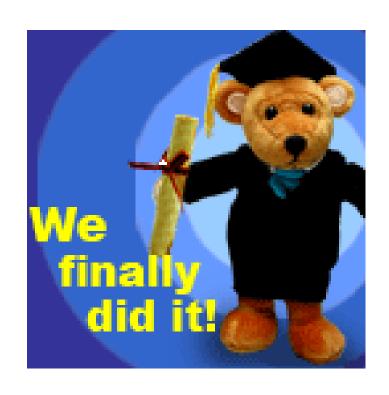
May 30, 2013

Congratulations 2013 Graduates













GC Testing Center earns national recognition

Grayson College's Testing Center recently was awarded Test Center Certification by the National College Testing Association. Rigorous certification criteria are based on the NCTA Professional Standards and Guidelines, which were developed to guide post-secondary test centers in the delivery of quality testing programs. Certification stands for five years and is renewable by demonstrating continued compliance to national standards.

In a letter to Donna McKinney, director of the center, NCTA President Steve Saladin wrote, "The Grayson College Testing Center is exemplary and is among the few test centers in the United States and Canada to receive this distinction. We congratulate you, your test center staff and your institution for the achievement of NCTA Test Center Certification."

The GC center completed the association's intensive certification process, including a review and site visit, to earn the achievement. Areas reviewed were the center's mission statement, annotated floor plan, pictures, test integrity, confidentiality procedures, staff training, procedures manual, emergency procedures, program evaluation, contracts, manager, staff, services and public relations.

"I am very excited about this honor because it involved many hours of work in providing the documents required for the certification process," said McKinney. "In the world of testing, this is big! It acknowledges the Grayson College Testing Center maintains high test administration standards and provides excellent service to a wide variety of student and community members."

McKinney will receive the award plaque during the NCTA Conference in early August. She plans to display it in the Testing Center.

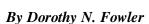
NCTA is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting professionalism and high-quality service in the administration of testing programs. It offers certification to college and university test centers that demonstrate exemplary practices. NCTA membership includes more than 1,750 testing professionals from 615 colleges and universities as well as 42 test companies and organizations offering test-related products and services.

For more information about testing services available through the GC Testing Center, contact the staff at 903-463-8724 or visit the website at www.grayson.edu/website/applynow/testing.aspx.



Texoma Enterprise

Dot's D-A-S-H-E-S



My eight-year-old, second grade great grandson got put into detention at his school earlier this week for singing an "inappropriate song." Some girls in his class turned him in for singing one of the songs -- and there are several -- that go with a line dance that seems to be the rage in Southeast Asia and the United States. The dance is called "Gangnam Stomp," and it looks a lot like exercise routines set to music with a heavy beat.

Google is a wonderful tool. Typing in gangnam stomp instantly brought up not only text about the dance, but also a plethora of You Tube episodes and still later, a plethora of song lyrics, some with performances by singers accompanied by rock bands of various abilities.

Because my research time was limited, I didn't find the song that contained the words that got my great grandson busted. However, my daughter tells me that the original is sung by "a little fat Korean man that you would never think would be a superstar, but is," and that the dance is so popular that Bible study groups are dancing it, set to churchy words.

My understanding is that the objectionable words are (drum roll, please) "sexy lady." I suppose that "lady" is all right, but "sexy" is not.

I am reminded of the time when my daughter was about the same age as her grandson -- my great grandson -- when the neighbors forbade their children to play with her because she told them her dog, a Dachsund named Mickey, was "pregnant." Their mother told my daughter that she should always say, "PG" instead of "pregnant." Or "expecting" instead of "pregnant."

If the neighbor had been present when my daughter delivered this information to me, she might have tried to have me arrested for using any number of four letter Anglo Saxon words describing the general state of her intelligence.



As far as my great grandson is concerned, after I got through laughing, I told him that he must learn to play the school game. He may have some difficulty doing that because just last week he read an article in Smithsonian magazine about the difficulty of feeding zoo animals and when he finished that article started on another. The problem is that he is so sincerely interested in animals, music, Pokemon, politics, and a host of other things that he may not recognize times when playing the school game is necessary.

After all, he has already been reprimanded this year for "thinking." That reprimand came when his teacher thought he was cheating because he was trying to decide how best to show his work on a math problem. "But I wasn't cheating. I was just thinking," he protested. "But she thought I was cheating."

"What lesson did you learn from this episode?" I asked him.

"To stop thinking so much," he answered.

After I got through laughing, I told him not to be so obvious about "thinking," to try to keep it secret.

But I don't think he can. He can describe symbiosis and give examples, talk about alternative measures to save endangered species, discuss the pros and cons of cloning long extinct species, differentiating between the value of recreating prairie chickens and the dangers of recreating Tyrannosaurus rex. He can create a power point presentation and explain it, is learning to play the piano, and has a well developed social conscience.

It is not likely that he will be the valedictorian of his graduating class. It is also not likely that he will care, because, like me, he is a basic non-competitor. He already hears and is marching to a different drummer and I hope his school experience does not drown out the beat he hears.



Howe's That

Recipe



by Lana Rideout

We have had a lot of bad tornados in the last few weeks. The one in Moore, OK has been called the worst tornado ever.

During the spring time, tornados plow large areas of destruction with loss of lives as well as property.

Many people have contributed money and time to help these people rebuild their homes. Last Sunday, our church donated over twenty - five thousand dollars to help these unfortunate folks. And there are folks all over who are donating what they can.

When people are in need, we must do what we can to help them.



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Creamy Cauliflower Soup

1 medium head cauliflower, cut in bite-sized pieces

1/4 cup butter or margarine

2/3 cup chopped onion

2 Tablespoons flour

2 cups chicken broth

2 cups Half and Half

1/2 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce

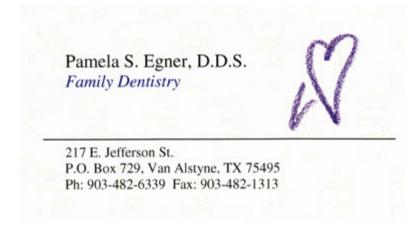
Salt to taste

1 cup grated Cheddar cheese

Chopped parsley

Cook cauliflower in boiling salted water. Drain, reserving water. Melt butter, add onion and cook until soft. Blend in flour, add broth and stir constantly until mixture comes to a boil. Stir in 1 cup liquid drained from cauliflower (add water if necessary to make 1 cup), Half and Half, Worcestershire sauce and salt. Add cauliflower. Heat to boiling. Stir in cheese. Serve sprinkled with parsley.

Servings: 8 - 10



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Texoma Enterprise

2013 Howe High School













Alexandria Elizabeth Akins, Van Lian Twang Awi, Denise Lynn Bailey, Morgan Nicole Bailey, Maria De Jesus Becerra, Cavin Duran Bellows, Cheyanne Marie Bryant, Savannah Elaine Carrillo, Sloan Danielle Carroll, Eden Marie Carter, Miranba Renee' Casteel, Haley Amanda Childers, Katy Elaine Courtney, Hannah Ingborg Debner, Taylor Paige Defrange, Benjamin Thomas Dunavant, Shannon Taylor Evans, Brittany Alexis Fejeran, Zachary Collin Folkes, Calob Ray Gann, Jonathan Blake Gann, Tommy Tucker Gates, Ruben Angel Gonzales, Wesley Ray Gonzalez, *Carly Grewe, Garette Wayne Griffin, Jacob Ryan Grisolia, Ryan Chase Haines, Douglas Edward Hansen, Tanner Hugh Hawkins, James Travis Henderson, Bailegh Dawn Hudman, Daron R. Jones, Travis Dudley Jones, *Carla Ricarda Klein, Shelby Lynn Langston, Nick Liccione, Diana Aurora Lopez, Magdalyn Nicole Lutringer, Traves Dale McCorkle, Dakota Duke Miller, Zachary Thomas Mitchell, Emily Nicole Morgan, Sara Elizabeth Myer, Bobby Neal Overbey, Jimmy Don Patterson II, Amber Nicole Pelt, Ayla Marie Pierson-Franks, Jonathon Cooper Queen, William Hunter Reedle, James Gregory Rice, Billy Daniel Roberts, Kersty Jeanette Rodgers, Lane Scott Rodgers, Jason Eli Rodriguez, Olga Maria Rodriguez, Marisa Dawn Earline Rose-White, Kristen Marcelle Ross, Darby Renne Hough Salmon, Heath Gregory Salmon, Pacie Teal Sarlls, Sebastian Michael Satterfield, Morgan Alexis Scribner, Tierney Rae Simcox, Morgan Kay Slaughter, Blake Charles Smith, Charlotte Lynn Smith, Cierra Christine Sperry, Sara Marie Staneart, Dawson Quinn Stewart, Kaleb Blake Stuckey, Summer Christian Tate, Emily Rae Taylor, Erin Leigh Taylor, Cody Ray Thurman, Maegan Danielle Thurston, Alan Michael Trevino, Joe Charles Watson, Indica Zoe Weatherspoon, Ty Austyn Wade Wilks, Marissa Danielle Wilson, Dylon Jay Woody

*Foreign Exchange Student



2013 Tom Bean High School



Kortney Adcock, Corey Barber, Cody Barrera, Trevor Bean, Brandon Bramer, Ryan Bullock, Hannah Burns, Trenton Byers, Maddie Cavender, Maci Champion, Chris Clark, Skylar Coulston, Dakota Curtis, Bethany Davidson, Dylan Dodson, Dylan Doolittle, Juston Emmons, Cody Gagnon, Alexis Gilmore, Hailey Goff, Kinzie Griffin, Neil Grisolia, Lucas Hagan, Ben Harris, Breana Haywood, Jacob Higgs, Braydon Hill, Destiny Hollerman, Candace Johnson, Mathew Kirby, Emma Kury, Dustan Lacey, Keaton Lillibridge, Devin Lutringer, Anesthasia Marrs, Elisha McGee, Cody Miller, Kristan Miller, Macey Montgomery, Madison Moore, Zachary Newman, Luke Parrish, Danielle Reeves, Ryan Ritchson, Justin Shrum, Sydney South, Colby Stevens, Kallie Tackett, Miranda Taylor, Elizabeth Theis, Savannah Thompson, Ronni Trentman, Bethany Ulch, Mindy Welch, Noah White, Shelbi Wilson, Shianne Wilson, Jonathan Wyatt. Not pictured Makenzie Jones and Bonnie Billings.



Madilyn Reann Cavender

Class Ranking 1, Tom Bean High School Parents: Shane and Paula Cavender

Scholarships Received: Lone Star Ag Credit- \$2,500.00; Texas Rural Education Association- \$1,000.00; Tom Bean FFA Ag Booster Scholarship- \$1,000.00; Team Bonner Cheverolet-\$500.00 GPA- 4.0

School activities and honors: Chapter FFA President Senior Year, District FFA Sentinel Junior Year; Varsity Basketball 4 years, All-District Honorable Mention, All-State Academic Team; National Honor Society Vice President; Senior Class Vice President.

Outside Activities and Honors: Showed Steers, Heifers, and pigs for 9 years. Grand Champion Overall Heifer at Loy Lake Livestock show and exposition show. Reserve Grand Champion Angus Heifer at San Antonio Livestock Show and Rodeo.

Future Plans: Attend Tarleton State University in the Fall to study Agricultural Science.



Emma Kury

Emma is the salutatorian of her class at Tom Bean High School. Emma is the daughter of Mike Kury and his best friends Arlene and Scott Cason. Emma plans to attend Texas A&M University in Commerce and has received the Honors College Scholarship worth \$52,000.

During high school, Emma participated in the UIL One Act Play competition her junior and senior year, as stage manager, and received a UIL One Act Tech award. She was a National Honor Society member for two years and NHS president her senior year. She was an International Thespian Society member for two years and vice president of ITS her senior year. Emma also held the position of 2013 class president her sophomore, junior, and senior year, and was a very proud and loud "Rowdy Crowd" member.

While attending Texas A&M University @Commerce, Emma plans to explore the field of psychology, as well as, learn about and travel the world, write a book, and be happy.



City of Howe, Regular Meeting, May 21, 2013

Mayor Jeff Stanley called a regular meeting of the Howe City Council to order at 6:30 p.m. Members present were Dale Rideout, Georgia Richardson, Jack Leavenworth, and Dennis Bozeman.

Invocation - Reverend Wallace Rains of New Beginnings Fellowship gave the invocation.

Pledge To Flags - Mayor Stanley led the pledges to the United States of America and the Texas flags.

Canvass Of Election - Motion by Jack Leavenworth, second by Dennis Bozeman to accept election results. Motion Carried 4 Yes 0 No.

Mayor Results - Jeff Stanley-Unopposed 66

Council Results - Debbie Lowery, 81; Dale Rideout, 33; Bill French, 63 – Debbie Lowery and Bill French were elected.

Swearing In Ceremony -- Joy Stevens, City Secretary, and Jeff Stanley, Mayor, conducted the swearing in ceremony, swearing in Jeff Stanley as Mayor, and the two new council members, Bill French and Debbie Lowery.

Public Request - None

Public Hearing - Application by Provider Business Partners for a zone change from Single Family to C1 for property located at 106 W Young Street, OTP Block 18, Lot n pt 2.

Proposed use: office use for medical billing

Motion by Dennis Bozeman, second by Debbie Lowery to accept recommendation from P & Z to accept the proposed zone change request. Motion carried 4 Yes 0 No.

Consent Agenda - Motion by Georgia Richardson, second by Bill French to approve the consent agenda which included financial reports from April 2013, minutes of April 16, 2013 council meetings. Motion carried 4 Yes 0 No.

Current Business

Discuss, consider and give direction to city staff as it relates to the insignia/marking on the Howe Police Department Fleet. Motion by Bill French, second by Dennis Bozeman to accept the new design as they are. Motion carried 4 Yes 0 No.

Discuss, consider and act upon transfer of Nine Thousand Dollars (\$9,000) from the bond reserve fund to the utility fund to reimburse utility fund for SCADA upgrades. Motion by Bill French, second by Georgia Richardson to move the funds as discussed. Motion carried 4 Yes 0 No.

Discuss, consider and act upon Resolution No. 13-0002, adopting new rate review mechanism agreement with Atmos Energy. Motion by Dennis Bozeman, second by Bill French to adopt the Resolution. 4 Yes 0 No.

The meeting adjourned at 6:53 p.m.

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Howe School Board of Trustees Meeting

On this the 16th day of May 2013, a Regular Session of the Board of Education was held with the following members present: Leonard Huntsman, Brad Anderson, Pat Stewart, Mark Abner, Greg Akins and Scott Renfro. Absent: Bruce Dawsey

Board President Leonard Huntsman established a quorum and opened the meeting according to Texas Government Code Section 551 at 6 pm. The Invocation was given by Scott Renfro.

The Pledges to the American and Texas flags were led by Clay Wilson.

Public Forum: Mr. Shephard addressed the Board regarding the proactive communication from a teacher and principal regarding an injury to his son.

Reports:

Teacher Recognition: The Principals recognized the Teachers of the Year for their respective campuses. The teachers were Kim Duncan, Julie Cook and Kathy Mitchell.

Howe M.S.: Ritchie Bowling reported end of school year activities including the 8th Grade Bash, 8th Grade Recognition and the Awards Ceremony. He also noted the STAAR retests and other student activities.

Howe E.S.: Darla Williams provided the elementary report. She noted end of year activities including field trips and performance incentive rewards. She also noted the awards assembly.

Howe H.S.: Michael Smiley provided the high school report. He reviewed testing information, athletic and FFA activities. He recognized individual students for their extra-curricular achievements. He also noted the numerous banquets being held in May to recognize students.

Superintendent: Kevin Wilson reviewed the enrollment and facility projects. He discussed the Hiring Authority Policy DC (LOCAL). He noted Baccalaureate on Sunday, May 19 and Graduation on June 1. He also provided an update on the pending Legislative Action.

Action Items:

- A) Julie Snapp administered the Oath of Office to Greg Akins and Scott Renfro as members of the Board of Trustees.
- B) Kevin Wilson dissolved the leadership positions of the Board and accepted nominations for position of Board President.

Leonard Huntsman nominated Greg Akins to be Board President. Mark Abner Seconded the nomination. Greg Akins was elected Board President by a vote of 5-0 with Greg Akins abstaining. Greg Akins accepted nominations for position of Board Vice-President.

Leonard Huntsman nominated Scott Renfro to be Board Vice-President. Mark Abner Seconded the nomination. Scott Renfro was elected Vice-President by a vote of 5-0 with Scott Renfro abstaining. Scott Renfro accepted nominations for position of Board Secretary.

Mark Abner nominated Pat Stewart for the position of Board Secretary. Brad Anderson Seconded the nomination. Pat Stewart was elected Board Secretary by a vote of 5-0 with Pat Stewart abstaining.

- C) Mr. Wilson made the recommendations to Update the Signature Cards by removing Leonard Huntsman and adding Greg Akins to the Signature Cards. A motion was made by Mark Abner and seconded by Brad Anderson to Update the Signature Cards by removing Leonard Huntsman and adding Greg Akins to the Signature Cards. The motion carried 6-0.
- D) Mr. Wilson and the Board discussed the meeting days and times for Regular Monthly Board Meetings. He made the recommendation to maintain the current schedule of Board Meetings on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 6 pm. A motion was made by Pat Stewart and seconded by Scott Renfro to continue the Regular Meeting schedule of the third Thursday of each month at 6 pm. The motion carried 6-0.
- E) The Board reviewed the Minutes from the Regular Board Meeting on April 18, 2013. Kevin Wilson made the recommendation to approve the minutes from the Regular Board Meeting on April 18, 2013. A motion was made by Pat Stewart and seconded by Mark Abner to approve the minutes from the Regular Board Meeting on April 18, 2013. The motion carried 6-0.
- F) Mr. Kevin Wilson and Julie Snapp reviewed the Monthly Financial Report and made the recommendation to approve the Monthly Financial Report as presented. A motion was made by Leonard Huntsman and seconded by Brad Anderson to approve the Monthly Financial Report as presented. The motion carried 6-0.
- G) Kevin Wilson and the Board reviewed the 2013-2014 Board Goals. Kevin Wilson made the recommendation to approve the 2013-2014 Board Goals as presented. A motion was made by Mark Abner and seconded by Leonard Huntsman to approve the 2013-2014 Board Goals as presented.

 The motion carried 6-0.
- H) Kevin Wilson provided information regarding the Facility Use Request for Lone Star Hoops Camp and the City of Howe Fireworks Display. He made the recommendation to approve the Facility Use Requests for the Lone Star Hoops Camp and City of Howe for Fireworks Display as presented.
- A motion was made by Brad Anderson and seconded by Scott Renfro to approve the Facility Use Requests for the Lone Star Hoops Camp and City of Howe for Fireworks Display as presented. The motion carried 6-0.
- I) Kevin Wilson made the recommendation to offer Professional Contracts to Carrie Hudson, Nick Grimes and Daniel Barber. A motion was made by Scott Renfro and seconded by Mark Abner to offer Professional Contracts to Carrie Hudson, Nick Grimes and Daniel Barber. The motion carried 6-0.
- J) Kevin Wilson made the recommendation to call a Public Hearing on the Proposed Budget and Tax Rate for June 20, 2013. A motion was made by Pat Stewart and seconded by Mark Abner to call a Public Hearing on the Proposed Budget and Tax Rate for June 20, 2013. The motion carried 6-0.
- K) Kevin Wilson made the recommendation to approve the Employee Compensation Plan as presented in the revised compensation proposal. A motion was made by Brad Anderson and seconded by Leonard Huntsman to approve the Employee Compensation Plan as presented in the revised compensation proposal. The motion carried 6-0.

The Budget Workshop began at 7:25. Kevin Wilson and Julie Snapp reviewed Preliminary Revenue Projections and Budget Figures. The Proposed Tax Rate was also discussed.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:59 pm.





Bethany Davidson- Tom Bean High School Scholarship

Parents are Stephanie and Wesley Davidson

Scholarships Received and Amounts: * Ruiz Foods \$1000, * Mr. B Scholarship \$500 * Chamber of Commerce \$500, * Regents Scholar's Program 70%

School Activities and Honors: * Concert/Marching Band 9-10, 10-11, 11-12, 12-13. * Jazz Band 11-12, 12-13, * Robotics 11-12, 12-13, * Theater 11-12, 12-13, * Golf Team 9-10, 10-11, 11-12, 12-13, * Volleyball 9-10, 10-11, * Basketball 9-10, 10-11, * Softball 9-10, * Track 9-10, * Spanish Club 9-10, 10-11, 11-12, * National Honor Society 10-11, 11-12, 12-1, * Cheerleader/Mascot 9-10, 10-11, 11-12

o NCAA All-American Mascot 10-11, 11-12. o NCAA Most Photogenic Mascot 10-11. o State Saxophone Quartet 12-13, o NT BEST 1st place T-shirt design 11-12, o COCO BEST 1st place Robotics Team 12-13, o Texas BEST 4th place Robotics Team 12-13, o Texas BEST 2nd place T-shirt design 12-13, o Woodwind Captain 12-13, o Robotics Captain 12-13, o Outstanding Band Junior 11-12, o Outstanding Band Senior 12-13

Outside Activities, Honors, and Accomplishments

o TCOG Volunteer, o Local 911 Mascot, o LPS Published Poet, o Accepted into the OSU Summer Architecture Program

Plans for the Future? Major?

I plan to attend Texas A&M University @Commerce for four years to obtain my Bachelors in Construction and Industrial Engineering. Bethany Davidson





Melody Ranch's 7th. Annual Melody Ranch Bluegrass Festival

We hope you have plans to attend our 7th. Annual Melody Ranch Bluegrass Festival May 29, 30, 31, & June 1. We have a kick-off potluck supper Wednesday May 29th at 6 pm which is free for campers. There will be fellowship and jamming afterwards.

The gospel section of the festival is on Thursday evening beginning at 6 pm. We have Grandpa's Neighbors, The Full Quiver, Melody Ranch Ramblers, and Dueling Hearts.

Friday's events begin at 1 pm with Dueling Hearts, Copper Canyon, The Bonham Brothers, and Mark Phillips & IIIrd. Generation Bluegrass Band. The evening performance will begin at 6 pm.

Saturday's events begin at 1 pm with Melody Ranch Ramblers followed by Copper Canyon, The Bonham Brothers, and Mark Phillips & IIIrd Generation Bluegrass Band. The evening performance will begin at 6 pm.

For those who enjoy camping, we have an 80 spot RV park on the premises. We call it Melody Ranch.

The Chrystal Opry house is located at 1977 White Mound Road, Sherman, Texas which is 1.5 miles west of Tom Bean or 6 miles east of Howe on FM 902 and a half mile south on White Mound Road. No alcohol is permitted and there is no smoking inside the building. Seating is provided.

Food is available at the snack bar inside the Opry House during the shows. We serve hot dogs, chopped brisket sandwiches, and during the dinner hour on Friday and Saturday evening, we will serve an enchilada, beans, and rice plate.

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

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

("Like" us on face book--chrystalopryhouse and melodyranchbluegrassfestival)

Click Here for more Area Events



Texoma Patriots

George P. Bush – The Town Hall meeting featuring George P. Bush is scheduled for Tuesday, July 23rd. He is running for Texas Land Commissioner. Mark your calendar.

Grayson County Courthouse, Sherman TX – Assembly Room. George P. is the son of Jeb Bush, former Governor of Florida; nephew of George W. Bush, 43rd President; and grandson of George H. W. Bush, 41st President.

83rd LEGISLATURE REGULAR SESSION is winding down. Again this year we are inviting Senator Craig Estes and Representative Larry Phillips to update us on the legislation that passed and failed and how they voted. Do you know where to find info on these different bills? Go to Texas Legislature Online, the Website for the Texas Legislature. It provides information on legislation, committees, house, and senate. www.capitol.state.tx.usCheck out the Legislative Process. Learn how to follow a bill, dates of interest, glossary, deadlines.

Items of Interest and Links to Follow

Would you like to advertise in our Newsletter? Our Texoma Patriots Newsletter is produced and distributed the beginning of each month. If you would like to place a business card ad in our monthly Newsletter (not reminders or fliers), please contact me at kaarent@verizon.net. Our distribution goes to over 1,000 email addresses.

"Education is the most powerful form of activism."

Texas Pledge of Allegiance

"Honor the Texas flag; I pledge allegiance to thee, Texas, one state under God, one and indivisible."

113th UNITED STATES CONGRESS: Want to know how your Senator and/or Representative voted? Track his/her voting record. Sign up at: http://www.congress.org/congressorg/megavote/

WHY ARE YOU A CONSERVATIVE? Many people feel concerned as they see the current direction our nation is heading. But we want to encourage you, you are NOT alone! Young conservatives around the nation are recognizing the need to stand up for what they believe in while debating the issues in a charitable and honest manner.

The following is an alert from: Peggy Venable, Americans for Prosperity

Americans for Prosperity-Texas are calling on our activists to ask Governor Rick Perry to VETO House Bill 1675. We believe the Regional Education Service Centers (ESCs) should be reviewed on schedule so that their activities can finally be subjected to public oversight. The Regional Education Service Centers were originally set for Sunset Review in 2015 and that schedule should be maintained.

Opinion Hotline (512) 463-1782 - Open Tuesday at 8 am, Or Click Here to Take Action!

TEXAS TRANSPARENCY NOW: Texas Comptroller Susan Combs' priorities are Transparency and Accountability.

We Texans give the government our trust, and they have the responsibility to let us know what they do. To take back our government we need to ask for more information about the debt government is taking on and how they are spending our tax dollars. What do you know about your city, county, or school district? Be sure to visit The Texas Economy for the full Weekly Economic Outlook and list of Key Economic Indicators. There you'll also find in-depth articles, videos, and graphics detailing the forces shaping the state's economy.

Congress Investigating Obama Admin's Hostility to Religion in the Military Source: breitbart.com

Following 59 Members of Congress sending a letter to Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel regarding Pentagon officials meeting with an anti-Christian extremist, another group of 56 House Members has sent a second wide-ranging letter, exploring whether these infringements on religious liberty violate both federal law and the Constitution.

Alinsky/Obama model: "True revolutionaries do not flaunt their radicalism. They cut their hair, put on suits and infiltrate the system from within." — Master Saul Alinsky/pupil Barack Hussein Obama

Read more: http://politicaloutcast.com/2013/05/its-time-to-get-radical-with-the-radicals/#ixzz2UEyfrHZP

True The Vote has filed a lawsuit against IRS employee Lois Lerner, in her personal capacity. Lerner, who gave an opening statement then pleaded the 5th in front of Congress this week, was served the lawsuit at her home. We will not stop fighting back until the American people learn the truth. Please stand with us in this fight for truth and justice. Please LIKE ----- and SHARE if you want the truth.

Click Here for more Area Events





From Top to
Botton:
Darrah Dunn as
"Man in Chair",
Harris Tooley as
"Adolpho",
and Lynda Lewis as
"The Chaperone".

"The Drowsy Chaperone ready to open at The Finley"

Sherman Community Players Presents "The Drowsy Chaperone"
"...an Old fashioned New musical within a Comedy..."
Book by Bob Martin & Don McKellar. Music & Lyrics by Lisa Lambert & Greg Morrison
Directed by Anthony Nelson, Music Direction by Fred Freeman. Choreography by Amy Wallace

What: "Come back in time to the decadent roaring twenties, where the champagne flowed and all the world was a party, for the wealthy anyway" quips the narrator and main character, also known as "Man in Chair" of "The Drowsy Chaperone"; opening June 7th at the Historic Finley Theater in Sherman.

The play follows the story of a musical theatre aficionado who is held up in his NYC loft apartment; on this certain day, he feels 'blue' and gets the urge to play his favorite musical theater record from the twenties for the live captive audience, "The Drowsy Chaperone". Magically, the play comes to life in the man's apartment; and audience gets front row seats to the story of the famous Janet Van De Graff, and her inner struggle to end a successful theater career for true love. Filled with humor, tap dancing, and spectacular singing, the Sherman Community Players' annual summer musical is promising to be a very hilarious romp through the history of Broadway.

When: Opening June 7th, 2013 at 8pm.

Playing: June 7, 8, 9, 13, 14, 15, 16, 20, 21, 22, 23, 27, 28, 29, 30 Times: Evening Performances begin at 8pm, Sunday Matinees at 2pm.

Where: The Historic Finley Theater in Sherman, TX; 500 N. Elm Street.

Box Office: Opens June 7th and 8th for Main stage Season Members at 9am. Tickets for the General Public go on sale beginning June 9th at 10am. The Box office is located at 313 W. Mulberry St, Sherman TX, 75090. Box office phone: 903-892-8818. Visit scptheater.org for more details.

Season Sponsor: American Bank of Texas, Production Sponsor Ameristate Bank.

Media Contact: Anthony Nelson. Artisticdirector@scptheater.org, 903-893-8525

Click Here for more Area Events







Which meat will meet your summer grilling needs

By Jessica Domel

Although summer doesn't officially begin until next month, for millions of Americans the summer season unofficially began over the Memorial Day weekend with the firing up of the grill.

While I personally don't grill, I love the taste of a good steak or a barbecued chicken breast fresh off a charcoal grill. The smell of the fire, the heat and the taste of the All-American beef evokes so many memories from my childhood that it just doesn't feel like Memorial Day without it.

While I was contemplating what I'd do this Memorial Day, I came across this article that states that steak and burgers will again top the list of American consumers' summer grilling favorites.

And why not? There's nothing more mouth-watering than a juicy cheeseburger or perfectly cooked filet. And summer just wouldn't be summertime without a grilled hot dog or pork chop.

There's also nothing as unappealing as a steak that's a little too raw or a burger that's still mooing. That's why every year, I politely try to make sure the person at the grill knows when it's safe to pull the beef, chicken or pork off the grill.

I have this handy little chart hanging in my kitchen to remind me that safe cooking is of the utmost importance. After all, nobody wants to look back on the summer of 2013 and remember it as the one they became sick from eating undercooked meat.

So from my home to yours, here's a little rhyme to help you enjoy the rest of your grilling season: The grill needs to hit the 145th degree for a steak safe for me.

If chicken is your meat of choice, it has to hit 165 degrees no matter what form it's in. That one's easy to remember.

The other white meat – pork – needs only to hit 145 degrees.

It can be confusing to remember all of the different degree marks for different meats, so I use a meat thermometer with a picture of a chicken on it near the 165 mark. It also has little icons for all of the other types of meat as well.

If you can't find a thermometer like that, I suggest you too print off the chart from FoodSafety.gov. It comes in handy more often than you think, especially during grill season.

Texoma Poetry Society

The Texoma Poetry Society will hold its final program for the club year this Saturday. The meeting, themed "My Favorite Poet", will begin at 2 pm and be held in the Hope Waller Community Room of the Sherman Public Library.

Attendees are encouraged to present their favorite poet in an open round robin session. Comments can be made by the readers regarding what appeals to them about their chosen poet or poets, as well as personal experiences they want to share.

Presiding is Peggy Silha Ritzer. She is an Austin College Golden Graduate and active member of the Poetry Society of Texas and the Texoma Poetry Society. A published poet and former editor and teacher; living in New York, she also taught in Texas. She invites the public to make suggestions for future programs and activities including alternative meeting places. Special attention will also be given to the various 100 poetry contests offering monetary awards each August by the Poetry Society of Texas.



Area Churches

Cannon

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

SOVEREIGN GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH

George Seevers, 903/364-2942

Cherry Mound

BAPTIST CHURCH, 6335 FM 1753, Denison Sun School 9:45; worship, 11,

evening 6; Wednesday, 7pm **Dorchester**

DORCHESTER BAPTIST

CHURCH Hwy. 902W, 903/476-5525

Gunter

COLLEGE HILL **CHURCH OF CHRIST** 304 E. College, 903/433-4835 FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH 300 Pecan, 903/433-3335

GRACE BIBLE FELLOWSHIP

Pastor Bruce Stinson Brooks Plaza Sundays - 9:30 AM Worship www.thegbf.com

VALLEY CHURCH OF CHRIST

Howe

APOSTOLIC LIFE UPC

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

NEW BEGINNING

FELLOWSHIP/AG,

912 S Denny St. 903/532-6828; Roger Roper,

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

BETHEL BAPTIST Hwy. 902 E & Ponderosa Rd, Weldon

Hutson, pastor, 903/532-6032

SUMMIT CHURCH

Howe Middle School Cafeteria, 903/815-1472; Kcvin Bouse

CHURCH OF CHRIST

N. Collins Frwy, 903/532-6441;

Toby Socheting

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

100 E. Davis,903/532-5504;

Roger Tidwell, pastor FIRST UNITED METHODIST

CHURCH

810 N. Denny, 903/532-6718; Tom Medley, minister

Ida

IDA BAPTIST CHURCH,

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

Luella

LUELLA FIRST BAPTIST **CHURCH**

3162 St. Hwy. 11,

Harvey Patterson,

903/893-2252

A CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP, 150 Fellowship Ln, Luella

Mike Ball, 903/870-0219

Tom Bean **CHURCH OF CHRIST**

903/546-6620

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH 903/546-6231

FIRST UNITED METHODIST

CHURCH 903/546-6898



Church



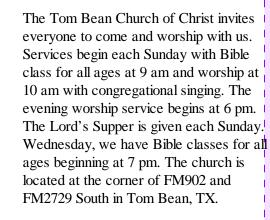


Psalm 8:1-9 (KJV)

O LORD our Lord, how excellent is thy name in all the earth! who hast set thy glory above the heavens.

- ²Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings hast thou ordained strength because of thine enemies, that thou mightest still the enemy and the avenger.
- ³ When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which thou hast ordained;
- ⁴ What is man, that thou art mindful of him? and the son of man, that thou visitest him?
- ⁵ For thou hast made him a little lower than the angels, and hast crowned him with glory and honour.
- ⁶ Thou madest him to have dominion over the works of thy hands; thou hast put all *things* under his feet:
- ⁷ All sheep and oxen, yea, and the beasts of the field;
- ⁸ The fowl of the air, and the fish of the sea, and whatsoever passeth through the paths of the seas.
- ⁹O LORD our Lord, how excellent is thy name in all the earth!

Tom Bean **Church of Christ**



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

The Gospel of Christ news letter can be found at

http://www.thegospelofchrist.com/newslet ter. Their television program comes on CBS at 7:30am.

"A Woman's Choice" a WEB video concerning a woman's pregnancy can be

seen on www.PregnancyDecisions.org.





VBS information:

Church name: A Christian Fellowship VBS Theme: You Gotta Move Date and Time: July 22-26 @6:30-8:30 pm

Ages: kindergarten-5th grade

Address of church: 150 Fellowship Lane, Hwy 11 Luella

(I believe it's a Sherman address though)

No Transportation Provided

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INSPIRATION POINT COWBOY CHURCH

FM 2729, 2.5 miles South of Tom Bean Duane Peters, 903-815-2278 PILOT GROVE

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,

903/433-8089

201 W. Marshall, Pastors – Lance/ Mary Baker

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 CENTEROn 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



A Thoughtful Gift

Last year, Brenna Martin graduated from high school. One of the things that she will remember most is the graduation gift that she received from her parents. She posted her thoughts about her gift not long after she received it. Here are her words:

"I graduated High School this week. When my Dad said he had a present for me, I thought I was getting some cheesy graduation card. But what I received was something truly priceless....

Following the ceremony he handed me a bag with a copy of 'Oh, The Places You'll Go!' by Dr. Seuss inside. At first I just smiled and said that it meant a lot and that I loved that book. But then he told me, 'No, open it up.' On the first page I see a short paragraph written by none other than my kindergarten teacher. I started tearing up but I'm still confused. He tells me, 'Every year, for the past 13 years, since the day you started kindergarten, I've gotten every teacher, coach, and principal to write a little something about you in this book.' He managed to keep this book a secret for 13 years, and apparently everyone else in my life knew about it! Yes the intended effect occurred... I burst out into tears.

Sitting there reading through this book there are encouraging and sweet words from every teacher I love and remember through my years in this small town. My early teachers mention my 'pigtails and giggles,' while my high school teachers mention my 'wit and sharp thinking.' But they all mention my humor and love for life. It is astounding to receive something this moving, touching, nostalgic, and thoughtful. I can't express how much I love my Dad for this labor of love."

The book "Oh, The Places You'll Go!" has a cash value of less than \$20, but to Brenna, it is "truly priceless." She will cherish the comments from her teachers and coaches, but what makes the book so valuable to her is that her Dad worked on "this labor of love" for 13 years.

If the value of a gift can be determined by the time and thoughtfulness behind it, consider the worth of God's greatest Gift for you and me...

The Apostle Peter wrote to Christians regarding the price that was paid for their redemption: "For you know that it was not

with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your ancestors, 19 but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect. 20 He was chosen before the creation of the world, but was revealed in these last times for your sake." – 1 Peter 1:18-19

Our sins condemn us (Romans 3:23; 6:23), but God loves us so much that He provided a Gift – His Son Jesus – to pay the price for our redemption (Ephesians 1:7).

That Gift, which provides salvation and eternal life to those who accept it, is precious – not only because it is the precious blood of the Son of God who died for us, but also because of how long ago God determined to provide the Gift. "He was chosen before the creation of the world."

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

God planned to save us through the blood of Jesus His Son before He even created us! That Gift is "truly priceless."

"Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!" – 2 Corinthians 9:15

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

* Information gleaned from the Huffington Post -- http://www.huffingtonpost.com

Archived issues of "Living Water" can be viewed and Archived issues of "Living Water" can be viewed and accessed from our website at: www.creekwoodcc.org

HTML version: subscribelivingwater@lyris.dundee.net TEXT version: subscribe-livingwatertext@lyris.dundee.net

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





Texoma Enterprise

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dalerideout@cableone.net
lanarideout@cableone.net

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



Dale & Lana Rideout



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



"Santa" Rideout



Grandkids singing at the Christmas Tree Farm 2007



Reflections on the 83rd Legislative Session

By Billy Howe State Legislative Director

Monday, May 27, 2013 marked the end of my 10th session of the Texas Legislature, the seventh with the Texas Farm Bureau. Sometimes it is hard to believe it has been almost 20 years since a kid from Itasca, Texas moved to Austin to work in the Texas House.

Every session has had its own personality depending on the issues and the players. This session may be a historic one for the state if voters approve the creation of a dedicated fund to implement the State Water Plan in November.

From a Texas Farm Bureau perspective, I believe it was one of our most successful. We took on the most powerful industry in the state and won. We were forward-thinking in supporting funding for the State Water Plan. We were able to push for a better law to address endangered species issues that could have major impacts on private property rights. We fought for local control of groundwater. We limited the authority to implement an animal disease traceability program. We secured more funding for road repairs in rural areas impacted by oil and gas production. And, we were successful on many other issues that fly below the radar, but are important to our members.

This session reinforced for me the belief that politically effective membership organizations must have three critical pillars to their foundation:

- •One, the financial stability and resources for the staff and infrastructure needed to support the membership's political and public policy goals.
- •Two, a strong political action committee (PAC) to support policy makers whose philosophies and values mirror our organization.
- •Finally -- the most important pillar -- a strong grassroots leadership to provide the first two needs and to advocate the organization's position as the actual constituent of the policy maker. Voters are always the most effective lobbyist for any issue.

Texas Farm Bureau's success is a testament that these three pillars are strong in our organization. But, every session it becomes more difficult as the urban areas continue to expand. Our organization cannot rest on our laurels.

Many of the issues we fought this session will be back in two years and beyond. Protecting private property rights will always be a struggle as those rights conflict with "progress" as the state grows. Retaining local control of groundwater will also be a constant struggle as some try to take authority from the local districts. These are just two of many issues we will continue to face.

What can you do? Continue building membership, continue building AGFUND, continue being engaged in the policy development process and continue building relationships with your elected officials.

Legislators will be "home" for the next year and a half until the next session. Use that time wisely and we will be prepared for more success in the 2015 session of the Texas Legislature.

Estes Sends Drone Bill to Governor's Desk

HB 912 provides needed safeguards for privacy and property rights of Texans

Austin – The House and Senate gave final approval to HB 912 and it now goes to the desk of Governor Rick Perry. The bill makes the misuse of an unmanned aircraft to take an image for the purpose of monitoring or surveillance a Class C misdemeanor. he bill also creates a misdemeanor offense for the possession, disclosure or distribution of images captured by the unlawful use of an unmanned aircraft.

"This is an important bill to the people of Texas because the use of drones is rapidly expanding," said Senator Craig Estes. Estes continued, "It is critical that we have safeguards in place to protect the privacy and property rights of Texans. The safety of Texans and their interests is, and always will, be my greatest concern."

The bill exempts from criminal penalties the use of unmanned aircraft for the execution of valid arrest or search warrants, emergencies, public safety, hazardous material spills, fighting fires, finding a missing person, and use by the federal aviation administration or by the United States military.

Senator Estes stated, "While it is vitally important to protect the privacy and property rights of Texans from unwarranted intrusion, it is equally crucial that those interests be balanced with public safety. This act legislates safeguards and I am confident it guarantees that drones used in limited circumstances may enhance public safety without infringing on the privacy and property rights of Texans."

Estes serves nearly 820,000 constituents across Senate District 30 which includes all of Archer, Clay, Cooke, Erath, Grayson, Jack, Montague, Palo Pinto, Parker, Wichita, Wise, and Young counties and parts of Collin and Denton counties.

Click Here for more Editorial



Texoma Enterprise

Champions of First Amendment Deliver For Texas Citizens

By Donnis Baggett, Texas Press Association

When the dust settles from another hard-fought legislative session, the people of Texas will have a clearer picture of current events in the Lone Star State, thanks to the hard work and determination of two Texas statesmen -- one Republican, one Democrat

Rep. Todd Hunter, R-Corpus Christi, and Sen. Rodney Ellis, D-Houston, scored major transparency victories in the 83rd Legislature. Three of those victories will be particularly helpful in strengthening and clarifying the public's right to complete and accurate information.

One crucial bill that Ellis and Hunter shepherded through the legislative dust storm strengthens a crucial First Amendment law they passed two years ago.

That law took aim at legal actions known as Strategic Lawsuits Against Public Participation (SLAPP) -- suits filed against whistleblowers by individuals or entities who have plenty of money to pay lawyers.

SLAPP suits are designed to intimidate and stifle those who dare to exercise their First Amendment rights. Thanks to the 2011 law, however, it was finally possible for a David Q. Citizen with meager resources to defend himself against a SLAPP suit filed by a deep-pocketed Goliath.

Unfortunately, an appeals court ruled that the 2011 law did not include certain appeal rights for David. If a judge ruled against David's motion to dismiss Goliath's suit early in the process, David could very quickly find himself bankrupted by the expensive discovery process following that denial.

The legal tweak pushed through the 2013 session by Hunter and Ellis makes it crystal clear that David does, indeed, have a right to appeal, thereby stopping the discovery process until the motion is heard on appeal. It is a major victory for those who believe the quality of justice shouldn't be determined by the depth of one's pocketbook.

Another measure championed by Ellis and Hunter makes it clear that a government official's use of his private electronic device for messages regarding public business does not allow him to hide those messages from public scrutiny.

In recent years, a number of local officials across Texas have maintained that their government-related messages are no business of the public so long as the official uses his private device to send or receive them. Texas attorneys general have consistently ruled against that strained and arrogant line of reasoning, but officials continue to try to evade Texas' open records laws anyway.

Once signed by the governor, the law will establish in black and white that citizens do indeed have the right to access these electronic messages about the public's business. There should be no doubt going forward that if a public official is discussing public business in cyberspace, those messages are, yes, public -- regardless of whether they're transmitted on the official's government computer or his personal e-tablet.

The third bill enhances public discourse by establishing clear and fair rules for prompt corrections by publishers. Until now, there was no established legal framework for a citizen to request a correction, nor were there guidelines for publishers to follow in addressing that request. The new law establishes clear processes and deadlines, which will result in the record being corrected quickly and fully when a mistake is made.

None of these important legal advances would have happened without the hard work and legislative prowess of Hunter and Ellis. For decades the two veteran lawmakers have fought hard -- often against daunting opposition -- to expand and protect citizens' access to government information and journalists' right to cover the complex issues that affect our daily lives.

The 83rd Legislative Session of the Texas Legislature saw these two veteran legislators from different parties -- men who do not consider the First Amendment a partisan issue — at the top of their game. And because they were at the top of their game, the citizens of Texas can see more clearly now.

Donnis Baggett is executive vice president of the Texas Press Association. His email address is dbaggett@texaspress.com.





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E-mail matt@sullivanlawfirm.biz

Finding the Best Possible Nursing Home Care for a Loved One

PROVIDENCE, R.I.— When their mother became a nursing home escapee, her helicopter daughters wondered what the sweet 93-year-old widow was thinking. With her daughters hovering anxiously, she was quick to answer. "I wanted to pick up a few things to cook for your father tonight."

Room changes -- Residents may be shifted to different rooms merely for the convenience of the home. But sometimes roommates are not compatible. Ask how this is handled, and is the staff quick to make changes if problems arise?

The woman's daughters gave a collective deep sigh. Their mother remained young at heart, but the memory thief of dementia turned her mind into an intermingling of long-term remembrances, short-term forgetfulness and delusional thinking. She was stuck in her married past unable to comprehend why she had to live in a room with no kitchen to cook pasta for her husband, who had actually died.

Showers and changes of pull-ups or diapers -- To prevent urinary tract infections, or UTIs (a common health issue that can also worsen a senior's mood), it is important that residents are changed and bathed frequently. Ask how often this takes place and how they handle a person who refuses. Hiding behind patient rights is not acceptable when a health issue is involved. Incontinent patients should be checked every few hours.

Her daughters realized that they could neither stop their mother's mental deterioration nor prevent behavior one would expect from an impetuous teenager. But, what they could do was to find a nursing home where their mother would be safer and maybe happier, too.

Make certain family caregivers are permitted to be involved with helping a person with dementia make appropriate choices.

Despite their hovering and search for the perfect nursing facility, their mother's worsening dementia limited their choices. Questions to ask about quality ratings, activities and atmosphere as well as cultural sensitivity, patient rights, and physician availability may seem obvious.

often coax even the most belligerent resident into complying with a health issue. Hydration and frequent diaper changes are key to preventing potentially debilitating UTIs.

Ask how a facility handles conflict. A well-trained staff can

However, even with all the guides designed to help families, getting answers is a challenge.

In the elders, a UTI can create agitation and delirium that leads to preventable hospitalization. This is only one reason why having a full-time physician or nurse practitioners on staff makes good sense. Does the home have one?

In addition to general manuals, such as the comprehensive 72-page Your Guide To Choosing A Nursing Home — Medicare.gov, getting a sense and feel of a home by visiting more than once may make the difference between sleepless nights and peace of mind.

Ombudsmen and Other Resources

Questions to admission directors are important, but observation is often a better predictor of how well a person will adjust to the new environment. Answers from staff may dramatically clash with the reality of a nursing home's ratings, atmosphere, activities, patient rights and physician

Despite your best efforts, if nursing home issues concern you, contact the local long-term care ombudsman. These people, usually found through the state or local government department or commission on aging, are independent officials designated by the U.S. Older Americans Act, to monitor area nursing homes and assist residents. They usually can fill you on about a facility's record.

Things to Look for Onsite

availability.

However, keep in mind what Donna McCormick, managing attorney for the Elder, Health and Disability Unit at Greater Boston Legal Services—ombudsman programs are uneven around the country. She explained, "In theory all nursing homes should have ombudsmen, but the challenge takes place when they become so intertwined with management that they don't always advocate effectively for residents."

Often a nursing home placement is made hastily because of a hospital's "time's up" policy. Patricia L. McGinnis, executive director of California Advocates for Nursing Home Reform, [http://www.canhr.org/] said, "Contradictory to their role -appropriate placement – discharge planners are often pressured to get patients out of the hospital because of billing issues."

The other alternative is to find a different home. Physicians and researchers tell us that seniors can be more adaptable than we realize.

What is every family's goal? Dr. James M. Ellison, a

Atmosphere is important: With nursing homes, beautiful furniture and new curtains do not necessarily translate into good care. You may see a facility that has a four- or fivestar rating, but the atmosphere or patient population may not be well suited for a potential resident.

professor of psychiatry at Harvard Medical School, said, "Families need to know that their loved ones are being cared for by a kind staff in an atmosphere that stimulates them emotionally, socially and cognitively. It's important to remember that even with a diagnosis of dementia people can find joy in the appropriate surroundings."

Always look at dining rooms during lunchtime to see how many residents are there instead of eating alone in their rooms.

As a result, families often find themselves in search of a different nursing home.

Ask to look at activity charts to determine how those requiring various levels of care may participate and benefit. While offering residents Wii Bowling sounds good on paper, residents with dementia will not be able to remember the steps involved for knocking down the pins. On the other hand, BINGO plays an important role in routine and

Here are some helpful resources keyed to quality of care, nursing staff, health inspections and safety issues.

Music in nursing homes should be more than just recreation; it should be therapy, even for residents who are cognitively challenged. Some experts in aging say that making music can be a protective factor against the most difficult aspects of

* Medicare.gov - Nursing Home Overview;

dementia.

* Nursing Home Compare - Medicare.gov directs one to state sites and phone numbers;

For example, the documentary Alive Inside, explores how patients are transformed by listening to iPods. In a nursing * America's Best Nursing Homes - News - US News and World Report, is a star-rated overview;

home there can never be too much music.

* California Advocates for Nursing Home Reform's

* Nursing Home Inspect, makes nursing home inspection

reports.

Patient rights and physicians: From small issues to more substantive ones, patients' rights versus the best interest of a patient is tricky. Be certain to ask about patient-choice issues. Important examples are:

"Nursing Home Guide," a national model for state searches.

Dining room seating -- Do new residents get assigned tables and is there flexibility to be able to move to another table? You want flexibility.

Rita Watson, MPH is a 2013 MetLife Foundation Journalist in Aging Fellow, a program collaboration of New America Media and the Gerontological Society of America. This article is adapted from versions that appeared in the Providence Journal and Psychology Today. Copyright 2013 Rita Watson/ All Rights Reserved



socialization.

Capitol Watch

By Larry Phillips, State Representative





Fallen Soldiers

On May 25, the Texas House of Representatives and the Texas Senate met jointly to hold a memorial ceremony to honor Texan soldiers who lost their lives in the global war against terrorism. The ceremony began with the presentation of the colors by the Texas National Guard, the singing of the national anthem, and the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance. The governor spoke about the sacrifices made by the service members and their loved ones before the families were presented with state flags.

The families of each fallen Texan were invited to the ceremony. The family members of these soldiers were on hand to participate in the memorial ceremony. The ceremony was closed with a 19-gun cannon salute and the playing of "Taps."

In addition to this important and solemn ceremony, the legislature continued to work during this final week of session. The last few days of the session are primarily dedicated to working on conference committee reports. A bill that has been amended by the chamber from which it did not originate is returned to the originating chamber. Upon receiving the amended legislation, the originating chamber can either concur with all of the amendments made by the opposite chamber, or choose to go to conference committee to attempt to work out differences between the two versions of the bill.

When either the House or Senate decides to have a conference committee on a bill, five members from each chamber are appointed to serve on the committee. A conference committee's charge is limited to reconciling differences between the two houses, and the committee, unless so directed, may not alter, amend, or omit text that is not in disagreement. Nor may the committee add text on any matter that is not in disagreement or that is not included in either version of the bill in question.

After the committee has met and reached an agreement, a report is submitted to both houses for approval or disapproval. A conference committee report is not subject to amendment but must be accepted or rejected in its entirety. If the report is accepted, the bill is finally passed and sent to the governor. The last day for conference committee reports to be accepted this session is Sunday, May 26. The last day of session, also called Sine Die, is Monday, May 27.

Lastly, I would like to thank all of those who serve in our military for their service.

Governor Calls for a Special Session

This week, the 83rd Legislative Session came to a close and the governor issued a proclamation calling the Legislature back for a special session. May 28th was the opening day of the first called special session of the 83rd Legislature.

The Texas Constitution limits special sessions to a maximum of thirty days but does not limit the number of special sessions the governor can call. Although legislation considered during the special session is confined to the topics listed in the proclamation, the governor may expand the call to include additional topics at any time. There is no minimum amount of time that the Legislature must meet during a special session.

Items eligible for consideration are referred to as "the call." The call for this special session lists only one item: "Legislation which ratifies and adopts the interim redistricting plans ordered by the federal district court as the permanent plans for districts used to elect members of the Texas House of Representatives, Texas Senate and United States House of Representatives." The governor can at any add items for consideration to the call at any time.

The first special session ever called in Texas occurred following the 3rd regular session and lasted 26 days, beginning August 12, 1850 and ending September 6 of the same year. It was followed 73 days later by a second called special session. Following the 71st Legislature in 1989, there were six special sessions. Most recently, there was one special session following the 81st Legislative Session.

Legislation was allowed on 153 topics during the 1st called special session of the 43rd Legislature and 72 topics during the 2nd Called Session of the 72nd Legislature. The 1st called session of the 38th Legislature met for only one hour and no legislation was enacted. There has been at least one special session following the past three regular legislative sessions

To view the governor's proclamation, please visit the websitehttp://governor.state.tx.us/news/press-release/18575. You can contact my office by writing to P.O. Box 2910, Austin, TX 78768-2910 or by emailing me at larry.phillips@house.state.tx.us. My district office phone number is (903) 891-7297.



Texoma Enterprise

Preacher's Donkey

A man bought a donkey from a preacher. The preacher told the man that this donkey had been trained in a very unique way (being the donkey of a preacher). The only way to make the donkey go, is to say, "Hallelujah!"

The only way to make the donkey stop, is to say, "Amen!"

The man was pleased with his purchase and immediately got on the animal to try out the preacher's instructions.

"Hallelujah!" shouted the man. The donkey began to trot. "Amen!" shouted the man. The donkey stopped immediately.

"This is great!" said the man. With a "Hallelujah" he rode off, very proud of his new purchase.

The man traveled for a long time through the mountains. As he headed towards a cliff, he tried to remember the word to make the donkey stop.

"Stop," said the man. "Halt!" he cried. The donkey just kept going.

"Oh, no..."

"Bible... Church!... Please! Stop!!," shouted the man. The donkey just began to trot faster. He was getting closer and closer to the edge of the cliff.

Finally, in desperation, the man said a prayer..."Please, dear Lord. Please make this donkey stop before I go off the end of this mountain, In Jesus name, AMEN."

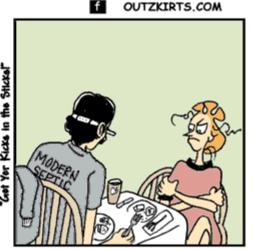
The donkey came to an abrupt stop just one step from the edge of the cliff.

"HALLELUJAH!" shouted the man.

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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

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

Howe Public Library

Library information, Language courses, Student events

Quotations Page

Spanish Dictionary

Van Alstyne Public Library

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

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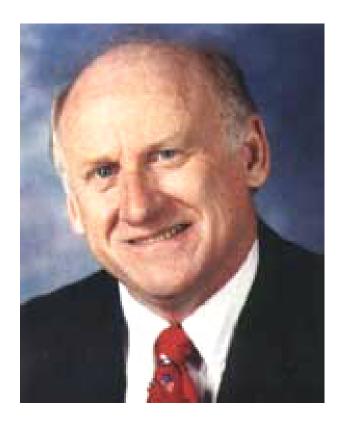
Selected Sites

<u>Texas Records and Information Locator (TRAIL)</u> searches and locates information from over 180 Texas state agency web services.

<u>The Handbook of Texas Online</u> is a multidisciplinary encyclopedia of Texas history, geography, and culture sponsored by the Texas State Historical Association and the General Libraries at UT Austin.

<u>Texas Online</u>: The official website for the Great State of Texas and provides instant access to almost 800 state and local government services.

<u>Library of Texas</u>; Immediately start searching multiple Texas library catalogs and other knowledge collections in one sitting.



LET'S REMINISCE: Clean Your Plate *By Jerry Lincecum*

Remember the principle, "Don't leave food on your plate. Think of all the starving people in the world. It's a sin to waste food." Margaret Alverson of Denison sent me a family legend on this theme. Here's the story.

This anecdote about Great Grandmother Effie Mae Alverson has been passed down for three generations now. My father-in-law heard it from the traveling Preacher who attended dinner at the Alverson family home many times. Since she was a fantastic cook, an invitation from her for Sunday dinner was always eagerly accepted.

One Sunday in October the Preacher and a Deacon were invited for dinner. After all the guests were seated along with her husband and four boys, Mrs. Alverson made her usual announcement before a meal: "Please enjoy your dinner. Eat as much as you want. But don't take out anything unless you are going to eat it all. I can't abide the wasting of food."

The Preacher then said a lovely Blessing. He thanked God for the good food they were about to receive. He made a point of discouraging any waste of food provided by God and lovingly prepared by Mrs. Alverson.

As usual, she stood beside the table with her daughters to make sure that all the guests were attended to. She and the girls would eat after everyone else had finished.

Everybody complimented her on the delicious fried chicken, gravy, mashed potatoes, turnips and corn bread. But most of all, they raved about her pear preserves. One guest said they were like "Honey for the Angels."

As the compliments went on and on, Mrs. Alverson, not wishing to appear prideful, steadfastly refused to accept any praise. Despite her protest, it was evident she was pleased with the dinner -- and especially proud of her prize-winning preserves.

Toward the end of the meal she announced a special surprise for dessert. However, she refused to say what it was until every plate was clean. All the plates were empty except the Preacher's. He had a small piece of bread left, covering some of the pear preserves.

She said, "Preacher, you need to finish so that everyone can have dessert." The Preacher meekly replied, "Everything is so delicious; but I cannot hold another bite." Mrs. Alverson sternly reminded him of his prayer and her request.

"Yes, Ma'am," the Preacher replied in a very meek voice. He then proceeded to eat what was left on his plate—very slowly. Impatient to sample the next culinary delight, everyone watched him. They were finally rewarded with a heaping bowl of apricot cobbler topped with homemade vanilla ice cream.

After dinner every guest thanked Mrs. Alverson profusely. On the buggy ride home the Deacon asked, "Preacher, why were you so slow about finishing up your dinner -- are you feeling poorly."

"No, I had another reason." He did not elaborate.

Finally the Deacon could not contain himself. "So, what on earth could be your reason? The food was wonderful. In my opinion, she is the best cook in two counties."

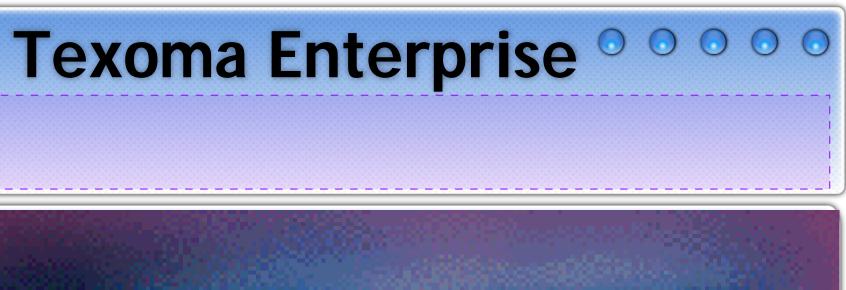
"Well," said the Preacher, "as I was eating I noticed a tiny baby mouse in my pear preserves. I kept trying to hide it under that piece of bread. I knew that if she saw it she would be so embarrassed she might never invite us again. So I made a plan to sneak the mouse off my plate with my napkin and then hide it in my pocket. But, before I realized it dinner was over and everyone was staring at me -- waiting for me to finish."

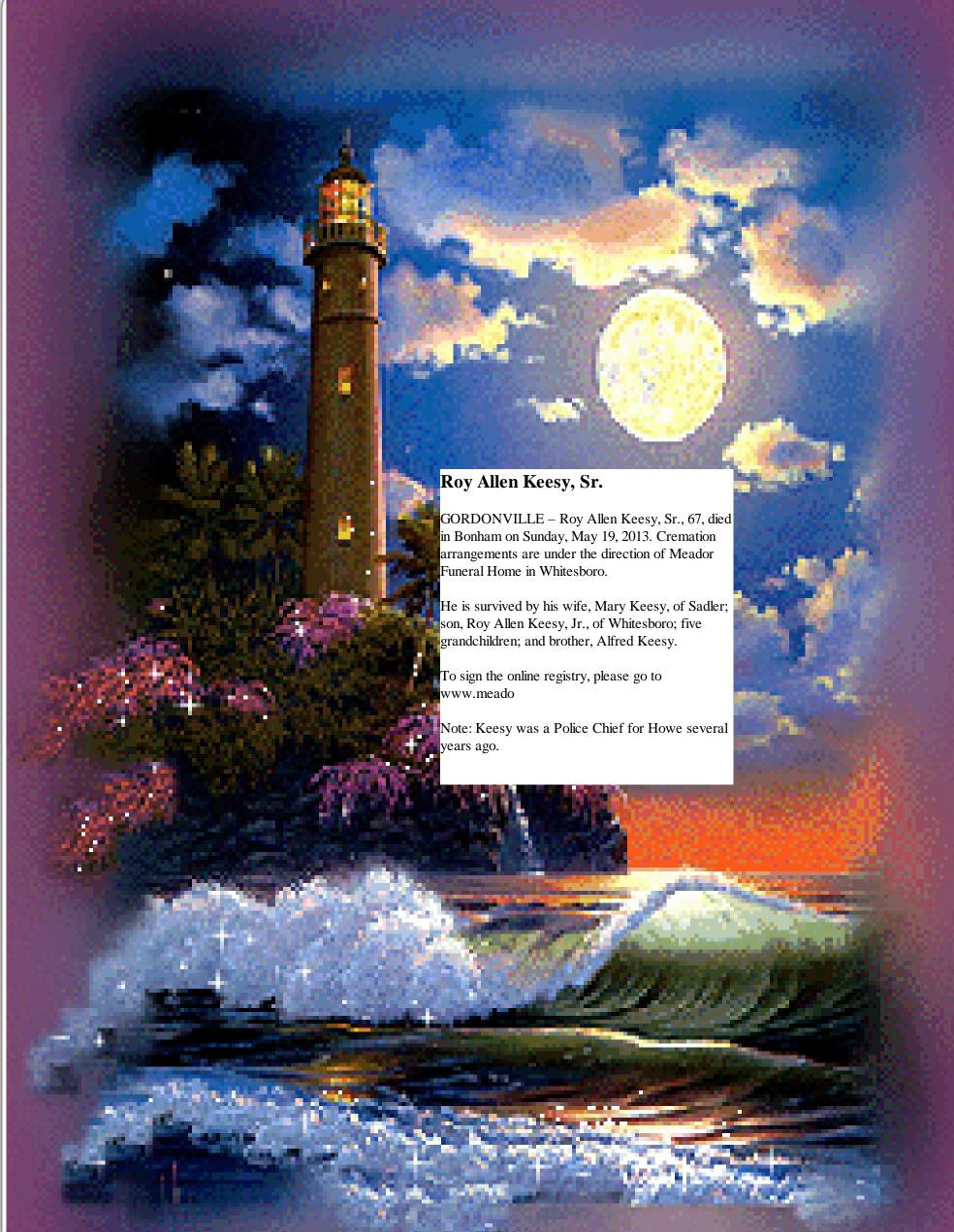
"So, what did you do? How did you get it off your plate?" asked the Deacon.

With a very pained expression the Preacher replied, "I didn't. I ate it."

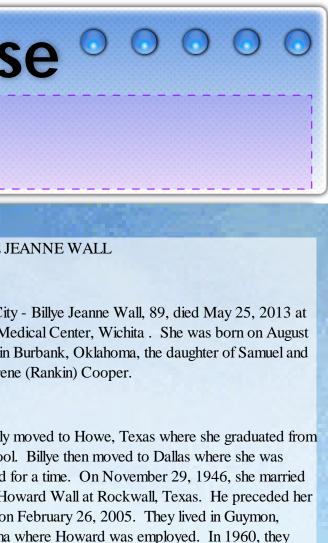
-30- If you'd want the recipe for pear preserves that are worth eating a mouse for, email me: jlincecum@me.com. Dr. Jerry Lincecum is a retired English professor who teaches classes for older adults who want to write their life stories.







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Robert D. Taylor (Bob)

Celebrating Life, Times and Remembrances will be Saturday, June 1, 2013 5:00pm

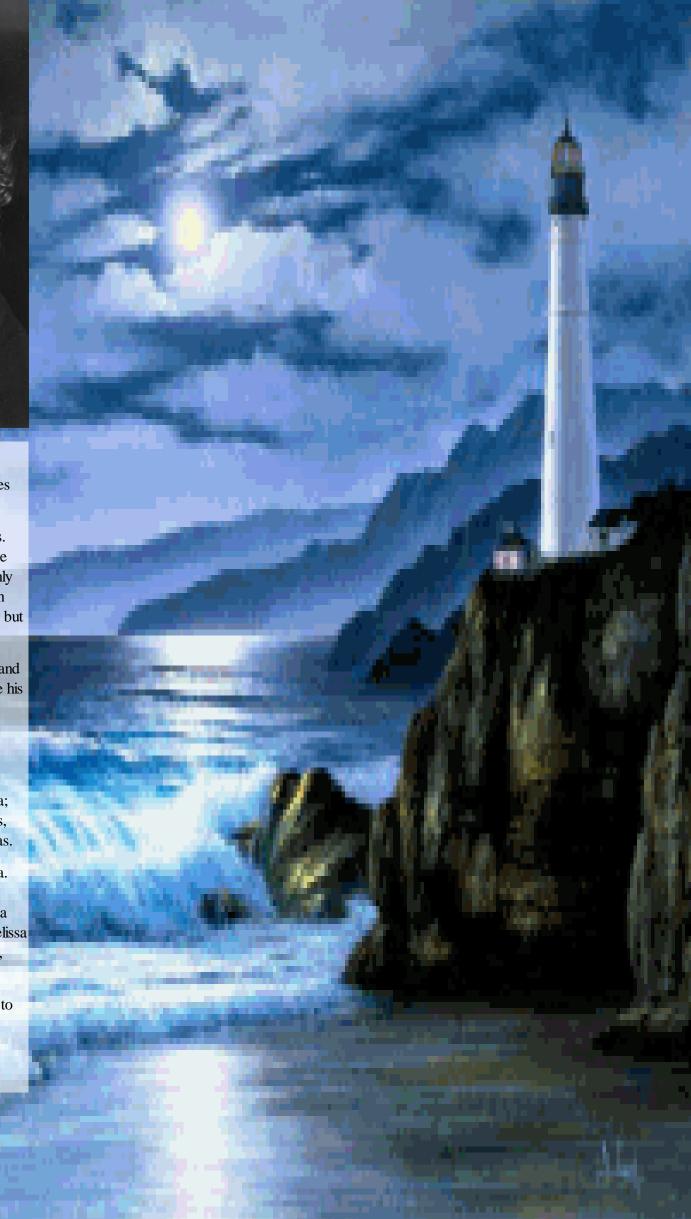
Frontier Flight Museum, Love Field Dallas. Bob lived aircraft. Sheet metal maintenance magician/artist since Vietnam. He loved only his family, friends and fishing more. Guillian Barre' and Agent Orange changed his life, but not his spirit of love, laughter, living.

Bob was born October 11, 1952 to T.L. and Betty (Peggy) Taylor of Dorchester. While his career took him many places, Dallas was home. He passed suddenly May 16, at his daughter's home.

He is survived by daughter and caretaker, Margaret (Meg) and granddaughter, Elisha; son, Shane May, Sara and granddaughters, Kierstyn and Kenley, all of Little Elm Texas.

Brother, Tom, T.L. Taylor III and Melinda. Sister, Mary Gail DeVore. Nieces and nephews: Jason Taylor, Jeremy and Jessica DeVore, Shayne and Lisa Pemberton, Melissa and Kyle McGill and families. BFF: Diana, Teresa, Annie.

Bob can be remembered by contributions to Lone Star Chapter Paralyzed Veterans of America or PAMA Scholarship Program.





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