

Liberty Church of Christ

Join us this Sunday for Bible Classes for all ages at 9 a.m. and stay for Worship at 10 a.m.

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We meet Sunday night at 5 p.m. and Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.

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We meet at 3201 North Main Street and have a parking space just for you.

We'd love to see you soon. We've saved you a seat!

3201 N. Main St., Liberty • 936.336.2213 • libertycofc.org



Bryant Perkins, Minister

OBITUARY

• **MARK WADZECK**

Mark David Wadzeck, 44, a life-long resident of Dayton passed away on December 14, 2025. He was born in Houston, Texas, on May 20, 1981, to Larry and Caroline Wadzeck. After graduating with the Dayton High School Class of 1999, he received an Associate Degree from Lee College and over several years completed many certification classes related to the inspection of heavy equipment. He worked for Billington Inspection Company and had recently formed his own company called American Pride Inspection Services. Mark's job took him all over the United States many times, and he often took his family with him. They made time to see the national parks, historical landmarks, the large cities and beautiful countryside from New Eng-



land to the west coast and everything in between. They often saw homeless people on these trips and it tugged at their hearts, so they gave away "buckets of love" to minister to people as they went. Mark had the expertise to repair broken equipment and he repaired lawn mowers and other things for his parents when back from trips. He was a very generous hearted and loving person and delighted in giving gifts to others. From childhood on, he loved the outdoors, going crabbing, searching for fossils, and rock collecting to name a few. Mark was a collector. He loved the Astros and avidly collected baseball jerseys and many other things. He loved being with his family and at family gatherings. He was on the high school debate team and thrived on political discussions, much to the chagrin of everyone else. It became a game for him to begin his usual soliloquy just to have the family join in protest. He enjoyed

FREE SENIOR LUNCH
DAYTON - Area seniors 55 and over can enjoy a free lunch each Friday at 11 a.m. at the Dayton Community Center. No sign up is necessary. The first Friday of the month lunch will be provided by Theresa Abner. Eastgate Church will provide lunch the second Friday of the month, followed by Hearts of God on the third Friday. Lunch on the fourth Friday of the month is currently open for sponsorship. When necessary, lunch on the fifth Friday will be provided by South Dayton Baptist Church. Following lunch there will be bingo for all to enjoy.

playing dominoes with his children, brother, and Dad. But what he loved the most was being and doing things with his children. Mark married Toni Roy in 2003 and they had two children, Aiden and Eden. He was married to Nesreen Ba Sra at the time of his death and they had two sons, Amir and Ian. Mark was preceded in death by his grandparents, Zed and Norma Wadzeck and Carrol and Lena Ruth Stansell and by his Uncle Jerry Wadzeck. He is survived by his parents; his wife, Nesreen and sons, Amir and Ian; his son, Aiden, and daughter, Eden; his brother, Loren and wife Leila; his nephew, Ethan, and niece, Madelynn; his Aunt Connie and husband Ralph, his Uncle Charles and wife Valerie, his Aunt Chere and husband Bobby, and cousins Carrie, April, Brandy, Joshua, JJ, and Nikki. A graveside service was held December 26 at 10 a.m. at Linney Cemetery in Dayton. Mark and his political ramblings will be deeply missed.

Men's Health Fair set for Sat., Jan. 10

LIBERTY - Men across the area are encouraged to attend the Annual Men's Health Fair, hosted by the Liberty-Dayton Regional Medical Center. This is a free event for men of all ages.

The date is set for Sat., Jan. 10, with screenings and services from 8 a.m.

to 12 p.m. at the Liberty Dayton Regional Medical Center Clinic located at 1201 N. Travis Street.

Services available will include CBC, CMP, Lipid, and PSA blood screenings as well as blood pressure checks. Free cancer screenings are available and recom-

mended for men over age 45. In addition to the free tests and screenings, Life-Share Blood Center will be hosting an on-site blood drive. Complimentary snacks will be provided.

For additional information, call (936) 336-7316, Ext. 124.



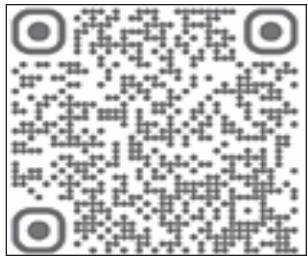
Loretta Clymer enjoyed Christmas festivities at Magnolia Place Health Care last week.



Peggy McIntosh was concentrating on opening her Christmas gifts at the Magnolia Place Health Care party last week. That's Debbie McKinzie in the background.

Texas Rice Recipe Contest seeks entries

Choose a favorite category and enter the Texas Rice Recipe Contest. Contest categories include recipes for Cracked Rice, Family Recipe and Dessert. Winners in each category will earn \$100. Contest is an initiation of Timsel27LLD. Scan the QR Code to submit your recipe, learn about research and community outreach, sign up to be a recipe judge, or learn about ways to get involved. Entry deadline is Sun., April 5.



FREE ADMISSION FOR VETERANS
AUSTIN - Veterans receive reduced admission to Texas Historical Commission state historic sites year-round, and active-duty military members receive free admission year-round. The THC preserves and operates 42 state historic sites across Texas. To find out where they are located, visit <https://thc.texas.gov/historic-sites>.



Frankly Speaking –

Toasting 2025

by Frank Jordan

Most of us toast in the New Year and raise our glasses to clink them together before drinking in celebration of this special event.

What was real toasting in the beginning? Why and when did this tradition of toasting begin that still flourishes today where people seek to honor a person or happening? A virtual toast to all who read these words and Happy New Year!

Toasting

Whether by champagne or another beverage, millions will raise a glass and propose a toast during the holidays and at midnight on New Year's Eve. Why do we call drinking a celebratory glass of wine or champagne a "toast"? Why do we clink our glasses together before drinking the "toast"?

The toasting tradition dates back to the ancient Greeks and Romans. By the 6th century BC, it was common to rid oneself of enemies by poisoning same. This made folks skeptical when offered a drink of unknown origin or content. To show the liquid was safe for consumption without breathing expiration, a host would drink to a guest's continued good health – literally – by personally taking the first sip.

The "toasting" part is solely Roman in origin and involved an actual piece of toast. As Romans joined in a drink of friendship, they would drop a small piece of slightly burned spiced toast into the communal cup of wine they raised at a ceremony or other celebratory function.

The toast not only added a sweet flavor, the charcoal content of the slightly burned toast made a vinegary wine more tolerable and more sweetly flavored by reducing its acidity. At this early date, the chemistry of the improvement in the wine was probably unknown, but we can thank the Romans for making the taste more mellow and acceptable and for creating the name of the offer as "toasting," due to the liquid consumed being impregnated with the flavor of literal toast on the bottom of the glass.

The clinking of glassware just after a toast developed in 17th century England where those celebrating in a toast believed the bell-like sound of the clinking glasses had the power to banish any evil

spirits in the area. On the extreme is the theory when you clinked the glasses together some of the liquid in each glass spilled into the other, thus involving both participants if poison was involved. It is true if you poisoned someone you wound up in the "clink," i.e., from clink to clink.

A philosophical theory is a good glass of wine or bubbly champagne appeals to the senses of sight, touch, taste and smell and, by clinking, it also appeals to the sense of sound. My take is it's just a habit for which we haven't got a clue, so pour, clink and drink.

The person who first proposed and presented the "toast" in a group in a gathering became known as the toastmaster. The toastmaster duties broadened over time to usually designate the person who presided over the banquets and gave an after-dinner speech. The tradition continues today.

During the 18th century the tradition of toasting to the health of some celebrated person not present at the gathering came into vogue. The celebrity most often was a beautiful woman then referred to in coming days as, "the toast

of the town."

Why do some, usually overindulged, guests throw a glass with remaining wine or champagne into a fireplace, breaking the glass and wasting the wine? Since ancient times, wine and other alcoholic beverages have been considered by some sacred and a gift of the gods. A dumb way of thanking the gods for the provision of beverages was to return what the gods had bestowed upon humans by hurling a container and liquid contents into a fireplace, shattering the vessel as the wine simmered in the fire.

Frankly speaking, throwing away fine wine and breaking expensive glassware is the act of a fool. Deservedly, glass and crystal will melt and adhere to brick in a fireplace. Finally, smashing good crystal, or even a restaurant's glasses, can also be an expensive act, usually accompanied by a request to immediately leave the restaurant or home of the event.

Now toast the New Year, clink your glass to bring good spirits and be thankful to the One who brings our blessings while enjoying the celebration of the special occasion!

Robinson earns National Board Certification

DAYTON - Dayton Independent School District proudly announces that Ms. Tammi Robinson, a dedicated educator in Dayton ISD, has earned National Board Certification, one of the highest honors in the teaching profession.

National Board Certification is a rigorous, voluntary process that recognizes educators who meet the highest standards of teaching excellence. This achievement reflects Ms. Robinson's deep commitment to her students, strong instructional expertise, and ongoing dedication to professional growth and reflective practice.

"Earning National Board Certification is no small feat," said Dayton ISD Superintendent Dr.

Travis Young. "Ms. Robinson's accomplishment speaks volumes about her passion for education and her commitment to student success. We are incredibly proud to have educators like her serving our district."

Through this distinguished recognition, Ms. Robinson joins a select group of educators nationwide who have demonstrated accomplished teaching practices and a strong impact on student learning.

Dayton ISD congratulates Ms. Robinson on this outstanding achievement and celebrates the excellence she brings to the classroom each day.



TAMMI ROBINSON

LIBERTY GAZETTE

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