October 11, 2012

Tom Bean Homecoming King & Queen

9 - 11 Firetruck in Howe

Tom Bean PD Lifesaver

CCC Bridge Rebuilt
Grayson College Theatre students Jessica Huffstetler and Blake Rice are ready for "South Pacific," the college's first musical production in several years. Performances are scheduled for Oct. 12, 13, 19, 20 at 7:30 pm, Oct. 21 at 2 pm, and Oct. 18 at 10 am in Cruce Stark Auditorium on GC’s Main Campus.

GC’s “South Pacific” honors area Veterans

"South Pacific" has entertained audiences for years with classic songs such as "Nothing Like a Dame," "I'm Gonna Wash That Man Right Out of My Hair," and "Some Enchanted Evening." It will be some enchanted opening day on Oct. 12 when the Grayson College Theatre presents the musical in Cruce Stark Auditorium on the college’s Main Campus in Denison.

The musical opens the same weekend as Denison's Eisenhower Birthday Celebration. Veterans and their families are invited to attend the performances on Oct. 12 and 13 at 7:30 pm free of charge. General admission is $5 or free with GC ID.

"Since ‘South Pacific’ takes place during World War II, we want to honor our area veterans and their families, especially the World War II vets," said Robin Robinson, GC professor and director of theatre.

Opening day festivities on Oct. 12 include a parachute drop at 6:45 pm in the field across the street (FM 691) from the auditorium, following the parachute drop, a reception honoring veterans and their families will take place in the auditorium’s lobby. At 7:30 pm on both Oct. 12 and 13, Dr. Jeremy McMillen, GC’s new president, will greet the audiences and acknowledge veterans in attendance.

Final performances of the musical are Oct. 18 at 10 am, Oct. 19 and 20 at 7:30 pm, and Oct. 21 at 2 pm. Tickets for all performances are $5 or free with GC ID.

"The marine performance on Oct. 21 features a special treat as well," Robinson said. "GC’s ‘Culinary Program’ is offering lunch at 12:30 pm in Culinary Dining Room on the college’s Main Campus." Lunch seating is limited and reservations are required. Tickets for lunch and matinee are $15. For reservations, call the GC Theatre department at 903-463-8609 or email theatrieproduct@gmail.com. For more information, please visit theatre@grayson.edu.

An award-winning musical written by Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein, "South Pacific" is based on James A. Michener’s Pulitzer winning novel, "Tales from the South Pacific." Ensign Nellie Forbush, played by sophomore Jessica Huffstetler of Whitesboro, is an American nurse stationed at a U.S. Naval base during World War II. She falls in love with a young Asian woman.

Racial prejudice is candidly explored throughout the musical, most pointedly in the song, "You’ve Got to Be Carefully Taught." In addition to Huffstetler and Rice, the show features a large cast of GC students and community members. GC sophomores include:

Mason Butler of Leonard as Yeoman Harbert Quale; Jose Gonzalez of Denison as Henry; Wes Hayes of Howe as Marine Lt. Joseph Cable; Rodney Hudson of Sherman as Professor/McCaffrey; Nathan Owen of England as Luther Bills; Amber Patrick of Colbert as Ensign D猛然 Murphy; Rachel Schroeder of Denison as Lead Nurse Lt. Genrose Marshall; Andrew Steele of Cumby as Sailor James Hayes; and Dillon Wooten of Trenton as Sailor Tom O'Brien.

GC freshmen cast members are: Skylar Ahum of Texarkana as Lt. Bazu Adams; Nick Ellis of Houston as Seabee 1 Mortgage Wize; Michael Higgins of Princeton as Marine Sgt. Kenneth Johnson; Aaron Hogue of Anna as Seabee 2 Richard West; Tatiana Muxey of Kingswood as La'at, Kaylee Robinson of Bells as Ensign Janet MacGregor, and Krishna Seely as Ensign Connie Wakowska.

Community cast members include: Macie Johnson, Pottsboro High School student, as Ensign Rita Adams; A. J. DaCosta, Denison High School student, as Sakis James Hayes; La'et Herbert, GC librarian of Whitehouse, as Bloody Mary; Skir Schumitz, former GC student of Durant, as Navy Capt. George Brackett; Aman Thomas, Denison Mayes Elementary 5th grader, as Jerome; and Layla Thomas, Denison Mayes Elementary 4th grader, as Nujia. The Thomas siblings are the children of A.T. Thomas, GC’s computer support technician.

In addition to Robinson, other crew members are: Tema Matthews, GC professor, light design and technical director; Thea Albert, GC adjunct professor, scenic and costume design; Pam Guthier-Hamer, choir director at Dillingham and Piner in Sherman, music director; Chris Sanchez, former GC student of Little Elm, choreographer; and James Scoggins, GC audio technology specialist, sound design.

Sophomore crew members include: Maggie Begorreg of Denton, deck manager; Jarred Miller of Denison, master electrician; Kasy Pointdexter of Whitesrte, stage manager; and Taylour Roberts of Sherman, sound and symphonia. Freshman crew members are: Avery Chester of Frisco, sound; Nathaniel Pointdexter of Whitesrte, assistant master carpenter and flyman; Jasmine Shamm of Rowlett, assistant master electrician and light desk; Keit Slay of Lavon; and Cody Wymann of Whitesrte, follow spot.

Cast members who hold crew positions as well include: Alton, Ellis and Hudson, wardrobe; Butler, props; Maxwell, assistant to choreographer; and Steele, master carpenter.

For more information about "South Pacific," contact the GC Theatre Department at 903-463-8609 or mailtheatre@grayson.edu. Click here for more College News.
GED exam offered in Bonham

The GED Exam will be offered in Bonham on Oct. 24. The Grayson College Testing Center will start accepting reservations Oct. 17.

Contact the GC Testing Center at 903-463-8724 for a reservation. Seating is limited to 15, and pre-registration is required.

A GED candidate must be a resident of Texas, must be officially withdrawn from school, and must not have received a high school diploma from an accredited high school in the U.S.

Examinees will report to the TEAM Center at 806 W. 16th Street in Bonham at 7:45 am. Those taking the exam must bring government-issued photo identification (Texas driver’s license, Department of Public Safety ID card, passport, military ID card), Social Security card (if they have a Social Security number), and $65 exact cash. Seventeen year-old candidates must provide additional forms available from the GC Testing Center. Testing will last all day, from 8 am until 6 pm with a short break for lunch. Examinees should bring a sack lunch and beverage.

Examinees will receive official GED scores directly from the Texas Education Agency about three weeks after testing.

GC Testing Director Donna McKinney reminds those interested in completing the GED that major changes are underway to the test. “The GED Testing Service will issue a new series of GED tests in January 2014. GED candidates who have not completed their GED testing on the 2002 series of GED tests should try to complete their testing in 2012 or early 2013. Do not wait until the last few months of 2013. Testing volume may be high, and you might not be able to get a seat during the last few months of 2013,” she said.

For information or GED test dates at the GC Main Campus in Denison, call 903-463-8724.
One of the best years for movies is 1939. I checked out the Internet and found a list of great movies of that year. Gone With the Wind, Goodbye Mr. Chips, Mr. Smith Goes to Washington, Of Mice and Men, Stagecoach, and The Wizard of Oz are among those excellent movies.

In the last year I watched Gone With the Wind. I read the book twice, but I had not watched the movie in a long time. I never could see why Scarlett loved Ashley instead of Rhett.

Mr. Smith Goes to Washington is also a great movie. I always liked Jimmy Stewart and his performance in this movie was great.

Stagecoach with John Wayne is also a favorite of mine. I have watched that movie many times.

And what can you say about The Wizard of Oz that hasn’t been said before. Dorothy and her friends Scarecrow, Tin Man and Cowardly Lion take a journey that has thrilled audiences for years.

For the pancakes, combine egg, milk and oil. Add dry ingredients and beat until smooth. Batter should be thick. Heat griddle. Brush griddle lightly with oil. Spoon about 1/4 cup of batter, per pancake, onto griddle. Cook until top of pancake is set and flip. Cook until golden brown.

For the syrup, combine sugar, syrup, water and cinnamon in a saucepan. Bring to a boil and cook 2 minutes, stirring constantly. Cool 15 minutes and add evaporated milk.
The Howe Elementary “Top Dogs” for October 5th – 19th are: Mason Bearden, Ruvy Enriquez, Tatum Hartsfield, Avery Snapp, Stanley Bik, Ryan Murphy, Jacob Husband, Ethan Strunc, Caleb Fetzer, Jordan Brunner, Sandra Nitchman, Kade Murphy, Isaac Vidales, Noah Riley, Kamry Snapp, Eduardo Gonzalez, Hayden Adkins, and Emaleigh Sweden.

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Complete line of groceries, Fishing Equipment & Bait, Great Beer & Wine selection.

Fall Festival

When: October 20, 2012
Where: Howe Elem./Middle School Parking Lot
Time: 5:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Outside vendors are welcome. For more information on vendor registration contact Darla Williams at 903-532-3320.
On Monday, Oct. 8, a piece of history visited Howe. New York Fire Department Rescue 4 truck still shows some scars from its service during the 9/11 attack at the World Trade Center.

Howe Fire Chief Robert Maniet noted that the truck is a piece of history from that day ... Sept. 11, 2001. The truck was front and center that day as the crew of that truck entered one of the towers. The crew of eight was killed in the collapse of one of the buildings.

A large number of area residents viewed the truck and many parents and grandparents told their children and grandchildren about the bravery and sacrifice the firefighters and police officers offered that day ten years ago.
The City of Howe earned the “Most Spirited Award” again on Saturday, Oct. 6. Chilly winds kept some folks away as Grayson County celebrated the Texoma Night Out to help police and other law enforcement get acquainted.

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News from Tom Bean

Recently the Type A Community Development Board voted to purchase an AED unit for the Tom Bean Police Department. This AED was purchased with tax dollars that were spent in Tom Bean by citizens of Tom Bean now coming back to support the citizens of Tom Bean. John Hunt, Type A Board member, did the presentation to Police Chief Michael Webster during the City Council meeting last Monday night. The John Hunt family also surprised the Council and the Police Department by presenting Police Chief Michael Webster with a check to purchase four new vests for the Police officers. What a wonderful gesture by this family!

Police Chief Michael Webster also presented certificates of appreciation to Officer Kenneth Steelman and his wife Stephanie for their leadership, time, money and effort in support of the recent Texoma Night Out of which Tom Bean was honored to receive the "most improved" award at the end of the night.

Mayor Sherry E. Howard, along with the Council members, expressed their many thanks to the Hunt family and the Steelman family for their generous donations and support of Tom Bean.

From Mayor Sherry E. Howard
Posted on September 28th, 2012

West Nile virus is now in most of the United States. The most important way people become infected is through the bite of an infected mosquito. You can reduce your chance of getting infected by avoiding mosquito bites. Adults are at highest risk. People over age 50 and people who have ever received a solid organ transplant are more likely to develop serious symptoms of West Nile virus if they do get sick and should take special care to avoid mosquito bites.

What happens if I get infected? A small number of people (about 1 in 150) who get infected with West Nile virus develop severe disease, called West Nile encephalitis or West Nile meningitis (inflammation of the brain or the area around the brain). Symptoms of severe illness include headache, high fever, stiff neck, mental confusion, muscle weakness, tremors (shaking), convulsions, coma, and paralysis. These symptoms may last several weeks, and neurological effects may be permanent. See your health care provider if you develop these symptoms. Some people who become infected have symptoms such as fever, headache, body aches, nausea, vomiting, swollen lymph glands or a skin rash on the chest, stomach and back. Symptoms can last for a few days to several weeks. Call your health care provider if you have questions about your symptoms. Most people who get infected with West Nile virus do not have any symptoms. There is no specific treatment for West Nile virus infection. There is no vaccine available for people.
The Board of Trustees of the Tom Bean Independent School District held a Public Hearing to discuss the School FIRST (Financial Integrity Rating System) of 2010-2011 followed by the regular board meeting on Monday, September 17, 2012 at 6:45 pm. The Texas legislature created the system in 2001 to communicate information and improve the management of school districts' financial resources. The system requires the Texas Education Agency to review the audited financial reports from all districts and assign financial management ratings based on how the data conform to 22 established indicators. For a tenth year in a row, the Texas Education Agency has awarded TBISD its top rating of Superior Achievement for management of the school district’s financial resources.

President, Jinger Peeples, called the regular board meeting to order at 7 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and David Ellis led the invocation.

Student of the Month recognition and plaques were presented to the recipients from each campus. Teachers selected the candidates based on their attitude, behavior, and character. The recipients included: J.J. Reynolds (EL); Lidda Briley (MS); and Colten Curd (HS).

The minutes of August 20, 2012 along with the Financial Reports were approved as presented.

Each of the campus principals gave a report with the total enrollment, attendance, discipline, number of walk-through evaluations, number of teacher absences, newsletters, and current events for September and October.

Mr. John Orozco gave the results of the Marketing Survey issued to the employees on August 24, 2012. Mr. Torrey Price, Athletic Director, gave a report of the football, volleyball, and cross country season.

The Board of Trustees approved the Maintenance and Operation Tax Rate for 2012 - 2013 as $1.04 while the Interest and Sinking Tax Rate for the 2012 - 2013 school year will be $.0911. The total tax rate for Tom Bean residents will be $1.1311.

The board considered the renovation of the agriculture shop and tabled the decision until the October board meeting.

The Student Acceptable Use regulation with an addendum which added BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) was approved for instructional technology.

The Board of Trustees approved the hiring of BTC (Buford-Thompson Company) as general contractors and construction managers to oversee the elementary facility.

Mr. Bob Yadon, Teacher/Coach at Tom Bean High School, submitted his retirement letter to be effective at the end of the first semester. This was approved by the Board of Trustees.

The purchase of the property located on the corner of Hwy. 11 and Franklin Rd. which is in front of the high school was discussed. The board approved an offer of $18,000. The resolution for sale of property was tabled until the 2013 school year.

Mrs. Garrison gave each board member a copy of the TBISD college readiness letter as well as discussing the TASA/TASB convention and board training.

The next regular Board meeting will be held on Monday, October 15, 2012 at 7 pm. The community is always invited to share in the education of our students.

Tom Bean Homecoming

The 2012 Tom Bean High School Homecoming King and Queen were announced recently at a pre-game ceremony. TBHS Homecoming Queen is Bethany Ulch. She is the daughter of David Ulch and Kim and Glenn Lane. TBHS Homecoming King is Keaton Lillibridge. He is the son of Dean and Tammy Lillibridge.

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Elementary School Student of the Month

Tom Bean Students for the Month of September

J.J. Reynolds, Elementary School;

Lidda Briley, Middle School; and

Colten Curd, High School.

Middle School Student of the Month

High School Student of the Month
Civilian Conservation Corp Bridge has been rebuilt

CLEBURNE, TX -- Originally constructed by Company 3804 of the Civilian Conservation Corp in 1936, this three-span vehicle bridge crosses Camp Creek below Cedar Lake inside the Cleburne State Park, which is located some 10 miles Southwest of the city of Cleburne.

The bridge’s two massive stone piers and abutments support the wooden beams and deck, making for a rustic appearance, belied by a sophisticated design and remarkably durable functionality.

The bridge rebuilding project was funded through Texas Department of Transportation state highway funds and federal off-system bridge replacement funds from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).

A ribbon cutting for the renovated historic bridge was held on Wednesday, Oct. 17
Chrystal Opry House Gospel Event

On Saturday night, October 20, the Melody Ranch Gospel Band will perform. Members of the band are Al Guinn, guitar and vocals, George Kirby, fiddle, Judi Ziola, piano and vocals, Archie Shearer, lead guitar and vocals, Pat Shearer, vocals, Jody Cofer, bass and vocals, and Bill Hayes, guitar and vocals.

Our special guest for the evening will be Brad Davis from Whitesboro. Brad plays the guitar, saxophone, banjo and dobro. We look forward to having him.

Doors will open at 6 pm and the program will begin at 7 pm. 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.

Dorchester Women’s Club

DORCHESTER -- Peggy Redshaw was the guest speaker when the Dorchester Women’s club recently met. President Barbara Welch led the session and hostesses were Carol Groner and Margie Noel.

Redshaw, an Austin College biology professor, presented a program on the 1918 Spanish influenza epidemic in the Sherman area. She gathered her information from Sherman newspapers, funeral home records and other sources. She noted that more people between ages 20 and 40 died than any other age groups, and the Dannel Funeral Home in Sherman held 64 funerals in October of that year. Doctors reported about 1,000 new influenza cases between Oct. 5 and 7, 1918. A quarantine began which included the cancellation of all public gatherings including schools and church services. The epidemic lasted approximately four months, and it is theorized that the epidemic’s cause may have been via train traffic. On Oct. 3 of that year, a Liberty train came through Sherman to raise money for the war effort. On Oct. 5, the first death from influenza was reported in the newspaper. Redshaw reported that more people died from this pandemic than from World War I. The first influenza vaccine wasn’t developed until World War II.

During the business meeting, roll was answered with each member giving her family’s standard remedy for a medical problem when she was a child. The quote of the day, “Illness is one of those things which a woman should resist on principle at the onset,” was credited to Edward G. Bulwer-Lytton.

October birthday celebrants were Pauldine Lilly, Sue Reeves and Margie Wester. Groner won the door prize that was provided by Cathye Ballou.

The next meeting will be a Thanksgiving potluck luncheon at 11:30 am on Nov. 13 at the Dorchester Baptist Church annex. Joyce White will present a program in decluttering. All area women are welcomed to attend.

GC Art Dept offers Dia de los Muertos workshops

Grayson College art professor Steve Black is hosting a series of workshops for artists, students and craftspersons to work on pieces for the upcoming Sweet Jubilee and Dia de los Muertos events.

Black will be in the GC Arts and Communications Center room 105 from 1-4 pm on Oct. 12-13 and Oct. 19-20, and from 2-4 pm on Oct. 21. Participants may work on cardboard non-edible desserts for the Sweet Jubilee exhibits or on altar pieces, puppets and masks for the Dia de los Muertos Festival. Both events will be held on Main Street in Denison Nov. 3 and 4.

Black requests advanced reservations for space at the free workshops. Contact him at blackst@grayson.edu or by phone at 903-463-8662.
Sherman Community Players opens new season with *The Sunshine Boys*

The Sherman Community Players begins its brand new season next week with Neil Simon’s “The Sunshine Boys.” Directing the production is Anthony Nelson.

Hailed as one of Simon’s best comedies, the play setting is 1972. Two veteran vaudevillian comics, Willy Clark and Al Lewis, aren’t speaking. After 40 years as a popular comedic team, they cut their ties and haven’t spoken to each other in 11 years. When a television producer suggests they re-unite for a TV special on the greatest comics of the century, the fun begins.

Playing the lead roles as Lewis and Clark are Bruce Stidham and Frank Sanza. They are joined on stage by Jeffrey Hermann, Deborah Barrax, Saundra Lindscheid, Ed Richardson, Isaac Sheibmeir, Bruce Butler and Jim Smith.

Working backstage are: Marty Burkhart and Tom Rawson, stage managers; Tina Ross, costume designer; Donna Champion House, assistant costume designer; Jim Barnes, sound designer; Webster Crocker, set designer; and Megan McCullough, make-up designer.

The production officially opens on Oct. 5 with an 8 pm performance. It will continue with 8 pm performances on Oct. 6, 11, 12, 13, 18, 19, and 20 and 2 pm performances on Oct. 7, 14 and 21. All performances will be at the Finley Cultural Center in Sherman. Tickets are on sale now to the general public beginning on Oct. 3. They can be purchased over the phone at 903-892-8818 or at the box office, located inside the Honey McGee Playhouse at 313 Mulberry in Sherman. For more information, visit www.scptheater.org.

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Civil Air Patrol Begins Project To Honor Veterans

DENISON, Texas (September 14) - The Civil Air Patrol’s Texoma Composite Squadron has kicked off its annual campaign to remember and honor our country’s veterans during the Christmas holidays through the Wreaths Across America program.

Wreaths Across America (WAA) is a nonprofit organization whose purpose is to remember and honor the sacrifices of all veterans and their families. This is done through placing evergreen wreaths on veteran’s graves in a ceremony held each December. Working with Civil Air Patrol and other partners, WAA places hundreds of thousands of wreaths on graves at several hundred cemeteries across the country including Arlington National Cemetery, and at 24 overseas cemeteries including Normandy Beach, France. Their theme for 2012 is “Then, Now & Forever!”

From now through November 25th, squadron members will be taking orders from individuals, families, and businesses to sponsor wreaths. Sponsorships are $15 per wreath, and can be purchased in any quantity. Order forms may be obtained from any squadron member or from the “Wreaths Across America 2012” pages on the squadron’s website. Those wishing to order online or using a credit card can do so through the Wreaths Across America website; be sure to specify the Group ID number TXCAP262 when ordering so the wreaths will be delivered to the correct location.

All sponsored wreaths will be placed on graves at Cedarlawn Memorial Park in Sherman. The wreath-laying ceremony will be held on Saturday, December 15th starting at 11:00am. This event is open to the public and everyone is invited to attend, especially local veterans and their families.

For more information about the Texoma Composite Squadron, visit www.captexoma.org. For more information about Wreaths Across America, visit www.wreathsacrossamerica.org.

Civil Air Patrol, the official auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force, is a nonprofit organization with more than 61,000 members nationwide, operating a fleet of 550 aircraft. CAP, in its Air Force auxiliary role, performs 90 percent of continental U.S. inland search and rescue missions as tasked by the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center and was credited by the AFRCC with saving 54 lives in fiscal year 2011. Its volunteers also perform homeland security, disaster relief and drug interdiction missions at the request of federal, state and local agencies. The members play a leading role in aerospace education and serve as mentors to nearly 27,000 young people currently participating in the CAP cadet program. CAP received the World Peace Prize in 2011 and has been performing missions for America for 70 years. CAP also participates in Wreaths Across America, an initiative to remember, honor and teach about the sacrifices of U.S. military veterans. Visit www.gocivilairpatrol.com or www.capvolunteernow.com for more information.
Area Churches

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, 903/453-4835

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH 300 Pecan, 903/453-3335

GRACE BIBLE FELLOWSHIP Pastor Bruce Nixson Brooks Plaza Sundays - 9:30 AM Worship www.thegbf.com

VALLEY CHURCH OF CHRIST Hwy 902 E & Ponderosa Rd, Weldon Hutson, pastor, 903/532-6032

Howe

APOSTATIC LIFE UPC 40 S. Collins Fwy, Jerry Protencost, 903/821-9166, Sun. 9am & 6pm

NEW BEGINNING FELLOWSHIP/M, 912 S Denby St, 903/532-6628, Roger Roper, M-school, 9:30, worship 10:45

BETHEL BAPTIST Hwy. 902 E & Ponderosa Rd, Weldon Hunton, pastor, 903/532-6332

SUMMIT CHURCH Howe Middle School Cafeteria, 903/815-1472, Kode Bouse

Luella

CHURCH OF CHRIST N. Collins Fwy, 903/532-6441, Toby Socheting

FIRST UNITED METHODIST Church of Christ N. Collins Fwy, 903/532-6628, Roger Roper, M-school, 9:30, worship 10:45

BETHEL BAPTIST Hwy. 902 E & Ponderosa Rd, Weldon Hunton, pastor, 903/532-6332

Ida

IDA BAPTIST CHURCH, 903/813-1360 S. School, 903/813-1360, Worship 11 am Charles Morris, pastor

Laurel

LUCCA FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST 3162 St. Hwy. 11, Harvey Patterson, 903/833-2252

A CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP, 130 Fellowship Lu, Laurel Mike Ball, 903/970-0219

Tom Bean

CHURCH OF CHRIST 903/546-6456

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH 903/546-6231

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 903/546-0498

Song of Songs 2:1-7 (KJV)

1 I am the rose of Sharon, and the lily of the valleys.
2 As the apple tree among the trees of the wood, so is my beloved among the sons. I sat down under his shadow with great delight, and his fruit was sweet to my taste.
3 As the apple tree among the trees of the wood, so is my love among the daughters.
4 He brought me to the banqueting house, and his banner over me was love.
5 Stay me with flagons, comfort me with apples: for I am sick of love.
6 His left hand is under my head, and his right hand doth embrace me.
7 I charge you, O ye daughters of Jerusalem, by the hinds of the field, that ye stir not up, nor awake my love, till he please.

Christian Fellowship

Mike Ball will be leading our worship service this week at A Christian Fellowship in Luella. Each Sunday morning begins at 9 am with coffee and donut fellowship followed by classes for all ages at 9:30. Worship service begins at 10:30.

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

The church hosts a movie night every 3rd Friday night of the month. This month the movie will be held on October 19th at 6:30 pm. The movie for October will be “Big Miracles.” It stars Drew Barrymore and is about whales who are trapped under the ice in Alaska. The movie is free and the public is invited to attend. So come on out for a night of family fun. Popcorn, candy and drinks are all free.

Wednesday nights begin at 6:30 pm with a pot-luck dinner followed by praise and worship and a devotional. There is also a class for the children.

The church will be planning an event for kids for Halloween. There is going to be a hayride for the kids from ages 3-16 yrs old. The kids will meet at ACF church and leave at 6:30pm. The “Trick or Treat Hayride” will be held on October 27 @ 6:30pm.

Tom Bean Church of Christ

The Tom Bean Church of Christ invites everyone to come and worship with us. Our Fall Meeting will be October 7-12 with services beginning at 7:30 pm each night. Sunday morning services begin with Bible class for all ages at 9 am and worship at 10 am. The evening worship service will be 7:30 pm. All lessons are brought by different area preachers at each worship service. The Lord’s Supper will be given. Congregational singing will be lead by Charles Counts. The church is located at the corner of FM902 and FM2729 South in Tom Bean, TX.

We have two radio programs each Sunday at 7:30am on KFYV 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.

Elvis Presley’s Bible

A Bible that once belonged to Elvis Presley and contains his handwritten notes and thoughts recently sold for $94,000 at an auction in England, according to Omega Auctions.

One of the Scriptures emphasized by the Bible, given to the singer in 1957 on his first Christmas at his home called Graceland in Memphis, Tennessee, was bought by an American man based in Cheshire, north England.

The Bible was part of a collection of Elvis memorabilia owned by a single British collector. The entire collection sold for more than $100,000 dollars at the auction in Cheshire, north England.

Steve Higginbotham points out that in the case of Elvis’ Bible, the value of his Bible was “determined by the person who owned it.” In reality, however, it is the Bible that is truly valuable – regardless of who owns it.

The value of the Bible is incalculable because it is the Word of God (cf. 2 Timothy 3:16-17). The Apostle Paul wrote, “For this reason we also thank God without ceasing, because when you received the Word to bring about $40,000 but actually sold for far more than twice that amount.

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The Bible is priceless because it reveals the incredible love of God Who loves us even though we are sinners. He loves us so much that He gave His Only Son to die on the cross for our sins so that we might have forgiveness for our sins and eternal life (John 3:16; Romans 5:8).

The Bible is precious because it reveals the Way to forgiveness and life. That Way is JESUS. Jesus declared, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me” (John 14:6). God has promised that those who place their faith and trust in Jesus (Acts 16:30-31), turn from their sin in repentance (Acts 17:30-31), confess Jesus before men (Romans 10:9-10), are baptized (immersed) into Christ for the forgiveness of sins (Acts 2:38), and continue to “walk in the light” of His Word (1 John 1:7) will be saved.

No, it’s not the OWNER of the Bible that makes it valuable. The Bible is valuable because of what God reveals to us in the pages of Scripture!

“He who looks into the perfect law of truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me” (James 1:25).

Don’t just own a Bible; read it! Don’t just read your Bible; heed it! Don’t just own a Bible; read it! Don’t just read your Bible; heed it! THEN you will be truly blessed.

The Bible is priceless because it reveals the incredible love of God Who loves us even though we are sinners. He loves us so much that He gave His Only Son to die on the cross for our sins so that we might have forgiveness for our sins and eternal life (Romans 5:8).

The Bible is precious because it reveals the Way to forgiveness and life. That Way is JESUS. Jesus declared, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me” (John 14:6). God has promised that those who place their faith and trust in Jesus (Acts 16:30-31), turn from their sin in repentance (Acts 17:30-31), confess Jesus before men (Romans 10:9-10), are baptized (immersed) into Christ for the forgiveness of sins (Acts 2:38), and continue to “walk in the light” of His Word (1 John 1:7) will be saved.

No, it’s not the OWNER of the Bible that makes it valuable. The Bible is valuable because of what God reveals to us in the pages of Scripture!

“He who looks into the perfect law of truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me” (James 1:25).

Don’t just own a Bible; read it! Don’t just read your Bible; heed it! THEN you will be truly blessed.

Won’t YOU?

David A. Sargent, Minister
davidsargent1@comcast.net

“Elvis Presley’s Bible.” See Steve Higginbotham’s 9/10/12 MercEmail: davidsargent1@comcast.net

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The Mystery Man
By Bob Bowman

Daingerfield, the pleasant county seat of Morris County, was named for Captain London Daingerfield, supposedly a native of Nova Scotia, but beyond that and a few other facts, Captain Daingerfield remains a mystery man.

Morris County pioneers told stories of finding Daingerfield’s millstone and water well, which pre-dated local Anglo-American history. These items were likely made by Acadian settlers from Louisiana, but they returned to the territory because of Indian hostilities.

A spring known locally as Daingerfield Spring was once a popular camp used by Indians such as the Choctaws and Caddoes. Around 1830, Captain Daingerfield and a company of 100 men attacked an Indian village at the spring and, after a long, bloody fight, the Indians were driven away.

Local history says Captain Daingerfield settled his family around the spring, but the Indians retaliated, killing Daingerfield, his wife and children.

The Captain and his family were likely buried nearby with large flat rocks marking their graves. But as the years passed, the cemetery and rocks were moved as new homes were built in the area.

In those days, it was the custom of settlers to plant cedar trees around the graves of their loved ones. Near the spot where the Daingerfields were buried, large cedars are now growing.

By Dorothy N. Fowler

Today should be Thursday. Somehow I missed Monday, so my mental calendar has been off one day all week. This is doubly strange because I have kept my appointment calendar — the United Methodist planning calendar, safely encased in its United Methodist carrier — in front of me all week because I’ve had several appointments and I have kept all except the ones on Monday and another for which I was one day late.

That’s the reason this column is in process on Friday morning instead of on Wednesday or Thursday. If my ego were weaker, I would be wondering by this time why the people with whom I usually meet on Monday have not called to see what happened to me. Moreover, the Rideouts haven’t called me to find out what happened to my column.

Absence of these calls could send me to a day of curled up self-pity along with the other dust balls under my bed. Instead it has had the opposite effect because my apparently unnoticed absences have assured me that the world can and will get by even when I am not there to hold it together.

I am told that the oldest child in the family is frequently cursed with the feeling that s/he is responsible for everything that happens in the family. The oldest child tries to be the peace maker in a troubled family, tries to uphold the family reputation in a high-achieving, ambitious family, tries to take care of every problem younger siblings encounter and in general, is the trail blazer. Every oldest child I know fits the mold.

Being the first child in a family is obviously both a blessing and a curse. It’s a blessing when parents love and encourage their oldest child. It is a curse when the oldest child cannot, no matter what he or she does, live up to expectations of his or her parents. I taught several kids who were caught in the latter situation, kids who were wonderful, responsible people, good students, ambitious, energetic, and thoughtful — all the things you would think parents would appreciate.

Perhaps their parents did, but they weren’t able to communicate their approval. The tragedy of that is that the kids in that situation never give up trying to get their parents’ unconditional love. When they are 50 and their parents are in their 70’s or 80’s, the kids are still kids trying to win their parents over.

The best thing that can happen to those kids is to find out that the world will rock on even when they abdicate their responsibilities occasionally. It may, at first, be a shock to discover that they are expendable, but ultimately it is a freeing experience.

Abdicating is harder than it might seem at first glance. The people who have always depended on the first-born to make the decisions -- where shall we eat Sunday lunch, which car do we want to drive on the vacation, who is going to drive, does this
The problem of finding more about Captain Daingerfield is compounded by the fact that Morris and the surrounding counties were once a part of Arkansas. Army records in Washington have no record of Daingerfield and, despite the efforts of several historians to unearth more details about the captain, his family and his fellow soldiers, his disappearance remains one of the legendary stories of East Texas.

Some early visitors were not kind to the early town of Daingerfield. William A. McClintock, who passed through the area in 1846, noted in his diary that the town consisted of “three or four cabins scarce fit for pigsties.”

But by the early 1850s the town began to grow. Sylvia Academy, a private school for girls, opened around 1850, and in 1852 the Marshall Presbytery of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church founded Chapel Hill College.

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

outfit look right for the occasion – don’t want to suddenly take on the responsibilities that someone else has always had. It’s a fight every time the formerly omnipotent one says, “I’m not deciding this time.”

Of course, that’s a two edged sword — the oldest kid is still making the decisions by forcing decision-making on someone else.

Wouldn’t life be simpler if there were only one facet of every problem?
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.

Lana, Dominique, Rachel, Briana, Amber, “Santa” Jordan, Caleb, Chris

Grandkids singing at the Christmas Tree Farm 2007
Endangered Species Act: $15 million spider holds up San Antonio construction project

By Mike Barnett

A spider the size of a dime is holding up a $15.1 million highway improvement project in San Antonio.

The Braken Bat Cave meshweaver -- a spider listed as an endangered species in 2000 -- was found at a construction site in northwest Bexar County after rain exposed a six-foot deep natural hole in the highway’s median. The highway project has been put on hold indefinitely.

The species was originally discovered over 30 years ago on a construction site a few miles away from its current location. That original site was filled in. According to news reports, this is the second time the spider has ever been seen.

The Endangered Species Act (ESA) never really goes away. It’s all too familiar to farmers and ranchers, water suppliers, construction, timber and other interests. This incident brings home ramifications of the ESA to thousands of commuters who face highway congestion because of a tiny, blind spider.

Scientists say the Braken Bat Cave meshweaver is on the edge of extinction. The fact is, it lives underground. In caves. It’s the size of a dime. You really have to be looking for it to find it. There could be thousands of the critters just 100 yards away.

I find it ironic that the environmental team that is working with the Texas Department of Transportation had to kill the spider and dissect it to identify it. It’s been seen two times. So you kill one of them? Go figure.

So, here’s where we’re at. A highway improvement project that could improve traffic and safety issues for humans has been put on hold. Construction has been shut down. Jobs have been lost. The project could continue as is sometime in the future, modified or put on hold indefinitely. Two known Braken Bat Cave meshweavers -- seen 30 years apart -- figures at about $7.5 million each.

That’s a mighty expensive species, no matter how endangered.

So what’s the right thing to do?
• Continue the project and let whatever spiders might be six feet under take their chances.
• Halt construction indefinitely in order to save a spider that has already been killed.
• Excavate the site, try to find more spiders and move them to a different location.
• Fill in the blank _______________________________.
Of forks and spoons...

By Gene Hall

I used to be a fork. I’m a spoon now. See the picture above and the clever way this display shows how many farming forks meet the needs of a whole bunch of consuming spoons.

It was not always thus. In the beginning, nearly everyone was a fork. Over time, we’ve evolved into a nation of spoons. At the turn of the last century, 112 years ago, it was something of a 50/50 proposition.

Then things started to get crazy. Education allowed people to consider other careers. It really jumped forward as the mass production of goods began. More forks became spoons and worked in factories that made stuff affordable. I think it’s safe to say we’ve about reached the limit. Less than 2 percent of us are forks now. I left the family fork to become a journalist spoon.

Like so many things in agriculture, this is a math problem. Less than 2 percent of our population is feeding the rest of us. So far, the math adds up. One day it might not. As repeated here often, less than 40 years from now, the year 2050 looms. Nine billion souls will inhabit the Earth, some 2 billion more than now.

Technology of all kinds — mechanical, chemical, genetic and climatological — is the common thread that runs throughout all this. Food-wise, we’ve always done what we need to do. We are farming about the same amount of acres with far fewer inputs on everything.

It’s technology that ensures that the spoons will always be full.

Gene Hall is the Farm Bureau Public Relations Director

Letter to the Editor:

New Trade Agreement Could Hurt U.S. Companies

The Obama administration is currently negotiating another free trade agreement, which will increase the likelihood of awarding federal contracts to foreign companies located on the Pacific Rim. Countries in Southeast Asia will benefit by the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP), add jobs, while the U.S. could lose more manufacturing jobs.

If the TPP is approved by Congress, a provision in the agreement will ban “Buy American” requirements in federal government contracts. Over the past 80 years U.S. companies have received needed help in securing federal contracts due to “Buy American” provisions stipulated in the contracts.

In 2011 the Obama administration supported three so called fair trade agreements originally negotiated by the Bush administration. The policies of Bush and Obama have strengthened manufacturing operations in foreign countries and have led to the movement of U.S. Jobs overseas. The TPP agreement would mean the U.S. could eliminate any tariffs on goods from the Asia-Pacific countries, which could cost more U.S. manufacturing jobs.

We have to make it more attractive for U.S. companies to keep jobs in this country. Maybe then we will decrease unemployment from near 8% to a more respectable 4% level and decrease our trade deficits with foreign countries.

Donald A. Moskowitz
Londonderry, NH
Medicare's Observation Policy Comes Under Scrutiny

Medicare is launching a pilot program to determine whether relaxing its payment rules can help patients who require nursing home care after a hospital stay and then are charged thousands of dollars. Seniors are often unexpectedly required to pay for nursing home care because they were considered to be under "observation" in the hospital, rather than an inpatient. According to an article in the Washington Post, the new program may make it easier for hospitals to label patients as inpatients.

Medicare only pays for nursing home care if it follows a three-day inpatient hospital stay. Staying overnight in a hospital does not automatically make you an inpatient. Often the stay is classified as observation, which is considered outpatient care. If you are dismissed to a nursing home after being in the hospital for observation, you will be responsible for paying for your care.

Currently, if a hospital bills for an inpatient stay, but Medicare decides the patient should have been classified as under observation, then the hospital can lose its entire Medicare reimbursement. Therefore, hospitals are often reluctant to classify a patient as inpatient. The pilot program would allow the hospital to rebill Medicare for observation services if the inpatient care bill is rejected. The program is being implemented at 380 hospitals and will run for three years.

While Medicare implements this pilot program, the observation policy is being challenged through legislation and lawsuits. As ElderLawAnswers previously reported, seven Medicare patients have filed a class action lawsuit challenging the policy, and Kaiser Health News gives an update on a bill introduced in Congress that would allow the days in observation to count toward the required three-day hospital stay.
Report on Texas Transportation

This week, a non-profit group called TRIP produced a report on the future transportation needs of this state. TRIP is a "nonprofit organization that researches, evaluates and distributes economic and technical data on surface transportation issues. TRIP promotes transportation policies that relieve traffic congestion, improve road and bridge conditions, improve air quality, make surface travel safer and enhance economic productivity." The report reinforced earlier, different reports on the state’s transportation needs, and does not provide much new information to those of us who have been involved in transportation issues for some time. However, the report does contain several statistics that are important to consider when thinking about the state’s transportation issues, and this week I will highlight a few of those.

According to the study, titled “Future Mobility Needs in Texas: The Cost of Meeting the State’s Need for Efficient and Safe Mobility:”

“Texas’ population reached approximately 25.7 million in 2011, an increase of 51 percent since 1990. The state’s population is expected to grow to 37.3 million by 2030.

“From 1990 to 2010, annual vehicle-miles-of-travel (VMT) in the state increased by 44 percent, from approximately 162 billion VMT to 234 billion VMT. Based on travel and population trends, TRIP estimates that vehicle travel in Texas will increase another 35 percent by 2030, reaching approximately 304 billion VMT.

“If roadway efficiency and capacity needs are not addressed, the average congestion-related delay per commuter in Texas’ urban and metropolitan areas will double in 15 years from 37 hours per year to 74 hours per year.

“The total annual statewide cost to Texas’ motorists of lost time and wasted fuel due to congestion is $10.8 billion. Commuters in the state’s four largest metro areas lose from several hundred to over one thousand dollars annually in the cost of lost time and wasted fuel due to congestion.

“Over the past decade, roadway maintenance and capacity in Texas have been largely funded through bond proceeds. However, all bonding programs have now been exhausted, resulting in a drop in funding levels compared to a decade ago and leaving no funds available for new construction.

For more information on this report or any other matter of state government, 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.
Friends of Hagerman

Frisco resident Tigger Saldy has been named September “Photographer of the Month” by the Friends of Hagerman. A collection of 12 photographs he took at the refuge is currently being exhibited online at www.friendsofhagerman.com/Gallery.

“I have always been interested in art and painting, especially water colors. However, actually doing a water color takes quite a while, especially when one is out of practice,” says Saldy. “So, for me, photography took its place as a way to get some instant gratification of the visual and creative kind.”

Saldy started taking pictures in 2009 with a Nikon D90/300 MM/1.4 tele-converter combo and still uses the same equipment. He likes taking pictures of wildlife, especially birds, and enjoys the variety found at Hagerman National Wildlife Refuge.

In other photography news from the refuge, winning entries in the 2012 Hagerman NWR Photography Contest will be announced at noon on “Super Saturday,” Oct. 13, in the refuge’s Visitor Center meeting room. Awards will be presented and there will be a showing of the winning photos, chosen from nearly 250 entries.

The Fall Photo Safari is set for 8 am on Oct. 20, wrapping up National Wildlife Refuge Week. Registration is now open for this free small group photo shoot on the refuge. Space on the safari is limited and early registration is encouraged. To register, send your name, contact information, camera make and model and level of photo experience to friendsofhagerman@gmail.com.

Hagerman National Wildlife Refuge is located at 6465 Refuge Road, on the Big Mineral Arm of Lake Texoma. For more information, call the refuge, 903-786-2826.
There is the story of a pastor who got up one Sunday and announced to his congregation: "I have good news and bad news. The good news is, we have enough money to pay for our new building program. The bad news is, it's still out there in your pockets."

While driving in Pennsylvania, a family caught up to an Amish carriage. The owner of the carriage obviously had a sense of humor, because attached to the back of the carriage was a hand printed sign... "Energy efficient vehicle: Runs on oats and grass. Caution: Do not step in exhaust."
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.

**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.
LET’S REMINISCING

Never name that chicken before frying

By Jerry Lincecum

I will always remember the first time I watched my mother wringing the neck of a chicken that we had for dinner a short time later. We had many delicious fried chicken dinners that came from birds we have raised on our farm.

Rather than hatching our chicks with the aid of a setting hen, we ordered 50 or so by mail. The rural mail carrier would honk his horn to let us know he had something that would not fit in our mailbox. I remember what fun it was to see peeping, fuzzy yellow chicks in the cardboard carton as we lifted the box top.

Daddy built a new brooder house from rough oak lumber. We used an electric light bulb to provide a little bit of heat. The trick was to keep the fluffy chicks warm but not too hot. We had colored tablets to put in the water they drank to prevent some disease with a long name.

Their special chick feed was put in long shallow troughs. After a few weeks, the chicks would begin to feather out. There was a pen next to the brooder house to let them spend time outside. I learned what “chicken wire” was, since it kept them out of our garden.

Now back to the fried chicken recipe. Before you catch the chicken, put on a big kettle of water to heat. As for killing the chicken, be prepared for a lot of flapping and squawking. There are alternatives to wringing the neck. Some prefer using an axe on a log and chopping the neck off; others hang the chicken on the fence and cut the neck off. It is necessary to let the blood drain out.

The key to getting the feathers removed is hot water that isn’t too hot. Here’s a good test: if you can dip your fingers into the water three times without burning them, it’s just right. Then it will only loosen the feathers without breaking the skin and melting the fat.

You scald the chicken, dipping it completely three times, saturating all the feathers. That is a stinky job, because of the smell of the blood and wet feathers. The feathers and entrails should be carried to a burn barrel well away from the house.

The picked and clean chicken (removed pin feathers) is placed in a pan to be cut up in the kitchen. To serve the maximum number of diners, begin by removing the wings, legs, and thighs as separate pieces. Then cut the pulley bone (breast plate) from the breast. Next remove the breast and divide it into two parts. The remaining carcass is then broken in two, for the pieces of back.

For the best fried chicken, chill the pieces a few hours before cooking. Dip the pieces in milk and then in flour until nicely breaded. Get your shortening hot in a cast iron skillet, and use a lid to avoid getting a nasty grease spatter. Serve with hot biscuits and nice cream gravy flavored with drippings.

By the way, I recommend that you don’t allow any of your children to pick out a pet chick and give it a name. That could cause indigestion.

-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
LaVelda Odessa Judkins (1932-2012)

HOWE - LaVelda Odessa Judkins, of Howe passed away Saturday, Oct. 6, 2012 at the age of 79. She was born on Nov. 17, 1932, to Oney Cleo “Harry” and Edith Claire (Ball) Keller. On June 10, 1950, LaVelda married Billy Ray Judkins in Durant, Okla. She grew up in Howe, and was raised by Addie and Leo Keller, due to her parents passing away at an early age. LaVelda worked for Texas Instruments and Uland Egg Farm in Plano, Texas. She lived in Allen, Texas until 1972 when they moved to Howe. LaVelda enjoyed doing crossword puzzles; playing Scrabble, Dominos, Uno and Old Maid with her great-grandchildren. They also enjoyed camping with their traveling buddies after retirement. LaVelda was a member of Bethel Baptist Church in Howe.

She is survived by her son, Dennis Judkins and wife Debbie of Dorchester; granddaughters, Amy Fletcher and husband Mark of Van Alstyne, Stacey McGough and husband Jay of Mineola; great-grandchildren, Payton Fletcher, Laney Fletcher, Macy Fletcher, Taylor Fletcher and J.D. McGough; cousin, Lena Cassidy of Vega. She was Nanny Bo to many.

LaVelda is preceded in death by her parents, Oney Cleo “Harry” and Edith Claire Keller; husband, Billy Ray Judkins; and daughter, Anita Stewart.

Funeral services were held on Tuesday, Oct. 9, 2012, at Turrentine-Jackson-Morrow Chapel, in Allen, Texas. Interment will follow at Ridgeview Memorial Park in Allen. The family received friends during a visitation from 7 -9 pm, on Monday, at Turrentine-Jackson-Morrow Funeral Home. To convey condolences or to sign an online registry, please visit www.tjmfuneral.com.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Diabetes Association, P.O. Box 11454, Alexandria, VA 22312 or www.donations.diabetes.org.
Schedule your visit from Santa

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Dale & Lana Rideout

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

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

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

Dale and Lana Rideout

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REMEMBERING ARMISTICE DAY, 1918

Back Page

This is the cover of our first issue
by Dorothy N. Fowler

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The practice field at DHS was the best spot.

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

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

If you and your family go looking for the memorials described on page 14 and following, I hope you will come away from the experience with a renewed sense of the sacrifices that others have made to make it safe for you to travel freely, to speak freely, to read whatever you choose to read, to attempt any job you want to do. I hope you will think what it means to be free.
As a part of this new magazine, I will be sharing recipes and stories with you. I also did a little research on recipes from the American Civil War or the "War Between the States." From some of the websites I visited, it looks like some folks are still fighting that one. While no one advocates a return to slavery, the issue of states' rights versus the federal government is a hot issue in many southern political discussions. However, I did come across an interesting recipe. Betty Weaver of Sherman found this one—"Milkless, Butterless Cake" also known as the Depression Cake.

### Eggless, Milkless, Butterless Cake

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

Boil together the Sugar, Water, Shortening, Salt, and Cinnamon for 5 minutes. When Cold, add the Flour and the Soda (dissolved in a tsp of Hot Water). This makes two loaves—Bread Pan Size.

**Recipe for WWII Spam and Egg Sandwich**

- 2 Tablespoons finely chopped onion
- 1 Slice fully cooked hushpuppy (f.g. Spam)
- 1 Egg, beaten
- 2 Slices bread
- 1 Slice American cheese (optional)
- 1 Slice tomato (optional)

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

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

### Hard Tack

Mix the flour and salt with just enough water to bind the ingredients. Flatten the dough to about ⅜ inch thick on a cookie sheet. Cut into 3 inch by 3 inch squares. Pierce with 16 holes about ½ inch apart. Bake at 400 degrees F: 20-25 minutes.

### Southern Johnny Cake

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

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

I also did a little research on recipes from the American Civil War or the "War Between the States." From some of the websites I visited, it looks like some folks are still fighting that one. While no one advocates a return to slavery, the issue of states' rights versus the federal government is a hot issue in many southern political discussions. However, I did come across an interesting recipe. Betty Weaver of Sherman found this one—"Milkless, Butterless Cake" also known as the Depression Cake.

### Employment of Women during Wartime

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

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

### WWII Spam and Egg Sandwich

1 Tablespoon butter
1 Tablespoons finely chopped onion
1 Slice fully cooked hushpuppy (f.g. Spam)
1 Egg, beaten
2 Slices bread
1 Slice American cheese (optional)
1 Slice tomato (optional)

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

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

As a part of this new magazine, I will be sharing recipes and stories with you. If you have recipes or ideas you would like to share, contact me at lanarideout@texomamontage.com or call 903/532-6012.
His will be a lead pipe cinch," I said to myself. "After all, this is the place where everywhere you look there is an MIA flag and there is more red, white and blue than any place you've ever been. You'll be able to find dozens of war memorials in Grayson, Cooke, Fannin, and Bryan Counties."

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

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

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

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*by Dorothy N. Fowler*

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"There is to be any. You'll be able to find dozens of war memorials in Grayson, Cooke, Fannin, and Bryan Counties."

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Texoma Montage

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

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By Dorothy Fowler
Texoma Remembers Its Heros, cont.

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

Questions to local historians elicited interest in the project, but no new information.

“I guess you already know about Ely Park,” one Austin College professor said.

“And there’s that newer one at Fairview Park. Those are the only ones I know anything about.”

“What about the statue on the courthouse lawn?” I asked.

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

Ely Park World War II Memorial

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

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

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

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

Beyond their names, which are also inscribed on a plaque placed on the west side of the park as part of an Eagle Scout project, there is no information at the park.

However, people who are looking for more information might find it at the Sherman Public Library, which has a fine genealogy section and which also maintains excellent newspaper files.

On Memorial Day and Veterans Day and other national holidays, veterans groups maintains excellent newspaper files.

Ely Park

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

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

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

Fairview Park War Memorial

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

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

There is no way a passerby could repair the damage. The poles are state-of-the-art, with the mechanism that raises and lowers the flags locked behind plates in the art, with the mechanism that raises and lowers the flags locked behind plates in the

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The monument is roughly in the center of a giant park complex bordered on the east by Ricketts Street and on the north by Taylor Street. It is in a place that is strangely quiet, even when families with their children are on the playground equipment a-cross the park road and east of the monument. Soccer players, on the south, typical playground equipment nearby and in between, a vast expanse of grass.

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

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

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

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

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

Confederate Monument on Grayson County Courthouse Grounds

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

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

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

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

In 1996, under the auspices of the Daughters of the Confederacy, the monument was rededicated. The inscriptions on the sides of the base are typical of the prose of the Victorian age in general and Southerners in particular.

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

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

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

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

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

The Union Soldier at Fairview Cemetery in Denison, Texas

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

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

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

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

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

The inscription on the south side of the base reads:

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

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1906
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Texoma Remembers Its Heros, cont.

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

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

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

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

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

The War Memorial at Frank Buck Park, Gainesville, Texas

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

"Construction Workers Only," and found at the end of the lane, not only construction workers, but also a good many park visitors. Where I needed to be, however, was at the entrance to the park, so I turned the pickup around, threaded my way through the traffic and parked on the shoulder of the highway I could walk up the steps to the newest of the war memorials that I visited.

"The Stars and Stripes hold center stage at the monument. To the left of the pole, a large marble slab holds the names of those killed in the service of the United States in World War I, World War II, Korea and Vietnam. Like the similar monument in Sherman, there are recent additions to the original list, which was dedicated in 1996.

War Memorials in Fannin County, Texas

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

On the north face are the words: "The great war-in-rivalled in history for bravery, gallantry, daring and dash. E. Anderson, AD 190 (perhaps 5)."

From the court- house grounds, I went to the VA hospital, but found no statues dedicated to the servicemen and servicewomen who seek treatment for their wounds and their illnesses there. While I was looking for memorials in Bonham, my colleague Dale Ridout was in another part of Fannin County, in Leonard, where he found two memorials. Both of them are dedicated to all veterans of all wars.

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

The other memorial is at the cemetery.

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Texoma Remembers Its Heros, cont.

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

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

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

At the bottom are words attributed to Audie Murphy, “The real heroes of the war are those who never came home.” The memorial was dedicated in 1998 by the community of Farmersville.

Pecan Grove Cemetery
McKinney, Texas

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

It mentions in particular Dr. James Webb Throckmorton, who was a Texas legislator during the 1890’s, a brigadier general in the Confederate Army, Governor of Texas from 1866-1867 and a member of Congress intermittently between 1875 and 1888.

In the same cemetery there is a medallion, dedicated in 1970, dedicated “To those who served for freedom’s just cause.”

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

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

Fort Washita

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

DINNER FOR THE MINISTER

by Ruby Frizzell Draisey of Bonham

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

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

Betty was a devout person, I attended the community church with her. The minister, living alone, was an admirable gentleman whom we considered to be in the category of the elderly.

Betty, devoted to the church, had a wild idea. She suggested to me that we invite the minister to a Saturday, early-evening dinner. We did. Because of the "War Effort," we all worked six days a week. By the greatest happenstance, she and I expected to be free at noon on that certain Saturday.

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

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

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

He was pretending. The conversation continued.

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

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

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

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

"Horse meat!" Betty and I gasped in consternation. "Yes, it's on the market, now, you know. It's not labeled, and it's difficult to distinguish it from steak.

Sure enough, we had fed the minister a dinner of horse meat.
Dutch Ovens and Dump Cake

by Dale Rideout

I have enjoyed cooking since I was a very young boy. It is a real treat to hear others comment about my cooking, when it turns out to be the success I hoped for, then I can take the heat.

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

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

Dump Cake

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

You will need:
- 1 box cake mix (again any flavor, yellow or white works great.)
- 1 can pie filling (any flavor you like, apple, cherry, etc.)
- ¼ pound butter or margarine

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

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

Two additional briquettes, one on top and one on the bottom will increase the cooking time by 10 minutes. You can add cinnamon, nuts, brown sugar, pats of butter, etc to the top for extra special effects. This is easily doubled or more just by adding more of each ingredient.

Dutch Ovens and Dump Cake

Southern Algebra
This is an election year. Just how important is ONEWOTE? YOUR VOTE? The following facts may astonish you, however, they are true.

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

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

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

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

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

In 1923, One Vote elected Charles 1 of England.

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

In 1649, One Vote elected Charles 1 of England.

In 1839, One Vote saved the Presidential election and John F. Kennedy won by less than one vote per precinct in the United States.

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by Jack Frost McGraw

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

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

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

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

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

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

There was nothing to do but follow instructions. We rode the streetcar with the clanging bell and where we got off at Travis and Lamar streets downtown, we could barely get through the crowds. The big red fire truck pulled by giant horses was coming down the street and Dad Hill was trying to hold the crowd back so they would not be trampled. We worked our way down to the bank, where Mother was waiting for us. She said, “We are really going to celebrate” but she took my hand and led me into a big restaurant. The man at the door took us to a table already set with napkins and silver and glasses of water.

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

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

Well, this was a celebration after all. I knew “celebrate” meant a big fancy meal. I just had never eaten fried oysters or pie-a-la-mode before. We really did celebrate Armistice Day, November 11, 1918.
This was the backpage for our first issue. Hope you enjoyed our magazine.