

May 17, 2012

Good-by dear friends. Wyomings restaurant in Howe will be closing at the end of the day Saturday, May 19. We have enjoyed your friendship, your food, and your help to our community. We will miss all of you and are sorry to see you go.



Church



Humor





The Native American graduation and reception was held Wednesday afternoon at Southeastern Oklahoma State University.

Native American graduation event held Wednesday

DURANT, Okla. – Southeastern Oklahoma State University held its 6th annual Native American Graduation Ceremony and Reception Wednesday in the Glen D. Johnson Student Union.

Thirty-four Native American students, representing 10 tribes, were present, joining more than 80 guests, including family members, friends and tribal representatives. During the 2011-12 academic year, 256 Native American students graduated from Southeastern.



Guest speakers for the event were Southeastern president Larry Minks; Joy Culbreath, Executive Director for the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma; and Lisa John, Administrator for the Division of Education for the Chickasaw Nation.

We congratulate each of our Native American students,' said Chris Wesberry, director of Southeastern's Native American Center for Student Success. "Because of their academic abilities and their desire to earn a college degree, they keep Southeastern in the national rankings of producing Native American graduates. We are proud of them for accomplishing their goals of being graduates and wish them the best."

Along with a high percentage of Native American students enrolled (30 percent), Southeastern offers a minor in Choctaw Language, a minor in Native American Studies, a Chickasaw Language and Culture course, and a Native American Student Association.

Wesberry 's staff members include Chantelle Standefer, Jennifer Kemp, Hannah Blackwell, Blaine Powell, and Amy Gantt, You can contact them at 580-745-2376, 580-745-2812 or www.SE.edu/native-american-center.

 [Click here for more Higher Education news](#) 



GCC Awards 995 Degrees and Certificates

Jonathan Talbott, an entrepreneur in solar technology and GCC alumnus, delivered the commencement address Saturday evening to the 2011-12 graduates of the college. Commencement exercises were held in Cruce Stark Auditorium as the college awarded 995 degrees and certificates.

Students receiving Associate of Applied Science degrees (except Associate Degree Nursing) and Certificates of Completion participated in the 4 pm ceremony, and students completing the Associate of Science and Associate of Arts Teaching Degrees participated in the 7 pm ceremony. Receptions followed each ceremony.

Students earning honors were identified during the presentation of diplomas. GC recognizes students receiving Associate of Applied Science and Associate of Science degrees with a grade point average of 3.70-3.84 as cum laude (C), gpa of 3.85-3.99 as magna cum laude (M) and 4.0 as summa cum laude (S). Students earning certificates of completion with A's in all certificate classes are listed with "honors:" (H). Students completing the requirements of the Honors College program are designated with (HC).

The college awards degrees in Associate of Applied Science (AAS), Associate of Science (AS), Associate of Arts in Teaching (AAT) and Certificates of Completion (CERT).

Local area candidates for graduation, listed by hometowns, for 2011-12 include:

Bells: Brett Douglas Lee Hall (AS), Goldie Lou Hall (AAS, 2 CERT), Brittany Dawn Heatley (AAS), Cole Andrew Kimberling (AS), Courtney Deann Lester (CERT), Cynthia Dianne McMillin (AS), Hilary Jordan Monk (AAS), Kristofer Allen Polk (AS), Heather Michele Taylor (AAS)

Collinsville: Sarah Ann Birdsong (AS), Anthony Matthew Hamner (CERT-H), Kelsi Ree Mata (AS), Katie Lynn Pelzel (AS), Carrie Rose Sills (AS), Whitney Celise White (AS)

Gunter: Ronald Ray Baker (CERT-H), Ricardo Manuel Betancourt (AS), Stephanie Leigh Brewer (AAS), Joey Richard Dominguez (CERT-H, CERT, AAS-S), Kaley Camille Driskill (CERT, AAS), Thomas Franklin Horn (AS-S), Sara Elizabeth Horn (AS), Jeffrey Alan Hulsey (AS), Alison Le Ann Keatts (2 CERT), Kelsey Marie King (AS), Nicole Elizabeth Martin (AS), Janet Roxann Miller (CERT), Laci Ann Miller (CERT), Jacob Andrew Newman (AAS), Britnee Lee Rolison (CERT), Marci Lynn Streetman (AAS), John Darrell Thomas (AAS-S, 2 CERT-H)

Howe: Corey Elizabeth Adams (CERT), Luke Edward Baio (AAS), Brittany Nicole Beaty (AS), Jenae Nikol Bryant (CERT), Winona Lyne Campbell (CERT-H, AAS-S), Robin Leigh Gonzalez (AAS-C), Chad Randolph Goucher (AS), Kandy

Sue Harris (AAS), Aaron Kyle Jones (CERT-H), Clint Shane Jones (CERT-H), Tonia Renee Lawler (AAS-M), Jennifer Lynn Lawson (CERT), Jenifer Leigh Moreau (AAS-S), Ana Maria Roberts (CERT-H), Adrian Rodriguez (AS), Stephenie Carlene Shields (AS-M), Tiffany Michelle Skaggs (AAS), Andrea Nicole Slawson (AS), Jenna Maude Stevens (AAS, CERT-H), Caysi Rene Sutton (CERT), Sarah Danielle Tate (AAS), April Lyn Ulmer (AAT), Ron Lavelle Wallis (2 CERT), Danny Micheal Watson (CERT-H), Robert Aaron White (AAT), Susan Melissa Winegarden (AAS, CERT), Joseph Seyed Zolfaghari (AAS),

Tioga: Stevie Marie Davis (AS), Timothy Lyn Elliott (CERT), Cynthia Ann Rogers (AAS)

Tom Bean: Chris Lee Armstrong (CERT), Wendee Love Carlson (AAS), Erin Michelle Dennis (AAS), Joshua Andrew Miller (CERT), Jennifer Renee Ulmer (AAS), Brenda Michelle Wodarz (2 CERT-H), Kelly Jo Anderson (CERT)

Van Alstyne: Laura Del Rosario Alvarez (CERT), Julia Lorrain Anderson (CERT), Beverly Faye Bedrick (CERT), Cheryl Ann Busbey (CERT), Cassondra Brooke Deaver (AS-M), Trey Oliver Downs (CERT), Monika Magdalena Duda (CERT), Lynette Marie Gonzalez (AS), Jared Allen Grover (AS), Tyler Christopher Jones (CERT), Gail Marie Kisner (AAS), Juanita Ernestina Lopez (AS), Tonie Diane Mikulastik (AAS-C), Lucas Michael Norris (AS), Jennifer Diane Parham (AAS), Charles William Partin (AAS-S), Jarrod Lee Renfro (AS), Gwendolyn June Simpson (AAS, CERT), David Allen Smith (CERT), Keri Lynn Taylor (AAS), Darian Alexandra Weber (CERT), Lauren Demi Weber (CERT)

Whitesboro: Michael Anthony Aguirre (CERT), Deborah Renee Barron (CERT), Christopher Lee Braden (CERT), Sherry Leanne Carney (CERT), Hadleigh Dawn Farren (2 AS), Katy Ann Graves (HC, AS-C), Heather Denae Kneisel (AAS), Larry Jon Ludlam (CERT), Gabriel Lee Mason (AAS), Dereck Travys Masters (CERT-H, CERT), Tristan Danyalle Masters (AAT), Aimee Diane Maynard (CERT), Jodi Lou Perry (CERT-H), Waylon Ezselle Peyrot (AAS-M), Clinton Dale Phelps (AAS-S, CERT-H), Jeremy Scott Proffer (CERT), Ashley Suzanne Roberts (AAS-C), Joshua Cole Robinson (AAS, CERT), Lorenzo Saavedra (CERT-H), Shine Tamaoki (AS), Kendyl Breanne Troutz (AS)

Whitewright: Shelly Maxine Alejandro (AS-C), Christopher Lee Bearden (AS-M), Michael David Childers (CERT), Charles Eugene Christian (CERT, AAS), Jared Lee Davis (AS), John Lee Davis (AAS), Aaron Christopher Farrow (HC, AS-S), Nicole Marlene Hall (AAT), Ashley Nicole Kennon (AAS), Molly Ragan Mencl (AS), Jose Luis Pena (AS), Donna Kay Pittman (CERT), Victoria Kaelin Roberts (CERT), Zakkery Nathaniel Rudolf (AAS), Michael Travis Slaughter (AS), Nathaniel York Stewart (CERT), Donnie Ray Stockstill (CERT), Alex Raymond Taraba (AAS, CERT), Amanda Linnette Taylor (CERT), Judson Ray Wall (AS), Dylan Jay White (CERT), Audria Hope Worley (AS)



Howe's That

Recipe



by Lana Rideout

Stories about my Grandmother Brown – Here name was Clara Drusilla Landrum Brown. She has several older sisters who liked to curl her hair when she started school. She thought she was really something.

When she went to the outhouse one cold morning, she wrote her name on the frosted pane on school (she couldn't figure out how the teacher knew it was her that did it).

Once she was playing with some of her sisters and brothers. She ran through some burning leaves and got some scars on her legs. Another time a tornado came through and picked up the house. The tornado set it down just off a small bit. Gran saw a straw driven into a tree trunk by that same tornado.

Other stories - My Spanish teacher at W.W. Samuell High School (Dallas) was Jasmine Smoot. She was a short lady with dark black hair. She told us a story about going to a cafeteria and seeing the words "chicken pies" on the menu. In Spanish, "pies" means feet. As she looked at "chicken pies," she translated it to "chicken feet." She thought that was an odd dish to serve and then it dawned on her that it was food – pies and not feet.

My 12th grade English teacher was Olga Murley. She had a son studying at Rice University and she bragged to us about his accomplishments. She often used the phrase "Every mama black bird thinks her baby bird is the blackest."



Brunch Casserole

2 pounds Monterey Jack cheese, shredded
1 pound Cheddar cheese, shredded
8 ounces Pepper Jack cheese, shredded
2 (or more) packages thinly sliced ham, chopped
1 (4-ounce) can chopped green chiles, drained
1 (2-ounce) jar pimento, drained and chopped
10 eggs
3/4 cup milk
Salt and pepper to taste

Mix the Monterey Jack cheese, Cheddar cheese, Pepper Jack cheese, ham, green chiles and pimento in a bowl. Spread the cheese mixture evenly in a 9x13-inch or 11x14-inch baking dish. Whisk the eggs and milk in a bowl until fluffy and season with salt and pepper. Pour the egg mixture over the prepared layer. Bake at 350 degrees for 40 to 45 minutes or until brown. Let stand for 5 minutes before serving.

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Howe Elementary "Top Dogs" for the week ending May 11th are: Lukas Peacock, Catherine Switzer, Hunter Brussow, Kaden Raborn, Brooke Robinson, Ethan Sanders, Kobi Zolfaghari, Jaryn Grisham, and Sergio Rico.



HES April Students of the Month

1st Row: Mahlon Walker, Emery Snapp; 2nd Row: Caytie CoCo, Benjamin Speed, Stone Trevino, Jalie Hill; 3rd Row: Mason Moreau, Kamryn Gardner, Layton Elvington, Madison Kenney

Howe Elementary Pre-K & Kindergarten Registration

May 1st - May 30th
8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

The following items are required for registration

1. Shot Record
2. Birth Certificate
3. Social Security Card
4. Drivers License
5. Proof of Residence (utility bill, lease agreement, your name must appear on proof)
6. Proof of income (Pre-K Only)

Qualifications for Pre-K are as follows:

Unable to speak and comprehend the English Language.
Economically disadvantaged (participate in the National School Lunch Program)
Homeless
Be the child of a member of the armed forces of the United States military forces, reserved component of the armed forces, who was injured or killed while serving on active duty.
Have ever been in the conservatorship (foster care) of the Department of Family and Protective Services

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TB ISD Receives \$1 Mil. Grant

Tom Bean ISD is the recipient of an energy grant. The school lost more than \$200,000; but the district will receive a grant for one million dollars.

Due some extremely old equipment, plus a lot of paperwork, Tom Bean ISD is receiving a much needed makeover.

Tom Bean superintendent Kathy Garrison was excited about the grant.

The "Cool Schools" energy efficiency grant was awarded by the state comptroller's office. The money will go toward replacing old heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems in all the buildings -- 65 in all. Garrison helped write the grant that was submitted back in August.

"That is a twenty percent cost savings across the board in energy reductions for our district," said Garrison, "where we can use that money and taxpayer money elsewhere in our district to instruct our kids and support our kids."

Garrison was aware about the award back in October, but was unable to share the good news with parents and staff until final confirmation last week.

Parents and staff are pleased with the grant. A million bucks might be a drop in the bucket to some school districts, but to one with an annual budget of around seven million dollars it's a breath of fresh air.



Brandon McLain named All-State Academic Athlete



Tom Bean MS Student Wins Scholarship

Shelby Thompson, Tom Bean Middle School Student, Wins National Scholarship from Raytheon's MathMovesU Program

MathMovesU invited the 6th, 7th and 8th grade students nationwide to answer, "How does Math put the action in your passion?" Based on a multimedia or paper submission, students will be awarded camperships of up to \$1,000 or scholarships of \$1,000 and their schools will receive matching grants of \$1,000 to be used for math-related programs. Students must demonstrate an enthusiasm for math and the ability to illustrate the importance of math in the hobby/sports/subject/activity the student cares about the most. Tom Bean Middle School students turned in entries for the scholarship opportunity along with hundreds of schools across the nation. Raytheon awarded 150 scholarships national. There were eight scholarship recipients in Texas. Tom Bean Middle School student, Shelby Thompson, was awarded one of the eight scholarships for her outstanding application! Principal Mr. Dewitt Smith says, "Shelby is a terrific student, a hard worker and very deserving of the scholarship. We are so very proud of her". Shelby Thompson said "She is thankful to Raytheon for the scholarship and for providing students with this opportunity. She also noted that "She was so appreciative of Ms. Reagan Wilson and Ms. Julie Cummings for supporting her in the process". Additionally, Shelby's 7th grade Math teacher, Ms. Reagan Wilson, stated, "I am so proud of Shelby. She is such a great student and works so hard in my math class".

Thompson was presented the scholarship award at the 6th and 7th grade Awards Ceremony at Tom Bean Middle School by Mrs. Sherry Howard, Mayor of Tom Bean. Ms. Howard, an employee of Raytheon, was honored to present the award to Thompson. Ms. Howard has been instrumental in bringing the Math Moves U Program to Tom Bean each year. This is the first time students have had the opportunity to apply for the MathMovesU scholarship.

For years, Raytheon has dedicated resources to creating a greater awareness and appreciation of math among young people. Raytheon understands that in order to inspire students, we need to engage them when they are young, support them during critical middle school years and continue to build on that support throughout their academic lives. Raytheon's many-tiered MathMovesU program utilizes a host of engaging learning programs, including MathMovesU's interactive website, scholarships, sponsorships and events to help students from middle school through college remain interested in math and science and, by extension, ensure the continued strength of the American work force.

Raytheon celebrated the fifth anniversary of the company's signature MathMovesU program recently by launching a new MathMovesU website-<<http://www.mathmovesu.com/>>. This expanded resource provides an interactive online destination for middle school students, parents, educators and others interested in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) education excellence. The new website is the latest effort in a program that has inspired more than 1 million U.S. middle school students to experience the excitement that is possible with math and science.

Mr. Smith stated that he hopes that this is the first in many future student scholarships to be awarded to TBMS students as a result of the partnership between Raytheon and Tom Bean Middle School.



Johnnie Jones

Howe- A celebration of life for Johnnie Lynn Jones was held at 3 pm Thursday May 17 at Waldo Funeral Home. Rev. Mark Fletcher of the Elmont Baptist Church will officiate. Burial will follow at Hall Cemetery with Randy Luster, Chris Luster, Christopher Bailey, Ryan Grounds, Zack Gillard, and Calob Gann serving as pallbearers. Honorary pallbearers were all Tyson Maintenance Crew members. Johnnie, 53, lost his 3 ½ year battle with pancreatic cancer on Monday May 14, 2012 at his home in Howe.

Johnnie was born October 15, 1958 in McKinney, Texas to J.W and Lena (Gillard) Jones. He graduated from Howe schools in 1977 and earned an associate's degree from Grayson County College in Manufacturing Technology. On November 2, 1979 Johnnie married Carolyn Winn in Howe, Texas. He was currently employed by Tyson Foods Inc in Sherman. Johnnie was an avid outdoorsman, a life member of the NRA, and a member of the Team R&R Fishing Club.

Johnnie will be remembered by his family as an amazing father and husband. He is survived by his wife of 32 years, Carolyn Winn Jones of Howe; three daughters, Katrina Jones and her children, Emmaleigh, Konnor, and Gage, all of Howe, Danielle Hurst and husband Blake and their son Tripp, all of Howe, and Heather Gibson of Sherman; father, J.W. Jones of Howe; sister, Patty Wiggins and her husband Calvin, and their children, Marcy Wiggins and her daughter, Tori, and Leslie Wiggins and her boyfriend Bruce Blevins, all of Howe; sister, Deborha Womack and her children, Kelly Gann and wife Carie and their children, Kallie, Calob, and Charity, all of Howe, Lacey Sartor and her children, Ethan, Montana, and Landon of Sherman, and Dustin Womack and his daughters, Alexia and Katie Lynn; brother, James Jones of Howe; his best friend, Curtis Luster and wife Pam of Whitewright; and many aunts, uncles, and cousins. He was preceded in death by his mother, Lena Jones, his paternal and maternal grandparents, and several aunts, uncles, and cousins.

The family received friends Wednesday at Waldo Funeral Home. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to PanCan.org or to the Tyson Foods' Relay for Life Team.

The register book can be signed online at waldofuneralhome.com.





Chrystal Opry House Gospel Event

This Saturday night, May 26, the Melody Ranch Gospel Band will perform. Members of the band are Al Guinn, guitar and vocals, George Kirby, fiddle, Judy Ziola, piano and vocals, Keith Francis, steel guitar, Archie Shearer, lead guitar and vocals, Pat Shearer, vocals, Jody Cofer, bass and vocals, and Bill Hayes, guitar and vocals.

Doors will open at 6 pm and the program will begin at 7 o'clock. Admission for this program is \$6. Children under 12 are admitted free with an adult. A concession area with brisket sandwiches, hot dogs and refreshments is available.

The Chrystal Opry House is located one and a half 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 no smoking is allowed inside the building. Contact Bill Hayes (903-546-6893) for more information.



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The Summit Church Yard Sale

Saturday, May 19

8:00 - 2:00

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Proceeds will go to support our team going to serve orphans in Zambia this June!

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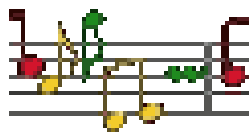
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Jazz Weekend in Denison

This weekend, Downtown Denison will feature a jazz lover's dream with music and photographs. The Ephraim Owens Experience and Jazz at Five will complement The Fine Art of Jazz, an exhibition showcasing the names and faces synonymous with the Kansas City tradition of American jazz. The free photographic exhibit is open Tuesday through Saturday and will run through Friday, May 25 at 413 W. Main in Downtown Denison.



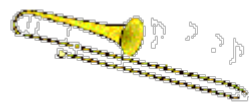
The Ephraim Owens Experience will be live at the Rialto Theatre in Denison on Friday, May 18 at 8 pm. Tickets are only \$10. Ephraim will be featuring Red Young on the B3 Hammond and Brannen Temple on Drums.

Ephraim is one of the hottest horn players on the Austin Club Scene, and he is especially well known for his signature solos. He is a very popular South by Southwest artist and has been voted the "Best Horn" in Austin.



Saturday, May 19 will feature Jazz at Five performing in the exhibit space at 413 W. Main. During this free concert, performers will be offering commentary from 4-7 during "Downtown Open Late". Downtown Denison businesses will have sidewalk sales and extended hours on this special Saturday evening.

Concerts are made possible through a grant from the Wal Mart Foundation. ExhibitsUSA is a national program of the Mid-America Arts Alliance through support of the National Endowment for the Arts and the Texas Commission of the Arts. For more information, call 903-464-4452 or visit www.downtowndenison.com <<https://mail.cityofdenison.com/owa/redir.aspx?C=a16a59347d784e45bf5b9089353c8e41&URL=http%3a%2f%2fwww.downtowndenison.com%2f>>.



Charlie Parker. Pete Johnson. Mary Lou Williams. Count Basie. Jay McShann. Booker Washington.

These and many more musicians and vocalists associated with Prohibition-era jazz found a welcome home in Kansas City nightclubs, bustling with crowds eager for the entertainment. The Roaring 20s saw local and out-of-town musicians forge a distinctive Kansas City style of jazz as they enjoyed the camaraderie of all-night jam sessions with boisterous, noisy clubs as the backdrop. Many of the musicians who got their start in Kansas City's jazz hub became household names across the nation in the 1930s and 1940s as jazz exploded in popularity, but the genesis of the movement also left its mark forever on the Kansas City music scene. Today the tradition jams on, with clubs across the city featuring jazz nightly.

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AgriLand Co-Sponsors Fire Protection Dinner for Landowners, Rural Homeowners

TYLER, Texas - Landowners learned what a powerful force nature can be during last year's devastating wildfire season. This year, a free Community Wildfire Protection meeting will help them learn how fire behaves so that they can safeguard their lives and livelihoods. The June 5 meeting in Huntsville will include a free rib-eye dinner sponsored in part by AgriLand Farm Credit.

Rural homeowners will hear a presentation from the Huntsville Fire Department on the Ready Set Go! program, designed for people who live in the wildland-urban interface, or those areas where fire can quickly spread to homes from forests, brush and grasslands. Texas AgriLife Extension Service will present tips to protect the animals that depend on livestock managers.

Additional information will be available from the Texas Forest Service, the Walker County Office of Emergency Management and other city, county and state organizations.

"The safety of our customers is a top priority at AgriLand Farm Credit," said John Holland, the rural lending cooperative's chief executive officer. "A wildfire can't always be prevented, but planning and preparation can go a long way in protecting lives and property."

Seating for the meeting is limited, and registration is required by May 30. Call the Walker Country Texas AgriLife Extension office at 936-435-2426 to reserve a seat for the meeting, to be held at 6:30 pm June 5 at the Walker County Storm Shelter, Veterans Complex, 455 Texas 75 North in Huntsville. The dinner will be provided by AgriLand, Texas Farm Bureau-Walker County and Nolan Ryan's Guaranteed Tender Beef.

AgriLand Farm Credit is a customer-owned lending cooperative that finances agricultural operations, rural recreational property, agribusiness and other rural real estate. It is headquartered in Tyler and has lending offices in Athens, Beaumont, Bonham, Clarksville, Fairfield, Gainesville, Nacogdoches, New Waverly, Paris, Sulphur Springs and Tyler.

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Pickup truck seat-belt use touted during 2012 'Click It or Ticket' campaign

COLLEGE STATION - Texans have a love affair with pickups, and while residents of the Lone Star State think these vehicles 'rock,' they also need to know that they roll, said a Texas AgriLife Extension Service safety expert.

"Even though pickups are larger than cars and their owners tend to feel safer in them, they are twice as likely to roll over as passenger cars," said Bev Kellner, AgriLife Extension program specialist-passenger safety at Texas A&M University in College Station.

Kellner said about one in four vehicles registered in Texas is a pickup truck. And according to a 2011 study conducted by the Texas Transportation Institute, only 80 percent of pickup truck drivers buckle up, as compared with more than 90 percent of regular seat belt users in all other types of vehicles.

"Pickup truck drivers and their passengers also typically have a lower seat-belt usage rate than drivers of other types of vehicles," she said. "Statistically, pickup truck drivers and passengers are the least likely to buckle up. Also, one out of every two pickup truck drivers killed in a traffic crash in 2010 was not wearing a seat belt."

Kellner said the lower overall seat belt use by pickup drivers is likely a combination of the false sense of security and an incorrect belief that seat belts don't need to be used during short trips.

"Pickup truck drivers and passengers also tend to be younger, male drivers who are either not getting or are disregarding the well-known fact that seat belts save lives," she said. "And pickup crashes can be especially serious - even deadly - due to their tendency to roll over and for unbelted occupants to be thrown from the vehicle."

Click It or Ticket is a two-week-long program designed to emphasize the ease - and cost effectiveness - of using a seat belt, Kellner said, adding that AgriLife Extension supports the campaign and is working in partnership to help promote its positive messages about seat belt use.

She noted that this marks the eleventh year of the Click It or Ticket campaign in Texas, and that the campaign has saved an estimated 2,843 lives statewide and has prevented more than 48,000 serious injuries from car crashes.

The Click It or Ticket campaign time frame includes the Memorial Day weekend, and this year the campaign is scheduled for May 21-June 3. During this time, extra law enforcement representatives will be on the roads enforcing the seat belt and child restraint laws in an effort to save lives.

"The campaign will also stress that under Texas law seat belt use is now required for both front seat and back seat passengers," Kellner said. "Fines for noncompliance can range from \$25 dollars to \$250 dollars. Motorists can save money and, more importantly, save lives by buckling up on every trip."



LET'S REMINISCE: Birth Order

By Jerry Lincecum

Are you a first-born, a middle child, or a caboose? Scientists have discovered that where you fit in the birth-order makes a difference in your upbringing and personality. I'll bet you have some stories to illustrate their theories.

First-borns are expected to accept a good deal of responsibility for helping to raise their siblings. As the eldest of five, I can tell you all about cleaning up some messes. In some families (not mine) it doesn't end with childhood.

One lady told me she enjoyed bossing her sibs but was shocked to find all of them had named her in their wills as the person to raise their children in case they departed prematurely.

Middle children are often mediators and tend to drift through life. One of my writers commented on being excluded from the kitchen by her mother and older sisters; when she married, the lack of cooking experience was a problem. When her older brother suggested they explore the woods one day rather than walk to school, she just went along and suffered her first whipping as a result.

Last-borns tend to be babied because their parents have let up on their strict rules for behavior. The most extreme case I've heard about was two girls born 18 years apart. The parents had been very strict during the first one's childhood but totally reversed course before her sister arrived. Now the two sisters enjoy discussing their radically different childhoods.

The caboose is a "surprise" child born several years after the others. He or she is apt to grow up in a different world from older sibs. I was sixteen when my youngest sister was born, and while we are close now, I didn't really get to know her before going off to college, getting married and having my own children.

Pity the poor "only child": she never learns to share unless fortunate enough to have cousins that are like siblings. Payback comes when these folks complain about having no brothers or sisters to help when taking care of their elderly parents. One of my cousins was an only child and she had only one child. But that child chose to have four kids within five years. Seems to me like an over-reaction.

On rare occasions there is the brother or sister you never knew about. My mother had a stillborn child in between my brother and me. When I stumbled on his grave in the family cemetery, some gaps in my early childhood were explained by a mother's grief that I never before knew had even existed.

There are always exceptions to these general trends in the effects of birth order. If you have stories to share, I'd love to know about them. Send them to me: jlincecum@me.com.

-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>](mailto:jlincecum@me.com)



Texoma Enterprise

Howe, Texas
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Restoring Davy's Spring

By Bob Bowman

An East Texas landmark remembered by motorists from the last century has been given a long-deserved facelift at Crockett.

Anyone over fifty who traveled down El Camino Real, known today as Texas Highway 21, probably remembers stopping at the Davy Crockett Spring and sampling its cool water.

For children, it was an easy-to-digest lesson in Texas history. Some told their friends in school, "I drank water where Davy Crockett did."

Thanks to a renovation effort, the spring site now includes a mural depicting a reunion between Davy Crockett and A.E. Gossett, a old family friend from Tennessee, as Crockett made his way across East Texas in 1835 on his way to the Alamo in San Antonio.

A log cabin, perhaps similar to the one Gossett built near Crockett when he settled in what is now Houston County, is being moved to the site from Davy Crockett Memorial Park, also in Crockett.

A fort will also be built in the middle of the park, along with a "snake tail" fence of the type used by pioneers in East Texas.

The spring fountain, which has stood at its site for longer than most people can remember, was cleaned and spruced up. And a creek bed has been cleared of debris.

Another addition will include banners of Davy Crockett along El Camino Real along a route from East Houston Avenue though the town square to the park for tourists to follow.

Created by local artist Lucas Short, the colorful mural captures Davy and Gossett meeting in a woodlands setting in late 1835. Three months



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Dot's

D-A-S-H-E-S



By Dorothy N. Fowler

I ran into an old friend Tuesday while I was shopping at a big box store in Sherman. We sat in the store restaurant, shared a Coke and a cup of coffee and caught up on what is going on in each other's lives.

This friend was once a member of the John Birch Society. I was on the Birch Society hit list in W. Texas. She is an admirer of the Tea Party. I think the Tea Party is composed of people who are being manipulated by the Koch brothers and are involved in a rich man's war and a poor man's fight. My friend believes President Obama has violated the United States Constitution in matters of religion, but could not cite a specific instance when this was true.

I asked her where she was when George W. Bush was signing laws accompanied by what he called "signing statements" declaring that he believed that a law passed by Congress was either wholly or in part unconstitutional and would not enforce it? She said she had never heard of that.

Truth to tell, I never heard of it until the Bush administration and so I looked it up. Google provided several excellent articles on the subject. Most of the ones I read were politically neutral and provided enough information that any reader who came to the subject without a preconceived idea could weigh the evidence and reach a conclusion.

It is in the context of weighing reliable evidence that reaching conclusions should occur. It is absolutely possible to examine the same reliable evidence and to reach different conclusions. Lincoln/Douglas debaters do that all the time. When they are debating, they are engaging in civil discourse.

There is pitiful little of civil discourse these days. One of the newly elected Tea Partiers who will represent the Republican Party in one of the upper Midwestern states said last week that his idea of compromise is for Democrats to abandon their positions and agree with Republicans. He may be elected to Congress in the fall, and if he is, along with



BOB BOWMAN'S

EAST TEXAS, continued

later, Crockett and about 180 other Alamo defenders died at the Alamo, becoming symbols for liberty.

When Houston County was created by the Republic of Texas in June of 1837, A.E. Gossett donated land for a county seat and, because of his donation, he and his father Elijah were given the privilege of naming the county and the county seat.

Since both Gossetts had served at the Battle of San Jacinto in April of 1836, they named the county for Sam Houston, who led the troops during the battle, and the county seat for Elijah's boyhood friend from Rutherford County, Tennessee.

When the Gossetts settled in East Texas, it was so remote that when they wanted a pound of coffee or other supplies, someone had to ride a horse to a trading post at Nacogdoches, more than sixty miles away.

It was a journey of two hard days and required A.E. Gossett to leave his wife and children alone at home. But friendly Indian women often stayed with the family as Gossett made his way over a dim, rough woodland trail.

Next time you're in Crockett, be sure you stop at Davy's spring. You, too, can boast that you drank water where Davy did.

(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

other people of that same persuasion, we will be in for another two years of Congressional gridlock.

I kept several signs in my classroom. One proclaimed, "Just because you are paranoid doesn't mean they aren't out to get you." Another warned, "Don't suspect a conspiracy when plain stupidity probably caused the problem." My favorite, however, told students, "Don't confuse me with the facts. My mind is made up."

That gets me to another assertion that my friend made. She said that some schools are providing prayer rooms and foot baths for Moslem students. I had heard this before and my previous research indicated that there is some truth to what she said, although who the President of the United States has absolutely nothing to do with it.

There is, as a matter of fact, enough truth to her assertion that if we examine reliable evidence we could reach different conclusions about the answer to the following questions: Are Muslim students receiving special treatment from public schools and colleges and universities in order to help them preserve their faith?

If so, is that special treatment a violation of the First Amendment to the United States Constitution, which forbids government to establish a religion or to prohibit the free exercise thereof? The abundance of court cases involving the establishment and free exercise clauses requires governments (that includes school districts) to be neutral, neither encouraging nor inhibiting religious practice.

There is an abundance of unreliable evidence on this issue. You can easily recognize it because it is in the form of rants that cite few if any specific places, names, instances. If such are cited, further research indicates they just don't exist or if they do, not in the way they were described.

The *Christian Science Monitor* had what I thought was the single most comprehensive article on the subject, although the information it provided needed to be supplemented by information from other reliable sources.

As a result of my research, I reached a conclusion that I did not like.

If any of this has piqued your curiosity, you have as much access to the Internet as I and you can do your own research for reliable information from reliable sources and reach your own conclusion. Then and only then can you make an informed decision about what, if anything, you should do.

Good luck and happy hunting.





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Capitol Watch

By Larry Phillips, State Representative



Interim Charges for House Committees

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

House Committee on State Affairs

*Examine the issue of resource adequacy in the Texas electricity market, federal and state interventions in the marketplace that may be negatively impacting future adequacy, and the best way to maintain resource adequacy.

*Examine whether current law ensures broadband provider access to an electric cooperative's utility poles and facilities pursuant to reasonable, cost-based, and nondiscriminatory rates, terms, and conditions. Study methods for improving access to electric cooperative utility poles to reduce unnecessary costs and delays for the delivery of broadband service to Texas consumers.

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

*Identify inefficiencies in the regulation of public utilities in order to minimize the cost of regulation to consumers.

*Examine methods of cloud computing technology to streamline agency operations and generate greater efficiencies for more cost-effective operations. (Joint with the House Committee on Technology)

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

*Monitor the implementation of legislation regarding public-private partnerships on state-owned property.

The House Committee on State Affairs can be reached at 512-463-0814. For more information on these charges or any other matter of state government, please contact my office by writing to P.O. Box 2910, Austin, TX 78768-2910 or by emailing me at larry.phillips@house.state.tx.us. My district office phone number is (903) 891-7297.

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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

Howe Public Schools

Howe Public Library

Library information, Language courses, Student events

Van Alstyne Public Library

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

Search Engines-

Yahoo

Alta Vista

Google

Ask Jeeves

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

Quotations Page

Royalty Free Music

Spanish Dictionary

Selected Sites

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

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

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

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

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RFD 1, Rev. John Wade, pastor,
903/482-6761

SOVEREIGN GRACE
BAPTIST CHURCH

George Seevers, 903/364-2942

Cherry Mound

BAPTIST CHURCH, 6335 FM 1753, Denison

Dennis Stewart, pastor,

Sun School 9:45; worship, 11, evening 6; Wednesday,
7pm

Dorchester

DORCHESTER BAPTIST

CHURCH Hwy. 902W,

903/476-5525

Gunter

COLLEGE HILL

CHURCH OF CHRIST

304 E. College, 903/433-4835

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

300 Pecan, 903/433-3335

GRACE BIBLE

FELLOWSHIP

Pastor Bruce Stinson

Brooks Plaza

Sundays - 9:30 AM Worship

www.thegbf.com

VALLEY

CHURCH OF CHRIST

Howe

APOSTOLIC LIFE UPC

405 S. Collins Frwy,

Jerry Pentecost, 903/821-9166; Sun. 10am & 6pm

NEW BEGINNING FELLOWSHIP/AG,

912 S Denny St.

903/532-6828; Roger Roper,

S-school, 9:30, worship 10:45

BETHEL BAPTIST

Hwy. 902 E & Ponderosa Rd, Weldon Hutson, pastor,

903/532-6032

SUMMIT CHURCH

Howe Middle School Cafeteria,

903/815-1472 ; Kcvin Bouse

CHURCH OF CHRIST

N. Collins Frwy,

903/532-6441;

Toby Socheting

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

100 E. Davis, 903/532-5504;

Roger Tidwell, pastor

FIRST UNITED METHODIST

CHURCH 810 N. Denny,

903/532-6718;

Tom Medley, minister

Ida

IDA BAPTIST CHURCH,

903/813- 3263. S- School

10 am, Worship 11 am

Charles Morris, pastor

Luella

LUELLA FIRST

BAPTIST CHURCH

3162 St. Hwy. 11,

Harvey Patterson,

903/893-2252

A CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP, 150 Fellowship Ln,

Luella

Mike Ball, 903/870-0219

Tom Bean

CHURCH OF CHRIST

903/546-6620

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FIRST UNITED METHODIST

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Galatians 1:6-12 (KJV)

6 I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel:

7 Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ.

8 But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed.

9 As we said before, so say I now again, If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed.

10 For do I now persuade men, or God? or do I seek to please men? for if I yet pleased men, I should not be the servant of Christ.

11 But I certify you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached of me is not after man.

12 For I neither received it of man, neither was I taught it, but by the revelation of Jesus Christ.

Christian Fellowship

Each Sunday morning A Christian Fellowship starts the morning with coffee and doughnut fellowship at 9 am followed by Sunday School classes for all ages from the cradle to adult classes at 9:30. Worship service begins at 10:30. The Praise Team will lead the worship service. Dress is casual.

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

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

The church host's a "movie night" every month. This "free" event includes free hot buttered popcorn, candy, and drinks. The movie for May will be shown on May 18 and the movie to be shown is "Dolphin Tale." Join them for a great movie! Bring your family out for a free night of fellowship and fun.

C R Men's Step Study group has been put on hold for now. This class is for recovering alcoholics that would like to reconnect with God. Please contact Jesse @ 903-744-2716 for more information on this program.

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

The church will be hosting VBS July 16-20 from 6:30-8:30pm. So mark your calendar for this event.

For more information about any event please contact myself, Cathy Hossle @903-814-5381 or Mike Ball @903-870-0219. Our 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.



Tom Bean Church of Christ

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

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

"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**



Local Churches

Duane Peters,
903-815-2278
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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

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Northwest corner Hwy 5 & County Line Rd.
CHURCH OF CHRIST
105 Hopson,
Shannon Jackson, minister,
903/482-6033
EAST SIDE
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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
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102 E. Marshall, 903/482-6334,
Jimmy Tarrant, pastor
FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
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FIRST PENTECOSTAL CHURCH
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The List

Perhaps you have heard the story about a woman was bitten by a stray dog. Tests were made on the health of the dog. "I'm sorry to inform you," the doctor said, "but you have been bitten by a rabid dog."

The woman sat down and instantly began to write. She wrote furiously for some time. When the doctor noticed what the woman was doing he said, "It won't be necessary for you to write your will. I'm going to give you a series of shots which will cure you."

"I'm not writing my will," the woman said. "I'm making a list of all the people I intend to bite!"

I know a woman that has kept a long list of names for a long time. The names on the list were written by her own hand. The lettering is small because of the number of names on the list. The woman has been known to look at the list at least once a day, and she has looked at each name on the list, each time.

Is it a list of people with whom she has some problems? Are these names of people that she refuses to forgive and likes to bring to remembrance daily so that she can stew over their misdeeds? Absolutely not!

This long list of names is her prayer list! The woman who made the list, looked at it daily for a long time and mentioned each name in deliberate prayer, is Mildred Nelson.

Mildred Nelson, a dear Christian woman, passed away last week on May 8, 2012. She leaves a legacy of faith and love for all who knew her. Her prayer list exemplifies the love and concern that she continually manifested for others.

Her list reminds me of another list: it's called The Lamb's Book of Life (see Phil 4:3; Revelation 3:5; 13:8; 17:8; 20:12, 15; 21:27; 22:19). It's a "list" of names that God has recorded in a "book" of those who are saved by the blood of Jesus.

Each of us needs to be saved because each of us has sinned (Romans 3:23), and "the wages of sin is death" (Romans 6:23).

But God loves us so much that He gave His Son Jesus to die on the cross so that we might be forgiven of our sins and receive the gift of eternal life (John 3:16; Romans 6:23). He adds to the Book of Life those who accept His offer of salvation through Christ.

To accept God's offer of salvation and life, and to be added to the Lamb's Book of Life, we must place our faith and trust in Jesus (Acts 16:30-31), turn from our sins in repentance (Acts 17:30-31), confess Him before men (Romans 10:9-10), and be baptized (immersed) into Christ for the forgiveness of our sins (Acts 2:38).

Then, we must continue to live faithfully to the Lord. Jesus promised, "He who overcomes shall be clothed in white garments, and I will not blot out his name from the Book of Life; but I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels" (Revelation 3:5).

It would be an honor for one to have been on Mrs. Mildred's prayer list and to be prayed for daily by this godly woman. But Mrs. Mildred would want most of all for each one of our names to be in the Lamb's Book of Life!

Are YOU on the Lamb's list? You CAN be, if only you will trust and obey Him today. Won't you?

David A. Sargent, Minister,
davidsargent1@comcast.net

Church of Christ at Creekwood,
<http://www.creekwoodcc.org>, Mobile,
Alabama

*In loving memory of Mildred Nelson (August 28, 1928 – May 8, 2012). Thank you, Mrs. Mildred for loving us enough to pray for us. David A. Sargent, Minister

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





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LEGAL TIPS:

Estate Planning & Resolutions

By Matt Sullivan, J.D., LL.M.
Attorney & Counselor at Law

Many people resolve to improve themselves for each New Year. For example, they promise to change their diet, lose weight, and avoid voting for liberal politicians. Shouldn't estate planning be on your list of resolutions?

First, what would happen to your kids if something happened to you? Have you taken the time to have your estate planning documents properly prepared and executed? Some of the most important documents to consider are a Will, Durable Power of Attorney, Directive to Physicians, Medical Power of Attorney, HIPAA Release, and a Declaration of Guardian. Each document plays an important part in the overall plan.

The Will can be used to dispose of your property upon your death. Within it, you can also establish trusts and appoint guardians for your kids. A Durable Power of Attorney will authorize someone to act on your behalf if you are unable to do so. The Directive to Physicians is also known as a Living Will and is your opportunity to state in writing how you want to be treated in an end-of-life situation. The Medical Power of Attorney will allow someone to make most medical decisions for you if you can't. The HIPAA Release will allow your representative to obtain your medical information. The Declaration of Guardian can be used to appoint or prevent someone from being appointed as your guardian and it can be used to appoint a guardian for your children.

Second, when was the last time you reviewed the title to your assets or the beneficiary designations of assets you own? These can be extremely important issues in the event of a person's death. Assets that have properly filled out beneficiary designations will be paid to the beneficiary regardless of what is stated in the owner's Will. Such assets include life insurance, IRAs, and 401(k)s to name a few.

Third, what would happen to your pets if you died or became disabled and weren't able to care for them? Pets are extremely important to many people and should be considered when preparing an estate plan.

While estate planning may not be the most fun or exciting undertaking, it can be extremely important and beneficial for your family.

Matt Sullivan, J.D., LL.M., Attorney & Counselor at Law, can be reached at 903-482-0099 or through his law firm's web site, www.mattsullivanattorney.com.

This article is not intended as specific legal advice and you should consult with your own attorney.





Farming is a little like skydiving

By Nathan Smith, Field Editor

Last week I saw miles and miles of Texas. I traveled to West Texas to visit with cotton farmers about the crop that's going in the ground as we speak.

They are pouring seed into planter boxes and rolling across the freshly prepared ground. They plant with an optimism that seems to renew each season, no matter how bad the last year hurt.

On Interstate 27, I saw a sign advertising skydiving. It got me thinking about the huge risk farmers take on faith – every year.

As we talked, one farmer motioned toward his truck and trailer. There on a flatbed sat \$17,000 in seed that might never reach harvest. Diesel fuel is on the rise, and equipment repairs constantly need to be made. Fertilizer prices could blow past record highs.

One farm worker and I talked about the major hail events of the past. He remembered one evening, while on the tractor a few years ago, a large hail storm came rolling across the Panhandle. It rained down baseball-sized chunks of ice and shattered windows in houses and cars. It also decimated the cotton crop.

“It looked like snow on the ground after it passed through,” he said of the cotton that never made it to market.

Months of toiling, planning, working all gone in 30 minutes. It happens to someone every year.

That is why crop insurance is more than a nebulous term thrown around meeting halls and congressional offices. It's tangible.

For farmers, crop insurance is fuel in the tank, seed in the ground and hope when everything goes bad. It means survival, and it's needed and warranted.

Without crop insurance, the 2011 drought would have ended a way of life for many farming families across the state. Some farmers were forced out even in spite of the safety net.

A friend of mine, who recently returned to the family farm, nailed it. He said without crop insurance, farming is kind of like jumping out of a plane with no parachute.

Not many operating loans can be secured without some kind of recovery plan. Even at 70 percent recovery, it's still a high-stakes gamble.

I asked one cotton farmer near Abilene why he wouldn't just be happy with an insurance check every year.

“You can't farm insurance; it's not sustainable. I want to make a crop,” he replied.

He and hundreds like him are farmers because they love watching a crop come to fruition. They appreciate the way of life agriculture offers and want to continue to provide food and fiber for the state and country.

For them, crop insurance is not a hand-out or some kind of farmer's welfare. It is risk protection for a business that takes millions of dollars to operate statewide.

It ensures crops like cotton can flourish in Texas. Take it away and not only will farmers be out of luck in the next drought but the cost of socks – and everything else made with cotton - will go through the roof.

Thankfully, farmers are willing to take the risk year after year. If they wanted an easy job, they would be doing something else – like skydiving.

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

[More Editorial](#)

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Obamacare's Assault on Women

By Sally C. Pipes

President Obama has opened up a healthy lead over Republican candidate Mitt Romney among women, according to a new Reuters poll. Many pundits are attributing the lead to the president's healthcare law -- particularly its much-discussed mandate of contraception coverage.

But President Obama's views -- particularly on health care -- are hardly in step with most women. The law fundamentally shifts control over medical decisions from patients and their doctors to the federal government. That's bad news for all Americans -- especially women.

For starters, it's not even clear that women support Obamacare's contraception mandate, which requires all organizations -- including religiously affiliated ones -- to provide coverage for services that may run contrary to their teachings.

According to a March New York Times/CBS poll, a majority of women believe that religious organizations should not have to cover the full cost of birth control. A plurality of women even said that no employer -- secular or religious -- should be forced to supply contraceptives.

These women recognize that a government powerful enough to mandate birth control coverage is also powerful enough to potentially take it -- or any other medical service -- away down the road.

Obamacare's reams of mandates endanger Americans' ability to select the health insurance they want -- or to keep the insurance they already have.

This week, the House Ways and Means Committee released a report estimating that American employers could save \$422 billion over the course of a decade by dropping insurance coverage in 2014, when Obamacare's insurance subsidies kick in.

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) projects that up to 20 million people will lose the coverage they currently get through their employer once Obamacare is fully in place. Former CBO Director Douglas Holtz-Eakin estimates that nearly twice as many -- 35 million -- will be dropped from employer plans.

Many of those folks will find themselves on Medicaid in swift order.

Further decisions that should be between doctors and patients will increasingly end up in the hands of the feds.

Just look at the new Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI), which specializes in comparing the effectiveness of various treatment methods.

Comparative-effectiveness research has been used for years in Great Britain to decide which treatments the government will pay for. A new drug or procedure must be deemed to provide sufficient bang for its buck.

In other words, a treatment may be medically effective but not considered cost-effective according to the government's quality-adjusted life years index. In that case, Britain's nationalized healthcare system wouldn't cover it -- no matter how many lives it might save.

For instance, the British government refuses to cover the breast cancer drug Lapatinib -- denying thousands of terminally ill Britons access to a treatment that can halve the speed at which their breast cancer grows.

The Obama Administration says that PCORI won't take cost into consideration -- but with government now paying for half of all health care consumed in this country, that promise will be hard to keep.

Outcomes research was also behind the 2009 recommendation by a U.S. Department of Health and Human Services panel that women in their 40s not receive regular mammograms. The panel said that mammograms don't save enough lives to be worth the cost -- even though breast cancer is the leading cause of cancer death for women aged 40 to 49. Further, early detection vastly improves a person's chance of survival.

Obamacare's economic impact should also be worrisome to women. The White House sold the law as a way to reduce the deficit by \$140 billion over the next ten years -- and by as much as \$1 billion in the decade after that.

But a recent report by Dr. Charles Blahous, a senior research fellow at the Mercatus Center and a public trustee for Social Security and Medicare, showed that the new healthcare law will add between \$346 billion and \$527 billion to the deficit over the next decade.

That's money that future generations will have to shell out in the form of higher taxes and reduced services from the federal government. Thanks to Obamacare, mothers concerned about their kids' futures have yet one more thing to fret about.

Indeed, if keeping one's family healthy and preserving a strong economy for future generations aren't women's issues, then what are?

Sally C. Pipes is President, CEO, and Taube Fellow in Health Care Studies at the Pacific Research Institute. Her latest book is *The Pipes Plan: The Top Ten Ways to Dismantle and Replace Obamacare* (Regnery 2012).

A Sign out front of a business in Florida

We would rather do business with 1,000 Al Qaeda terrorists than with one single American soldier.

This sign was prominently display in front of a business in Florida and you are probably outraged at the thought of such an inflammatory sign.

However, we are a society which holds Freedom of Speech as perhaps one of our greatest liberties. After all, it is only a sign, right?

You may ask: What kind of business would dare post such a sign?

Answer: A Funeral Home!

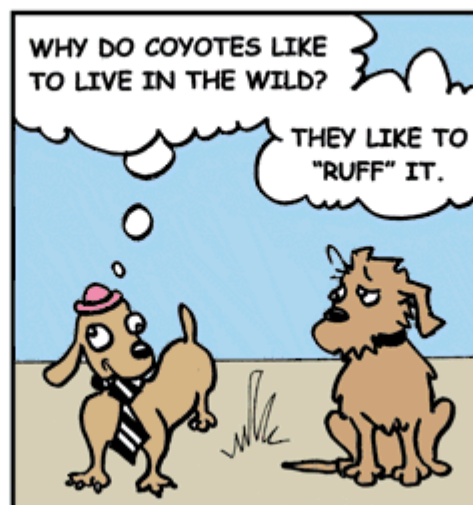
You gotta love it!!!

God bless America!!!

Keep our Troops Safe and Well

OUTZKIRTS By: David & Doreen Dotson

 OUTZKIRTS.COM



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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

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