

Texoma Enterprise

Howe, Texas
75459

January 6, 2013



Three Musketeers cast set



Ted Cruz Welcomed to Senate



Howe's That

by Lana Rideout

By Lana Rideout

During the Thanksgiving and Christmas time this past year, I had cataract surgery.

I got my first eye done shortly after Thanksgiving. Then I had my second eye done last Wednesday (Jan. 2, 2013).

All went well with the eyes ... except when on Friday morning, I awoke to a room that was spinning ... kind of like Six Flags and like rolling in a barrel.

I am not sure what caused it. Perhaps it was a side effect of the eye procedure.

Anyway, I can see better and as soon as my mind figures out that I have new eyes, I will be fine.

Hope every reader had a great holiday.

As soon as I can get back in the groove, we will have more news. Right now it is a bit of a challenge.



Bruce E. Maniet, D.O., P.A.
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Recipe

Fresh Cranberry Nut Bread

2 cups sifted all-purpose flour
2 teaspoons baking powder
1/2 teaspoon baking soda
1 teaspoon salt
1/4 cup shortening
1 cup sugar
1 egg, lightly beaten
1/2 cup orange juice
1 tablespoon grated orange rind
1/2 cup chopped pecans
1-1/2 to 2 cups coarsely chopped raw cranberries

Preheat oven to 350°F, and lightly grease and flour a 9x5-inch loaf pan.

Sift together the flour, baking powder, soda, and salt, and set aside. Cream the shortening and sugar until light and fluffy. Beat in the egg.

Add the flour mixture alternately with the orange juice. Stir the orange rind, pecans and cranberries into the batter.

Pour the batter into the prepared pan. Bake for 1 hour and 15 minutes, or until a wooden pick or cake tester inserted in center of loaf comes out clean. Cool in pan for 10 minutes, then remove and finish cooling on wire rack. Wrap tightly for storage. This bread freezes well.

Makes 1 loaf.

Prep time: 20 Min; Cook time: 1 Hour 15 Minutes; Total time: 1 Hour 35 Minutes

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Texoma Enterprise

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75459



Photo: Front row - Gage Hendrickson, Hayley Roper, Autumn Hobbs, Natalie Murphy, Mayor Jeff Stanley, Christopher Brady, and Technology Director Terisa O'Dowd. Back Row - Sheila Finney, Taylee Moss, Dylan Peacock, Caleb Lankford, Hannah Brown, and Library Director Becky Hogenson.

The Howe Community Library and the Howe ISD Technology Dept. honored student volunteers at the recent Howe City Council meeting. During the past summer, 30 youth served as library and technology volunteers. They contributed over 500 hours of service that included assisting with reading programs, cleaning books, making bookmarks, organizing technology equipment, and cleaning computers. Mayor Jeff Stanley presented the volunteers with certificates.



“Top Dogs” at Howe Elementary for December 3rd – 14th are: Leah Butcher, Kriston Harris, Mason Moreau, Sean Husband, Jaden Bryant, Luke Lopez, Benjamin Speed, Carson Daniels, Jeslie Toral, Ariana Ross, Bryan Crees, Riley Troxtell, Nathan Wooten, Dax Foster, Noah Fowler, and Devon Wallace.

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CAST ANNOUNCED FOR SCP WINTER PRODUCTION OF “THE THREE MUSKETEERS”

WHAT: Rehearsals are in full swing for Sherman Community Player’s third production of its 64th season, with “The Three Musketeers”. Auditions and casting took place in the beginning of October and nearly 70 Texoman’s put their all into the process. 21 local actors were chosen to bring the story of the sword fighting classic trio to life. Candidates for the production began showing interest during the 2012 Fall Sherman Arts Festival, where Artistic Director of SCP Anthony Nelson, along with Austin College Junior David Burford, put on a joint Stage Combat workshop, the first of its kind to be seen in the region.

The actors in the play have been in fight rehearsal since the beginning of November and are becoming quite skilled in the art of sword play and combat for the stage.

CAST LIST:

D’ARTAGNAN.....	Nicholas Tanner
ATHOS.....	Conner Skinner
ARAMIS.....	David Gonier
PORTHOS.....	Ray Jernigen
CARDINAL RICHELIEU.....	Jeffrey Hermann
SABINE.....	Rosanna Pilcher
MILADY.....	Megan McCullough
ROCHEFORT.....	Ed Richardson
CONSTANCE.....	Sarah Wilhelm
TREVILLE.....	Mike Hauber
KING LOUIS XII.....	Darrah Dunn
QUEEN ANNE.....	Ilona Nogarr
DUKE OF BUCKINGHAM.....	Fred Freeman

ENSEMBLE/CARDINAL’S GUARDS

Brad Jordan
Ryan Stoll
Matt Maxwell
Deborah Barrax
Pam Sanza
Lisa Hebert
Micaela Hoops
Karah Smoot
Chance Murphey
Chris Goldsmith

WHEN: The play opens February 1st, 2013 at the Finley Theater in Sherman, 500 N. Elm. Information about tickets can be seen at SCPTEATER.org

ABOUT: “This is an exciting time for SCP, says Artistic Director Anthony Nelson, we have a great diverse cast of people, ranging in all ages. We have local folks who have never been a play before and this is their inauguration and we also have some veteran players who the audiences have come to love, but also a hand full of Austin College students as well as Grayson Community College students. And they are all working together, enthusiastically, to make this production a reality. This production is really going to be something different for the audience, the play is set in the 17th century, but we are stretching the imagination of the world and pushing towards a more Sci-Fi arena, exploring the genre called “steam punk”, it’s making for a really hip production.”



[Click Here for more Area Events](#)

Texoma Enterprise

As new congress convenes, Congressman Hall Urges Debt Reduction And Other Common-Sense Reforms

WASHINGTON, DC . . . Rep. Ralph Hall (TX-04) took the Oath of Office today as the 113th Congress convened and outlined his legislative priorities and goals for the coming year in the following statement.

“I greatly appreciate the opportunity to continue to represent the Fourth District and look forward to working with my constituents and local officials to address their views and needs. We have many challenges in 2013 and much work to do, and I will work to the best of my ability to advance the common-sense solutions our Nation needs.

“First and foremost, we must get a handle on the Nation’s debt and make the common-sense spending cuts and tax reforms that are needed to ensure a strong economy for all Americans and a bright future for our children and grandchildren. We missed an opportunity with the most recent fiscal-cliff vote, but we will have another opportunity in two months when the automatic cuts associated with the sequester must be addressed, along with the issue of increasing the debt limit. We need to look at every program and every line item with an eye to eliminate waste, fraud, and abuse.

“One place to cut spending – and I plan to introduce legislation to that end – would be to reduce funding to those countries that vote against the U.S. in the United Nations a majority of the time. The only exceptions should be for humanitarian or geopolitical reasons. We also need to enact tax reform, and I am once again a sponsor of a Fair Tax plan that would eliminate the IRS and simplify the tax code for all Americans. I also am a cosponsor of legislation to repeal the estate tax – the “death tax” – and to enact a balanced budget.

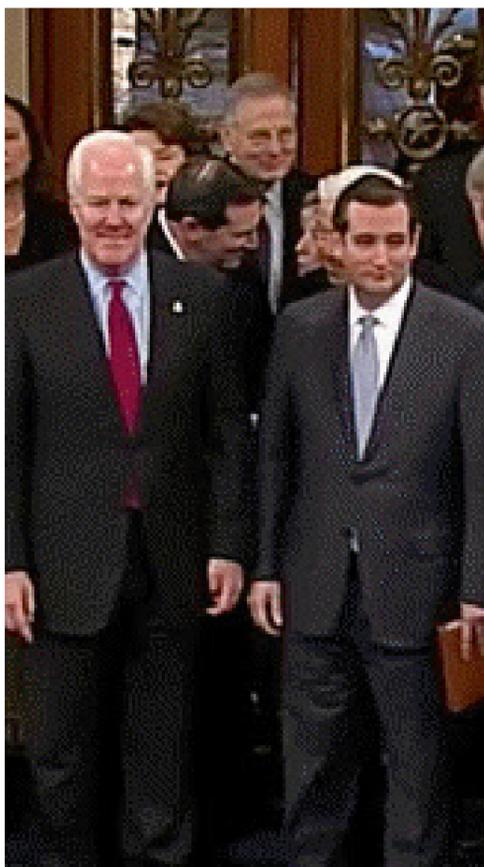
“My support for Seniors and Veterans will continue to be a top priority. We need to preserve and strengthen Medicare and Social Security and honor our commitment to our senior citizens. We owe a debt of gratitude to our Veterans and must continue to provide the services that they need.

“Ensuring abundant and affordable energy resources is another priority that I will continue to promote as a member of the Energy and Commerce Committee and the Science, Space, and Technology Committee. Energy is vital to our economic and national security, and we need to do all we can to encourage – not inhibit – domestic production.

“As Chairman of the Science Committee in the last Congress, I held a number of hearings on fracking, a drilling process that has opened up vast reserves of natural gas, created new jobs, and helped keep energy prices low. I also led aggressive oversight of the Environmental Protection Agency and exposed several instances where proposed rules that would hamper fracking and other energy efforts were based on flawed and often secret science. I will have an opportunity to continue these efforts as a member of both the Energy and Science Committees.

“Maintaining America’s leadership in space is another priority that I will continue to advocate on the Science Committee. We cannot cede our leadership to China, Russia, or any other country. Our Nation’s innovation and competitiveness are tied to the spinoffs and skilled workforce associated with NASA, and we must continue to promote a strong and robust human space exploration program in order to preserve our competitive edge and our strategic national security interests.

“Another priority of mine will be to repeal Obamacare, and I look forward to serving as a member of the Health Subcommittee of Energy and Commerce to help accomplish this goal. Americans need accessible and affordable health care, but Obamacare will lead to higher costs and fewer choices. We need to ensure that patients receive the treatment their doctors prescribe – not what federal bureaucrats dictate. Rural health issues, a permanent solution to Medicare reimbursements to providers, and interstate insurance exchanges are other goals for healthcare reform.



Cornyn Welcomes Senator Ted Cruz

WASHINGTON - Today U.S. Senator John Cornyn (R-TX) issued the following statement after joining Ted Cruz (R-TX) as he was sworn in as Texas’ next U.S. Senator:

“Ted has quickly proven himself to be among the next generation of leaders of Texas and the Republican Party. I’m pleased to welcome him to the Texas delegation and I look forward to working closely with him as we fight for a conservative agenda that will grow the economy and create jobs while putting our nation on a path towards fiscal prosperity.”

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.

[Click Here for more Area Events](#)



Goodbye and Thank You

By Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison

After nearly 20 years in Washington, this is my final week as the senior US Senator from the great state of Texas.

People often wonder what compels a person to run for public office. Some think it's the power - though I can assure them that being one of a hundred senators, particularly when you're in the minority, is as far from personal power as one can get. Some think it's the excitement of politics - but anyone who has been through a tough, mud-slinging campaign would fail to describe the politics part favorably!

For me, the reason was to give back to the state that gave me so much.

I was raised with good Texas values, in a small town - La Marque - full of honest, hardworking people, in a tight-knit community with a wonderful public education system. Combined with the world-class education I received at the University of Texas, it gave me the tools to be whatever I wanted to be.

I got my professional start covering the statehouse at KPRC-TV in Houston, when the station owner took a chance on a young law school graduate.

And I was mentored by great Texans on my way up the political ladder, who continued their support when I got to the Senate and have stood solidly with me ever since.

For this I am grateful, and for this I have sought to give back, as have all the Texans with whom I've had the pleasure of serving. From Senator Phil Gramm to Senator John Cornyn to the entire Texas Congressional delegation, my colleagues have always been a strong and unique force in Congress. Texas stands out as the delegation that will band together across party lines to fight tooth and nail for our state. Team Texas always has the best interests of our beloved state in mind, and while some in Washington don't quite understand our particular brand of friendliness, I always say that Team Texas's hearts are as big as our mouths.

It may seem as though nothing gets done in Washington, DC. But we have accomplished so much for Texas in the past two decades, by sticking to the good Texas values of common sense, hard work and perseverance.

With so many Texans serving in the armed forces, I fought hard for our nation's military and their families, including legislation that studied how overseas military bases compared to American ones. That resulted in thousands of troops coming back to the US, where training and rapid deployment were superior. I also worked to secure over \$82 billion for base construction, military housing and veterans' programs. Over the years, I have visited our troops in Bosnia, Iraq and Afghanistan, and seeing our military men and women when they are in harm's way is a very powerful reminder of the sacrifices they make and how indebted we are for their service.

I brought a new medical center to the Valley for our thousands of veterans; I helped secure research for the Gulf War Syndrome that has debilitated thousands of those who served in Desert Storm; and I helped expand the beautiful Waco veterans' facility to serve as a center for treatment of post-traumatic stress disorder.

Working for women and children has been a priority, and I am proud to have taken Amber Alerts - originally a Texas initiative - national. In the years since the legislation passed, nearly 600 children have been returned home. I also introduced legislation to strengthen anti-stalking laws

I fought for and secured the right for Texans to deduct state sales tax from their federal taxes. When married couples were inexplicably punished by having their joint incomes pushed into higher tax brackets, I ensured they were treated fairly with marriage penalty relief legislation. And I introduced the legislation for spouses who do not work outside the home to save for retirement, through the Homemaker IRA.

Texas research universities have risen from 6th to 3rd in federal funding for science and innovation, strengthening our state's economy and helping America keep our global competitive edge. I have fought for investment in and support for our higher education systems, and Texas is now a leading destination for some of the country's - and the world's - best scientists and researchers. And Texas gets exponential benefit from the long-term funding we secured for NASA's future.

So while it may seem that Washington is in a perpetual state of gridlock, Texans can take pride that their representatives have been fighting for them and getting results.

It has been my great honor to represent our state for the past two decades. I want to thank the people of Texas for this extraordinary opportunity, and make the solemn promise that I will continue to work for our state after I leave office.

And for the last time as a US Senator, I am proud to say: God bless you and God bless Texas.

Hutchison, a Republican, is the senior U.S. senator from Texas.



Texoma Enterprise

Area Churches

Church Page

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

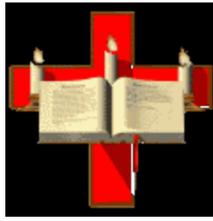
IDA BAPTIST CHURCH,
903/813- 3263. S- School
10 am, Worship 11 am
Charles Morris, pastor

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



Luke 2:1-7 (KJV)

¹ And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed.

² (*And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.*)

³ And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city.

⁴ And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:)

⁵ To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.

⁶ And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered.

⁷ And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

Christian Fellowship

This Sunday David Ellis will be speaking at A Christian Fellowship.

Come join them at 9 am Sunday morning for coffee and doughnut fellowship followed at 9:30 with classes for all ages.

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

David Ellis leads praise and worship and is a contemporary style service which starts at 10:30 am.

The church has a program for the children called "Kidz in Da Zone for Jesus!" This class is for kids from ages 2-10 and is held during worship time. It features puppet shows, skits, object lessons and games. It's a fun time for the Kidz! So come on out and worship with us and have a place where the children learn about God too!

Wednesday night begins at 6:30pm with a pot-luck dinner followed by praise and worship and a devotional. The kids also have a class for them.

Movie night is on hold until January due to all the holiday activities, but will resume in January. Movie will be announced at a later date. This is free to the public.

The church is located on the West side of Hwy 11 in Luella. 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 @ 903-870-0219 or David Ellis @ 903-815-1333.

Tom Bean Church of Christ

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

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

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

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



Texoma Enterprise

Area Churches

INSPIRATION POINT

COWBOY CHURCH

FM 2729, 2.5 miles
South of Tom Bean

Duane Peters,
903-815-2278

PILOT GROVE

BAPTIST CHURCH

1271 Pilot Grove St.
903/450-3708

Sherman/Denison

THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST

OF LATTER DAY SAINTS

1900 Lamberth Rd, Sherman.

FRIENDSHIP UNITED

METHODIST CHURCH

RFD 2 off Hwy. 56; 903/892-8450

WESTERN HEIGHTS CHURCH

OF CHRIST

800 Baker Park Dr.,
903/892-9635, Sun. 10

CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE,

601 Hwy. 1417, Pastor,

Rev. Mack Rogers

RED RIVER

COWBOY CHURCH

3800 Hwy. 691 (w of Hwy. 75);
Novice Northington, 903/463-5840

Van 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

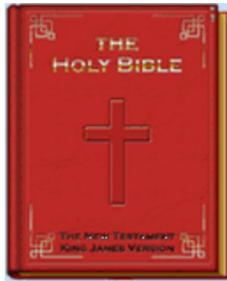
MORNING CHAPEL CHRISTIAN

METHODIST EPISCOPAL

103 Bowen, 902/482-5431

SAMARIA BAPTIST CHURCH

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



Hunkered Down

“I’ve heard it from those who’ve been through it – ‘It sounds like the roar of a train.’ Finally, I got my confirmation. Yes, it does.”

These are the words of John Sharp, a reporter for the Mobile (AL) Press-Register and al.com, after he heard a tornado roar near his apartment on Christmas day.

Sharp further described his experience: “As the clock ticked toward 5, things were growing hectic. Turning on my computer to seek the weather news, I got a couple of instant messages from colleagues that I should seek shelter. The storm, reportedly, had hit Interstate 10 and was headed along Government Boulevard directly toward the city.”

“I turned on TV, but the signal was disrupted. That’s when the wind began to pick up. I went into my bathroom as I heard a clanging noise, like someone whacking a cooking pot with a large metal spoon. The power flickered: off, back on, then off for good.”

“I hunkered in my bathtub, curled into a fetal position with my hands above my head. That’s when I heard the roar and prayed that my apartment building would not collapse on top of me.” *

Thankfully, it didn’t, but the “Christmas tornadoes” – a record 34 tornadoes throughout the South – caused a lot of damage in Mobile and other areas in Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama.

As the stormy weather approached Mobile, the meteorologists repeatedly warned listeners to be in their “safe place.” For the benefit of those who might not know where their “safe place” could be found, the meteorologists described the safe place: ground floor, interior room near the center of the house, away from windows.

Bathrooms usually fit that bill. And once you reach the safe place, meteorologists advised, get in or beside the bathtub with your head down! You are now “hunkered down” and ready for the storm.

Do you know the whereabouts of your “safe place”?

There is really only ONE safe place where you can withstand the “storms” that life brings. It’s the only place that will last throughout eternity.

That “place” is in a relationship with God through His Son, Jesus Christ.

The greatest “storm” that all of us face is SIN, for it is deadly and destructive (Romans 6:23). But God loves us so much that He gave His Son Jesus to die on the cross for our sins (1 Corinthians 15:1-4).

Through Jesus, we can have the forgiveness of our sins and the security of eternal life with Him.

Jesus said, "Therefore whoever HEARS these sayings of Mine, and DOES them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock: and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock. But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand: and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall." – Matthew 7:24-27

In order to accept Jesus’ offer of security and eternal life, one must: place his faith and trust in Jesus (Acts 16:30-31), turn from sin in repentance (Acts 17:30-31), confess Him before men (Romans 10:9-10), and be baptized (immersed) into Christ for the forgiveness of sins (Acts 2:38). Then, one must continue to follow Jesus faithfully (Revelation 2:10).

The storms have come and will come. Are you “hunkered down” in the only true safe place that will last throughout eternity? That “place” is JESUS!

Won’t YOU come to Him in trusting obedience today?

David A. Sargent, Minister
davidsargent1@comcast.net
Church of Christ at Creekwood
<http://www.creekwoodcc.org>
Mobile, Alabama 36695

* Information gleaned from “I Hunkered in My Bathtub” by John Sharp, Mobile Press-Register, Friday, December 28, 2012 David A. Sargent, Minister

Please visit our Web site
<http://www.creekwoodcc.org> AND share a drink of "Living Water" with a friend!



Texoma Enterprise

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2012 – Year in Review by Don Mathis

England had the Diamond Jubilee for Queen Elizabeth.
But the world will remember Princess Kate's breast.

The country mourned when the Libya ambassador was killed
But we turned a blind eye at deaths in Gaza and Israel.

Hurricane Sandy killed two-hundred-nine.
And poor old General Petraeus had to resign.

The Olympics in London held our attention
as did South Korea with the World's Exhibition.

And what could top pictures from the Land Rover on Mars?
Perhaps the speed-of-sound skydiver from the stars.

The election this year was a major embarrassment.
There's got to be a better way to elect a president.

Who could forget Clint Eastwood's televised date?
Or Todd Akin's statement about 'Legitimate Rape'?

Trayvon Martin was in the news again and again
and a deranged gunman opens fire at a temple in Wisconsin.

It was a 'Dark Knight' in Aurora, Colorado,
while 500 died of gun violence in Chicago.

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Dot's

D-A-S-H-E-S



By Dorothy N. Fowler

The majority of my students at Permian High School were of the "They'll get my gun when they pry it out of my cold dead hand" persuasion. I, of course, was of a different persuasion, since I believe it does not take a rocket scientist to know that the only reason to have a pistol is to use it to kill someone.

None of my students claimed to go hunting with a pistol unless he (it was always he) was riding at midnight in a pickup with a spotlight on it taking pot shots at jack rabbits just for the fun of seeing them die. That behavior was and is reprehensible, revolting and always made me wonder what else the shooter would like to see die.

My students who hunted deer and other game harvested their kills and had them dressed and either used them for meat or gave them to food banks seemed to me to be more responsible. Some of them disagreed with me about the use of automatic weapons as hunting pieces; I think you are more likely to render a deer or other large game unusable if you put 10 or 20 or 100 bullets in it. Moreover, I did not and do not see how shooting a deer with an automatic weapon is sportsmanlike.

Most of my students who wanted everyone to have a pistol wanted those pistols for self-protection.

"What are you protecting against?" I asked.

"In case my car breaks down," they answered.

"How would you use a pistol if your car broke down?"

"He'd shoot it in the radiator," some quick witted student answered.

"No," the pistol owner replied. "I would need it in case someone stopped."

"What would you do with the pistol if someone stopped to help?"

"Awww! Ms. Fowler, you know what I mean!"

The truth is I had no idea what they meant. Not then, not now.

The worst trouble I've ever caused myself was the result of owning a gun I bought to "defend" myself. I should have

Continue



Texoma Enterprise

BOB BOWMAN'S

EAST TEXAS, continued

Dot's Dashes, continued

We all agree the Sandy Hook killing was awful.
So when will congress make semi-automatics unlawful?

The Mayans predicted the end on December 21
but we all worried where our next Twinkie will come from.

Encyclopedia Britannica ceases publication after two centuries.
And no more print edition of the magazine, Newsweek.

The folks in New Orleans are in a rage
with no daily Time -Picayune for their bird cage.

With Obamacare, I'm a healthy stiff
but will high gas prices slow our drive to the Fiscal Cliff?

Musicians Whitney Houston, Earl Scruggs, Dave Brubeck, and Ravi
Shankar are gone.
And so are authors Maurice Sendak, Carlos Fuentes, Ray Bradbury, and
Nora Ephron.

Lonesome George died, the last of his kind of Galapagos tortoise –
and equally old and equally mourned is the death of TV's Mike Wallace.

Andy Griffith and Phyllis Diller made us laugh until we hurt our side.
And who could inspire us like Neil Armstrong or Sally Ride?

General Norman Schwarzkopf died, a true-blue American soldier.
While Congress held in contempt Attorney General Eric Holder.

Today, we celebrate the year that's new
as we look back on 2012 in review.

left my defense to law enforcement no matter how slow or
inept it might have seemed at the time.

But then, I don't see government whether state, local or
national as my enemy or even as "the problem." In a
representative democracy (republic as the Birch Society
used to demand) government represents the collective will
of the people.

The operative term is collective will, with emphasis on
collective. What I fear is that the collective will of the
people will be to continue to do nothing about either our
fractured mental health system or the gun violence that
takes between 10,000 and 11,000 lives in the United States
each year.

To put it another way, the death toll from guns is the
equivalent of forty 250 passenger plane crashes each year,
the equivalent of Van Alstyne's entire population wiped out
or Sherman with ¼ fewer people or Denison with 1/3
fewer people.

It's the equivalent of the entire graduating classes of
Sherman High School wiped out for the next 28.5 years.
It's the equivalent of the football stadium in Howe empty of
spectators for the next five years.

If you can imagine those things, perhaps you can also
imagine reasonable, sensible ways to confront and control
gun violence in the United States. Perhaps you can imagine
ways to confront and deal with the growing problem of
inadequately diagnosed and scarcely treated mental illness
in the United States.

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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

Lana, Dominique, Rachel, Briana, Amber, "Santa"
Jordan, Caleb, Chris



"Santa" Rideout

Grandkids singing at the Christmas Tree Farm 2007

Dark clouds and silver linings: The ‘fiscal cliff’ resolved

By Gene Hall

The inability of Americans to step away from breathing the rarified air of a “pure party line” -- even for a minute, even to the pass the “fiscal cliff” legislation so vital to the nation -- scares me. It should scare you. There doesn’t seem to be much compromise left in the body politic. That’s a shame, because both parties have more than their share of arrogance.

In all the fighting of the past few weeks, our lawmakers passed the deadline by one day and did manage to do a few good things. It would be nice if they could build on that.

The passage of the so-called “fiscal cliff” legislation adds certainty to tax policy, which is good business for America. The deficit was not addressed by Congress, and much work is still needed to get our fiscal house in order. I’m not looking forward to that conversation with my grandchildren in a few years, to answer the question: “Why did you do this to us, Paw Paw?” Most have concluded that we need to tax some more, and I won’t argue the point. I do know we’re going to have to spend less, a lot less. And so far, we are nowhere with that.

There is a little good news in the package according to Texas Farm Bureau President Kenneth Dierschke: “...restoration of the \$5 million exemption level for the estate tax, which was in danger of falling to \$1 million.”

This permanency and the fact that the estate tax is now indexed for inflation are positive for agriculture and small businesses. Most family farms can now be passed on to subsequent generations.

Extending the farm bill another few months stops the permanent farm law of 1949 from kicking in automatically, which would have created major price problems for agriculture and consumers. Dierschke say farmers would have preferred a new five-year farm bill, but the extension allows farmers, ranchers and their bankers to plan for the 2013 crop.

There’s an old story of a boy reaching into a jar for a snack of filberts. His hand was so full he could not withdraw it from the jar. Unwilling to part with a single nut, he stood there for a long time before he realized he could not have them all. This time, Congress and the President left a few filberts for the other guy. Next time, I hope they don’t decide to break the jar. It’s not easy, but it doesn’t have to be this hard!

Gene Hall, Public Relations Director, Texas Farm Bureau

Op-Ed: January 2, 2013

By State Senator Craig Estes (R- Wichita Falls)

Fate of “Flying Pigs” vs “Slaughtered Hogs”
Likely To Confront Texas Republicans
Who Supported Fiscal Cliff Compromise

Texas State Senator considers asking Texas Rangers to find missing Texas congressional conservatives

Where have all the federal budget-cutting Texas conservatives gone?

As Chairman of the Texas Senate Committee responsible for our state’s Homeland Security, I am contemplating calling out the Texas Rangers to find them.

It appears that somewhere between Texas and Washington, they got lost.

That’s right! Some of our Texas congressional Republicans voted to pass Obama’s “fiscal cliff compromise” legislation.

This legislation looks like, smells like and tastes like a tax increase. Why? Because it is a tax increase bill!

In fact, according to the Congressional Budget Office, the last-minute fiscal cliff deal reached by congressional leaders and President Barack Obama cuts only \$15 billion in spending while increasing tax revenues by \$620 billion. That’s right -- a 41:1 ratio of tax increases to spending cuts so for every \$41 of additional taxes we pay, the federal government will cut \$1 of spending. My fellow Americans, we have a problem, a huge spending problem.

Texas families have to live with balanced budgets. Texas state government does too. So why not the federal government?

It’s not rocket science -- our national economy simply can not continue living off deficit spending.

However, Obama and some wayward Texas Republicans have decided big government is too sacred to cut. In short, they have decided to be for tax increases before they can be opposed to tax increases. Reaching into our back pockets, they have deferred some of America’s toughest spending problems—in particular the ballooning cost of health care -- with a “fiscal cliff compromise bill” that doesn’t even come close to the kind of \$4 trillion deficit-reduction deal the country’s leaders had hoped to negotiate.

I am truly appalled at the lack of leadership shown by our Republicans in Congress (especially those from Texas). The audacity to vote for this tax bill, is well... it’s just un-Texan. Worse still, Grover Norquist, the Americans for Tax Reform founder and keeper of the so-called Tax Pledge, reportedly urged the House Republicans to pass it without adding spending cuts!

Folks, as our country has approached this fiscal cliff, some of our Texas Republicans sent to Congress have opted to leap before they look.

Apparently they naively subscribe to the Texas notion that federal government will reduce its spending when “pigs fly.”

But I say, when it comes to tax increases like this “fiscal cliff compromise bill”, we need the Texas Rangers to find the real Texas Conservatives we sent to Washington or these Republican hogs will get slaughtered come next election.





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Medicare to End 'Improve or You're Out' Standard for Coverage of Skilled Services

In a major change in Medicare policy, the Obama administration has provisionally agreed to end Medicare's longstanding practice of requiring that beneficiaries with chronic conditions and disabilities show a likelihood of improvement in order to receive coverage of skilled care and therapy services. The policy shift will affect beneficiaries with conditions like multiple sclerosis, Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, ALS (Lou Gehrig's disease), diabetes, hypertension, arthritis, heart disease, and stroke. (See companion article, "Who Will Benefit From the New Medicare Policy Change?")

For about 30 years, home health agencies and nursing homes that contract with Medicare have routinely terminated the Medicare coverage of a beneficiary who has stopped improving, even though nothing in the Medicare statute or its regulations says improvement is required for continued skilled care. Advocates charged that Medicare contractors have instead used a covert "rule of thumb" known as the "Improvement Standard" to illegally deny coverage to such patients. Once beneficiaries failed to show progress, contractors claimed they could deliver only "custodial care," which Medicare does not cover.

In January 2011, the Center for Medicare Advocacy and Vermont Legal Aid filed a class action lawsuit, *Jimmo v. Sebelius*, against the Obama administration in federal court aimed at ending the government's use of the improvement standard. After the court refused the government's request to dismiss the case, and the administration lost in similar individual cases in Pennsylvania and Vermont, it decided to settle.

As part of the proposed settlement, which the federal judge must still formally approve, Medicare will revise its manual that contractors follow to clarify that Medicare coverage of skilled nursing and therapy services "does not turn on the presence or absence of an individual's potential for improvement" but rather depends on whether or not the beneficiary needs skilled care, even if it would simply maintain the beneficiary's current condition or slow further deterioration.

In addition, under the settlement Medicare beneficiaries who received a final denial of Medicare coverage after January 18, 2011 (the date the lawsuit was filed) are entitled to a review of their claim denial.

"The Jimmo settlement provides hope for thousands of older and disabled people with chronic and long-term conditions who will now have a fair opportunity to get access to Medicare and necessary health care," Judith Stein, Executive Director of the Center for Medicare Advocacy, told ElderLawAnswers.

In an article about the accord, the New York Times notes that Medicare's coverage of skilled care for beneficiaries with chronic conditions "could also provide relief for families and caregivers who often find themselves stretched financially and personally by the need to provide care."

Although the Times quotes a trustee of the Medicare program that the change will cost Medicare more money, it could also save some money because physical therapy and home health care may help keep beneficiaries out of more expensive institutions like nursing homes and hospitals.



Capitol Watch

By Larry Phillips, State Representative



83rd Legislative Session to Convene

Tuesday, January 8th marks the opening day of the 83rd Legislative Session of the Texas Legislature. The Texas Legislature meets for 140 days in odd-numbered years. The House of Representatives is comprised of 150 members. This session, there are 43 new members of the House, which is the largest freshman class of legislators in 42 years. The partisan breakdown of the membership is 96 Republicans and 54 Democrats.

The Secretary of State will swear-in all of the members and preside over the House until the members nominate and elect a Speaker. Other duties of the House during the first weeks of business include passing a Housekeeping Resolution and House Rules. The Housekeeping Resolution establishes the administrative functions and duties of offices and members of the House.

House Rules dictate procedural issues with regard to the House of Representatives. The rules establish committees, the bill and amendment process, House Floor procedure, and many other issues which provide the framework of daily activity for the House. Bills cannot be referred to committees until the House Rules are adopted. All members vote on the adoption of the rules.

The Texas Senate will also convene this week. There are 31 senators; currently there are 19 Republicans and 11 Democrats. A special election will be held on January 26, 2013, to replace the late Senator Mario Gallegos, Jr., of Houston. There will be 6 new members of the senate this session, which is also a large freshman class for the Senate; however 4 of these members have previously served in the Texas House.

I look forward to hearing from you regarding any legislation that is important to you. You can 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.

Sunset Commission Reports

The state has various agencies that carry out the daily functions of state government, such as the Texas Education Agency, Texas Department of Transportation, and the Texas Workforce Commission. The Sunset Commission provides the legislature with a regular assessment of the continuing need for a state agency to exist. While standard legislative oversight is concerned with agency compliance with legislative policy, Sunset asks a more basic question: "Do the agency's functions continue to be needed?" The Sunset Commission is comprised of 12 members appointed by the Lt. Governor and the Speaker of the House, and its goal is to make the government smaller, smarter, and more efficient.

Agencies come up for review before the legislature at least every twelve years; the reviews are staggered, so that an average of 25 agencies come up for review in any given legislative session. During the interim, the Sunset Commission compiles reports on the agencies scheduled to be reviewed in the upcoming session. The sunset process sets a date for an agency to be abolished unless legislation is passed allowing the agency's continuation. Most agencies are not abolished, but rather undergo changes to their operations and goals. The Sunset Commission is an important tool for legislators by enabling them to look in-depth at the way government agencies are performing and by providing the opportunity for change.

By ensuring a regular review of agencies, the sunset commission is able to weed out antiquated and unnecessary agencies and policies. Also, because the reviews are so extensive, the possibility of a review by the commission usually spurs the agency to improve its overall performance.

This session there are 24 agencies up for review, including the Texas Commission on the Arts, the Texas Board and Department of Criminal Justice, the Texas Education Agency, the Texas Board of Professional Engineers, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, the Texas Lottery Commission, the Board of Pardons and Paroles, the Public Utility Commission of Texas, and the Railroad Commission of Texas. The Commission has held hearings throughout the interim relating to these various state agencies, and are now beginning to issue their reports to the legislature. Citizens interested in reviewing the Sunset Commission's reports to the legislature may find them through the Sunset Commission's website, www.sunset.state.tx.us <<http://www.sunset.state.tx.us>>.

You can 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.



Wrong email address:

A couple going on vacation but his wife was on a business trip so he went to the destination first and his wife would meet him the next day.

When he reached his hotel, he decided to send his wife a quick email.

Unfortunately, when typing her address, he mistyped a letter and his note was directed instead to an elderly preacher's wife whose husband had passed away only the day before.

When the grieving widow checked her email, she took one look at the monitor, let out a piercing scream, and fell to the floor in a dead faint.

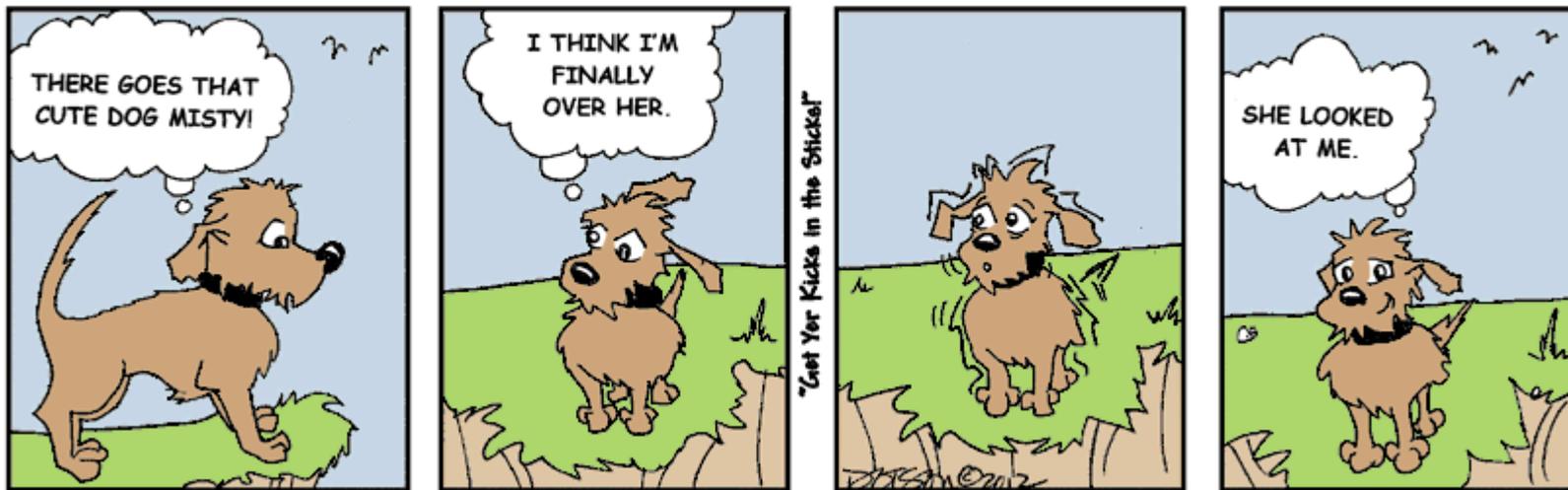
At the sound, her family rushed into the room and saw this note on the screen:

Dearest Wife,
Just got checked in. Everything prepared for your arrival tomorrow.

P.S. Sure is hot down here.

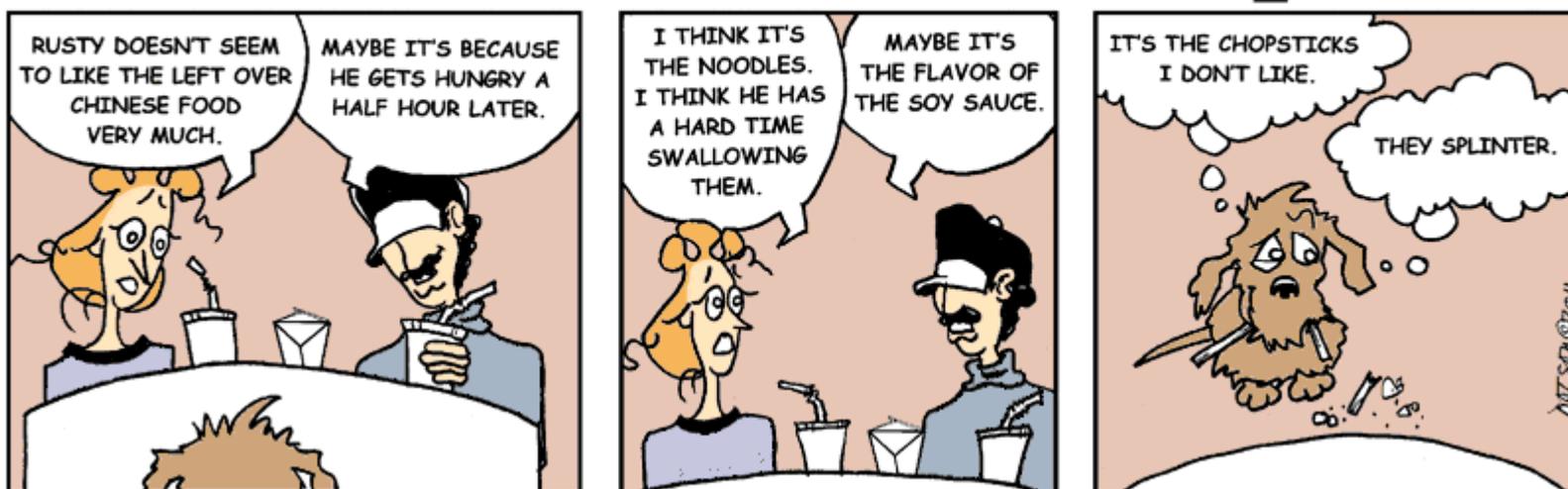
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This Page is a Work in Progress

Howe Public Schools

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

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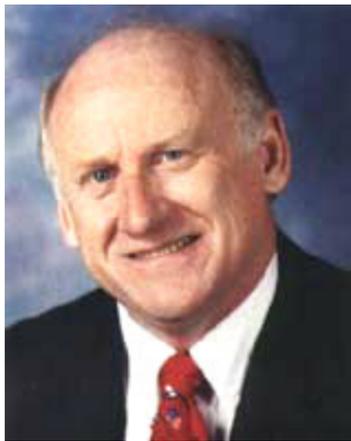
[Texas Records and Information Locator \(TRAIL\)](#) searches and locates information from over 180 Texas state agency web services.

[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.

Texoma Enterprise



Let's Reminisce: Good Habits Gone Bad

By Jerry Lincecum

How can an admirable trait that we took in with our mother's milk become a grievous problem? Let me count the ways. Being thrifty has to be near the top of anyone's list of good habits. I'm surprised it didn't make the ten commandments. But the best of habits can do you wrong.

One of my elderwriters recently described her late husband as someone who obsessed about gasoline prices. They lived in Fort Worth and he would drive miles across town to save a couple of cents a gallon. She knew better than to protest.

During WWII they had relocated to California in search of a high paying defense job. When the move proved a mistake, the drive back to Texas was preceded with concern about not paying any more than necessary for gas.

Then as now, gas prices in California were higher than those in Texas. As they got closer and closer to the desert, Mr. Thrifty was outraged by those ridiculous prices and refused to buy any gas.

Alas, his gas gauge was broken and he had guessed wrong about how much was left in the tank. Soon the engine coughed and died when they were far from a gas station. The frightened wife had to lock herself in the car while he hitched a ride from a passerby.

This being the 40s, Mr. T found a gas station that would sell him a couple of gallons and not charge anything to send an attendant with him to get his car started. Needless to say, he drove back to that station filled his gas tank, but not without muttering to himself about the injustice. Of course he did not change his ways.

A worse turn that thrift can take is toward avarice (Scrooge). Daddy taught me a lesson with the story of a moneylender he knew. In the 1930s this fellow made a loan of \$50 to the Smiths, a hardworking family of sharecroppers. Days before the note was due, the father of the family died suddenly.

After the funeral relatives helped the family get the money together to pay off the note. It was a few days overdue when the Smith boy (almost a grown man) took it to Scrooge. He accepted the late payment but asked for an additional 50 cents as penalty for late payment. Daddy said "That is the biblical meaning of 'usury': profiting by taking advantage of someone else's misery."

He had a parallel story about generosity. A year or so after the death of Mr. Smith, a nice piece of land came on the market at a fair price. Granddaddy Lincecum took Daddy with him to visit the Smith family and offered to co-sign a note to enable the son to buy the property.

Even though he decided not to risk borrowing the money to buy the land, the young man always considered my family among his best friends.

-30- 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.

Let's Reminisce: Hope For The New Year

By Jerry Lincecum

Anticipating the new year makes me want to write about the hope that good outcomes can result from evil actions. There needs to be some redemption from the terrible tragedy of twenty first-graders plus six adult school personnel brutally gunned down in Sandy Hook Elementary School.

The history of my hometown of Sherman provides a precedent. On the morning of May 9, 1930, an enraged crowd gathered around the Grayson County courthouse, where a black man was being tried for allegedly raping a white woman.

By that evening, nothing remained of the courthouse except glowing heaps of embers and a dark, ghostly frame. Not only had a ghastly lynching taken the life of George Hughes and desecrated his body, but many residences and several businesses in the black business district were destroyed. Black residents went into hiding or left town.

A new courthouse was erected a few years later, but memories of the extreme violence and racism endured for a long time, insuring that the black businesses and middle class never came back to Sherman.

However, little more than a year later, on Saturday, June 21, 1931, a traveling evangelist named John R. Rice, with the help of volunteers, set up seats on the Sherman courthouse lawn for a series of revival meetings, which began the following day with a large crowd in attendance. With the courthouse square empty, Sherman's city council had given permission for the open-air services.

Coming from Waxahachie, Dr. Rice had read about the tragedy in Sherman and believed it was ready for an evangelistic crusade. On the radio in Fort Worth he called for volunteers to meet him at a certain time on the courthouse square to build benches and string light wires to the platform.

Handbills were printed and spread by the thousands. The meeting was advertised extensively in the local paper. As crowds continued to attend the revival meetings, soon a number of people were candidates for baptism and church membership. A tank was set up on the courthouse lawn for a baptismal service on Thursday evening, July 28.

Under Dr. Payne's leadership forty people organized the Fundamental Baptist Church. By mid-August a lot was purchased, and a month later a big tabernacle (80 x 130 feet) was ready for occupancy. As indoor services replaced the outdoor meetings, the congregation grew to make this church a permanent fixture in Sherman.

Over the years and decades the church has outgrown several buildings and some name changes, but today as Grayson Bible Baptist Church it remains a vital church with varied ministries. A Texas Historical Marker summarizing its history was dedicated in 2010.

For me the significance of this story is that from the flames of the Grayson County courthouse and a horrible lynching, some people in Sherman responded to God's call to build a church that has ministered to untold numbers. In similar fashion, I hope something good can come from the evil that struck in Newtown, Connecticut, earlier this month.

-30- 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:
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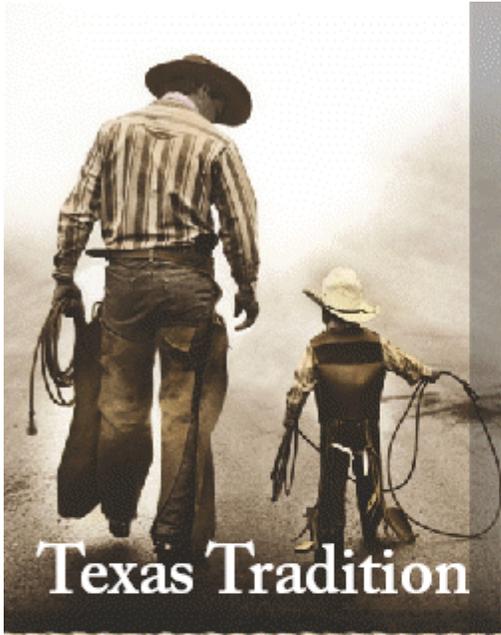
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Texoma Montage

In 2005 we began publishing a history magazine about the Texoma area, North Texas and Southern Oklahoma. We continued through 2008 with publication. Many folks really enjoyed our publication so we are now adding it to our Texoma Enterprise website. Our aim is to reprint some of the articles we used in our print issue, but we may add from time to time.

A special thank you goes to Dorothy Fowler and Jerry Lincecum for giving us permission to reprint articles they prepared for the magazine. Also thank you to both of them for their great contributions writing for Texoma Enterprise. They have been doing this for many years.

This section of the website will only be updated every other month or so. We hope you enjoy it.

Dale and Lana Rideout

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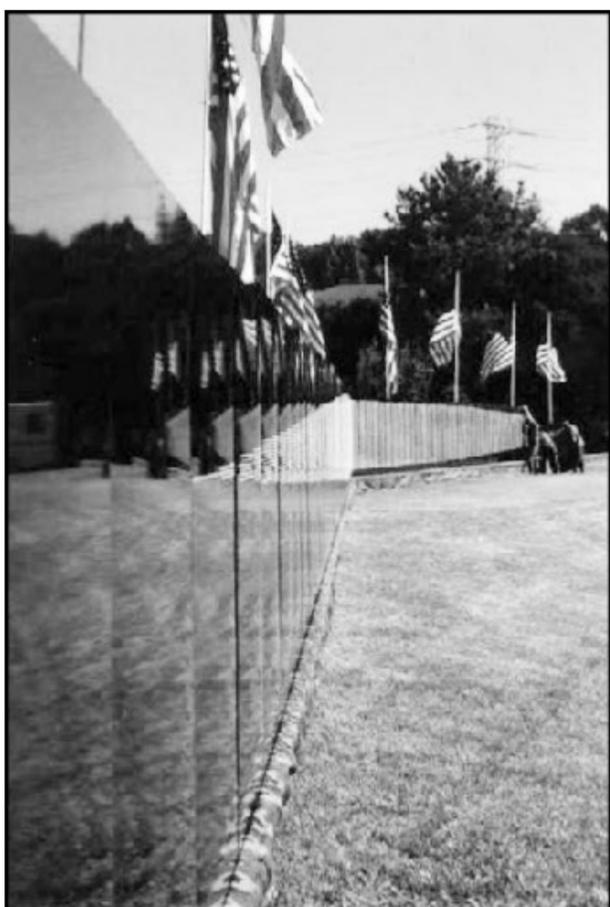
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This is the cover of
our first issue



Texoma Montage



The Wall, looking East
photo courtesy of Vietnam Combat Veterans, Inc.

Traveling Vietnam War Memorial

by Dorothy N. Fowler

The first time I saw the Vietnam War Memorial in Washington, D.C., I was with my 80 year-old mother. She broke down and cried as she looked at the wall bearing the names of more than 58,000 dead and missing in action.

"Such a waste," she said through her tears. "Such a waste."

Mama had opposed the war to start with, not because she believed members of the armed services were doing anything wrong, but because she thought the policy behind it was a failed policy and that the United States had no vital national interest there.

When the war began, I was a hawk, but as it dragged on, I wanted nothing so much as to bring home the men and women whose lives were in danger every day in a cause that clearly seemed to be lost as a result of policy failures. I watched helpless every year as some of my brightest and best students were drafted, went to fight, and either came home in military caskets or terribly wounded either in body or spirit.

When I saw the wall for the first time, I visualized a baseball stadium that seats 60,000. I saw it full and then suddenly irrevocably empty. As I walked the length of the wall, seeing the gifts that had been laid beneath some of the names, watching people take rubbings of the names of their children, their friends, their husbands, brothers, sisters, lovers, I too began to cry.

I was not alone. Many of the people who were walking near me were crying. Nothing outside the sudden death of my three-year old granddaughter has ever affected me as much as that first visit to the wall.

It's a fact that the Vietnam War Memorial is the most visited National Park Service Site in Washington, D. C. It's also a fact that most Americans will never get to Washington to see the memorial.

That's why, when the replica of the Vietnam War Memorial comes to Denison on July 22, sponsors will keep the practice field at Denison High School open 24 hours a day for its three day stay.

"We want as many people as possible to be able to visit it," Horace Groff, former Grayson County Judge and one of the organizers of the wall's visit, said. "There is never any charge whatsoever to visitors to the wall."

After his retirement from political life, Groff went to work part-time for Bratcher Funeral Home, which is now part of Dignity Memorial Funeral, Cremation and Cemetery Providers. The company commissioned the traveling replica, which was completed in 1990.

"Sponsors who want the wall to come to their city put their names in and Denison got picked for this summer," Groff said. "Sponsors make contributions and sometimes individuals who visit the wall make contributions to have it come, but the wall is truly a service that the company makes possible."

At 240 feet long and eight feet high, it is sometimes hard to find a place large enough to hold it and the crowds of people who visit it. Security is also a problem. "We needed to have it in a place that was accessible and at the same time secure," Groff said. "The practice field at DHS was the best spot."

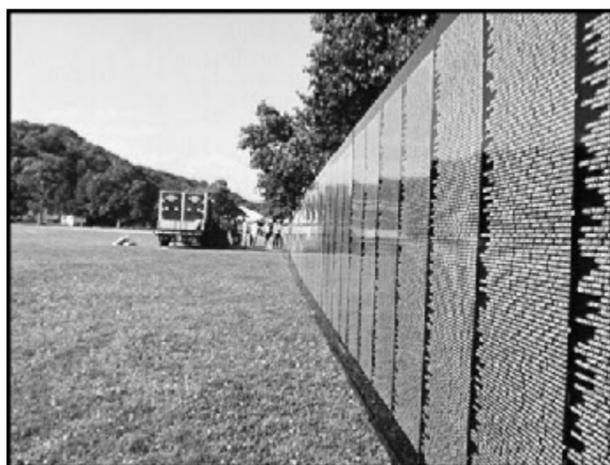
Local veterans groups will provide some of the security and other organizations and individuals will also volunteer to be on guard. Opening ceremonies will be July 22 at 9 a.m. at the practice field, located just behind Denison High School, which is at 1901 S. Mirick in Denison.

Learning that the wall was coming to Denison sent me on a quest for other war memorials in Grayson, Cooke, Fannin, Bryan and Collin Counties. I didn't find all of them, probably overlooked some that were right under my nose, but looking for them and thinking about the uncommon valor that each represented was a life affirming experience.

If you and your family go looking for the memorials described on page 14 and following, I hope you will come away from the experience with a renewed sense of the sacrifices that others have made to make it safe for you to travel freely, to speak freely, to read whatever you choose to read, to attempt any job you want to do. I hope you will think what it means to be free.



The Moving Wall - in Spencerport, NY.
photo courtesy of Vietnam Combat Veterans, Inc.



The moving wall - set up and ready for visitors.
photo courtesy of Vietnam Combat Veterans, Inc.





What's Cookin...

By Lana Rideout

Texoma Montage

Cooking During Wartime

War time is a difficult time for all involved: the soldiers on the battlefield and the family members back home.

The Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941 just as Americans were coming out of the Great Depression. People were used to doing without and making do with what they had. They were used to sharing with others.

The folks back home did all they could to get those American soldiers back home. They participated in scrap iron drives; they rationed gas and many food items such as sugar and eggs.

One creation of the time was a sweet treat known as the "Eggless, Milkless, Butterless Cake" also known as the Depression Cake.

Eggless, Milkless, Butterless Cake

- 2 Cups Brown Sugar
- 2 Cups HOT Water
- 2 Tablespoons. Shortening
- 1 Teaspoon Salt
- 1 Teaspoon Baking Soda
- 1 Package Seedless Raisins
- 1 Teaspoon Cinnamon
- 1 Teaspoon Cloves
- 3 Cups Flour (Sifted)
- 1 Teaspoon HOT Water

Boil together the Sugar, Water, Shortening, Salt, Raisins and Spices for five minutes. When Cold, add the Flour and the Soda (dissolved in a tsp of Hot Water). This makes two loaves--Bread Pan Size.

Bake in 325F oven for about 45 minutes. This Cake is of good texture and keeps moist for some time. Note: You can Ice this cake with your choice of Icing.

My friend Betty Weaver of Sherman was 10 when the U.S. entered WWII. She remembers her mom baking this cake usually at Thanksgiving and Christmas. She would store it in an old pressure cooker, wrapped in waxed paper and a heavy towel (trying to hide it from the children). Betty says the cake is a favorite at her family reunions and usually sells for upward of \$40. Her recipe calls for lard, but she uses canola oil which makes for a very moist cake.

In researching this recipe, I found several versions: Some use brown sugar and others white sugar. Spices include nutmeg, cinnamon, cloves, and/ or allspice. One recipe said that 1 cup of nuts adds flavor to the cake.

During WWII people on farms did better than some of the city folks since farms had chickens for a steady supply of eggs. Also vegetables grown in the gardens were plentiful. On the farms and in the towns lots of folks grew "victory gardens" – vegetables they could eat or can.

Although sugar was rationed, folks on the farm who did their own canning were allowed more sugar.

My Dad served in the Army and was overseas in England when I was born just two weeks before D-Day – June 6, 1944. My Mom was living with her parents in Fort Worth; all of them were praying for a speedy end to the war and the safe return of their loved ones.

Another recipe used during World War II is the Spam and Egg Sandwich - good any time of day--breakfast, lunch, dinner, or midnight snack!

WWII Spam and Egg Sandwich

- 1 Tablespoon butter
- 2 Tablespoons finely

- chopped onion
- 1 Slice fully cooked luncheon meat (e.g. Spam)
- 1 Egg, beaten
- 2 Slices bread
- 1 Slice American cheese (optional)
- 1 Slice tomato (optional)

Melt butter in a small skillet over medium-high heat. Saute the onion in butter until soft. Mash up the slice of luncheon meat with a fork, and add it to the skillet. Cook for 2 or 3 minutes, until browned. Pour the egg into the skillet so that it covers all of the meat and onion. Cook until firm, then flip to brown the other side.

Place the egg and meat onto one slice of the bread and top with cheese and tomato if desired. Place the other piece of bread on top. Bread can also be toasted first.)

I also did a little research on recipes from the American Civil War or the "War Between the States." From some of the websites I visited, it looks like some folks are still fighting that one. While no one advocates a return to slavery, the issue of states' rights versus the federal government is a hot issue in many southern political discussions.

My great-great-grandfather on my mother's side was a plantation overseer in Tennessee. He was off serving in the Confederate Army when his daughter was born near the end of the war. I remember my great-grandmother. She died when I was six and I still remember receiving hugs from her. Her daughter, my mother's mother told me many stories about the family members.

During the Civil War, soldiers on both sides carried an item called hard tack. It is a simple cracker made of flour, salt and water. They could be very hard and some soldiers called them "tooth dullers" or "sheet iron crackers." The soldiers softened them by soaking them in their coffee, frying them in bacon grease, or crumbling them in soup.

Hard Tack

- 1 Cup Flour
- 1 Teaspoon Salt
- Water

Mix the flour and salt with just enough water to bind the ingredients. Flatten the dough to about ¼ inch thick on a cookie sheet. Cut into 3 inch by 3 inch squares. Pierce with 16 holes about ½ inch apart. Bake at 400 degrees F. 20-25 minutes.

Another popular recipe during the Civil War time is Southern Johnny Cake – a cornbread variation good with your favorite beans or stew.

Southern Johnny Cake

- 2 Cups Cornmeal
- 2/3 Cup Milk
- 2 Tablespoons Lard (Vegetable Oil)
- 2 teaspoons Baking Soda
- ½ teaspoon Salt

Mix into a stiff batter and form into 8 biscuit-sized "dodgers." Bake on a lightly greased cookie sheet at 350 degrees F 20-25 minutes or spoon batter into hot cooking oil in a frying pan over flame. Optional: spread with a little butter or molasses for a real southern treat.

As a part of this new magazine, I will be sharing recipes and stories with you. If you have recipes or ideas you would like to share, contact me at lanarideout@texomamontage.com or call 903/532-6012.



WW II Ration Book and Stamps were needed for many of the necessities.

Betty Weaver of Sherman found this one-piece metal tube cake pan in an antique store. It was made by E. Katzinger Co. of Chicago (date unknown) and printed on the bottom of the pan is the following: "Swan's Down Cake Flour Makes Better Cakes." On each side of the pan is a movable vent so the cake won't sweat and to aid with removal of the cake. Does anyone know the date it was made or have other information?



Texoma Remembers Its Heroes

Bryan, Collin, Cooke, Fannin, and Grayson Counties all have monuments honoring their veterans who gave their lives in support of our great nation. While we know that we have missed some, we have tried to give good examples from each county.

by Dorothy N. Fowler

“**T**his will be a lead pipe cinch,” I said to myself. “After all, this is the place where everywhere you look there is an MIA flag and there is more red, white and blue than any place you’ve ever been. You’ll be able to find dozens of war memorials in Grayson, Cooke, Fannin, and Bryan Counties.”

Thus armed, with more enthusiasm and optimism than information, it seemed to me to be good sense to start at home on the quest for photographs and information about memorials to men and women who have died serving the United States in any one of its last eight major wars. Named, those wars include the Civil War, the Spanish-American War, World War I, World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Iraq the First and Iraq the Second.

It seemed equally good sense to start the quest by visiting the VFW in Sherman to talk with people who had been combatants in one or more of those wars. Surely those folks would have a special interest in war memorials.

VFW Post 481-2772 Sherman, Texas

If anyone in the main room at Sherman’s VFW is watching or listening to the wall mounted television set, it isn’t obvious on this wintry Thursday night.

Nearly all the people present are men. One woman is a server behind the bar and at 7:30 or so, another woman comes in and joins a group at a large round table. It isn’t clear whether she is a member of the auxiliary or a veteran, but whatever her status, it is clear from her reception that she is well-liked. The easy conversation at the table continues, punctuated by soft, well-controlled laughter.

The men at the table with me are Henry Salisbury, Doyle Sloan and Jessie Goodman. Later in the evening, Franklin “Andy” Anderson joins us.

Salisbury is the memorial chairperson for VFW Post 481-2772 and is a past commander of the post. He’s an army veteran of the Vietnam War. He arrived there in 1968 just in time for the TET offensive. He was there through 1969.

Sloan, nicknamed “Mr. VFW” by his comrades, fought in World War II, Korea and Viet Nam. Salisbury says Sloan has held nearly every office possible in the local VFW.

Anderson, a Vietnam veteran, and chaplain of the post, is personable as he pours his Sprite. He provides snippets of information about how VFW members went about building the war memorial in Sherman’s Fairview Park.

It is clear that these men, along with the other people in the room, and the hundreds of thousands of men and women who have shared the experiences unique to war, are living memorials. But they are not interested in being living memorials. People die, they say. Families get separated. Kids either don’t remember or don’t care about the role their parents played in wars. The only way to be sure that future generations remember is to build memorials of granite and cement, to inscribe the names of the dead in stone.

“It’s a shame it took so long to get the memorial for World War Two,” Salisbury says. “I don’t think we can do enough to honor the people who serve their country, especially the ones who paid the ultimate price and didn’t come back.”

The other men nod agreement.

Doyle Sloan says the most recent memorial in Sherman is at Fairview Park. “H. K. Lyde was instrumental in getting it started. He was the Grayson County Council Commander and he wanted the VFW, the American Legion, the AmVets and the DAV to be involved in building it. About 10 years ago the veterans organizations raised about \$40,000 and combined it with lots of manual labor to build that softball field and the granite monuments.”

It’s the same with most war memorials, they say. It’s a dream that starts with one or maybe a few people and they work at raising the money for a memorial that has to be placed somewhere. Someone has to design it. Someone has to raise the money to pay for it. Someone has to navigate the myriads of red tape with local, state and sometimes the national government before the monument can be built. Someone has to plan the dedication ceremony, arrange for the speakers, the music if there is to be any.

These men have done all those things and helped others do them. Each year on special days, they visit the memorials, lay wreaths or light candles, leading the public as they remember their wars and the wars of fathers and grandfathers.

They do much more, working to improve the lives of veterans who are facing hard times, visiting veterans confin-ed to nursing homes, taking people to the nearest veterans hospitals for their check-ups, working with young people in the community.

“May I take some pictures?” I ask. There is a moment of hesitation.

“Most reporters want to take a picture of someone sitting at the bar, drinking,” Salisbury says. “But we’d like to have our picture taken with the national award the post won for its work on Poppy Day.”

“That’s just the picture we want,” I say.

“Thanks.”

“Wow! What nice people and what a treat to meet them,” I thought as I made my way through the parking lot to my maroon pickup. “They’ve given me two new ideas and the location of a war memorial that must be pretty close to brand new in Gainesville. If the weather holds, I can visit the memorials in Sherman, go to Gainesville and Bonham the next day and into Bryan County the next.

The weather did not hold. Rain and cold were the order of the day for the next two weeks. I had surgery on my right foot and the ensuing swelling kept me out of the pickup except for the brief ride to the doctor’s office for follow-up.

Undiscouraged, I went to the Internet, typing in war memorials Grayson County Texas, war memorials, Fannin County Texas, war memorials Bryan County Oklahoma, war memorials Cooke County Texas.

Texoma Montage

Doyle Sloan, Henry Salisbury, and Jessie Goodman stand in front of the VFW Post 481-2772 Poppy Project Award.

Photo by Dorothy Fowler



Texoma Remembers Its Heros, cont.

Texoma Montage

The notice that the search engine had found thousands of bits of information about war memorials in each of the counties was misleading, at best. The truth was that there was a plethora of information about the subject of war memorials and that there were a few privately produced reminiscences about coming home from WWII, but there was almost nothing about war memorials in general and nothing at all about war memorials in any of the counties included in the question.

Questions to local historians elicited interest in the project, but no new information. "I guess you already know about Ely Park," one Austin College professor said. "And there's that newer one at Fairview Park. Those are the only ones I know anything about."

"What about the statue on the courthouse lawn?" I asked.

"I thought you wanted to know about memorials for men and women who died in the service of the United States," he replied. "That's a monument to men who died in service to the Confederate States of America. If you want to broaden your search, you'll find many more monuments to the soldiers of the Confederacy than to the soldiers of the United States."

Ely Park World War II Memorial

At first glance on this almost balmy February Sunday afternoon, Sherman's Ely Park, bordered on the east by Rusk Avenue, on the north by Steadman, on the west by Austin and on the south by Moore, looks like the kind of family-friendly park one might find anywhere in the country.

There is a softball diamond on the northeast end, a big covered picnic pavilion on the south, typical playground equipment nearby and in between, a vast expanse of grass.

The abundance of crepe myrtle trees, planted at regular intervals around the perimeter of the park are a bit unusual, considering the sparse plantings in the rest of the park. Closer inspection indicates they are unique, for each of the 72 trees flanks a small white concrete marker that bears the name of one of the 72 men from Sherman who died during World War II.

Also on the markers is the birth year and the death year of the man commemorated by the marker. Most were in their late teens or 20s. A few were older. About one-third of the 72 died in 1944-45, which makes me wonder if they were part of the D-Day invasion or perhaps part of the Battle of the Bulge.

Beyond their names, which are also inscribed on a plaque placed on the west side of the park as part of an Eagle Scout project, there is no information at the park. However, people who are looking for more information might find it at the Sherman Public Library, which has a fine genealogy section and which also maintains excellent newspaper files.

On Memorial Day and Veterans Day and other national holidays, veterans groups and others place flags and flowers beside each marker.

The location of the park, bounded as it is by neat, well-kept houses that look as if they belong to blue collar workers, adds to the poignancy of the markers, for it's likely that most of the men whose names are on the stones lived in neighborhoods much like this one.

It takes about 15 minutes to walk the perimeter of the park if you stop to read the names and to think about how young were the people memorialized there.

Fairview Park War Memorial

In late winter, almost warm but not yet early spring, two of the three flags at the Liberty Memorial Garden in Sherman, Texas, crackles in the southwest wind.

The stars and stripes and the dark flag bearing the acronyms MIA and POW straight out from the poles from which they are suspended. The top of the third flag, the Texas flag, worked itself loose from the hooks that should have held it, leaving it drooping, hanging only by the lower grommets.

There is no way a passerby could repair the damage. The poles are state-of-the-art, with the mechanism that raises and lowers the flags locked behind plates in the substantial poles. People who frequent the park have no doubt that the flag will be back in its proper place before sunset.

Local veterans organizations are proud of the memorial they built with what one of them described as "an excess of sweat" after they raised \$40,000 to build the monument.

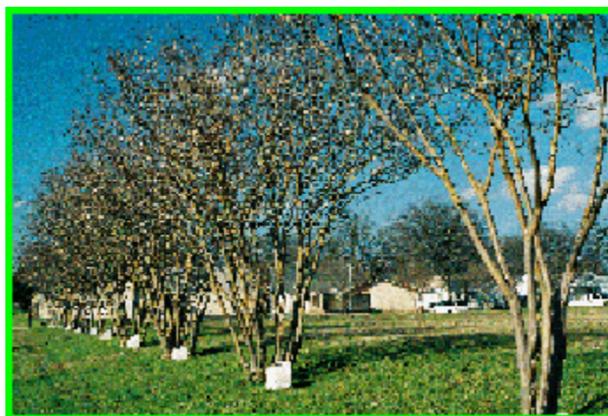
The monument is roughly in the center of a giant park complex bordered on the east by Ricketts Street and on the north by Taylor Street. It is in a place that is strangely quiet, even when families with their children are on the playground equipment across the park road and east of the monument. Soccer players, on the field immediately east and north of the monument do not make enough noise to be heard.

Two well-maintained park benches provide places for visitors to sit and examine the memorial, which consists of four gray marble stones on which the names of every man or woman in Grayson County who died in World War II, Korea, or the Vietnam War carved. There is also a list of MIA's.

Two hundred and forty men from Grayson County died in action during World War II, 26 in Korea and 26 in Vietnam. The names of the five MIA's are at the end of the list.



Ely Park



Ely Park



Fairview Veterans Stadium



Texoma Remembers Its Heros, cont.

Members of the local veterans' organizations are always on the alert for the names of men and women they might have overlooked when the memorial was first erected. Several names are obviously new, their black outlines much darker than the names that were part of the original monument.

The names of the dead are inscribed on four slabs of granite, each about five feet tall and set in concrete. The granite slabs face each other. On the north, a fifth granite slab bears the names of each branch of the United States armed forces. Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines and the Coast Guard are there, along with the names of local veterans organizations that helped build the memorial. They include the Order of the Purple Heart, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Disabled Veterans and the American Legion.

The monument is open every day of the year. Because it is near the park, it's a good place to bring a picnic on days when the weather is good.

Confederate Monument on Grayson County Courthouse Grounds

Thirty-one years after the United States Civil War ended 20,000 people gathered on the northeast corner of the block where the Grayson County Court house stands in Sherman to witness the dedication of the first Confederate monument erected in Texas.

An article in the Sherman newspaper, dated April 21, 1897, said "(the statue) represents not only the confederate dead who are sleeping in West Hill (the oldest cemetery in Sherman), but those who are sleeping from *Gettysburg to the Rio Grande, from Missouri to the Atlantic Seaboard.*"

The monument is 45 feet tall, including the six foot statue of a Confederate infantryman standing at parade rest and gazing toward the north east. Most of the monument is made of light gray granite mined from Stone Mountain, near Atlanta, Georgia. The blocks that bear the inscriptions came from quarries at Lexington, near Atlanta.

Ironically, the statue of the soldier, which is crafted of a material characterized as "white bronze," was created in Bridgeport, Connecticut.

In 1996, under the auspices of the Daughters of the Confederacy, the monument was rededicated.

The inscriptions on the sides of the base are typical of the prose of the Victorian age in general and Southerners in particular.

One of them reads, "*And the fame of that nameless nation on history's page shall shine as our heroes' grand oblation in our hearts has found a shrine.*"

Another reads, "*Sacred to the memory of our Confederate dead: true patriots. They fought for home and country. For the holy principles of self government—the only true liberty. Their sublime self-sacrifice and unsurpassed valor will teach future generations the lessons of high born patriotism, of devotion to duty, of exalted courage, of southern chivalry. History has enshrined them immortal.*"

Three Texas historical markers are clustered near the monument. One of them tells the story of Grayson County. Another tells of the exploits of the Ninth Texas Cavalry, which started with about 1,000 men and by war's end had only 110. The third tells the story of the 11th Texas Cavalry.

Because the soldier is perched so high on the shaft of the monument, it's not possible to see him in detail without binoculars, but you do get the feeling of just how important it still is to many people to have him there, overlooking the business at the intersection of Travis and Lamar 140 years after his war was lost.

For visitors who want to just sit for awhile, the citizens of Grayson County provided benches in honor of much-loved Grayson County Judge Horace Groff when he retired and re-entered life as a private citizen in 2002.

The Union Soldier at Fairview Cemetery in Denison, Texas

An eternal flame honoring veterans of all wars burns near Katy Depot in Denison, but the most impressive and surprising monument stands north of the city, in the northwest corner of Fairview Cemetery.

The existence of a monument honoring Union soldiers may be the best kept secret in Grayson County. A quick survey of 10 lifelong residents of Grayson County netted 10 people who not only didn't know it exists, but also doubted that it does.

The monument, which is 15 feet, six inches tall, includes a five foot square base. It appears to have been made of limestone. The statue of the Union Infantryman wears a cap, a coat, brogans and other items typical of soldiers of his era. He is carrying a rifle that may have been a Springfield rifle.

Dan Bray, who wrote a local history that included a chapter on the Union soldier, speculated that the statue itself was made of pre-cast concrete and had been cast in four separate castings.

He also noted that the gaze of the statue, which faces southeast, intersects at some point with the gaze of the Confederate soldier on the Grayson County Courthouse lawn.

The inscription on the south side of the base reads:

*G. A. R.
1906
Erected by
Nathaniel Lyon
Post No 5
Department of Texas
In Memory of
the Loyal Soldiers
and Sailors*

Texoma Montage



Texoma Remembers Its Heros, cont.

Texoma Montage

Six Union soldiers are buried just to the west of the statue. Each headstone bears the name of the soldier buried there and the federal shield. Information provided by the cemetery says that several Union soldiers are buried throughout the cemetery, each identified by a federal shield on the headstone.

After visiting and photographing war memorials in Sherman and Denison, I turned east, toward Cooke County and the monument to veterans of 20th Century wars. On the way, I stopped in Whitesboro, a small town about half way between Sherman and Gainesville on Highway 82.

In Whitesboro, at the intersection of Highway 56 and Main Street, students from Whitesboro High School maintain an informal and surprisingly touching memorial. It is nothing more than an open space on the northwest corner, but the corner is filled with American flags and tied to a post nearby are tattered yellow bows and ribbons.

“There used to be a lot more ribbons and bows,” a man who works in a nearby building says. “But they got pretty torn up and I think the kids took some of them down and haven’t put up replacements yet.”

Dozens of such monuments may exist in small towns across the nation and where you find them, it’s a good thing to stop and think about what they mean.

The War Memorial at Frank Buck Park, Gainesville, Texas

A big renovation project makes it difficult to get access to the war memorial in Gainesville.

The renovation is to the small zoo and the park that holds it and has nothing to do directly with the war memorial, but signs denying access to park roads and parking can confuse the faint of heart. But faint heart ne’er won anything much, so I went into the park on a road clearly marked “Construction Workers Only,” and found at the end of the lane, not only construction workers, but also a good many park visitors.

Where I needed to be, however, was at the entrance to the park, so I turned the pickup around, threaded my way through the traffic and parked on the shoulder of the highway so I could walk up the steps to the newest of the war memorials that I visited.

The Stars and Stripes hold center stage at the monument. To the left of the pole, a large marble slab holds the names of those killed in the service of the United States in World War I, World War II, Korea and Vietnam.

Like the similar monument in Sherman, there are recent additions to the original list, which was dedicated in 1996.

War Memorials in Fannin County, Texas

If there were other memorials in Cooke County, no one could tell me where they were, although everyone seemed familiar with the one at Frank Buck Park, so I turned east, to drive back through Grayson County and into Fannin County to the county seat, Bonham.

A police officer in Bonham told me the only war memorials he knew about in Bonham were on the courthouse square. “I guess there might be some out at the VA hospital, but I don’t remember seeing any,” he said.

Bonham’s courthouse square is typical of every courthouse square in North Texas, surrounded as it on four sides by businesses of almost every stripe, but it does have something that most squares don’t have: a statue of the man for whom the county was named.

The metal representation of James Butler Bonham wears boots with spurs, carries a hat and a powder horn and over his left shoulder, there’s a strap that supports a pouch. If the statue looks like Bonham, Bonham was a handsome fellow.

There are two inscriptions on the base of the statue. One of them provides a brief biography of Bonham. The other reads: “*At the call of his boyhood friend William Barrett Travis, He came to Texas in 1835 and engaged in the war for independence as aide and messenger for Travis. He was faithful unto death at the Alamo March the sixth 1836.*”

Bonham’s statue is the only one I found that made mention of Texas’ war for independence from Mexico.

The other memorial, a statue of a Confederate soldier, is on the northwest corner of the courthouse. The soldier is not nearly so high as the one in Sherman, but it is still too high to permit viewers to make out details clearly without binoculars.

Inscriptions on each face of the base, however, are for the most part, quite clear.

The inscription on the east face reads: *Battles fought, 2242. Total enlistment Confederate Army 600,000. Total enlistment United States Army 2,278,304. Federal Prisoners captured by Confederates 270,000. Confederate prisoners captures by federals 270,000. Co. E 11th/TX CAV and Co. F 11th TX CAV.*

On the south face, between crossed sabers are the words from 1861 to 1865. Below are the following words: “*They fought for principle, their homes, and those they loved. On fame’s eternal camping ground, Their silent tents are spread, and Glory guards, with solemn round, The bivouac of the dead.*”

On the west face, below the bold, black letters Confederate, are these words:

“*To the Confederate soldiers who sacrificed their lives for a just cause This monument is lovingly dedicated by the daughters of the Confederacy aided by the Confederate Veterans Association of Fannin County.*”

On the north face are the words: “*The great war/un-rivaled in history for bravery, gallantry, daring and dash. E Anderson, AD 190 (perhaps 5)*”

From the court- house square, I went to the VA hospital, but found no statues dedicated to the servicemen and servicewomen who seek treatment for their wounds and their illnesses there.

While I was looking for memorials in Bonham, my colleague Dale Rideout was in another part of Fannin County, in Leonard, where he found two memorials. Both of them are dedicated to all veterans of all wars.

One of the memorials is located near the center of town. On both front and back of a granite slab, the citizens of Leonard, who maintain both memorials, have had engraved the names of all service personnel from the town who have died in the service of their country.

Rideout says the memorials includes the names of veterans from the Civil War through Vietnam.

The other memorial is at the cemetery.



Texoma Remembers Its Heros, cont.

On the same day he visited the cemeteries in Leonard, Dale also visited cemeteries in Collin County. He found a variety of memorials, including the gravesite of John Abston (1761-1856), a soldier in the American Revolution.

Abston is buried in the Old Belew cemetery, near the city of Lavon.

Rideout also visited the cemetery at Farmersville, where he found Freedom Plaza, a memorial that includes a granite slab on which are engraved the names of "*Farmersville heroes (who died to keep the torch of freedom burning.*" The names of veterans of World Wars I and II, Korea and Vietnam are listed on the slab.

At the bottom are words attributed to Audie Murphy, "*The real heroes of the war are those who never came home.*"

The memorial was dedicated in 1998 by the community of Farmersville.

Pecan Grove Cemetery McKinney, Texas

In the Pecan Grove Cemetery, Dale found a granite marker engraved with the Stars and Bars of the Confederacy and the names of all Civil War veterans buried in the Pecan Grove Cemetery. A historical marker in the Pecan Grove Memorial Park "*commemorates the courageous and compassionate pioneer men and women of this vicinity.*"

It mentions in particular Dr. James Webb Throckmorton, who was a Texas legislator during the 18950's, a brigadier general in the Confederate Army, Governor of Texas from 1866-1867 and a member of Congress intermittently between 1875 and 1888.

In the same cemetery there is a medallion, dedicated in 1970, dedicated "*To those who served for freedom's just cause.*"

In McKinney, Dale found a granite marker "*Dedicated in honor the men and women who served in the Armed Forces of our country.*"

The Sons of Confederate Veterans, William H. L. Well Camp #1588, dedicated a marker to Confederate soldiers in Plano in 2000.

Fort Washita

There are probably other memorials in North Texas that we overlooked, but it wasn't because Dale and I didn't try to find them all. As soon as I was through with the Texas side of Texoma, I went looking in Oklahoma.

Lifelong residents of Durant told me they didn't know of any monuments, but directed me to Ft. Washita, about 18 miles west and north of Durant.

"It isn't really a war memorial, I guess," one man said. "There aren't any statues or anything out there. But in another way it's better than statues or plaques because you can almost hear the way it was when it was a fort."

Restoring the fort, which is on Oklahoma State Highway 199, is a work in progress. The fort office, made from a building that once was officers' quarters, is complete and so is a barracks building across the road and to the south. Several smaller buildings are also in good repair.

One of the major barracks buildings is in ruins, however. It is covered by vines with branches thick enough to be tree branches.

Two burial grounds are on the fort grounds. The post burial ground is at the north end of the road into the fort. It is an active cemetery. On the day I was there, flowers from a recent funeral were still fresh on the mound of red earth that covered the grave. A visitor told me she had "put my husband here two years ago."

The other burial ground is inactive, but it is well kept. The Stars and Bars flies from a low flag pole there and there is a marker telling visitors that 200 unknown Confederate soldiers are buried there.

Ft. Washita, which was established in 1842 to keep peace among the Indians and white settlers, was abandoned by the federals in 1861 and was used by Confederate troops until the Civil War ended in 1865.

It has a resident ghost, Aunt Jane, who is listed among the prominent ghosts of the frontier.

Each of these places is worth a visit. A little planning would make it possible to visit several memorials in the same day and get home before dark. It would be a good thing, if you're interested in history or you want to teach your kids to be proud of their heritage, to set aside a day every now and then to visit one or more of them.

Texoma Montage





Jerry Bryan Lincecum (born 1942) is a speaker and retired Emeritus Professor of English at Austin College in Sherman, Texas. He is a folklorist and specialist in Texas and Southwestern literature

Lincecum holds a bachelor's degree from Texas A&M University. He earned a master's degree and PhD from Duke University.[1]

Lincecum became a member of the faculty at Austin College in 1967, and retired in 2006 as professor emeritus of English.[2] He is the director and founder of the Telling Our Stories Project in Autobiography, which has attracted international attention to Austin College. This is a program that encourages senior citizens to write their autobiographies.

Lincecum is owner of Big Barn Press which publishes autobiography and local history books by local authors. Their most recent publication in the "Telling Our Stories" series is Volume 10, entitled "20 Years of Telling Our Stories." It includes 48 stories by local writers who have participated in TOS, which began in 1990. Check out their webpage: <http://www.austincollege.edu/Info.asp?4124>

Specialties are:

- *collecting life stories from geriatric patients with early dementia
- *editing stories and books for publication
- *training Home Hospice volunteers to collect life stories and edit them for publication in booklet form
- *leading workshops for writers of autobiography and family history
- *Chautauqua programs on Dr. Gideon Lincecum (1793-1874), pioneer Texas scientist and physicist

He has served as President of the Texas Folklore Society,

Lincecum has been awarded the Silver Certificate of Merit by the Daughters of the Republic of Texas and the Miss Ima Hogg Historical Achievement Award for Outstanding Research on Texas History. His book on the pioneer naturalist Gideon Lincecum, *Science on the Texas Frontier: Observations of Dr. Gideon Lincecum* has been reviewed by several academic journals both in history and in the sciences, as have some of his other books.

Telling Our Stories

DINNER FOR THE MINISTER

by Ruby Frizzell Draisey of Bonham

It was one of those awful years during World War II. We were all subservient to "The War Effort", and we were convinced that it would be unethical to complain, under the circumstances.

Since Betty and I had married cousins, both of whom were serving their country in the armed forces, we determined to live together "For the Duration."

Betty was a devout person, I attended the community church with her. The minister, living alone, was an admirable gentleman whom we considered to be in the category of the elderly. Betty, devoted to the church, had a wild idea. She suggested to me that we invite the minister to a Saturday, early-evening dinner. We did. Because of the "War Effort", we all worked six days a week. By the greatest happenstance, she and I expected to be free at noon on that certain Saturday.

We checked our ration books and found meat was a possibility. A trip to the neighborhood grocery market was reasonably productive. The meat looked good, and we were able to get enough for three servings. Sugar was in very short supply, but we were able to get one pound. We would be able to make a little custard or pudding. At the right time, the gentleman arrived. We were not at all embarrassed about the fact that our tiny apartment was so unpretentious. Anyone who was able to acquire more than one room during that period was happy.

After our greetings, we sat at our little table and prepared to enjoy a delightful meal. The minister politely asked us about our husbands and we told him what we knew, although the actual location of any of the military men was a secret.

I was having difficulty cutting my meat. I glanced at Betty and found her having no less trouble. At last, I hacked off a bit, but masticating it was another problem. I looked at the minister's plate.

He was pretending. The conversation continued.

The War Effort always offered subjects for discussion. I repeated the story my husband had told. In England, where there was no ice, the bartender would sally forth with the jolly admonition, "Drink 'er up, Boys, afore she gets cold!" We laughed. We tried the meat again. We were having no luck.

Betty told of an experience concerning her brother and sister-in-law. The couple wished to drive to another town 120 miles distant so the young lady could visit her ailing mother. Their tires were bald, and buying gasoline was a near impossibility, but the young man thought he could manage. Betty ended the tale by revealing that the couple had experienced six flat tires before arriving back home. She laughed. Our hesitation was hardly noticeable as we joined her.

"Well, maybe the war will be over soon," the minister offered. We were all worrying with the meat. Betty wondered aloud about it and I made a remark.

"You know what I think?" the minister said. "I think this is horse meat!"

"Horse meat!" Betty and I gasped in consternation.

"Yes. It's on the market, now, you know. It's not labeled, and it's difficult to distinguish it from steak."

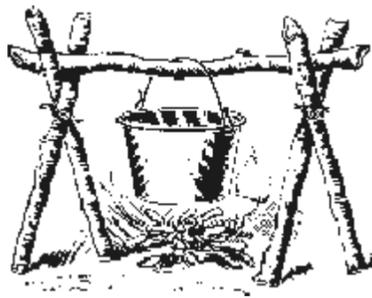
Sure enough, we had fed the minister a dinner of horse meat.



Ruby Frizzell Draisey



Cookin' Out



Dutch Ovens and Dump Cake

by Dale Rideout

I have enjoyed cooking since I was a very young boy. It is a real treat to hear others comment about my cooking, when it is a success. If it turns out to not be the success I hoped for, then I can take the heat.

Cooking outside is especially rewarding. You can cook over an open fire, over a grill, use the fancy propane cookers of various types, or just put a hot dog on a stick and roast it. My favorite is using cast iron Dutch ovens for cooking. You can prepare just about anything in the Dutch ovens, and with a collection of several sizes you can accomplish some great feats of culinary delight.

Do not start out with a brand new utensil. A new Dutch oven needs to be properly seasoned or it just won't do the job intended. A new oven is covered with a waxy type of material to protect it from rusting. This must be thoroughly washed off with soap and water. Rinse it well, and quickly dry it. Your oven will rust very quickly if you do not use care.

Now you must coat your Dutch oven with salad oil, Crisco, or lard using a cotton cloth. Make sure the entire oven, inside and out, including the lid are coated with your shortening. Now put it in your home oven, with the temperature set for 350 degrees. Be careful on you timing for this because there will probably be a slightly unpleasant odor, along with some smoke. You wouldn't want to do this when planning a formal party for friends. "Cook" that oven for one hour. Turn the oven off, and when your Dutch oven has cooled, but still warm, wipe it again to make sure the oil film covers all all surfaces. Your oven will now be a golden color, and is ready to use.

Do not wash you Dutch oven with strong soapy water, or you will need to re-season it. Clean it with a very mild soap, or plain water.

The more you use your oven the better. It will develop a dark color with use, even turning black. It will have a surface that is almost stick proof. Store you Dutch oven in a warm, dry place. Put a sheet of paper towel or newspaper in the oven to absorb any moisture that may get in, and keep the lid slightly ajar.

Cooking with your Dutch oven is easy. Temperatures are controlled by counting the charcoal briquettes used. You will need to experiment some, but a general rule of thumb is to multiply the diameter of your oven by 2 to get the number of briquettes to use for a 350 degree oven temperature. When you do your cooking use more coals on top and fewer on the bottom. This chart will help get started.

8 inch oven - 10 briquettes on top – 6 briquettes on bottom.
10 inch oven - 12 briquettes on top – 8 briquettes on bottom.
12 inch oven - 14 briquettes on top – 10 briquettes on bottom.
14 inch oven - 16 briquettes on top – 12 briquettes on bottom.
16 inch oven - 18 briquettes on top – 14 briquettes on bottom.

Two additional briquettes, one on top and one on the bottom will increase the temperature by about 25 degrees.

Dump Cake

A favorite dessert of mine is quite simple. In the Boy Scouts we call it Dump Cake, because all you need do is dump the ingredients into your Dutch oven. You will need:

¼ pound butter or margarine

1 can pie filling (any flavor you like, apple, cherry, etc.)

1 box cake mix (again any flavor, yellow or white works great.)

Do not mix. Just Dump the ingredients into your Dutch oven and cook 30 minutes to 45 minutes. You can add cinnamon, nuts, brown sugar, pats of butter, etc to the top for extra special effects. This is easily doubled or more just by adding more of each ingredient.

Texoma Montage

Southern Algebra

We are sick and tired of hearing about how dumb people are in the South. We challenge any so-called smart Yankee to take this exam administered by the University of Mississippi Engineering Department. (Well, maybe/maybe not. Who knows?)

1. Calculate the smallest limb diameter on a persimmon tree that will support a 10-pound possum.
2. Which of these cars will rust out the quickest when placed on blocks in your front yard? A '65 Ford Fairlane, a '69 Chevrolet Chevelle or a '64 Pontiac GTO
3. If your uncle builds a still which operates at a capacity of 20 gallons of shine produced per hour, how many car radiators are required to condense the product?
4. A woodcutter has a chainsaw which operates at 2700 RPM. The density of the pine trees in the plot to be harvested is 470 per acre. The plot is 2.3 acres in size. The average tree diameter is 14 inches. How many Budweisers will be drunk before the trees are cut down?
5. If every old refrigerator in the state vented a charge of R-12 simultaneously, what would be the percentage decrease in the ozone layer?
6. A front porch is constructed of 2x8 pine on 24-inch centers with a field rock foundation. The span is 8 feet and the porch length is 16 feet. The porch floor is 1-inch rough sawn pine. When the porch collapses, how many hound dogs will be killed?
7. A man owns a house and 3.7 acres of land in a hollow with an average slope of 15%. The man has five children. Can each of his grown children place a mobile home on the man's land and still have enough property for their electric appliances to sit out front?
8. A 2-ton truck is overloaded and proceeding 900 yards down a steep slope on a secondary road at 45 MPH. The brakes fail. Given average traffic conditions on secondary roads, what is the probability that it will strike a vehicle with a muffler?
9. A coalmine operates a NFPA Class 1, Division 2 Hazardous Area. The mine employs 120 miners per shift. An explosive gas warning is issued at the beginning of the 3rd shift. How many cartons of unfiltered Camels will be smoked during the shift?
10. At a reduction in the gene pool variability rate of 7.5% per generation, how long will it take a town which has been bypassed by the Interstate to produce a country-western singer?



Texoma Montage

Turkey Vultures

Turkey Vultures are plentiful here in North Texas. They make their roost in groups as the evening approaches. This tree has been serving for several years as the night resting place for this group. In the morning these birds will spread their wings to dry in the sun before departing on their day's activity of cleaning up the environment of dead and dying critters. You will often see them individually or in groups of two or three on the roadside cleaning up the roadkill that gets left behind when other animals are not quick enough to make it across the road.



One Vote

This is an election year. Just how important is ONE VOTE? YOUR VOTE? The following facts may astound you, however, they are true.

In 1645, One Vote gave Oliver Cromwell control of England.

In 1649, One Vote caused Charles 1 of England to be executed.

In 1776, One Vote gave America the English language instead of the German language.

In 1839, One Vote elected Marcus Morton governor of the State of Massachusetts.

In 1845, One Vote brought Texas into the Union.

In 1868, One Vote saved President Andrew Jackson from impeachment.

In 1875, One Vote changed France from a Monarchy to a Republic.

In 1876, One Vote gave Rutherford B Hayes the Presidency of the United States.

In 1923, One Vote gave Adolph Hitler leadership of the Nazi Party.

In 1941, One Vote saved Selective Service twelve weeks before Pearl Harbor.

In 1960, Richard Nixon lost the Presidential election and John F. Kennedy won it by less than One Vote per precinct in the United States.

Dining Out with my Grandson

By Dale Rideout

Of course every grandchild is special. Also each one is unique. Old grandpa loves them all equally but they all have their differences, too. Our experiences with each one make those differences special, as well.

Our first grandchild was a boy. His name is Phillip Jordan Roe. He was born in 1990 and took the place of just about everything of any importance in Papa's life. Jordan's Mom and Dad both worked, so we (Nanny and I) often would get to baby-sit with him. As he grew older he would go everywhere with Papa, and we both enjoyed it.

When Jordan was about two years old, his family moved to San Antonio for four years, then back to Howe. During that four-year time period, Papa did not have the opportunities to take Jordan on the outings we used to take. When he moved back to Howe, he was in school, he had a sister, and there were five other grandchildren who joined the family. All of this slowed down the Jordan and Papa routine of going everywhere together.

This brings us to the story I want to tell you, about eating out. You need the background to help understand the rest. When Jordan was about seven years old I invited him to go with me delivering newspapers. My wife and I own a weekly newspaper and every Wed-nesday it is my job to deliver them to the various stores where they are sold and to various post office locations in about three counties. Jordan liked the idea, so he took off with me for a full day in the car together.

We were getting hungry as it neared dinnertime. I began to ask what he would like to eat, and he said it didn't matter. Well, I knew that he was a little picky about what he eats and didn't want him to get hungry because he couldn't find something he liked.

Our discussion of available menus was somewhat limited because we were approaching Tioga and there were limited choices. I asked Jordan if he liked catfish and he answered with a big "Yes." I told him about the Tioga Catfish Restaurant and asked if he would like to eat there, and again received a "Yes."

Our waitress for the day was Kim Hilliard. She and her husband, James, were the owners of Tioga Catfish Restaurant, and they did an excellent job. The food was always superb, served fresh and tasty. The portions were generous and satisfying. The service was great, anticipating your every need.

I am sure Jordan felt like the "Big Man," eating out with Papa and getting to choose for himself what to order. In fact he placed his own order for the meal. I ordered the fish basket, which included a large serving of fish, lots of french fries, a bowl of red beans, and hush puppies. I chose iced tea for my drink.

Jordan's turn to order came. I tried to explain to him that there was a smaller fish dinner, more to the size of a seven year old, but I let him order what he wanted. Much to my surprise he ordered the same fish basket and iced tea that I had ordered. The little fellow was trying to be just like Papa. I felt flattered, but at the same time remembered again that we should be careful of our actions because there are little eyes watching us all the time. Often they imitate what they see us do.

We sat there enjoying our table conversation. You need to know that Jordan has a certain look when something is going on. It is a grin that differs from his usual grin but is quite unmistakable. He sat there with that grin as our food was served. We began to eat.

I certainly enjoyed my entire meal, as usual when dining at Tioga Catfish Restaurant. Jordan began sampling his fish and did a good job making it disappear. He only nibbled at the hush puppies. The french fries he really enjoyed, though like a seven year old he began to get silly and dipped some of them into his iced tea before eating them. I prefer catsup on mine.

During this whole time, Jordan had that grin on his face. I knew something was up, but just couldn't figure it out. At first I thought he was just really pleased to be eating out with Papa. Finally I ask him why the big smile.

He said, "I fooled you, Papa!"

"What do you mean?" I asked.

Jordan replied, "I've never had catfish before!"

To this day, catfish is still one of Jordan's favorites when he eats out.

Well, that was seven years ago. Jordan is now 14, nearing 15. The Hilliards have bought Clark's Outpost, a fantastic bar-b-cue restaurant in Tioga. For several years they operated both restaurants, but staffing difficulties and increasing competition forced them to close the catfish restaurant.

During our past Christmas holidays I invited Jordan to join me again for a day of newspaper deliver as we had done so many years ago. He readily agreed. The day we set off was icy and snowy. We had storms the day before, and while the weather was much nicer the roads were still a lot of "fun" to negotiate. We stopped a couple of times to help others get out of the ditch. We carefully made the trip, and Jordan served as chief cameraman taking quite a few pictures as a record of our trip.

Lunchtime arrived and we were nearing Tioga. I asked if Jordan likes bar-b-que and he answered, "Yes." Déjà vu all over again.

We entered Clark's and were showed to our seats by a very helpful waitress. The walls are covered with old west memorabilia. One wall has a beautiful mural of a wild west scene. Furnishings are rustic and you feel sort of like you are in a bunkhouse eating your main meal of the day.

Looking over the menu, which has an extensive listing of gourmet foods, we began to make our choices. I took a full rack of ribs, with the deep-fried corn on the cob, cole slaw, and french fries.

This time, Jordan was a little more selective in ordering. After asking about some of the various items, he asked if they had just meat on a bun. I directed him to the brisket sandwich. He ordered a side of french fries to go with it. Again I took iced tea, but Jordan had a soda to drink. We were both more than pleased with our meal. I shared some of my ribs with Jordan so that next time he would know what they were and could try them without worrying if he would like them.

Clark's Outpost slow smokes all their meat. Everything is cooked over hickory from eight hours to 20 or more depending what is being cooked. The meat is tender, falling off the bone and flavorful from the natural smoke. Nothing artificial is added and no shortcuts are taken in making this authentic old time bar-b-que.

Let me know if you plan to make this little trip. Maybe Jordan and I can go along. We sure enjoy the travel and eating.



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Texoma Montage

Telling Our Stories

REMEMBERING ARMISTICE DAY, 1918

by Jack Frost McGraw

The Jefferson School was located on Chaffin Street in Sherman. Students gathered in the yard, and when they heard a bell, they all ran to see which teacher was standing in the doorway. On a bright November morning in 1918, Miss Knox called her second grade class. We lined up and marched single-file up the steps, down the hall, and into the cloakroom. There we hung up our coats and carried our bookbags into the classroom.

Our opening exercise was a recitation in unison of the Lord's Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Then we started our reading lesson. On this morning we were interrupted by Miss Evorie, who came in to announce that "the war was over" and we should go home to "celebrate."

I knew what "cele-brate" meant. At our house we celebrated holidays and birthdays all the time. It meant fried chicken and blackberry cobbler and all the aunts and cousins coming in to eat with us. It meant the dining room filled with grown-ups and the children waiting or being served at the kitchen table. It meant deviled eggs and pickles and, if it was a picnic, bread-and-butter sandwiches made from that delicious brown bread.

As I hurried home that morning, I disobeyed a standing rule: I cut through the park and walked by the Interstate Cotton Oil Mill.

Goodness! The whistles were stuck and they kept going off. They were awfully loud, and someone was shooting a gun! It, too, kept going: Bang! Bang! Bang! Then the streetcar came down Grand Avenue and the bell was ringing. The noise around there was really something!

But I hurried on thinking of our celebration. Then when I reached home, I stopped in my tracks. My grandmother was dressed in her Sunday clothes. She was even wearing her hat. How could she fry chicken and make pies dressed like that? What's more, she said, "Put your things away and come with me, we're going to town to celebrate the end of the war."

There was nothing to do but follow instructions. We rode the streetcar with the clanging bell and where we got off at Travis and Lamar streets downtown, we could barely get through the crowds. The big red fire truck pulled by giant horses was coming down the street and Dad Hill was trying to hold the crowd back so they would not be trampled. We work-ed our way down to the bank, where Mother was waiting for us.

She said, "We are really going to celebrate" but she took my hand and led me into a big restaurant. The man at the door took us to a table already set with napkins and silver and glasses of water.

I wondered how he knew we were coming and if he could fry chicken. He sure didn't look like he could bake pies. He wore a black suit and a white shirt and his tie was black too. He seemed like maybe he would preach or lead us in prayer. He seemed friendly, though, when he pushed my chair up to the table. Then he left and another man came with big cards. I thought surely this one was going to have a reading class; but Mother talked to him using words I didn't know, like "oyster" and "a-la-mode." I was anxious to get through with this visit so we could go celebrate with maybe a cake and candles to blow out. Pretty soon that last man returned and set some plates of food in front of us. It wasn't chicken or black-eyed peas but Mother said I should taste it and see if I liked it.

It was oysters! That was the most delicious food I'd ever eaten. I ate all of mine and was about to ask for more when Mother said, "Wait a minute! You have a surprise coming." It was pie—cherry pie, my favorite that we rarely had at Grand-mother's house—and on top of it was a big serving of ice cream.

Well, this was a celebration after all. I knew "celebrate" meant a big fancy meal. I just had never eaten fried oysters or pie-a-la-mode before. We really did celebrate Armistice Day, November 11, 1918.

Jack Frost McGraw

Jack Frost (on right) waiting with a friend and her grandmother to ride the trolley to downtown Sherman for the first Armistice Day celebration, Nov. 11, 1918



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*This was the backpage for our first issue.
Hope you enjoyed our magazine.*