

The Weston Post

Issue № 1

Winter 2020



MEETING MAYOR JIM MARISCHEN

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What is your age?

I am a young 69, born August 2, 1950.

What is your educational background?

I graduated in 1972 with a B.S. in mathematics from St. Benedict's College [now Benedictine College] in Atchison, Kansas. I also received MBA-level training from Texas Instruments and Raytheon.



What is your career background?

I worked for Texas Instruments/Raytheon for 40 years. While there, I achieved senior director level and was responsible for over 2,000 engineers, 50 program managers, and two major government contracts, each with an annual budget of over \$150 million per year. I worked as a semiconductor front-end manager, a geophysicist, a statistical programmer, a computer embedded diagnostics programmer, an engineering manager, and a program manager. I have strong leadership, people management, financial management, and team-

building skills developed from this experience.

What do you do for fun?

Now that I am retired, my primary hobby is playing golf. However, I also dabble in classic vinyl records, old-fashioned gaming (pool, pinball, etc.), and some amateur cooking.

Can you tell us about your family?

I was raised in St. Louis, in a family of five kids before leaving for Texas 40 years ago. I found my bride in Calgary, Alberta (while on assignment), and we raised three exceptional children: Clayton, Cassie, and Steven, all educated in the Celina school system. Clayton is 37 and is a business automation programmer for PepsiCo. Cassie is 35 and owns her own pet store ("Tails In The Sand," google it) in Cape Cod. Steven is 32 and is between jobs. You may have seen all three kids playing in the Celina band during the late 90s. Unfortunately, I am still waiting for grandchildren. My sons and their mother [we are now divorced] all live in McKinney.

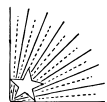
How long have you lived in Weston?

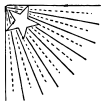
I have lived in Weston for 31 years.

What brought you here?

I grew up in the big city, whereas my wife grew up on a farm in Alberta. When we got pregnant with our third, we decided to get out of the rat race and move to the country. After searching for four months, a friend told us of a perfect property in Weston Creek Estates. We tracked the owner down in Oklahoma, made an offer, and the rest is history.

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We loved raising the kids on our 4 acres of trees. We then added 5 more acres behind us in Beaver Lake Estates in the mid-90s and raised three horses. We loved the small-town schools in Celina and made many friends in the area over the years. Living in the country had many benefits: a safe environment for the kids to play in, control of our own environment with few rules, a community that cares, and the freedom to live our lives as we want.

What do you like most about Weston?

I like the people of Weston most of all. We all moved out here, or grew up here, to live in the country and get away from the hustle and bustle of the big city. Most everyone is laid back and very friendly. And that’s why I put so much emphasis on community events that bring everyone back together.

Why did you decide to run for mayor?

I believe we were moving away from the basic premise that this town was founded on. That is, a rural greenbelt community without big city growth and high taxation that comes with that growth. Granted, you can’t forever keep growth out, but you can manage that growth, as have many small towns in North Texas. I also believe that the Weston community had become apathetic, helplessly hoping the oncoming growth would just go away, to the point where the decisions for this town were being primarily made by one person and a gaggle of consultants, to the detriment of our community.

Where do you think Weston needs improvement?

Let’s start with communications. Everyone living in and around Weston feels this is their hometown. They should know what decisions are being made and should have a say in those decisions.

Downtown Weston is the center of our town. We need to make sure it becomes a showcase of North Texas, rather than see it wither and go away. This will only happen if the community supports it. Remember, Weston is the oldest town in Collin County, making it one of the oldest towns in Texas, and we need state-recognized historical designations to protect it.

The city has adopted a set of ordinances and building codes from nearby large cities, like McKinney, that do not fit our rural community. We need to reengineer these laws to fit the current environment that we live in and not for a future we are unsure of.

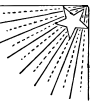
The Weston Land Use Plan, and associated plans and zoning, are weak and do not reflect a vision of a rural community. That is one reason why the current housing developments have flourished with little resistance. These plans need to be revised to manage the influx of high-density growth.

Finally, Weston city boundaries were incorporated along the major roads because of the heavy agricultural presence in the 1970s. They should have been broadened long ago to include the land surrounding those thoroughfares. If we are to manage our growth, we need to bring surrounding communities into the city sooner, rather than waiting on developers to gobble up unincorporated land and request city resources only after they have decided its use.

What is your vision for the future of Weston?

I want to keep Weston a rural greenbelt small town. I believe we can manage the upcoming growth and keep it controlled so that it doesn’t overtake our community and rural lifestyle. It will take over 20 years before the Outer Loop freeway brings real growth to our southern border, so we have time to design a town that can maintain its rural appeal, while providing the needed resources and infrastructure to its citizens.

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The Weston Post

Issue № 1
Winter 2020

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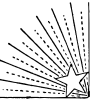
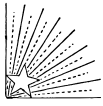
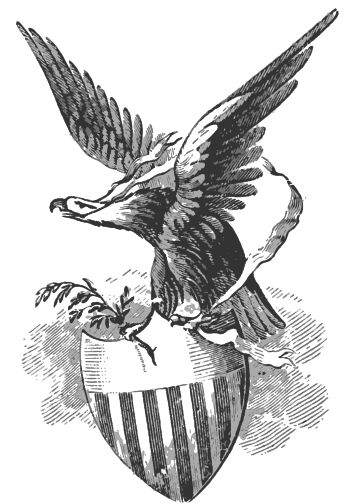
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Typeset with L^AT_EX





The Weston Women's Group

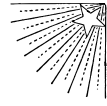


The mission of the Weston Women's Group, a service organization founded in 2000, has been to promote community events in Weston; to furnish and update the interior, and to refurbish the exterior of the community center; to provide assistance to local and area residents in need; and to share monies with area charities from fundraisers such as our bake sales at the annual 4th of July parades. The Samaritan Inn in McKinney, McKinney Food Bank, and Grace Bridge in Celina, have been recipients of goods and monetary donations from our treasury for many years.

Members of our group have planted and maintained the garden areas at the community center and City Hall. In addition, three of our artist members completed the four barn quilts on the community center's exterior. Intended as a public art project for the city, they have expanded Weston's Barn Quilt Trail to City Hall, the Baptist and Calvary Chapel Honey Creek churches, and several private residences. Most recently our board approved the purchase of a pole banner for City Hall to recognize Weston's settlement in 1842 as the earliest town in Collin County. We also donated a second banner for the holiday season and funded Christmas lights for City Hall. Our latest assistance was a donation to the Four Corners Outreach Alliance, a food pantry in Blue Ridge.

For more information about our group, please contact President Debbie Reyno at (972) 382-2447.

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Imagine walking down Main Street, past Kenneth's antiques store, past the Old Weston Post Office museum situated in a lively landscaped park flanked by several 1890s vintage restaurants and novelty stores. Imagine walking past a small entertainment area for community gatherings and meeting your neighbors there for some small talk. No, this is not *The Twilight Zone*. It can happen with your help.

What are your immediate and long-term goals for Weston?

I am currently working on my 2020 goals for Weston and will publish them later in the month. But, here is a sneak preview.

We will build a communications database of all Weston residents and property owners to include their email and/or physical address to allow the city to publish the first Weston bulletin and hold our first quarter town hall in February.

We will form the Weston Beautification & Historical Designation Team and ask them to create quarterly community events, submit two buildings for historical designation, and develop a beautification strategy for Weston.

We will create a team to redefine our Land Use Plan and define a new zoning strategy for Weston. We'll also put together a team to develop five- and 20-year thoroughfare plans for Weston and provide them to Collin County.

We will create a team to redefine the Weston ordinances, fees, and penalties based on new zoning designations. Associated with this, we will streamline and capture the top level processes (building permits, waivers, etc.) online to make it easier for everyone to know and follow the rules.

To better understand our needs as we grow, I will create a Weston Infrastructure Advisory Team, to include the fire chief, Weston Water Supply Board, local churches, business owners, and developers. As part of the infrastructure plan, we'll create a multiyear pavement maintenance plan for the city.

Finally, I will create a "Join Weston" thrust to encourage all living in our ETJ [extraterritorial jurisdiction] to become part of our city.

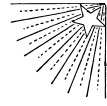
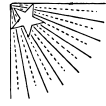
Describe the Light Up Weston initiative and why that was important to do.

As I mentioned before, I want to bring the community together. What gets people more excited than a holiday event? I plan for Weston to host similar community events every quarter. These events will complement the Weston 4th of July Parade, which is already an institution here. And what a great response we've received from everyone about the Light Up Weston initiative!

How do you see Weston responding to the challenges brought forth by growth in Collin County?

I believe the current growth is a bit premature considering the status of the infrastructure in place north of McKinney. It could be 20 years before the roads in northern Collin County can handle the growth. Needless to say, it's coming anyway. The current developers building out Weston Trails already have contracts in place that Weston will honor. However, we can manage future growth by revising our Land Use Plan and zoning restrictions. I cannot do this alone. It will take all of us to get this done this year.

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MY NEXTDOOR.COM EXPERIENCE

By Brittany Yurkovitch

According to the latest figures, Weston is home to about 275 people and has a median income of \$68,317. This data means that before taxes, Weston residents earn close \$19 million each year! And this number only counts those who reside within the city limits; this total is much larger if we include the greater Weston area. Imagine the impact on our town if we made a greater effort to circulate our cash within our local economy instead of letting it flow outside of Weston.

Our neighbors would become more successful and Weston would be better insulated from economic shocks that periodically rock our delicate financial system.

While most of us know that buying local is a smart move, it's not always easy to find local providers. Our town is spread out, and, sadly, many of us do not know enough of our neighbors.

Fortunately, there is a powerful, free tool available that can help us become better neighbors, smarter consumers, and engaged citizens: Nextdoor.com. According to Nextdoor.com, Nextdoor is a social network for neighborhoods that "enables truly local conversations that empower neighbors to build stronger and safer communities." People use Nextdoor to find lost pets, organize neighborhood watch groups, share information about local crime, locate trustworthy providers, buy and sell items, and receive information from local government agencies.

My Nextdoor Experience

I signed up for Nextdoor in July simply to sell a headboard, but quickly fell in love with the platform. Not only have I connected with several neighbors engaged in cool projects, but I found a local foreign language teacher to help my homeschooled kids learn Spanish.

My husband used Nextdoor to rescue some fixer-upper solar panels from being tossed in the bulk trash, and we became aware of a few local mail thefts and a door-to-door scam artist. We've had some bad luck getting estimates on a deck remodel but (thanks to Nextdoor) we hired C.A. Aultman's Decking and Construction, a Weston family business, to rebuild our deck.

Nextdoor also raised my awareness of Collin County and Weston City Council meetings and elections. Several of our local and county elected officials use Nextdoor to maintain contact with their constituents, and it's been a blast engaging in political discussion with them online and in real life.

How to Use Nextdoor

If you have an account, consider beefing up your profile so we can become familiar with each other. If you're looking for a babysitter, a plumber, or an oil change, then please make a post on Nextdoor to see if anyone has a local recommendation.

If you have a business or offer any services, please make a business page so we can support you. If a local provider performed great work, then make a post about it and recommend them to others looking for help on a project.

If you spot criminal activity or find a lost pet, please let your neighbors know by posting.

Do you have good news to share or know of a community event coming up? Let your neighbors know and add an event to the calendar.

Looking Ahead

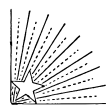
Our community faces significant challenges as Collin County develops and expands; Weston needs to preserve its rich heritage as a historical, tight-knit Texas town. Lately, many local residents have begun to express concerns about road development, community engagement, and demographic change within our rural community. As Weston navigates these challenges, it is essential that we citizens work together to ensure that our best interests are served.

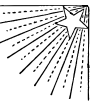
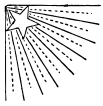
Despite the uncertainty facing Weston, we will be in a much better position if we unite as a community and look out for the well-being of our people and our beautiful, historic town. Nextdoor.com is a platform we can use to support our neighbors and build strong community bonds as we face these challenges together.

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Coloring Page Submissions

Do you like to draw? We would like to include a coloring page that celebrates life in Weston. We are looking for simple, black-and-white line drawings with a one-sentence statement about the picture. We are hoping to receive submissions featuring local farm life, city buildings, scenes from our 4th of July Parade, or historical pictures. Please contact thewestonpost@protonmail.com or *The Weston Post* on Nextdoor.com for more information.





THE WESTON POST NEWSLETTER PROJECT

While Weston is a tightly knit town, its residents have hungered for a newsletter for quite some time. We, a local 501(c)(3) charity called Classroom Counterpoints, have embraced the opportunity to fill this need for the community. In honor of Weston’s historic post office, we have chosen the name *The Weston Post* as the title of this newsletter.

The Weston Post newsletter project promotes civic engagement and encourages families to stay abreast of community happenings and discover and document local history. As of now, *The Weston Post* is available online in the documents section of Nextdoor.com and in print at the post office, Texas Range Honey, and Caudalie Crest Winery. Feel free to download and email this newsletter to all your Weston friends and family.

What is Classroom Counterpoints?

Classroom Counterpoints was founded in 2018 by moms homeschooling their children and teachers who love their community and who are passionate about student learning. Our mission is to support parents and teachers in the pursuit to provide students with a high-quality education that encourages critical thinking and celebrates the achievements of Western Civilization. We think *The Weston Post* newsletter will quench the thirst for home-grown content and promote civic literacy within our community.

The Weston Post is one of several unique projects created by Classroom Counterpoints. Previously, we combined forces with Resurrect Life, an anti-human trafficking non-profit organization, and educated Gunter Middle School history students on the issues of modern slavery and historical abolition movements. We tailored our conversation to raise awareness of human trafficking in Dallas and Collin counties while helping teens identify the red flags of human trafficking.

We hope to continue this project and deepen students’ understanding of history and current events.

Classroom Counterpoints also encourages homeschooling. We support families looking to take control of their children’s education, and we offer consulting services both to parents with homeschooling questions and to teachers looking to improve the quality of their instruction.

Writing Submissions

Do you know of a local story that should be covered? Do you want to submit a piece about local history or write about a cool farm project? Do you like drawing political cartoons or comics about local farm life? Are you a student interested in journalism and want to write about local news? We would love to showcase the writing of local students and residents on topics of community significance.

Please contact thewestonpost@protonmail.com or *The Weston Post* on Nextdoor.com.

Donations

Eventually, we would love to have *The Weston Post* mailed directly to Weston homes. Reaching this goal will take time and financial resources.

Classroom Counterpoints and, by extension, *The Weston Post* is funded entirely by donations. If you are interested in contributing a tax-deductible donation to support this project, then please consider donating through our website, <http://classroomcounterpoints.org/donate>, or you may write a check payable to Classroom Counterpoints and mail it to the following address:

Classroom Counterpoints
P.O. Box 216
Weston, TX 75097

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BARBARA’S PIANO RECITAL



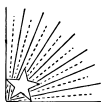
The spirit of community service is alive and well with Barbara Emmons, Weston’s beloved piano teacher, and her music students. On December 18, she organized a beautiful recital for her students at the Park Manor nursing home in McKinney.

As the Park Manor residents enjoyed their dinner, students showed off their skills and played cherished Christmas songs for the audience. After the recital, students and their families caroled through the hallways and passed out gift bags while mingling with the residents.

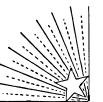
This holiday performance was truly magical for parents, students, and Park Manor residents. Christmas can be a bit lonely for care home patients, but Barbara’s piano students and their families brought the holiday cheer. Piano student Jimmy Richardson enjoyed “helping out the elders ... [and] talking to them.”

Not only did this wholesome recital warm the hearts of the care home residents, but it also afforded Weston homeschoolers with an opportunity to showcase their musical skills to a public audience. Student Warren Richardson “liked playing the piano—I felt special because my family and friends were clapping.”

Barbara has been teaching piano for many years to students in Weston and the surrounding areas. If you’re interested in piano lessons with Barbara, reach out to her at (214) 908-3856.



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MY AWESOME TOWN

The following piece is written by Jimmy Richardson, an 11-year-old homeschooled student.

My name is Jimmy, and in 2013 my parents moved my brother and me to Weston where we now live on a small farm with goats, sheep, and chickens. When I first moved here, I enjoyed eating at the restaurant in the historic downtown area. Over the last year, I have attended many of our City Council meetings and I most recently attended the swearing in of our new mayor. After he took the office of mayor, he shook my hand.

The downtown is relatively small and has unique old buildings, especially the old honey shop. We don't need many chain restaurants, but I think the people would definitely enjoy

eating at a restaurant or maybe a coffee shop.

On November 5, 2019, I had the opportunity to learn about our town's election process. After watching my mom vote, we entered Texas Range Honey as they handed out free coffee and donuts! The shop owner, Mr. Steve, allowed me to sample the tasty preserves. My brother and I, along with Laura Randall, played cards and staged a pretend "gun fight" with Mr. Steve's pistol and two barrel shotgun replicas. My mom walked me over to the community center where the election judges showed us the voting process. I am extremely excited that the new mayor and City Council are here, and I can only imagine what they will do and what decisions they will make.

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Attention Citizen and Student Writers!

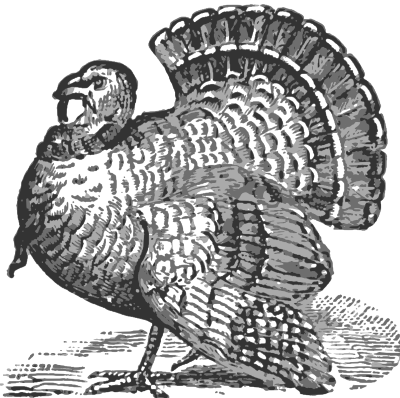


Do you want to write an article about a cool project or tell us about farm life? Interested in contributing a piece about homeschooling or local history? Want to cover a current event?

The Weston Post wants to hear from you. We are very interested in showcasing your writing and we encourage student journalism. Please contact thewestonpost@protonmail.com for more information.

WESTON COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING 2019

By Nancy Gemaehlich



What do you get when you mix Gov. William Bradford and roast turkey? Weston Community Thanksgiving, of course! Each year preceding the Thanksgiving holiday, the churches in Weston (First Baptist Church of Weston, First Christian Church of Weston, and Calvary Chapel Honey Creek) gather together to give thanks to the Lord for His many blessings.

The festivities include a reenactment of Gov. Bradford's Thanksgiving Day Proclamation. This address is from the first Thanksgiving celebrated by the Pilgrims and the Indians in 1623. Also, at the gathering, each of the church's worship teams lead a worship set, and each pastor shares a thoughtful Thanksgiving devotion.

Lastly, after the service everyone heads to the fellowship hall to partake of savory turkey, rich brown gravy, and all the trimmings. The event location, planning, and decorations are provided by one of the churches each year on a rotating basis. Those who attend the gathering, dish in hand, provide the sumptuous side dishes and desserts (*oh*, those pies).

The Weston Community Thanksgiving is a family gathering with adults and children together for the service and the meal. Everyone in the community is welcome. It's a time for making new friends and catching up with old ones. Most importantly, it is a time for prayer and expressing thanks to the Lord for our community—for all those who call Weston home.

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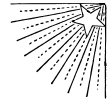
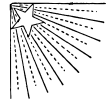
WHAT'S THE BUZZ?

In late January, Collin County beekeepers, including Celina's Huckle Bee Farm sent close to 800 beehives to California for almond pollinating season.

Want to learn more about bees? Huckle Bee Farm is raffling off a private four-person "Introductory to Beekeeping" course at their Celina farm. Come into Texas Range Honey to put your name in the raffle. Winners will be announced in the spring edition of *The Weston Post*.

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LOOKING AHEAD

By Mike Hill

Weston has a rich history and a unique identity. It is known as one of the oldest settlements in Collin County. In the first half of the 20th century, it was a thriving town with a bank, grocery store, furniture store, barber shop, and automotive garage. While hardworking farmers and ranchers dominated Weston's cultural landscape, over time, many young people grew up and left for greater opportunities in the surrounding cities. Somehow, Weston held on to its unique identity.

Weston is poised to experience the type of growth that can radically transform small communities like ours, and we need to talk with each other about these changes. Being a sleepy little town for so long, Weston now finds itself at a crossroads literally and figuratively.

I have lived in Weston for 36 years and am optimistic about our town's future. Never have I seen so many local families interested in preserving, as much as possible,

the close-knit rural neighborhood of the past. I see an emerging connected community of caring and passionate people working to secure Weston's identity. I am thrilled to see so many people who want to mitigate, as much as possible, the negative effects that occur when a small town is overwhelmed by suburban sprawl.

While it is true that previous city officials have done what they thought was right, the lack of community interest and citizen participation led property developers to have the upper hand in unfolding negotiations with the city. Fortunately, Weston has a solid core of folks who are committed to the Weston way of life and are working to manage these changes responsibly.

As new families start to move out here, it would be a good thing for them to see the existing community as something exciting to be a part of. This is my hope for Weston as we go forward with a new mayor and evolving City Council.

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LIGHT UP WESTON

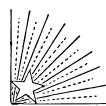
Thank you to the Weston City Council, Weston Women's Group, Weston Fire Department, Steve and Epi Goldstein, and the entire community for coming together for the Light Up Weston event on December 8.

Families gathered in downtown Weston to watch the illumination of the town in festive Christmas lights. The lights turned on at the lead of the Weston fire truck. After the lighting, families gathered and mingled in the community center.

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Photos: Mitch Levine



WHAT DOES A COUNTY COMMISSIONER DO?

The following article is a post made by County Commissioner Darrell Hale on Nextdoor.com. Edited with permission to fit AP style.

I wanted to ask the question because since I started to send out information on Nextdoor there are 20,000 more residents in the precinct.

There are four county commissioners and one county judge in each county that make up the Commissioners Court. We are the body that sets the budget and tax rate for the county services. We set the budget for all the elected officials in the county such as the sheriff, district attorney, district clerk, constables, county court at law judges (different from county judge), district court judges, and justice of the peace judges.

We also maintain the county roads and bridges outside the city limits.

We also handle indigent healthcare and indigent defense as part of our statutory responsibilities. We are the sole local representative for those who live in the unincorporated areas as well. Yes, there are state reps and senators but they don't deal with local issues unless it involves state agencies.

The Commissioners Court also doesn't make laws as a City Council does.

We just implement what powers we have been granted by the state. If you ever have a need, my cell phone number is (214) 471-3584 and my email is dhale@collincountytx.gov.

The Collin County Commissioners Court meets on Mondays at 1:30p.m. on the fourth floor of 2300 Bloomdale Road, McKinney. The public is welcome to attend.

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Make It Count: The 2020 Census



Every 10 years, the U.S. Constitution mandates a census to count every person living in the United States. The census is extremely important to our community; it determines the number of representatives each state has in Congress, and it is used to draw state legislative districts. Census data helps business owners respond to the needs of their community, and helps determine federal funding for emergency and educational services.

April 1, 2020, is Census Day and every household is required by law to participate. While census responses can be reported via mail or phone, 2020 marks the first time census participants can respond online.

Want to help? The U.S. Census Bureau needs to fill many temporary positions across the country to assist with the census count. The pay range for Collin County office and census taker workers is \$20.50-\$22.50 per hour. Please visit <https://2020census.gov/en/jobs> for more information about employment.

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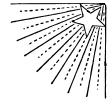
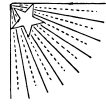


Photo: Brittany Yurkovich

Do you have a piece of Weston history that you'd like the community to see? Steve and Epi Goldstein plan to open Weston's Historic Post Office Museum on the 4th of July. They wish to display photographs and family treasures of residents who have grown up in Weston. Please contact Epi at epi@dfwair.net to help Weston showcase its history.

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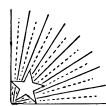
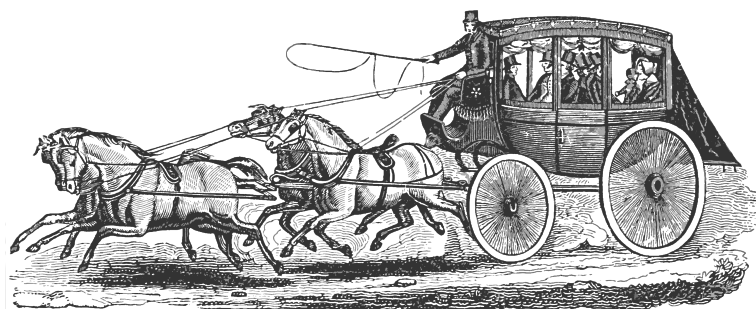
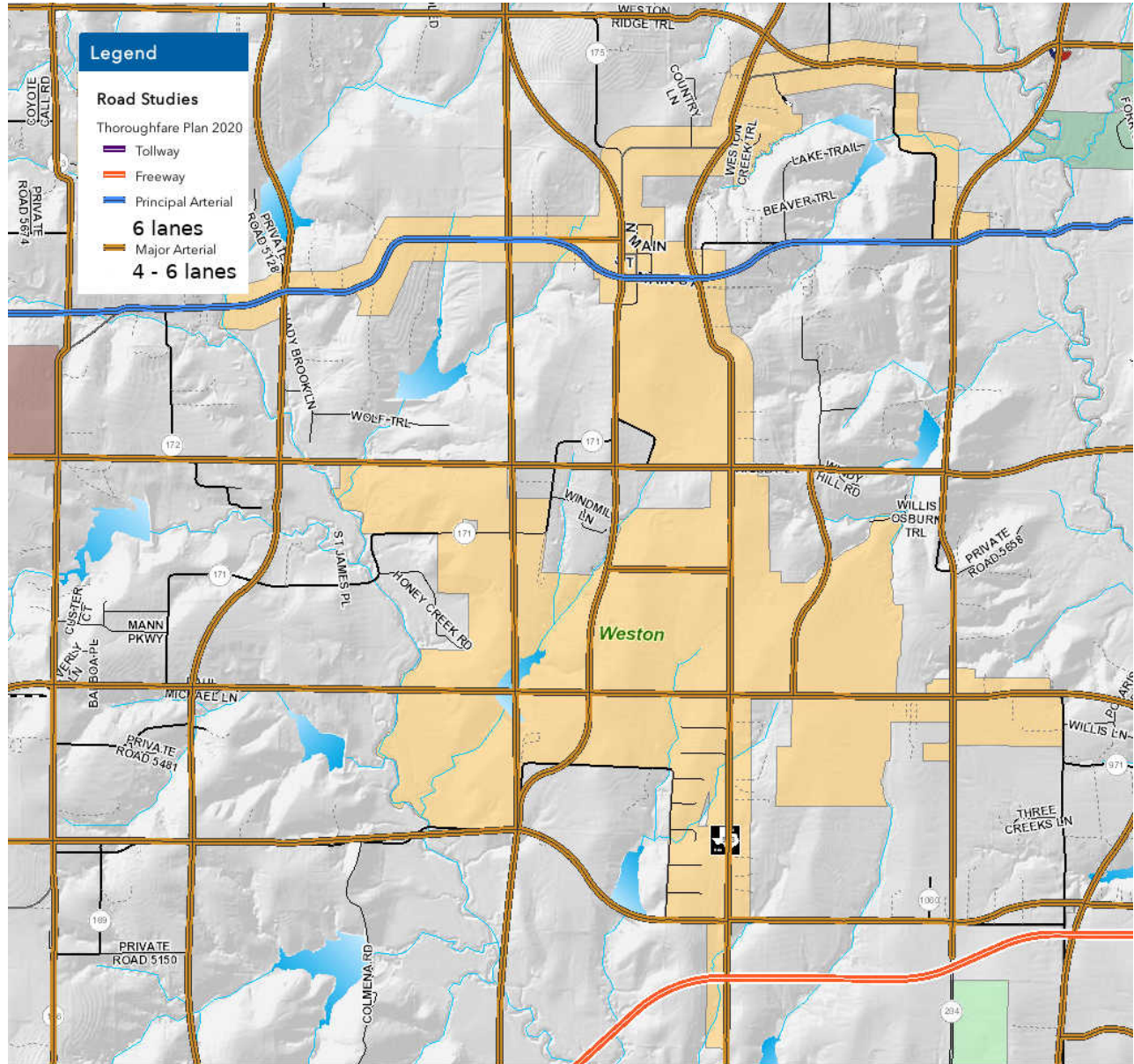
ROAD RAGE

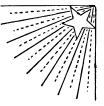
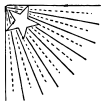
Many folks are expressing concern about the future of road development in and around Weston. Fortunately, work on these roads is not scheduled to begin for many years and there is time to modify the plans. The Weston City Council is taking proactive steps to generate a road plan that aligns with the community's values. Please consider attending Weston City Council meetings to receive information and have a say in the future of Weston's roads.

Check out Collin County's interactive map to see how the current plans impact your homestead. In the "Add Layers" key, click "Thoroughfare Plan 2020" under the "Road Studies" layer to see the current road plan.

<https://gis.collincountytx.gov/main.html>

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WESTON'S LIVE NATIVITY TRADITION

The First Christian Church held its live nativity scene on December 13 and 14, 2019. The church offered its annual Christmas gift to the Weston community through a presentation of live animals and costumed characters representing the Holy Family, shepherds and wise men, and an angel, all in the scene of a manger.

This beautiful tradition was made possible because of the hard work of Larry Lambert, who provided the animals and, along with other men of the church, built the stable. It took many people to fulfill the rotation of characters and help participants dress and change costumes.

The live nativity was greatly enjoyed by church members and town residents. Thank you, First Christian Church, for your commitment to this outstanding Christmas celebration.

Parts of the December 2019 First Christian Church newsletter were used to construct this article.

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Photos: First Christian Church



WESTON VILLAGE CHRISTMAS STORY TIME

As part of the Calvary Chapel Honey Creek ministry, Jennie Turnell and Nancy Gemaehlich treated local families to a delightful Christmas celebration with their third annual Weston Village Christmas Story Time. Jennie says, "Weston Village Christmas Story Time provides an opportunity for people to gather, to have fun with their family, and to get to know their neighbors during the wonderful Christmas season."

Families were greeted with warm smiles, hot cocoa, and holiday treats. Jennie and Nancy decked out the community center with festive Christmas decor and scrumptious cookies. Families socialized while kids carefully crafted cute Christmas ornaments and played holiday dress-up. Kids then cozied up to the Christmas tree to hear a reading of *Mortimer's Christmas Manger*. After story time, the kids rushed outside to pet Bambi, the Christmas goat.

Jennie says, "Absolutely YES!!" we can expect Weston Village Christmas Story Time to continue into the 2020s.

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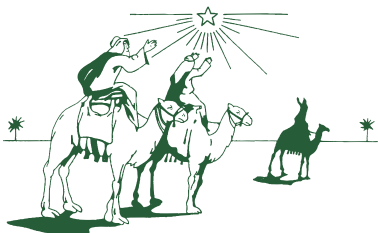
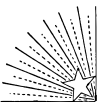
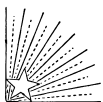
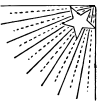
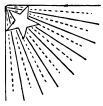


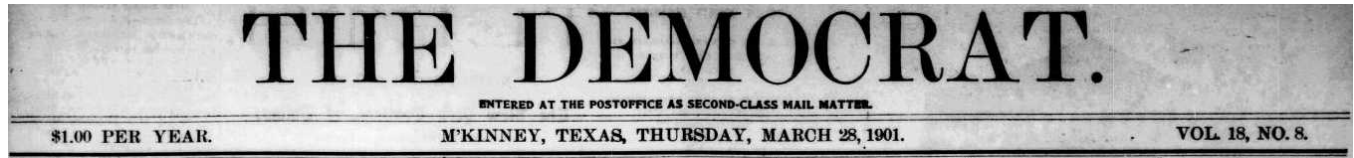
Photo: Jennie Turnell





THE GOOD OL' DAYS

The following article was written over one hundred years ago. It presents a snapshot of Weston at the turn of the 20th century. Minor spelling and formatting edits have been made.



COLLIN COUNTY GLEANINGS.

NEWS OF THE WEEK GATHERED BY THE DEMOCRAT CORRES- PONDENTS.

Items From Adjacent Towns, Villages
and Communities of a General
and Personal Interest.

ON THE WING.

Roland, Tex., March 25,

I left Weston early Friday morning, was mud bound late in the evening and arrived here Saturday.

Weston is a little town northwest of McKinney about fourteen miles, situated on a high prairie, surrounded by one of the most fertile sections of our county. To Larkin Adamson belongs the honor of founding the town in 1853 and a log cabin was his residence. Other settlers followed in rapid succession and with the foresight of progressive Americans, Simon Wilson and L. W. Stinnett opened up a general store; the colony increased, schools were established, churches built and in due time everything was modernized to such an extent that the surrounding country was settled up by a thrifty set of pioneers and Weston began to grow and eventually to "put on airs." The population will approximate three hundred; has a model school building, and church and money in bank to build another soon as plans mature; several business houses, two blacksmith shops, many neat cottages and pretty girls galore.

Beginning on east side of South Main street, is located A. J. Douglass, successor to J. A. Douglass since last October, dealer in undertaker's goods, furniture, kitchenware, and sewing machines. The volume of business has increased 100% within the last seven months.

Going north the next door is A. W. Runnion, general merchandise, who began business in the spring of 1880. He does a large business and the only mishap was a burglar about ten years ago. In order to meet the demands of a growing trade, Mr. Runnion is ready to let the contract for a larger house west side of Main.

The office of Dr. J. A. Avant is next. He came to Weston from Alabama twelve years ago, has a large practice and is held in high esteem by the people of town and community. General praction and very successful in the treatment of diseases.

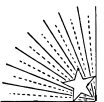
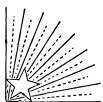
The large stores of F. M. Douglass dealer in dry goods, groceries, hardware and implements need no introduction as the proprietor is one of the most successful business men in North Texas, beginning about 25 or 30 years ago.

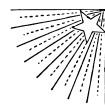
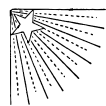
Ed Frost the clever and accommodating druggist has been weighing out medicine about 18 months but has proved himself to be an expert pharmacist and can fill a prescription with accuracy and dispatch.

C. E. Webster, dry goods and groceries, established since last November is forging to the front and as Charley is on the carpet, he has a monopoly of the chewing gum trade.

Crossing over to west Main on the north corner is located the office of Dr. B. F. Spencer, another one of the "yaller hammer" state's sons who; twenty-seven years ago, began the practice of medicine in Fulton, Ky., but two years later came to Weston. He has a large practice and proud of it; but when asked what he did during a little sojourn in Arkansas, the good natured pill-driver with a merry twinkle of one eye and curl [of] the upper lip, stoutly maintained that he never as much as passed through the land of fair maidens, fragrant flowers and wild-cat distilleries.

Continued on Page 12





Proceeding southward I ran up against B. A. Comer who laid the foundation for his large trade in 1892. He handles nothing but fresh drugs and has the confidence of the people.

Next to meet up with was Dr. J. S. Wade who, after a successful practice of twenty-two years, removed to Denton county, but long experience has taught him that no set of people on earth would submit more quietly to paying big fat bills than those of Collin and about one month ago he came back and is regaining the hold once held.

The tonsorial parlors of W. S. Maxwell were on my route and I went in. Learning his trade in McKinney he is prepared to give an artistic hair cut, quick shave and only charge 25 and 10 cents, been in Weston five years and has a large patronage.

The people of the town have appetites for anything, and J. H. Dorsey supplies them with ice cream, confectioneries, chile and red-hot tamales. He is from the old Palmetto State to Texas about three years ago.

A town the size of this one with the amount of mail matter necessary for the accommodation of the people must have a man full of push and business to handle the enormous amount of mail matter to be distributed daily. That such a one is found in G. W. Curtis none will deny. While the disastrous fire of last October sent all he possessed to the skies in a cloud of smoke, he has rebuilt, filled the house with dry goods and groceries, handles more mail, and attends to the telephone and enjoys a larger trade than ever. As I was his guest part of the time spent in the city, the hospitality extended by himself and Mrs. Curtis was bounded only by the limits of the universe.

Precinct No. 4 would be in a pretty fix without Esq. B. F. Hardin to look after its affairs. He came from South Carolina a few years ago and was elected to the office he now holds about three years ago and is, therefore, serving his second term. One hundred and thirty-six criminal cases have been tried by him and all decisions except two were sustained and the excepted cases were tried before juries. There were two appeals in civil cases but the decisions were sustained in the higher court.

T. C. Bounds is the wide-awake constable and he is not there for his health, either. There has been no escapes but one poor fellow tried the Kilgore method of getting through doors but the wiry officer was "on to" his job and the prisoner decided to remain on the inside.

Still further south is the residence and office of Dr. J. W. Crosswhite, who came in Feb. 1895. First saw the light in Tennessee but after a few years of practice went over to Kansas City where he followed his profession for a number of year the last two or three he was assistant health officer of the city. He is a dignified and courteous gentleman and is kept so busy that it's a difficult matter to find him.

Going in the direction of the rising sun I came to the blacksmith, carriage and repair shop of D. W. Jones. Leaving Melissa about 18 months ago he finally located on East street. A good smith, fine carriage trimmer and painter, he is crowded with work all the time.

My next place to stop was in the millinery establishment of Miss Ela Adamson. She; too, suffered in the late fire but [realizing] that the feminine population of the town and community must have artificial flowers, laces, feathers, finery and more feathers, she purchased another stock and on Easter the fair sex will vie with each other in showing the most complicated hat and longest feather. After a look at so many nameless articles my appetite asserted itself so in company with J. F. Wester made a dive for the nearest hotel, O. A. Brown, proprietor. This house was opened to the public four years ago and has a large patronage.

S. L. Adamson runs the South Side Hotel and while the house is only two months old, has a good local patronage and the number of boarders increasing.

Last but not least, I made my way to the public school building where I found Prof. J. C. Tucker very busy but he took time to furnish me a few items, as follows: School opened 29th of October, 123 has been enrolled, about 110 in daily attendance, but at the present time about 35 are down with the measles. Everything moves like clock work, the pupils are advancing rapidly, patrons pleased and the trustees are rejoicing because they have nothing to do but to approve a couple of vouchers every month. Prof. Tucker came from Cook county and is under a five years' contract. Holds a diploma from Southwestern University [conferring] the degree of bachelor of science. Miss Della Jones of Rexton, Lamar county, has charge of the primary department.

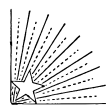
Am glad that Fritz is writing all he knows about Callis; A writer has recently "culled" Lavon for a batch of interesting items, and, by the way, Mary has come "all the way from Pike." Hope to hear from you oftener, friends.

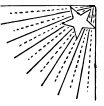
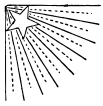
To J. F. Wester and family I am under special obligations for kind treatment during old Boreas' pranks last week.

D. W. LEIGH

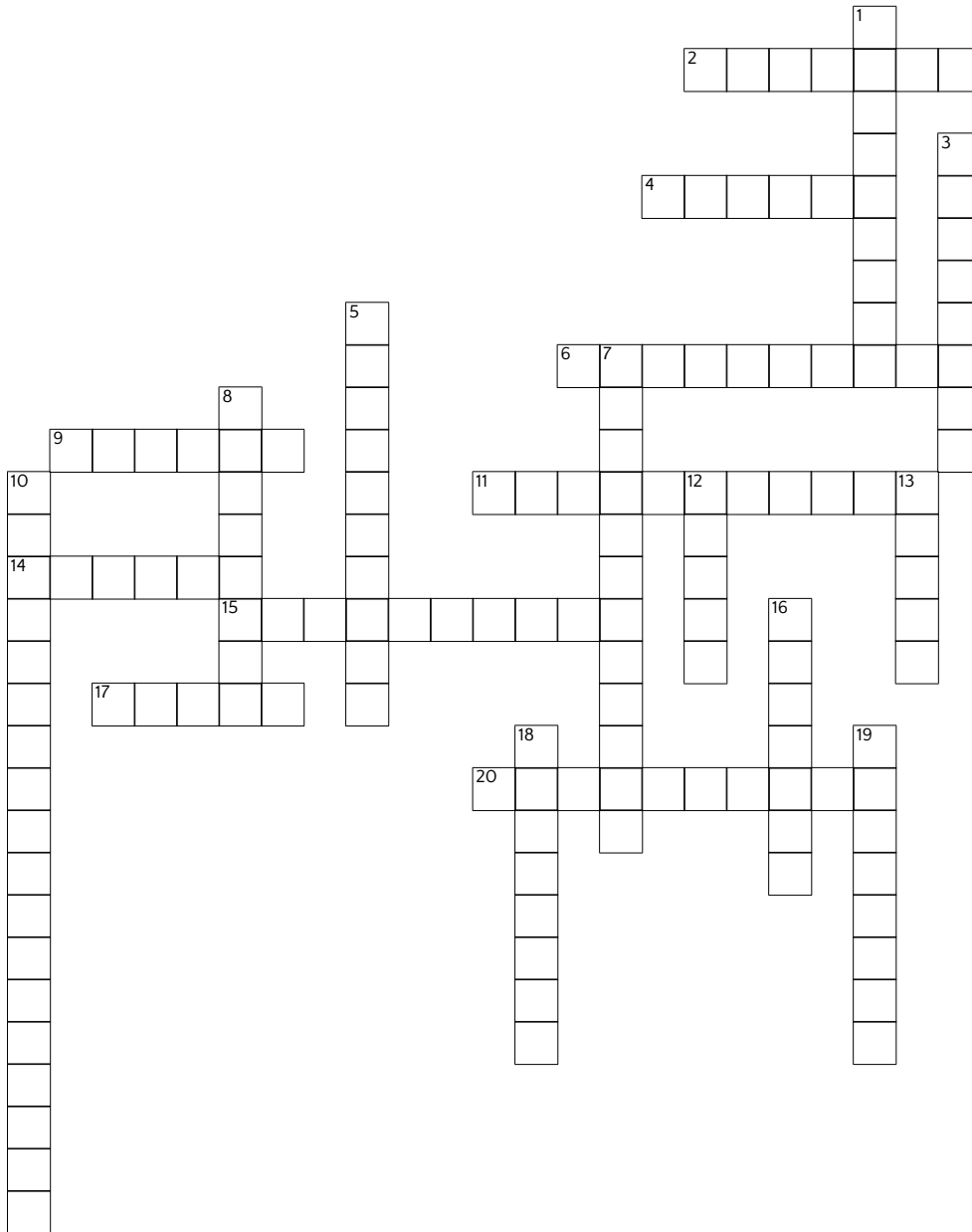
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CROSSWORD



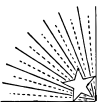
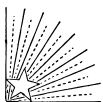
Across

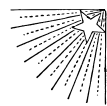
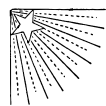
- 2 Weston ____ Story Time
- 4 Count of U.S. population every decade
- 6 Chambersville Tree Farm spring celebration
- 9 Collin County's oldest town
- 11 The Weston ____ promotes charitable giving locally
- 14 Day Collin County Commissioners Court meets
- 15 Texas state flower
- 17 Number of Weston churches that unite for a Thanksgiving feast
- 20 Historic Weston building that will open to the public on July 4

Down

- 1 Last name of Weston's mayor
- 3 Social network for neighborhoods
- 5 The symbol of Weston
- 7 First Christian Church's annual gift to Weston
- 8 Common name for *Apis mellifera*
- 10 Body that sets the budget and tax rate for Collin County
- 12 Animal on Jimmy's homestead
- 13 Barbara's instrument
- 16 Classroom Counterpoints is a ____
- 18 Weston's first ____ will happen on Feb 25
- 19 Celebrate ____ with Caudalie Crest Winery on Feb 29

Answers found at bottom of last page.





WORD SEARCH



Find the 20 solutions to the crossword hidden in the word search.

D P X Q P S U R Y C V I C V E D I G L P
 Y R Z I L E E H W N O G A W K T K O G V
 G J L E A A W U R V W N D Z W I H B C R
 O O G M F F V P Z G D F C K E P N L P P
 N L C O M M I S S I O N E R S C O U R T
 J E P O S T O F F I C E H G T H R E E R
 K F A R H R G O G N A D M O O L B B V X
 T B D P Q D V U J X F C Z L N L U O O Y
 G O Y Y T I V I T A N E V I L A D N N E
 V N X K L V S P R N E N W N L H P N O O
 F A F S E A H A B Y H S F A J N A E P I
 V I L L A G E G O L C U U S G W S T D B
 H P I V P P E E I A S S U X P O Z D H A
 O D I Y Y J P J I J I Z Q Q N T B K G I
 N D J N E X T D O O R K L E Z P N Z J K
 E O C H A R I T Y J A N W J R F I A O Q
 Y K N G R A B I L H M O N D A Y Q O Q B
 B Z U A P H A Z S O I G K R X Q A Y E Q
 E I S P U O R G S N E M O W X J T F U B
 E W I R X I M Y Y U Y X N N F T Y X R O

SUDOKU

Euler's Formula

$$e^{ix} = \cos x + i \sin x$$

$$e^{i\pi} = \cos \pi + i \sin \pi$$

$$e^{i\pi} = \cos \pi + i \sin \pi$$

$$e^{i\pi} = -1$$

Euler's Identity

$$e^{i\pi} + 1 = 0$$

$$e^{i\frac{\pi}{2}} = \cos \frac{\pi}{2} + i \sin \frac{\pi}{2}$$

$$e^{i\frac{\pi}{2}} = \cos \frac{\pi}{2} + i \sin \frac{\pi}{2}$$

$$e^{i\frac{\pi}{2}} = i$$

					7		
	9	7		1	4		2
	4	2	5	7	6	1	3
	2			9	3		7
6			7	4			
	7						6
	3					6	
7			2	8	9		
5				1		4	7

Imaginary Numbers

$$i = \sqrt{-1}$$

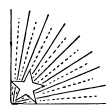
$$i^2 = i \cdot i = \sqrt{-1} \cdot \sqrt{-1} = -1$$

$$i^i = (e^{i\frac{\pi}{2}})^i = e^{i \cdot i \frac{\pi}{2}} = e^{-\frac{\pi}{2}}$$

$$i^i = 0.207879 \dots$$

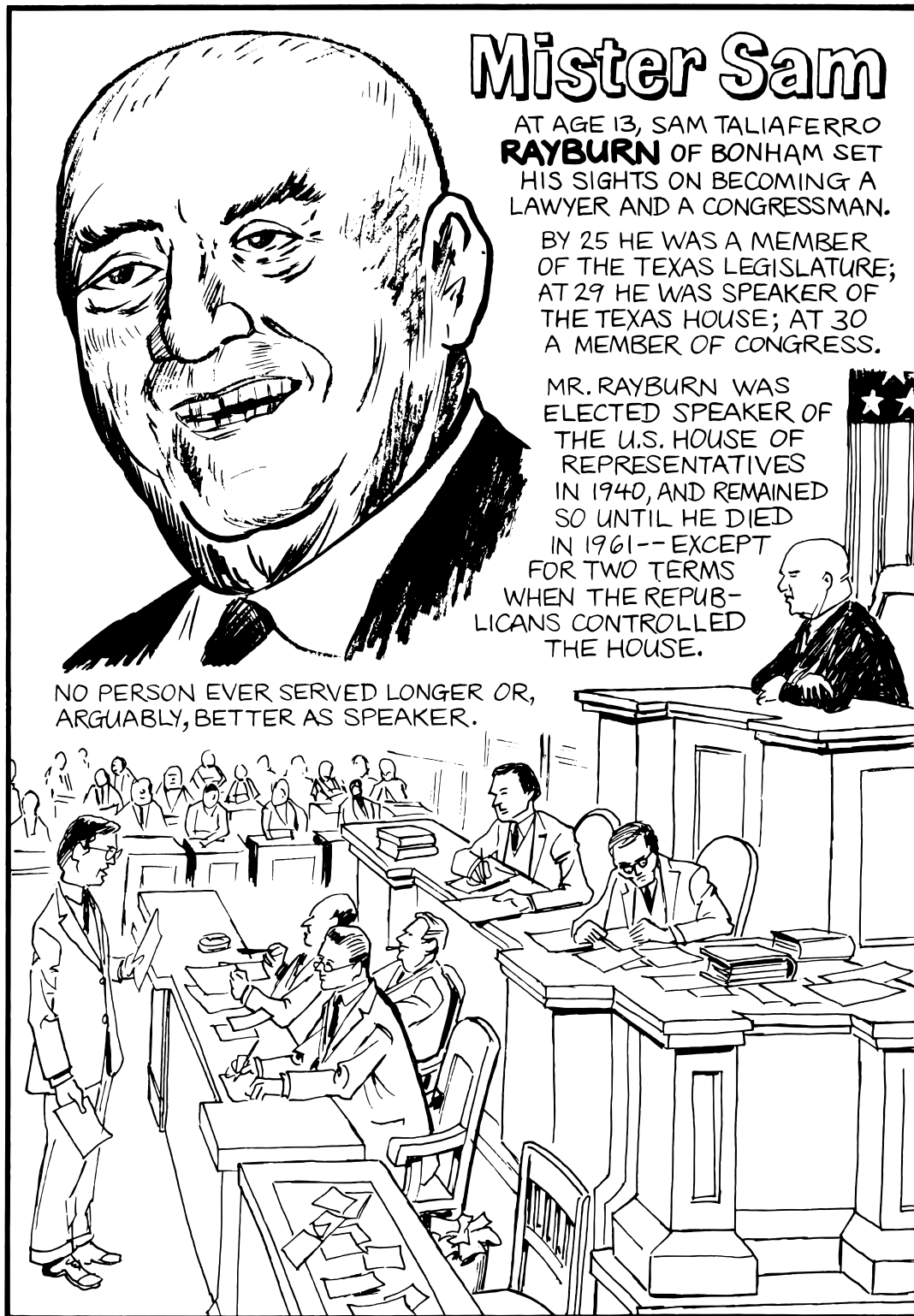
Interesting—an imaginary number raised to an imaginary power *can* equal a real number.

Answers found at
bottom of last page.



TEXAS LORE

by Patrick M. Reynolds



Mister Sam

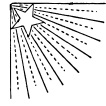
AT AGE 13, SAM TALIAFERRO **RAYBURN** OF BONHAM SET HIS SIGHTS ON BECOMING A LAWYER AND A CONGRESSMAN.

BY 25 HE WAS A MEMBER OF THE TEXAS LEGISLATURE; AT 29 HE WAS SPEAKER OF THE TEXAS HOUSE; AT 30 A MEMBER OF CONGRESS.

MR. RAYBURN WAS ELECTED SPEAKER OF THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES IN 1940, AND REMAINED SO UNTIL HE DIED IN 1961--EXCEPT FOR TWO TERMS WHEN THE REPUBLICANS CONTROLLED THE HOUSE.

NO PERSON EVER SERVED LONGER OR, ARGUABLY, BETTER AS SPEAKER.

For 20 years, Patrick M. Reynolds researched, wrote, and illustrated *Texas Lore*, which appeared weekly in *The Dallas Morning News* and other publications. Reynolds has given *The Weston Post* permission to use his images. You can purchase his illustrated *Texas Lore* books at <http://www.redrosetudio.com/texas.html>.



UPCOMING EVENTS

- ★ **February 11** Weston City Council Meeting at City Hall
7:30p.m.
- ★ **February 25** First Quarter Town Hall Meeting
at Weston Community Center
7p.m.
- ★ **February 29** Leap Year Celebration at Caudalie Crest Winery
6:30-9:30p.m.
<http://www.goatsngrapes.com/events-1/2020/2/29/tasting-room-open-amp-leap-year-celebration>
- ★ **March 2** Texas Independence Day
- ★ **March 10** Weston City Council Meeting at City Hall
7:30p.m.
- ★ **March 29** Live Music at Caudalie Crest Winery
2-5p.m.
- ★ **April 1** Census Day
- ★ **April 12** Kevin Deal Band at Plano's Love & War in Texas
4p.m.
<http://kevindeal.com/plano-texas-041220-lovewar-in-texas>
- ★ **April 14** Weston City Council Meeting at City Hall
7:30p.m.
- ★ **April 18** Celina Cajun Fest in Downtown Celina
Noon-10p.m.
- ★ **April 21** San Jacinto Day
- ★ **April 25** BloomDango at Chambersville Tree Farm
9a.m.-4p.m.

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Meeting Schedule



**Weston Volunteer
Fire Dept**
1st and 3rd Tuesday
7p.m.
203 Main Street



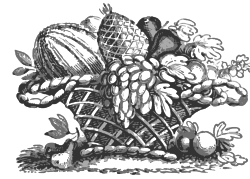
**Weston Water
Supply Corp**
Last Monday
7p.m.
406 Chicken Street



**Weston
Women's Group**
4th Tuesday
7p.m.
117 Main Street

*"There you go man, keep as cool as you can. Face piles of trials with smiles. It riles them to believe that you perceive the web they weave, and keep on thinking free." –Mike Pinder
The Moody Blues*

Gardening Tip



Get your potatoes in the ground on Valentine's Day. Harvest new potatoes on Memorial Day or fully grown ones on the 4th of July.

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1	5	6	9	3	2	7	8	4
3	9	7	8	1	4	6	2	5
8	4	2	5	7	6	1	3	9
4	2	5	6	9	3	8	7	1
6	1	8	7	4	5	3	9	2
9	7	3	1	2	8	4	5	6
2	3	1	4	5	7	9	6	8
7	6	4	2	8	9	5	1	3
5	8	9	3	6	1	2	4	7

Answers: 2. VILLAGE 4. CENSUS 6. BLOOMDANGO 9. WESTON 11. WOMENSGROUP 14. MONDAY 15. BLUEBONNET 17. THREE 20. POSTOFFICE 1. MARISCHEN 3. NEXTDOOR 5. WAGONWHEEL 7. LIVENATIVITY 8. HONEYBEE 10. COMMISSIONERSCOURT 12. SHEEP 13. PLANO 16. CHARITY 18. TOWNHALL 19. LEAPYEAR

