



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



Frankly Speaking –

Father's Day – The Holiday That Almost Wasn't!

by Frank Jordan

The first national celebration honoring fathers was on June 19, 1910, in honor of Civil War veteran, William Jackson Smart, a single parent dad who raised six children. Other dad day events were held earlier for local father heroes, but Father's Day as a national holiday was made permanent only 54 years ago by President Richard Nixon in 1972.

If you want to know what parent is most cherished in America, consider the establishment of Father's Day as a national holiday was twice voted down by Congress. To further illustrate the clamor for establishing the honoring of fathers, would you believe the first bill to establish a national Father's Day holiday was presented to Congress almost a century ago in 1913. Thumbs went down.

President Calvin Coolidge recommended Father's Day as a national holiday in 1924, but Congress again said no. Finally, in 1966 President Lyndon B. Johnson issued the first Presidential Proclamation honoring fathers. It still took six more years to become a national holiday each third Sunday in June.

The gift giving got a big push with the formation by retailers in 1938 of the National Council for the Promotion of Father's Day. Big surprise. The crisis in gift giving became acute when a survey revealed at the time only one father in six had received a gift

on the previous Dad's day. Father's Day does have the distinction of having the highest percentage of collect calls of any holiday, even though not nearly as many total calls as Mother's Day. Mother's Day also creates much higher gift-giving, card sending and dining out.

Let's face it, Dad bounced you on his knee and patted you on the back with your successes, but mom nursed you when you felt bad, comforted you when you had disappointments and gave you that special hug only she could give for times too numerous to count. Most dads just aren't "huggy/feely" like mom.

But dads are here to give examples of character, how to live a life of giving and love of family, leadership with protection from threats and being the primary provider in most families.

While electronics, iPads, iPhones and tools have increased in numbers as gifts for dad, the necktie still is high on the list. Before you groan at receiving one more colorful tie your wife and kids think you must have because you would never select it yourself, consider why ties were first given to men.

The Chinese emperor Shih

Huang Ti in passing 2,035 years ago, honored his famed fighting force of warriors by having 7,500 life-size terracotta replicas carved and placed in his massive mausoleum. Each figure is different in armor, uniforms and even hair and facial expressions – except for one factor – all wear the same magnificent neck cloth of expensive silk worn by no others in 2nd century BC.

The first neckties were bestowed on those elite soldiers the emperor chose to guard him for eternity. His soldiers were thrilled; especially because initially the emperor had wanted them all killed and buried with him. So wear that necktie with pride this year as a symbol of being the elite warrior in your family.

Frankly speaking, being a father by blood or association is a great honor and seeing your children happy while loving and being loved is the greatest gift a dad can possibly receive. We don't need neckties and government proclamations to know your voices and hugs are the magic that make this holiday and every day so very special for us dads. A holiday that almost wasn't, but gratefully is – Happy Father's Day!

Ely Air Lines –

Annual Physical

by Mike Ely and Linda Street-Ely

Mike: Time for another annual check-up from the airplane doctor. Just like us mere mortals, airplanes need to be checked under the hood on a regular basis to make sure things keep ticking the way they're supposed to. It's a bit more extensive than the annual safety checks we used to do with our cars at registration time. Not all airplane mechanics can perform the inspection; the FAA requires additional experience and training before granting a certificate of Inspection Authority.



mechanics before taking to the air. Even then, it's wise to stay close to the airport until confirming everything is working properly. With a smooth-running motor, we returned the Elyinator to our home airport and tucked it into its nest, so it'll be ready to take us on more adventures.

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good health.

Independently, we run regular tests, like oil analysis at every oil change, and we clean and gap sparkplugs. But during the annual inspection, we look for discrepancies in places we may not check as part of every pre-flight inspection. Data downloaded from our engine monitor tells us if there's more to check. Then during the annual, the airplane gets cleaned in places we can't reach without opening it up and removing lots of skin. Sometimes, the avionics software needs updating, and every two years the altimeter and associated systems must be inspected.

Some components on airplanes are life-limited and must be replaced, even if they appear perfectly serviceable. Otherwise, the annual inspection is the ideal time to replace worn parts while everything is already opened up.

Even with annual inspections, sometimes things break. When they do, we get them fixed like we would with any other vehicle. In the end, we receive a logbook sign-off and another year to operate the airplane.

With the airplane reassembled, we ran the engine, making sure there were no surprises, and took one last look-over with the

UNEARTH A STORY™

Time for Summer Reading at Jones Library

DAYTON - The Jones Public Library invites the community to join this year's Summer Reading Program "Unearth a Story," where patron's travel back in time to the prehistoric era with science experiments, crafts, and reading this summer at the library.

This month-long event is underway with daily programming for patrons of all ages. This will include Exploration Station Mondays, Adult Programming Tuesdays, Storytime and Science Snack Wednesdays, Triassic Teen/Tween Thursdays, Craft and Activity Fridays, and a special fossil dig on the first Saturday of the program. Programs conclude July 11 in the community center ballroom.

Registration is required for those wishing to participate in the reading challenge and be eligible for prizes. All registered participants that attend will be entered to win door prizes at the end of each week. Each participant that registers and completes their reading goals will have a chance to win the grand prize in their category. More reading equals more chances to win.

The Summer Reading Program calendar is available for pick up at the front desk of the library as well as online on the Jones Public Library website and social media pages. If you would like more information, contact the library at 936-258-7060 or via email at jonespubliclibrary@daytontx.org.

Area students excel in college studies

ALISSA CARUSO NAMED TO GRACELAND UNIVERSITY'S SPRING 2026 PRESIDENT'S LIST
 LAMONI, IA - Alissa Caruso of Dayton has been named to Graceland University's Spring 2026 President's List. Graceland University students with a perfect 4.0 grade point average are named to the President's List. Graceland commends Alissa on her academic success.

REESE PARKER NAMED TO SPRING 2026 UCA DEAN'S LIST
 CONWAY, AR - Reese Parker of Hardin was among nearly 1,500 students named to the spring 2026 Dean's List at the University of Central Arkansas. Eligibility on the Dean's List requires at least a 3.5 GPA with a minimum course load of 12 credit hours.

JOHN JONES GRADUATES FROM FORT HAYS STATE UNIVERSITY
 HAYS, KS - John Jones of Devers was awarded a Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Business during Fort Hays State University spring commencement ceremonies held Friday and Saturday, May 15 and 16, at Gross Memorial Coliseum in Hays.

ZOE WILLIAMS NAMED AS A SPRING 2026 UCA PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLAR
 CONWAY, AR - Zoe Williams of Dayton was named a Presidential Scholar at the University of Central Arkansas for spring 2026. Students must achieve a 4.0 GPA with a minimum course load of 12 credit hours to qualify as a Presidential Scholar. Approximately 1,200 students were named as Presidential Scholars.

Forest Service grant recipients listed

COLLEGE STATION - Texas A&M Forest Service recently approved \$29.3 million in funding for grants to Texas volunteer fire departments through the Rural Volunteer Fire Department Assistance Program. In the fourth funding round of the year, the program awarded grants to five area volunteer fire department.

Grant recipients were **Devers VFD**, \$25,000 for personal protective equipment; **Plum Grove VFD, Inc.**, \$25,000 for

personal protective equipment; **Hull-Daisetta Raywood Fire and Rescue**, \$25,000 for personal protective equipment; **Kenefick VFD**, \$45,000 for Slip-on Unit; and **Batson Fire Department**, \$45,000 for Slip-on Unit.

Texas A&M Forest Service has administered the grant program under the Texas Legislature since 2002. Grant funding helps departments maintain well-trained staff, safe and equipped firefighters.

Summer reading begins in Liberty

LIBERTY - It is that time of year again to create new experiences at the Liberty Municipal Library with the Summer Reading Program. This year's theme is "Unearth a Story" with programming available for children, teens and adults.

There is no cost to participate in the summer program and corresponding activities. Register online or inside the library. Registration and library cards are free to Texas residents.

Children's programs for ages 0-12 begin June 18 at 2:30 p.m. with John O'Bryant's magic show in the Liberty Center. Other programs will be held each Thursday through July 25.

Teens programs (ages 13-18) will begin June 18. Additional programs will be held each Friday through July 24. The adults program for ages 18-plus are scheduled for June 20, July 1, July 17 and July 24.

The Dinosaur Safari and a citywide Scavenger Hunt take place the week of July 6-11.

The library welcomes back The Dinosaur George Museum, a traveling dinosaur museum and gift shop July 28 from 8 a.m. until 7 p.m. at the Liberty Center.

Details for upcoming programs for all ages are available online or by visiting the library.

The Liberty Municipal Library is located at 1710 Sam

Houston Street in Liberty, inside the Geraldine D. Humphreys Cultural Center. Library hours are Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Friday 1 to 5 p.m., and Saturday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information, call the Liberty Municipal Library at 936-336-8901. Follow the library on Facebook about upcoming events at www.facebook.com/LibertyMunicipalLibrary/.

MEAL ON WHEELS OF SOUTHEAST LIBERTY COUNTY

LIBERTY COUNTY - Do you have time to lend a hand for others? Meals on Wheels of Southeast Liberty County is in need of volunteers in all of their service areas. Drivers are needed for all routes and it only takes 1.5 hours to deliver hot meals to area seniors. If you have time to lend, call 936-641-2846.

Notice of Public Hearing on Liberty County Appraisal District Budget and Reappraisal Plan

The Liberty County Appraisal District Board of Directors will hold a public hearing on a Proposed Budget and Reappraisal Plan for the 2027 fiscal year.

The public hearing will be held on June 25, 2026, at 9:30 A.M. at the Taxpayer Services Office located at 303 Fannin St., Liberty, Texas.

A summary of the appraisal district budget as follows:

The total amount of the proposed budget.	\$ 5,370,724
The total amount of increase over the current year's budget.	\$ 203,183
The number of employees compensated the proposed budget.	41 <i>(full-time equivalent)</i>
The number of employees compensated the current budget.	42 <i>(full-time equivalent)</i>

The Appraisal District is supported solely by payments from the local taxing units served by the Appraisal District.

If approved by the Appraisal District Board of Directors at the public hearing, this proposed budget will take effect automatically unless disapproved by the governing bodies of the county, school districts, cities, and towns served by the appraisal district.

The Reappraisal Plan will take effect upon approval of the Appraisal District Board of Directors.

A copy of the Proposed Budget and Reappraisal Plan is available for public inspection in the office of each of those governing bodies. A copy is also available for public inspection at the Appraisal District.

LIBERTY GAZETTE
 936-336-6416