

Texoma Enterprise

Howe, Texas
75459

January 23, 2014



Howe Middle School Band



LET'S REMINISCE



Concealed Handgun License Course



Chrystal Opry House Bluegrass Events

“Bluegrass Day” this month is February 1st. A bluegrass jam begins at 5 pm. Donations will be accepted to defray expenses. For those staying for the show, we have scheduled an open mic at 6:30 pm. It is a good opportunity to get some stage experience. Our regular show will then begin at 7 pm. Let’s try a new policy, bring 10 paying guests (at regular price) to one of our first Saturday bluegrass shows, and you will be admitted free.

Grass Notes from the Collinsville area is our band for the evening. Members include Johnnie Luckie, fiddle, Larry Shoemaker, banjo, vocals, Jerry Shoemaker, bass, Walter McElheney, mandolin and vocals, Kristie McElheney, vocals and guitar, along with their daughter, Rebecca, vocals. This mostly family group does a great job and we’re happy to have them kick off our year.

Because of the ice storm the first of December, we didn’t get to donate to the Meals on Wheels program. We will have a special event for just that purpose a bit later in the year.

The concession area will be open at 6 pm, with brisket sandwiches and hot dogs as well as coffee, soda, water, popcorn, and candy.

The Chrystal Opry House is located at 1977 White Mound Road, Sherman, Texas which is 1.5 miles west of Tom Bean or 6 miles east of Howe on FM 902 and a half mile south on White Mound Road. No alcohol is permitted and there is no smoking inside the building. Seating is provided. Persons interested in performing at the Chrystal Opry House should contact Bill Hayes at 903-546-6893 or <http://www.chrystalopryhouse.com>.

(“Like” us on face book--chrystalopryhouse and (www.melodyranchbluegrassfestival.com))



Concealed Handgun License Course

“I have a very strict gun control policy: if there’s a gun around, I want to be in control of it..” Clint Eastwood

Are you interested in obtaining a Concealed Handgun License, but don’t know where to begin? The Center for Workplace Learning at Grayson College now offers a CHL course for all eligible citizens. The six hour class will cover: use of force, non-violent dispute resolution, handgun use, and safe and proper storage of handguns and ammunition. The course content and length are set by the Texas Department of Public Safety.

Grayson County Constable, Bob Douglas is the course instructor. With a vast knowledge of law enforcement and gun safety, Bob is adamant that citizens become educated if they choose to own and carry a firearm. He advises, “If a person is a CHL licensee, and he/she owns a firearm, they must accept the responsibility to guard against unauthorized access by people who do not need to have firearms. Also, one should review his/her legal representation needs before deciding to carry or not to carry a firearm for possible self defense versus the need for self protection, or the possible conflicting situations.”

According to the Texas Department of Public Safety in 2013, 1,574 CHLs were issued in Grayson County. In September of 2013, Texas made several revisions to the CHL requirements allowing for a faster course and easier application process. The number of licenses issued is expected to increase with these changes.

The Concealed Handgun License Course is offered on the third Saturday of each month. The course is \$80.00 and runs from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Upon successful completion of the program, students are issued the state-required Handgun Proficiency Certificate (Form CHL-100). For more class information and registration, please visit www.cwlgcc.org or call 903-463-8765.

By Lauren Hummert, Center for Workplace Learning, Grayson College





Capitol Watch

By Larry Phillips, State Representative



Comptroller Issues New Water Report

Most people know that the Comptroller of Public Accounts serves as the state's chief accounting officer and tax collector. The Texas Constitution requires the Comptroller to certify the state budget and to ensure that the budget is balanced. However, the Comptroller is also charged with a number of other duties, including conducting performance reviews of state agency programs; handling franchise taxes, tax abatements, sales tax and other business tax issues; issuing a release each year of the names of people with unclaimed property; auditing school districts, colleges, and universities and issuing school performance review; and issuing reports on issues that will have a significant fiscal impact on the state's economy.

This week, the Comptroller issued a new report on water: "Texas Water Report: Going Deeper for the Solution." This report builds on a 2012 report examining the economic impact of the Texas drought, and contains recommendations for filling state water needs. It details water scarcity issues that threaten the economic health of the state, and examines promising approaches for growing our water supply. The report also proposes that the state should develop an award system that would encourage the development of practical solutions for meeting the water needs of this state. The full report can be found on the Comptroller's website at <http://www.window.state.tx.us/specialrpt/water/>.

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

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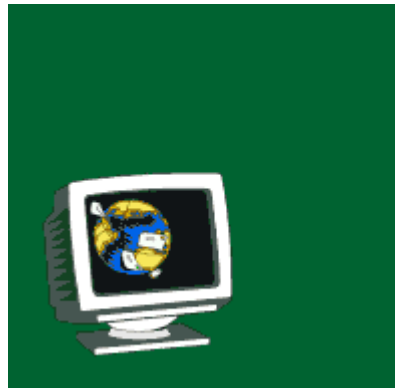
GC offers How to Start an eBay Business seminar

The Small Business Development Center at Grayson College is offering a free seminar on "How to Start an eBay Business" on Jan. 25 from 10:00 am- 4:30 pm. The class will be held at the Grayson College Career and Technology Center on the Main Campus. Special SBDC funding through the Jobs Act is making this opportunity available free for participants.

The course is comprehensive and covers essential information needed to start and succeed in an eBay business, including everything from registration on eBay and PayPal, digital photography and photo editing, to packing and shipping. Upon completion of this course, participants will be ready to launch an eBay business. The seminar is packed full of eBay best business practices and based on the eBay University curriculum.

Stephanie Inge, an adjunct eBay professor at a local college and education specialist trained by eBay, will be the instructor. Inge started her online store in 1999, and is founder of the original and largest of all eBay sellers meet-up groups in the world, was eBay's first PowerSeller, and has just completed a book entitled "Meetup Organizer Step-by-Step Success Guide: Road Map to Success for Meetup Organizers and Their Leadership Teams."

Seating is very limited. Contact Helen Jeffcoats at 903-463-8787 or email jeffcoatsh@grayson.edu to reserve a seat in the class.



HOT!

NEW!



Pamela S. Egner, D.D.S.
Family Dentistry



217 E. Jefferson St.
P.O. Box 729, Van Alstyne, TX 75495
Ph: 903-482-6339 Fax: 903-482-1313



Area Churches

Cannon

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

Cherry Mound

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

Dorchester

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

Gunter

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

Howe

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

Ida

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

Luella

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

Tom Bean

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

Proverbs 3:1-20 (KJV)

- ¹ My son, forget not my law; but let thine heart keep my commandments:
- ² For length of days, and long life, and peace, shall they add to thee.
- ³ Let not mercy and truth forsake thee: bind them about thy neck; write them upon the table of thine heart:
- ⁴ So shalt thou find favour and good understanding in the sight of God and man.
- ⁵ Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.
- ⁶ In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.
- ⁷ Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil.
- ⁸ It shall be health to thy navel, and marrow to thy bones.
- ⁹ Honour the LORD with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase:
- ¹⁰ So shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine.
- ¹¹ My son, despise not the chastening of the LORD; neither be weary of his correction:
- ¹² For whom the LORD loveth he correcteth; even as a father the son *in whom* he delighteth.
- ¹³ Happy *is* the man *that* findeth wisdom, and the man *that* getteth understanding.
- ¹⁴ For the merchandise of it *is* better than the merchandise of silver, and the gain thereof than fine gold.
- ¹⁵ She *is* more precious than rubies: and all the things thou canst desire are not to be compared unto her.
- ¹⁶ Length of days *is* in her right hand; *and* in her left hand riches and honour.
- ¹⁷ Her ways *are* ways of pleasantness, and all her paths *are* peace.
- ¹⁸ She *is* a tree of life to them that lay hold upon her: and happy *is every one* that retaineth her.
- ¹⁹ The LORD by wisdom hath founded the earth; by understanding hath he established the heavens.
- ²⁰ By his knowledge the depths are broken up, and the clouds drop down the dew.

Christian Fellowship

David Ellis will be leading worship service this week at A Christian Fellowship church in Luella. Come on out and join them for coffee and doughnut fellowship at 9:00am, followed by classes for all ages at 9:30. Worship service begins at 10:30.

Praise and worship is led by David Ellis and is a contemporary style service. Dress is casual. If your looking for a church family, come on out and join them.

Kids in Da Zone for Jesus is a class for the kids ages 2-10. They learn bible stories, memory verses, have puppet shows, ect. A good time for the kids to learn the bible. This takes place during worship service. The church celebrates The Lord's Supper each week during worship time.

Wednesday night begins at 6:30pm with a pot luck dinner followed by praise and worship and a devotional. There is also a class for the children.

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 903-271-1870 or David Ellis at 903-815-1333.

Tom Bean Church of Christ

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

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

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

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



More Church Page



LIVING WATER

From Grumbling to Grateful

Ben had fallen into the habit of grumbling about this and that. He complained about the weather; he found fault with his friends and with the members of his family. He wanted to stop it, but somehow, as soon as anything would not go his way, he found himself grumbling again. Then he came across this verse:

"When you have truly thanked God
For every blessing sent,
But little time will then remain
For murmur or lament."

"I see now what the trouble has been," he told himself. "I've been grumbling so much that I've almost forgotten to be thankful for the things I have. Every time I find myself starting to complain about something I don't have, I'm going to say 'Thank You' to God for something that He has given me."

Ben found that the idea worked. It was much easier to keep out the grouchy, grumbling thoughts when he filled his mind with thankful ones. There simply was no room for the trouble makers, and after a bit they disappeared.

Ben was surprised, too, to see how many things a plain, everyday boy had for which to be thankful. There are many things like the sunshine, the flowers, his friends, his home, which he had been taking for granted. As he began thanking God for these things, he had a better appreciation of them (from Junior Life).

Let's all try his plan, for God is very displeased with a complaining spirit. He says, "Do all things without complaining and disputing, that you may be blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, holding firmly to the word of life" (Philippians 2:14-16a).

The greatest Blessing for which to be thankful is the GIFT of God's Son! For when we were lost because of our sins and doomed to destruction, God sent His Son to die on the cross for our sins (John 3:16; 1 John 4:9-10). Through Jesus, we can be saved from our sins and receive the gift of eternal life (Romans 6:23; Ephesians 1:7).

"Thanks be to God for His indescribable GIFT!" – 2 Corinthians 9:15

God will save those who place their faith and trust in Jesus (Acts 16:30-31), turn from their sins in repentance (Acts 17:30-31), confess Jesus before men (Romans 10:9-10), and are baptized (immersed) into Christ for the forgiveness of sins (Acts 2:38). He will continue to cleanse those who continue to walk in the light of His Word (1 John 1:7).

Won't YOU express thanksgiving to God for His wonderful blessings, especially for the gift of His Son?

Won't YOU express that gratitude by accepting the GIFT of salvation and eternal life on His terms?

David Sargent, Minister
davidsargent1@comcast.net
<http://www.creekwoodcc.org>

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

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

**Van Alstyne
COMMUNITY BIBLE
CHURCH**
Northwest corner Hwy 5 &
County Line Rd.

CHURCH OF CHRIST
105 Hopson,
Shannon Jackson, minister,
903/482-6033

**EAST SIDE
CHURCH OF CHRIST**
PO Box 141, Larry Shead,
minister; worship 11am
ELMONT BAPTIST CHURCH
FM 121 W, Elmont;
Jim Poole, pastor,
903/482-6356

FAITH TEMPLE CHURCH,
corner of Pearl & Nash,
Pastor Kenneth L. Price,
972/547-0243,

LIFE CHURCH,
201 W. Marshall,
Pastors – Lance/ Mary Baker
903/433-8089

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
102 E. Marshall, 903/482-6334,
Jimmy Tarrant, pastor

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
206 Waco, 903/482-5515,
Gary Gibbs, pastor
**FIRST PENTECOSTAL
CHURCH**
903/482-6646,

Rev. J.R. Thornhill, pastor
**FIRST UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH**
301 S. Preston,

Rev. Jack Wallace, minister
**GREYWOOD HEIGHTS
WORSHIP CENTER**
On Hwy. 75 just north of Dairy
Queen, 903/482-6700;

Chris Jones, pastor
**HOLY FAMILY
CATHOLIC CHURCH**
Father Stephen W. Bierschenk,
972/562-0752

**MORNING CHAPEL
CHRISTIAN METHODIST
EPISCOPAL**
103 Bowen, 902/482-5431

SAMARIA BAPTIST CHURCH
702 E. Fulton, 903/482-5664, Rev.
Arnold Baker, pastor



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Texoma Enterprise

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75459

Texoma Enterprise

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dalerideout@cableone.net

lanarideout@cableone.net

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



Grandkids singing at the Elves Christmas Tree Farm, 2007



Dots

Dashes

By Dorothy N. Fowler

The 53 miles between my front door and the door of the church I served for nine years in Wink, Texas was broken only by the small towns of Goldsmith, to the north of the four lane highway and by Notrees, no longer a real town, but still in possession of a United States Post Office.

It was possible to drive the entire distance without seeing another vehicle, although that did not often happen. There were usually at least two vehicles either going my way or meeting me before I arrived in Kermit, stopped at the hospital to check for members of Wink's United Methodist Church and to hear the receptionist say, "Mr. Smith said if the lady preacher came by, send her to my room."

To arrive in time for the Bible study, I had to leave my house not later than 4:30 p.m. As easy as that seems, it was sometimes difficult to leave my classroom at Permian High School before 4:15. That left 15 minutes to stop by my house, speak to my long-suffering mother and reassure her that I would be home by 10

It was a trip I made every Wednesday night for nine years. If there were an emergency or a birthday or anniversary party or a birth, I made the trip more often. I wore out one car and got a good start on wearing out another before the bishop moved me to another small church whose finances were such that it could not afford a "real preacher" and had to settle for what was available.

I would not trade the nine years I spent at Wink for any other experience you could name. The hours of driving alone through the desert, seeing the landscape change as fluffy clouds scudded across the sun or watching lightning flash from dark storm clouds and send balls of fire along the tops of the fence post provided opportunities for reflection that would never have been possible elsewhere.

Stopping to watch a mama skunk working to get her babies to follow in a straight line and finally losing her temper and grabbing one by the nape of the neck and shaking him into submission that must have scared his siblings, who had no further trouble staying in line once she let him go was worth 10 courses in classroom management or parenting. Seeing an overlarge sheep standing on his hind legs eating yucca blossoms, or the occasional bald eagle perched on a light pole, or watching the desert bring forth vibrant color after a winter of rain more than three times normal, or picking up the family whose car broke down outside of Notrees as they were on the way to a funeral in Kermit, or a thousand other sights and sounds and smells—they enriched my life in ways that I can never explain.

Every year, about the middle of January or the first of February, I declared war on winter, on the cold wind that swept across the flat land, on the bleak brownness of the leafless mesquite trees, on the rolling Russian thistles that frequently got stuck in the "bob wahr" that lined each side of the high way but occasionally managed to cross the bar ditch and as they rolled across the road, got caught in the undercarriage of the car.

It is legend with more than a grain of truth that once the mesquite trees bloom, there will be no more freezes. I began pulling off the highway to examine the mesquites for signs of buds about the middle of February, always hopeful that the buds would be there. Of course, they never were there as early as I wanted them to be, but without any fanfare at all, suddenly the fields of trees would be faintly green and when I stopped to look more closely, the buds would have opened the tiniest bit and winter would have surrendered to spring.

It is, of course, too much to say that my declaration of war on winter made the final difference, but that never kept me from feeling that I had won, not just a battle, but a war against what seemed for a while to be intractable lifelessness. It was in those victories against winter that I learned that spring always comes, that life is always ready to spring up, that "tears may linger at nightfall, but joy cometh in the morning."

Peace and grace to each of you.



The poem was written by a MARINE CORPS Officer (ANON)

THE BATTLING BOYS OF BENGHAZI

We're the battling boys of Benghazi
No fame, no glory, no paparazzi.
Just a fiery death in a blazing hell
Defending our country we loved so well.

It wasn't our job, but we answered the call,
fought to the Consulate and scaled the wall.
We pulled twenty Countrymen from the jaws of fate
Led them to safety, and stood at the gate.

Just the two of us, and foes by the score,
But we stood fast to bar the door.
Three calls for reinforcement, but all were denied,
So we fought, and we fought, and we fought 'til we died.

We gave our all for our Uncle Sam,
But Barack Obama didn't give a damn.
Just two dead seals who carried the load
No thanks to us.....we were just "Bumps In The Road".

So will this reach every American with a computer? Or do we act like the press and give a pass to the incompetent people who literally sat there in the White House and watched the Seal's execution on live streaming video and did absolutely nothing? The Obama Administration obviously won't be held accountable because we apparently accept Hilary Clinton's statement, "What difference does it make?"

Sen. Cornyn Statement On New Rules For Texas Obamacare Navigators

DALLAS—U.S. Sen. John Cornyn, R-Texas, today issued the following statement regarding the Texas Department of Insurance's adoption of state-specific rules for Obamacare navigators in Texas:

"I'm glad to see Texas taking the steps Secretary Sebelius failed to take to safeguard Texans' personal information. Obamacare presents enough problems for Texans without the risk of a convicted felon handling their personal information. These are basic requirements for screening individuals hired with taxpayer money to handle sensitive consumer information, and there is no excuse for the Obama Administration's failure to implement them from day one."

For individual navigators who provide enrollment assistance in a health benefit exchange, the rules require background checks, training, and proof of identity.

In a Nov. 6, 2013, hearing of the U.S. Senate Finance Committee, Sen. Cornyn asked Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius about federal requirements for screening navigators:

Cornyn: "Isn't it true that there is no federal requirement for navigators to undergo a criminal background, even though they will receive personal -- sensitive personal information from the individuals they helped sign up for the Affordable Care Act?"

Sebelius: "That is true. States could add an additional background check and other features, but it is not part of the federal requirement."

Cornyn: "So a convicted felon could be a navigator and could acquire sensitive personal information from an individual, unbeknownst to them."

Sebelius: "That is possible. We have contracts with the organizations, and they have taken the responsibility to screen their individual navigators and make sure that they are sufficiently trained for the job."

Senator Cornyn serves on the Finance and Judiciary 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.

Do We Still See Colored People?

By Glenn Mollette

President Lyndon Johnson visited Martin county Kentucky in 1964. I was nine years old. We were considered the poorest county in the United States. Most of us did not know we were poor but we would soon find out from Johnson and the national media.

At that time, there were no African Americans living in Martin County. From first grade through my senior year in high school, I did not attend school with any African Americans. Occasionally we would play a basketball team that had African American players.

The first time I saw African American people was probably on NBC news with Chet Huntley and David Brinkley. The first African American I saw in person was in Columbus, Ohio. We would travel there once or twice a year to visit family. I saw people of color passing by in other cars and as a small child I would turn my head to look.

What I saw on the evening NBC national news was bewildering to me as a child. There was the violence of the Alabama race riots mixed with the evening reports of Vietnam. As a young elementary child I did not understand what the heck was going on.

In the second half of my life some of my best friends are African Americans. I have had opportunities to visit in their homes, have them in my home, speak in their churches and go out to dinner to socialize. I am blessed. I know they are black and they know that I am white but we don't see color.

I thought it was sad that our President stated that he felt some people in America "really dislike" him because he is black. You can find almost any group in America. There are people who don't like white people, and people who do not like Christians and some people who don't like Jews and some people who do not like the poor and some who don't like the rich. Unfortunately, we could say there are "some" for everything. Hate requires a lot of energy. This country needs to use that energy in a more positive way.

If we, as a country, do not work together we are going to fall apart. Nobody can have everything his or her way. America is not here for just one group, one religion or one political party.

Our President must remember twice the majority of voters, not just African American voters, elected him. At one time he had a popularity poll of seventy percent. That's a great number for any politician regardless of race.

We have an African American President. We will eventually elect a woman President and soon we will have gay candidates for President. In Washington, Colorado and who knows where else the candidates will probably be handing out Marijuana cigarettes.

Red, yellow, black or white we all are precious in God's sight. Jesus loves the little children of the world. God doesn't see color and hopefully neither do most Americans.

Glenn Mollette is an American columnist read in all fifty states. Contact him at GMollette@aol.com.

Like his facebook page at www.facebook.com/glennmollette.



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The Howe Middle School Band program recently had 9 students qualify for the All Region Bands clinic and concerts held in Anna. The Association of Texas Small School Bands conducts the event covering regions V, XX, XXIV, and XXV. Students compete by performing solo performances for a limited number of spots. During the clinic, those qualifying have the opportunity to work with renowned Band Clinicians. The clinic concludes with concerts allowing the students to perform for family and friends. This year's middle school regional bands were conducted by Paul Schmidt from Colleyville ISD and Jolette Wine, retired from Birdville ISD. Howe Middle School students attending the event included: Lyndsey Price, Shellby Armstrong, Greg Snider, Addisyn Pecina, Natalie Honore, Kindle Catching, Kelsey Pierce, Ashlyn Ray, and Blake Tredway.



Howe Elementary January Students of the Month

1st Row: Gage Carr; 2nd Row: Cameron Pugh, Haley Richardson, Mia Wilson, Eduardo Gonzales; 3rd Row: Yair Ayala, Alyssa Sharp, Madison Morrow, Ryan Murphy; Not Pictured: Syren Eaton



Humor

OUTZKIRTS By: David & Doreen Dotson

 OUTZKIRTS.COM



IN AND OUT

Once there was a family of skunks who lived in a hollow tree. There were two baby skunks. Their names were In and Out.

Now whenever In went out, Out came in, and whenever Out went out, In came in. If In happened to be in and wanted to go out, he would not go out until Out came in. And if Out happened to be in, and wanted to go out, he would not go out until In came in.

One day a big storm blew up, and the mother and father skunks were worried about their children. So they quickly looked around to see whether In was in and Out was out or if Out was in and In was out. Out happened to be in right then. The mother skunk said to Out, "Out, go out and bring In in, please. I'm worried about him."

Out said, "Sure thing, Mama." So Out went out, and for the very first time Out and In were out at the same time. Just a minute or two later Out came back in, and In came in behind him. For the first time in a long time In and Out were in at the same time.

The mother skunk was amazed. "Out, how did you find your brother so quickly?" she asked.

"Oh, Mama, it was easy," Out said. "In stinked!"



LET'S REMINISCE: BUSTER BROWN AND MARY JANE

By Jerry Lincecum

I've been thinking about some of the most popular name brands of children's shoes back in my day, like Buster Brown, Mary Jane, Red Goose and Poll Parrot. I remember seeing ads for the shoes but had no idea where the names came from. So I looked them up.

Buster Brown was a comic strip character created in 1902 by Richard Felton Outcault, known as the "Father of the Sunday Comic Strip." The name "Buster" came from the popularity of Buster Keaton, then a child actor in vaudeville. Outcault also created the character Mary Jane as the sweetheart of Buster. Based on the artist's daughter of the same name, she was the only character in the strip drawn from real life.

The comic strip became extremely popular, and in 1904, Outcault traveled to the St. Louis World's Fair and sold licenses to a bunch of companies to use the Buster Brown characters in advertising their products.

Among them was the Brown Shoe Company of St. Louis, which soon hired actors to tour the country, performing as the Buster Brown characters. Accordingly, the Brown Shoe Company became practically synonymous with Buster and his dog Tige (as in tiger).

Not wanting to leave the girls' market untapped, they also licensed the Mary Jane name for their line of strap shoes (like those the character wore in the strip). Though no longer a Brown trademark, Mary Janes have become a generic name for the style.

Brown wasn't the only shoe company in St. Louis. Another local brand that took off as a result of the World's Fair was Red Goose. Originally named Gieseke-D'Oench-Hayes, the company stamped its crates with a picture of a goose (as a visual pun on the German name "Gieseke"). Enterprising stockboys painted the goose red on crates being shipped over to the fair, and the owners liked the response so much they changed the company's name.

The third major player in my memory of kids' shoe biz was actually called Poll Parrot—a play on the name of its parent company, Paul Parrot. Their logo of a handsome green parrot was certainly eye-catching.

All three companies invested in giveaway trinkets, comic books and sponsorship of radio and TV shows. On YouTube I found a couple of video ads featuring Buster Brown and Tige with cute jingles. Red Goose had the cleverest way of delivering its swag: a golden egg laid by a large red mechanical goose when you pulled down its head.

Did you ever get your feet measured by one of those electronic Fluoroscopes, sometimes called an "X-ray Shoe Fitter"? Their selling point was that getting the most accurate measurement of your children's feet would save you money. But growing awareness of the dangers of radiation led to the machines being phased out around 1970.

Brown Shoe Co. is still a major player in footwear, but Red Goose and Paul Parrot were swallowed up by International Shoe, which employed playwright Tennessee Williams as a stockboy for a short time. But he was fired for repeatedly taking orders over the phone and forgetting to turn them in.

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

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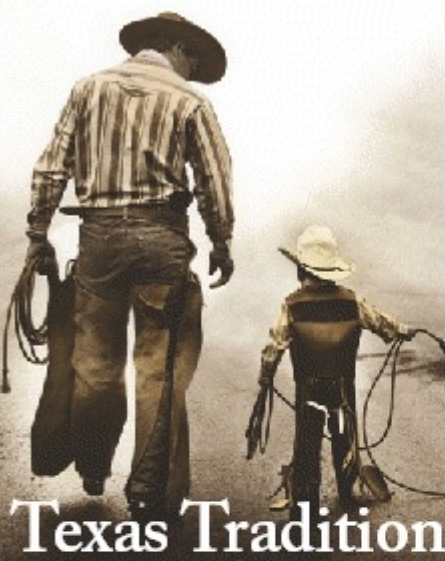
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Applesauce Muffins

1 ¾ cup flour
1 Tbsp baking powder
½ tsp salt
½ cup sugar
½ cup stick butter, softened
2 eggs
Dipping sauce:
¾ applesauce
¼ (½) stick melted butter
½ cup sugar
¼ tsp. cinnamon

Mix flour, baking powder, and salt together. Beat ¼ cup sugar and ½ cup butter in mixing bowl until creamy. Add eggs, 1 at a time, beating well after each addition. Beat in applesauce. Add dry ingredients and stir until just moistened. Fill greased muffin cups 2/3 full. Bake at 425 F for fifteen minutes. Dip the warm muffins in ¼ cup melted butter and then in a mixture of ½ cup sugar and cinnamon. Makes 1 dozen muffins.

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"A/B" HONOR ROLL: Kelsi Achimon, Hayley Adcock, Mariah Adcock, Kaycee Alexander, Dylan Ashlock, Annie Bailey, Triston Bannister, Megan Barron, Anna Battles, Hailey Behrend, Breeanna Benson, Amber Blasingame, Noah Boyd, Katelin Britton, Dwayne Bruce, Caitlin Capps, Paige Carter, Ashlie Cass, Samantha Chapman, Randi Cole, Danielle Dean, Madison DeBerry, Haley Dodson, Nicole Dudley, Xiomara Diaz, David Dickison, Sierra Edwards, Emily Ellis, Kristian Enbysk, Tripp Fritts, Lexis Fuller, Jordan Gardner, Tyler Goff, Abigail Gross, Kelli Gross, Shelby Harris, Taylor Haston, Caroline Henderson, Alex Hendry, Sasha Hopper, Alexis Jones, Katie Jones, Lillian Jones, Payton Jones, Sydnee Kane-Rolen, Garrett Morris, Kaleb Patterson, Ben Peeples, Meredith Pennell, Bradley Presson, Carrington Robinson, Devan Rose, Ashlyn Royal, Desirea Salazar, Madison Shehan, Brok Shields, Cheyenne Shipp, Ashley Shrum, Courtney Smith, Madison Smith, Clayton Stephens, Macey Stephens, Haley Stofa, Isabel Tormos, Gray Trentman, Kelsey Ulmer, Taylor Van Norman, Caylan Vickers, Morgan Walker, Kristen West, Lane Williams, Lee Winslett

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**COMMUNITY FIRE PROTECTION IMPROVES IN LATEST
EVALUATION BY INSURANCE-INDUSTRY ADVISORY FIRM**

TOM BEAN, TEXAS, January 15, 2014, — The fire-protection services of Tom Bean, as rated by an insurance industry advisory company, has improved to **Class 5** from a **Class 8**, the city announced today. The classification by Insurance Services Office, Inc. (ISO), known as the Public Protection Classification (PPC) program, assesses the fire-protection efforts in a particular community. Mayor Sherry E. Howard, TBVFD Chief James Dixon, TBVFD Assistant Chief Jason Lankford, TBVFD member Robert Dixon, and Public Works Supervisor Kenneth Ramsey met with the ISO representatives back in January 2012 to start the reevaluation process since the last evaluation was done back in 1995. This will affect most every home and business within five road miles from either the Fire Station and within 1000' of a fire hydrant. The PPC for those residents outside these two criteria will remain a Class 9.

“Our ability to improve our PPC classification was positively influenced by our increase in training activities, handling and receiving fire alarms, staffing and additional equipment,” said TBVFD Chief James Dixon. “The City increased the volume of the water supply which also added to the improvement for the evaluation and with this improved rating, it is expected that qualifying homeowners could see around 12%-13% reduction in their insurance premiums starting in March 2014.” said Mayor Sherry E. Howard.

ISO collects information on municipal fire-protection efforts in communities throughout the United States. In each of those communities, ISO analyzes the relevant data using its Fire Suppression Rating Schedule (FSRS). The company then assigns a Public Protection Classification from 1 to 10. Class 1 generally represents superior property fire protection, and Class 10 indicates that the area's fire-suppression program doesn't meet ISO's minimum criteria.

By classifying communities' ability to suppress fires, ISO helps the communities evaluate their public fire-protection services. The program provides an objective, countrywide standard that helps fire departments in planning and budgeting for facilities, equipment, and training. And by securing lower fire insurance premiums for communities with better public protection, the PPC program provides incentives and rewards for communities that choose to improve their firefighting services.

ISO is a leading source of information, products and services about property and liability risk. ISO provides statistical, actuarial, underwriting, claims, and related information and analyses to insurers, reinsurers, agents, insurance regulators, and other government agencies. For more information, visit the ISO mitigation website at www.isomitigation.com.

