes, and purses
- Scrap Metal-anything made mostly of metal
- Large appliances-refrigerators, ranges, washers, dryers, freezers, microwaves, televisions, etc.
- Office Equipment-fax machines, typewriters, inkjet cartridges, printers, scanners, routers, shredders, and copiers
- Entertainment Electronics-car and home audio equipment, satellite and cable boxes, VCRs, DVD players and recorders, headphones, and multimedia projectors
- Multimedia-DVD and VHS movies, audio books, and music CDs (All items must include original covers.)
- Portable electronics-cell phones, GPS devices, calculators, portable CD and DVD players, PDAs and MP3 players
- Video Games-video games, systems, and accessories
- Sporting Goods-golf clubs and bags, athletic helmets and pads, baseball bats and gloves, basketball shoes, cleats, hockey sticks, ice skates, and roller blades
- Musical Instruments-guitars, percussion, strings, woodwinds, brass, and electronic keyboards
- Home and Garden-air purifiers, baby monitors, vacuum cleaners, power tools, electric razors, sewing machines, and medical equipment
- Non-Fiction Books-cookbooks, craft books, and textbooks
- Vehicles- cars, trucks, boats, motorcycles, trailers, and RVs.
- ATVs-dirt bikes, go-karts, 4 wheelers, 3 wheelers, and jet skis
- Toys- all kinds
- Collectibles-comics, figurines, trading cards, etc.
- Pottery, Cookware Glass, and Dinnerware-China, porcelain, art pottery, stoneware, etc.
- Jewelry-costume jewelry, watches, and hand-crafted jewelry
- Gold and Silver

Harold Wright, VSC Chairman, states, "This is the community's chance to recycle all types of products and equipment. We are taking several new items this year that have not been taken in the past. Your donations help ensure proper recycling of e-waste and save valuable landfill space. Donations forms for tax purposes will be distributed to donors. The VSC is working with Bubb Fund-raising. Bubb Fund-raising conducts this type of event throughout the metroplex and then safely recycles the items. For your peace of mind, delete personal information from your computers and cell phones.

"This event is not a garage sale. Nothing will be for sale the day of the event. Anyone wishing to donate a vehicle must go to www.bubbfundraising.com and register the vehicle. Please do not bring a car, boat, RV, etc. without registering it on-line.

"The last three years, the events have been huge successes due to general public and businesses donating literally truck loads of items. We hope it will be even more successful this time. Businesses and school districts that have a large amount of items can call the number listed above and arrange a special pick-up. Individuals and small businesses will need to bring their items the day of the event. We will not pick up items nor can we store them. Do not deliver items to the Texoma Community Center building and dump them before the event. Paint or hazardous materials absolutely will not be accepted," ended Wright.

Texoma Community Center has provided services in Cooke, Fannin and Grayson counties to individuals with mental retardation since 1974. The mission of the Center is to provide services that improve quality of life and support self-determine for persons with mental, intellectual, and developmental challenges.

The services provided are:

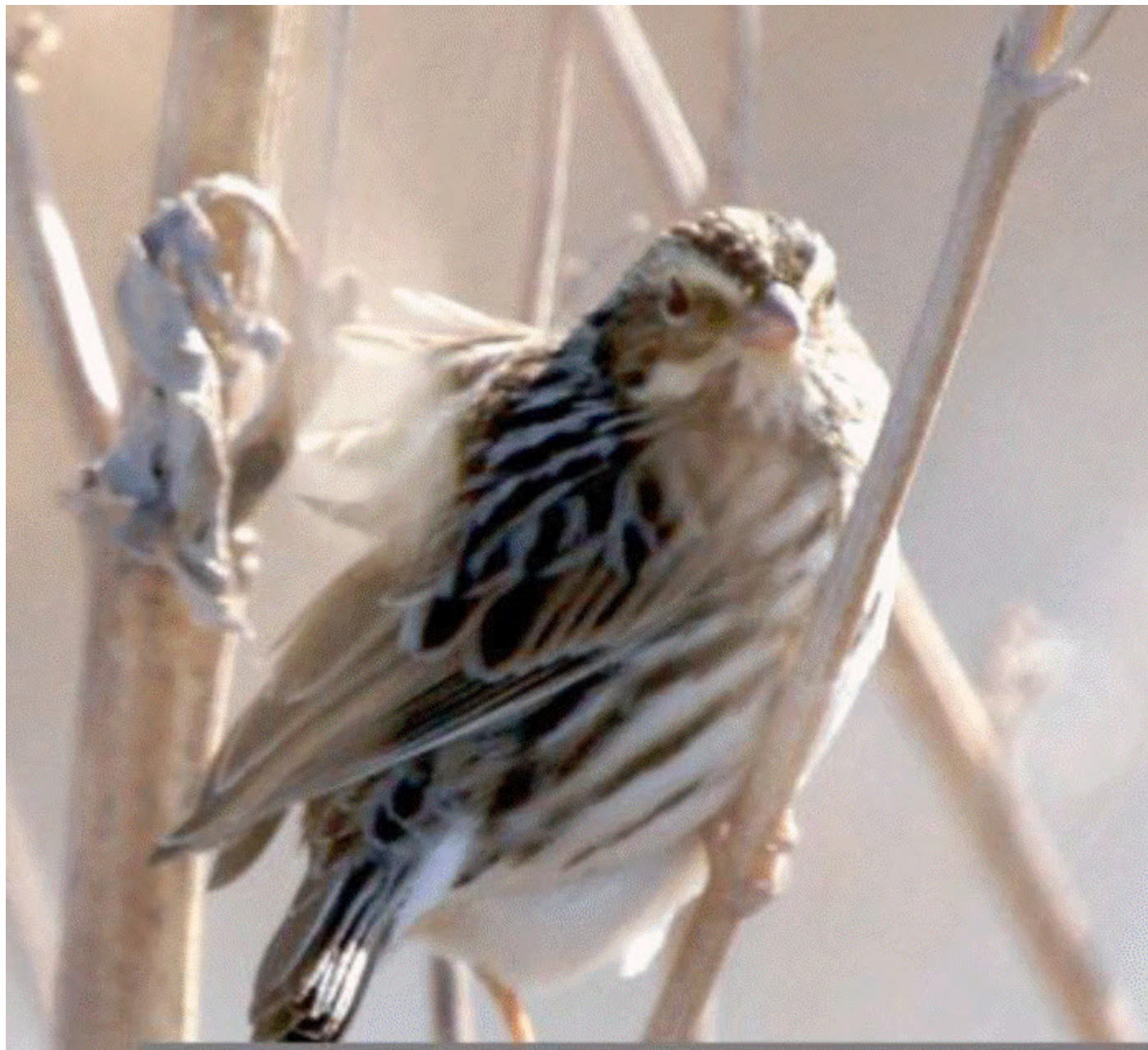
Mental Health Program- 24 Hour Crisis Emergency Services, Crisis Hotline and Mobile Crisis Outreach Team, Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) Team, Case Management, Cognitive Behavior Therapy, Community-Based Assessments, Benefits Eligibility Assessments, Medication-Related Services, Respite Services, Skills Training, Small Groups, Supported Employment, Supported Housing, and Transportation

Intellectual and Developmental Delays (IDD) Program- Consumer Benefits, Continuity of Services, Intake/Eligibility/Diagnostic Services, Service Authorization, Service Coordination, DADS Waiver Programs (HCS and TXHML), DADS ICF Residential Program, In-Home and Family Support, Transition Planning; IDD Provider Services: Adult Day Habilitation/Client Worker Training Program, Community Support Services, Respite Services, Supported Home Living Services, Behavioral Support Services, and After School /Summer Children's Day Habilitation Program

Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services- Crisis Intervention, Case Management, Family Support Services, Medication Related Services, Screening, Assessment, and Referral for children under 18 years of age with mental health problems.

Early Childhood Intervention (ECI)- ECI serves children (zero to thirty-six months of age) who are developmentally delayed in some area with screening, assessment, and developmental services.





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

Texoma Enterprise

Howe, Texas
75459

Rusk's Capitol Role

By Bob Bowman

Over one hundred and thirty years ago Texans celebrated the completion of the Texas Capitol in Austin.

But, as in past observances, there was little acknowledgment of the role that East Texas, especially the town of Rusk, played in the capitol's completion.

East Texans who visit the capital may guess that some of its woodwork came from East Texas forests, but they rarely realize that the iron staircases and mammoth columns were produced by Texas convicts housed in the old State Penitentiary at Rusk (now a hospital for the mentally ill).

Thanks to a master's degree thesis written by Sandra Fuller Allen at Stephen F. Austin State University in 1974, we have an enlightening account of the role Rusk played in the Capitol's construction in the late 1880s.

A contract executed between the Texas Capitol Commission and contractor Gus Wilke called for Rusk's prison to produce some two million pounds of structural cast iron items for the capitol, including castings for the principal columns, pedestals and caps, the dome and other ornamental work.

The state earlier built a 25-ton blast furnace, known as Old Alcade, at Rusk with R.A. Barrett as its superintendent. The furnace originally made items such as kettles, sash weights, and farm implements, but was used for capitol iron when Barrett became a consultant for the capitol project.

Transporting the heavy iron items from Rusk to Austin posed a problem. Since horse-drawn wagons could carry less than a ton over unpaved



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Dot's

D-A-S-H-E-S



By Dorothy N. Fowler

One of the best things that ever happened to me was becoming Student Council Advisor at Permian High School. It was a position I cherished for 11 years, until I realized that I had given all I had to give and that it was time to pass the torch to someone younger and more energetic.

Each summer the student council executive board and I traveled to the summer workshop, usually held in Houston or San Antonio, to spend a week learning leadership skills. The format of the workshops was always the same and always the results involved mental and spiritual growth that helped both students and advisors go home determined to be positive influences in the life of our various communities.

Among the watchwords of the workshops were the commandments that follow. They provided inspiration for thousands of sponsors and students and are still watchwords for my life. I hope they will be or become important to you.

The Paradoxical Commandments

People are illogical, unreasonable, and self-centered.

Love them anyway.

If you do good, people will accuse you of selfish ulterior motives.

Do good anyway.

If you are successful, you will win false friends and true enemies.

Succeed anyway.

The good you do today will be forgotten tomorrow.

Do good anyway.

Honesty and frankness make you vulnerable.

Be honest and frank anyway.

The biggest men and women with the biggest ideas can be shot down by the smallest men and women with the smallest minds.

Think big anyway.

People favor underdogs but follow only top dogs.

Fight for a few underdogs anyway.

What you spend years building may be destroyed overnight.

Build anyway.



Texoma Enterprise

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75459

BOB BOWMAN'S EAST TEXAS, continued

roads, which were impassable in poor weather, the answer lay with the railroads.

At the time, Rusk's rail connections to Austin were interrupted by an unserved stretch between Alto and Lufkin. Convicts were soon assigned to build 22 miles of narrow gauge railroad to connect the Kansas and Gulf Short Line with the Houston, East and West Texas Railroad at Lufkin.

But that didn't totally resolve the transportation issue. The convicts' line was narrow gauge while other lines used standard gauge rails. The difference forced haulers to unload the iron castings from one track and load them on another -- a maneuver repeated several times before the iron arrived in Austin.

Some of the Rusk castings were substituted with new parts because of changes in the capitol plans. The drawings of the capitol dome called for cast-iron plates, but galvanized iron from Belgium was substituted because of the weight of the Rusk castings.

When the columns for the capitol colonnade were delivered to Austin, they were rejected by two Building Commission members because of their weight. However, since granite (which had been chosen over limestone for the capitol's exterior) would have doubled the weight, the rejection of the Rusk iron was revoked and the columns were installed.

Today, thousands of people visit the Texas Capitol every day. While some may recognize that cast-iron was used in its construction, few know the iron was built by prison hands in an East Texas community.

(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)



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Dot's Dashes, continued

People really need help but may attack you if you do help them.

Help people anyway.

Give the world the best you have and you'll get kicked in the teeth.

Give the world the best you have anyway.

By Kent Keith in The Paradoxical Commandments which were part of a handbook for high school student council leaders.



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Capitol Watch
By Larry Phillips, State Representative



Interim Charges for House Committees

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

House Committee on General Investigating & Ethics

*Review the Texas Ethics Commission's sworn complaint process and civil and criminal penalty provisions. Determine whether changes should be made aligned with the mission and purpose of the commission.

*Study and determine whether all appointees to state entities should be required to sign additional governance documents prior to serving in an official state capacity.

House Committee on Government Efficiency & Reform

*Examine and make recommendations on purchasing cooperatives, including the bid process and the role of inter-local contracts. Clarify for consistency the following terms: purchasing cooperatives, inter-local contracts, and inter-local agreements.

*Examine the utilization of alternative project delivery methods, such as design-build and construction-manager-at-risk, by municipalities, water districts, and authorities, and other local governmental entities.

*Examine interagency agreements and charges for providing information or personal identification documents at the request of a state agency to fulfill day-to-day operations at the expense of the requesting state agency.

*Examine areas of potential privatization of state services in an effort to achieve a higher level of service and greater efficiency for Texas taxpayers. (Joint with the House Committee on State Affairs)

*Examine state agency rulemaking and consider ways to improve procedural efficiencies and public transparency, and to better inform policymakers as to their use, purpose, and cost-effectiveness, including an examination of the financial and other impacts such regulations have on both the license holder and the public. (Joint with the House Committee on State Affairs)

The House Committee on General Investigating and Ethics can be reached at 512-463-0780a and the Committee on Government Efficiency & Reform can be reached at 512-463-1538. For more information on these charges or any other matter of state government, please contact my office by writing to P.O. Box 2910, Austin, TX 78768-2910 or by emailing me at larry.phillips@house.state.tx.us. My district office phone number is (903) 891-7297.

Phillips recognized as 'Friend of Education'

Texas State Rep. Larry Phillips (R-Sherman) has been selected as the Texas Classroom Teachers Association 2011-12 Friend of Education in the public official category. Texas Classroom Teachers Association presents the award annually to honor a public official who has made a significant contribution to public education in Texas. Founded in 1927, the association is an independent, nonunion association for Texas teaching professionals and serves 50,000 members across the state.

A member of the Texas House since 2003, Phillips is a key member of the House leadership team by virtue of his high profile chairmanship of the Transportation Committee. He also is a member of the General Investigating & Ethics, Border & Intergovernmental Affairs and Redistricting committees.

In nominating Phillips for the award, the Whitesboro Classroom Teachers Association described him as "a true supporter of education, demonstrated through his efforts to put common sense back into education." The nomination specifically credits his close working relationships with local teachers and his efforts to remove or modify harmful provisions in the "deregulation" bills of the 2011 legislative session. Phillips was named a Texas Classroom Teachers Association Legislative Star in 2011 because of his work in offering and defending what became known as "the Phillips amendment" to preserve important protections for students and teachers.

The Friend of Education awards have been presented since 1976. Recipients must be judged to be true friends of education, educators and students as demonstrated by their leadership, actions and support. Texas Classroom Teachers Association will honor Phillips on Feb. 10 during the first business meeting of the association's annual convention in Houston. Retired Army Gen. Robert M. Shoemaker, a resident of Killeen and recipient of TCTA's Friend of Education award in the private official category, also will be honored. Educators from across the state will participate in professional development seminars, elect Texas Classroom Teachers Association leaders for statewide and district positions and discuss current education issues.

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

To avoid the enticings of sinners

10 My son, if sinners entice thee, consent thou not. 11 If they say, Come with us, let us lay wait for blood, let us lurk privily for the innocent without cause: 12 Let us swallow them up alive as the grave; and whole, as those that go down into the pit: 13 We shall find all precious substance, we shall fill our houses with spoil: 14 Cast in thy lot among us; let us all have one purse: 15 My son, walk not thou in the way with them; refrain thy foot from their path: 16 For their feet run to evil, and make haste to shed blood. 17 Surely in vain the net is spread in the sight of any bird. 18 And they lay wait for their own blood; they lurk privily for their own lives. 19 So are the ways of every one that is greedy of gain; which taketh away the life of the owners thereof.

Prov 1:10-19 (KJV)

Christian Fellowship

A Christian Fellowship begins each Sunday morning with coffee and doughnut fellowship at 9 am 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.

A Good Life Stands For Good

Devotional Thoughts from Dr. Lowell C. Howard,, Bells, Texas

Philippians 1:27 "No matter what happens around you, always live your life with a view to honoring God and living out the Good News of Christ. In this way, whether I am with you and see how you live or hear about how you live from others, I will be assured that you stand as one with the body of Christ and that you put your life where your mouth



Tom Bean Church of Christ

The Tom Bean Church of Christ invites everyone to come and worship with us. Services begin each Sunday with Bible class for all ages at 9 am and worship at 10. 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 7:30 am 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**

is so that you stand as one with those of the faith." Cowboy and Stockyard - Practical Teaching Version - LCH)

Those who live good lives consider the lives of others as being full of worth and value! Good people look for good in others. Good people find what is good in these others and seek to make self available to encourage that which is best in others. Good people invest themselves in others. Good begets good and is the spark for something which will be even better in both parties.



Local Churches

A Good Life Stands For Good, 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

When the view is off of self one plays a larger role in the lives of others! Good living is not about self but good living improves self. When one is no longer consumed with self it is far easier to see that which is potentially good in others. It is here that good people begin to invest themselves in children to seek the highest and best in them. It is also here where one discovers the potential in adults who have never seen any potential in themselves.

The foundation for good living is God's plan upon which one builds all of life! God seeks to be the foundation of life. By making the Lord the foundation of life, that which is built upon Him rests upon Him for His design, the motivation and the outcome of life. Good lives can be lived without regard to the possessions of wealth or the station in life which is achieved. It is not about what one has but what one is that is a good life.

Good people elect to join hand and heart in the labor of love for others, often giving themselves selflessly in the work of helping and of caring about people! Good people do things which cost them but do not complain. They do not enter areas of service or ministry to increase self. They will enter a fiery house or face a crazed criminal on behalf of others because they are good people and desire something better, safer, for others. A good life stands for the Lord of life in an alien world!

Such a good life influences the world around it to a higher view of the Lord! Having a good view of the Lord and making commitment to the things of the Lord improves perspective on life. One cannot live up the God's highest potential and maintain a low view of people and of the prospects for this world. A good life chooses to see things from the point of view of God.

Good lives reflect a higher motivation for living, a purpose and calling to be a positive benefit to their world! Living up to ones highest potential is motivated by a higher relationship than is grubbing out a life in a field of rebellion and anger. Good will arise in lives where God is part of the fabric and the product of living. Good lives leave a trail of good where they have walked.

It is in good living that one can make better decisions both possible and complete! Good people see things from God's point of view and from the perspective of those they seek to help. Seeing things as God sees them adds a dimension to ones decisions that is lacking in all who deny God room in this life.

Good lives honor and celebrate the Lord God Who is granted the ability to be in charge of all that they are! Good lives find holy purposes in life and good lives make room for God to turn dark areas of life into delightful and hopeful scenarios. Good lives celebrate the Lord by living for Him and by bearing His message in faithful flesh and committed heart. Does this describe you and your life? Good living will get the most out of life!

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The Scripture used here is from the "Cowboy and Stockyard Practical Teaching Version" Transliterated By Lowell C. Howard



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





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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.





One regulation away from being out of business

By Gene Hall

“One regulation away from being out of business.” Reed Rubinstein, senior council of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, began his presentation at the American Farm Bureau Federation convention that way.

For the farmers and ranchers in his audience, that was no surprise, but Rubinstein also claimed that unfortunately the Sword of Damocles hangs over the head of many other business entities. He spoke of the growth of the regulatory juggernaut and the complexity of environmental law.

It’s a governmental phenomenon that does not necessarily respect the division of Democrat or Republican administrations. George W. Bush did not have the reputation of being necessarily green, but EPA regs grew during his eight years in office. Even that might be viewed as a speed break after the last three years of the Obama administration.

Rubinstein told his audience that it’s helpful to look at the structure of government agencies and their work force. Regulators are hired to regulate...and that’s what they do. He quoted government communications that pretty much admit that many of the “big” environmental issues have been solved or nearly so. So now, this great regulatory apparatus, built to regulate, will continue to regulate. For agriculture that means “beginning a transformative process of collaborative efforts” toward sustainability in agriculture.” This, despite acknowledgment that agriculture has made substantial progress not only in production but in farming more sustainably.

The audience did not have long to wait for the BIG question. Rubinstein asked it. “Who gets to define what sustainability is?”

Okay, this is me talking now. I’d put a big bet down that it won’t be farmers. Those of you who’ve read me know that I have some problems with that word. “Sustainable” has far more political than scientific meaning. It will mean, almost certainly, whatever the regulators want it to mean.

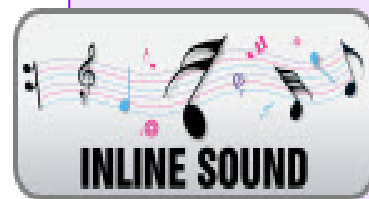
Rubinstein says that EPA operates today by lawsuit. The formula is repeated over and over again. EPA is sued by a green group of some kind. EPA capitulates. EPA regulates. He’s not the first to notice that the regulators don’t put up much of a fight on most of these lawsuits. The unfortunate thing is that this model, now being fought out in places like the Chesapeake Bay, will be in the laps of farmers all over the nation before long. Decisions ably made by farmers and ranchers over decades will be taken out of their hands. U.S. agriculture might be run like the Post Office. That’s me again.

What can be done?

By the time you get a letter from the government, it will probably be too late. Sometimes, EPA ignores Congress for awhile, but they can’t do so indefinitely. Rubinstein (and me) encourages farmers, ranchers and citizens to approach Congress in numbers and insist on being heard. Activism...advocacy. We have to make it real. Some of the regs EPA is churning out now are not even achievable, let alone profitable.

Speak up, speak out, or go out...of business, that is.

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



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Cornyn: PIPA Deserves a More Thoughtful Process

“Texans Have Soundly Rejected the ‘Pass Now, Learn Later’ Approach”

AUSTIN - U.S. Senator John Cornyn (R-TX), a member of the Senate Judiciary Committee, released the following statement today on S. 968, the PROTECT IP Act (PIPA):

“Texans have soundly rejected the ‘pass now, learn later’ approach that we saw with Obamacare, and the potential impact of this legislation is too far-reaching to ram it through Congress in such an abrupt way.

“Stealing content is theft, plain and simple, but concerns about the internet and free speech necessitate a more thoughtful, deliberative process.”

Last week Sen. Cornyn joined Republicans on the Judiciary Committee in sending the attached letter to Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-NV) requesting him to delay consideration of S. 968 so that concerns with the proposed legislation can be addressed.

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.

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

January 13, 2012

The Honorable Harry Reid
Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Majority Leader Reid:

We write to express our concerns with your decision to file cloture on the motion to proceed to the PROTECT IP Act (S. 968). We strongly believe that the theft of American intellectual property is a significant problem that must be addressed to protect property rights. However, for both substantive and procedural reasons, the process at this point is moving too quickly and this step may be premature.

As you know, on May 26, 2011, the Senate Judiciary Committee favorably reported the bill by voice vote. Prior to committee action, some members expressed substantive concerns about the bill, and there was a commitment to resolve them prior to floor consideration. That resolution has not yet occurred.

Since the mark-up, we have increasingly heard from a large number of constituents and other stakeholders with vocal concerns about possible unintended consequences of the proposed legislation, including breaches in cybersecurity, damaging the integrity of the Internet, costly and burdensome litigation, and dilution of First Amendment rights. Moreover, in light of potential cybersecurity implications, we believe hearing from the Administration and relevant agencies is imperative. As always, our current fiscal crisis demands we carefully consider legislation that would cost taxpayers up to \$48 million according to the Congressional Budget Office. These are serious issues that must be considered in an informed, deliberative and responsible manner. This underscores the need to resolve as many outstanding concerns as possible prior to proceeding to floor consideration.

Furthermore, we want to ensure that S. 968 will be afforded full and fair consideration on the Senate floor. It is important that the bill be fully debated and amendments not limited. We would like a firm commitment that once the Senate considers S. 968, the amendment process will be open, with senators being able to offer their amendments without the filling of the amendment tree, and that cloture will not be prematurely filed on the bill.

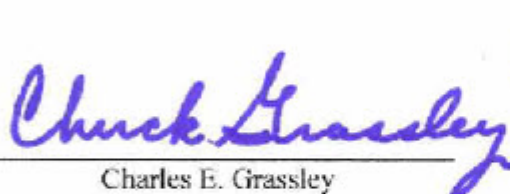
We are all in agreement that the online distribution and sale of pirated content and counterfeit goods impose a huge cost on the American economy in terms of lost jobs, lost sales, lost innovation and lost income. We also believe, however, that we need to arrive at

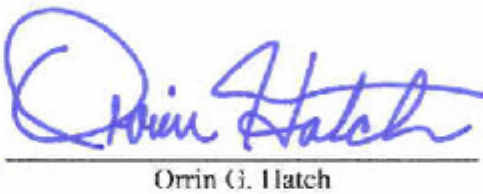
Letter to Majority Leader Reid
January 13, 2012
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the right solution in the right way on this important issue. To do so, we must have adequate time to properly analyze and resolve these concerns to the best extent possible prior to proceeding to the bill.


While we remain fully committed to addressing outstanding issues with S. 968, we believe that, at this point, the scheduled consideration of the bill on January 24, 2012, may not permit us to work through many of the concerns that have been raised.

Sincerely,


Charles E. Grassley


Orrin G. Hatch


Jeff Sessions


John Cornyn


Mike Lee


Tom A. Coburn, M.D.

cc: Senator Mitch McConnell, Senate Republican Leader
Senator Patrick Leahy, Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman



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.

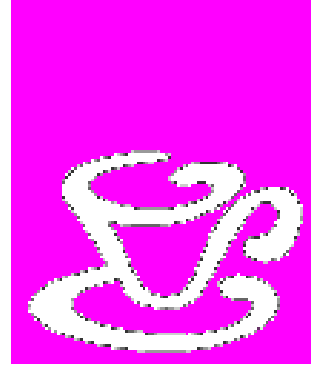
Coming from a large family, I have memories of a very orderly system of taking turns opening gifts. Then chaos ensued and almost inevitably some important tag or leaflet disappeared amid the wrapping paper.

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.



Where Is God?

A couple had two little boys who were always getting into trouble. Their parents knew that if any mischief occurred in their village, their sons were probably involved.

The boys' mother heard that an elder in town had been successful in disciplining children, so she asked if he would speak with her sons. The elder agreed, but asked to see them separately.

So, the mother sent her youngest son first, in the morning. The elder, a huge man with a booming voice, sat the boy down and asked him sternly, "Where is God?" The boy's mouth dropped open, but he made no response. So the elder repeated the question in an even sterner tone, "Where is God!!?" Again the wide-eyed boy made no attempt to answer.

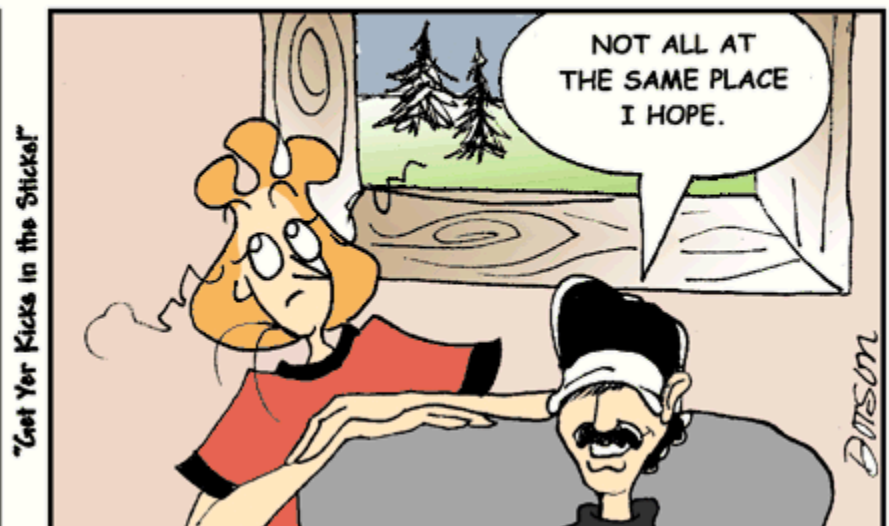
The elder raised his voice and bellowed, "WHERE IS GOD!?" The boy screamed and bolted from the room, ran directly home and dove into a closet, slamming the door behind him.

When his older brother found him hiding, he asked, "What happened?"

The younger brother, gasping for breath, replied, "We are in BIG trouble this time. God is missing, and they think WE did it!"

OUTZKIRTS By: David & Doreen Dotson

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



Dale & Lana Rideout



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



"Santa" Rideout



Grandkids singing at the Christmas Tree Farm 2007

