

4th Annual Kingsbury Fall Harvest Festival

Saturday, November 14, 2015 | On Railway Street in Downtown Kingsbury, off of Highway 90 | 11:00 AM — 6:00 PM

LIVE MUSIC | PETTING ZOO | FARMER'S MARKET | VENDOR'S BOOTHS | TRADING POST | KIDS ACTIVITIES | THE WORLD FAMOUS DUCK SLIDE

INSIDE: WHAT HAPPENED TO THE APOSTLES? SEE PAGE 6

**HISTORY: THE ORIGIN OF THE
“LONE STAR” AS A SYMBOL FOR
TEXAS**

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**EDITORIAL: A LETTER FROM
THE MAYOR-ELECT TO THE
PEOPLE OF KINGSBURY**

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FALL 2015

**THE KINGSBURY
INDEPENDENT**

VOL. 2 NO. 2

KINGSBURY PREPARES TO OPERATE AS A CITY

By Staff Writer

KINGSBURY— The City of Kingsbury will begin operations in late November following overwhelming approval by voters to create the city in the May 2015 election. The City will be a Type C municipality and have a City Commission form of government, which includes a Mayor and two City Commissioners.

Kingsbury's reign as the newest city in Texas will be short lived. The residents of Spring Branch, Texas voted to incorporate as a Type C city at the November 3, 2015 election.

Elections for municipal officers were initially scheduled for November 3, 2015 by Guadalupe County.

FALL ELECTION CANCELLED

The Guadalupe County Commissioner's Court cancelled the November 3rd election for the new city of Kingsbury due to the city's three uncontested races. Those candidates include Shirley Anne Nolen for Mayor and Alison Heinemeier and Janet A. Ignasiak for the two commissioner positions.

The cancellation of election is authorized by Texas statute and saves Guadalupe County taxpayers the expense of an election in which there are no contested races on the ballot.

The three candidates were declared winners in their respective races, but must wait until after the official canvass of the election before qualifying for office. The Commissioner's Court will canvass the election about a week after the November 3rd election.

The new municipal officials are expected to be sworn into office by the County Judge at the first City meeting, scheduled for November 21, 2015.

Newly elected Type C



MAYOR-ELECT NOLEN, COMMISSIONERS-ELECT HEINEMEIER AND IGNASIAK AND KINGSBURY RESIDENTS MEET FOR WEEKLY MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT TRAINING AT KINGSBURY BAPTIST CHURCH

municipal officials must sign an anti-bribery statement and an oath of office. The Mayor and Commissioners also have 20 days to acquire a \$3,000.00 bond.

MAKING HISTORY

2015 will forever be an historic year for Kingsbury. The farmland community unified to incorporate a city and gained overwhelming support with a 67—2 vote. According to the Secretary of State, Texas averages only one new city per year. As of late, many like Kingsbury have incorporated in order to prevent annexation by larger urban cities.

Kingsbury's history making does not stop with incorporating into a city. When the city begins operation in late November it will be the first city in Texas to start with an all female city council.

Mayor-elect Shirley Nolen is an IT manager for an automotive parts plant. Nolen is the great-granddaughter of Joseph J. Mansfield, who served in the U.S. House from 1917 to 1947, and the granddaughter of Frank “Doc” Schmidt, the

Guadalupe County clerk from 1939 to 1982. Despite that pedigree, Nolen wasn't active in politics before working to form a city and preserve Kingsbury from being absorbed into Seguin.

Commissioner-elect Alison Heinemeier is an artist and professional art mover. She co-founded Habitable Spaces, a sustainable farm and artist residence. Commissioner-elect Janet Ignasiak is a massage therapist with prior experience on the board of a private school. Their experience operating organizations and creativity will be assets on the City Commission.

The three women are taking on the unique task of organizing a new city from scratch. Such a task requires quite a bit of preparation and they have wasted no time getting started.

PREPARATION TO START A NEW CITY

The new City Commission of Kingsbury is not waiting for its first meeting on November 21 to prepare for the task of running the newest city in Texas.

Mayor-elect Shirley No-

len and Commissioner-elect Alison Heinemeier and Janet A. Ignasiak have organized a weekly preparatory meeting that is open to the public. Every Wednesday night at the Kingsbury Baptist Church, the three future city leaders and members of the public have been conducting a crash course on municipal government.

The trainings have included some of the basics, such as a review of *Robert's Rules of Order*, motions and amendments. They have also included a review of the Local Government Code, the operations of a Type C municipalities, the municipal budget process and questions brought by residents.

Many of the first decisions that the new City Commission will need to make are procedural. When and where will the meetings be located? What will be the procedure for compiling and posting agendas? What rules of procedure will govern the meetings?

Very soon thereafter the Commission will have to set a budget and begin addressing issues such as voluntary annexation requests.

VOLUNTARY ANNEXATION INQUIRIES

The incorporation process of the City of Kingsbury limited the area of the initial city limits to two square miles. Now that the city has incorporated the city may expand via voluntary annexation. Many Kingsbury residents who were not included in the original incorporation area or only partially included have expressed an interest in voluntarily joining the city.

The process of voluntarily joining the city is fairly simple. A petition needs to be filed with the city requesting annexation by the landowner or a majority of the registered voters residing on the property. The property must be contiguous to the city limits and not in the extra-territorial jurisdiction or city limits of another city. Once filed the petition will be considered by the City Commission and a public hearing held on the issue. The City Commission will then vote to accept or reject the petition.

At a recent meeting, members of the Kingsbury Incorporation Committee voted to continue functioning with the new purpose of advocating for the inclusion of the remaining portions of historic Kingsbury into the new City of Kingsbury and assisting residents with voluntary annexation petitions who want to be part of the city.

The Kingsbury Incorporation Committee will assist residents in completing voluntary annexation petitions. They can be contacted at www.kingsburytexas.org

CITY MAILBOX

The City of Kingsbury has a mailing address! PO Box 99, Kingsbury, Texas. Mayor-elect Shirley Nolen has donated the rental fees on a large box for the future city. Nolen told the Independent, “We wanted something easy

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4 >

FROM THE MAYOR-ELECT



I'm making this an introduction article so here's a little history on myself: I graduated from Seguin High School in 1979 and received a Bachelor in Business Administration from Texas A&M, then a Master of Business Administration from the University of Houston.

I have been married to Ladd Nolen for 24 years and we built our home here in Kingsbury in 2004 where we also built a recording studio. We have multiple four-legged critters (except for one three-legged dog named Trey) and thoroughly enjoy living a rural, Kingsbury way of life.

I have been a member of the Kingsbury Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary since 2005 and President of that organization since 2011. I absolutely love being part of the Auxiliary and the Fire Department and have such great respect for our firefighters and first responders.

I have had family living in Kingsbury since my great-great-grandfather Johannes Schmidt emigrated here from Germany in the 1850's. I, myself, may have had a Kingsbury address only since 2004, but this is where I grew up — riding horses downtown, eating at Ray's Café, putting pennies on the train tracks, playing with my grandfather's goats, fishing in every stock tank my family owned, and playing twisted games of

“This is *my* town—a place I love and want to help keep alive and I'll do whatever I can to make that happen.”

-Shirley Nolen, Mayor-elect

By Shirley Nolen
Mayor-elect
City of Kingsbury

KINGSBURY—The road to this point where I am writing an article as the first ever Mayor of Kingsbury has been a very long and eventful one, with more than its share of twists and turns.

My name is Shirley Nolen, and a number of people in Kingsbury know me as the grand-daughter of “Doc” and Jackie Schmidt or as the daughter of “Little Jackie” Ball. Others know me as the grand-daughter of Dee and Avis Perryman or as the daughter of John Perryman. Now, perhaps, I will be known not only as a member of some wonderful families, but for accomplishments in my own right.

“tag” with my cousins using cattle prods.

So when I was asked to join the Kingsbury Incorporation Committee last year, I was only too glad to help out even though I was not in the Seguin ETJ or the proposed city limits at the time. This is *my* town—a place I love and want to help keep alive and I'll do whatever I can to make that happen. As the plans evolved and our home came inside the new proposed city limits, I was asked to be Chairperson of the KIC, then asked to run for Mayor. That was not what I had in mind when all of this first started, and I had to consider it for some time—could I do a good job as Mayor for my Kingsbury?

I am not what I would call a “political” person even though my great-grandfather, Joseph Jefferson Mansfield, was a U.S. Congressman from Texas for 30 years, and my grandfather was Guadalupe County

Clerk for 42 years. I had never considered holding an elected office myself, but I'm not the kind of person to shy away from something new. The question remained, though: would I be able to do a good job as Mayor for my Kingsbury? It didn't take me very long to decide that being Mayor was something I very much wanted to do and believed that I can do well.

I've had a lot of adventures in my life so far: I've hiked along the Great Wall of China, dodged grizzly bears and kayaked with humpback whales in Alaska, flown around the state after earning a private pilot's license, scuba dived with giant manta rays off Hawaii, sped down the Autobahn in Germany, and had my share of warm ales in England. You may even spot me riding my Harley down the highway. But wherever I am, my heart remains firmly in Kingsbury, Texas. This may be my biggest adventure yet and I hope to do Kingsbury proud.

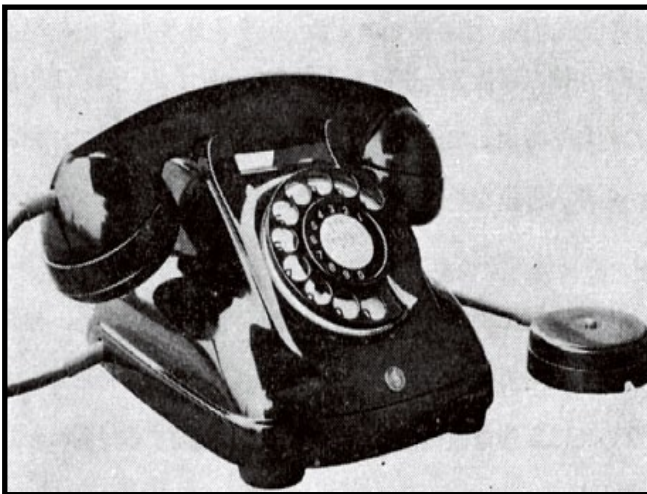
DO YOU REMEMBER?

By Shirley Nolen

KINGSBURY— If you lived in Kingsbury back in the day, you probably remember that to make a phone call, you needed to talk to “Tootsie” first.

Lucille “Tootsie” Coates was the Kingsbury operator when there was no direct dialing. You would pick up the receiver, turn the crank, and Tootsie would immediately come on the line and ask “Number, please?” She lived and worked where the current GVTC (Guadalupe Valley Telephone Co-op) tower and building are today on Kingsbury Road, just north of the railroad tracks, and knew everybody and everything.

Sandra Watts remembers calling Tootsie to reach her parents who did not have a phone. One time when Sandra called, Tootsie said “I just saw your parents at the store. Let me call over there for you and you can talk to them.” Knowing where people were seemed to be an extra service that Tootsie provided. Margaret Taylor remembers several times calling for her mother, Jackie Schmidt, giving Tootsie the number “26” when asked “Number, please?”



only to have Tootsie tell her “Oh she's not home. I just saw her drive by to take Ether home.” Jackie Ball also recalls calling that same “26” for her father Frank “Doc” Schmidt and having Tootsie tell her “I can put you through, but he's not there. I just saw him drive by with a load of cattle.” As a young girl,

Sandra would sometimes visit Tootsie's house where the front room was the telephone switchboard office, and was allowed to ask “Number, please?” of the callers.

Tootsie's parents and grandparents also lived in Kingsbury, and prior to becoming the Kingsbury operator, she worked as a clerk at the post office when “Pa” Halm was the Post Master. So she interacted with everyone at one time or another.

Since Kingsbury was long-distance to everywhere at the time and there were limited long-distance lines, Tootsie was known to break in to your call and say “Waiting, waiting! Are you through?” when she needed a line and thought you were taking a little too long. In fact, her parakeet would sit in its cage and repeat “Number, please?”, “Waiting, waiting!”, and “Are you through?” over and over, having heard those phrases so many times.

At this point in this story, it would be about time for Tootsie to break in and say “Waiting, waiting! Are you through?”



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NOTICE OF MEETING

THE INAUGURAL MEETING OF THE
KINGSBURY CITY COMMISSION

Is scheduled for Saturday, November 21, 2015 at 1:00 P.M.

At the Fellowship Hall of the Kingsbury Baptist Church located at
6901 FM 2438, Kingsbury, TX 78638

This meeting is open to the public. Come learn more about your government and the future of our community.

For more information, visit us at www.kingsburytexas.com

RECIPE CORNER

KINGSBURY—The following Roast Turkey and Christmas Cookie recipes are courtesy of the Kingsbury Volunteer Fire Department's Cookbook "If You Can't Stand The Heat ...". Proceeds from the book support the KFVD and can be purchased from the Fire Department. A bonus slow cooker chicken tortilla soup recipe is provided by the Kingsbury Independent for those who may want to spice things up this holiday season. Happy Thanksgiving and Merry Christmas ya'll!

ROAST TURKEY WITH CHAMPAGNE AND CRAB MEAT SAUCE

1 6-8 lb. turkey breast
1 bottle dry champagne
Salt, pepper, and sage to taste
2 eggs
8 oz. heavy cream
1/4 c. all-purpose flour
2 Tbsp. fresh parsley
3/4 c. celery diced
3/4 c. onion diced
1 lb. fresh crab meat

Season turkey with salt, pepper, and sage. Put in shallow baking pan on a rack. Bake for 15 minutes at 475°. Remove turkey from oven and take off the rack. Pour half the bottle of champagne in the bottom of the pan. Add celery and onion to pan. Return turkey to rack and cover with foil. Bake at 325° for approximately 2 hours. In a blender, add eggs, flour, and cream. Blend. Pour into a saucepan. Add parsley, 1/2 bottle of the champagne, and crab meat. Simmer for about 10 minutes, stirring often. Slice turkey and serve with warm sauce. Serves 12. — *Recipe given to Cathy Medlin by Col. Dewitt Cook*

CHRISTMAS COOKIES

1 c. whiskey
4 eggs
1-1/2 c. sugar
1 stick oleo
3 tsp. baking soda
3 c. flour
3 Tbsp. milk
1 tsp. cinnamon
1 tsp. cloves
1 tsp. nutmeg
1 tsp. allspice
2 lbs. candied cherries
1 box white raisins
6 c. pecans
4 slices candied pineapple

Cream butter and sugar; add eggs, one at a time. Add whiskey, then milk. Sift dry ingredients; add fruit with 1/2 cup flour. Add pecans. Drop by teaspoon on greased cookie sheet. Bake at 300°. Makes 200 cookies.

—From the recipe box of Avis Perryman

SLOW COOKER CHICKEN TORTILLA SOUP

This Slow Cooker Chicken Tortilla Soup recipe is simple to make, naturally gluten-free, and so flavorful and delicious!

Prep: 10 mins; Cook: 4 hours

Total: 4 hours 10 mins

Yield: 6-8 servings

Ingredients:

- 2 boneless skinless chicken breasts (about 1 pound)
- 4 cups good-quality chicken stock
- 2 (14-ounce) cans black beans, rinsed and drained
- 1 (14-ounce) can fire-roasted diced tomatoes, with juice
- 1 (15-ounce) can whole-kernel corn, drained
- 1 (4-ounce) can diced green chiles
- 4 cloves garlic, minced
- 1-2 dried pasilla (negro) chile peppers*
- 1 white onion, peeled and diced
- 2 teaspoons ground cumin
- 1 teaspoon salt, or more/less to taste
- fresh lime wedges
- optional garnishes: chopped fresh cilantro, diced avocado, diced red onion, shredded cheese, sour cream, tortilla strips/chips

Directions:

1. Add all ingredients to a slow cooker, and stir to combine. Cook for 3-4 hours on high heat or 6-8 hours on low heat, until the chicken is cooked through and shreds easily. Use two forks to shred the chicken. Remove the pasilla chile(s), and discard.
2. Serve warm with a squeeze of fresh lime juice, and topped with optional garnishes if desired.
3. You can also refrigerate this soup in a sealed container for up to 4 days. Or freeze it for up to 3 months.

*If you can't find pasilla/negro chiles at the store, you can substitute in 1 ancho chile instead (which is a bit sweeter) or 1 Mulatto chile (which is a little earthier) or 2 teaspoons chile powder (feel free to add more/less to taste). The type of chili you use will be one of the main ingredients to flavor the broth, so feel free to use whatever sounds (and smells) best to you

LT. GOVERNOR ASKS SENATE TO STUDY ANNEXATION AND ETJ REFORM

By Staff Writer

AUSTIN — Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick, in his third set of Interim Studies released on October 12 is asking the Texas Senate to focus on local governments. In particular, he's charged the Inter-Governmental Relations Committee chaired by State Sen. Eddie Lucio, Jr. (D-Brownsville), to examine and improve upon the accountability, transparency, and effectiveness of our state's cities and counties.

Interim Studies are conducted by the Texas Legislature in between formal sessions. They provide an opportunity for the committees to closely study a specific issue and hear extended testimony. Often topics that are selected for an interim study become legislative priorities the following session.

Patrick's news release specifically states, "The Inter-Governmental Relations (IGR) Committee will review and identify concerns related to municipal annexation as well as maintaining the integrity of local ordinances."

Although ultimately unsuccessful, annexation reform efforts gained relatively strong momentum during the recent legislative session. SB 1639, co-authored by State Sen. Donna Campbell (R-New Braunfels) and State Sen. Konni Burton (R-Fort Worth), and HB 2221, authored by State Rep. Dan Huberty (R-Kingwood), made an effort to reform the annexation process by requiring cities to obtain the approval of voters it seeks to govern. Current law allows cities to force annexation on new property owners, which has been heavily scrutinized for its lack of accountability and disregard for citizens' property and voting rights. Unfortunately, while SB 1639 passed out of the Senate chamber, HB 2221 died on a point of order on the House floor.

Members of the Kingsbury Incorporation Committee testified before the Texas Senate on the need to reform annexation and extra territorial jurisdiction laws and the need to expand the rights of those being forcibly

included in the ETJ of a city.

The Lt. Governor's Interim Study request on ETJ and annexation reads, "Identify areas of concern in regards to statutory extraterritorial jurisdiction expansion and the processes used by municipalities for annexation, specifically reviewing whether existing statute strikes the appropriate balance between safeguarding private property rights and encouraging orderly growth and economic development. Make recommendations for legislative action, if necessary."

Patrick has also charged the Senate with strengthening another measure of local government accountability—ballot disclosure. By requiring local governments to disclose the total cost of a specific debt measure on the ballot, voters would be able to make more informed decisions. Unfortunately, previous conservative attempts greater transparency, spurred by former State Comptroller Susan Combs, were defeated by the very entities that benefit from lower standards — local governments and their taxpayer-funded lobbyists.

With local government policy in mind, a contentious topic during the legislative session was the notion of "local control." Some may recall the well-known HB 40, a bill preempting cities from enacting an ordinance that "bans, limits or otherwise regulates an oil and gas operation," a power constitutionally vested in the legislature and the Texas Railroad Commission. This bill, among others, drew attention to the question of local versus state rule. During the session, the fallacious and insubstantial argument of "local control" was used by local government and tax-funded lobbyists to defend unlawful ordinances that undermine state law, property rights, and personal liberty.

HB 40 and Patrick's interim charge is a reminder that local governments, just like citizens, are subject to the laws that govern them. For example, a city would not have the power to ignore Texas' gun laws, by unilaterally declaring their jurisdiction a "gun-free zone."

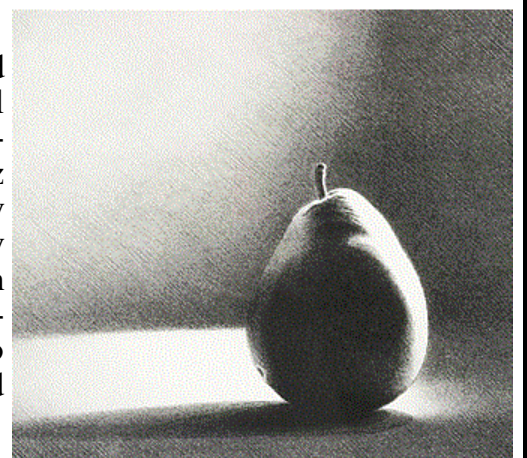
CLASS IS IN SESSION

By Shirley Nolen

On Saturday, November 14th and Sunday, November 15th, class will be in session in Kingsbury ... drawing class! Brenda Nowotny Wurz and the Big Dog Studio and Gallery in the historic downtown Kingsbury Post Office have teamed up with Holly and Charley Pritchard, owners of Luling Ice House Pottery, to host a Drawing I class for interested students.

This weekend workshop will introduce students to basic drawing techniques utilizing charcoal and other black & white media. Instructor Luke Pruett will help students explore line, texture, composition, light, shadow and shading.

The workshop will be 10-4 on Saturday and 1-4 on Sunday in the



Old Post Office downtown. The cost is \$130 per student and includes all materials and supplies.

Space is limited, so call (830) 875-6282 to register!

KINGSBURY, CONTUNUED

to remember. Some of the obvious choices like "PO Box 1" were already taken. I think 99 will do just fine."

INAUGURAL MEETING

The inaugural meeting of the Kingsbury City Commission will be held on Saturday, November 21, 2015 at 1:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall of the Kingsbury Baptist Church. The church is located at 6901 FM 2438. Kingsbury, Texas. The meeting is open to the public and all are invited to share in this historic event.

The meeting will begin with the swearing in of the new Mayor and City Commissioners by Guadalupe

County Judge Kyle Kutscher. Mayor elect Nolen told the Independent that the first meeting will be unusual because there will be many visitors and ceremonial items on the agenda. The first meeting of a city requires several procedural ordinances to be put in place for the city to be able to operate.

Type C cities are required to hold one regular meeting per month according to the Texas Local Government Code. They may hold more meetings as deemed necessary.

RESIDENT SURVEY

The new Kingsbury City Commission is asking for residents' input on several key issues facing the City.



FUTURE KINGSBURY CITY COMMISSIONERS REVIEW THE TEXAS LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE

Knowing that not all residents can attend meetings, they have setup an internet survey. The survey asks resi-

dents to rank the importance of certain issues such as low or zero tax rates, adding the historic downtown Kingsbury into the city, frequency of city elections, municipal codes and others.

The best way for elected officials to know what residents want is to ask them. Please go online and tell your elected leaders your opinion. The survey can be found at:

www.kingsburytexas.org/#!/survey/ery7r

MAYOR-ELECT REPORTS ON REGIONAL MAYORS MEETING

Mayor-elect Shirley Nolen attended her first Guadalupe County Regional Mayors Meeting. The Mayor-elect reports that she was well received.

County Judge Kutscher briefed the Mayors on the Post Oak landfill project which has drawn much local opposition because it lies above a sensitive local water supply.

Mayor-elect Nolen says she is studying the issue so she can report back to Kingsbury residents.

Kingsbury now has a voice and a seat at the table!



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KINGSBURIAN FEATURED IN CEMETERY TOUR

By Shirley Nolen

The Riverside Cemetery in Seguin had its annual "Saints Alive Cemetery Tour" on October 25th. The event picks a few of the most fascinating persons interred there to feature each year, and this year one of the ones chosen was John Schmidt of Kingsbury.

Each grave on the tour has someone portraying the deceased and telling their story in the first person, usually starting with a phrase like "Welcome to my resting place ...". Andrew Nelson is the great-great-grandson of John Schmidt and told the story of how he was born in 1853 in Germany and came to Kingsbury through Indianola (as did many German immigrants) at just 8 months

old. His father, Johannes Schmidt, purchased land on Long Branch in 1867 making him one of the earliest residents of this area. Johannes is buried on that land and his descendants continue to own and ranch on that property to this day.

John Schmidt farmed and ranched his entire life in Kingsbury and it is said that the loading pens at the Kingsbury train depot might have belonged to John because he



used them so frequently. After his death, his daughter, Violet Wiley, was upset that the cemetery caretaker's horse was walking all over his grave. Her brother, "Doc" Schmidt, let her know that their father would like nothing better.

John traded at Halm's Store in Kingsbury and once told Mr. Halm that his credit was getting out of hand and to not allow any more credit. But when he came in one night and the table was empty, he told Mr. Halm to continue letting his wife, Marie, purchase groceries on credit.

While in his horse and buggy in 1932, John was killed when his buggy was struck by an automobile. His descendants, however, continue to live and thrive throughout the Kings-



bury area to this day.

REMEMBERING KINGSBURIAN WE'VE LOST

Ruby Mae Hurt — Ruby Mae (Neuse) Hurt of Kingsbury passed away on July 19, 2015 at the age of 86. She was born April 21, 1929 near Zuehl, Texas to Edwin J and Ruby (Larison) Neuse. Ruby was the longtime postmistress at the Kingsbury Post Office as well as a devoted member of the Kingsbury United Methodist Church. She was preceded in death by her husband Lloyd Frank Hurt; her parents Edwin and Ruby Neuse; sisters June Heideke and Mary Bond, and brothers Edwin "Dutch" Neuse and Marvin Neuse. Ruby is survived by her children Francis Hurt and husband Bill McCawley, Linda Tart and husband Bob, and Roger Hurt and wife Debbie.

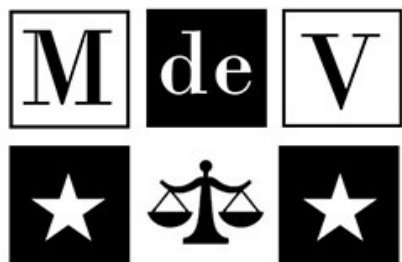
Preston Engelke — Preston Thomas

Engelke, a wonderful father, grandpa, GREAT grandpa, and friend, but most of all a devoted Husband of 65 years passed away on Wednesday, August 5, 2015 in Seguin surrounded by his loving family. He was 91 years old. Preston was born at home in Kingsbury, Texas to August and Bertha (Schuchardt) Engelke, Jr. He was a graduate of Kingsbury High School. He met the love of his life, Doris Dolle, and later married her at the Friedens United Church of Christ in Geronimo, Texas on September 25, 1948. During his working career he was the parts manager for Berg Truck and Implement, an International Harvester dealer in Seguin and New Braunfels. He owned his own ranch that he called "The Ponderosa," in Kingsbury, which he referred to as

God's Country. Preston enjoyed the outdoors, especially hunting during deer season. He was an amazing dancer and a member of the Friedens United Church of Christ. He found special joy in watching his four granddaughters at ballgames, cheerleading competitions and dance recitals. In the past year his greatest pleasure was spending quality time with his great granddaughter, Alyana. He lived a wonderful life and will be missed by all. Preston leaves behind his cherished daughters Gail LaFerrara and her husband Steve of Seguin, Texas, and Cindy Herzik and her husband David of Bay City, Texas.

Lou Ann Chernik Myers — Lou Ann (Chernik) Myers passed away on Jul. 14, 2015. Lou Ann married Virgil J Myers June 2, 1944 at Berg-

strom Air Base in Austin, Texas. She was known for her sweet personality and gentle spirit. She was an excellent Mother, Grandmother, homemaker, cook, canner, and seamstress. She was an active member of her church, Kingsbury United Methodist, until she was no longer physically able. She was preceded in death by her parents, husband Virgil, and sister Georgia Hrachovy. She is survived by her children, Forest Myers of Spicewood; Steve Myers and wife Patsy of D'Hanis; Kathi Gremillion and husband Earl of McDade; Kaye Koehler and husband Greg of Seguin; sister, Jo Lene Whitehurst of Houston; sister-in-law, and Marva Maxwell and husband Hugh of Lyle, Illinois.



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WHAT HAPPENED TO THE APOSTLES?

By Art Martinez de Vara

The Gospels tell us that Jesus chose twelve Apostles from among his many disciples and sent them in pairs to preach the Gospel. The book of Acts of the Apostles in the Bible tells us what the Apostles did after Jesus was crucified and resurrected, but it does not tell us the complete story. This article will look at the history and tradition of what the Apostles did after the events described in the Acts of the Apostles and how they died. Primary sources from the Apostolic age are rare and "history" written in that age often blends local tradition, legend and fact. Eusebius of Caesaria wrote the first History of the Church in the 260s AD. Other sources include non-Christian authors such as Josephus and Pliny the Younger who had no motive to promote the Christian cause in their writings.

The article will also look at three who are called Apostles in the Bible, but were not among the twelve: Paul, Barnabas and James the Just.

1. Simon, who was called Peter and Simon bar Jonah by Jesus, Cephas (Greek for Peter) by St. Paul and Simon Peter (John 1:44). After the events in Acts Peter went to Antioch, which is in modern day Turkey. There he became its first Bishop. St. Paul speaks of meeting with Peter in Antioch in Galatians 2:11. We also know that he visited Corinth from 1 Corinthians 1:12. Ultimately he ended up in Rome, where he became its first Bishop (see 1 Peter 5:13) and the first Pope.

Legend tells the story of how St. Peter publicly challenged a heretic named Simon Magus, or Simon the Magician. Simon had created his own religion and declared himself a God. While Simon was performing a magic trick to demonstrate his powers to the audience, Peter kneeled and prayed to God. Simon then fell to the ground and broke his leg demonstrating to the crowd that he was a mortal and many converted to Christianity. Since then the term "simony" has been used to describe the sin of buying a religious office or creating one's own religion.

St. Mark the Evangelist was a companion of Peter. Tradition holds that Mark traveled with Peter who eventually was sent by him to Alexandria in Egypt to start a Christian community there. In Alexandria, Mark wrote the Gospel of Mark to preserve Peter's teachings about Christ.

Peter saw his wife die as a martyr. St. Clement of Alexandria tells the story, "They relate that the blessed Peter, seeing his own wife led away to execution, was delighted on account of her calling and return to her country, and that he cried to her in a consolatory and encouraging voice, addressing her by name: 'Oh thou, remember, the Lord!' Such was the marriage of these blessed ones, and such was their perfect affection towards their dearest friends."

Jesus predicted the manner in which Peter would die, "...when you are old you will stretch out your hands, and another will gird you and take you where you do not want to go." Jesus said this to indicate the kind of death by which Peter would glorify God" John 21:18-19. Peter was crucified upside down in Rome in the year 64AD, during the Persecution of Nero. The Basilica of St. Peter was built on top of the Peter's grave by the first Christian Emperor Constantine in the 300's. In the 1940's, 1900 years after Peter was buried, the tradition that Peter was buried under the altar at the Basilica was proven to be true when archeologists uncovered the tomb of Peter

exactly where tradition said it would be. Today visitors to the Vatican can visit the tomb of Peter the Apostle.

2. Andrew, brother of Peter, a Bethsaida fisherman and disciple of John the Baptist, and also the First-Called Apostle. Andrew was very active. Various writers describe him preaching in Cappadocia, Galatia, and Bithynia (all in modern Turkey), then in the Scythian deserts (Armenia to Afghanistan), afterwards in Byzantium, Thrace, Macedonia, Thessaly, and Achaia (Greece). It is generally agreed that he was crucified by order of the Roman Governor, Aegeas or Aegeates, at Patrae in Achaia, and that he was bound, not nailed, to the cross, in order to prolong his sufferings. The cross on which he suffered is commonly held to have been the decussate cross, now known as St. Andrew's Cross. His martyrdom took place during the reign of Nero, on 30 November, A.D. 60. St. Andrew's remains were taken to Constantinople about A.D. 357. When Constantinople was taken by the French, in the beginning of the thirteenth century, Cardinal Peter of Capua brought the relics to Italy and placed them in the cathedral of Amalfi, where most of them still remain.

3. James, the son of Zebedee, called one of the "Sons of Thunder" by Jesus (Mk 3:17). Tradition holds that James went to Spain. On January 2, 40 AD, the Virgin Mary appeared to James on the bank of the Ebro River at Caesaraugusta, while he was preaching the Gospel in Spain. She appeared upon a pillar, Nuestra Señora del Pilar, and that pillar is conserved and venerated within the present Basilica of Our Lady of the Pillar, in Zaragoza, Spain. Following that apparition, St. James returned to Judea, where he was beheaded by King Herod Agrippa I in the year 44. His remains were brought back to Spain and buried at Compostela in Northeast Spain, which has been one of the major Christian pilgrimage sites for hundreds of years. A later tradition states that he miraculously appeared to fight for the Christian army during the battle of Clavijo during the Reconquista of Spain against the Moors, and was henceforth called "Matamoros" (Moor-slayer). For this reason "Santiago y cierra España" ("St. James and strike for Spain") has been the traditional battle cry of Spanish armies.

4. John, son of Zebedee, called one of the "Sons of Thunder" by Jesus (Mk 3:17). John stayed in Judea for 12 years until the persecution of Herod Agrippa I. He then went to Ephesus before Paul did, but his stay there in this first period was neither long nor uninterrupted. He returned with the other disciples to Jerusalem for the Apostolic Council (about A.D. 51). Paul in opposing his enemies in Galatia names John explicitly along with Peter and James the Just as a "pillar of the Church" and refers to the recognition that his Apostolic preaching of a gospel free from the law received from these three, the most prominent men of the messianic community at Jerusalem (Galatians 2:9).

John later returned to Ephesus, with the Virgin Mary. Tradition holds that he was the author of five books of the New Testament, including the Gospel of John, the Letters of John and Revelation. John was allegedly banished by the Roman authorities to the Greek island of Patmos, where some believe that he wrote the Book of Revelation. According to Tertullian John was banished after being plunged into boiling oil in Rome and suffering nothing from it. His tomb is located at Selçuk, a small town in the vicinity of Ephesus. When John was old

he trained Polycarp, later Bishop of Smyrna. This was important because Polycarp was able to carry John's message to another age and his writings remain with us.

5. Philip, from Bethsaida "of Galilee" (John 1:44) and former disciple of John the Baptist. There is some confusion in the historical record about Philip because of the existence of two Philips. One was the Apostle and other was known as "the Deacon". The traditions of the two Philips are so intertwined by various authors that it is difficult to separate them. St. Victor, writing about 189-98 mentions among the "great lights", whom the Lord will seek on the "last day", "Philip, one of the Twelve Apostles, who is buried in Hieropolis with his two daughters, who grew old as virgins", and a third daughter, who "led a life in the Holy Ghost and rests in Ephesus." On the other hand, according to the Dialogue of Caius, "there were four prophetesses, the daughters of Philip, at Hieropolis in Asia where their and their father's grave is still situated." The Acts 21:8-9 does indeed mention four prophetesses, the daughters of the deacon and "Evangelist" Philip, as then living in Caesarea with their father. Although it is difficult to decide which of the two, the Apostle or the deacon, was buried in Hieropolis. Many modern historians believe that it was the deacon; it is, however, possible that the Apostle was buried there and that the deacon also lived and worked there and was there buried with three of his daughters and that the latter were afterwards erroneously regarded as the children of the Apostle. The remains of the Philip who was buried in Hieropolis were later moved to Constantinople and then to the church of the Dodici Apostoli in Rome, where they remain today.

6. Bartholomew, also identified with the Nathanael of John 1:45-1:51. He is mentioned in all four Gospels, but nowhere else in the Bible. His name is patronymic, Bar Talmi, meaning "Son of Tolmi". Eusebius, mentions that Pantaeus, while evangelizing India, was told that the Apostle had preached there before him and had given to his converts the Gospel of St. Matthew written in Hebrew, which was still treasured by the Church. In Eusebius' time (300 AD), "India" was a name covering a very wide area, including Arabia. Other traditions represent St. Bartholomew as preaching in Mesopotamia, Persia, Egypt, Armenia, Lycaonia, Phrygia, and on the shores of the Black Sea. His death is said to have occurred at Albanopolis in Armenia; according to some, he was beheaded, according to others, flayed alive and crucified, head downward, by order of Astyages, for having converted his brother, Polymius, King of Armenia. His relics are preserved in the church of St. Bartholomew-in-the-Island, at Rome. His feast is celebrated on 24 August.

7. Thomas, also known as Judas Thomas Didymus. Thomas comes from the Aramaic 'Toma' meaning twin, while the Greek word Didymous, also means twin. Therefore, "Thomas Didymus" is a descriptive or nick-name meaning "the twin." His real name is likely Judas, but was called Thomas because of the presence of other Judas'. Thomas went to Parthia (Afghanistan) and then India.

There is a long tradition in the church at Edessa honoring Thomas as the Apostle of India Thomas' bones were brought from India to Edessa by a merchant, and that the relics worked miracles both in India and at Edessa. It is believed that St. Thomas went to Kerala, India to spread Christianity. Even today people flock to

the Church at Malayattoor, India which he founded. Thomas landed in AD 52 and founded seven churches popularly known as Ezharappallikal. This Thomasine Christian community continues to this day. Over the years many Western travelers and missionaries have traveled to India and came in contact with this Christian community there, including Thomas Cana (359 AD), Cosmos Indicopleustes (522 AD), Marco Polo (1200's), and Vasco Da Gama (1498).

Thomas the Apostle left Kerala and moved northwards by sea and reached a small village called Palayur, near Guruvayoor which was a priestly class settlement at that time. Here he conversed with priestly class, including four prominent rich and priestly class families who were baptized by St. Thomas himself. The four prominent Hindu families who accepted the Christian faith were Kali, Kalikavu, Pakalomattom & Sankarapuri and have remained identifiable for almost 2000 years due to India's caste system.

Because of their isolation from the rest of Christianity for nearly 1500 years, the Thomasite Christians developed their own independent traditions. They are today part of the Catholic Church under the authority of the Pope in Rome. Their liturgy and customs are valid Rites within the Catholic Church. They have two Rites the Syro-Malabar Rite with four million members and The Syro-Malankara Rite with five hundred thousand members.

Thomas' remains were removed from Ephesus in the 300's to Constantinople, then taken to the Greek island of Chios, on September 6, 1258, and now rest in Ortona, Italy.

8. James, son of Alphaeus. According to tradition, even though James the Less clung strongly to Jewish law, he was sentenced to death for having violated the same. It is said that James the Less was martyred by crucifixion at the city of Ostrakine in Lower Egypt, where he was preaching the Gospel. A carpenter's saw is the symbol associated with him in Christian art because it is also noted that his body was later sawed to pieces.

9. Matthew, the tax collector, also known as Levi son of Alphaeus. Eusebius says that was a Syrian and tax-gatherer at Capharnaum, he collected custom duties for Herod Antipas, and, although a Jew, was despised by the Pharisees, who hated all publicans. St. Irenaeus tells us that Matthew preached the Gospel among the Hebrews. St. Clement of Alexandria claiming that he did this for fifteen years, and Eusebius maintains that, before going into other countries, he gave them his Gospel in the mother tongue. Ancient writers do not agree on which countries were evangelized by Matthew, but almost all mention Ethiopia, and some Persia and the kingdom of the Parthians, Macedonia, and Syria. There is a disagreement as to the place of St. Matthew's martyrdom and the kind of torture inflicted on him, therefore it is not known whether he was burned, stoned, or beheaded. St. Matthew is represented under the symbol of a winged man, carrying in his hand a lance as a characteristic emblem.

10. Simon the Canaanite, called in Luke and Acts "Simon the Zealot". Simon is often associated with St. Jude as a proselytizing team; they share their feast day on 28 October. The most widespread tradition is that after evangelizing in Egypt, he joined Jude in Persia and Ar-

THE ORIGIN OF THE “LONE STAR” AS A SYMBOL OF TEXAS

By Art Martinez de Vara

Texas history is notable for its legends, tall tales and heroic characters. Myth and fact intertwine in the complex story of Texas, its origins and independence. The Lone Star, as a symbol of Texas, is one of these legendary tales that has come to define Texas. Today the lone star is emblazoned on our state flag. We teach our children that it symbolizes Texas as an independent nation and Texans in their independent character. But where did it originate?

Many will be surprised to learn that the first known use of the lone star as a symbol for Texas was made by José Antonio de la Garza, the original land grantee of what is today Sandy Oaks, Texas. As postmaster of San Antonio he minted official coins with his initials on one side and a lone star on the other.

José Antonio de la Garza was born in San Antonio on May 31, 1776. His parents were Leonardo de la Garza and Magdalena Martínez. His family were converses, or forced Jewish converts to Christianity, who settled in Nuevo Leon, Mexico from the Canary Islands in the late 16th century.

In 1813, José Antonio de la Garza was elected mayor of San Antonio, in what was perhaps the most eventful year in the city's history. Early in the year, a revolutionary army of Tejanos took the town and declared independence from Spain. By year's end the revolution was squashed at the Battle of Medina, the town was devastated by the Spanish and its population scattered into exile.

Economic despair set in as a result of depopulation and increased hostilities of rebels and Indians. Apparently, community leaders prevailed upon the governor of the province, Lt. Col. Manuel Prado, to authorize Manuel



1818 COPPER 1/2 REAL “JOLA” 1ST USE OF THE LONE STAR

Barrera to coin 8,000 copper coins to facilitate commerce in March of 1817. No specimens are currently known from this minting.

In May 1817, Prado was succeeded by Antonio Martínez as governor and military commander of the province of Texas. In December 1818, he granted the request of José Antonio de la Garza, the local postmaster, to mint 500 pesos' worth of "small change in copper coins called Jolas, which shall circulate only through the town with values of one half of a "Real each." This amounts to 8,000 pieces authorized. The small coins were worth the equivalent of a nickel. In a town with a population of about 2,000 people, this would have had a significant impact on relieving the shortage of small change.

The petition granted also stated that "these shall be engraved with the first letters of my name and surname and the year of this date." Garza was also required to redeem Barrera's coins issued the previous year in exchange for his own. Perhaps this exchange was so successful that no Barrera Jolas survived. While significant parts of the United States were at one point Spanish territory, the Texas Jola is a unique issue in that it is the only

known Spanish Colonial coin made in what is now the United States of America.

The de la Garza Jolas first came to the attention of collectors when one was sent to *The Numismatist*, the study or collection of currency, including coins, tokens, paper money, and related objects, which published a line drawing of the piece in 1903, but was unable to provide any information to its owner. A historian knew of them in 1892 but this knowledge did not make it to numismatic circles for more than half a century. Meanwhile, the house in which de la Garza may have minted these coins was destroyed in 1912, so all information about this issue is likely to come from the coins themselves and documents in the Bexar Archives. It has been speculated that the star on the reverse was the inspiration for the "Lone Star" that became and is perhaps the best known symbol of Texas. In 1959, a group of approximately 60 specimens was discovered during excavation work along the San Antonio River. The area of the find was once a 19th century campground used by cowboys. A few others have been discovered since, virtually all of which have been dug. Apparently

they did not circulate long, so most are not greatly worn but, having been buried, most do show corrosion. After acquiring permission from the Spanish government of the time, Garza acquired a reputation throughout Texas due to his initials "JAG", being on one side of the coin, along with the year "1818". Garza struck his coins in his home located on Houston and Soledad Street over a period of a year and a half. The home was destroyed in 1912.

In 1824, thanks to the success of its currency, Garza was granted two leagues of land in what would become South Bexar County and the City of Sandy Oaks, becoming thus one of the largest landowners in Bexar County. His ranch head was located between San Antonio and Medina River.

In 1832, Garza was renamed Mayor of San Antonio. In this year he signed the articles resulting from the Convention of 1832. Probably at the beginning of 1834 he bought the San Francisco de la Espada Mission. This purchase, however, was deemed illegal by some residents, leading to a rejection of him, which was further strengthened when, in the middle of Texas Revolution, some of the residents of the city thought that the owner's family sympathized more with the idea that Texas should remain Mexican.

In the 1840s he and his family moved to a new home near Calaveras Lake. The house, a two-story structure was built forty years earlier, in 1801 and had a triple function: it could serve as a church, school and community center. Garza probably died on May 5, 1851 in San Antonio. In 1876 Garza County was named after the Garza family, which had been in San Antonio for two centuries.

APOSTLES, CONTINUED

menia, where both were martyred. In art, Simon has the identifying attribute of a saw because he was put to death by a saw.

11. Judas Iscariot, also called "Judas, the son of Simon". The name Iscariot may refer to the Judean town of Keri-oth or to the sicarii a sect of Jewish militants), or to the Jewish name Issachar. He was replaced as an apostle in Acts by Matthias.

12. Matthias, According to Nicephorus, Matthias first preached the Gospel in Judea, then in Georgia and was crucified in Colchis. A marker placed in the ruins of the Roman fortress at Gonio in the modern Georgian region of Adjara claims that Matthias is buried at that site. Nearly all traditions claim that Mathias preached the Gospel among cannibals.

13. Jude, also called as Thaddaeus and Judas, son of James. He was brother of James the Less. He is credited in the Armenian Apostolic Church with bringing Christianity to Armenia. Nicephorus Callistus made him the bridegroom at the wedding at Cana, an assertion quoted by Eusebius, according

to whom Jude returned to Jerusalem in the year 62, and assisted at the election of his brother, Simeon, as Bishop of Jerusalem. He preached the Gospel in Judea, Samaria, Idumaea, Syria, Mesopotamia and Libya. According to tradition, Jude was son of Cleophas and Mary Cleophas, a cousin of the Virgin Mary. Jude's father, Cleophas, was murdered because of his forthright and outspoken devotion to the risen Christ. After Mary Cleophas's death, miracles were attributed to her intercession. Jude had several brothers, including James, one of the original Apostles. His own first name, Jude, means giver of joy, while Thaddeus, another name he was called, means generous and kind. He was later married, had at least one child, and there are references to his grandchildren living as late as 95 A.D. He was possibly martyred with Saint Simon in Persia. Sometime after his death, Saint Jude's body was brought to Rome and placed in a crypt in St. Peter's Basilica which is visited by many devotees.

Others called "Apostles" in the Bible but not among the Twelve.

Barnabas, in Acts 14:14, he is referred to as an apostle. Barnabas was a Jew from Antioch and an early convert. His cousin John Mark is Mark the

Evangelist, the disciple of Peter. We know from Luke and Acts that Barnabas traveled with Paul on at least two missionary journeys. In Galatians we learn that he continued making missionary journeys after leaving Paul. Barnabas was martyred for preaching the gospel in Cypress. A group of Jews fell upon him as he was disputing in a synagogue, dragged him out and stoned him to death. His cousin, John Mark was a witness and privately interred his body in a cave, where it remained till the time of the Emperor Zeno, in the year 485 AD. A monastery built in his name at Salamis, Cyprus, is where a tomb reputed to hold his remains was found in 488. He is venerated as the Patron Saint of Cyprus.

James the Just, also called James the Brother of Jesus. At that time the word "brother" was used to mean a close male relative, including cousins. James was a cousin of Jesus, not his biological brother. He is referred to as an apostle by Paul in Galatians 1:19. He was the 1st Bishop of Jerusalem Church, leading the Jerusalem Church after Jesus' Resurrection. In 62 AD, the Sanhedrin condemned James "on the charge of breaking the law," for teaching the Gospel then had him executed by stoning.

Paul of Tarsus, Apostle to the Gen-

tiles, describes himself as an apostle in his Letters (ex. Romans 1:1). He was appointed an Apostle by the resurrected Jesus. (Romans 11:13, Galatians 2:8). Paul was charged with breaking the Jewish law, for teaching Christianity. He claimed his right as a Roman citizen to be tried in Rome and languished in jail at Caesarea for two years. Paul was then sent by sea to Rome. During this trip to Rome, Paul was shipwrecked on Malta, where he preached the Gospel, and the people converted to Christianity. It is thought that Paul continued his journey by sea to Syracuse, on the Italian island of Sicily before eventually going to Rome. Acts 28:30-31 states that Paul spent another two years in Rome under house arrest and continued to preach the gospel. Paul was beheaded in the reign of the Roman Emperor Nero along with Peter. He was buried with Saint Peter in the Roman Catacombs by the Via Appia and moved to what is now the Basilica of Saint Paul Outside the Walls in Rome.

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