

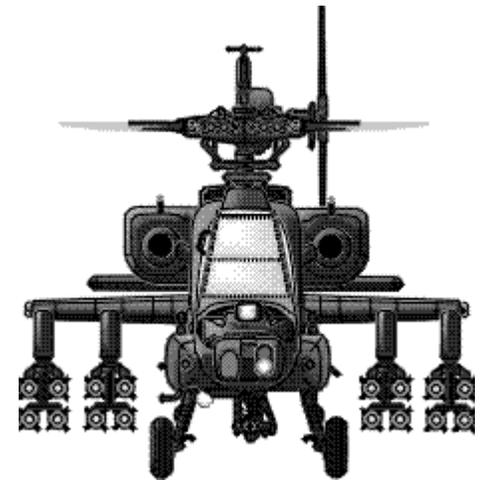
# Texoma Enterprise

Howe, Texas  
75459

September 19, 2013



**Students of the Month**



**Civil Air Patrol**



**Hagerman**



## Notice of Bluegrass Program

Masters of Bluegrass featuring Lou Reid and Carolina and The Byron Berline Band.

Saturday November 16, 2013. Doors open 5:30 PM, show at 6:00 PM. McKinney Performing Arts Center, 111 N. Tennessee St, McKinney.

All seats reserved at \$20. Order today for best available seats.  
tickets.mckinneyp performingartscenter.org 214-544-4630



### **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@cablone.net](mailto:lanarideout@cablone.net) with your information.**



## Capitol Watch

By Larry Phillips, State Representative



### *Proposed Constitutional Amendments*

This week's column will be the fifth 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. This information is taken from a report by the House Research Organization, a nonpartisan agency that provides information to the legislature.

#### **Amendment No. 5 (S.J.R. 18)**

*The constitutional amendment to authorize the making of a reverse mortgage loan for the purchase of homestead property and to amend lender disclosures and other requirements in connection with a reverse mortgage loan.*

The proposed amendment would authorize advances under a reverse mortgage for the purchase of homestead property that the borrower will occupy as a principal residence and expand the conditions under which a lender may require repayment of this type of reverse mortgage to include the borrower's failure to timely occupy the homestead property within the specified period. It would prohibit the making of a reverse mortgage unless both the prospective borrower and their spouse complete counseling regarding the advisability and availability of reverse mortgages and other financial alternatives at least 12 days before the closing. S.J.R. 18 would also replace the constitutionally required written notice provided by lenders to borrowers of a reverse mortgage with a separate written notice containing detailed language related to reverse mortgages, including the grounds for which the lender may foreclose the reverse mortgage.

Supporters say it is not uncommon for older homeowners to find themselves in the market for a new home, whether for purposes of downsizing, relocating, or simply lowering the cost of homeownership. To do so, Texas seniors currently must sell one home and purchase another, either by paying in cash or by taking out a new mortgage, in two separate transactions, with separate closing costs on each transaction. The proposed amendment would add a reverse mortgage for purchase option to the reverse mortgage currently available to older homeowners, allowing Texas homeowners age 62 and older, who may be house-rich and income-poor, to sell one property and purchase another in a single transaction using the equity in an existing house to make a cash down payment on a less expensive residence. By combining the selling and buying of the two properties into one transaction and eliminating a set of fees, a homeowner could save several thousand dollars in closing fees.

The proposed amendment would also provide important safeguards for potential reverse mortgage borrowers by requiring detailed disclosures that would include information regarding the consequences, including a possible foreclosure, of the borrower's failure to meet contractual obligations such as payment of property taxes on the home.

A review did not reveal any apparent opposition to the amendment.

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 32:1-11 (KJV)

<sup>1</sup> Blessed is *he* whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.  
<sup>2</sup> Blessed is the man unto whom the LORD imputeth not iniquity, and in whose spirit *there is* no guile.  
<sup>3</sup> When I kept silence, my bones waxed old through my roaring all the day long.  
<sup>4</sup> For day and night thy hand was heavy upon me: my moisture is turned into the drought of summer. Selah.  
<sup>5</sup> I acknowledged my sin unto thee, and mine iniquity have I not hid. I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the LORD; and thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin. Selah.  
<sup>6</sup> For this shall every one that is godly pray unto thee in a time when thou mayest be found: surely in the floods of great waters they shall not come nigh unto him.  
<sup>7</sup> Thou *art* my hiding place; thou shalt preserve me from trouble; thou shalt compass me about with songs of deliverance. Selah.  
<sup>8</sup> I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eye.  
<sup>9</sup> Be ye not as the horse, *or* as the mule, *which* have no understanding: whose mouth must be held in with bit and bridle, lest they come near unto thee.  
<sup>10</sup> Many sorrows *shall be* to the wicked: but he that trusteth in the LORD, mercy shall compass him about.  
<sup>11</sup> Be glad in the LORD, and rejoice, ye righteous: and shout for joy, all *ye that are* upright in heart.



## 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.

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.

The Gospel of Christ news letter can be found at <http://www.thegospelofchrist.com/newsletter>. Their television program comes on CBS at 7:30am. "A Woman's Choice" a WEB video concerning a woman's pregnancy can be seen on [www.PregnancyDecisions.org](http://www.PregnancyDecisions.org).

## 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](http://www.thegbf.com)  
**VALLEY CHURCH OF CHRIST**

### Howe

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

### Ida

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

### Luella

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

### Tom Bean

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

More Church Page



## LIVING WATER

### "I Killed a Man"

"I killed a man." These were the first words spoken on a video on YouTube released on September 3, 2013. As of September 13, the video has been viewed over 2 million times.

Matthew Cordle, a 22-year-old man, is the one who made the confession on the video. In the 3 ½ minute video, Cordle details what happened on June 22, 2013, when he says that after drinking heavily, he got in his truck, blacked out, ended up driving the wrong way on an interstate, and crashed into a vehicle driven by a 61-year-old veteran, Vincent Canzani. Canzani was killed in the crash.

As the video begins, Cordle's face is blurred and his voice is muffled. He explains that on that night he was drinking heavily with some friends, hopping from bar to bar, when he decided to drive home.

"I was trying to have a good time and I ended up losing control," he said. At the time of the crash, Cordle's blood alcohol level was 0.191, more than double the state of Ohio's legal limit.

As Cordle confesses what he has done, his face is not longer blurred and his voice is clear. He claimed that he did not want to lie to get an easier sentence.

"I will take full responsibility for what I've done," he said. "I won't dishonor Vince's memory by lying about what happened."

Cordle surprised the court on Wednesday, September 11, by entering a plea of not guilty. His lawyer, George Breitmayer, offered this explanation: "The reason we entered the not guilty plea is so there is no allegations that we chose a particular judge for a particular reason... This way it's completely random." Breitmayer said Cordle will enter a guilty plea as soon as a judge is assigned.

In the video, Cordle explains that he made the video to make a plea to others to refrain from drinking and driving. "I'm begging you please don't drink and drive," he said.

The TRUTH is: ALL of us are guilty of sin (Rom 3:23) and deserve a sentence of eternal condemnation (Matthew 7:13-14).

But God loves us so much that He gave His Son Jesus to die for us in order to redeem us from sin (John 3:16; Ephesians 1:7). Through Jesus, we can be forgiven and receive the gift of eternal life. "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 6:23).

God will forgive and give eternal life to those who place their faith and trust in Jesus (Acts 16:30-31), genuinely repent of their sins (Acts 17:30-31), confess Jesus before men (Romans 10:9-10), and are baptized (immersed) into Christ for the forgiveness of their sins (Acts 2:38). He will continue to cleanse those who continue to walk in the light of His Word (1 John 1:7).

It was for our sins that Jesus died on the cross (1 John 2:2). It was OUR sins that killed the Son of God! But the Good News (the Gospel) is that the blood that Jesus shed is what cleanses us from our sins when we trust and obey Him.

Won't YOU?

David Sargent, Minister

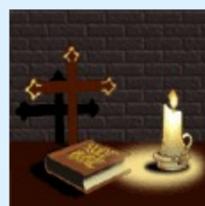
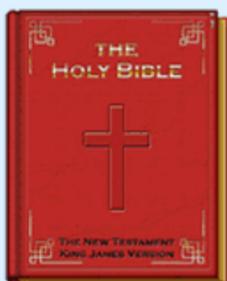
davidsargent1@comcast.net

Church of Christ at Creekwood

<http://www.creekwoodcc.org>

\* Info gleaned from Sophia Rosenbaum of NBC News <http://usnews.nbcnews.com>

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

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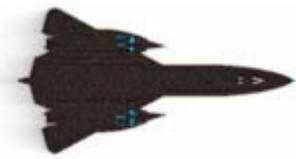
## Civil Air Patrol To Host Open House

DENISON, Texas (September 19) – The Texoma Composite Squadron of the Civil Air Patrol (CAP) will hold an Open House on Saturday, September 28 from 10am to 3pm at their squadron building located at North Texas Regional Airport in Denison.

The open house will feature demonstrations, presentations, and exhibits to educate visitors on how CAP supports youth and the local community, and how they can become involved. Activities scheduled include model rocket flights, a flight simulator allowing visitors to try their hand at flying, equipment and uniform displays, and a CAP vehicle on display. Adult members (ages 18 and up) and Cadets (ages 12-18) will be available to discuss CAP's history, missions and programs, and to answer any questions.

For more information about this event or the Texoma Composite Squadron, call (903) 786-6227, e-mail to [info@captexoma.org](mailto:info@captexoma.org), or visit the squadron website at <http://www.captexoma.org>.

Civil Air Patrol, the official auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force, is a nonprofit organization with nearly 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 is credited by the AFRCC with saving an average of 80 lives annually. Its unpaid professionals 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 more than 26,000 young people currently participating in the CAP cadet programs. CAP received the World Peace Prize in 2011 and has been performing missions for America for 72 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](http://www.gocivilairpatrol.com) or [www.capvolunteernow.com](http://www.capvolunteernow.com) for more information.



## 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

805 N. Hughes

Howe, Texas 75459-3587

903-487-0525

dalerideout@cablone.net

lanarideout@cablone.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

This column is a potpourri that seems random and may be, but provides a place for some thoughts that may drive readers—if there are any—crazy.

(1). The computer I usually use is in the shop, the victim of an unknown source of updates that I never asked for and never wanted. The folks at Diamond Computers, who have cleaned it many times before, tell me that the recommended updates from Microsoft will not cause a computer to crash and I believe them.

However, the computer did not crash. Instead, when I uninstalled one pdf program and then installed another, some gremlin added programs that I had never seen and never wanted. Adding insult to injury, a plethora of those unsolicited programs appeared without invitation on the toolbar.

While this was happening, hotmail, the program I have used forever, seems to have misplaced my email list, but only on that machine. In addition, Publisher, which I have used for too many years to create newsletters, refused to send the publication to the pdf printer, although it did print a gorgeous hard copy.

So the machine is once again at the computer doctor's office, where it will soon be restored to health.

(2). When school ratings come out next spring after "the test," they will be based at least in part on the scores of the least able students in each school. Teachers have been told that no modifications will be made for students no matter what the mental capability of that student may be. Teachers who are required to teach and test students whose IQ's are well below average will be evaluated on the same scale as those who teach advanced placement classes.

Teachers who teach students who threaten rape and murder, students who use the worst curse words you can imagine, directed not only toward their teachers, but also toward administrators, students who argue and refuse to even begin any assignment, much less complete it, students whose parents say they don't have any control over their children—those teachers are nevertheless accountable for the academic progress of those students. Small wonder that the teacher force is growing grayer and grayer!

(3). It was Voltaire who said that the sickest person in a family controls it. If we apply that principle to the United States House of Representatives, we can see a practical application as the Tea Party threatens to destroy the full faith and credit of the United States. Members of the Tea Party are a vast minority in the House, but they control enough votes that they can block legislation they are ideologically opposed to.

Put another way, they have the idea—not borne out by our history from the beginning days of our constitutional government—that compromise is immoral. They are right, everyone else is wrong. They are righteous, everyone else is unrighteous. Their motto should be the one that the John Birch Society used on its literature" "In your heart, you know we're right." My response to the JBS and now to the Tea Party is< "Yes! Far right."

I was at a loss to discover why the Tea Party and so many conservatives who claim to be fundamental Christians are opposed to providing health care for the 30 million people who do not have access because they can't get or can't afford health insurance. This puzzle was solved for me by a Tea Party member who explained that churches, charitable institutions and individuals should see that those 30 million people get health care.

In other words, those of us who have the means should voluntarily provide for the uninsured. Yes, and physicians should provide ¼ of their time and all of their expertise pro bono and hospitals should provide care free and pigs will begin to fly sometime next week.

And here is a closing thought on the subject of what is called social welfare. The welfare of old people was never the primary object of Social Security—the object was increasing their purchasing power for the benefit of business; feeding hungry people was never the primary object of food stamps—the object was increased revenue for farmers and food retailers. There is hardly a social welfare program that does not have at its heart an economic motivation.

(5). Have a good week and if you are planning to register to vote, be sure you gather up the required legal documents before you go to the nearest office of the Texas Department of Public Safety. Or maybe you should just go buy an assault rifle so you can take over the government by force. After all, in Texas, it's easier to buy an assault rifle than it is to register to vote.



## Cornyn: No Special Deals for Anyone on Obamacare

**WASHINGTON** – U.S. Senator John Cornyn (R-TX) issued the following statement regarding the Office of Personnel and Management’s (OPM) recent decision to continue to allow federal contributions to the health plans of Members of Congress and their staffs:

“Obamacare is bad for everyone in the country, which is why I have fought it at every turn. But until we can repeal and replace it, everyone in the country ought to be treated exactly the same. No special deals for anyone. That will actually increase the leverage to repeal it.”

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.

## Cornyn Statement on Constitution Day

**WASHINGTON** – U.S. Senator John Cornyn (R-TX) issued the following statement in observance of Constitution Day:

“**In 1787, our Founding Fathers crafted a document that has endured to become the blueprint for all nations who wish to foster a free society. The United States Constitution was revolutionary not only in the government it created, but in the freedoms it protected for American citizens.**

“**As we mark the anniversary of its signing, I encourage all Texans to take a moment today to reflect on the Constitution and the liberties we maintain living in a country that is truly governed by ‘we the people.’”**

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.

## Sen. Cornyn Sponsors Resolutions Celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month, National Hispanic-Serving Institutions Week

**WASHINGTON** – *As the nation marks the beginning of Hispanic Heritage Month, U.S. Sen. John Cornyn (R-TX) joined a bipartisan group of colleagues in introducing a resolution designating Hispanic Heritage Month as September 15-October 15, 2013, and honoring the heritage, culture and contributions of Hispanic Americans.*

*“From the earliest days of Texas’ history, Hispanic trailblazers have helped to shape our state’s rich heritage. Hispanic Americans have contributed in countless ways to the Texas identity – through education, business and the arts to military and public service and every facet of our society. I am proud to represent the second-largest Hispanic population in the country and pleased to join my colleagues in introducing this resolution to pay tribute to the millions of Hispanic Americans who have helped make America the greatest nation on earth.”*

*“Desde los primeros días de la historia de Texas, pioneros hispanos han ayudado a moldear el rico patrimonio de nuestro estado. Los estadounidenses de origen hispano han contribuido de innumerables formas a la identidad de Texas – desde la educación, negocios, artes, hasta el servicio militar, servicio público y en cada faceta de nuestra sociedad. Me siento orgulloso de representar a la segunda mayor población hispana del país y complacido de unirme a mis colegas en la presentación de esta resolución para rendir homenaje a los millones de estadounidenses de origen hispano que han ayudado a hacer de Estados Unidos la nación más grande de la tierra.”*

Additionally, Sen. Cornyn joined his colleagues in introducing a bipartisan resolution designating the week of September 15-21st as National Hispanic-Serving Institutions Week to recognize the more than 300 non-profit Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSIs) throughout our nation for their work, achievements, and critical role in educating and empowering Hispanic youth.

*“As the number of Hispanic students in Texas grows in record numbers, our state’s Hispanic-Serving Institutions continue to play an integral role in preparing the next generation of Texas leaders. I’m proud of the stellar work HSIs are doing in Texas and across the country to open the doors of education and opportunity to millions of Hispanic students. We will be a better, more innovative and competitive nation because of their fine work, and I’m proud to have sponsored this legislation to honor their invaluable contribution to our nation’s young people.”*

*“A medida que crece el número de estudiantes hispanos en Texas en cifras récord, las Instituciones que Sirven a los Hispanos de nuestro estado continúan desempeñando un papel esencial en la preparación de la próxima generación de líderes de Texas. Estoy orgulloso del trabajo estelar que las HSI (Instituciones que Sirven a los Hispanos) están haciendo en Texas y en todo el país para abrir las puertas de la educación y oportunidad a millones de estudiantes hispanos. Seremos una mejor nación, más innovadora y competitiva debido a su excelente trabajo, y me siento orgulloso de haber patrocinado esta legislación para honrar su invaluable contribución a los jóvenes de nuestra nación.”*

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.



## Cornyn Presses Democrats for Long-Term Spending Reforms

*'If you kick the can down the road long enough, pretty soon you're going to run out of road.'*

WASHINGTON – U.S. Senator John Cornyn (R-TX) spoke on the Senate floor today about the need for reforms to our mandatory spending programs in order to save the American economy.

**“Sooner or later we'll have to reverse the trend of debt accumulation before it destroys our economy, because our current path is simply unsustainable.**

**“You know the crazy thing about it is that everybody in Washington, particularly the Congress, everybody knows that. And yet it seems like they're in a state of denial about what could very well happen to our country and to our future if we don't act.**

**“As I said, it's a very sobering message, and it's also very different from the message that President Obama has been delivering lately.**

**“Any short-term deficit reduction will be meaningless unless we adopt longer-term reforms, and that means where the federal government spends most of its money, which is in mandatory spending.**

**“The president and the Democrats frequently demand more spending on things like research and development. Yet, they refuse to embrace the serious reforms that are necessary to enable us to do that.**

**“Wouldn't we prefer to be in control of a gradual reform of our mandatory spending programs that are phased in over years in ways that most Americans will not actually feel because it can be done gradually?**

**“Well, to me, it makes sense to do that as opposed to watching the bottom drop out or just simply kicking the can down the road. But you know as they say, if you kick the can down the road long enough, pretty soon you're going to run out of road.**

**“We all know that we cannot simply tax our way back into fiscal stability, and we cannot spend our way back into economic prosperity.**

**“If the president would just merely accept those two realities, we might finally get the kind of long-term reforms and the real long-term spending cuts that might finally produce the economic recovery that America is desperately waiting for and desperately needs.”**

*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.*

### **\*One in Four Texas Households with Children Report Inability to Afford Enough Food\* Data Show Widespread Struggle in Austin, Houston, San Antonio, Dallas/Fort Worth**

Austin – September 18, 2013 – Texas households with children suffered extraordinarily high rates of food hardship during the recession, according to a new national report released today. In five years of telephone surveys conducted through 2012, over one in four (27.4%) of these households said they couldn't consistently afford enough food.

Despite this high level of food hardship, Congress is preparing to debate a bill that would cut \$39 Billion from funding for SNAP (aka food stamps), which aids many of these families and is the backbone of our national response to hunger.

“Given the struggles that continue to persist in Texas, it is outrageous that Congress is even debating cuts to nutrition programs like SNAP,” said Celia Cole, CEO of the Texas Food Bank Network. “Our elected leaders should act to help, not hurt struggling families, and the first step is to pass a Farm Bill with no cuts to SNAP.”

The report, published by the Food Research and Action Center (FRAC) in coordination with Gallup-Healthways Polling, is consistent with USDA data released earlier this month. The earlier federal data showed that 18.4% of Texas households were food insecure during the years 2010 to 2012. New data also released yesterday by the U.S. Census Bureau showed that the national poverty rate has remained at elevated rates since the recession began.

“All these data tell the same story – hunger and poverty rates spiked at the beginning of the recession and have stayed high ever since,” said Cole. “Despite modest gains in the economy, people at the low end of the economic ladder are still struggling to afford basic needs like food. Cutting SNAP now would hurt these families and undermine our economic recovery.”

The full food hardship analysis is available on FRAC's website ([www.frac.org](http://www.frac.org)). The Texas Food Bank Network provides a unified voice among food banks in support of their common mission to end hunger in Texas. Learn more at [TFBN.org](http://TFBN.org).

#### Food Hardship Rates for Households with Children, 2008-2012

Texas – 27.4%  
Austin MSA – 23.2%  
Dallas/Fort Worth MSA – 22.8%  
Houston MSA – 25.5%  
San Antonio MSA – 24.0%





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## 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).



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## September Students of Month

1st Row: Addelyn Leakey, Noah Christman

2nd Row: Ethan Strunc, Keira Robertson, Stephanie Bastida, Garren Lankford

3rd Row: Matalée Stewart, Caden Garner, Zak Defrange, Avery Snapp



## Humor

Ever walk into a room with some purpose in mind, only to completely forget what that purpose was?

Turns out, doors themselves are to blame for these strange memory lapses.

Psychologists at the University of Notre Dame have discovered that passing through a doorway triggers what's known as an event boundary in the mind, separating one set of thoughts and memories from the next. Your brain files away the thoughts you had in the previous room and prepares a blank slate for the new locale.

Thank goodness for studies like this. It's not our age, it's the damn door!

*I knew it couldn't be my fault.*

## OUTSKIRTS By: David & Doreen Dotson

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## 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.

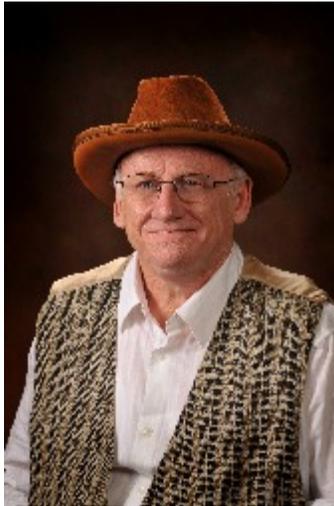
Mind you again: While poverty is not a personal disgrace, neither is it a badge of honor, especially if it is the result of an irresponsible unwillingness to pursue the aforementioned happiness.

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: ODE TO PEOPLE-WATCHING

By Jerry Lincecum

Confession is supposed to be good for the soul, so here goes: I have always been an avid people-watcher. As a boy I remember sitting in the truck or car with Daddy while Mother did some shopping in Groesbeck or Mexia. To pass the time (we didn't have a car radio), I would watch the folks walking along the sidewalk. With few people passing, I often studied each pedestrian from first sighting through fading away into the distance.

I soon discovered that everybody has a unique way of walking, ranging from lumbering along, gliding like a hummingbird, lurching from side to side, riding the waves and even dogtrotting.

A couple of decades later, when shopping mall were thriving, there was no better place for people-watching. Sherman has gone through two malls during my 40+ years here, and I enjoyed walking in both of them when they were in their prime. The current trend of replacing malls with free-standing stores lined up side by side like boxes does not meet my needs.

Fortunately, a new volunteer job I have taken on carries the fringe benefit of ample opportunities for observing a great variety of people. Without revealing my vantage point, I will share a few recent findings.

Elderly folks (like me) vary widely in their willingness to ask for a helping hand, even when their need for it is obvious. They grew up wanting to be self sufficient. When it's offered, most accept assistance freely and don't hesitate to express gratitude.

Some repay the helper with a story, such as the gentleman who recalled having walked frequently from Southmayd to Sherman in his youth.

I'll never forget the older lady whose car was parked peculiarly, with one wheel on the curb. "I call that my kiddie car," she said. "When I told the children I'd bought a Jeep, they questioned my sanity." She had no difficulty driving away.

While the majority of young children I've seen with their parents behaved well, one pitched a fit the like of which I had never seen before. If one of my own kids had behaved publicly in this manner, I'm not sure what I'd have done other than try to disappear.

As for the sizes and shapes of folks between the ages of 20 and 80, I am reminded of the fruit comparison offered a decade ago: some human torsos resemble apples and others are more like pears.

I have seen a lot more heavy pears than medium-sized apples. Especially interesting are the numerous large-pear parents clutching the hand of a trim little apple. Will that apple fall far from the tree?

If you are looking for a laboratory in which to do your own research, consider the fact that there will be a great many fall festivals held in Texas during the next six weeks or so.

-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!!



