



~ S E N T I N E L ~



LCRC Executive Board



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This Day in American History
Who Said This?

President's Message:

"Courage Is Contagious" Pass it on.



A Time for Choosing

Rarely have the stakes been higher or the contrast more clear than in the 2012 election. Of the credible Republican candidates still in the race, all would be a vast improvement over what we have had to deal with these last few years. But this does not mean we can just throw a dart at the board.

As important as retiring Mr. Obama is, our task does not end there. Much of the debris from his Constitution shredding administration will have to be cleared out before the job of restoring this nation to a Constitutional Republic can begin. In choosing a candidate, we must select one who can lead this charge.

As destructive as this President has been, one man alone will not be capable of righting the ship of state. He will need the assistance of the most dedicated, constitutional conservatives in both the House and Senate. We must consider this in choosing candidates for all offices.

Observe closely, all the candidates in this election. Can you envision them doing the work of the office they seek? Will they work in concert to do what must be done? Do their positions on issues support this work? Is their history consistent with their positions? Are their plans doable and are the results predictable?

We can no longer just choose a candidate and declare our job to be done. We cannot just expect our candidate to win. We must be part of the victory. We must work for and support the candidate. We must influence others on his behalf.

Even in victory there will be no rest. We must support the most conservative ideas as they work their way through the government. We have more than a vote; we have a voice. When we find the right people for these jobs, we must replace them before a government-grown-too-large corrupts them. We will have to do this until the Constitution once again constrains this bloated government. Liberty requires effort. Anything worthwhile does.

God bless these United States.

Greg Bowen

The Lake Country Republican Club Meets every fourth Tuesday of the month at the library here in Quitman, Texas at 6 PM



Minutes of the Meeting
Lynn AronSpeer
Lake Country Republican Club
General Meeting Minutes
January 24th, 2012

The LCRC met at the Quitman Library, Goode Street, Quitman, TX. At 6:05 PM our president, Greg Bowen, called the meeting to order.

Joyce Spencer led the prayer and Dr. Marvel led the pledges.

President Bowen recognized the following elected officials present: Sheriff Bill Wansley, Constables Steve Bowser and Ed Shadbolt, County Chair Helen Heavey, and Precinct Chair Sara Phillips.

Following were Committee Reports:

Minutes for November, 2011 were approved as written.

Treasurer, Gene Shoemaker, was absent but no checks had been written since November.

Membership, Joanna Bowen, announced \$10 dues for annual membership are now due.

Publicity, Terrell AronSpeer announced the formation of an essay contest on the Constitution; further details and award amounts to follow.

Hospitality, Janice Logan, announced her report was in the Sentinel.

County Chair, Helen Heavey, announced the date of the Lincoln Day Dinner to now be March 9th at Fore Seasons Restaurant, Holly Lake, at 6:30 PM; tickets are \$20/each and available at HQ.

Program:

Several people, representing ETMC, spoke on behalf of the new hospital to be built adjacent to the existing building but to contain 25 private rooms replacing the existing 25 semi-private rooms, a state of the art ER and two Operating Rooms. Speakers were W. Perry Henderson, Sr. Administrator ETMC Longview, Warren Robicheaux, new Administrator of ETMC Quitman, Dr. Beverly Wadleton, DO & Family Medicine ETMC Quitman, and Nurse Teresa Meeks, also of ETMC Quitman. All assured us there would be no increased tax burden on the district and that all revenues would be generated by the health care system and the increased draw of patients from Mineola. We were told to anticipate a ground breaking ceremony in mid-March of 2012; proposed completion is June 2013.



Next LCRC Meeting will be February 28th, 2012; program will be Sheriffs' Forum.

The meeting was adjourned but someone else should advise your secretary of the time as she is miserable at it.

Submitted by

Lynn AronSpeer, Secretary





Membership:

Lake County Republicans,

January's meeting was well attended, and we also now have 18 members who have renewed their memberships. Please remember to renew your membership soon. Dues remain \$10 a year.

Joanna Bowen



LCRC February 28th Meeting

Program Notes: Sheriff's Republican Primary Election Forum

Featuring: Jim Brown
Dwaine Daugherty
Sheriff Bill Wansley

LCRC Meets on the 28th this month. What else happened on this date in American History?

1854 ~ The Republican Party was organized.

This may have been the last date for which this was true.

LCRC meets in the Quitman Library at 6 PM. Enter on the east side toward the back.

Treasurers Report:



Bank balance \$1689.16

Submitted by: Gene Shoemaker, Treasurer

Hospitality:

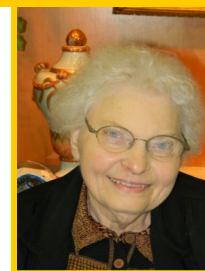
A sympathy card was sent to Shirley Haskins who's car was totaled in an accident.

To report hospitality issues:

Contact Janice Logan at 223 County Road 1961, Yantis, 75497, ~OR~ phone 903-383-3247, cell # 903-850-3267.

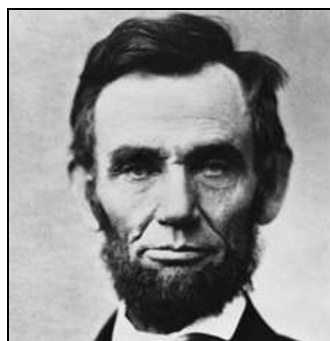
Thank you.

Janice Logan, Hospitality Chair





**THE WOOD COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY
INVITES YOU TO ATTEND:**



The Annual Lincoln Day Dinner

To be held Friday, March 9th at 6:30PM

At the Fore Seasons Restaurant

Holly Lake Ranch



Featured Guest Speaker: The Honorable Brian Hughes.

Tickets are \$20 each or you may wish to purchase a table which seats 8 for \$160.

Tickets may be purchased from officers of your Republican club, your Precinct Chair or from the editor of this newsletter. Tickets will also be available at Republican Headquarters (903) 763-4671 across from the court house here in Quitman and at Rep. Bryan Hughes' Office (903) 569-8880 in Mineola.



Editorial Page:

Shut Up and Sit Down

Seldom do I get to write about an event so close. Usually, I write about some item in the national news. Well this incident won't be "in the news." But it happened to us - Lake Country Republicans, here in Quitman. But this is more about human nature than it is about Quitman, or Republicans.



The hospital district sent in their big guns to answer our concerns about the funding of the new hospital here. The inspiration for this editorial starts with a heroic act by my friend, Pat. We all witnessed it. No, he did not slay a dragon or pull the baby from the burning building. He simply pointed out that which made us all uncomfortable. Most of us were too uncomfortable, or too polite to mention it. Upon hearing we were getting a new hospital "for free," Pat commented, "I guess we're all Democrats now."

Human nature tells us to be quiet, not to make waves, to be polite. However, little worthwhile in life is accomplished until we overcome our nature. I am reminded of Ronald Reagan when he uttered the famous phrase, "Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall." Most of us are familiar with the story which has Reagan inserting the line in the speech many times only to have his speech writers take it out each time. They were just being polite and non-confrontational. This is human nature. Reagan put the line back in *again* in pencil in route to the Brandenburg Gate. Reagan overcame his nature and the advice of a number of highly paid consultants and speech writers. These events are often memorable. So was Pat's shining moment.

Human nature is seduced by the word, "free." We do not really believe in *free*, but we hope, at least we believe in the possibility of *free*. Intellectually we know there is no *free*, but we experience it often enough that we get a little excited. We know that even though there is no *free*, sometimes there is "*free for us*." It's like found money. We know someone is missing that money, but for us, it is free, good luck in a zero-sum game. The more obscure the loser, the more remote the possibility that we could find the actual owner of the money, the better it is for us. It actually impairs our ability to locate the true owner. If we actually make the effort and find the true owner, we feel good about ourselves. But if we just turn it over to some bureaucrat thinking they will find the owner, often we have misgivings. Does the money just wind up in the bureaucrat's pocket or do all the bureaucrats just split it up at the end of the evening? Even though the money does not belong to us, we feel a little cheated. We feel like a "chump."

We were told that the "system" will pay for the new hospital. The "system" is wonderfully obscure. Can't return *that* money; there is no "who" in a system. We feel like we got away with something. Yes, maybe we should just be quiet and consider ourselves lucky. Yet, intellectually we know someone is going to pay. This money will be taken from

Atheism is a non-prophet organization.

someone, from the now higher fees taken in by the hospital system or even by fiat money printed by "that other system" which makes the price of everything for everybody just a little higher. These contractors do not work for free and we all know that a medical brick costs more than the brick on our own house. But, "Don't look a gift horse in the mouth." I think there might have been a peep hole in the mouth of that Trojan horse so the soldiers could see when they had been pulled into the city. Yes, we are all Trojans now.

One of our guests suggested, "I think you would be a little more grateful, getting this wonderful new hospital for free." Our human nature tells us to shut up and sit down before we ruin it. I guess this is what it feels like to be a Democrat, scurrying off with something we do not feel we deserve and hoping we do not get caught. Is this what Pat was referring to when he said, "I guess we are all Democrats now?" But the man was a guest, and he did say "free." We should just be quiet. I know my Grandmother told me to be differential to guests. I was not to question or make them feel uncomfortable. I learned this lesson well and apparently so have the rest of us. But I also remember her telling me, when I was the guest, to "eat what I was served." No one wants to hear, "You are just too polite," but there are worse criticisms, and I fear this may be the case for many East Texans.

We must learn to recognize that when we hear the phrase, "I think you would be a little more grateful . . ." that we are being told to shut up and sit down. If we do shut up and sit down, we are complicit, we are sanctioning whatever we are being told to be quiet about. If, as a guest, I were to tell my host that they should be more grateful (to shut up and sit down) about whatever, my Grandmother would have popped me good. But, there is such a thing as overly polite. We should be on guard. We were right to ask the questions we did and to this day, I am not sure we were given satisfactory answers. I still do not know where the money will come from. Is everyone in Texas just going to be out a dollar? Will Medicare patients get a test they do not need? Will hospital fees go still higher? Will the tax payers eventually foot the bill?

Some may have thought me rude when one of our guests started lecturing us about the *glories* of "Obama care." After all, she was a guest. But she was not a *guest lecturer* and I did not feel we should be lectured *by* her. Besides, she was way wrong, and each of us knew it. I know if, as a guest, I had tried that, my Grandmother would have popped me good. No republic was ever saved by the good people who shut up and sat down. The phrase "overly polite" has a basis in fact. We may have to overcome our nature in this regard. I guess I could have been more tactful. Pat's use of humor was inspired. We could all learn from him. I will try to be more tactful, but most of us need to learn we do not need to shut up and sit down, even if it seems like the polite thing to do. The cost is just too dear. No, Pat, I am not a Democrat - not yet.

I guess those Catholics should shut up and sit down too. I mean, after all, they are now getting all that abortion and contraception stuff free. It doesn't matter that they don't want it or even find it objectionable. IT'S FREE. What don't they understand about FREE? I guess they are just free dumb.



Write Fast



One of the things that came out of the SENTINEL Survey I conducted in December, was that readers, at least some, enjoyed my political analysis. This does not necessarily mean they agreed with it. Last month's 'Letters to the Editor' settled that question. In the paragraphs below, you will find my analysis of the electability of each of the remaining candidates. I should stipulate that this is being written after the Florida Debates but before the Florida Primary and before Frank Luntz's "Florida Primary Preview," tonight. I will go over each candidate in order of their current Florida polling numbers, so I better write fast.

Mitt Romney ~ is the "establishment candidate." This term cries out for definition. We all use it and we all know what it means but it needs to be articulated:

The "Republican Establishment" consists of senior and incumbent Republican elected officials, who speak wistfully of smaller government, but for decades have unapologetically participated in government expansion. This is the source of the frustration of so many rank and file Republican voters.

As a candidate, while in the lead, Mitt has presented himself with workmanlike skills. He comes across as the consummate bean counter giving overly technical answers to policy questions. His answers to questions of Republican philosophy are more nuanced than principled. He comes across as a competent manager and can point to a number of successes in both the private and public sectors to support this perception. He is the candidate who understands all there is to know about the inner-workings of the economy.

When down in the polls, Mitt has proved to be an unprincipled street fighter. He does not just seek to point out his opponents' failings, he makes them up. For the most part he does this behind the smoke screen of Political Action Committees or PACs.

While ahead in the polls, Mitt looks like the guy you could trust with that thing you don't really understand, the economy. In debates, his victories come on points and personality. He looks comfortably Presidential and knowledgeable about the unknowable. This is quintessentially "establishment." 'Just vote for me and go back to sleep.' Am I alone in thinking we have done this before and have awakened to find we did not like the results? While down in the polls, Mitt becomes the attack dog, although crafty in his execution, he is a one trick pony who throws massive amounts of money at the problem in hopes of making his opponent look like Jeffrey Dahmer's psychopathic brother. 'Mitt's bound to be better than that.' I think he is, but how does this translate into a race against Obama?

Is it possible to believe that Mitt can out-spend, out-nasty, or out-lie this President. The only way I see this approach as beating the Obama machine is if Mitt comes out on top and stays there by the sheer weight of his personality. The economy will have to remain in the tank for another year. When asked on a talk show if the economy is not getting better, Mitt said, "Of course it is getting better. It always gets better." If Mitt cedes the economy issue before the campaign even gets started, what has he got? On other issues there is just not enough apparent distance between Romney and Obama. What little there is defines his nuanced positions. All of which come from the Rockefeller wing. The impression that Mitt is the most electable comes from current poll numbers. I doubt these will hold up during a political campaign.



Newt Gingrich ~ is the “insurgent candidate.” Wait a minute, wasn’t he in the House forever and did he not set up shop on K Street? While this is true, they are not mutually exclusive. This term might also benefit from some definition:

A “Republican Insurgent Candidate” is a fundamentalist Republican going back to first principles of fiscal responsibility and limited government. He/she will be more likely to bring new policy initiatives in line with this fundamentalism than to embrace the Republican establishment’s policy du jour.

Admittedly, even this broad definition is sometimes too confining for Newt. But Newt has presented himself as a visionary. Early on, when it did not matter, he was Presidential and even magnanimous to his fellow candidates. He displayed inspirational rhetorical skill and a mastery of debate. But since the last Iowa debate, Newt has been engulfed in a withering Mitt Storm. It has been enlightening to see how Newt handles this as the attack by Obama’s flying monkeys will be exponentially worse. Even Newt has admitted he does not know how to debate “someone who is willing to lie right to your face.” Has he never seen this President in action? In an earlier State of the Union speech given by Obama, in a joint session of congress, the word “liar” was heard ringing throughout the hall. It was the only honest word spoken that night.

Additionally we have witnessed bouts of hubris when Newt’s poll numbers have risen. Personally, I think Newt has benefited from getting rid of his handlers. All honest politicians should do this. But someone, Callista perhaps, should rein in his burgeoning ego. Also Newt’s criticism of Mitt’s brand of capitalism has raised eyebrows in the conservative community. It sounds like a prelude to a rather subjective regulation. This is a cause of concern. And, here lately, Newt has been floating a new term: “conservative populism.” This term could be used as an example for the word “oxymoron.” Populism at its best is for the “little guy”; at its worst is an assault on the successful. Criticism of the “big guy” is implied by the favoritism heaped on the “little guy.” There is nothing conservative about populism. Newt should run from this term before it explodes in his face. So how does this bring a Republican victory against Obama?

Newt has admitted he does not know how to debate a liar. Yet debate is his strong suit. Reagan brushed off this sort of attack with the catch phrase, “There you go again.” I think we would all welcome a little plagiarism here. We all fantasize about a Gingrich/Obama debate where Obama is reduce to a Presidential pudding. Either Newt quickly figures out how to debate liars or the rest of us better bunker up fast.

Rick Santorum ~ is as close to a Dark Horse Candidate as we have.

A “Dark Horse Candidate” is one who comes from the back of pack and is found to have many of the strengths of the leading candidates with few of their negatives.

Rick is a true conservative. You will hear him called a “social conservative” in an attempt to marginalize him as a national candidate. In case you have not noticed, the press *and* the establishment are all trying to cram “Mittens” down our throat. Rick is a conservative on all issues. Do you think he is a reckless spender or a national security apologist? His debate performances have improved greatly as we have gone through the process. I doubt he will ever be as good as Newt in this venue, but I believe he may come close. He will continue to get better; we have already seen Newt at his best.

The real issue for Rick is electability. The last time an out of work Senator was able to take the White House, was Abraham Lincoln. The parallels do not end there. Abe was a Republican



fundamentalist too. Both had deeply held beliefs about the sanctity of life and the inviolability of our God given liberty. Lincoln grew into the campaign and into the Presidency at the most troubled time in our history. I believe Rick would too. If the people of this good nation would vote for Obama rather than for Rick Santorum, I would have sincere doubts as to whether they deserved this great country. The problem is we are all swimming in this same soup. We are all circling the same drain and we will all go down together. A vortex does not discriminate.

What does this mean for a Santorum candidacy? He has many of the positives and few of the negatives of the two leading candidates. We would be pitting a true Dark Horse against a half of a horse. Santorum is a natural for Tea Party support. But it would be an act of faith for voters to nominate him. It would be imperative for those same voters to support his campaign in every way. We would be equally informed by a win as a loss. Gingrich said he wanted voters to be *with* him not *for* him. There is a lot of wisdom in this statement. If we do not get this, we are without hope. This statement would apply doubly to a Santorum campaign.

Now when I fail to mention Ron Paul, I receive a lot of criticism, yet his supporters seldom like what I have to say. Let me see if I can provide more evidence for this claim.

Ron Paul ~ is the Dennis Kucinich of the Republican Party. I think Dennis Kucinich is self defining. He is the crazy uncle in the attic. He is completely unelectable. Even if you worship the man, your powers of observation should be sufficient to bring you to this conclusion. So am I speaking of Dennis Kucinich or Ron Paul? That this is a question only proves my assertion. Also true of both candidates, the bulk of his support comes from youth, still waiting for wisdom. We hope it comes soon, before it is too late. See? I said you would not like it.

So where is your humble editor, an admitted, ardent Newt Gingrich supporter, on this election? I would gladly vote for Santorum and hope that Newt would be among a number of respected presidential advisors in his administration. It would be a gamble in that getting him elected would be challenging. Are you up to the challenge? I would gladly vote for Gingrich and would hope that his trusted advisor and perhaps VP, Rick Santorum, could rein him in when necessary. Ideally, Rick and Newt should meet and come to an agreement. I would have hoped this could be accomplished before the Florida primary. Now, this is unlikely. I pray for a speedy recovery for Bella and I worry what Providence has in store for us.

I would hold my nose and vote for Romney as the lesser of two weasels. Actually, I was a Romney supporter in 2008, and I cannot tell you how disappointed I am in his burn-down-the-mission tactics. He might have enough money to bury the Gingrich campaign, but he will certainly be on the receiving end in a race against Obama. Hoisted on his own petard as they say. On voting day, in some Bizarro World in which Ron Paul could be nominated for President, I would spend the day digging a tank trap in my front lawn. I would advise you to do so as well.

And Then:

We went into Florida with four candidates, all but one of which had won a single contest. It was in all respects a three way tie. Don't fret, I'll cover the odd man out a little later in this piece. Romney then took Florida and immediately on its heels, Nevada. We went from 1-1-1-0 with the race wide open, to 3-1-1-0 and a race "all but sewn up," or so we were told by the Romney ramming media. But last night, Tuesday the 7th, if you could stay up that late and put up with FNC's inability to put together a score board, we witnessed Rick Santorum's clean sweep of three states making the new number 4-3-1-0 with Santorum in the lead. This was a neat trick





considering his third in Florida and a dead last in Nevada. Colorado was “Romney territory” and never considered in play. Once again the landscape has totally changed.

The SENTINEL is reeling with the task of covering these events in a monthly. So does this mean we have a new front runner? Well, lets look at the current delegate count as FNC reports it:

Mitt Romney	107
Rick Santorum	45
Newt Gingrich	32
Ron Paul	9

Even these numbers are not as informative as we would like. These are calculated from the vote. Some states will award delegates in this fashion. Some will award delegates at the state convention being informed, but not driven by the vote. In caucus states, delegates are chosen after the vote, after most voters have gone home, much as we do in precinct conventions. Apparently, due to the high standards for civics instruction in the public schools, no one but Ron Paul supporters seem to be aware of this and they did not know until Ron Paul told them. Ron Paul will receive many more delegates than the 9 listed above. Correspondingly, other candidates will receive fewer. And this is Ron Paul’s not so secret strategy to gain influence. Imagine a scenario going into the convention where Romney has 48% of the delegates, Santorum has 30%, Gingrich has 18% and Ron Paul has 4%. Gingrich immediately funnels all of his support to Santorum making his delegate count equal to Romney’s, but neither candidate has over 50%. What favor could Ron Paul extract for his delegates? And that, my friend, is politics.

Add to this the “open primary” rules now applied in many states, and one becomes wistful for the smoke filled back room of yore. To me, it makes magnitudes more sense that Republican candidates be chosen by Republicans rather than by the public at large. Each party should rise and fall on the quality of candidates their political philosophy forwards. This will never happen with open primaries. We should embrace any opportunity to return sanity to this process.

What’s next? I suspect we will soon find out a lot of nasty things about Rick Santorum. Most, if not all, will be untrue. And most will be delivered to us by a manipulative media or PACs supporting Mitt Romney but apparently totally uncontrollable by him.

There is no inevitability to this race. Even as late as a Texas Primary may be (thanks to the vindictiveness of Joe Straus) we will have a say. It is possible that Texas may have two primaries, one for national candidates (President and Senator) and one for state-wide (US Representatives from Texas) and local races. The additional expense should come out of Joe Strauss’s bank account.

Early on, the SENTINEL suggested that Gingrich should stay in if only to make better debaters out of the other candidates. He has done this. If he can become less negative, he should continue or, if at the end of Super Tuesday it is apparent he cannot be the nominee, he should endorse Santorum and step out of the race. Ron Paul is not stepping down. He should continue to offer comic relief and an occasional lucid moment of Constitutional instruction. I believe this race may come down to Romney vs. Santorum. I only ask that in considering which candidate to support, you give some consideration to how each candidate would govern. It is not just about who can best beat Obama. The question is, who can best restore America to its former greatness. This will be my candidate.

NEWS FLASH ~ This just in - Romney takes Maine. The race is now 4-4-1-0. Try to keep up.

SHE PUT A BULLET



Quick Comments:

Every one should pay his fair share or at least that is what they always start out saying. But quite predictably, the next thing you hear is a plan to soak the rich. Personally, I do not know any rich people but I assume they are lovely people. The truth is that the top 1% of earners pay 38% of the tax revenues. The top 5% pay about 60% of the tax revenues and the top 10% pay 70%. Interestingly, the bottom 48% pay no taxes (that's 0% for you Democrats). But wait a minute; didn't they say everyone should pay their fair share. Is this an inconsistency or is American citizenship under this President worth absolutely nothing now?

The President claims he has added jobs every month of his administration. He must be thinking of all those czars because we have almost 2 million fewer people employed today than we did the day he took office. If a stock boy at a big box store had this level of math proficiency, I think he would lose his job.

Congress has proposed legislation subjecting congressmen to restrictive insider trading laws. Isn't it just like them to expect to be praised for fixing the problem they created. Congress should not be in a position to grant favors to any commercial enterprise. Kill these regulations and get congress out of the business of business.

Obama is forever ringing his hands, trying to figure out what to do about the Iranian threat to close the Straits of Hormuz. Of course his first reaction is to go all Neville Chamberlin on them. If only there was some historic precedent. Oh, wait! Didn't Reagan deal with just such a situation with Iran back in the late '80's? Didn't he put American flags on Kuwaiti tankers and escort them with the American Navy through the Straits? And did they not sweep the Iranian mines out of the Straits and blow out of the water the platform Iran used to fire Silk Worm missiles at ships in the Straits? Humm, crazy, I wonder if that would work.

The President seemed surprised when his stepped up war on religion was not heralded as the second coming. But the topping on this cake was when he sent his flying monkeys out to the talk shows to quote scripture to support his position. It looked as out of place as leggings on a trout. How could anyone possibly vote this man a second term?

Beep- -beep- -beep ~ slow it down, it's not the Road Runner; it is the Obama administration trying to back out of their assault on the Catholic Church. This is what "compromise" looks like and why we must oppose it. They treat the *principled* argument of the Catholic Church like a *financial* argument. Now the Catholic Church will not have to pay for the offensive policy, the insurance companies will. That someone is forced to pay is not the issue, when you are without principles, it only matters that it is not *you* who has to pay. This is the corruptive power of BIG GOVERNMENT. Also the precedent of the Big Government's right to intrude into and place mandates on religion is established. Most offensive to the Catholic Church is the "morning after" pill which is considered by them and others to be abortive, not just contraceptive. Obama argues that, "you have a right to contraception." It was my understanding that rights came from God, not from Obama. Are we to believe that the same God who said, "Go forth and multiply" is now saying 'look, I've seen your kids and maybe we should just put a cork in it?' Additionally, we are told this is a "health" issue, as if babies were a disease. But there is a consistency here; was it not Obama who said he did not want his girls to "catch" pregnancy? But in the end it is all about the left's ability to *dictate* to us our daily lives. Say what you will about the left, they love a good Dictator.

Letters to the Editor:

Last month, in a separate e-mail, I requested that readers share with us, what their earliest employment experiences were, and perhaps, even what they learned from the experience. This was inspired by a response from Newt Gingrich in one of the debates. With the dictate of a minimum wage law and a generally more fearful society, today's youth do not get to experience the satisfaction or the wisdom which come from what for some of us are life changing early employment experiences. Below find some of my favorites. If some of you are inspired by this to share your earliest employment experiences, e-mail them to me for publication in next months SENTINEL. terrellaronspeer@peoplescom.net

Gene writes:

At the age of 8 me and a friend planted, weeded, fertilized and hoed watermelons in Greenriver Utah, We did a whole 5 acres according to his dad. Then we sold them alongside the road which was a major highway. Two things happened that summer.

1. I learned that work pays off. We made over \$100.00 that summer.
2. Watermelons are hard work to grow, pick and sell. LOL

Evern submitted the following:

Terrell, great idea to find out about early jobs that some of us may have held. During the big war many kids were employed in jobs that could never take place today. My best early job was in 1943 and I was 11 years old. I went into an electric shop in Lubbock to see if they would hire me to sweep out. The foreman told me he needed someone to rewind small electric motors. He would teach me to do the work and pay me one dollar per day of work. This was really a big deal during that time. But the best part of this story is that I became interested in electricity and when I graduated from high school I went on to study electrical engineering at New Mexico State and worked in the electric industry all my working life. Now retired here at Holly Lake Ranch. As we use to say, "Only in America." It would really be great if our kids could have this same opportunity.

Kathleen tells us:

When I was in grade school, I had the typical '50s lemonade stand once—no success, definitely not cut out for sales. While in junior high (nobody had heard of "middle school") I babysat the neighbor's kids a few times—guess that turned out okay since one of the kids grew up to marry my dentist—and sold items from a Tom Wat kit to finance my trip to Mexico with the Foreign Language Club. But my first REAL job was when I was 17. I did accounts payable and receivable for my grandmother, who owned Bible Book Inn on S. Green Street in Longview—sent out statements to churches for their purchases of choir music and Sunday School supplies, paid the store's electric bill, etc. It was all done by typewriter (electric, thank goodness!—but without the backspace correction white-out of later models ... sigh*), electric adding machine, and the old sponge/tongue-moistened-stamp manual fold-and-stuff mailing system. ☺

Ann contributes the following:

My first paid job was a "gift-wrapper" in a gift store during the Christmas season. I was 14. Then I got a job as "typesetter" for the Sears store in Greenville, TX doing all the signage that was on the end caps of store fixtures. I worked upstairs with an old hand rolling print machine with metal typeset pieces of individual letters in different sizes. The hardest part of that job was to remember to set the type backwards (mirror image) so that, when printed, it came out the right way. I ruined more clothes on that job than any other.....except when I was a professional stripper.

(I see that raised eyebrow.) I stripped furniture for an antique dealer on the back porch of his establishment. Ha!

BUT HE'S HAD CLOSER

Letters to the Editor continued:

Sheilah claims "no one can beat these:

My sister and I received 25 cents a week in what was called an 'allowance', but it was really commission, as it was understood that we would do certain tasks in return.

These generally consisted of mowing the grass, clipping shrubs, pulling weeds, and raking the red maple leaves in the Canadian autumn, along with keeping our respective bedrooms tidy and helping with Saturday morning house-cleaning. (By the way, the lawn mower was the old manual variety.)

However, my mother kept a kitchen vegetable garden. This always included several kinds of vegetables plus a couple of rows of potato plants. Around mid-summer, the potato bugs would appear. They love to eat the leaves of the plants and are harmless otherwise. They are large and colorful - red, yellow, orange and green multi-hued.

My mother gave us each a glass jar and told us if we filled the jar with bugs, we would get 25 cents,

As I recall, there were enough bugs that my sister and I ended up with about 50 or 75 cents each! This usually ended up at the local convenience store, traded for Coca Cola and a Moon Pie.

In my high school years, my father had the franchise for two college cafeterias at Catholic colleges in Montreal, one for boys and one for girls. My sister and I worked on Saturdays at the boy's college.

My sister was curvaceous with curly auburn hair and a sparkly personality. I was taller, blonde and less forth-coming.

My sister made out like a bandit on tips from the guys.

However, one day the short order cook was ill, and I discovered I could throw down a mean hamburger. One customer asked for fried onions. I sauteed them on the grill and everybody wanted them, so our hamburger sales went through the roof. My father paid me the same rate he paid his short order cook.

But my strangest job of all came along in my second year at college. My father had a friend who owned a couple of large used car operations. On a family vacation in New York state, he had heard the American "screamer" used car radio commercials. He complained to my father that he could not find anyone who could write or produce this kind of commercial in Montreal. (Anglo-Canadians took pride in being low key, unlike those 'vulgar' Americans. Its based in an inferiority complex but that's a whole other topic.)

Working on college papers at night, I had my radio tuned to a rock station out of Buffalo NY. At 10 p.m. a disc jockey known as The Wolfman came on and he had a sponsor that used a "screamer" style used car commercial.

I told my father's friend that I could write his commercials if he could find the right announcer. I wrote it and he finally found the right announcer, a young kid. I was paid \$20 per 60 second 'spot.' My father asked how long it took me to write the commercial. I said about 20 minutes. He said, "My God, you're making a dollar a minute."

This went on for three years and I went right into a broadcasting job out of college... thence into advertising and marketing, at salaries that most women did not make in the late 1960s - all from overhearing a conversation my father had with a friend.

In those days, everyone worked. Almost all my friends in high school and college worked part time and through the summers. It never occurred to us that we would not have to work. Even kids with fairly affluent parents went to work. It was the norm and a great way to pick up skills, such as dealing with the public, that you could not learn in school. Of course, at the time, jobs were plentiful as North America grew.

Sheilah's claim, "No one can beat these" sounds like a challenge to me. Send your early employment story to the Sentinel editor at terrellaronspeer@peoplescom.net or comment on any issue covered in this newsletter.

Letters to the Editor continued:**Shirley sent us the following:**

My first job was with Southwestern Bell at age 16. I worked one of the local switchboards (yes, with the plug ins). During school I worked two nights (6:00 - 10:00PM) a week and every other weekend. In summers between school terms and later UT semesters, I worked full time. I mostly worked split shift - 10:00AM to 2:00PM, and then 6:00PM to 10:00 PM, but in the summer I occasionally worked the night shift. I rode the bus back and forth to downtown Dallas but Daddy picked me up at night. He bought me a car when I turned 17 and I drove myself, but since I had to drive through a bad part of town, he was always waiting at the gate when I got home.

I had a couple of girlfriends who also worked there the first year and we rode the bus together if we had the same shift. It was fun some of the time but could be scary when callers became angry. (Drunks liked to call the switchboard operators at night.) It was a union job that paid more than other summer jobs and eventually after I married and moved to Austin, I was able to transfer to the Accounting department and handled the payroll for South Central Texas. It was a great introduction to the working world.

Lynn adds:

When I was about six, my father tried to teach me to make change so I could perch on the front steps in the shade and watch two baskets of home grown strawberries glisten in the sun on a little stand near the side of the road. He seemed to think I was going to be hopeless at managing money my whole life because I was hesitant about counting up change. We didn't have many customers. I remember a lady stopping her car near the little stand and I quickly ran down to do my duty should it be needed. She said, "Let me have one basket," in kind of a rude and abrupt manner. I carefully lifted a basket and tried to hand it to her through the window of her car which was so tall I couldn't look through it to see her. Then she snapped, "Not that one. The other one looks better." I got her the other one but she was never going to be happy no matter how carefully I handled the basket. She gave me money. She never asked me how much and I don't remember if there was a sign on the little stand. I just took it and was glad when she sped away. My future as a salesperson probably died that day.

The summer I was ten, my girlfriend and I worked picking blueberries. It was hard work and we were paid by the box. Some older kids were filling the boxes with leaves and sticks and only covering the top with berries. We decided that was very wrong and didn't do it. We heard a lot of stuff about sex through the bushes but we didn't have any base from which to evaluate so figured they were making stuff up because they knew we were listening. We were pretty sure sex wasn't like what they were talking about. So, what we learned picking blueberries was that character was important and sex was weird and probably something to put off for a very long time!

The summer I was thirteen, I got a job in the Town Clerk's office. There was a huge book into which I got to record birth and death information. I also got to sell dog tags and fishing licenses. Only three people worked in the building: the town clerk, the chief of police and me. They insisted on having scheduled coffee breaks where they made eyes at each other while I gobbled down a giant, throat choking donut with my eyes on the floor. I knew something was going on and my presence was why more of it wasn't going on. The upside of the job was that my Uncle Charlie let me drive his big black Plymouth as soon as we were out of sight of the house. He kept a cushion in the car for me to sit on so I could see out the windshield. He would lean back and chew on his cigar while I drove. Uncle Charlie wasn't my real uncle but he was nice to me and thought I drove just fine. I never felt guilty either!

**Matt Patterson**

Matt Patterson is senior editor at the Capital Research Center and contributor to *Proud to be Right: Voices of the Next Conservative Generation* (HarperCollins, 2010). His email is mpatterson.column@gmail.com

The Price of Obama's Fairness

President Obama is big on fairness. “Fair” or some variant thereof was mentioned eight times in his State of the Union speech, more than “health care” (twice), his signature legislative accomplishment, or “spending” (three times), the nation’s most pressing problem.

Mr. Obama claims, in fact, that the issue of fairness is the “defining issue of our time.” The president gives us a stark, if fallacious, choice:

“No challenge is more urgent. No debate is more important. We can either settle for a country where a shrinking number of people do really well, while a growing number of Americans barely get by. Or we can restore an economy where everyone gets a fair shot, everyone does their fair share, and everyone plays by the same set of rules.”

Mr. Obama then laid out his prescription for creating this “fair” society - more government. New bureaucracies (a “trade enforcement unit”), more training programs, more infrastructure stimulus spending, more regulations on the financial and energy sectors and, of course, more taxes: “[W]e need to change our tax code so that people like me, and an awful lot of members of Congress, pay our fair share of taxes,” the President righteously intoned. Of course, the top 10 percent of earners already pay 70 percent of federal income taxes, a sum many people might conclude is “more than their fair share,” but never mind.

This effort to impose fairness on society by all-knowing, all-caring government functionaries has been tried many times. It never ends well, and comedian Louis C.K. tells a story that illustrates why. As Louis tells the story in one of his stand-up specials (I paraphrase here from memory), his daughter once accidentally broke one of her toys and then demanded that Louis break her sibling’s toy “to make it fair.”

Wow. From the mouths of babes, a perfect example of how the impulse to “fairness” - seemingly so benign in theory - in practice often leads to disaster.

Nature is not fair. It dispenses talent, intellect and luck unequally among the people of the world. As a result, some will always end up with more than others. When government sets out to impose “fairness” on society, it is therefore faced with a dilemma. It is impossible to make some people smarter, luckier and more talented. It is equally impossible to stop those blessings from being bestowed in the first place. The only recourse for government, then, is to destroy or confiscate the material rewards that so often accrue as a consequence of such qualities. Fairness to all then, is really punishment for many.

This is the reason political systems that have as their explicit charter the imposition of fairness often descend into totalitarianism - total government power is the only way to enforce total equality. In such a state, misery and material want will be the norm; everyone will be equally unhappy, like Louis C.K.'s two children, each with a broken toy.

We should keep all of this in mind when we hear politicians like Mr. Obama lament the "inequality" in our society, and we should always look askance at their solutions to this alleged problem. We should remember that material equality does not necessarily mean prosperity or stability. As Charles Lane noted recently in The Washington Post: "Western Europe's recent history suggests that flat income distribution accompanies flat economic growth. Which European country recorded the biggest decrease in inequality between 1985 and 2008? That would be Greece."

And we all know how well that's working out.

SENTINEL DEBATE COVERAGE

The Sentinel is suspending, for this issue, debate coverage because any coverage of debates at this time would be old news. I will say this of the most recent debates: Rick Santorum is the clear winner even when he did not win the contest most closely associated with them. Mitt Romney was clearly second. This is not criticism of Romney. Both Romney and Santorum have greatly improved their debate performance. They can thank my third place contestant, Newt Gingrich, for this improvement. Newt has been knocked off his pins by his own visceral reaction to the unfair attacks against him. This is unfortunate, but it is best we learn this now. Neither the 2012 general election nor the next presidential term will be kind to the holder of that office. Ron Paul earns a fourth place on the consistently scattered tenor of his answers and his child like view of reality.

As much as we would like to genetically engineer some combination of these candidates into one super candidate, one of these people will be our nominee. Even in the brokered convention about which many fantasize, the choice will be from among these candidates. The reason is simply that these are the only candidates about which voters have expressed any opinion. Expect Ron Paul to parlay a sparse number of delegates into big concessions if the convention is brokered.

The next debates are scheduled for February 22nd and March 1st. Both will be aired on CNN (channel 202 for subscribers of Direct TV) at 7 PM CST. As these are CNN debates, I expect the Tea Party will exert some influence as that has been the pattern so far. The Sentinel will cover the March debate in our March issue.

[Debate Schedule & Videos](#)

The SENTINEL welcomes your comments on this or any issue covered in this publication. Simply e-mail the SENTINEL at: terrellaronspeer@peoplescom.net

RWWC Report:

The Republican Women of Wood County packed the Texas Tea Room, Monday the 16th of January to honor their past leaders and founders. The RWWC was instrumental in converting Wood County into a solidly Republican area.

The RWWC is affiliated with the Texas Federation of Republican Women and meets at 11:30 AM on the third Monday of each month at the Texas Tea Room in Quitman. The next meeting will be on Monday, February 20th and will be a candidates forum. As this will be a meet and greet, February's meeting will be at 11 AM. Visitors welcome.



Vicki Leggett



Char Doonan

The Tea Party Report:

On Super Bowl Sunday, 24 patriots gathered to listen to John Mazzola, candidate for US Rep. from TX Cong. District 5 (whatever that may be) Currently occupied by Jeb Hensarling.



Attendees and candidate alike found the program to be interesting, informative and instructive. You can learn a little more about the candidate at his website at the following link:

<http://www.johnmazzola.com/>



John Mazzola

The Wood County Tea Party meets again on Sunday, March 4th at 2 PM in the Quitman library. The program will be a candidates' forum for Wood County Commissioner. Starting in April, the WCTP will meet monthly on the second Tuesday at 7 PM in the Quitman library. Visitors welcome.





Some of you may remember KrisAnne Hall as the former Federal Prosecutor from Florida who spoke at the Wood County Tea Party meeting last Year. She resigned her position as a Federal Prosecutor when told by the Obama Justice Department that she could not teach classes on the Constitution and remain a Federal Prosecutor. The **SENTINEL** applauds her decision and is pleased to offer below, her timely article regarding the Obama Administration's latest assault on Religious liberty and our First Amendment rights.

Obama's Attack on the Church - The Mark of a Tyrant

February 13, 2012

An understanding of history is the only thing that can illuminate our understanding of religious liberty. Our ignorance of history (not to mention a dangerous level of apathy) is allowing a tyrant to erode the liberty that people of faith have enjoyed for over two centuries. We believe that we have moved beyond the days of kings and serfs, yet here we are, repeating the very history our forefathers attempted to prevent us from repeating. It is exactly the same show that was played out again and again throughout the English history that gave us our founding documents, just different characters. The current tyrannical King of America is forcing the church to succumb to the rule of the sovereign in opposition to the dictates of conscience. Repeating what occurred in 1066, in 1213, in 1628, in 1641, and in 1689. Journey with me, as we roll back the clock and watch the parallels unfold.

In 1066 England, William I takes the throne and begins forcing his rule over the people of England. A people, who because of the agreement of 1041 had become accustomed to participation in their government and had established a common law they felt was fair and just for their time. William I, however had different ideas. He and his sons continued to fundamentally transform England, up until Henry I took the throne. Henry is the signer of the 1100 Charter of Liberties in which he promised to end the tyranny of his father and brother. He made a charter with the people to end all evil and oppressive practices as carried out by the crown. Interestingly enough, what the people of 1100 England felt was evil and oppressive, we might find alarmingly familiar.

Besides promising to end the evil inheritance taxes, and ensuring that lawmakers were subject to the laws they made, Henry promised to abandon the practice of requiring the ecclesiastical leaders of the Church of England to do the government's bidding. Henry made a promise to the people, that first and foremost, he would declare the church free of government interference:

*"Know that by the mercy of God and the common counsel of the barons of the whole kingdom of England I have been crowned king of said kingdom; and because the kingdom had been oppressed by unjust exactions, I, through fear of God and the love which I have toward you all, in the first place **make the holy church of God free**, ... And I take away all the bad customs by which the **kingdom of England was unjustly oppressed**;"*

But that would not end the reign of tyranny forever, because tyrants hate Liberty and *"the tree of liberty must be refreshed from time to time with the blood of patriots & tyrants. It is its natural manure."* T. Jefferson

In 1213, John is the King of England and his hatred for the church quickly becomes apparent. Tyrants do not like to share power, and throughout history they came to recognize the great force within the church, after all, if God be for us, who can be against us? John is called the most evil King England has ever known. The English have said that "hell was fouled by the presence of John". It was John's ruthless behavior toward the English people who would not submit to his tyrannical rule that gained John's infamy. But, it was John's refusal to grant the people the right to choose an Arch Bishop that threw the people into rebellion. John wanted power over the church as well the treasury; after all it was his Divine Right. The Barons, Lords and the chosen Arch Bishop, Stephen Langton, in an attempt to avoid bloodshed drew up a charter to force the King to keep the promise issued by the crown in the 1100 Charter of Liberties. This edict gave specific directions to John on what tyrannical acts were to be halted and is called the Magna Carta.

*"In the first place we have granted to God, and by this our present charter confirmed for us and our heirs forever that the **English Church shall be free**, and shall have **her rights entire, and her liberties inviolate**;... Wherefore we will and **firmly order that the English Church be free**, and that the men in our kingdom have and **hold all the aforesaid liberties, rights, and concessions**, well and peaceably, freely and quietly, fully and wholly, **for themselves and their heirs, of us and our heirs**, in all respects and in all places forever, as is aforesaid."*

The King promised once again, through the Magna Carta, to honor the sovereignty of the Church and the right of the people to maintain their religious Liberty. But under tyrants who have no regard for the Rule of Law and see themselves as the ultimate authority, religious liberty cannot survive without a fight.

This time it was Charles I who had to be put in his place. [Charles was accused of](#) devising "a wicked design to erect and uphold in himself an unlimited and tyrannical power to rule according to his will, and to overthrow the Rights and Liberties of the People". To do this he had "traitorously and maliciously levied war against the present Parliament and the people therein represented." What was among Charles' atrocities? You guessed it, offenses against religious liberty, 11 counts to be exact and all were listed in the Grand Remonstrance of 1641. His tyranny was summarized as follows:

*"For **depriving the Bishops of their votes in Parliament**, and abridging their immoderate power **usurped over the Clergy**, and other your good subjects, which they have perniciously **abused to the hazard of religion**, and great prejudice and oppression to the laws of the kingdom, and just liberty of your people-*"

The people rebelled against Charles' unjust laws and against his oppression of the church. Charles was found guilty of tyranny and oppression, and he was sentenced to death. Liberty once again succeeded with new protections obtained by the resolve of the people.

Just 60 years later the people found themselves once again in the hands of a tyrant, this time his name was James II and he was also attempting to control the church. James was attempting to tax the people through the church and he was attempting to control the method and mode of worship instead of allowing the people to worship according to their beliefs. In order to enforce these laws, he was placing agents of the crown in the church and establishing arbitrary regulations and courts to bring government action against the leaders of the church. The people of England charged James with attempting to completely destroy Liberty.

*“Whereas the late King James the Second, by the assistance of divers evil counsellors, judges and ministers employed by him, did endeavour to [overturn] and **[completely destroy] the Protestant religion and the laws and liberties of this kingdom**; By assuming and exercising a power of dispensing with and suspending of laws and the execution of laws without consent of Parliament; By committing and **prosecuting [various] worthy [ministers]** for humbly petitioning to be excused from concurring to the said assumed power; By issuing and causing to be executed a commission under the great seal for erecting a court called the **Court of Commissioners for Ecclesiastical Causes**;*

The people stood against James, causing him to flee the throne. They lost a tyrant and retained their Liberty in this new document, The Bill of Rights of 1689.

In our own nation many preachers, particularly of the Baptist faith, were prosecuted, tarred and feathered, whipped, jailed, and executed because they would not submit to a license under the state religion. The blood shed on our own shores in the name of religion is the very thing that brought us the first amendment and led to the eventual dissolution of all test acts and state churches. This is the history of our founding fathers and mothers. This is the wisdom they brought to the table when drafting our government. These tyrants of the past are the reason our founders gave us the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution and Bill of Rights, to “secure the blessings of Liberty for our posterity”. They knew that a tyrant would come along sooner or later. They knew that this tyrant would hate liberty as much as those in the past. But they also knew that tyranny has a limited bag of tricks, so they did their best to give us the protections gained from over 700 years of battle for Liberty. This is precisely why we have a 1st Amendment, to secure the right of the people to worship according to the dictates of their conscience and to keep the government out of the business of the church. After all, THIS is the REAL meaning of separation of church and state.

It is no surprise that tyranny would rematerialize in the very same way it has for centuries. Once again, the government attempts to govern the church, to impose its rule over the conscience of the people. Healthcare mandates against the church have nothing to do with healthcare and everything to do with tyranny over the people. Kings do not concern themselves with the good of the people as much as they do with the will of the King. If this tyranny is allowed to stand, a door will be opened that will allow the Kings troops to march even greater oppression against the church; history guarantees it. These troops, undoubtedly in the form of regulation and law, will once again “**deny the church their voice in government**” causing a great “**hazard to religious liberty**” bring forward the “**prosecution of various ministers**” in arbitrary “**courts of ecclesiastical causes**” which will surely bring about the “**complete destruction of liberty**”. What we must learn from history, what we must understand today is that if religious liberty is allowed to fall, all other liberties will quickly follow. The battle for all liberty is rooted in the battle for religious liberty and the ability to speak, print, assemble, and air our grievances according to the dictates of our conscience. It is no coincidence that it is the FIRST Amendment. The question is what are we going to do about the tyranny that is fundamentally transforming America into an utter wasteland of ruined liberties?

Who Said It: If ye love wealth better than liberty, the tranquility of servitude than the animated contest of freedom, go from us in peace. We ask not your counsels or arms. Crouch down and lick the hands which feed you. May your chains sit lightly upon you, and may posterity forget that you were our countrymen!

Answer on page 26 below the margin.

THE FLAG IS GONE. Have You Noticed ?



For a long time, we have noticed that the decor at the White House has changed. The Oval Office is now stripped of the traditional red, white, and blue, and replaced with middle eastern wallpaper, drapes, and decor. The hallway that he walks out of to talk to the press now has middle eastern chairs, drapes, etc. And the thing that has bothered me the most is the bright yellow drape behind him every time he speaks from the white house. It has Arabic symbols on it and has been there from the beginning.

Today I received this and it clearly shows what I have been noticing. That bright yellow curtain is highly visible, but as you scroll down, you will see what is predominantly absent. Also, as you look at the pictures of other presidents speaking from the same spot, look at the traditional 'American' background and decor as opposed to the new decor. Trust me when I say that this is intentional. It should alarm every American.

What is missing at [the](#) press conference?



**That's right...no
American flags!**

Vote in November 2012 like
your way of life depends on it!

Because it does!

2011
Lake Country Republican Club

COMMITTEES



1. FUNDRAISING This committee shall be responsible for development and conduct of the club's fundraising activities, in compliance with the rules and regulation of the Texas Ethics Commission and the laws of the state of Texas.
 1. Open Position, Chairman
 2. Joe Blair
 3. Gene Shoemaker
 4. Terrell AronSpeer

2. LEGISLATION This committee shall be charged with keeping the club informed and aware of legislative events, votes and processes which could have an impact on, or may be of interest to the club. This shall include but not be limited to the coordination and notification of the clubs' membership of the need for urgent action of a political nature.
 1. Philip Winter Chairman
 2. Isabel McGuffin
 3. Travis Burk
 4. Pat Nelson
 5. Rick Shoemaker
 6. Eugene & Joyce Spencer

3. PUBLICITY and COMMUNICATIONS This committee shall establish and maintain contact with local media outlets and shall actively work to publicize the club's activities, newsletter, website and events.
 1. Terrell AronSpeer Chairman
 2. Lynn AronSpeer
 3. Betty Dubbs
 4. Rick Shoemaker

4. PROGRAM This committee shall be responsible for producing monthly and special club meeting programs, including the procurement of speakers, and shall keep the Publicity Chairman informed in advance of future programs, to allow news releases to meet local media deadlines.
 1. Dr. James Marvel Chairman
 2. Terrell AronSpeer
 3. Isabel McGuffin
 4. Greg Bowen

5. MEMBERSHIP This committee shall be responsible for the development of special membership drives and programs. It also should be charged with keeping members informed about club meetings and activities by means of telephone and/or email notification.
 1. Joanna Bowen Chairman
 2. Sheryl Nelson
 3. Gene and Norma Shoemaker
 4. Eugene and Joyce Spencer
 5. Roger and Sandy Tune

6. HOSPITALITY This committee shall be responsible for the decoration of facilities used for special meetings and events and for appointing "greeters" for meetings and special events.
 1. Janice Logan Chairman
 2. Joanna Bowen
 3. Sheryl Nelson
 4. Lynn AronSpeer
 5. Tera Burk
 6. Shirley Daugherty
 7. Betty Dubbs
 8. Norma Shoemaker

What's Up:

Lake Country Republican Club (LCRC):

Club Meetings: February 28, 6PM - Quitman Library
Program: Sheriff Candidates' Forum

SENTINEL Submission Deadlines: Tenth of Publication Month

SENTINEL Publication Date: Fifteenth of Publication Month

Republican Women of Wood County (RWWC):

Club Meetings: February 20, 11:00 AM - Texas Tea Room
Program: Candidates' Forum

Holly Lake Ranch Hawkins Republican Club (HLRHRC):

Club Meetings: March, 12 6:30 PM - Holly Hall
Program: Philip Smith representing Jeb Hensarling's office on the Super committee.

Wood County Tea Party (WCTP)

Club Meetings: March 4, 2PM - Quitman Library
Program: Candidates' Forum, Wood County Commissioners

Wood County We The People (wcwtp.org)

To become a WCWTP Watchdog: Contact Tim Discher through the website or at
wcwtpa@gmail.com

HIT THE LINKS:



To see your favorite link in the SENTINEL send it to:
terrellaronspeer@peoplescom.net

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[Interesting Link With 5 interesting Links at Bottom | Editors Pick - number 5](#)

[Before OSHA and the EPA](#)

[Newt Speaks at CPAC](#)

[Would EPA and OSHA allow this?](#)

[Mitt Speaks at CPAC](#)

[Vouchers Anyone?](#)

[Rick Speaks at CPAC](#)

[Narcissistic Plagiarism](#)

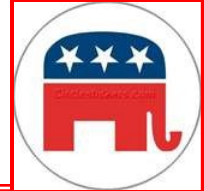
[It Should Not Take a Brain Surgeon](#)

[FYI](#)

NOTE - Ron Paul did not speak at CPAC.

The SENTINEL graciously offers to the Obama Administration the following 2012 campaign slogan:

"With Obama, The Possibilities Are Ended."



Legislative Report – February 2012

Submitted by Janie Walenta, RWWC Legislative Chair

SUPREME COURT REJECTS JUDGE-DRAWN TEXAS ELECTION MAPS – January 20, 2012

The Supreme Court on Friday ruled in a Texas political dispute, rejecting judge-drawn election maps favoring minority candidates and Democrats in the 2012 congressional and state legislature elections.

In its first ruling on political boundary-drawing based on the 2010 U.S. Census, the high court unanimously set aside the interim maps created by federal district court judges in San Antonio.

The high court said it was unclear whether the judges in Texas followed the appropriate standards and sent the cases back for further proceedings.

At issue were the maps that Texas will use in its primary contests set for April 3 that will decide party candidates for congressional and state legislature elections in November.

The dispute had been closely watched because it could help decide whether Republicans or Democrats gain as many as four seats in the U.S. House of Representatives in November.

Texas Republican officials appealed to the Supreme Court, said the lower-court overstepped its authority and argued the judges should have deferred to the maps drawn by the elected lawmakers. Those maps favor Republican candidates.

The officials won at least a partial victory, though the court stopped short of adopting the maps drawn by the Republican-dominated legislature.

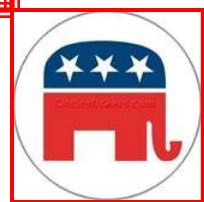
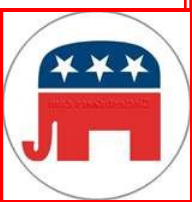
The Supreme Court ruled that the judges appeared to have unnecessarily ignored the state's plans in drawing certain districts and those maps can at least be used as a starting point.

"Some aspects of the district court's plans seem to pay adequate attention to the state's policies, others do not and the propriety of still others is unclear," the court held in its opinion.

Redrawing the Texas districts has been a major political and legal battle. The state's population went up by more than 20 percent, 4.2 million people, over the past decade, with Hispanics accounting for 2.8 million of the

Reported by James Vicini <http://www.reuters.com>

Submitted by Janie Walenta, RWWC Legislative Chair



BOOK REVIEW:

by: *Jane Byrd*

Throw Them All Out

By Peter Schweizer



“This book is about how a Permanent Political Class, composed of politicians and their friends, engages in honest graft.”

That’s a quote from the author’s introduction to *Throw Them All Out*. But how can there be “honest” graft? The dictionary says graft means “taking advantage one’s position, esp, a political position, to gain money, property, etc. dishonestly.”

Peter Schweizer, a Fellow at the Hoover Institution, explains that. He’s written a whole book about “how politicians and their friends get rich off insider stock tips, land deals, and cronyism that would send the rest of us to prison.” For them, political insiders, it’s all legal. Schweizer give examples.

First thing, let’s check the index to see if our Congresspersons are cited. Cornyn, Hutchison and Hensarling are not mentioned. Not! So far, so good. But Schweizer is bipartisan. John Boehner is twice mentioned, for a Goldman Sachs investment and some stock trading. Other, less well-known Republicans have profited from insider information.

Aside from Boehner, the big names all seem to have a “D” attached – John Kerry, Harry Reid, Nancy Pelosi, Charles Schumer. Also, famous financial guy Warren Buffett. Schweizer tells their stories in detail and with footnotes.

Buffett gets a whole chapter all to himself, titled “Warren Buffett: Baptist and Bootlegger” (alluding to our “blue laws” that church folk and bootleggers both supported). The author calls Buffett a financial genius, “But even more important for his portfolio, he’s a political genius.” Where other investors may spend months on due diligence, Buffett is said to make big bucks based on just a few meetings or phone calls. All legal, of course.

In his chapter on TARP, Schweizer says Buffett “used his political connections to secure huge profits with taxpayer money.”

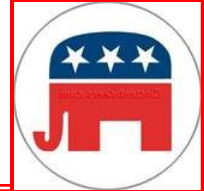
If thinking about the stock market, IPOs, hedge funds and such financial arcana makes your eyes cross and your brain go fuzzy, you mightn’t find *Throw Them All Out* an easy read. But oh, the stories it tells! Even non-economists can get the gist. And the info might come in handy in conversation with an Occupy Wall Street supporter. ~~~



Lake Country Republican Club



We Are the Elephant in the Room



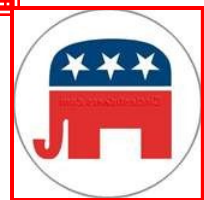
Lake Country Republican Club

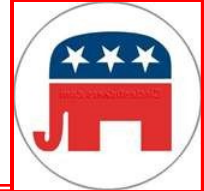
February 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
WCWTP Under construction 903 569 4251			1	2	3	4
5 WCTP Meeting Quitman Library 2PM Program: John Mazolla	6	7	8	9	10 SENTINEL Submission Deadline	11
12	13 HLHRC Meeting 7PM Holly Hall Program: Can- didate Forum	14	15 SENTINEL Publication Date	16	17	18
19	20 RWWC Meets Texas Tea Room 11:00 AM Program: Candi- dates Forum	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28 LCRC Club Meeting Quitman Library 6 PM Program: Wood County Sheriffs' Forum	29			

HLHRC - Holly Lake/Hawkins Republican Club
LCRC - Lake Country Republican Club
RWWC - Republican Women of Wood County

WCTP - Wood County Tea Party
WCWTP - Wood County We The People
YRCWC - Young Republican Conservatives of Wood County





Lake Country Republican Club

March 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
WCWTP Under construction 903 569 4251				1	2	3
4 WCTP Meeting Quit- man Library 2PM Program: Commissioners Candidates fo- rum	5	6	7	8	9 Lincoln Day Dinner 6:30 PM @ Fore Seasons Holly Lake Ranch	10 SENTINEL Submission Deadline
11	12 HLHRC Meeting 6:30PM Holly Hall Program: Social then speaker Philip Smith	13	14	15 SENTINEL Publication Date	16	17
18	19 RWWC Meets Texas Tea Room 11:30 AM Program: Texas Border Issues	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27 LCRC Club Meeting Quitman Library 6 PM: Program: Candi- dates' forum for Constable Posi- tions	28	29	30	31

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