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AUGUST 2018

Red Necks and Good Ole Boys

by Neal Murphy

Neal Murphy grew up in the small town of San Augustine, Texas. He and wife Clara have two grown children. Moving back after retiring, now with five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren, he began, as a hobby, writing short stories of humorous things that he observed over the years. He was an ambulance driver in college, worked for two funeral homes, then spent over forty years in the insurance business. He also writes stories of his forty-four years as a state certified police officer working for seven different departments. After living in five different states, he is now retired back in San Augustine and has his stories printed in seven different newspapers, and published five books. He is a graduate of Stephen F. Austin University, and the Insurance Institute of America. He is a Deacon in a Baptist Church and former Sunday School Teacher for many years, as well as Choir Director at several churches. He is also the docent in the 1919 Jail Museum in San Augustine and works three days a week. He was the director of the restoration of the old county records dating back to the 1800s.



East Texas is an area of the country in which “red necks” and “good ole boys” live, along with most of the deep southern states. I know some of them and I suspect that you do as well. Most people think that the “red necks” and the “good ole boys” are one in the same. They are mistaken as there are notable differences. I will list a few of the differences here.

We might begin by defining what a “red neck” person is. The term dates way back to the early 1800s when uneducated white people worked in the fields all day. Their skin, particularly the neck area, would take on a reddish hue due to sun exposure. Thus, they were called “red necks” by the upper class folk. They usually lived in small, rural towns, were known to drink a lot, and were offensive in other ways.

Around 1920 the use of the term was popular in the coal producing states of West Virginia and Kentucky. Striking coal workers usually wore red hankies around their necks to reflect their position to management. Thus they were called “red necks” by non-union people.

Jeff Foxworthy has given us a number of ways to describe a “red neck.” You might be one if:

You think loading your dishwasher means getting your wife drunk.
You cut your grass and find a car.
You think the stock market has a fence around it.
Your stereo speakers used to belong to the drive-in theatre.
You own a home-made fur coat.
The Salvation Army rejected your mattress.
Birds are attracted to your beard.
Your school fight song was “Dueling Banjos.”
You keep a can of Raid on your kitchen table.
The tail light covers on your car are made of red tape.

Good Ole Boys, on the other hand, are the sons of Red Necks, usually from eighteen to thirty five years old. Good Ole Boys are normally from the Deep South and they like cheap beer, NASCAR, football, professional wrestling, hunting and fishing, and country music. They usually carry a personal spit cup on their person while chewing their tobacco.

Good Ole Boys are generally all about having a good time. They may speed to impress a girl they’re taking on a date, but won’t hit and run. They may have a few beers to impress her later at the bar, or even get in a fight there, but won’t get so drunk that he can’t drive her home.

Good Ole Boys most often drive a rusty muscle car or a four-wheel-drive pick up. They are not looked upon as a bad person, in fact most are pretty good natured guys. He is a Southern-born boy who is country to the core and proud of it. He likes to hunt and could not be prouder of his gun collection. He carries one knife in his pocket, and another one in his boot, in case the one in his pocket gets confiscated. The Good Ole Boy is a hard working, honest gentleman who prefers the simple life and is just looking for a girl he can take shooting.

As one single country girl put it, “On our first date, he showed me a picture of him pulling a bullet out of a deer’s heart. He said he keeps it on his desk.”

So, there you have the low-down on the difference between a Red Neck and a Good Ole Boy that perhaps you had never thought about. Are you personally acquainted with any of them?

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“Mr. Nacogdoches” and Charlie Doches Form a Unique Welcoming Committee



Stephanie Fontenot
CVB Marketing Director

One of the things that makes Nacogdoches uniquely appealing is its wonderful combination of old and new. The excitement of new businesses and attractions set among the historic background of Texas’ oldest town provides for a one-of-a-kind encounter – one that visitors travel far and wide to experience. This month, we’d like to highlight two figures who truly embody what makes Nacogdoches worth visiting. First, a local gentleman we like to refer to as “Mr. Nacogdoches” himself, and second, Charlie Doches, also known as “The newest dog in the oldest town in Texas.”

Mike Bay is usually the first person visitors meet when they step into the Charles Bright Visitor Center located in downtown Nacogdoches. His official title is Visitor Services Coordinator for the Nacogdoches Convention and Visitors Bureau, but he is most certainly Mr. Nacogdoches in the flesh. Born just a few blocks from downtown, Bay has lived in Nacogdoches all his life and has witnessed the changing cityscape throughout the years. In addition to providing visitors with helpful information and items such as brochures and maps, he regularly includes personal anecdotes that paint a better picture. However, it’s the charm and genuine nature of his storytelling that undoubtedly delivers a sincere welcome. Just last month, a visiting couple received an array of information from Bay regarding a variety of local attractions. They enjoyed their stay so much that they felt compelled to leave a handwritten letter of thanks on the visitor center doorsteps before departing. We so often hear that our town’s history is what makes it worth visiting. While that’s true, we know it’s people like Bay who truly create the memorable experiences.

Charlie Doches, an adorable six-month old Frenchton puppy who belongs to Nacogdoches CVB Executive Director Sherry Morgan, is the newest face in the Charles Bright Visitor Center. While he spends the majority of his time greeting visitors and being adorable, he’s working hard to position Nacogdoches as a pet-friendly destination. He’s become a fan favorite with visitors both young and old and even shares his experiences on Facebook and Instagram. (Be sure to give him a follow.)

Whether you’re a Nacogdoches local or visiting our town for the first time, we hope you’ll stop by. Between receiving a warm greeting from Mike Bay and a tail-wagging hello from little Charlie Doches, we know you’ll receive a welcome like no other.



Billy Bob Thorton’s Nac Connection

Actor and musician, Billy Bob Thorton, and *Around the Town* Publisher, David Stallings, have been friends for several years.

“We were introduced by a mutual friend at KERV Radio in Kerrville one afternoon back in December, 2009. Billy was touring with his band, The Boxmasters, and had stopped at the station for an interview. He had been at the station several months before and had commented on a photo on the studio wall depicting me as comedian Willie P. Richardson, telling my friend that he was a big fan of my comedy. A few days before he returned to the station for his second visit, my friend called and arranged for me and my son, Todd, to come down there. It was a great afternoon...Kinky Friedman was with Billy Bob, so there was never a dull moment. We hit it off immediately and have developed a wonderful friendship. He’s an amazing, genius-level individual, who came from humble beginnings in Malvern, Arkansas, to become an international star. The Boxmasters recently performed at the Arlington Music Hall and I was honored to host the concert. We got to spend an hour visting backstage before the show and had a great time. I’ve always been a huge Billy Bob Fan and can’t wait for his next movie,” Stallings said.



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**Thanks, David Stallings,
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Our Pledge . . .

Around the Town and its publishers seek to provide the people of this area with news and information about the current events and happenings in the categories of dining, entertainment, sports and the arts, while providing a venue for retail and commercial establishments, as well as local artisans and non-profit and service organizations to present themselves to the public. We also strive to feature some of the rich history and culture this area is particularly known for.

The Southern Garden History Society

by Brad Maule

One of the many perks of living in the oldest town in Texas is the beauty of our gardens. In fact, thanks to our State Representative, Travis Clardy, Nacogdoches is officially called, "The Garden Capital of Texas".

A garden is: a planned space, usually outdoors, set aside for the display, cultivation and enjoyment of plants and other forms of nature. (Thank you Wikipedia)

Well, that's us. We, the people of East Texas, treasure our personal gardens, as well as our arboretums, historical homes, statues, cemeteries, trails, creeks, and public spaces. It's not a secret. For years, in the Springtime, people have come from all over Texas to witness the legendary Azaleas blooming in Nacogdoches, but now it seems the world has discovered us.

The Southern Garden History Society is coming to Nacogdoches. This legendary organization will meet in our sweet town OCTOBER 5TH and 6TH, 2018. The event, "300 Years of Plants on the Move in Texas" will celebrate, Texas' Tricentennial in gardening, and will be held at the Fredonia Hotel and Convention Center.

For those attending, there will be tours of the gardens of Nacogdoches, lectures on the broad sweep of gardening history in Texas beginning with the Spanish era all the way through modern day, and a special sale of rare plants for the attendees at the Stephen F. Austin State University Native Plant Center. Guest speakers will include Greg Grant, David Creech, Jeff Abt, and keynote speaker Bill Welch.

Established in the spring of 1982, The Southern Garden History Society is a think-tank of historic site curators, horticulture specialists, landscape architects, writers, photographers, and private gardeners from around the world. Their primary goal is to stimulate interest in and educate the southern public about the ancestry of its backyard, but their passion lies in the restoration and preservation of the historically cultivated Southern landscape from Maryland to Texas.

If you love plants, if you love gardening, this is your event. Tickets for the two days of speakers, tours, book signings, and the rare plant sale are \$100 per person with all proceeds going to The Southern Garden History Society Scholarship Program. This is a non-profit event sponsored by Friends of Historic Nacogdoches, The Southern Garden History Society State Ambassadors, and The Stephen F. Austin State University Pineywoods Native Plant Center. For tickets and registration: email: fohni@yahoo.com



Brad Maule is a two-time Emmy-nominated actor now living in beautiful Nacogdoches where he teaches filmmaking for the School of Art and acting for the School of Theatre at Stephen F. Austin State University.

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The Federation of Womens Clubs is offering a summer etiquette class for young boys and girls ages 11-14. The dates are Tuesday, August 7, Wednesday, August 8 and Thursday, August 9 and you can pick the date you would like to attend. Topics will include writing thank you notes, introductions to friends, table manners and a brief history about Nacogdoches.

The applications for the class are available at the CVB downtown. The cost is \$25.00. For further information call 936-554-7457.



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Richard Leon White Meets Chuck Berry ...and the Beat Goes On

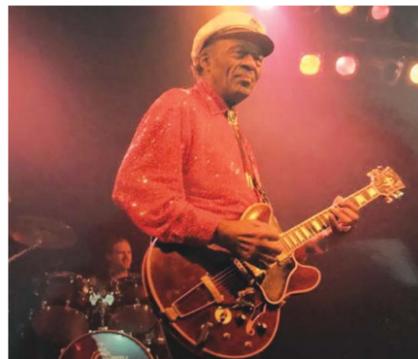
by Cheryl Harvey Hill

Richard White, aka Richard Lamm, started playing classical percussions music at age eleven. He was so good, he earned a scholarship to Texas State University but when the opportunity to play in a band came along, he jumped at the chance. He left college and never looked back. He soon learned that he may have jumped a little too far, but he didn't quit, he stayed focused and worked at perfecting his playing. In 1989 he played with the The Ultimate Something Band in Austin. Then at the age of twenty-four, he got his first opportunity to see the world. By then he was playing drums and singing back-up for another band out of Austin, called The Grooves. They went on four different USO Tours. The first one took them through Guatemala, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, Panama, Haiti, Dominican Republic and eventually, they had performed in twenty-four other countries in all. If you ask what is the most memorable thing he recalls from those tours, his instant reply is "the soldiers." He says while on the USO tours he experienced the worst times of his life and some of the very best times of his life and he came away with a whole new level of respect for all soldiers and he sincerely appreciates how much they sacrifice for our freedom.



It was 2005 when he first met Chuck Berry. He was still playing with Joe Richardson Express and they were opening for Berry at a local venue in Austin, of course. At 79 years old, unbeknownst to them, Berry was writing the final chapter of his life and it soon became clear that he was writing it the way he wanted. His contract stated that "no one from the opening band was permitted to play in his band" but, in an effort to save a few dollars, the tour manager made the decision that White would play instead of Berry's regular drummer. So as soon as White finished playing with his band, he had to run backstage, change his shirt, put his hair

up in a ponytail, then run up on the stage and settle in behind the drums to back up Berry. In an effort to avoid any contract trouble, he hid his face behind his drums as much as possible.



White says he had a lot of admiration and respect for Berry as an all-around entertainer and, as a drummer, he says he was definitely able to hear how Berry "changed the beat of rock" to make it into his very own sound. He refers to Berry as being the creator of what we now call "modern rock." So when White was invited to join Chuck Berry on his European tour later that year, he was more than

happy to say yes. At that point in his music career, he was thirty-four years old and used to traveling overseas thanks to the experiences he had while on the USO Tours.

The tour with Berry kicked off with seven shows throughout France, followed by one in Denmark. Their last show on the tour was at the magnificent Lucerna Palace in Prague, Czechoslovakia and it was what White calls, "the most amazing gig of my life." White says the view from his drums was so surreal as he watched one of the biggest legends in music history bring an audience to their feet just by dancing back and forth across the stage to any one, of many, of his own incredible hit songs. White says, "I never got used to it. I did get more comfortable with it but there were still moments when we would be half-way through a set, I would look up from my drums and catch a glimpse of Chuck as he rocked out on 'Maybellene' or 'Johnny B. Goode' and it would make every hair on my body stand up. I'd think, 'Is this really happening? Am I actually playing drums with the legendary artist who wrote this song!'"

By the final stop of this tour, Berry was eighty years old but his fans in Prague pulled out all the stops to welcome him since it was the first time he had been there after the fall of the Iron Curtain. It's no secret that Berry had not been embraced by the ruling Communist Party, but despite that fact, even while the Iron Curtain was in place, he had somehow become such a beloved icon of the free world that they pulled out all the stops to welcome him when he finally did arrive. It was as if he

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When You Least Expect It

The phone call I had dreaded for years came into my office on a Friday afternoon a few weeks ago.

“Mom, I think you might want to meet me at the hospital,” my youngest son said in a shaky voice.

I had just put out a traffic alert on my TxDOT Lufkin Twitter page about a major accident on SH 94 at SL 287 in Lufkin.

As a newspaper journalist, I always dreaded the thought of coming upon an accident scene and possibly finding loved one involved. I never did. So, as a TxDOT spokesperson, my ambulance chasing days are done, but the alert system I use daily to get the word out about blocked roadways due to emergencies and construction is something the public relies on. As I sent out the alert, it was no different than any other crash. Yes, it was. This one involved my family – my daughter-in-law and my youngest granddaughter.

Instead of driving to the hospital, I drove straight to the scene of the crash where I would find traffic blocked in all directions, emergency lights, fire trucks and an ambulance. I knew a shortcut into a parking lot adjacent to the accident.

It’s hard to miss my son, who is 6-foot, 7-inches tall. I spotted him immediately. Tucked into his arms was his youngest daughter, who I refer to as my baby grand. She also carries my middle name and acts more like me than I sometimes want to admit. She and her mom were leaving town for a weekend softball tournament when someone ran the red light and hit them squarely on the passenger side door where she was sitting.

I threw my car into park and didn’t even turn off the engine. That tall, beautiful 11-year-old had a bruised, red cheek from the impact of the side airbag, an injured shoulder and a couple of cuts. My son was about to take her to the hospital himself when I asked about my daughter-in-law.

“She’s in the ambulance.”

I listened to a witness tell me how the car went airborne before flipping over three times. I scanned the accident scene and spotted their SUV. It was totaled. The windshield was hanging into the front seat and there was no exit from the passenger side. My granddaughter crawled between the seat and the shards of glass hanging inches from her to exit the driver’s side. They were both covered in tiny pieces of glass. I asked her later what she experienced in the seconds that their car was rolling over.

“I heard momma scream, but I was praying. I was still praying when the car stopped,” she said through that beautiful smile.

She told me of how an elderly man helped them as they crawled out of the vehicle. He asked if he could pray for them before he handed my daughter-in-law his phone to call my son. He walked away before they could thank him.

At the hospital emergency room, the first thing my daughter-in-law said to me through her tears, her pain and her bleeding was, “They saved our life. The seatbelts. They saved our life.”

The cuts and abrasions on their necks, shoulders and across their chests looked as if someone had taken a knife and made the perfect imprint of a seatbelt that worked. A seatbelt that did just what it was supposed to do.

Their wounds will heal and with a little rehab, my daughter-in-law should be fine and my baby grand will throw a softball as good as ever. But the reality is things could have turned out very differently.

I constantly talk of how if a vehicle rolls and the occupant is not wearing a seatbelt, the likelihood of being thrown from the vehicle and becoming a fatality greatly increases.

If you don’t do anything else today, make the choice to buckle your seatbelt and make sure your family buckles up. They work, and when you least expect it, they will save your life too.

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Nac County Exposition and Civic Center

What's Hot with Anita Scott

October 10th through the 14th will be our 40th Annual Piney Woods Fair. The Entry Forms for Market Livestock and Educational Division competitions are already up on our website at nacexpo.net. The preliminary fair schedule is online as well.

We are looking for local talent to do 30-45 minute performances on the Main Stage in the Civic Center during the fair. You can highlight your dance, theater, or musical organization! There is no fee paid for the performance and no charge to appear. Contact our office at 936-564-0849 or email nacexpo@co.nacogdoches.tx.us for more information.

Vendor spaces are still available for the fair! If you make interesting or unusual furniture or décor, food, clothing then reserve your booth now! If you are interested in promoting your business or personal creations to an audience of thousands please contact our office at 936-564-0849 or email nacexpo@co.nacogdoches.tx.us.

Kids Day at the fair will be Friday, October 12th. Kids Day is free to all Elementary School age children. The registration form is available online at nacexpo.net, or call our office and we will be happy to fax or email it to you. Kids will be treated to a tour of the Roselake Ranch Petting Zoo. Nacogdoches Fire & Rescue will have a fire truck and EMS ambulance, Texas Forestry Service and the Nacogdoches Sheriff's Department will have their vehicles here as well to give the kids a close up look of their equipment and learn about the valuable services they provide.

AUGUST 4-5, 2018 – G & S GUN SHOW

G & S Promotions offer a variety of vendors from firearms and ammo to concealed carry bags and purses. This buy-sell-trade event has everything from vintage firearms to the latest high tech personal weaponry. Knife enthusiasts will also find a wide array of hunting and tactical blades. Hours are from 10:00 am – 5:00 pm on Saturday and 10:00 am-4:00 pm on Sunday. Admission is \$8.00 per person, come Saturday and your admission cost covers both days. There is also a special \$6.00 for all military service members.

AUGUST 22, 2018 – PWF HEIFER VALIDATION – 4:00 PM – 6:00 PM

Heifer validation will be in Barn 3 on August 22, 2018 from 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm. The entry forms and complete list of rules and regulations can be found on our website at nacexpo.net under the Piney Woods Fair tab.

All entries will be subject to the General Rules & Regulations of the Junior Livestock Show.

Exhibitors must be a Nacogdoches County 4-H, FFA, and FCCLA member under the supervision of a CEA or AST. Exhibitors must also continuously attend school in Nacogdoches County or be home schooled and reside within the boundaries of a school district in Nacogdoches County, and be at the 12th grade level or below from validation through the end of the show.

AUGUST 24-25, 2018 – REGION V JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL RODEO

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AUGUST 28, 2018 – BROILER PICK-UP FOR PINEY WOODS FAIR – 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Broiler Pick-Up for Piney Woods Fair exhibitors will be here at the Nacogdoches County Expo & Civic Center on August 28, 2018 beginning at 3:00 PM and ending at 5:00 PM.

The entry forms and complete list of rules and regulations can be found on our website at nacexpo.net under the Piney Woods Fair tab.

All entries will be subject to the General Rules & Regulations of the Junior Livestock Show.

Exhibitors must be a Nacogdoches County 4-H, FFA, and FCCLA member under the supervision of a CEA or AST. Exhibitors must also continuously attend school in Nacogdoches County or be home schooled and reside within the boundaries of a school district in Nacogdoches County, and be at the 12th grade level or below from validation through the end of the show.

AUGUST 29, 2018 - SHRINE CIRCUS – DOORS OPEN AT 6:00 PM, SHOW STARTS AT 7:00 PM

With three rings of affordable family fun, “The Shrine Circus” will thrill fans of all ages. Come see the death-defying aerial acts, animal attractions including tigers and elephants. In addition to the performing acts, kids will have the unique opportunity to ride and pet different types of animals.

Early Bird Tickets available at eventbrite.com with an array of ticket options offered! Special Military Discounts and a variety of Family Package Deals are available online only!

Once online sales have finished, you can only purchase tickets at the circus location.

We open doors one hour before the event!!

Planning to stay overnight? Great! Be sure to visit www.nacexpo.net or www.visitnacogdoches.org for links to local hotels and discount offers.

Don't forget our main arena is open to the public for riders, Monday-Friday from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM. It's only \$10.00 per horse to ride in our covered arena! Please call ahead to make sure we are not performing maintenance.

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BERRY

were a special dignitary. Which in many ways, he actually was.

A lot of life has happened to Richard White since then, and not much of it has been good, except that he has discovered he just might be a survivor. He was seriously injured in a freak accident and he hasn't played the drums in ages. During the day he has been working for Jerry Graham at Antiques on Main, but there's hope. He was quite inspired by all the memories that became dislodged during the course of our interview, enough so, that he now intends to "break out his sticks." So don't be surprised if he turns up in a club near you.

Antiques on Main - 412 E. Main - Nacogdoches 75961 - (936) 553-4715
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<https://www.facebook.com/antiquesonmainnac/>

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LIVING

Tips to Have a Summer Adventure Without Leaving Your Backyard

(StatePoint) With a few supplies and some inspiration, your backyard can be the site of a summer adventure. Here are a few ways to slip into vacation mode without even leaving home.

Take a Camping Trip

Whether all the campsites at your favorite park are booked solid or you just want to skip the traffic jam heading out of town, you can recreate the fun of a camping trip in the convenience of your backyard. Invite friends to pitch tents and then spend the evening grilling, having sing-alongs, making smores, playing games, telling ghost stories and stargazing.

With the security of electricity and the convenience of indoor plumbing just a hop, skip and a jump away, this is a great idea for families with young kids who have never camped before or anybody who prefers the luxuries of "glamping."

Go for a Dip

Love swimming but want to dodge crowds and avoid locker room hassles? Turn your backyard into your own swim club. Nearly any backyard can accommodate an easy-to-setup Intex pool. Available nationwide at a variety of big box, club, sporting goods and specialty stores as well as numerous online retailers, Intex offers both smaller options that are great for kids, such as a unicorn-themed spray pool with a 40-gallon capacity, as well as larger options. Prism Frame pools available in three shapes and sizes to accommodate people of all ages, feature filtration systems with Hydro Aeration Technology to remove sediment and keep pool water crisp and free of debris. Pull out some deck chairs, grab some towels, pool toys and some shades and you'll be all set.

Movie Night

Enjoy your favorite stars under the stars. With a simple projector set-up, you can be the host with the most by turning your backyard into a movie theater. Pick a crowd-pleasing summer classic and get the neighbors involved. If you're short on seating, consider inviting guests to set up their own blankets and lawn chairs and make it a potluck picnic.

If you want something exciting to do but are not in the mood to travel, just remember to look no farther than the backyard. With a little imagination, there are plenty of adventures to be had on any budget and in any sized space.



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Jeremiah 29:11 NIV

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Chamber Connection

by Kelly Daniel
Executive Vice President,
Nacogdoches County Chamber
of Commerce

Cool Chamber Events

Summer heat does not impede the activities in the Nacogdoches business community, and the Chamber's event calendar is full of cool opportunities that benefit our local businesses.

Ribbon Cutting Celebrations

All in the community are invited to join the following ribbon cutting ceremonies. If you can't attend, be sure to stop in at some point and congratulate the owners, managers and hard-working staff for their accomplishments!

Stretch ER ribbon cutting, 4:30 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 2 at 300 E. Hospital St. Celebrating the grand re-opening of Stretch ER at its new location in historic downtown. Enjoy the come-and-go reception after the ceremony!

The Hospice of East Texas Martha Jo Price Walk of Friends ribbon cutting, 10 a.m., Friday, Aug. 3 at the Master Gardeners' Demonstration Garden, intersection of E. Main St. and N. University Dr. All are invited to the unveiling of the Martha Jo Price Walk of Friends and previously dedicated bricks.

Martinez Martial Arts ribbon cutting, 11:30 a.m., Wednesday, Aug. 8. Celebrating Chamber membership! Enjoy light lunch refreshments and visit with Master T.J. Martinez after the ceremony.

Lehmann Eye Center ribbon cutting, 4 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 9 at 5300 North St. Welcoming Dr. James Berg to Nacogdoches!

Gobel School of Dance ribbon cutting, 4:30 p.m., Tuesday, Aug. 28 at 127 Creek-bend Blvd. Celebrating Katie Par's return to Nacogdoches!

Business after hours at Big Tex Agriplex!

See you at **Alive After Five** hosted by **Big Tex Agriplex** located at 4120 Old Tyler Road (near Rex Perry Autoplex). The event is from 5:30 to 7 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 16. Enjoy this business networking come-and-go, come-as-you-are reception with refreshments by Classic Fare Catering and chances to win nice door prizes. Bring business cards and guests!

Fourth Friday Luncheon

The Chamber's monthly membership meeting, **Fourth Friday Luncheon**, is noon to 1 p.m., Aug. 24 at Austin Hall, 4606 North St. with a "Legislative Update" presented by State Representative Travis Clardy. Luncheon reservations are requested by 4 p.m., Wednesday, Aug. 22, and lunch is \$16.

With all of these options, there is no reason to allow high temps to keep you from enjoying visiting with others and learning more about what is going on in your business community. For more information about these and other Chamber programs, please go to www.Nacogdoches.org or call 936-560--5533. We look forward to seeing you soon!

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News from the Nacogdoches County Attorney's Office

What Happens When a Defendant Rejects an Offer From the Prosecutor?



John Fleming
Nacogdoches County Attorney

In June, we discussed how the County Attorney's office places a value on each misdemeanor case it receives for review and/or prosecution. This month we will discuss what happens when the offer a Prosecutor extends is not accepted by the Defendant or the Defense Attorney acting on behalf of the Defendant.

If the Defendant does not accept the offer, the case is placed on the trial docket. The trial may be a bench trial or it may be a jury trial. A bench trial means the Judge will hear the case and decide whether the Defendant is guilty or not guilty. A jury trial means the jury will hear the case and decide whether the Defendant is guilty or not guilty. In the event of a guilty verdict by the Judge or the jury, the Judge may assess punishment unless the Defendant has elected for a jury to assess punishment.

If a case is set for a bench trial or a jury trial, it does not mean the case will necessarily go to trial. In fact, most cases set for trial are resolved by plea bargaining and not trial. A plea bargain is an agreement between the Prosecutor and Defendant and the Defense Attorney to resolve a case without going to trial. Any agreement reached, however, is subject to the approval of the Judge. If the Judge does not accept the plea bargain, the Prosecutor and Defense Attorney on behalf of the Defendant must continue negotiating or go to trial.

Hopefully, the Defendant has either hired an attorney or, if unable to afford an attorney, applied for a court appointed attorney. I am often asked if a Defendant needs an attorney and the answer is yes. I believe a person charged with a crime should try to secure the services of an attorney either by retaining an attorney or applying for a court appointed attorney.

Negotiations on cases may happen at any stage of a prosecution. What happens in the course of negotiations? A lot. During negotiations, the Defense Attorney may furnish the Prosecutor with factual information that may not have been available when the Prosecutor first reviewed the case. For instance, the Defense Attorney may provide the Prosecutor with mitigating documentation such as the Defendant's strong work history. Such information may not avoid a conviction, but it may shorten the length of a probation or jail offer by the Prosecutor. The Defense Attorney may furnish pertinent law to the Prosecutor that questions the validity of the search or stop of a Defendant. If the Prosecutor agrees there is a question, it may result in a dismissal of the case. Of course, the back and forth of negotiating works both ways. If the Prosecutor learns that the Defendant has engaged in the particular conduct (such as assault) on multiple occasions without prosecution, the original offer of probation may become a jail time offer. For example, the Prosecutor may learn that the Defendant has allegedly assaulted his girlfriend in the past and that those events were not reported to law enforcement. The Prosecutor may furnish this information to the Defense Attorney signaling the original offer should have included a jail time component and, with the new information, the new offer includes jail time. The Prosecutor may learn that the Defendant was previously arrested for DWI in another State - information that may not be readily available at the outset of a prosecution. With the new information, the offer of probation may be withdrawn and replaced with a jail time offer.

If no agreement is reached, a Judge or a jury will decide the case.

In the next month or two, we hope to discuss why plea bargaining exists and what would happen to the criminal justice system without plea bargaining. Hint: it takes the chance out of a potential result and keeps the criminal justice system running.

For more information, feel free to contact John at 936 560 7789 or jfleming@co.nacogdoches.tx.us

John Fleming
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Randy Hughes Benefit August 18th at Lugnutz

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The Devil's Machine Gun

"A gossip goes around telling secrets, so don't hang around with chatterers."
(Proverbs 20:19, NLT)

Solomon's sayings have a lot to say about what we say. In fact, "tongue," "mouth," "lips," and "words" are mentioned in Proverbs almost one hundred and fifty times. That means on an average of just fewer than five times in each of the thirty-one chapters, those words occur.

"REED ALL ABOUT IT!"
by Dr. Allen Reed

Gossip is one of the concerns addressed in the Proverbs. Sometimes words like "whisperers," "backbiters," "flattery," "slander," and "tale-bearing" are used to define gossip. Gossip has been dubbed the favorite indoor sport of many who call themselves Christians. Only we don't call it gossip; we say we are "sharing prayer requests!"

Evangelist Vance Havner once said, "Gossiping prevails today. The average social meeting is made up of slander-mongers, backbiters, gossipers, epithet-slingers, tattlers, and busybodies. They rip everybody who is not there up the back, and if some sister should come to church with a hat that belonged to last year's styles then in their judgment her chances of heaven are small. A lashing tongue is the devil's machine gun."

Gossip is the only thing that travels faster than e-mail. Why must the phrase, "It's none of my business," always be followed by the word "but"? The mouth is part of the body. It has thirty-two teeth, but only one tongue. Perhaps there is a reason. Maybe God gave us thirty-two teeth, two eyes, and a mouth that we may chew more than we could swallow, and see more than we could tell. The apostle Paul listed the five different organs of the body that are the most common vehicles of sin (throat, tongue, lips, mouth, and feet – *Romans 3:13-15*). We can understand why four of them relate to speech.

On a windswept hill in an English country-churchyard stands a drab slate tombstone. The faint etching reads:

Beneath this stone, a lump of clay,
Lies Arabella Young,
Who, on the twenty-fourth of May,
Began to hold her tongue.

James 3:8 reads, "But no man can tame the tongue. It is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison." There are many who will not gain control over their tongues until they, like Arabella, lie cold in the ground. But there is hope! No one can tame the tongue, but Jesus can.

There once was a madman in the land of Gadara. Often the calm of the evening was torn by his cry. The Bible tells us that "no man could tame him" (*Mark 5:3*). One day this man met Jesus. Jesus cast the unclean spirit out of the man. The untamable had been tamed. Luke 8:39 says that the man "went his way and proclaimed throughout the whole city what great things Jesus had done for him."

What about you? Perhaps you have a careless tongue. Let Jesus tame it. The secret of a governable tongue is not self-control but Christ-control.

A LITTLE HUMOR: The late R. G. LeTourneau, owner of a large earth-moving equipment company headquartered in Longview, Texas, told this story: "We used to have a scraper known as the model 'G'. Somebody asked one of our salesmen one day what the 'G' stood for. The salesman, after thinking a few seconds, replied, "Well, I guess the 'G' stands for gossip, because like gossip, this machine moves a lot of dirt and moves it fast."

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Another Chapter in “Real Tales of the Texas Highway Patrol”



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APPLEBY, TEXAS, SPRING, 1975. It is midnight and I have been riding with TEXAS HIGHWAY PATROLMAN, JAMES A. MOORE. We had just stopped by the Nacogdoches County Sheriff’s Dispatch and were about to call it a night when the phone rang. As the dispatcher was on another line, I answered, “Nacogdoches County Sheriff’s Office.” The caller began yelling loudly, “It’s bad up here, send help to Appleby now!! The driver is hurt and penned in his truck and it is upside down!” James and I ran out the door of the Sheriffs Office and jumped into his car. We were northbound to Appleby and were running “10-33” (lights and siren.)

At the SO, the dispatcher was calling the Nacogdoches Fire Department and the ambulance service. James and I had no clue of what we were headed to, but we knew it sounded bad and we were wasting no time in getting there. James’ speedometer was showing 120 miles per hour as we topped a little rise in the road about two miles south of Appleby. In front of us a nightmare appeared in the middle of US 59—we were suddenly looking at thirty to forty large Brahman cows running south down the middle of the highway!! I will never forget what I saw- they were running in a “V” and they were all following their leader just as geese fly!

What I saw James do next was a testimony to his excellent driving skills and it is burned into my memory. He immediately whipped the steering wheel HARD to the left and then to the right....driving around all of the cows and never losing control of his car! Driving around the cattle, we continued to the wreck. We had no idea that the wreck we were responding to was a double decked cattle truck loaded with 70 wild Brahman cows straight from the Florida Everglades.....and they were all loose on Highway US 59 in downtown Appleby!

After steering around the livestock, James never missed a beat and calmly said, “Roger, get on the radio and tell the Dispatcher to warn the Fire Department and Ambulance Service about the cattle!” This I did, but one Fire Truck still managed to hit one bull.

James and I got to the wreck and found the driver trapped by his foot in the nearly upside truck. As it took the Fire Department several minutes to free him, thank goodness there had been no sign of fire.

QUESTION: What does a TEXAS HIGHWAY PATROLMAN do when he needs help with 70 frightened head of livestock loose on his Highway? ANSWER: Pray for a rodeo to be close by!! And there was, you see this was Thursday night of the annual NACOGDOCHES RODEO. Knowing that thirty to forty cowboys were still at the CARABAN RESTAURANT down the road below the Garrison Y, he had a call placed to them and they reponded with trucks, trailers, and their horses! Mid morning the next day cowboys were still working hard to catch every head of livestock that had escaped.

CONCLUSION: I have ridden thousands of miles with Highway Patrolmen since 1970, and they were all at the top of their field when it comes to driving. Their speedometers routinely saw 125 to 135 mph, (imagine what it takes going from a stopped position to catching a car going 100 mph in the opposite direction) but James’ driving that night is totally unforgettable!

About two years ago, Leah and I visited with James and his wife, Joyce Ross Moore, at a restaurant here in Nacogdoches. He was becoming ill and an accurate diagnosis had not yet been made. When I brought up memories of that long ago night on 59, a huge smile crossed his face, because he knew he had been a heck of a driver and he knew he had “done good” that night !!

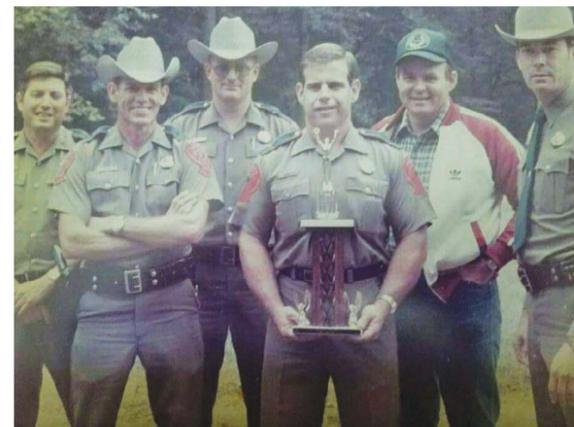
Retired TEXAS HIGHWAY PATROLMAN and SHELBY COUNTY SHERIFF, JAMES A. MOORE, lost his intense battle with the crippling ALS on JUNE 12, 2018. As one of his former Nacogdoches County partners in the TEXAS HIGHWAY PATROL, and also a retired SHERIFF, Joe Evans, said it best on hearing of his death, “HE WAS A HELL OF A HIGHWAY PATROLMAN!” Yes he was, Joe! RIP JAMES MOORE, September 28, 1944 to June 12, 2018.



James A. Moore, Texas Highway Patrolman.



Texas Highway Patrolmen and their Sergeant. From the left: James Moore, David Wiesner, Sgt. D.K. Johnson.



DPS Pistol Team. From the left: David Fischer, James Moore, Gerald Corbell, David Amos, Tom Mattox, Captain Wayne Pullen.

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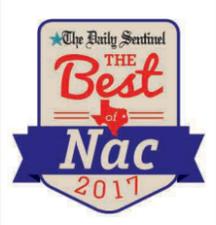
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Miss Maxine

by Jerry Permenter

I never really liked school. I mostly wanted to run like a savage all over the pines of East Texas, rubbing red clay warpaint on my face and scouting for arrowheads, but Mama was having none of that. Early on, I'd sometimes walk slow and try to miss the school bus, and then see it pulling away and make a half-hearted dash to pretend I was missing it. For the roadside neighbors' sake, I'd sometimes hang my head and pretend I was sad, in case they talked to Mama later.

Those days I came back home, Ma would make me stay in, do chores and then read a school book. I don't think she understood the full intention of missing a school day. There was no creek roaming or pine straw fort building once Ma got on your tail. She made sure you'd want to be on the very next bus pulling out.

But some teachers were wonderful, and I remember a few with great fondness. Mrs. Maxine Bass taught 3rd and 4th grade at our tiny country school when I was in 1st grade, and she'd often be invited to our classroom to tell stories. She was a magnificent storyteller, and reminded me of my own Granny Gibbs. Short and matronly, she wore a brooch on her dress sometimes, and wore glasses like my Granny did as well. I thought she was smart and one of the kindest people I'd met in my life until then. She gave us her full attention and treated us with respect, early on.

Miss Maxine, as we called her at school, would take a seat in front of our classroom, settle in and then tell us a story of her growing up, a tale of Brer' Rabbit, or lead us in singing, "Go tell Aunt Rhody, Go tell Aunt Rhody, Go tell Aunt Rhody, the old grey goose is dead." I never wanted her to leave the room and would've been at school every day if she had been my teacher.

Ms. Maxine kept her arms and heart open for all of us country school kids. She did not fake affection, and we knew it. Most of us simply idolized her, as she was like a Mama away from home. She'd get tickled at us, and try to conceal her glee but we knew her heart was truly in her work. She loved us, and we adored her.

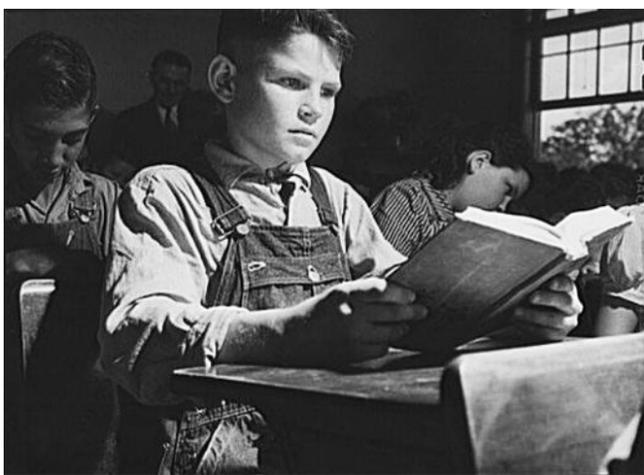
One day, our first and second grade teacher came into our small classroom, with maybe 12 kids total in the first and second grades. I was one of only four kids in the first grade. Our teacher said Miss Maxine had gone into the hospital, and had died suddenly from stomach cancer. I couldn't believe it, couldn't stop crying, nor could anyone else, as she was a beloved figure among the students and all her peers. I remember seeing my teacher crying too, and I felt even worse, because I also wanted Miss Maxine to be my teacher when I finally reached third grade. My heart was crushed and that early loss I never forgot.

I think it's important we truly sort out how we hope to be remembered, if we have the luxury of getting older. A teacher like Miss Maxine taught me lessons not only as she did her job, but as she lived her life. She radiated love for her students and the love she kindled in our young hearts for her remains with me to this day. After her death, whenever the school bus passed her house before getting to the schoolyard, I'd look out at her green cottage on the corner, with its spring daffodils coming up, and weep at the memory of such a dear, sweet woman. I felt even then, though I had a new teacher the next year, my heart was already older.

If I can have just one child in my life who remembers me as fondly as I recall Mrs. Maxine Bass, I will have lived it very well indeed. Here's to all teachers past and present, who work so hard, and love with all their heart.



Jerry Permenter was born in East Texas and grew up in Nacogdoches County. He is transitioning to creative writing, with a memoir, "Red Dirt Boy" to be released in 2018. You can follow Jerry on FaceBook at Red Dirtboy or on instagram as @thereddirtboy.



A San Augustine, Texas schoolboy in his classroom, early 1940s.



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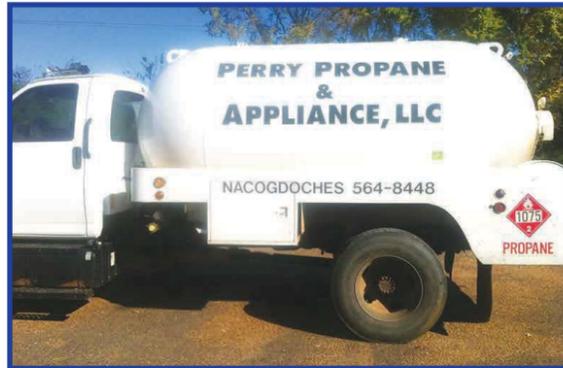
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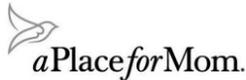
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Puzzle solutions on Page 22.

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Angela's
Monthly Recipe

Fried Green Tomatoes

Angela Bradford is the owner/ operator of Appleby Sand Mercantile Café in Nacogdoches.

Ingredients:
 2 large green tomatoes sliced 1/4 in thick
 2 eggs beaten
 1/2 cup oil (or crisco if you can have it);
 may need more according to tomatoes

Breading:
 1/2 cup flour
 1/2 cup corn meal
 1/2 teaspoon onion salt
 1/2 teaspoon pepper
 Mix all together for breading



Instructions:
 Slice green tomatoes to the desired thickness - thin and crispy or thick and meaty. Lightly salt and let drain on a cooling rack, like you use for cookies, for about 1 hour then rinse the salt off (this will dehydrate the tomatoes and make for a more crispy tomato). Next dip each slice in beaten eggs then in breading. Turn oil to a medium heat. Let the oil get hot. Place tomatoes face down in oil and get golden brown, piercing tomatoes with fork while frying. Do this for each slice. Pick up each tomato with a spatula to drain. Place each tomato slice on paper towel to drain further.

Puzzle solutions.

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LIVING

How to Create and Spread Hope in Your Daily Life

(StatePoint) With seemingly constant negative news reports telling of school shootings, suicides and more, you may feel like there is little to feel hopeful about these days, but experts say that having hope can be a powerful tool in good times and bad.

“Whether you’ve lost a job or a loved one, or you’re experiencing general feelings of despair, hope can give you strength and renew your potential and purpose,” says Dr. Rosalind Tompkins, founder of the National Month of Hope. “Finding hope in everyday challenges is the first step to creating a solution.”

To help you find hope in your life, as well as spread hope to others, Dr. Tompkins, a recognized “Hopeologist” and life coach offers the following advice.

- **Take a Hope Break.** Schedule five minute “hope breaks” into your normal routine. Find a quiet place, take five to 10 deep breaths and think about good things happening, instead of the worst-case scenario. Make an affirmation and speak it out loud. Repeat as often as needed.
- **Take Action.** Set goals and move forward, focusing on results. Surround yourself with people who believe in you and your progress.
- **Volunteer.** Spread hope to your community by giving time, food and money to those in need. Whether you clean up a local park, read to children in schools or volunteer in a food pantry, you’ll be spreading hope to those who need it, which can help you feel more hopeful too.
- **Have a Chat.** Is there someone in your life who needs hope? Prepare yourself for a conversation with that person by turning on your own belief that things can get better. Start the conversation with something like, “I care about you and wanted to check in with you to see how things are going.” Ask them to share what they are going through and be prepared to listen. Let them know that you are there for them and reinforce feelings of hope.
- **Get Involved.** In the spirit of spreading positivity, Dr. Tompkins has a goal of seeing 10,000 “Hope Connections” take place throughout 2018. After talking about hope with a loved one, you can share your story by joining the conversation online using #HopeChallenge. To learn more about the movement to make 2018 the Year of Hope, visit makeahopeconnection.com.

While despairing often comes naturally in times of personal and public crisis, consider empowering yourself to move forward by adopting a hopeful attitude.

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MONUMENT CORNER

One-half block from last month’s James Dill Monument is a monument in front of the First United Methodist Church at 201 East Hospital Street. This monument reads as follows:

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF NACOGDOCHES

AT LEAST ONE METHODIST SERMON WAS PREACHED IN NACOGDOCHES BEFORE 1821, ACCORDING TO TRADITION. AFTER RELIGIOUS FREEDOM WAS ESTABLISHED BY THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS, MISSIONARY LITTLETON FOWLER (1803-1846) PREACHED HERE ON OCT. 16, 1837, AND SOON FOUNDED THIS CHURCH. THIS WAS THE FIRST PROTESTANT CONGREGATION ORGANIZED IN NACOGDOCHES AFTER THE TEXAS WAR FOR INDEPENDENCE. IT Began AS AN 18-MEMBER “METHODIST SOCIETY.” VOLUNTEERING FOR SERVICE IN TEXAS, THE REV. SAMUEL A. WILLIAMS CAME HERE FROM TENNESSEE IN 1838 AS THE FIRST PASTOR. BY 1850, THE METHODISTS WERE KNOWN AS THE MOST ACTIVE PROTESTANTS IN THE TOWN; BY 1860 THERE HAD BEEN 12 OR MORE SUCCESSIVE PASTORS. AFTER MEETING IN HOMES AND OTHER PLACES, THIS CONGREGATION BUILT A CHURCH ACROSS THE STREET FROM THIS SITE IN 1860. A LARGER FRAME CHURCH, BUILT IN 1887 ON THIS SITE, WAS LOST IN A FIRE IN 1907. A BRICK BUILDING WAS ERECTED IN 1910.

IN 1925 THIS CONGREGATION PARTICIPATED IN THE



Photo by James Aston

FOUNDING OF PERRITTE MEMORIAL METHODIST CHURCH, ON THE WEST SIDE OF THE CITY. IN 1929 IT HELPED ESTABLISH A BIBLE CHAIR AT STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE TEACHERS’ COLLEGE (LATER A STATE UNIVERSITY). THE PRESENT CHURCH BUILDING WAS COMPLETED IN

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