

Texoma Enterprise

Howe, Texas
75459

July 19, 2012



Humor

Church

WEATHER

Texas
Headline
News



GC offers COMPASS math test review

Grayson College's Math Department is offering two mathematics review sessions for the COMPASS Placement Test. Presented by the college's full-time mathematics faculty, the review sessions are free and open to new students as well as to those who need to retake the math portion of the test.

As part of the Texas Success Initiative, Texas law requires all new students in public higher education institutions to have their academic skill levels assessed prior to entry in college-level courses. Most GC students take COMPASS, which is one of four approved placement tests used to demonstrate college readiness for TSI purposes. COMPASS assesses skills in mathematics, reading and writing.

Both math review sessions meet in Room 113 of the Success Center, located on the north side of GC's Main Campus in Denison. The day review session runs from July 30 to Aug. 2 from 8 am to noon. A compressed evening review session is available Aug. 7-9 from 6-9 pm. No reservations or registration are required.

Students should bring pencils and a simple calculator to the review session. They will receive a workbook with practice problems designed to help them review and prepare for the COMPASS math portion. For students who previously have taken the COMPASS, the 30-day waiting period to retake the test is waived for those attending the review.

"By concentrating on reviewing COMPASS math topics with a math instructor, students may strengthen their math skills now as they prepare for the test," said Dayna Ford, GC's math hub coordinator. "By raising their scores on the test, it's possible they will place in a higher math class."

For more information about the math review sessions, contact Ford at 903-463-8663 or <mailto:fordd@grayson.edu> ford@grayson.edu, and Shawn Eagleton, GC math department chair and professor at 903-463-8746 or <mailto:eagletons@grayson.edu> eagletons@grayson.edu.



Howe's That

Recipe

by Lana Rideout

My husband and I lived in Canada during the first three years of our marriage. We lived in two beautiful towns – Belleville and Barrie, Ontario.

We got to attend the World's Fair in Montreal while we were there.

When we came back to Texas, I was at a Gibson's store about a mile from where I had spent a large part of my life to that date. As I walked around, listening to the folks in the store talked, I heard the distinctive southern drawl. I asked my husband if that was how I sounded too.

He laughed at me! But it did sound funny to my "Canadian ears."

Our two oldest children, Kirby and Susie, were born while we were in Canada.

The folks in Canada were just as nice as the folks here in Texas.

Almond Icebox Cookies

1 cup (2 sticks) butter, at room temperature
1/2 cup sugar
1/2 cup packed light brown sugar
1 egg, lightly beaten
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
1/2 teaspoon almond extract
2-1/2 cups sifted all-purpose flour
1 teaspoon baking soda
1/4 teaspoon ground cinnamon
1 cup slivered almonds, toasted

Using an electric mixer, cream the butter and sugars until light and fluffy. Add the egg and vanilla and almond extracts. At low speed, gradually add the flour, baking soda and cinnamon. Add the almonds and mix just until they are incorporated into the dough.

Divide the dough in half, and shape each half into a 2-inch roll on a sheet of waxed paper. Roll up the paper and refrigerate for at least four hours or overnight.

When ready to bake, preheat oven to 375°F. Remove the dough from the refrigerator and, with a sharp knife, cut the dough into 1/4-inch slices. Place the slices one inch apart on greased baking sheets, and bake 12 to 14 minutes, or until lightly browned.

Makes about 4 dozen cookies.

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



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Joshua J. Smith Graduates From Basic Military Training

Air Force Airman Joshua J. Smith graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.

The airman completed an intensive, eight-week program that included training in military discipline and studies, Air Force core values, physical fitness, and basic warfare principles and skills.

Airmen who complete basic training earn four credits toward an associate in applied science degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

Smith is the brother of Nolan Smith of Old Highway 6, Howe. He is a 2010 graduate of Howe High School.

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selection.





L to R: Brianna Stowers and Lindsey Holder

Tom Bean FCCLA Members Bring Home the GOLD!!

BRINGING HOME A GOLD MEDAL were Tom Bean High School FCCLA (Family, Career and Community Leaders of America) members Lindsey Holder and Brianna Stowers, who recently represented Texas in National FCCLA STAR Event competition in Orlando, Florida.

Competing against the top student teams from FCCLA chapters across the nation in the Chapter Service Project Display category, Holder and Stowers presented TBHS's 2011-2012 service project, "Kicking Butts and Taking Names!" This project involved peer education about the dangers and risks involved in tobacco use, both in our community and in the entire North Texas area. A panel of judges scored their visual display, 10 minute speech, and interview about the project.

While in Orlando, the students also had the opportunity to participate in leadership sessions, meet students from other states, and hear dynamic motivational speakers.

City of Tom Bean News

Posted on July 12th, 2012 at 5:46:43 AM by Mayor Sherry E. Howard
The TBVFD and the City of Tom Bean have been working to get our ISO rating lowered in order for your insurance rates to also be lowered. BUT in order to make this happen, the Fire Department is having to get some required work done on several of their fire engines in order to meet state requirements. Funds are low at this time and because of this, our rating will remain at a "8" (with "10" being the worst) until funds are received. We are asking you to think about the necessity that we have in our having our fire department and make a donation today! We thank you very much!!

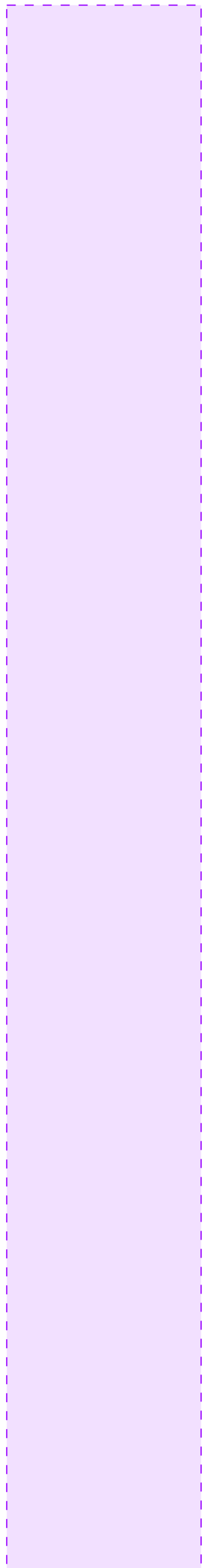
Posted on July 13th, 2012 at 1:54:36 PM by Mayor Sherry E. Howard
Denim and Diamonds (corner of Britton and 902) and Texas Iceberg are both planning to be open sometime in July. Denim and Diamonds will be offering t-shirt screen printing, banners, bling jewelry, etc. and Texas Iceberg (corner of Garner and Britton) will be offering snowcones and then later hamburgers, breakfast tacos, etc. We are excited to have these new businesses in our town!! Welcome to Tom Bean!!

Posted on July 16th, 2012 at 6:27:49 AM by Mayor Sherry E. Howard
As you have already seen the work that is going on down the west end of Ball Street, Precinct 1 is making great progress in renovating this bad road in our city. Due to budget/fund limitations, the city will only be able to do a portion of the street (from FM2729 to Randolph) this year. The reason that this end was chosen to start on was because it was in the worst shape. The Type A Community Development Board generously donated \$5000 to the city to add to the funds required to make this happen this year. Our thanks to the Type A Board!



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On Saturday, July 14th, the Tom Bean City Council, Type A Board of Directors, Type B Board of Directors and Planning and Zoning board met at the Edwards Community Room at the Tom Bean 1st National Bank to exchange ideas for the future development of the city as a whole. Mayor Sherry E. Howard welcomed all the members and citizens to a light breakfast before starting the day at 9:00. The agenda included a welcome by the Mayor along with a special DVD of the city and it's activities which was a creation of Police Chief Michael Webster and Mayor Howard. A photo session of the event followed before

the meeting got into full swing. A history of the Type A and Type B boards, budgets for the Type A and B boards, and an update on the upcoming websites was discussed by Rhoda Harris. After a pizza luncheon, the group went back in and summarized what each felt was the most important thing that we would do as a city to improve future growth and economic well-being for the city. Mayor Howard thanked all that attended the event today and for the audience participation. A future meeting is in the works to discuss ideas with the church leaders and school leaders.

Tom Bean Board Minutes For June

The Board of Trustees of the Tom Bean Independent School District held a public meeting to discuss the 2012 – 2013 proposed budget and tax rate followed by the regular monthly board meeting on Monday, June 25, 2012. President, Jinger Peebles called the meeting to order at 6:45 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and Steve Book led the invocation.

The minutes of May 21st and June 12, 2012, along with the Financial Reports were approved as presented.

Mr. Sammy Martin, from the Buford-Thompson Company, presented information concerning his company and marketing strategies.

Shannan Khoury gave an outstanding annual report to the Board of Trustees concerning the School Health Advisory Council.

Each of the campus principals gave a report with the total enrollment, attendance, discipline, number of walk-through

evaluations, number of teacher absences, newsletters, and current projects.

The Board approved the Budget and the Proposed Tax Rate for the 2012 – 2013 school year as presented. In addition, they also increased the District's portion of insurance premium for TBISD employees by \$25.

David Bilyeu was employed as the Assistant Band Director, and Whitney Davis was employed as a Middle School teacher. Both employees were given a one year probationary contract.

The Board of Trustees passed the resolution 2012-01 regarding a lease purchase agreement for the purpose of miscellaneous personal property.

Lastly, the discussion of the high school ceiling in the gym was tabled until a later date, and Mrs. Garrison informed the board of the extra-curricular eligibility calendar for Tom Bean ISD.



Light at the End of the Tunnel

Following a major renovation to its aging lighting system, Longhorn Cavern State Park provides stunning new views to visitors through much of its near two-miles of pathways and rock features. (TPWD Photo by Bryan Frazier)

Longhorn Cavern State Park Provides Illuminating Experience Park Hosts Ribbon Cutting for New Lighting System Inside Historic Cave

Staff from Texas Parks and Wildlife, Longhorn Cave Tours, Inc., area chambers of commerce, as well as volunteers and dozens of guests were on hand at Longhorn Cavern State Park Thursday evening to cut the ribbon and ceremoniously “reopen” the popular Hill Country destination, following a major renovation of the cave’s lighting system.

Some \$700,000 of low-voltage quartz halogen lights, sophisticated switches and miles of new wiring provide not only dramatic new views inside the cavern, but the system’s low heat output is better suited to help protect the cave’s delicate ecosystem balance. The renovation marked the park’s first lighting upgrade since the original incandescent bulbs were installed by the Civilian Conservation Corp during the 1930s.

“This is fantastic; it’s like coming down into the cave for the first time,” said Terry Rodgers, superintendent of the Inks Lake Complex, which oversees operations at the Cavern, which is operated by a private business contract concessionaire, Longhorn Cave Tours. “The new features outlined in the light are incredible.”

Once home to mammoth’s, ancient peoples, Confederate soldiers and allegedly even Old West outlaws, Longhorn Cavern State Park today attracts tens of thousands of visitors to its 645 acres above and below ground. And park operator Michelle Devaney thinks that the improvements will help draw even more folks.

“The new lighting system puts into place a way for visitors to go through this cavern and see the features illuminated in a way that brings to life the geology and beauty. Taking out the old lighting also helps to protect and preserve this amazing resource for a long, long time,” she said.

For more information about Longhorn Cavern State Park, call (830) 598-CAVE (598-2283), or visit www.longhorncaverns.com, or www.texasstateparks.org.

[Click Here for More Area Events](#)



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What's black and white and read all over?

"The Texas Classic," the new general-issue license plate released by the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles (TxDMV).

The Texas Classic is white with black lettering, and features the Texas star, state silhouette, and "The Lone Star State" slogan. It also comes with a new security feature.

The TxDMV is currently shipping The Texas Classic plates to the state's 254 county tax offices. But don't rush out to get it. To save taxpayer money and avoid waste, counties must first exhaust their inventory of the current general-issue plate before issuing the new one.

For the fashion conscious, the black and white plate's classic design will go with any color car or light truck. If you think of yourself as a little retro then this plate is sure to match your taste. And if you just want a simple, easy-to-read license plate, this is the one for you.

While the TxDMV does not expect any license plate design to please everyone, The Texas Classic offers something for all Texans: Public safety.

"The TxDMV Board unanimously approved this plate design because it meets high standards for public safety, and that is our first priority," said TxDMV Board Chairman Victor Vandergriff.

"The majority of the almost 22 million registered vehicles in Texas display the general-issue plate," Vandergriff added. "The Texas Classic plate design isn't colorful like some of the specialty plates or the current general-issue plate, but it is a purposeful license plate that is supported by law enforcement."

The Texas Classic includes:

- Two new, high-visibility security threads embedded into the license plate sheeting that join existing security features. Texas is the first state in the country to provide dual security threads, making it easier for law enforcement to spot legitimate plates.

- Bigger plate numbers. The plate letters and numbers are a full inch wide and just over 2 ½ - inches tall.

- A new license plate pattern. Plates will be issued with three letters followed by four numbers.

By keeping the letters and numbers separate in the alpha-numeric pattern, the seven- character license plate number is easier to remember. This is convenient for plate owners, and also provides better recall for law enforcement and citizen witnesses.

The TxDMV believes many Texans will embrace The Texas Classic. The top-selling license plate design for the state's specialty plate marketing vendor, My Plates, is a black and white design.

Texans who prefer to have a different plate design may choose from a variety of specialty license plates available from the TxDMV or My Plates. Currently, there are about 1.2 million Texas vehicles with specialty license plates. Specialty plates have the added advantage of personalization, which is not available on the general-issue license plate.

Those who like the current multi-colored, general-issue plate can keep those plates until they are due for mandatory replacement. All state license plates are replaced every seven years due to a loss in reflectivity.

More information on license plates, including The Texas Classic, are available at www.TxDmv.gov.

The Texas Department of Motor Vehicles (TxDMV) is charged with overseeing the state's motor vehicle services that provide consumer protection, assist motor vehicle-related businesses and raise revenue for the state. For every \$1 it spends, the TxDMV returns \$10 to build and maintain highways, roads and bridges and provide needed services to Texans. Each year the agency registers almost 22 million vehicles; regulates vehicle dealers; credentials buses and big trucks for intrastate and interstate commerce; issues oversize and overweight permits; and awards grants to law enforcement agencies to reduce vehicle burglaries and thefts. Learn more at www.TxDmv.gov.



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

1 Peter 1:3-9 (ASV)

*3 Blessed be the God and
Father of our Lord Jesus
Christ, who according to his
great mercy begat us again
unto a living hope by the
resurrection of Jesus Christ
from the dead,*

*4 unto an inheritance
incorruptible, and undefiled,
and that fadeth not away,
reserved in heaven for you,*

*5 who by the power of God are
guarded through faith unto a
salvation ready to be revealed
in the last time.*

*6 Wherein ye greatly rejoice,
though now for a little while,*

*if need be, ye have been put to
grief in manifold trials,*

*7 that the proof of your faith,
being more precious than gold
that perisheth though it is
proved by fire, may be found
unto praise and glory and
honor at the revelation of
Jesus Christ:*

*8 whom not having seen ye
love; on whom, though now ye
see him not, yet believing, ye
rejoice greatly with joy
unspeakable and full of glory:*

*9 receiving the end of your
faith, even the salvation of
your souls.*

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 24th at 7:30 pm. The meeting will be held at the Morton Street church of Christ in Denison. Travis Bookout will bring the lesson titled, "Just Believe."

"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

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

Adulterous

By Willie Sofey
Sherman, Tx, June 27, 2012

Adulterous = adj., describing the results of making something impure by mixing in a foreign or inferior substance.

In Matthew 24:6-8, Jesus spoke of the signs of the age prior to His return to rule and reign on planet earth for 1000 years. Jesus said it would be “As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man” (Matt. 24: 36-37).

The citizens of earth during the days of Noah prior to the flood were an “evil” and adulterous generation, “Man’s every inclination of the thoughts of his heart was of evil all the time” (Gen. 6:5), “now the earth was corrupt in God’s sight and full of violence” (Gen. 6:11). “You will be hated by all nations because of me (Matt. 24:9),

Jesus said, “If anyone is ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will be ashamed of him” (Mark 8:38).

It seems apparent that America and the western nations that were founded on the laws of God have slid morally into this adulterous state similar to the historically ancient nations that the Holy Bible described.

Jesus describes “how it will be with this wicked generation” in Matt. 12:43-45.

Jesus describes how a man (or nation) can remove an evil satanic spirit but failing to fill the void in the man (or nation) with God’s spirit, results in “seven other spirits more

wicked than itself” will “go in and live there” (Matt. 12: 43-45).

America has failed to fill itself with God’s Holy Spirit and the result is apparent in its legislating satanic, paganistic laws, and satanically deceived citizenry are indulging in this sinful lifestyle in epic portions.

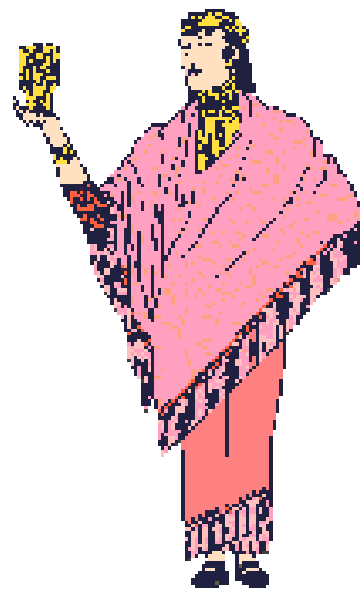
It seems this generation of mankind is more interested in the economies of their flesh than the economies of their spirit.

There seems to be “kings and princes” in this generation that pour out blasphemy from their mouths (Hosea 8:4), and are intoxicating “with the wine of her (their) adulteries” (Rev. 17:2)...., the citizens of this generation.

Kings and princes are committing adultery with Satan’s style of religion. “For all the nations have drunk the maddening wine of her (Satan’s religion) adulteries” (Rev. 18:3).

The nations of the west, as well as America, are trying to solve the pains of the flesh not understanding that there is a deep satanic spiritual cancer in the body that needs eradicating before the healing of the body (nation) can take place.

“Take Heed Lest Any Man” (men, women, kings, or princesses) “Deceive You” – Jesus Christ; Mark 13:5.



Country Stores

By Bob Bowman

A friend who lives near Trawick was bemoaning the loss of country stores a few days ago.

“When I was a kid, you could drive all over East Texas, and every little town had one or two stores and did a good business because the hometown folks always traded with them,” he said.

My best memory of such a store was at Denson Springs on Highway 294 in Anderson County.

Every time we went to see my maternal grandparents at Slocum, my father always stopped at the store and bought a round of orange “soda waters” for his four kids. He also knew the storekeeper, a large, laughing man who sometimes gave us free candy bars.

By 1914 Denson Springs had 100 residents, two general stores and a cotton gin. The local school was consolidated with the Slocum schools by 1955, and by 1982 Denson Springs consisted only of a cemetery, several scattered dwellings, and one store.

But today, country stores are far and few between. Most of them have been closed down -- victims of flourishing business communities in places like Tyler, Lufkin and Longview.

Most of the old country stores faded away because the towns they served also died as farming ceased to be a significant part of the East Texas economy.

A good example was Denning, on Farm Road 3409 eight miles west of San Augustine.

Continued on next page



Dot's

D-A-S-H-E-S



By Dorothy N. Fowler

Since early Sunday evening I have been without e-mail. Even though I know most of what is in my electronic mail box is junk and I will delete it without opening it -- providing Microsoft restores it -- I find myself inconvenienced almost beyond toleration.

That's because I subscribe to comic strips that come every day, to a quilting site that brings news and information every day, the *Washington Post* and other services that have come to be important to me. If I can't get the Hotmail service restored, I will have to get in touch with those services so they can send my mail to an alternate address.

Now, do not misunderstand. I have a hard copy of all those addresses; the computer gurus who repair the machine made one for me the last time this happened. However, I really do not want to spend several hours of concentrated labor retyping them and saving them in a new contacts list. There may be a way to export them from the Xcel file into the Hotmail contact file, but I haven't been able to figure it out.

I would take the machine to computer gurus, who probably could do it, but I am going to live in faith for a few more hours to see what the Microsoft techies can and will do.

It took a good bit of ingenuity to get a phone number for tech support, but when I did, the people with whom I spoke were unfailingly courteous and tried to be kind. The first office I reached is in Washington State and after a series of missteps, the person with whom I spoke transferred him to a tech based in the Philippines. That explains the perfect and almost unaccented English spoken by the tech.

I was terrified that I would be connected with someone in India. My experience with techs based in India is that they are unable to communicate with me because their English, grammatically perfect as it may be, is not intelligible because the accent is so thick. Ahh! The joys of a global economy and outsourcing for both the customer and the person trying to help him or her.

How frustrating it must be for someone who speaks textbook- perfect English to fail to be unable communicate with someone who just can't hear through the accent!

This experience reminded me of how difficult some Yankees have learning to understand Texas English. “You talk funny,” they tell me. “I don't even know what you mean half the time.”

I hate to tell you I think that's funny. Most Texans can understand New Yorkers or Bostonians or even New Jerseyites without much trouble. Once they get past the New Yorkers' nasal twang and accustomed to hearing Bostonians drop the 'r's at the end of words, e.g., a drawer becomes a

[Click on this ad to go to our web site.](#)

Continued on next page



BOB BOWMAN'S EAST TEXAS, continued

A post office was opened there in 1891 and by 1896 Denning had about 50 residents, two general stores, two cotton gins, two sawmills, two flour mills, and three blacksmith shops

By 1904 the town had a one-teacher school for forty-seven white children and another for twenty-four black pupils. About a dozen years later, the town had 200 inhabitants.

After that, Denning began to fade away.

The post office was closed in the 1930s, the population dwindled to 75 by 1939 and the town's school was merged with another district.

In January, I drove through Denning looking for the settlement of New Hope, and was surprised that most of Denning's old institutional buildings, such as its post office, school and gins, were still standing, but were only shells of what they were in the 1930s and 1940s.

Driving back to Lufkin, I counted nearly a dozen of old country stores that are now empty.

Sadly, there are a lot of Denison Springs and Dennings all over East Texas

(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)

Dot's Dashes, continued

draw and adding an "r" to words that end in vowels, e.g. a window becomes a winder, and the Jerseyites adding a diphthong to the middle of all words that have 'r' sounds in the middle, e.g. "de liddle boids sittin' on de coib eatin' de liddle woims," they are perfectly understandable.

Now vocabulary and colloquialisms are a little different. My Yankee friends say "kitty corner" when they mean "catty cornered," and they are irked beyond measure because I am often "fixin to go to town or to carry someone to the courthouse."

When it was time to buy my new license plates, which had to be replaced this year, I asked the advice of the clerks in the tax assessor collector's office. "Should I have a license plate with FXN2C or with Booger on it?"

"Why do you think you might like FXN2C?" they asked.

"Because I like fixin' and besides, it irritates Yankees," I answered.

After they got through laughing, they said they voted for Booger, not only because it is my Yorkie's name, but also because they thought people might think the driver was the booger. I took their advice, but I've got to say, I think FXN2C might have been just as much fun.



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



Dale & Lana Rideout



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



"Santa" Rideout



Grandkids singing at the Christmas Tree Farm 2007

Cornyn Responds to New Report Predicting Texas Job Losses from Defense Cuts

WASHINGTON-U.S. Sen. John Cornyn (R-Texas), a member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, responded to a new report<http://www.aia-aerospace.org/assets/Fuller_II_Final_Report.pdf> from the Aerospace Industries Association (AIA) predicting a loss of 1.1 million jobs nationwide if sequestration goes into effect, including 159,000 in Texas:

“This is the most predictable crisis imaginable, one that will cripple our ability to ensure national security in the face of continuing threats around the globe.

“But Democrats are using the threat of these devastating military cuts as a bargaining chip to push through tax increases, a cynical, inside-the-Beltway strategy that won’t solve this problem in a common-sense way.”

Senator Cornyn serves on the Finance, Judiciary, Armed Services and Budget Committees. He serves as the top Republican on the Judiciary Committee’s Immigration, Refugees and Border Security subcommittee. He served previously as Texas Attorney General, Texas Supreme Court Justice, and Bexar County District Judge.

Cornyn Responds to Senate Democrats’ Threats to Push U.S. Over Fiscal Cliff

‘It simply amazes and discourages me that some people are willing to play chicken with our economy and our national security in such a cavalier, calculated sort of way.’

WASHINGTON -- U.S. Sen. John Cornyn (R-Texas), a member of the Senate Finance Committee, responded to July 17’s plan by Senate Democrat leaders<http://www.washingtonpost.com/business/economy/democrats-threaten-gop-with-fiscal-cliff-as-tax-fight-rages-on/2012/07/15/gJQAvybLnW_print.html> to send our economy over the “fiscal cliff” if Republicans refuse to join them in their proposal to raise taxes on small businesses:

The following are excerpts from Sen. Cornyn’s floor speech, which can be viewed here<<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CcRo5IYPyuU&feature=youtu.be>>.

“[D]emocratic leaders like our colleague from Washington state are apparently ready to stand by and allow truly draconian across-the-board defense cuts, even though the President’s own Secretary of Defense has said these cuts would ‘hollow out’ our military and be ‘catastrophic’ to our national security.

“It simply amazes and discourages me that some people are willing to play chicken with our economy and our national security in such a cavalier, calculated sort of way.

“I would like to ask our President and my Democratic colleagues a few simple questions:

*“Are you really willing to allow the largest tax increase in American history?

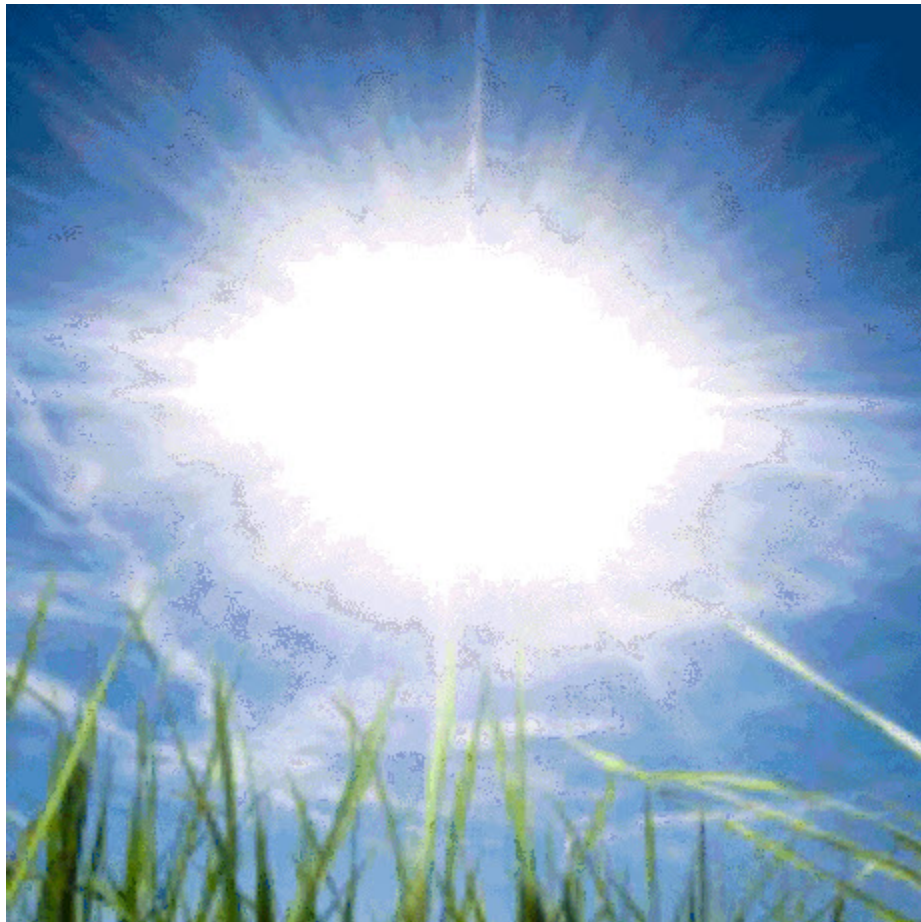
*“Are you really willing to do what Secretary Panetta said, which is ‘hollow out’ the United States military?

“Nobody has said that leadership is easy, but right now on issues of extraordinary importance to our economy and our national security, leadership is what the American people need and leadership is what they deserve. But so far that leadership is AWOL.

“And when my colleague from Washington makes rash statements, threatening our country with a recession unless this side of the aisle agrees to tax increases that will fall disproportionately on the job creators in this country – that is not the kind of cool deliberation, or common-sense coming together we need when it comes to solving our nation’s biggest economic problems.”

Senator Cornyn serves on the Finance, Judiciary, Armed Services and Budget Committees. He serves as the top Republican on the Judiciary Committee’s Immigration, Refugees and Border Security subcommittee. He served previously as Texas Attorney General, Texas Supreme Court Justice, and Bexar County District Judge.





The Enemy Above: The sun's toll on farmers and ranchers

By Gene Hall

Farmers and ranchers could not operate without the life-giving rays of the sun. Photosynthesis, the chemical process by which plants nourish themselves, could not take place without it. However, the sun can also bring misery, disease and even death, though all of this is ultimately preventable. Heat and ultraviolet solar rays can take a devastating toll on crops and livestock. The farm or ranch family can also be afflicted with serious problems, too.

My colleague Nathan Smith, himself battling heat right now on an overseas mission trip, has written a fine blog over on Texas Table Top on how to manage the effects of the heat. While Nathan provides tips on how to avoid the worst ravages of the sun, it falls to me to explain the consequences.

Heat Illness: When working in the heat, not paying attention to hydration is a recipe for disaster. Forget caffeinated drinks, beer or other alcoholic beverages. They just make the problem worse. Sports drinks like Gatorade can be okay, but what you really need is water -- and lots of it.

It would be best to avoid the worst of the day's heat. Do your most strenuous tasks in the morning before, let's say, 10 am or after the sun goes down. Save paperwork in the air conditioning for the heat of the day.

The average age of farmers and ranchers is now 58, which happens to be my age. Heat illness affects us older folks much faster and perhaps even more severely. Extra care is required. But it can happen to young people, too. A heat stroke can kill and quickly. Other kinds of heat illness can make you very sick.

Skin Cancer: Not as quick as a heat stroke, but potentially just as dangerous, is the sun's ability to produce melanoma, a deadly cancer of the skin. Over years of exposure to sun, tumors can form.

With melanoma, pieces of cancer cells can break off and grow in other parts of the body, including our organs. It is among the most deadly of cancers.

Here again, farmers suffer from this disease at higher rates. Given their constant exposure to the sun, that's not surprising. Some of the preventive measures are the same as those used to avoid heat illness. Check Nathan's blog again for those tips.

If I could persuade my many friends who work the land to do one thing, it would be to abandon the baseball-style "gimmie" caps that so many of them wear. A cap's protection from the rays of the sun is minimal at best. When working in the heat of the day, how about a cowboy hat, a golf hat or one of those wide brim, sombrero-style gardening hats? Made of straw, with a sweat band, they block the sun from the back of the neck, the ears and the cheeks. These are places a baseball cap leaves bare and unprotected. And listen up...real men use sunscreen. They do so in order to be around to play with their grandchildren.

My grandfather, "Paw" Hall as we called him, baled his last crop of hay when he was 90. Every day in the field he wore the same outfit -- a long-sleeved blue shirt, jeans, high-top work shoes for snakes, and a very wide brim, floppy, straw work hat. He had three of those shirts and three pairs of work jeans. At least one would be washed and ready every day.

We didn't have the knowledge about sun damage to the body in those days, but he knew that it couldn't be good for him.

He died at 101-- and not from skin cancer or heat stroke.

Gene Hall, Public Relations Director, Texas Farm Bureau

I believe that the only hope for a food secure world is capitalism and reasonable profits for America's farm and ranch families--that the first element of sustainability is economic survival.

Follow Gene on Twitter and Facebook.



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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.



Capitol Watch

By Larry Phillips, State Representative



Texas Red Tape Challenge

Recently, the House Committee on Government Efficiency and Reform launched the Texas Red Tape Challenge, a unique web-based project designed to enhance public participation in the policy-making process.

The Texas Red Tape Challenge is a web-site that allows members of the public to offer their ideas on how to reduce the burden of state laws and regulations, or provide recommendations on how to make government work better. All members of the public are welcome to participate by offering their own ideas, or commenting on the recommendations made by others.

The Challenge will focus on four subjects, including occupational licensing, public education mandates, state agency rulemaking, and manufacturing in Texas. Specific laws and regulations relating to each subject area will be introduced for the public's consideration and comment. The Challenge also asks for ideas on various aspects of state rulemaking, including small business and environmental regulation impact statements.

Other specific laws and regulations relating to occupational licensing, as well as public school mandates and manufacturing, will be introduced on a rolling basis every two weeks. The Texas Red Tape Challenge will run from July through October. In November, the Government Efficiency and Reform Committee will meet to formally consider the ideas and recommendations generated through the Challenge web-site. Those ideas that the Committee adopts will be included in its report to the 83rd Texas Legislature.

The Texas Red Tape Challenge may be accessed at www.texasredtapechallenge.com <<http://www.texasredtapechallenge.com>>. Anyone is welcome to read the contents and comments on the site. Individuals wishing to offer their own ideas or comments on the Texas Red Tape Challenge must register with the site in order to participate. Additional updates, as well as news on popular ideas generated by the Challenge community, may be found on Twitter @TXRedTapeChalle.

I encourage you to log on to www.texasredtapechallenge.com and offer any suggestions you may have. 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.



Friends of Hagerman

Entries into the third annual Hagerman National Wildlife Refuge Photography Contest, sponsored by the Friends of Hagerman, will be accepted from July 21 through Sept. 5. Rules and entry information are now available online at www.friendsofhagerman.com/Gallery.

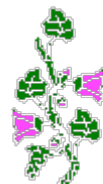
The contest is open to all interested photographers. Photos submitted must have been taken at Hagerman Wildlife Refuge, and no photos taken prior to 2010 will be accepted. Photo categories will be wildlife, flora and macro, landscape, artistic and youth. The winners will be determined by a three-judge panel who will not know the identities of the photographers. The top three winners in each category will receive ribbons, and a cash prize will go to the entry chosen as Best In Show. Winners will be announced on Oct. 13, and winning photos will be displayed at the Friends website and at the refuge's Visitors' Center.

In addition to the contest, the Friends of Hagerman and the refuge offer a variety of activities for photographers of all levels.

The Nature Photography Club meets every other month at the refuge for technical programs and photo sharing. The next meeting will be at 12:30 pm Sept. 8. Guests are welcome to attend.

Small group photo shoots are held twice yearly, and the Friends of Hagerman select a "Photographer of the Month" every month, exhibiting his or her photos on the Friends website.

Details on these programs and refuge happenings are available at www.friendsofhagerman.com or by sending an email to fohphotoclub@gmail.com.



Honey, What Did the Doctor Say?

A middle aged man goes into the doctor's office for a check-up with a litany of complaints.

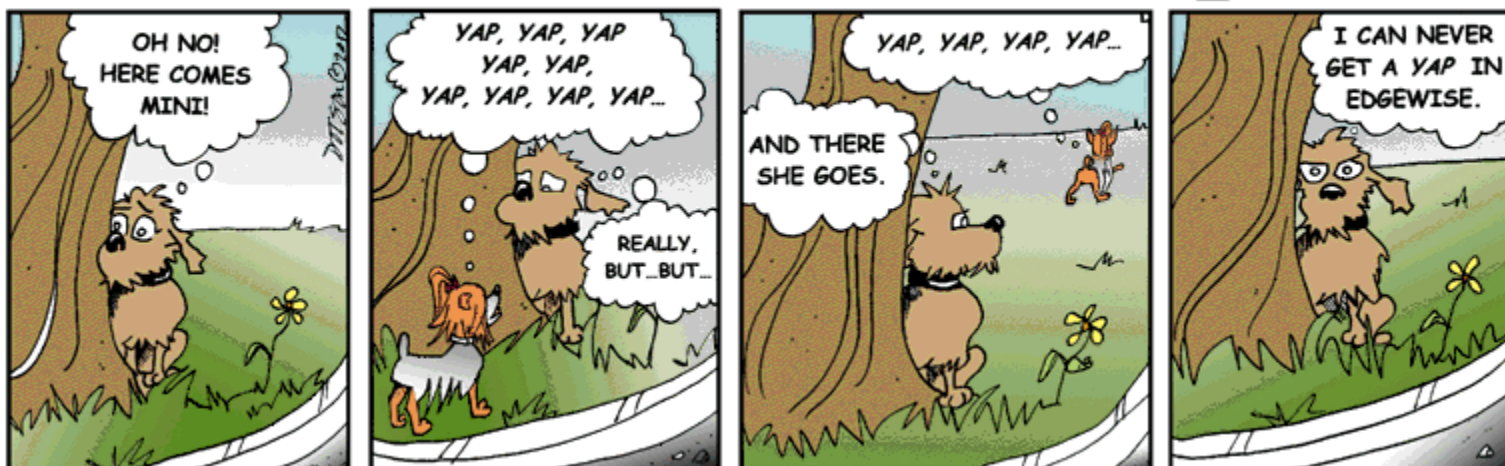
The doctor speaks to the man's wife alone and says, "There is nothing the matter with your husband. If you make a couple of meals for him a day, let him watch his sports. Do not complain at him too much and require him to listen. Limit his exposure to in-laws and make love to him once a week. Then, he'll probably live another 20 years."

She returns to her husband's side in the waiting room. He asks, "What did the doctor tell you?"

"You are going to be dying soon, my dear."

OUTZKIRTS By: David & Doreen Dotson

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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

Search Engines-

Yahoo

Alta Vista

Google

Ask Jeeves

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

Quotations Page

Royalty Free Music

Spanish Dictionary

Selected Sites

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

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

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

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

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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