

A Marine's Sacrifice

by Charles C. Hall, Ed. D
Lance Cpl. Jeffrey M. Lucey* of Belchertown, Massachusetts, was home from a seven-month tour of Iraq before he began talking about taking his life. During that time, he started drinking heavily, was continually depressed, had made two visits to VA psychiatrists who sent him home without careful monitoring nor treatment, and not told he had a full-blown case of PTSD (Post Traumatic Stress Disorder). Why not? Because all service and VA MDs had been ordered by DOD (Dept. of Defense) not to mention this debilitating condition to returning G.I.s. He hanged himself with a garden hose (double wrapped) in the basement of his parents' home on June 22, 2004.

He visited his younger sister one afternoon and told her of the "bumps in the road." They had been reminiscing about their carefree childhood when suddenly his mood changed to one of darkness. The "bumps in the road" were dead Iraqi men, women and children whom he was ordered to drive over. Jeff asked one of his fellow Marines "...how am I to handle this?" The answer was, "Don't look back."

But he did look back, not physically, but in his mind. The images of small children plowed over by his Humvee, were never out of his mind's eye. He re-lived every large and small

"bump." The small "bumps" were the worst, for he once had been a little boy. Persistent "replaying of the images" was unbearable to Jeff, for he was a decent, moral person. When he could not shake his grief, he ended his life.

Now, his parents and sister have only photo images, and vivid memories of a beautiful nine-year-old Cub Scout, dark, curly hair in his Cub uniform, and wholesome family outings as he grew into a handsome young man standing ramrod straight in his Marine Corps dress blues. (Lucey's family will not receive any medals for Jeff's sacrifice because his is an "off-the-books death.")

Such painful recollections are the fates of those families who have lost young men and women who wanted to serve their country in an early call to arms when many believed we were on the verge of many more tragedies which occurred on 9/11/01. Unfortunately, there will be many more families like Jeff's who are going to mourn a loved one before our troops are no longer in Iraq. To those who say, "...Iraq is winnable," I say baloney. Win is when the other guy quits.

In Memory of Lance Corporal Jeffrey M. Lucey of the United States Marine Corps

*Rolling Stone Magazine for the May 31, 2007 issue by Jenny Eliscu.



KABBAGE PATCH DAY SCHOOL 2007 GRADUATES-Kabbage Patch Day School of Brownsboro will miss (L-R) David Noah Daughtry & Paxton Wyatt Stevens as they head into Kindergarten in the Fall.

Boyd receives scholarship from Ouachita Baptist

Clayton Boyd of Brownsboro, TX was recently selected to receive a Ouachita Collegiate Award from Ouachita Baptist University. The Ouachita Collegiate Award seeks to award students for accomplishments in their high school work and extracurricular activities.

Boyd is a senior at Brownsboro High School. He is the son of Rodney and Kimberly Boyd of Brownsboro. In high school he was named first team all-district nose guard, second team all-district tight end and second team all-county nose guard for football.

Ouachita Baptist University is a church-related, liberal arts university whose aims are to meet the educational needs of



Clayton Boyd

students and to prepare them for places of leadership and service. Located in central Arkansas, Ouachita offers over 60 programs of study, with an 11:1 student to faculty ratio.

★ Gordon

(Continued from Page 1)

rection, and hopefully we can give them some of that. Life's not over after you retire."

Other volunteers receiving recognition for over 1,000 hours of service at TFFC include: Ken Davis - 3,450 hours, Buck Dittfurth - 5,679 hours, Robert Farmer - 8,218 hours, W.D. Lewis - 3,790 hours, Hunter Wise - 2,787 hours and Clayton Worden - 1,522 hours.

The Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center combines a visitor center, production hatchery, casting pond and educational programming on a 107-acre site

Meals on Wheels Ministry, Inc.

Menu June 4-8
Orange Juice Served in Centers
MON: Chicken breast fritters, mashed potatoes, seasoned carrots, rolls, pears
TUES: Chicken fried steak, broccoli/cheese sauce, fried squash, bread, cookies
WED: Fried chicken, cream corn, green beans, roll, peaches
THURS: Meatloaf, crowder peas, boiled cabbage, cornbread, pudding
FRI: Fish, tater tots, cabbage slaw, hush puppies, peach cobbler

ALL THINGS HISTORICAL

A LOOK AT EAST TEXAS HISTORY

The Chief's Sons

by Bob Bowman

It is a story that has been told and retold in Texas and Louisiana -- one that almost every school child has learned in the classroom.

Twin sons were born to an old Caddo Indian chief living on the banks of the Sabine River. Natchitoches was swarthy with black hair and flashing black eyes. Nacogdoches was fair with yellow hair and blue eyes.

As their father neared the end of his days, he called his sons into his presence to receive his final blessings.

He commanded that, upon his death, Natchitoches should gather his wife and children, turn his face to the rising sun, and after traveling three days he should build his home and rear a tribe.

Nacogdoches was instructed to face the setting sun, walk three days with his family, and establish a new home where he, too, would rear his children and his children's children.

Thus, the twin tribes of Nacogdoches and Natchitoches were born 100 miles apart -- one in what would become Texas and one in the place we know today as Louisiana.

The two tribes were located a sufficient distance apart to prevent friction over their hunting grounds, so they remained on friendly terms as the decades passed.

The friendship and trade beat out a well-traveled path between the two tribes, a route that eventually became a highway known as El Camino Real by Spanish travelers.

The story is such an engaging tale that it has been printed, reprinted, told and retold in so many places that most of us have lost count.

But the trouble is, the story

isn't true.

It was apparently concocted in 1939 by historian R.B. Blake of Nacogdoches as part of a booklet produced by the Nacogdoches Historical Society. Archie McDonald of Nacogdoches, whom I rely upon for historical verifications, says, "It's a beautiful story but, unfortunately, it never happened."

There were, however, Indian tribes known as Nacogdoches and Natchitoches. And, yes, there are towns by the same name. And, of course, there is an El Camino Real.

While Nacogdoches has adhered to Blake's original story, Natchitoches uses a different twist. In its version, as reported by the Chamber of Commerce, the Indian chief banished his twin sons to the east and west.

Chamber manager Nick Pollacia, Jr. said the legend is so ingrained in Natchitoches' history that "folks around here would run me out of town if I said it wasn't true."

Regardless of the story's veracity, it will remain a beloved part of the fabric of East Texas.

(Distributed by the East Texas Historical Association. Bob Bowman is a former president of the Association and the author of more than 30 books about East Texas.)

Caring Companions At Home
Senior Care
Companionship, light housekeeping, meal prep, shopping & errands, personal care and more
(903) 677-3007 • (888) 683-3007
Serving East Texas

NOTICE
Brownsboro ISD parents, teachers, and administrators are invited to attend a meeting to discuss the design, planning, and implementation of the Title 1, Part A, Title II, Part A, Part D, Title III, Title IV and Title V on June 11, 2007 at 10:00 AM or 6:00 PM in the Brownsboro Independent School District Administration Building.

Title I Non-Public Notification of Services

Title 1 services (authorized by the Elementary and Secondary Act, Title 1, Part A Regular) may be available for eligible students attending private schools. Private schools interested in learning more about Title 1 services are invited to attend an informal meeting on June 11, 2007 at 10:00 AM or 6:00 PM. The meeting will be held in the BISD Administration Building. Schools that receive Title 1 services must comply with all requisite federal policies and procedures. For more information, contact Vicki York at 903-852-3701. A packet of information concerning eligibility requirements for Title 1 services will be available at the meeting.

Notice
Union Hill Water Supply Corporation

The Annual Report of Drinking Water Quality (Consumer Confidence Report for 2006) is now available for Union Hill Water Supply Corporation. A copy of this report may be obtained by calling 903-852-5248 and leaving your name and mailing address, or by mailing a written request to 11650 CR-3424, Brownsboro, TX, 75756.

Farm Tractor & Equipment REPAIR
Redbud Repair Service
903-852-7281

Vacation Bible School

LifeWay's
GAME DAY
Central
WHERE HEROES ARE MADE
MAY 27-29

West Lake Baptist Church
June 4th - 8th
8:30 - 11:30 am

For more information call:
West Lake Baptist Church
(903) 849-6042
1439 FM 315 South
Chandler, Texas 75758

Completed K-6th Grade