

# Texoma Enterprise

Howe, Texas  
75459

September 12, 2013



**TCOG New  
Finance Director**



**Capitol Watch**



## Chrystal Opry House Gospel Event

The Melody Ranch Gospel Band will perform on Saturday September 21st. at 7 pm. Members of this band are Judy Ziola, piano and vocals, Joey Whitfield, bass and vocals, Al Guinn, guitar and vocals, George Kirby, fiddle, Tom Hackney, guitar and vocals, Archie Shearer, lead guitar and vocals, Pat Shearer, vocals, Bill Hayes, guitar and vocals. Our special guest is Rocky Crigler.

Admission for the evening is \$7 per adult. Children under 12 are admitted free. Youth 12-17 are half price.

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

Food is available at the snack bar inside the Opry House during the shows. We serve hot dogs, chopped brisket sandwiches, candy, soda, coffee, water, and ice cream novelties.

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



## TCOG Hires New Finance Director

SENIOR FINANCIAL ANALYST FROM COLLIN COUNTY  
TAPPED TO LEAD ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE  
DEPARTMENT AT THE COG

SHERMAN, September 12, 2013 – Dr. Susan Thomas, Executive Director of TCOG, has selected Stacey Sloan as the new Administration and Finance Director. Sloan will replace Terrell Culbertson who will retire September 30 after more than 30 years of service to TCOG. Sloan's employment with TCOG will begin October 7. Most recently, Sloan served as a Senior Financial Analyst for Collin County and worked in the Budget and Finance office at the County for seven years.

The Texoma Council of Governments is a voluntary association of the local governments in Cooke, Fannin, and Grayson Counties. Established in 1968, the Texoma Council of Governments promotes economy and efficiency in the coordinated planning and development of the tri-county region through its community and economic development activities. Either directly, or through contractors, the Council provides housing, utility assistance, and weatherization services for low-income citizens in the region and assists the elderly through a variety of Area Agency on Aging programs. The Council also facilitates the delivery of grant funding for homeland security and criminal justice.



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What's Happening?

September 2013						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Labor Day	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21 Sherman Arts Fest
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30 Dale's Birthday					

**This calendar is new to the Texoma Enterprise. It is our intent to include National Holidays, local events, and birthdays/anniversaries. If you wish to include an event please let us know. Email [lanarideout@cableone.net](mailto:lanarideout@cableone.net) with your information.**



## Capitol Watch

By Larry Phillips, State Representative



### *Proposed Constitutional Amendments*

This week's column will be the fourth in a series outlining the proposed constitutional amendments on which Texas voters will decide on November 5. These amendments were joint resolutions that were passed during the recent legislative session; however, because they change the Texas Constitution, they need state-wide voter approval before they can take effect. The order that the amendments appear on the ballot has been randomly selected by the secretary of state. This information is taken from a report by the House Research Organization, a nonpartisan agency that provides information to the legislature.

#### **Amendment No. 4 (H.J.R. 24)**

*The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to provide for an exemption from ad valorem taxation of part of the market value of the residence homestead of a partially disabled veteran or the surviving spouse of a partially disabled veteran if the residence homestead was donated to the disabled veteran by a charitable organization.*

House Joint Resolution 24 proposes to permit the legislature to authorize a new exemption from property, or "ad valorem," taxation of a percentage of the market value of a partially disabled veteran's residence homestead equal to the percentage of the veteran's disability if the residence homestead was donated at no cost to the veteran by a charitable organization. It authorizes the legislature to provide additional eligibility requirements for the new exemption and to grant the surviving spouse of a partially disabled veteran, if the veteran died after qualifying for the new exemption, a property tax exemption for the same portion of the market value of the same property to which the disabled veteran's exemption applied if the surviving spouse has not remarried, the property was the residence homestead of the surviving spouse when the veteran died, and the property remains the residence homestead of the surviving spouse. The proposed amendment states that limitations and restrictions on certain other property tax exemptions for disabled veterans do not apply to the new exemption.

Supporters say the legislature has recognized the sacrifices made by 100 percent disabled veterans and their surviving spouses by granting a property tax exemption for the appraised value of the veteran's homestead, but there is no corresponding exemption for veterans with only a partial disability. The method used by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs to determine disability ratings may result in a veteran who is similarly suited to those who qualify for a 100 percent disability rating, not receiving the benefits of a tax exemption, though equally deserving.

In recent years, some Texas home builders and charitable organizations have donated homes to disabled veterans. However, the a donated home can become a burden if the recipient cannot pay the resulting property taxes because disability payments are insufficient and the veteran's service-related disability precludes earned income through gainful employment. The proposed amendment would enable the recipient disabled veteran or surviving spouse to remain in the donated home with the ensuing freedom to pursue an education, find a suitable job, or start a business.

Opponents have expressed concern that singling out specific groups for property tax exemptions could erode local property tax bases and undermine uniformity in taxation.

You can view a complete list of the proposed constitutional amendments with analyses online at [www.hro.house.state.tx.us](http://www.hro.house.state.tx.us). For more information regarding these propositions, 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](mailto:larry.phillips@house.state.tx.us). My district office phone number is (903) 891-7297.





## Psalm 30:1-12 (KJV)

- <sup>1</sup> I will extol thee, O LORD; for thou hast lifted me up, and hast not made my foes to rejoice over me.
- <sup>2</sup> O LORD my God, I cried unto thee, and thou hast healed me.
- <sup>3</sup> O LORD, thou hast brought up my soul from the grave: thou hast kept me alive, that I should not go down to the pit.
- <sup>4</sup> Sing unto the LORD, O ye saints of his, and give thanks at the remembrance of his holiness.
- <sup>5</sup> For his anger *endureth but* a moment; in his favour *is* life: weeping may endure for a night, but joy *cometh* in the morning.
- <sup>6</sup> And in my prosperity I said, I shall never be moved.
- <sup>7</sup> LORD, by thy favour thou hast made my mountain to stand strong: thou didst hide thy face, *and* I was troubled.
- <sup>8</sup> I cried to thee, O LORD; and unto the LORD I made supplication.
- <sup>9</sup> What profit *is there* in my blood, when I go down to the pit? Shall the dust praise thee? shall it declare thy truth?
- <sup>10</sup> Hear, O LORD, and have mercy upon me: LORD, be thou my helper.
- <sup>11</sup> Thou hast turned for me my mourning into dancing: thou hast put off my sackcloth, and girded me with gladness;
- <sup>12</sup> To the end that *my* glory may sing praise to thee, and not be silent. O LORD my God, I will give thanks unto thee for ever.



## Christian Fellowship

A Christian Fellowship begins each Sunday morning at 9:00am with coffee and doughnut fellowship followed by classes of all ages at 9:30. Worship is to begin 10:30. D'Anna Lodge will be leading worship service.

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

Kidz in Da Zone for Jesus is a class for all the kids from ages 2-10 years old. They meet each Sunday morning during worship time. The children learn Bible stories and take a journey on Rt 66 to learn the books of the bible.

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

The Lords Supper is celebrated each Sunday during worship service. The church is part of the "One Movement".

The church is located on the West side of Hwy 11 in Luella. Look for the red brick building with the green metal roof on the hill. The cross will light the way for you.

For more information contact David Ellis @ 903-815-1333 or Mike Ball @ 903-271-1870.

## Tom Bean Church of Christ

The Tom Bean Church of Christ invites everyone to come and worship with us at our Fall Meeting October 6 - 11. This years theme is "The True Church" with guest speakers each night. Services will begin each night at 7:30pm. Sunday services will begin at 9:00am with bible class for all ages and worship at 10:00am. The evening worship service begins at 7:30pm.

We invite everyone to come and worship with us. Our normal services begin each Sunday with Bible class for all ages at 9:00am and worship at 10:00am with congregational singing. The evening worship service begins at 6:00pm. The Lord Supper is given each Sunday.

Wednesday, we have bible classes for all ages beginning at 7:00pm. The church is located at the corner of FM902 and FM2729 South in Tom Bean, TX.

The Lord Supper is given each Sunday. Wednesday, we have Bible classes for all ages beginning at 7:00pm. The church is located at the corner of FM902 and FM2729 South in Tom Bean, TX..

We have radio programs each Sunday at 7:30am on KFYN 1420AM and KFYZ 93.5FM. The lessons are brought by A.C. Quinn. Also there are two other programs; the North Side church of Christ is on at 8:00am, and Leonard church of Christ is on at 8:30am both on KFYN 1420 AM.

## Area Churches

### Cannon

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

### Cherry Mound

**BAPTIST CHURCH,**  
6335 FM 1753, Denison  
Sun School 9:45; worship, 11,  
evening 6; Wednesday, 7pm

### Dorchester

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

### Gunter

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

### Howe

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

### Ida

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

### Luella

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

### Tom Bean

**CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
903/546-6620  
**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**  
903/546-6231  
**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
903/546-6898  
**INSPIRATION POINT COWBOY CHURCH**  
FM 2729, 2.5 miles  
South of Tom Bean  
Duane Peters,  
903-815-2278

More Church Page



## LIVING WATER An Outreach Publication of the Church of Christ

### Up from the Miry Clay

Keith Wishum reports: Tuesday, October 26, 1999 was no day at the beach for 28 year-old Kenny Beach of Brunswick, Georgia. Beach, whose house overlooks a marsh, went out in a small boat to search for missing parts of his floating dock. When he stepped from the boat to retrieve an errant piece, he sank immediately up to his waist in the muck.

Beach quickly discovered that struggling to free himself only made matters worse as he was sucked deeper into the soft mud. Soon, he was buried up to his chest. The tide was coming in.

Deciding to be still and call for help, Beach began to shout. He continued to sink deeper. The tide continued to rise. The sun disappeared and darkness settled, leaving Beach cold, alone, and afraid as the cold dark water rose, first to his neck, then to his face. Continuing to call for help, Beach panicked, knowing that he would soon drown.

As the murky water finally closed over Beach's nose, fire department rescuers James Williams and Craig Renshaw heard a gurgle. Swinging their rowboat toward the sound, they spotted Beach and quickly began to pull him from the muck which would have claimed his life.

Kenny Beach's plight while stuck in the mire resembles our condition in our sins... we are separated from God (Isaiah 59:1-2) and destined for death (Romans 6:23). We cannot free ourselves from the mire of sin (Ephesians 2:8-9). We are totally dependent upon someone else to come to our rescue.

God, because of His great love for us, sent His Son Jesus to our rescue (Romans 5:8). He came to this world as a Man to identify with us and to die for us – the perfect Sacrifice to pay the debt for our sins (2 Corinthians 5:21; 1 Peter 2:24).

Jesus will lift from the mire of sin those who accept His offer of salvation and eternal life by placing their faith and trust in Him (Acts 16:30-31), turning from sin in repentance (Acts 17:30-31), confessing Him before men (Romans 10:9-10), and being baptized (immersed) into Christ for the forgiveness of sins (Acts 2:38). Then those who continue to cling to Him through their trusting obedience will continually be cleansed by His blood (1 John 1:7).

In a song entitled "Deeper and Deeper," Oswald J. Smith ponders the salvation that Christ offers:

Into the heart of Jesus  
Deeper and deeper I go,  
Seeking to know the reason  
Why He should love me so,  
Why He should stoop to lift me  
Up from the miry clay,  
Saving my soul, making me whole,  
Though I had wandered away.

The reason that God desires to lift us up from the miry clay is because He loves us.

The reason why we should accept His offer on His terms is because Jesus is our only Hope!

Won't YOU trust and obey Him?

David Sargent, Minister  
davidsargent1@comcast.net

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

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Mobile, Alabama 36695

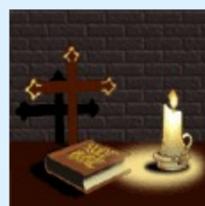
\* Source: Keith Wishum, "When You're Going Under," in A Word from Williams Road, Williams Road Church of Christ, Americus, GA. [www.williamsroadcoc.org](http://www.williamsroadcoc.org)

Archived issues of "Living Water" can be viewed and Archived issues of "Living Water" can be viewed and accessed from our website at: [www.creekwoodcc.org](http://www.creekwoodcc.org)

**PILOT GROVE  
BAPTIST CHURCH**  
1271 Pilot Grove St.  
903/450-3708

**Sherman/Denison  
THE CHURCH OF JESUS  
CHRIST OF LATTER DAY  
SAINTS**  
1900 Lamberth Rd, Sherman.  
**FRIENDSHIP UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH**  
RFD 2 off Hwy. 56; 903/892-8450  
**WESTERN HEIGHTS  
CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
800 Baker Park Dr.,  
903/892-9635, Sun. 10  
**CHURCH OF THE  
NAZARENE,**  
601 Hwy. 1417, Pastor,  
Rev. Mack Rogers  
**RED RIVER  
COWBOY CHURCH**  
3800 Hwy. 691 (w of Hwy. 75);  
Novice Northington, 903/463-5840

**Van Alstyne  
COMMUNITY BIBLE  
CHURCH**  
Northwest corner Hwy 5 &  
County Line Rd.  
**CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
105 Hopson,  
Shannon Jackson, minister,  
903/482-6033  
**EAST SIDE  
CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
PO Box 141, Larry Shead,  
minister; worship 11am  
**ELMONT BAPTIST CHURCH**  
FM 121 W, Elmont;  
Jim Poole, pastor,  
903/482-6356  
**FAITH TEMPLE CHURCH,**  
corner of Pearl & Nash,  
Pastor Kenneth L. Price,  
972/547-0243,  
**LIFE CHURCH,**  
201 W. Marshall,  
Pastors – Lance/ Mary Baker  
903/433-8089  
**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**  
102 E. Marshall, 903/482-6334,  
Jimmy Tarrant, pastor  
**FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH**  
206 Waco, 903/482-5515,  
Gary Gibbs, pastor  
**FIRST PENTECOSTAL  
CHURCH**  
903/482-6646,  
Rev. J.R. Thornhill, pastor  
**FIRST UNITED METHODIST  
CHURCH**  
301 S. Preston,  
Rev. Jack Wallace, minister  
**GREYWOOD HEIGHTS  
WORSHIP CENTER**  
On Hwy. 75 just north of Dairy  
Queen, 903/482-6700;  
Chris Jones, pastor  
**HOLY FAMILY  
CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
Father Stephen W. Bierschenk,  
972/562-0752  
**MORNING CHAPEL  
CHRISTIAN METHODIST  
EPISCOPAL**  
103 Bowen, 902/482-5431  
**SAMARIA BAPTIST CHURCH**  
702 E. Fulton, 903/482-5664, Rev.  
Arnold Baker, pastor



## Austin College Faculty Discuss Preparation for Future Scientists

SHERMAN, TEXAS—Austin College faculty **Lance Barton** and **Stephanie Gould** of the Science Division and **Peter DeLisle**, director of the Austin College Posey Leadership Institute, will discuss “STAR\* Academy: training future scientists to lead the exploration of new frontiers” (\*Science Teaching And Research) on Tuesday, September 24, at 11 a.m. in Wright Campus Center, Room 231. The presentation, the first of the Johnson Center Faculty Research and Pedagogy Talks of the year, is free and open to the public. A carry-your-tray luncheon at noon in Room 245 will allow continued discussion of the topic.

Barton, associate professor of biology, joined the Austin College faculty in 2003. Gould, who joined the faculty in 2008, is an associate professor of chemistry; and DeLisle, who joined the faculty in 2005, holds the Leslie B. Crane Chair in Leadership Studies.

“Future generations of scientists will be tasked with finding innovative solutions to problems that are greater in scale and magnitude than what we have ever faced,” Barton said. “A collaboration between the Posey Leadership Institute and faculty in the science s will create a curriculum that will develop the technical, interpersonal, and leadership skills to prepare our graduates to work on these new scientific frontiers. “

At the presentation, the faculty will discuss the vision for the program, report some early experiments in the classroom, and define the model for developing professionalism and leadership from within academic disciplines.

Austin College’s Robert and Joyce Johnson Center for Faculty Development and Excellence in Teaching, is directed by **Bernice Melvin**, Margaret Root Brown Chair of Foreign Languages and Literatures and professor of French. Within the mission of the center is the encouragement of “bold exploration of intellectual frontiers” and “fostering lively intellectual dialogue within and across academic disciplines.”

The Johnson Center schedules a number of events throughout the year, with presentations by Austin College faculty and guest lecturers.

Austin College is a leading national independent liberal arts college located north of Dallas in Sherman, Texas. Founded in 1849, making it the oldest institution of higher education in Texas operating under original charter and name, the College is related by covenant to the Presbyterian Church (USA). Recognized nationally for academic excellence in the areas of international education, pre-professional training, and leadership studies, Austin College is one of 40 schools profiled in Loren Pope’s influential book *Colleges That Change Lives*.



# Texoma Enterprise

Howe, Texas  
75459

## Texoma Enterprise

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Howe, Texas 75459-3587

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lanarideout@cableone.net

Texoma Enterprise is owned and operated by Dale and Lana Rideout. They have been doing this since 1978. The picture on the left is about 5 years old, with Dale shown as "Santa" Rideout at Christmas, 2009. The family shot on the right includes all our grandchildren, plus a couple of Step-grandchildren. It was taken at Elves Christmas Tree Farm. This farm opened to the public in 1990 when Jordan was only 2 months old and he went there with us. Every year since we have taken every grandchild with us. This year was our 23rd year to take all our grandchildren to the farm.



Grandkids singing at the Elves Christmas Tree Farm, 2007



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



Dot's Dashes

By Dorothy N. Fowler

My brother's mother-in-law, whose name is an old English name, is 94 years old and she has been a registered voter in Kansas, Missouri or Texas for most of those 94 years. Her driver's license expired recently and when my brother and his wife fired up their computer to get a renewal for her, they found they couldn't do so unless the woman appeared in person at the DMV with a birth certificate and a picture ID.

Now, I'm almost certain that this woman will never drive an automobile again, but she does need an ID card so that she can cash a check when she travels out of state or at the occasional local store that still requires an ID. My brother told me this morning that it has taken several weeks, but that he and his wife finally have all the necessary documents and will, sometime this week, load his mother-in-law and her wheel chair into their SUV and present her to the harried clerks at the DMV. Then and only then, so they've been told, will she get her driver's license/ID.

I can't wait for the folks in Highland Park to have to go through this with their mothers and mothers-in-law. The truth is, I can't wait until all the folks in Sherman, Howe, Denison, Van Alstyne, Anna, Gainesville, Dallas and Fort Worth have to go through this for their own driver's license/voter registration card.

The fun of it for me is that so many of those folks always vote for Republicans, the same ones who brought you a voter registration process that makes it easier for any Texan, sane or insane, to buy an assault rifle than to register to vote.

That's the same group that turned down federal money for children's insurance that would have given the state of Texas \$2 for every \$1 the state spent.

Why don't we get one of those readily available assault rifles and just shoot our own feet off!

On a lighter note, I have a new dog, Wookie Doodle, who is a rescue we found in the middle of a busy intersection in Sherman. He had been there several days, apparently waiting for his family to come back and pick him up. He wouldn't come to us or let us catch him until the very last day. By that time he had been through two major rain storms and seemed to have given up. He went into the traffic lane and lay down as if he hoped someone would run over him and end it all.

When I got him, he was covered with a kind of flea I had never seen before, a big, clear looking fleas who were running all over him. My veterinarian checked him for an identification chip and finding none, dipped him, combed him, wormed him and gave him a rabies shot.

Wookie Doodle didn't have a collar and so no tag. I called the pound, checked the neighborhood where we found him for flyers, checked the newspaper every day for weeks and decided no one was looking for this sad, skinny little fellow.

After three months at my house, he is no longer skinny. In fact, he has become a bit chunky and if he is still sad, no one can tell it. He is still without any manners, although he is learning to sit on command. But he still cannot resist rushing from the sun room, where the other two dogs and I live and work, into the house and down the hall into my bedroom, where he hides under my tall four poster until I come after him.

He loves my great grandchildren and the rest of my family and is the best thing that has happened to Booger Bear and Gucci Dog for a long time. For as long as I or my family is around, Wookie Doodle, Booger Bear and Gucci Dog have got a home. If a tornado comes, we will all be in the closet together and get blown away together and if there is a flood and they send a boat, we either all get into the boat or no one does.

I tell all three of them that every night and they sleep as if they believe me.





**U.S. Senator John Cornyn (R-TX) met with Mexico Ambassador Medina Mora today to discuss the concerns over Mexico’s failure to meet the targets for water deliveries required under the 1944 Treaty, which govern water-sharing of the Rio Grande.**

Senator Cornyn and Ambassador Mora were joined by Senator Ted Cruz (R-TX) and Representative Filemon Vela (D-TX 34) and had a productive conversation about the ways our countries can work together. Senator Cornyn stressed the negative impact that Mexico’s current shortfall has on Texas farmers and small businesses in South Texas, and encouraged the Ambassador to ensure Mexico take effective action to eliminate the uncertainty and meet its obligations to deliver water under the Treaty.

## **Cornyn Sponsors Amendment To Delay Obamacare Mandates**

**SAN ANTONIO** – U.S. Senator John Cornyn (R-TX) issued the following statement after co-sponsoring an amendment to delay both the employer and individual Obamacare mandates:

**“As we have seen with delay after delay, the president has acknowledged that a significant portion of his health care law is broken. It’s critical that we prevent this broken law from harming Americans.**

**“The president has already delayed a costly Obamacare mandate for employers. Now it’s time to provide that same protection for Texans and the rest of America. Rather than a delay for some, we need a permanent delay for all Americans.”**

Additionally, Sen. Cornyn introduced his [“Keep the IRS Off Your Health Care Act of 2013”](#) as an amendment. The bill would prohibit the Secretary of the Treasury, or any delegate, including the IRS, from enforcing Obamacare.

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



## HALL STATEMENT ON SYRIA

**ROCKWALL, TX . . .** In response to the recent chemical weapons attack in suburban Damascus and the President's urging of Congress to approve military action in Syria, Rep. Ralph Hall (TX-04) released the following statement:

"I have received hundreds of calls and letters from constituents expressing strong opposition to any U.S. involvement in Syria, and I plan to vote 'no' in accordance with their views.

"Along with many of my colleagues, I urged the President to seek Congressional authorization in a letter sent August 28<sup>th</sup>. His decision to do so gives Americans more time and opportunity to express their views through their elected representatives. When Congress begins debate on this issue next week, I will continue to listen to my constituents and vote with my District."





Used with permission from

**The Sullivan Law Firm, P.C.**

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E-mail [matt@sullivanlawfirm.biz](mailto:matt@sullivanlawfirm.biz)

## Should You Prepare a Medicaid Application Yourself?

Whether you should prepare and file a Medicaid application by yourself or should hire help depends on answers to the following questions:

How old is the applicant?

How complicated is the applicant's financial situation?

Is the individual applying for community or nursing home benefits?

How much time do you have available?

How organized are you?

Medicaid is the health care program for individuals who do not have another form of insurance or whose insurance does not cover what they need, such as long-term care. Many people rely on Medicaid for assistance in paying for care at home or in nursing homes.

For people under age 65 and not in need of long-term care, eligibility is based largely on income and the application process is not very complicated. Most people can apply on their own without assistance.

Matters get a bit more complicated for applicants age 65 and above and especially for those of any age who need nursing home or other long-term care coverage. In these cases, availing yourself of the services of an attorney is practically essential.

Medicaid applicants over age 65 are limited to \$2,000 in countable assets (in most states). It's possible to transfer assets over this amount in order to become eligible, but seniors need to be careful in doing so because they may need the funds in the future and if they move to a nursing home, the transfer could make them ineligible for benefits for five years. Professional advice is also crucial because there is a confusing array of different Medicaid programs that may be of assistance in providing home care, each with its own rules.

All of that said, the application process itself is not so complicated for community benefits (care that takes place outside of an institutional setting, such as in the beneficiary's home). In short, those over 65 in many cases will need to consult with an elder law attorney for planning purposes, but they or their families may be able to prepare and submit the Medicaid application themselves.

But submitting an application for nursing home benefits without an attorney's help is not a good idea. This is because Medicaid officials subject such applications to enhanced scrutiny, requiring up to five years of financial records and documentation of every fact. Any unexplained expense may be treated as a disqualifying transfer of assets, and many planning steps -- such as trusts, transfers to family members, and family care agreements -- are viewed as suspect unless properly explained. Finally, the process generally takes several months as Medicaid keeps asking questions and demanding further documentation for the answers provided.

Many elder law attorneys offer assistance with Medicaid applications as part of their services. This has several advantages, including expert advice on how best to qualify for benefits as early as possible, experience in dealing with the more difficult eligibility questions that often arise, and a high level of service through a long, grueling process. The one drawback of using an attorney rather than a lay service is that the fee is typically substantially higher. However, given the high cost of nursing homes, if the law firm's assistance can accelerate eligibility by even one month that will generally cover the fee. In addition, the payments to the attorney are generally with funds that would otherwise be paid to the nursing home -- in other words, the funds will have to be spent in any event, whether for nursing home or for legal fees.



## Friends of Hagerman Nature Photography Club

Maggie Goodman of Southlake has been named September photographer of the month by Friends of Hagerman. A virtual album of 12 of her photographs taken at Hagerman National Wildlife Refuge will be featured throughout September at [www.friendsofhagerman.com/gallery](http://www.friendsofhagerman.com/gallery).

Goodman is a sophomore at University of Alabama, majoring in chemical engineering, and has always been interested in photography.

"I used to chase my mother's cats around the back yard with a camera, telling them to give me 'cattitude.' Now I chase birds and other wildlife, with the addition of my other pets (horses, chickens, a dog, and, yes cats)," says Goodman.

Goodman began volunteering at the refuge with her mother as part of a program at her school called Success Scholars.

"I love the natural beauty of Hagerman and the peaceful serenity it offers, be it a drive or a hike," says Goodman who uses a Nikon D5000.

Photography is one of the most popular activities at Hagerman and the Friends offer a number of photo activities. Entries for the fourth annual Hagerman NWR photo contest are being accepted through September 6. The next bimonthly meeting of the Nature Photography club will be at 12:30 pm, September 14 in the audio visual classroom at the refuge. John Mead, Blue Lion Photography, will be the speaker for the meeting, which is open to anyone interested in nature photography.

For more information, send an email to [fohphotoclub@gmail.com](mailto:fohphotoclub@gmail.com).



# Texoma Enterprise

Howe, Texas  
75459

School Night for scouting will be held Thursday, September 5 from 6pm until 8pm at the Howe Middle School cafeteria. Boy Scouts age 5th grade through High School, Cub Scouts 1<sup>st</sup> grade through 5<sup>th</sup> grade and Girl Scouts kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to come by and sign up for these programs.



## Oddities

All of the clocks in the movie "Pulp Fiction" are stuck on 4:20.

No word in the English language rhymes with month, orange, silver, or purple.

"Dreamt" is the only English word that ends in the letters "mt."

All 50 states are listed across the top of the Lincoln Memorial on the back of the \$5 bill.

Almonds are a member of the peach family.

Winston Churchill was born in a ladies room during a dance.

Maine is the only state (in USA) whose name is just one syllable.

There are only four words in the English language which end in "dous" – tremendous, horrendous, stupendous, and hazardous.

## OUTZKIRTS By: David & Doreen Dotson



## LET'S HEAR IT FOR A REVIVAL OF MERITOCRACY

By Joe Klock, Sr.

Just a wee bit before my time, Thomas Jefferson penned these lead lines for our Declaration of Independence:

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."

Fast-forward to the present era, in which that ideal has been suppressed by nepotism, chauvinism, cronyism, and/or favoritism in most of the world - including, sadly, in the USA.

One might say - anyway, this one might - that what Jefferson had in mind was a meritocracy, since what we call a democracy far too often suffers from some of the aforementioned flaws.

Meritocracy is defined as a system within which advancement is based on individual ability and/or achievement, as opposed to a Nanny State wherein a "fair share" of just about everything achieves the status of a government guarantee.

One example of meritocracy is the world of sports, where superiority in achievement is rewarded - and no such reward is enjoyed by those who fall short of comparative excellence.

Just as this system is corrupted by such unfair factors as performance-enhancing drugs, so is meritocracy subverted when, metaphorically, there is no scoreboard on the playing field.

Getting to the point of this opusette, there is no "right" to a living wage, except for those who have had at least minimal training, and who offer minimal skills that are of value in the workplace and who contribute minimal efforts.

If those who fail to fit that profile are paid more than the "going" wage, the surplus must be regarded as either public welfare or private charity.

That is to say, higher-than-minimum wages can be expected only if the worker offers superior benefits to prospective employers.

A major problem arises if and when welfare pays more than the minimum wage, as it does these days in several States.

When this situation is prevalent, it is a major disincentive for people to pursue employment.

In a sense, we shouldn't fault the recipients as much as the enabling system.

After the Second World War, returning veterans were offered membership in the "52-20 Club," whose enrollees were offered 20 bucks a week for 52 weeks (then enough to keep body and soul together while we sought employment for higher wages and, hopefully, enough income to finance that Jeffersonian "pursuit of happiness.")

Although a tad better than chicken feed, it was not a satisfactory destination for those of us whose postwar sights were set on dreams of homes, families, luxuries, security and, in many cases, the accumulation of wealth.

Thus, the handout was means to a higher end, rather than the end itself.

Recently, a young college graduate was seen on television in beach-bum attire, and festooned with tattoos which would have made the Sistine Chapel ceiling resemble a mere pencil sketch.

He unashamedly admitted that he had no job and no desire to find one, given the fact that Uncle Sam provided him with a free "electronic payment card, "renewable annually, which he could use in exactly the same manner as working stiff's used their credit cards.

He, however, did not suffer the inconvenience of later repaying what he received.

Why work, reasoned he, when "the government" enables him to enjoy life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, all in abundance, with no obligation whatsoever to pony up for these privileges?

Why pay, queries this humble scribe, on behalf of his fellow taxpayers, to subsidize the libertine lifestyle of this irresponsible moocher?

Mind you, we who have more than we need to get by have a moral obligation to share with those who do not, assuming that they are doing all that they can to provide for themselves.

When charity falls short, government is equally obliged to fill in the gap.

That's called welfare, which is not one of the inalienable rights declared by Jefferson and his colleagues.

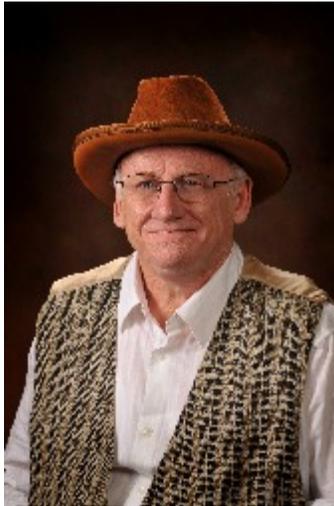
Mind you again: While poverty is not a personal disgrace, neither is it a badge of honor, especially if it is the result of an irresponsible unwillingness to pursue the aforementioned happiness.

America should reward meritocracy and provide appropriate support to the truly needy; but it should treat those who "game" the welfare system with the contempt and punishment they so richly deserve.

Words of warning: If and when welfare becomes more attractive and remunerative than workfare, hang a crepe on the doorpost of the traditional American dream!

Freelance wordworker Joe Klock, Sr. (joeklock@aol.com) winters in Key Largo and Coral Gables, Florida and summers in New Hampshire. More of his "Klockwork" can be found at [www.joeklock.com](http://www.joeklock.com).





## LET'S REMINISCE: USED CAR DEALERS

By Jerry Lincecum

Several times I have read that the American public rates Congressmen lower than used car salesmen. Then last week I read an obituary for Cal Worthington, a car dealer whose extravagantly entertaining commercials had made him legendary as well as extremely successful. It made me think about one of my early encounters with a skilled car salesman and dealer.

At the age of eleven, I accompanied Daddy to Groesbeck with a load of watermelons in our 1949 Ford pickup. It was one of those rare years when our farm income looked promising, so after selling the melons to a trucker we went by the Ford house. We were just looking, of course, but Mr. Lyle sort of insisted on making Daddy an offer to trade in our old truck for a brand new sky blue half-ton that I fell in love with.

Daddy felt safe in saying he'd like to buy that truck and indicating we'd come back after checking with our banker in Franklin. Before he knew what was happening, Mr. Lyle had him talking on the phone with Mr. Mauk in Franklin. The loan was agreed to, and I went out to sit in the handsome truck and pretend to drive it while all the papers were signed. The end of that story is Mother was not happy when we got home in the new truck. In fact, I now see that my lifelong tendency to avoid conflict might have begun to flower at that point in time.

I don't think Mr. Lyle or any of the other local dealers were advertising on radio or TV in the 1950s, when Cal Worthington discovered that off-the-wall commercials were his ticket to fame and fortune. Among his many gimmicks, my favorite was his answer to a competitor's ads that featured a dog. He rustled up a gorilla and told the audience: "Howdy, I'm Cal Worthington and this is my dog Spot. I found this little fella down at the pound and he's so full of love."

Spot came back as a hippo, an iguana and a snake, but never a dog. I also admire the fact that Cal wrote his own theme song, with this chorus (set to the tune of "If you're happy and you know it ...")

*If you need a better car, go see Cal.  
For the best deal by far, go see Cal.  
If you want your payments low,  
If you want to save some dough,  
Go see Cal, go see Cal, go see Cal.*

The wild and crazy nature of Cal's ads made him a folk hero in California and an icon of popular culture. He became a frequent guest on "The Tonight Show," where Johnny Carson performed ad parodies. Although he eventually owned 29 dealerships, from San Diego to Anchorage, Alaska, Cal had a car of his own — he simply borrowed one from the lot.

That last detail brings to mind Mr. Sam Rayburn's 1947 Cadillac, on exhibit at the Rayburn House in Bonham. The story of how he acquired it, after losing access to the limousine provided for the Speaker of the House, will have to wait for another column.

-30-

A retired English professor, Dr. Jerry Lincecum teaches classes for older adults who want to write their life stories. He welcomes your reminiscences on any topic: [jlincecum@me.com](mailto:jlincecum@me.com)

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## Lucy William - Tom Bean's Finest

Lucy Williams was a pillar of the Tom Bean community & always stood up for what she thought was right. She was indeed Tom Bean's finest!

Private donations were collected this year to purchase TxDOT signs designating Hwy 11 from city limit to city limit as "Lucy Williams Memorial Highway". The Dedication Ceremony for the unveiling of the signs and donor plaque was held Saturday night,

August 24th at 6:00 in the Edwards Community Room at the 1st National Bank of Tom Bean.

First on the agenda was beautiful music by the Red River Valley Chorus group followed by a presentation of a bouquet of red roses to the chorus by great-granddaughter Alexis Paige Williams. Mayor Sherry E. Howard read the letter that she had received from Alexis back in May 2010 to name a freeway after Ms. Lucy.

On hand to help with the celebration was State Representative Larry Phillips and Robin McCoy, Regional Coordinator for Senator Craig Estes.

Catering was done by her sons and daughter-in-laws Ralph and Marion Williams and Joe and Kathy Williams. Refreshments were served by the grandchildren and great-grandchildren of Ms. Lucy at the event. David Ellis and David Harrison were both instrumental in helping the Mayor spearhead this project.

Testimonials from several people in attendance told of the awesome lady that Ms. Lucy was and how she impacted many people in the community throughout the many years. What a great honor is was to have the privilege of honoring a person in such a way as dedicating a highway in their name!!



