

Texoma Enterprise

Howe, Texas
75459

July 12, 2012



Moving the Prairie Dog Town



**Last
Performance**

Sunday

2:00



Congratulations to **Thomas Charlie Mathis** of Sherman and **Megan Leah McLain**



Humor



Church



GC scholar receives statewide recognition

Grayson College graduate Shelly Alejandro is one of 126 scholars from Texas community colleges named to the 2012 All-Texas Academic Team. Recognized during an awards ceremony in Austin recently, she received a medallion and became eligible for a full scholarship to attend the University of Texas at Arlington (UTA) or its partnering colleges.

Honorees were nominated by their respective colleges and selected by Phi Theta Kappa (PTK), the international honor society for students of two-year colleges. Nominees were evaluated on several criteria, including academic achievement, community service, leadership and expression.

“It was an honor to receive the award and I am grateful to Grayson College, all my professors and Mary Linder, my PTK adviser,” Alejandro said. “Everybody I came into contact with at GC wanted me to succeed in my education.”

A Whitewright resident, Alejandro graduated GC on May 12 with an associate degree in business administration. She plans to transfer to Texas A&M University-Commerce for the fall semester. Married to Rene Alejandro, they have one son, Cory. She also is the daughter of Floyd and Shirley Black.

Established in 1991, the All-Texas Academic Team is sponsored by the Texas Association of Community Colleges, the University of Texas System, Austin College, Baylor University, Midwestern State University, the University of the Incarnate Word and the University of North Texas.

GC Policy Academy graduates pass state licensing exam

For the second year in a row and the fourth time in five years, graduates of Grayson College’s Texoma Regional Police Academy achieved a 100 percent pass rate on the state licensing exam. While students are given three attempts to pass, all 16 graduates of the June 8 graduation class passed on their first attempt.

“An exemplary pass rate on the state licensing test is a major achievement for all academies in Texas, and it is the first statistic mentioned among state auditors and academy coordinators,” said J.B. (Brad) Blankenship, director of GC’s academy. “Our last five classes have tested 25 for 25, 18 for 18, 20 for 21, 7 for 7, and 16 for 16 on their first attempt.”

The exam covers 29 chapters of the state’s curriculum, which requires a minimum of 618 hours. GC’s academy is 864 hours long and covers the things new officers need to know for the first few years of their employment. By completing the training and passing the state exam, TRPA graduates have earned two of the three criteria for becoming Texas peace officers. Once they are hired by a policy agency - as municipal police officers, constables, sheriff’s deputies, etc. - they will be licensed peace officers.

“GC’s academy trains of pool of applicants for Texas law enforcement agencies,” Blankenship said. “We provide the men and women who respond when you call 911.” TRPA is a certificate program specifically designed for those who want to be Texas peace officers. It is a regional academy that serves Grayson, Cooke and Fannin counties. As such, 95 percent of the peace officers in these counties were trained at the GC academy. Several of the college’s recent graduates have law enforcement jobs now (some in Denison, Sherman and Gainesville), and the rest are in hiring processes.

Academy students receive 25 semester hours and graduate the GC program after completing training through lectures, homework, written tests and hands-on exercises. Course work covers a variety of topics including the Texas Penal Code, mechanics of arrest, driving, shooting, decision-making, property and vehicle searches, using force and deadly force, etc.

“They are trained in all aspects of police work in the classroom,” said Dwayne Barber, chair of GC’s Career Services Division and professor of criminal justice. “They get practical experience in the field as well. In addition to shooting and driving, they have been on the receiving end of a Taser electroshock weapon and pepper spray. All of the classroom and hands-on training is designed to prepare them for what they will face in the line of duty.”

According to Blankenship, many areas of the academy have seen improvement in physical resources, instructional methodology, and group culture. An advisory board of 12 local men and women (sheriffs, chiefs, attorneys and community leaders) meet to determine specific enrollment standards, testing procedures, and performance criteria; they also advise the academy director. Adjunct instructors hail from a variety of law enforcement agencies, the private sector, the District Attorney’s office, the Women’s Crisis Center, and other sources. They must be licensed state instructors or subject matter experts for the topic selected.

The GC program offers three classes per year. The two day academies finish after four and a half months. The night academy finishes after approximately 10 months. Applications are being accepted now for the spring course, which begins Jan. 13. The college’s Office of Financial Aid is available to assist eligible students in securing funding for their studies.

For more information about the GC Texoma Regional Police Academy, call 903-463-8711, email <<mailto:trpa@grayson.edu>> trpa@grayson.edu or visit <<http://www.grayson.edu/trpa>> www.grayson.edu/trpa.



“Possibly Preventing Hospitalization”

Mr. John Teel, Director of the Grayson County Health Department and Sandra Clark, RN will be the speakers on Tuesday July 17 for the monthly Partners in Education, PIE, meeting. They will speak about “Possibly Preventing Hospitalization” and opportunities available thanks to a grant the Health Department has been awarded. They will also talk about how the Health Department is here for all the citizens of Grayson County and some of the services available. The program will begin at 12:00 noon and will end by 1:00 pm. It will be held in the Eisenhower room on the first floor of the Texoma Council of Governments building at 1117 Gallagher Road in Sherman.

Complimentary pie and coffee will be served at the seminar and you are welcome to bring a “brown bag” lunch. P.I.E. programs are held the 3rd Tuesday of each month. The series is free and offered as a public service to anyone interested. For more information call either Joyce White from the Texas AgriLIFE Extension Service at [903-813-4203](tel:903-813-4203), Sherry Little from Home Hospice of Grayson County, [903-868-9315](tel:903-868-9315), Judy Conner from TCOG at [903-813-3506](tel:903-813-3506) or Cheryl Brandon of Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital - WNJ at [903-813-8747](tel:903-813-8747) if you have questions.

The Area Agency on Aging - Texoma Council of Governments, Home Hospice of Grayson County, Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital - WNJ, and the Texas AgriLIFE Extension Service are delighted to provide this series free to the public. This collaborative effort was designed to bring health and wellness educational programs to our community. If you require transportation, remember that TAPS is only a telephone call away, but you do have to call at least the day before the program.

“Youth Food Day Camp”

On Wednesday, July 18 the Grayson County 4-H is offering a “food day camp” for youth ages 5 through 10. The program will start at 8:30 am and will last until 12:30 pm. We will discuss kitchen safety and kitchen equipment, food safety and My Plate and healthy eating. We will also have some fun activities to reinforce the learning and of course prepare healthy snacks as well as a fun lunch treat. Any youth ages 5 – 10 are invited to participate. The cost for non 4-H members is \$10 and there is no charge for enrolled 4-H members. Joyce White, Texas AgriLife Extension Service Family and Consumer Science Agent and the 4-H FCS Coalition will be conducting the training. The program will be held in the 2nd floor Assembly room of the Grayson County Courthouse in downtown Sherman. Space is limited so sign up today by calling [903-813-4203](tel:903-813-4203). Please sign up no later than noon on Tuesday, July 17.

Educational programs of the Texas AgriLife Extension Service are open to all people without regard to race, color, sex, disability, religion, age or national origin. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating to make these programs available.





Sarah Plain and Tall

Last play of the season

**Last
Performance**

Sunday

2:00

Beat the summer heat the next two weeks by seating in the AC of the Honey McGee Playhouse watching Theatricks 2011-2012 ending show SARAH, PLAIN AND TALL July 6-15.

The play SARAH, PLAIN AND TALL is adapted from the Newberry award-winning book written by Patricia MacLachlan by acclaimed children's playwright Joseph Robinette. Set in the early 1900's, this play brings to life the charming, heartwarming story of Kansas farmer Jacob Witting, a widower with two children, Anna and Caleb, who places an ad in the newspapers seeking a wife. He receives a letter from Sarah Wheaton of Maine who says she will visit the family for a month to see how things work out. The joys and challenges of everyday life are richly depicted in this classic.

Starring in the title role as Sarah Wheaton is new-comer Carrie Golike, a stay-at-home mom who has two kids of her own. Jacob Witting is played by veteran SCP actor and Baylor University student, Taylor Nall. Playing Jacob's children Anna and Caleb are veteran children actors by the same first names; Anna Nall and Caleb Crocker. The Witting's Kansas Neighbors, Nordstorms, are played by new-comers Ken Kozak as Matthew, Kelly Hudgins as Maggie, and Elanor Goldsmith and Logan Shurtleff as Violet and Rose.

Sarah's brother and his wife, William and Meg Wheaton who live in the family homestead in Maine are played by Chris Goldsmith and Greta Nall. This will be Chris' second time in a Theatricks production, now for SARAH, PLAIN AND TALL and over ten years ago as a boy in THE SECRET GARDEN as Dickon. Greta is also in her second Theatricks production, the first being two years ago in JOSEPH AND THE

AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT. Telling the story of this play is an adult version of the younger Anna Witting, who introduces the audience to all of the major characters and events that change their lives forever. This part is portrayed by Theatricks new-comer Leanne Duigan who is thrilled to be making her Theatricks' debut. She was last in SCP's 2011 summer production of THE SOUND OF MUSIC.

Filling in all of the other colorful characters in this story are Mac Kenzie Kozak as Ephraim the paperboy, Howie the postman, and Eben the coachman; Blake Rice as Levi the train station master and Judson Moffet Anna's finacee; and Alan Duigan as Mr. Titus a farmer and Chester a salesman.

This cast of fourteen is complemented by a staff of several volunteers creating the other elements of this play production. Michelle Anderson Shurtleff is the costumer who is assisted by Kaytlyn Hensley, Anna Hudgins, and Leo Ransom. Assistant Director is Brittani Crocker, Lighting Operator is Dylan Osborne, Lighting Designer and Video Projections by Candice Cogburn, and Sound by Jesse Childress and Becca Gauthier Johnston. Box office staff is Kathy Butler, Darlene Schweizer, Judy Sloan, and Karen Tooley.

For more information about the production of SARAH, PLAIN AND TALL and purchasing tickets call 903-892-8818 or visit www.theatricks.org. Box office opens Monday, July 2 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. for Theatricks season members, and then on Tuesday, July 3 for the general public. Don't forget to pick-up a 2012-2013 season brochure at the same time!



Howe's That *Recipe*

by Lana Rideout

This last week, two TV icons passed away.

Andy Griffith was a mainstay on TV with his "Andy Griffith Show" and later "Matlock." Along with Andy's TV son Opie, we all learned much about how we should treat each other. The characters in Andy's shows were mostly lovable. We had a lot of laughs, and none of those laughs were against of others.

I enjoy TV shows about trials and Matlock's folksy manner sometimes was used to his advantage. Griffith died at 86.

The second icon, Ernest Borgnine, died last Sunday at age 95. Turner Classic Movies Channel will celebrate the Oscar winning actor, beginning at 3am Pacific Tim on July 26. Movies include "The Catered Affair," "The Legend of Lyla Clare," "The Dirty Dozen," "Marty," "From Here to Eternity," "The Wild Bunch," and "Bad Day at Black Rock."

From 1962 to 1966, Borgnine was the star of the TV comedy, "McHale's Navy." He played a lot of characters and he had a lot of fun.

Also speaking on movies, John Wayne's **Stagecoach** is one of his best. I have also seen two remakes of the story - one starred Alex Cord in Wayne's roll. The third starred Willie Nelson, Waylon Jennings, Johnny Cash, and Kris Kristofferson. It wasn't too bad, but I prefer John Wayne's version.

Honey Mustard Baked Chicken

2-1/2 pounds chicken pieces
Salt and black pepper, to taste
3 tablespoons butter
1/4 cup plus 1 tablespoon honey
1/4 cup plus 1 tablespoon Dijon mustard
1 tablespoon fresh lemon juice

Preheat oven to 350°F.

Season the chicken pieces liberally with salt and pepper, and set aside.

Melt the butter in a 9x13-inch glass or ceramic baking dish. Add the chicken pieces to the pan.

Combine the honey, mustard and lemon juice. Pour or brush evenly over chicken pieces.

Bake for 30 minutes. Turn chicken pieces, baste with pan juices, and bake an additional 30 minutes. Makes 4 servings.

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Pamela S. Egner, D.D.S.
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Texoma Enterprise

Howe, Texas
75459

Monthly City Council Meeting

Tuesday July 17, 2012

6:30 pm

TILLET GROCERY

102 S. Waco (Hwy. 5),
Van Alstyne, TX , 903-482-5494

Fresh Cut Meat (never frozen),
Complete line of groceries, Fishing
Equipment & Bait, Great Beer & Wine
selection.



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City of Tom Bean Summer Workshop

Edwards Community Room at 1st National Bank

July 14, 2012

Agenda

8:30-9:00-Light refreshments/coffee

9:00-9:05-Pledge of Allegiance and invocation (Jerry Harris)

9:05-9:30-Welcome by Mayor, introductions, DVD of Tom Bean, photo session

9:30-10:15-History of P&Z, Type A and Type B boards (Mayor)

10:15-10:30--Break

10:30-10:45-Update on budgets of Type A and Type B boards (David Harrison, Rick Magers)

10:45-11:00-Update on website for city and all boards (David Harrison, Rick Magers, Mayor)

11:00-12:00-Discussion/ideas of #1 thing needed for Tom Bean (board members)

12:00-12:30-Lunch break

12:30-?????-Continue discussion and final summary of ideas (all and wrap up by Mayor)

The 2005 City of Tom Bean Community Development plan (financed through provisions of a Texas Community Development Program grant from the U. S. Department of Housing and Community Affairs) was designed to look at the future in a realistic manner and provide guidance that may aid decision-making by the elected officials, citizens, and City staff. It also reflects the vision for the City that has been trends in local government, input from City staff, and the various long-range plans that currently exist within the City organization. Now is the time for us to get started since we have great boards in place!

The City Council, Type A, Type B and P&Z boards are moving forward in a cohesive manner in planning for projects that are beneficial for the City's growth and the well being of its residents and businesses.

A first annual workshop has been scheduled for Saturday, July 14th from 8:30 to 3:00 in the Edwards Community Room at the Tom Bean 1st National Bank. A light breakfast will be served from 8:00 to 8:30 to be followed by a full agenda which will include history of all the boards, budgets, new websites, DVD of Tom Bean and photo session. Lunch will be from 12:00 to 12:30 with the afternoon for discussion from all members of the workshop on what they consider projects that need to be worked on in the future.

The citizens of Tom Bean and the surrounding areas are welcome to attend the workshop and participate in the discussion part of the afternoon workshop.



Texoma Enterprise

Howe, Texas
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4th Annual Family Entertainment & Silent Auction

Benefiting Early Childhood Intervention-Texoma (ECI)

Featuring: Children's Acts
Gracie Brown of Jill Brown Studio, Musical Hands, Alex Massie
and Riley and Rachel Gentry of Fannin County, Denison Family
Karate, Cooke County 4-H Share the Fun, Rico the Clown, and
more

Saturday, July 28, 2012
2-4:30 pm
Sherman Municipal Ballroom
405 North Rusk Street, Sherman TX

Tickets: \$1 for children under 12 and \$2 for adults

For more information and tickets: 903-957-4810 or 903-957-4865

James King and the James King Band

James King and the James King Band will perform at the Chrystal Opry House on Saturday, July 21st, at 7:00 pm. Admission for adults is \$10 in advance or \$12 at the door. Children under 12 are admitted free. Youth 12-18 are half price. If you wish to purchase advance tickets, send the money to us and we will have your ticket (s) waiting for you at the door.

Bill Hayes, 1989 White Mound Road, Sherman, TX 75090

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

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

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



[Click Here for More Area Events](#)





Caprock Canyons State Park ranger James Ortiz prepares to release one of 29 Black-tailed prairie dogs inside the park as part of the prairie habitat restoration going on at the 15,000-acre park located in the Texas Panhandle.

New Residents Arrive at Caprock Canyons State Park

Prairie Dog Relocation is Latest Phase for Habitat Restoration at Panhandle Area Park

QUITAQUE, Texas – There’s a new town along the Texas Panhandle Plains. And much like the pioneer predecessors who arrived hundreds of years before, the residents of this new unincorporated settlement arrived with little fanfare, minimal provisions, and will build meager, basic living accommodations for their families. Likewise, they come seeking only a new frontier of freedom and embody a primal spirit of survival.

On June 28, 29 Black-tailed Prairie Dogs were reintroduced to Caprock Canyons State Park’s Honey Flat area as part of a prairie restoration project to return the park’s landscape and wildlife back to its appearance prior to European settlement.

“This is the latest phase in our attempts to restore this prairie ecosystem,” said Donald Beard, Caprock Canyons State Park superintendent. “Restoring the Texas State Bison Herd into the park will probably always be the flagship of our effort, but our plans also include bringing back other animals and native plants to make the land more complete. Adding a prairie dog town is one more part of that, and it will add another popular wildlife viewing opportunity for park visitors.”

These transplanted animals were donated by Lynda Watson, a private prairie dog advocate and relocation specialist from nearby Lubbock, who had held the animals in a three-week quarantine before being released into the park. In preparation for their arrival, park staff pre-drilled several holes to encourage the animals to begin making their dens. Bottomless cages filled with hay and food were placed over some of the holes to provide temporary shelter and protection from predators.

Black-tailed Prairie Dogs are an indigenous, keystone species to the Texas Panhandle, but once upon a time, they were hunted, even exterminated to reduce competition for cattle and other livestock. However, recent decades have brought to light information that has begun to change public perception -- that prairie dogs can actually play a useful role in the fragile prairie ecology. Grazing by prairie dogs decreases annual and non-native vegetation, such as mesquite trees, while at the same time increasing beneficial perennial grasses such as buffalo grass and blue grama.

Typically, prairie dogs settle in large family groups -- called towns -- with a labyrinth of interconnected burrows and holes, and also benefit numerous other native species such as Burrowing Owls, Black-footed Ferrets, Ferruginous Hawks and Swift Foxes. A few hundred years ago, these oversized ground squirrels roamed some 700 million acres across the Great Plains of North America with a population estimated to be more than 5 billion animals.

The transplanted prairie dogs at Caprock Canyons will be confined within the interior of the 15,000-acre nature preserve to prevent the animals from leaving the park borders. Environmental boundaries such as heavy brush, steep canyon cliffs and natural funnels along with constant monitoring and population management practices will assist park staff in containing the town within the 200-acre defined habitat enclosure.

“Another part of having prairie dogs on site here in the park is for education for the visiting public,” Beard added. “Although prairie dogs can compete with cattle and livestock, it has been found that in healthy pastures, there is sufficient forage available cattle and dogs, even under heavy grazing pressure.”

For more information, contact Caprock Canyons State Park at (806) 455-1492.

[Click here for more Area Events](#)



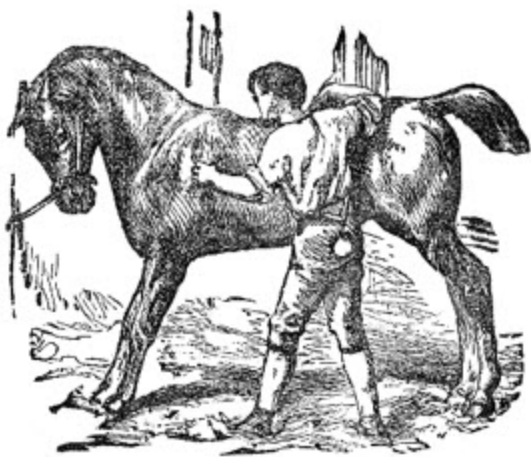


Thomas Charlie Mathis of Sherman and Megan Leah McLain of Pottsboro were married Saturday, July 7, at the Elks Lodge in Sherman. The honorable Michael McGraw of Howe (the groom's uncle) officiated. The couple will honeymoon at

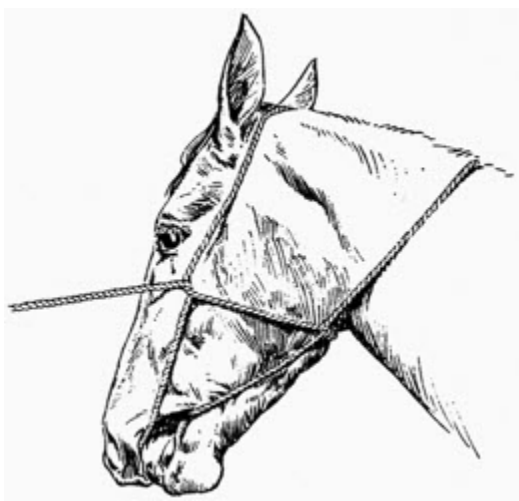
Bride & Groom (by Don Mathis)

A groom is a man being married.

Root word comes from the actions necessary to look after a horse.



Bride, didn't you know, originates from the bridle, a restraining device.



Thomas and Megan, both of them horse-lovers, are about to enter a stable relationship.



So it should be no surprise

this bride and groom chose equine figurines on their cake.

The marriage party will be like none other; call it a Wedding Re-Saddle.



It's a cinch they love each other a bit so wish them good luck horseshoes as they e-lope down the trail.



Local Churches

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

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

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

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

VALLEY
CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

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

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

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

Psalm 116:1-9 (ASV)

1 I love Jehovah, because he heareth My voice and my supplications.

2 Because he hath inclined his ear unto me, Therefore will I call upon him as long as I live.

3 The cords of death compassed me, And the pains of Sheol gat hold upon me: I found trouble and sorrow.

4 Then called I upon the name of Jehovah: O Jehovah, I beseech thee, deliver my soul.

5 Gracious is Jehovah, and righteous; Yea, our God is merciful.

Christian Fellowship

This Sunday join the A Christian Fellowship. Join them at 9 am for coffee and doughnut fellowship followed by classes for all ages at 9:30. Worship service is at 10:30.

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

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

C R Men's step study group has been put on hold till further notice. This class is for those recovering from drugs and alcohol and want a closer walk with God. For any info on this class contact Jesse @ 903-744-2716.

Wednesday night begins at 6:30 pm with a pot-luck dinner followed by praise and worship and a devotional.

The church also hosts a movie night each month, the movie night for July will be July 27th, movie to be announced later. Bring the family out for a free movie with drinks popcorn and candy and it's all free to the public.

VBS will be held on July 16-20 from 6:30-8:30 and the age group is age 4-6th grade.

The church is located on the West side of Hwy 11 in Luella. Look for the red brick building with the green metal roof on the hill. The cross will light the way for you. For more info contact Mike Ball at 903-870-0291 or Cathy Hossle at 903-814-5381



Tom Bean Church of Christ

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

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

This year's 2012 Texomaland Youth Series theme is "No Spiritual Myth Is Safe." The next meeting is July 17th at 7:30pm. The meeting will be held at the Pottsboro church of Christ. Ken Lawrence will bring the lesson titled, "It's A Fact."

"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>.



click for **more Church News**

Texoma Enterprise

Local Churches

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 Giibbs, 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

Arise!

American Nastia Liukin won 5 medals at the Olympics in Beijing, China, in 2008.

She announced her comeback a year ago to try to become the first Olympic champion to return to the games since Nadia Comaneci in 1980. She spent months getting herself into shape to compete in this year's U.S. Olympic Trials in order to make the team to compete at the 2012 Olympic Games in London.

But Liukin won't be traveling to London to compete in this year's games. She failed to make the team.

In her bars routine last Sunday, she flung herself into the air to perform a move she'd completed thousands of times in her life, but this time when she reached out to catch the bar, it wasn't there. She fell face-first onto the mat, and she knew her hopes of making a second Olympic team were officially gone.

But with the encouragement of her father and coach, Valeri, she picked herself up, caked herself at the powder bowl one more time, and completed her routine.

"Getting up after a fall is never easy," said the 22-year-old Liukin. "It's always very tough. It shows your true character if you are able to get up and that's something I've been taught since I was 8-years-old."

Liukin received a standing ovation as she exited the arena to make way for the next American Olympian hopefuls. *

We've ALL fallen. "For ALL have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23). Our sin disqualifies us from entering into heaven, and it dooms us to eternal destruction.

But God says to us, "Arise!"

Because of His great love for us, God sent His Son Jesus into the world to live among us and then to die on the cross for our sins so that we might have forgiveness and eternal life (John 3:16; Ephesians 1:7).

So even though each of us has fallen (sinned), God wants us to know that we can have forgiveness and life because of what JESUS has done for us. Even though we have been disqualified because of our sin, God qualifies us through Christ to enter into eternal life!

To accept His offer of salvation and life, we must Arise... place our faith and trust in Jesus (Acts 16:30-31), turn from sin in repentance (Acts 17:30-31), confess Jesus before men (Romans 10:9-10), and be baptized (immersed) into Christ for the forgiveness of our sins (Acts 2:38).

"And now why are you waiting? Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord." – Acts 22:16

Won't YOU?

David A. Sargent, Minister
davidsargent1@comcast.net
Church of Christ at Creekwood
<http://www.creekwoodcc.org>
* Information gleaned from Will Graves and the Associate Press.



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

Texoma Enterprise

Howe, Texas
75459

The Tyler Depot

By Bob Bowman

When the first steam locomotive made its way into East Texas more than a century and a quarter ago, it changed the economy and future of the region in ways that were never imagined.

Today, however, many of the old railroad depots that became community landmarks have vanished -- the fallout of a new wave of progress brought about by automobiles and highways.

Some of the depots that characterized the monumental changes in East Texas are still standing, but rotting away in fields, where they were moved to allow for new buildings in town.

Some towns, however, have kept their depots as reminders of the era when everyone used the railroad.

One such depot stands at Tyler, where it is now revered as a National Historic Landmark.

Located in a downtown area known simply as "The Levee," the depot was built in 1905 to serve the Texas & St. Louis Railway -- later known as the Cotton Belt -- which had arrived in the city 25 years earlier.

With a population of less than 2,500, Tyler soon became a railway hub and Smith County moved from a largely agricultural economy to one with the transportation links to send its raw materials to markets all over the country. Peaches, strawberries, potatoes, plums and tomatoes went to distant markets like St. Louis, Denver, Omaha and Milwaukee.



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Dot's

D-A-S-H-E-S



By Dorothy N. Fowler

People who have read my column for any length of time know I have a vendetta against some -- maybe most-- television commercials. I certainly don't want to see them disappear; they are what make it possible for me to have the TV on 12 or more hours a day even though all I'm doing is using it for background noise. If I had to pay for each program I do watch and enjoy, I couldn't afford it.

And there have been some absolutely wonderful commercials, commercials that I enjoyed and at least one that convinced me I should buy the product. I loved the Jolly Green Giant commercials, which were full of literary symbolism as well as tasteful (that's a pun, in case you missed it) references to good food. I was so smitten with an ad for a kind of Kashi cereal product's ads that I bought a box of the cereal and found it absolutely superb, surpassing even what the ad promised. However, at more than \$5 a box for the cereal in the 1970's, I couldn't buy but one box a year and since it soon disappeared from the grocer's shelves, I assume that most other people had the same problem.

McDonald's had a great commercial several years ago as its ad agency tried to solve the problem of advertising to both young and old demographics at the same time. These charming commercials featured teenagers giving instructions to their grandparents about how to act on a hamburger date. They have since disappeared from the airways, so it may well be that most other people did not find them as charming as I did.

I can tolerate the ads for Dawn dishwashing liquid and buy the product because it is used to clean birds and other wildlife when there is an oil spill or other messy disaster.

Although I am a free speech fanatic, there are times when I cringe because most ads for most automobiles encourage irresponsible behavior by showing a stunt driver taking mountain curves at 90 miles an hour in an attempt to prove the maneuverability of the car. In my heart of hearts, I keep thinking, "That ad should be banned or there should be a disclaimer saying that the driver is a professional stunt driver."

Having said that, there are some ads that cause me great distress, which means either that they embarrass me or anger me.

Falling into the category of those that embarrass me are the ads for products that enhance "male performance." Those are the same kinds of ads that appeared in pulp magazines in the days when people knew what the term "good taste" meant. People who ordered such products were guaranteed that they would arrive in the mail in a plain brown wrapper.



BOB BOWMAN'S

EAST TEXAS, continued

The Cotton Belt not only established in Tyler a roundhouse and machine shops, but located its executive offices here, as well as a hospital known for its efforts to wipe out smallpox, malaria and typhoid fever

Tyler businessmen also saw growth from the Cotton Belt. Railroaders found rooms at the old St. Charles Hotel and Sam MarDock, Tyler's first Chinese businessman, opened a restaurant that served as the unofficial eating place for Cotton Belt hands.

By 1924, the railroad provided nearly 1,300 jobs, generated a payroll of nearly \$2 million, and paid almost \$40,000 in local taxes for Tyler.

But with the arrival of the Great Depression, the railroad -- like most other businesses and institutions -- fell on hard times. And as roads and automobiles improved in the forties, trucking took away much of the Cotton Belt's customers. Travelers stopped using railroad passenger cars.

In 1956, the last passenger train arrived in Tyler and the railroad depot was used for storage and offices until it was boarded up and abandoned in 1987.

But Tyler's love for all things things historical soon embraced the old depot and, with a gift of the building to the city by the Cotton Belt, Tyler purchased the land on which the depot rested and began a revitalization effort funded by a half-cent sales tax, the generosity of the Vaughn Foundation, and federal grants.

The restoration was completed in four phases and a year ago the depot returned to life as the headquarters of the city's public transportation services.

And on June 4, a city-wide celebration unveiled a plaque that establishes the depot as a National Historic Landmark.

Since its restoration, the depot has become a landmark for Tyler and attracts railroad enthusiasts and others almost every day. The depot also houses an exhibit of rail-related memorabilia, much of it linked to Tyler's early years when the steam locomotive was king.

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



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Dot's Dashes, continued

Of course, that promise meant that if you mailed someone a birthday present, you had to find something besides a cut up paper sack to wrap it in.

Nowadays, however, parents and grandparents are faced with the necessity of discussing the possible side effects of such products along with anatomical and physiological functions that may really be beyond the capacity of the adult to discuss coherently with a six-year old.

Lawyers who advertise their services to women who have sustained injuries from taking certain conception control drugs or who have undergone surgical procedures that have left their reproductive organs in a mess have authorized ads that are so precise in their presentations that little is left to imagination. As a matter of fact, I can see very little excuse for people who still don't know where babies come from.

But my all-time most hated ads are those for tax resolution companies. An actor and actress stand in front of a luxurious looking house. The male wears a stethoscope around his neck and the female is dressed in white, implying a medical team. "We owed the government \$14,000 and we paid only \$3,000," the woman gloats.

"If you owe the government \$10,000 or more, call us. We started our careers working for the Internal Revenue Service and we know how to get your tax bill lowered," the announcer announces.

Why does this make me angry? Because if you made enough money to owe \$14,000, you ought to pay your tax bill, that's why. Retired school teachers like me, pay between \$5,000 and \$8,000 in income taxes every year. I'm not complaining because I don't know a single person who pays enough in income taxes to support one United States Marine for a year, even when the Marine is buying his or her own uniforms and shoes.

What I am complaining about is the whining of the people who benefit the most from our society, who live in luxurious houses, drive luxury cars, can send their kids to college without any financial stress, don't have to make installment payments on their kids braces, ad infinitum, and who ride on the same roads the rest of us do, who get the same or better police and fire protection, who get the same clean water, the same clean air, the same protection from the Food and Drug Administration, ad infinitum.

Why do they think they should not have to pay their fair share?

And why are so many Americans in such sympathy with the deadbeats? Why aren't they thinking they are involved in a rich man's war and a poor man's fight when they are out there defending tax breaks for the rich?

As always, use a little sense -- and couple it this time with some serious research about what rich folks are doing with the money their tax breaks provide for them.



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

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



Dale & Lana Rideout



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



"Santa" Rideout



Grandkids singing at the Christmas Tree Farm 2007



Estes Praises Governor Perry For His Response to Obamacare

Austin - State Senator Craig Estes (R - Wichita Falls) supports Governor Rick Perry for his letter to U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius. In the letter, Governor Perry staunchly opposes both Medicaid expansion and the creation of a so-called "state" insurance exchange.

"Texas has never been a puppet for the federal government. If we were to expand Medicaid or create an insurance exchange under the extensive rules that the federal government has laid out, Texas would no longer exist as anything more than continuation of the federal bureaucracy," Estes said. "We are all fortunate to have such a strong, conservative leader in the state of Texas, and I am proud to stand by the Governor as he continues to fight for our future prosperity."

To view the governor's letter to Secretary Sebelius, please visit <http://governor.state.tx.us/files/press-office/O-SebeliusKathleen201207090024.pdf>.

Senator Estes represents Senate District 30 covering Archer, Baylor, Clay, Collin (part), Cooke, Denton (part), Grayson, Jack, Montague, Parker, Palo Pinto, Shackelford, Stephens, Throckmorton, Wichita, Wilbarger, Wise, and Young counties.

Does PETA have a meat wish?

By Mike Barnett

I'm either very confused about PETA and veganism or PETA is confused about veganism and eating meat.

Most of us have seen PETA propaganda where they douse people with blood at one of their anti-meat events. They're famous for their advertisements of actresses in various stages of undress promoting their latest cause. Most of us have seen their images of Ronald McDonald portrayed as a raving lunatic clown chicken-slayer.

So it makes me wonder why PETA promoted hamburgers and hot dogs and kabobs on their Facebook page on the Fourth of July. Or go to their website and you can get recipes for "Baby Get Back Veggie Ribs," "Fire-up-the-Grill Fajitas" and other delicacies such as Grilled Vegan Chicken (now that makes me wonder, was the chicken fed a vegan diet and thus okay; or is it chicken tofu?) Of course, these knock-offs are vegan versions of the real thing.

Seriously, I don't have a problem with vegans, vegetarians or others with dietary preferences different than mine. To each his own. I do have problems with an animal rights activist group that portrays farmers and ranchers as vicious killers and livestock as victims.

Which brings me back to my point. Does PETA have a secret meat wish? That's the only thing I can figure out. I find it curious they scream animal rights on the one hand; then entice their followers with meat imposters on the other. It seems a bit hypocritical to me to disguise vegetables as meat.

But then I'm not privy to PETA's inner workings. Maybe it's their attempt to keep the restless troops settled. Maybe it's an attempt to soothe the meat beast inside us all.

It's there, you know. It's been there ever since man first put meat on a stick and stuck it over a fire. The aroma enticed him. The taste made him come back for more.

Somehow, coating bean curd sticks with margarine, peanut butter and a variety of other stuff, sticking them on the grill and calling it "Baby Get Back Veggie Ribs" doesn't do it for me.

I'll take Baby Backs from real pigs -- grilled to perfection.

Mike Barnett is Director of Publications, Texas Farm Bureau

I'm a firm believer that farmers and ranchers will continue to meet the needs of a growing world population by employing equal measures of common sense, conservation and technology.



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Should death really be taxed?

By *Glen Cope*

Two things in life that often bring about the most grief are death and taxes. So when these two are combined, it makes for a cocktail of anxiety. Isn't it enough that a family must deal with the grieving that comes from the passing of a loved one? Yet, political leaders in Washington, D.C., find it necessary to exacerbate that grief by taxing the occasion.

Most young farmers and ranchers have worked from an early age alongside their parents on the family farm, making it a joint effort to improve the farm, pay bills and reduce debt. Not only do young farmers have a vested interest in the farm, but they consider themselves co-owners. So, you can imagine our frustration knowing that the inevitable is lurking behind the barn door. After our parents pass on, the Internal Revenue Service will demand a sizable portion of the family farm.

Farmers are, as the old phrase goes, "asset rich and cash poor." Unfortunately, when parents pass, the estate tax is triggered because of high land prices. A fact that most people in this country don't understand.

The average age of the American farmer is 57. So, at an age when most Americans are preparing for retirement, farmers are still hard at work. As the average age of farmers increases, the need for permanent repeal of the estate tax is all that much more important. Especially if we want young people to return to the farm. Stifling their ambitions by imposing a death tax that penalizes their achievement is not an incentive.

On Jan. 1, 2013, the death tax will fall back to its original position of having only a \$1 million exemption toward the value of the estate and then it will be taxed at a rate of 55 percent.

To give you an idea how little a \$1 million exemption will go toward easing the mind-numbing pain felt by this hideous tax; if a farm valued at \$3,000 per acre fell under the death tax, only roughly 333 acres would be exempt. However, many farmers will tell you in today's world, 333 acres will not go very far to support one family, let alone two and sometimes three generations that may rely on the farm to provide their livelihoods.

There are many events in which taxation can come into play throughout a person's life. For example, sales tax when we make a purchase and capital gains tax when we sell something at a higher price than what we paid. When we own something, we even pay a property tax. We pay Social Security taxes toward our retirement. So the question must be asked; if we are taxed in this country seemingly every time we make a move when it comes to spending, saving and making money, should we be taxed simply because we have taken our last breath? Should we make it more difficult for our children to continue the family farm? The majority of farmers and ranchers would argue the answer is most definitely NO!

Glen Cope, a fourth generation beef producer in Southwest Missouri, is chair of the American Farm Bureau Federation's (AFBF) Young Farmers and Ranchers Committee. His commentary was originally published by AFBF's Focus on Agriculture.

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Hall votes to fully repeal “Obamacare”

WASHINGTON, DC . . . Yesterday, July 11, Rep. Ralph Hall (TX-04) voted with a House Majority to pass H.R. 6079, Repeal Obamacare Act. The bill, which passed 244-185, is the latest vote by the House to fully repeal the President’s Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, commonly referred to as “Obamacare.”

“I am fully committed to repealing the President’s bad health care overhaul and will continue to vote to repeal this law and the extra tax it carries at every opportunity,” said Hall. “The President and Democrat-controlled Congress were not honest with the American people when they pushed this bill into law in 2010 - they denied it was a tax and falsely stated it would lower costs. This could not be further from the truth, as the Supreme Court ruling confirmed.”

Hall continued, “The President’s health care law was presented to the American people as a way to improve the economy, yet it does little or nothing to address the valid concern of cost. The President has increased our country’s debt by \$5 trillion and his health care ‘solution’ is expected to cost \$1.8 trillion over ten years. Among the many bad things about the President’s law is the fact Americans cannot afford this health care overhaul.

“Improving our economy is the top priority of my constituents and the majority of Americans. The President’s health care law must be fully repealed if we are to avoid the drastic negative impact it will have on the economy. I believe in the Constitution and that Americans - not Washington - should be in charge of their own health care decisions, and I will work towards fully repealing this law and replacing it with common-sense solutions.”

Economic Impact of President’s Health Care Law

* Unemployment numbers will rise. Business owners site uncertainty around the President’s health care law as a major reason they are reluctant to grow and hire new workers. Many could have to choose between cutting back work force, work hours, or wages.

* States could be forced to ration Medicare. \$118 billion additional financial burden is saddled onto state budgets from ObamaCare’s Medicaid expansion.

* Health care costs will rise. Hospitals, doctors, businesses and consumers all expect health costs to rise under the law. Family policy costs have risen by \$2,200 since the law’s passage, according to Kaiser Family Foundation.

* Federal government’s role in individual’s life is too invasive. The law’s individual mandate would force Americans who do not take part in a private or government-run health care program to pay a tax.

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May Someone With Dementia Sign a Will?

Millions of people are affected by dementia, and unfortunately many of them do not have all their estate planning affairs in order before the symptoms start. If you or a loved one has dementia, it may not be too late to sign a will or other documents, but certain criteria must be met to ensure that the signer is mentally competent.

In order for a will to be valid, the person signing must have "testamentary capacity," which means he or she must understand the implications of what is being signed. Simply because you have a form of mental illness or disease does not mean that you automatically lack the required mental capacity. As long as you have periods of lucidity, you may still be competent to sign a will.

Generally, you are considered mentally competent to sign a will if the following criteria are met:

You understand the nature and extent of your property, which means you know what you own and how much of it.

You remember and understand who your relatives and descendants are and are able to articulate who should inherit your property.

You understand what a will is and how it disposes of property.

You understand how all these things relate to each other and come together to form a plan.

Family members may contest the will if they are unhappy with the distributions and believe you lacked mental capacity to sign it. If a will is found to be invalid, a prior will may be reinstated or the estate may pass through the state's intestacy laws (as if no will existed). To prevent a will contest, your attorney should help make it as clear as possible that the person signing the will is competent. The attorney may have a series of questions to ask you to assess your competency. In addition, the attorney can have the will signing videotaped or arrange for witnesses to speak to your competency.



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Capitol Watch
By Larry Phillips, State Representative



Texas.Gov

The internet has opened doors to an infinite amount of information which is just a few keystrokes away. Many people have enjoyed the convenience of online services which allow them to do such things as make purchases or bank online. The State of Texas realized the convenience of the internet and developed its own website in 2000 in an effort to improve public access to government information, programs, and services. This website is www.texas.gov<<http://www.texas.gov>>.

Citizens have the ability to apply for and renew their driver's license online; apply for and renew most commercial and professional licenses; and submit a change of address. Vehicle registration can also be renewed online. In some cities, users are even able to pay electricity bills and traffic tickets over the internet. Businesses can also use Texas.Gov for services such as filing and paying sales taxes or finding listings of state and local bid opportunities.

Under the "Discover" link, you can find a state park; order a Texas flag; and learn about state history. The "Education" section provides information on the many colleges and universities around the state, as well as information about available financial assistance. The "Consumer Protection and Public Safety" section has links to a myriad of issues, including child support; services for senior citizens; housing assistance; birth, death and marriage certificates; and emergency services information.

The website is also a valuable resource for information on state government. For instance, information on a particular state agency can be found by clicking on the "Agency Finder," which will then bring up an alphabetical list of all state agencies. The website also has information on state officials and their duties, links to laws and the state constitution, and the link to the Texas Legislature. When the legislature is in session, the public can research the status of legislation through the link to the legislature.

It would be impossible to list all of the information and services available at www.texas.gov in this column. I encourage you to log on to Texas.Gov and spend explore the site. You can contact me by writing to P.O. Box 2910, Austin, TX 78768-2910 or by e-mailing me at larry.phillips@house.state.tx.us.

Second Saturday Events

Wildflowers will be the featured topic for Second Saturday at Hagerman National Wildlife Refuge on July 14. Dr. Connie Taylor, professor emeritus of biology Southeastern Oklahoma State University in Durant, Oklahoma, will be the speaker. The program begins at 10 am in the multi purpose room of the refuge's Visitor Center, and is free and open to the public.

Taylor, who lives east of Durant, OK, retired after teaching at SOSU for 28 years. She holds three degrees in botany from the University of Oklahoma. Among her special research interests are the goldenrods of Oklahoma and Texas and the southwestern United States, the distribution of all the native and naturalized plants of Oklahoma, the study of the seeps and bogs in southeastern Oklahoma.

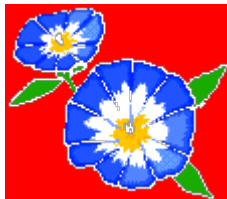
Taylor and her husband have reported more than 150 species of plants new to the Oklahoma flora, and have collected several plants new to science, including three in Costa Rica and two goldenrods in Oklahoma.

Also on the calendar for July 14, a nature walk will begin at 8 am at the Friends of Hagerman Center at the refuge. Leading the walk will be Dr. Wayne Meyer, assisted by Vance Wolf. The walk will conclude in time for Taylor's presentation.

Second Saturday for Youth, for children ages 4-10, begins at 10 am and will be about the bald eagle. There will be hands-on nature crafts and games. Reservations are required for the youth program to insure adequate materials, and children ages 6 and younger must be accompanied by a parent or other responsible adult. To reserve the refuge, call 903-786-2826.

The FOH Nature Club will meet at 12:30 pm in the audio/visual classroom of the FOF Center. "Bugs" is the theme for sharing for July. Sally Papin will present a program on creating art from photographs using layered textures. There will also be a presentation of the Spring Photo Safari.

All of these programs, sponsored by the Hagerman NWR and the Friends of Hagerman, are free and open to the public. The Refuge is located at 6465 Refuge Road in Sherman. For more information, call the Refuge or see www.friendsofhagerman.com



E-mail Me a Prayer

I had been teaching my three-year-old daughter, Caitlin, the Lord's Prayer. For several evenings at bedtime, she would repeat after me the lines from the prayer.

Finally, she decided to go solo. I listened with pride as she carefully enunciated each word, right up to the end of the prayer:

“Lead us not into temptation,” she prayed, “but deliver us some e-mail. Amen.”

OUTZKIRTS By: David & Doreen Dotson



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

This Page is a Work in Progress

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Library information, Language courses, Student events

Van Alstyne Public Library

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

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

Quotations Page

Royalty Free Music

Spanish Dictionary

Selected Sites

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

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

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

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

Dog Stories

By Jerry Lincecum

Having grown up on a working farm/ranch in the 1940s and 50s, I know the value of trained cowdogs. Unfortunately, our dogs were self-taught rather than properly trained and frequently they were less than helpful. They never missed an opportunity to ride in the back of the pickup when we drove to a distant pasture. Their favorite position was leaning over the side to feel the wind in their faces.

Whenever a neighbor passed our house with dogs leaning out, our pups gave chase and a frantic barking contest took place. Old Dash, the venerable leader of our pack, learned to recognize certain vehicles, considering their canine riders especially obnoxious.

He felt obliged to become especially fierce in challenging them. The gravel roads limited one's speed to maybe 20 mph, and one day Walter Boyd's dog leaned out too far and practically fell on top of Dash.

I enjoyed watching as those two dogs got the surprise of their lives. The fight they seemed to want so bad was instantly forgotten. Dash beat a retreat to our porch, while Boyd's dog headed off across the field at top speed. No doubt he reached home before his master. The next time Boyd drove by, his dog and Dash were at it again, barking their fool heads off.

A famous biologist named Lorenz did an experiment once with two dogs who were for a time separated by a chainlink fence. Their aggressive behavior suggested that only the fence kept them from fighting viciously. Then unbeknownst to the dogs, he removed the fence and let them run up to confront each other face to face. Nothing happened; all the fierce barking was forgotten when there was no fence to keep them apart.

Another dog story comes from a reader of this column, Billie Venable. He had a little red dachshund named Penny who loved to hitch a ride whenever they took hay to the cows. She would jump on the tailgate, then climb over the stacked bales to get on top of the pickup cab and enjoy the slow-moving ride like a queen.

Then came an ice storm and the truck had a coat of ice as well. The cows needed feed especially that day, but Penny almost missed her ride. The old truck was creeping along the road when she managed to leap on the tailgate and begin making her way to the high perch. Then, losing her footing, she made a slippery dive down onto the icy hood, and kept going until she wound up in the middle of the road. Fortunately, stopping before hitting her was accomplished.

Penny was told in no uncertain terms to get home and stay there! But no, as the cows were enjoying their meal, she arrived huffing and puffing in time to check out the cows as usual and ride back home. She was greeted with laughter and her story was told so often that she became a local legend.

-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: jlincecum@me.com



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