

# Lists

by Bonnie Lovince

lists, LISTS, LISTS, Lists, lists and yet, one more.

Lists are a tremendous part of the New Year celebration. Lists of things to do, of things not to do. Lists with dreams and hopes for what could be. Lists that add onto already large 'agenda lists' of reality, that include (but certainly are not limited to) bills, groceries, errand stops, tasks to be completed, repairs to be made, necessity lists, novelty lists, letters to send, items to be donated, items to keep, seeds to plant, measurements, invitation lists, supply lists.....and on an on I

could go, but need I, really? Indeed, life is full of lists. Series of one consequential item after another. Now, indicating an acknowledgement for how weighted we already are with lists, but...in keeping with the theme of the holiday (and in hopes this simple list may be as helpful for another), I present just one more little list.

#### Rules To Live By:

1. To be thankful, in all things. Good, bad, happy, sad. The magic of this is in the transformation of the heart.
2. To read. Exercise the mind. Expand. Broaden the

thought process.

3. To exercise. Garden, walk, move, something magical happens when the body moves.

4. Write. Just write. Exercise that desire to express. To be a writer is the process of writing. Not to necessarily leave behind but to sort out thoughts and feelings.

5. Goal, plan, achieve, project. Always be developing something.

6. Rest, this includes sleep, meditating, prayer, thought. To be still without unnecessary distraction.

7. Keep balanced. Eating, drinking, sleeping,

working, anything you do, to keep it from becoming too big and occupying too much of you (or your family).

8. Watch, observe, learn, use the eyes and ears more than the mouth. Observe without passing judgement.

9. Play. Enjoy. Trust the things that give you pleasure (swimming, faith, photography, etc). Laugh and smile about that.

10. Keep focused. Don't be distracted by all the little (and big) things that demand attention. Keep your eyes

on the bulls eye. Remember, it's the follow through that hits

the target.

My mother gave me this list, handwritten in an old black and white composition notebook when she dropped me off for college. This list has accompanied me through the last eight years of my life. Many transitions have come and gone and it has grounded me, acting as a magnet pulling me back when I wander too far. It's been a resource and a tool. So, in the spirit of this season I share this list, a little tool, passed on to me and now to you.

## THE TOP EVERYTHING OF 2010

by Elaine Padgett Carnegie

At the end of every year we look back and wonder where we have been and where we are going... Here, according to TIME Magazine, is what we will remember about the year 2010.

One of the biggest scientific discoveries of this year was "water on the moon". Top medical breakthroughs included AIDS drugs that lower the risk of HIV infection, Synthetic Cell Research and a blood test for Alzheimer's. Top green story in the news was The Oil Spill and What it Didn't Change.

Top food trends are the New Naturalism and "Locavores" gone wild! I had no idea what a "Locavore" was; so I looked it up and this is what I found...the eat-local movement in the U.S. is promoting the consumption local products grown within

50 miles of your home. Of course not every food we eat can be grown within 50 miles, but the days of not knowing or caring where your food comes from and how much pesticide residue they contain, seems to be over and the supermarkets are learning it as well.

Movies were "Toy Story 3", delightful children's epic and "Inside Job", a documentary about the causes of the 2008 financial meltdown, and the fundamental delusions that led to the crash. Non-fiction books on top for 2010 were "Unbroken" by Laura Hillenbrand and "The Last Boy: Mickey Mantle and the End of America's Childhood" by Jane Leavey. Top fiction came in with "Freedom" by Jonathon Franzen and "A Visit From the Goon Squad" by Jennifer Egan. Breaking Bad and Mad Men topped the TV Series for 2010 and top

episodes were Friday Night Lights, "The Son" and Mad Men, "The Suitcase".

Top Country Albums were "Need You Now" by Lady Antebellum and "Fearless" by Taylor Swift. Top Country songs were "Love Like Crazy" by Lee Brice; "Rain Is A Good Thing" by Luke Bryan. Country Videos topping the charts were Blake Shelton's "Who Are You When I'm Not Looking"; and Miranda Lambert's "The House That Built Me".

Animal stories making top news were the "Animal Fight to Survive the Oil Spill" and the "Reign of the Bed Bugs"! Top apologies making news for the year were Tiger Woods to everyone for cheating on his wife, and British Prime Minister David Cameron to the families of victims of Bloody Sunday. Bloody Sunday occurred in

1972...here is a recap...13 Catholic demonstrators in Northern Ireland were killed by British soldiers. It became a bitter point of contention to Northern Ireland. In June 2010 after a 12 years investigation "proved" the 13 were unarmed, David Cameron offered a public apology, noting that "you do not defend the British army by defending the indefensible."

Top two News Stories for 2010 were the Wikileaks and the Haiti Earthquake, top US News Stories were the BP Oil Spill and the rise of the Tea Party. For those of us who don't know yet the "Tea Party" is anti-big government, heartland conservatives who are fierce libertarians and suspicion of big government; sponsored by wealthy patrons including the billionaire Charles and David Koch brothers, and supported by Sarah Palin

and Glenn Beck, among others.

Top business deals were General Motors IPO and the United and Continental Merger. The two at the head of the list in the "Comeback" division were, funny enough listed as Conan O'Brian and General Motors! Topping the crime list was Borderline Killings: When Murder Becomes Politics. Memorable Public Feuds were Sarah Palin versus Levi Johnson and the Tea Party versus the NAACP!

Iraq became an old story as media coverage slipped, "wars and rumors of wars" abounded, typhoons and earthquakes; incalculable cruelty amid unbelievable humanitarianism and heroism... We are at both our worst and our best...another year in the history of man kind.



## WELCOME TO GRANNY'S KITCHEN

With the temptation of fast food, processed meals, and eating out, it's difficult to spend time to prepare good, healthy, home-cooked meals. If you're like many, the last thing you want to do after coming home from work is prepare a [gourmet](#) dinner. By using your crock [pot](#) and spending 5-10 minutes each morning, you can come home to delicious home-cooked meals without hours of preparation right before dinnertime.

### Salsa Chicken

Ingredients:

6 boneless skinless chicken breasts

1 1/2 cups salsa

1 tsp ground cumin

3 tbsp lime juice

Spray crock pot with non-stick cooking spray. Place [chicken](#) in slow cooker, pour salsa over chicken. Cover and cook on low 6-7 hours or high 3 hours, until chicken is tender and no longer pink. Stir in cumin and lime juice, cover and cook an additional 15 minutes.

Note: For an extra spicy kick, add a pinch of ground red chili powder with the cumin and lime juice.

### Lemon Chicken

Ingredients:

4 boneless skinless [chicken breasts](#)

1/4 cup lemon juice

1/3 cup water

2 cloves minced garlic

1 tsp thyme

Spray [crock pot](#) with non-stick cooking spray. Place chicken in crock pot. Combine juice, water, garlic, and thyme in a small bowl, pour over chicken. Cover and cook on low 8 hours or high 4 hours.

### Ranch Chicken

Ingredients:

6 boneless skinless chicken breasts

1 can condensed cream of chicken soup

1 envelope ranch dressing mix

1/2 cup water

1/2 cup sour cream

2 tbsp ranch dressing

2 tbsp flour

Spray crock pot with non-stick cooking spray. Place chicken breasts in crock pot. In a small bowl, combine soup, ranch dressing mix, and water; pour over chicken. Cover and cook on low 8 hours or high 4 hours. Remove chicken from crock pot. Stir in sour cream, ranch dressing, and flour; replace chicken. Cover and cook on high 20 minutes.

Note: Ranch chicken leftovers are perfect for sandwiches, chicken tortilla wraps, or a tasty chicken casserole.

### Slow Cooker - Pigs in a Blanket Cabbage Rolls Recipe

To Prepare Cabbage: Fill a large stock [pot](#) with water and bring to a rapid boil. Take the core out of each head of cabbage. Place head into boiling water, cover and cook for 5 minutes, remove from water immediately. With one head, start taking the leaves off, being careful not to tear them. They should be pliable, if not, place back into the water for an additional minute or two.

Cabbage Rolls

2 large heads cabbage

2 to 3 lbs. lean ground beef

1 large onion, chopped

6 cups cooked rice

1 hot [pepper](#), finely diced

1 teaspoon paprika

1 teaspoon salt

1 can tomato soup

1/2 can warm water

Fry the lean ground beef and chopped onion in a large [skillet](#) over medium heat until it's not longer pink; drain grease. In a [large mixing bowl](#), combine the cooked ground beef mixture with cooked rice, diced [hot pepper](#), paprika and salt, set aside.

On a clean surface, such as a [cutting board](#), place 2 to 3 tablespoons of meat mixture onto the center of the cabbage leaf. Overlap the sides of the leaf and roll. Repeat until your meat mixture is completely used up.

Place rolls into your slow cooker (crock pot) and pour the can of tomato soup over top along with a 1/2 can of warm water. Turn the dial to high heat, cover and slow cook them for 4 hours or until done.

If desired, you can freeze the left-overs for up to 6 months in your freezer as this recipe will make approximately 25 to 35 cabbage rolls.

### Coca-Cola Pot Roast

Ingredients

3 pound beef

2 Tbs. oil

1 each tomatoes, can

1 cup coca-cola

1 each onion, chopped

1 each spaghetti sauce mix

1 1/2 Tsp. salt

1/2 Tsp. garlic salt

Directions

Directions: Brown meat in oil for ten minutes on each side; remove to crockpot. Drain fat. Break up tomatoes in their juice; add remaining ingredients, stirring until spaghetti sauce mix is dissolved. Pour over meat. Cover; simmer until meat is tender. Thicken gravy; serve over sliced meat.



### Crock Pot Lasagna

1 box rigatoni, [cooked](#)

1 1/2 lbs. ground beef, browned & drained

1 lg. pkg. sliced [pepperoni](#)

1 green pepper, chopped

2 lg. pkg. grated Mozzarella cheese

2 lg. cans [pizza sauce](#)

1 med. onion, chopped

8 oz. mushrooms

Green olives, sliced

Begin with layer of sauce on bottom of crock pot. Stir all remaining ingredients together. Place in crock pot and cook on low for 5 hours.



# A message from Matthew Frantz

All churches and many Christians will identify the three great Christian virtues as FAITH, HOPE and LOVE. Ever since Paul strung these words together in his letter to the Corinthians in 55 AD these words have been heard in sermons, plastered on book covers, sewn into banners, sung in lyrics and eloquently spoken in every wedding. These three virtuous character traits are the source from which all Christian deeds are to spring. They are the standard by which all Christian activity is measured. Christians are to always "keep the faith," never "give up hope," and continue to "live a life of love."

In many cases clergy consider their job done if the church has named their local assembly with these words ("Hope Church", "Faith Church", etc.) and are weekly encouraged by hear-

ing these words in sermons and lyrics or seeing them on banners and bulletins. But, without teaching the Word of God to people this approach will get as little result as a basketball coach who hollers at his team in the locker room during half time about rebounding without having spent the necessary time in the gym practicing and teaching rebounding technique. The coach can write the word "REBOUNDING" on the locker room chalk board. He can spend his precious halftime minutes hollering about how statistics prove that winning teams must rebound to win. But, if the players do not have the skills and have not practiced the technique the only thing the coach is preparing his athletes for is a future career as coaches who also holler about rebounding at halftime.

Each of these virtues - FAITH, HOPE and LOVE - come from knowing the Word of God. According to the Scriptures themselves the Christian must hear the Word of God, understanding the promises of God and know God's ways in order to have faith, hope and love. First, concerning FAITH:

Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ. -Romans 10:17

Second, concerning HOPE:

Because God wanted to make the unchanging nature of his purpose very clear to the heirs of what was promised, he confirmed it with an oath. God did this so that, by two unchangeable things in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled to take hold of the hope offered to us may be greatly encouraged. We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure. - Hebrews 6:17-19

Third, concerning LOVE:

Now that you have purified yourselves by obeying the truth so that you have sincere love for your brothers, love one another deeply, from the heart. For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God. For, 'All men are like grass, and all their glory is like the flowers of the field; the grass withers and the flowers, fall, but the word of the Lord stands forever.' And this is the word that was preached to you. Therefore, rid your-

selves of all malice and all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander of every kind. Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in our salvation, now that you have tasted that the Lord is good." - 1 Peter 1:22-2:3

Only when faith, hope and love are instilled in the thinking (in the soul, in the world view, etc.) of the Christian will they be able to produce the deeds that come from faith, hope or love.

Notice that Paul credits FAITH, HOPE and LOVE for being the source of the Thessalonian's Christian performance which is identified as WORK, LABOR and ENDURANCE:

We continually remember before our God and Father your work produced by FAITH, your labor prompted by LOVE, and your endurance inspired by HOPE in our Lord Jesus Christ. - 1 Thessalonians 1:3

Even faith, hope and love are not the final goal of the Christian life. Faith, hope and love are character traits that will produce what everyone is hollering about, which is, good Christian conduct. Faith, hope and love will produce the Chris-

tian life, just like rebounding will help produce the victory. But, even then, FAITH, HOPE and LOVE come from good, basic bible teaching (Romans 1:17; Hebrews 6:17-19 ; 1 Peter 1:22-2:2) just like great rebounding in a game comes from hours of drilling and coaching in practices.

Churches need to trust the Word of God instead of trusting in their programs and oversimplified approaches to the eternal Truth revealed in Scripture. Pastors need to heed Paul's advice given to the Ephesian pastors and elders in 57 AD. Remember Paul's words to Timothy:

Command and teach these things,...Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to preaching and to teaching. Do not neglect your gift!! - 1 Timothy 4:11-14

I give you this charge: Preach the Word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage - with great patience and careful instruction. For the time will come when men will not put up with healthy teaching. - 2 Timothy 4:1-3

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# SPOOKY MASS ANIMAL "DIE OFFS" BEGIN 2011 by Elaine Padgett Carnegie

Red winged blackbirds in numbers between 3,000 and 4,000; literally rained from the skies over Bebe, Arkansas on New Year's Eve. The ground area was about a mile and none were found outside that area. Birds of prey, cats and dogs feasted on the carcasses with no apparent ill effects so poisoning was ruled out. Sixty-five birds were gathered randomly through the area and sent for testing. Autopsy revealed the birds died from "blunt force trauma" to their internal organs, in mid-air over Bebe, Arkansas! Spooky... yeah it is! High level hail, fireworks...I can't buy that. Not in those numbers at the same instant. So what happened to four thousand birds in mid-air minutes before the 2011 New Year rang in? I can't even guess!

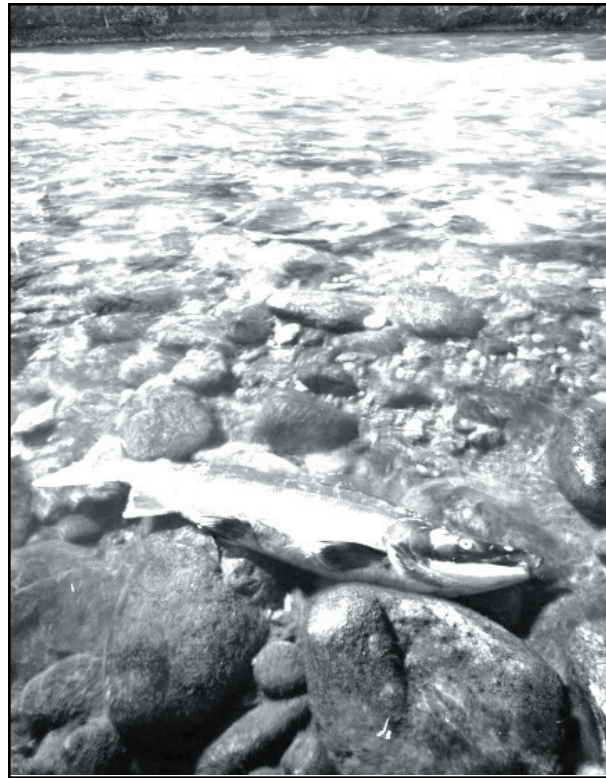
On Thursday, December 30th an estimated 100,000 Drum fish washed up dead and dying along the shore of an Arkansas river! Pollution has been ruled out as a toxin would have killed all fish exposed, not just the "Drum".

When I began my research it was apparent that the massive bird and fish deaths in Arkansas, while highly publicized, were not the only cases of mass animal death. Journalists are flippantly relating these deaths to the 2012

prophecy...sorry, but it doesn't seem like a laughing matter to me! Sonia Shah, author and science journalist writes, "In the past dozen years, three new diseases have wiped out populations of frogs, honeybees, and bats. Scientists suspect that exposure to pesticides could be the cause." Low-level pesticide exposure destroys immune function in wildlife, and because of this immune damage, outbreaks of disease are steadily attacking our ecosystem and the result is mass "die offs". Possibly genetic damage from the toxins and other, as yet unknown factors are also contributing.

An outbreak of distemper killed 18,000 harbor seals in 1988 and was traced to pesticide contaminated herring that impaired their immune function.

Mass death among baby right whales in the largest



great whale die-off on record, happened along the Argentina Coast (2005). Almost 90 percent of those deaths were whale calves less than 3 months old. The last huge die-off for great whales, in the Eastern Pacific was in 1999-2000 when more than 250 gray whales showed up dead between Alaska and Mexico.

An estimated 20 to 40 percent of US honeybee colonies began dieing out in 2006. In 2010 military scientists identified the "possible culprit", a fungus that combined with a virus. Other

experts disagree and insist causes are pesticides, climate change, weakened immune systems and malnutrition; while yet another recent study by the National Academy of Sciences finds that four other bee species, including the bumble bee, are in sharp decline. They believe possible causes behind the dwindling populations are pathogens and "reduced genetic diversity".

Around 2007, more than 1 million bats died while hibernating in New York and New England. The "white nose syndrome" that killed them is caused by a fungus that thrives in the cold winter air. 75 percent of all bats exposed will die! So suddenly...somehow their little immune systems cannot fight a winter fungus?

Frog populations in the U.K. declined by as much as 80 percent over a 12-year period. The Zoological Society of London found that the frog deaths were caused by internal hemorrhaging from the ranavirus. Again, impaired immune function.

In late 2008 and early 2009, more than 400 endangered pelicans died

along the West Coast. The deaths were attributed to abnormally cold weather.

Before the BP Oil Spill, bottlenosed dolphins in the Gulf were already dieing at 3 times the normal rate with no discernible reason, and a similar dolphin die-off in Florida's Indian River Lagoon in 2008, also remains unsolved.

The "RED LIST" prepared and maintained by the Swiss-based World Conservation Union (known by initials IUCN), tracks animal extinction, which is currently happening at 1,000 times a greater rate than eons of history tell us is normal. Mass animal "die offs"; (not quite proper English, but that's what they are calling them), and found that between 2.7 and 270 species are erased from existence every day. Every single day...Including today!

Our ecosystem is showing the ravages of neglect and abuse. You have all seen the pictures of starving, neglected children and the abused and unwanted animals that are just too hard to look at! ...our Mother Earth is suffering and in her agony she cries out to us with these warnings. Are we next? Most assuredly, we must be. I don't have the answers, but I know the signs...God Bless us all!



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# Here Comes the Clean Water Restoration Act, AGAIN By Lee Sweeten

Before I start, let me say that the following is a submission by me and not as the G.M. of the Real Edwards Conservation and Reclamation District.

Back in 2007, I wrote about Federal Clean Water Restoration Act and noted that it would give the Federal Government total control over all the surface water in the United States. I noted that this meant even the mud puddles in your yard. For a good while it appeared that this bill (S 787) would just sit and linger and possibly die. Well, I am sorry to say but "S 787" has come alive and is on a fast track in the Senate. On December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2010 it was placed on the Senate Legislative Calendar and could be acted upon at any time. Senator Reid and others have no qualms about the tremendous expansion of Federal Powers over our daily lives and private property rights. What is even more unfortunate is that, if passed into law, this legislation has far more impact than I ever imagined. Not only would it allow for the Federal Government to be in control of every body of water, no matter how small and no matter that it is dry 11 months of the year, in America (Section 4 (3) and Section 3, paragraphs 8 and 13), it extends that control to every land use that "affects" water---bringing federal land use control into being for the very first time in our history (Section 3, paragraphs 18, 22 and 23). There go your private property rights.

It gives the nice friendly Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) along with the Corps of Engineers authority to control every spot where there is water, might have been water and ever will be water (Section

4 (3); Now if that is not bad enough here are other powers it grants to these two Federal Agencies;

- Gives the EPA and the Corps authority to control through a permit process every agricultural activity and activities right down to fertilizing a home-owner's lawn (Section 4 (3) and section 3); Under S. 787, as viewed by its own sponsor, a home owner could be required to get a federal permit for irrigating a lawn where fertilizer has been used to feed the grass; a farmer could be required to get a federal permit to change his crop from a low water crop to a high water crop like watermelons; an intrastate builder/contractor could be required to get a federal land use permit, in addition to local zoning permit, for development of a subdivision which would might allow run-off; and an independent, small town logger who cuts from his own private property and never puts a log into interstate commerce could be required to get a permit

- Gives the EPA and the Corps authority to use the permitting process as a "means of implementing treaties to which the United States is a party, including treaties protecting species of fish, birds and other wildlife" (Section 3, paragraphs 18 and 21)

- R e p l a c e s "coordination" with "cooperation" for local government by eliminating the obligation that EPA and the Corps "coordinate" with local government and simply requires "cooperation" (Section 3, paragraph 5);

What else does this legislation do? It seems endless; however here are other concerns;

- Exempts but then includes groundwater it through its findings that anything affecting any part of an aquatic system should be controlled (Section 3 paragraph 1);

- Expands federal bureaucratic authority far beyond what the Constitution allows (Minority Report states: "although the limits of the Commerce Clause have been determined and reinforced over the decades through numerous judicial decisions, the bill's proponents want to remove this limitation on federal authority");

- Exempts "prior converted croplands" (Section 4) but then in the same section provides that "final authority regarding jurisdiction under this Act remains with the Environmental Protection Agency."

- Destroys the Tenth Amendment rights of states on water issues by removing state authority over intrastate bodies of water (Minority Report states: "The [bill] reverses Congress' long-standing support for a federal-state partnership for water protection. . .[it removes]states' authority over waters that are traditionally within their jurisdiction. It erases distinctions between federal, state and private waters and categorizes all waters as waters of the United States, subjecting nearly all waters to the jurisdiction of federal agencies." NOTE: It appears that there are no waters that would not be subjected to federal bureaucratic control.)

Simply put, this bill changes the decades old balance between federal, state and private water controls---and puts total control of "all" water in the United States under the control of the Army

Corps of Engineers and the Environmental Protection Agency.

"All" water means just that: "every" pond, stream and mudhole in America will be federally controlled. Gone will be the historic and constitutional standard that allowed federal control only over "navigable" waters.

Section 4 of S. 787 defines "waters of the United States" as:

"all waters subject to the ebb and flow of the tide, the territorial seas, and all interstate and intrastate waters, including lakes, rivers, streams (including intermittent streams), mudflats, sandflats, wetlands, sloughs, prairie potholes, wet meadows, playa lakes, and natural ponds, all tributaries of the above waters, and all impoundments of the foregoing."

Or in other words, all water and all places where there might be water, ever has been water or ever will be water.

Section 3 paragraphs 18, 22 and 23 mention protecting the quality of and regulating the activities affecting the waters of the United States. This will be used by the EPA and the Corps to regulate land uses. They will be used by government counsel and by counsel representing anti-farming, anti-ranching, anti-logging, anti-development organizations to support those regulations. They will be used by activist, law-changing judges, to demonstrate the intent of Congress to regulate any land use that might "affect" any body of water.

R e c r e a t i o n organizations will be impacted by the Bill as will farmers, ranchers, homeowners

and businesses. Every small lake and irrigation reservoir used by water skiers, boaters and fishermen will be under control of EPA and the Corps. Every intra-state stretch of river used by kayakers will be under the same controls. Use of motorized vehicles to reach water on private property and other purely intrastate water, or to ride along streams on private property, will be subject to the same control because of the potential "pollution. . .or impairment. . .of any part of an aquatic system." (Section 3)

There is much more to this than meets the eye.. This is huge effort on the part of the Federal Government to do away with private property rights and any local control. It is a blatant attempt to circumvent the Constitution and more specifically the Tenth Amendment and if passed the consequences are so far reaching as to be unimaginable.

I sincerely hope that enough people will contact their Senators in Washington and get this stopped. If not, we will all wake up in a different America very soon.

To Contact Senator Cornyn in Washington D.C. call (202) 224-2934. Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison Washing ton Office is (202) 224-5922

Here is a handy website where you can send a direct email, to either Senator Cornyn or Senator Hutchison.

[http://www.senate.gov/general/contact\\_information/senators\\_cfm.cfm?State=TX](http://www.senate.gov/general/contact_information/senators_cfm.cfm?State=TX)

**Take the time to get involved before it is too late.**

# DSHS Combats Rabies With Aerial Vaccine Drop

Texas Department of State Health Services  
NEWS RELEASE  
January 3, 2011

The Texas Department of State Health Services this week begins its annual airdrop of rabies vaccine baits over portions of southern and western Texas in the continuing effort to protect people and livestock from rabies. Planes will take off from airports in Zapata and Fort Stockton around dawn Thursday, Jan.

6 and drop about 2.35 million doses of rabies vaccine over the next few weeks as part of the DSHS Oral Rabies Vaccination Program.

"This approach has been a huge success," said veterinarian Ernest Oertli, the vaccination program's director. "We haven't seen a single human case of rabies in the areas covered by the program since it started in 1995, and the number of animal cases has dropped dramatically."

Animal cases of the canine strain of rabies in southern Texas fell from 122 in 1994 to zero in 2000. There have since been single cases in 2001 and 2004. The fox strain, prevalent in western Texas, dropped from 244 animal cases in 1995, the year before the project expanded to that area, to zero through the first 11 months of 2010.

"We have effectively eliminated these two strains of rabies from Texas," said Oertli.

"Now our goal is prevent them from being reintroduced as animals move in and out of the state."

The vaccine dose is enclosed in a small packet either coated with fish meal crumbles or inserted into a small, hollow fish meal block. The baits don't pose any risk to humans, but people should avoid handling them since human contact makes it less likely a wild animal will eat the baits.

Rabies is a deadly virus spread through the saliva of infected animals, usually by a bite. Preventing rabies is critical because once a person or animal displays symptoms, the disease is almost always fatal.

DSHS urges everyone to have their pets vaccinated against rabies, as required by law. Vaccinating domestic animals is essential to stopping the spread of rabies.

# Governor Perry Announces Key Staff Changes

Gov. Rick Perry has named Rob Johnson senior advisor and Jeff Boyd general counsel. He also named Brandy Marty director of Budget, Planning and Policy; Milton Rister director of Administration; and Sarah Floerke deputy legislative director and House liaison. Boyd replaces Caren Burbach, who will be an advisor on special projects involving job creation and commercialization programs; Marty replaces Mary Katherine Stout who is departing to work with economist Arthur Laffer and the Texas Public Policy Foundation.

"I look forward to Rob's new role as part of my Capitol staff. His insight, integrity and firm grasp of key Texas issues make him uniquely qualified to advance our state's positive momentum as we approach the upcoming legislative session,"

said Gov. Perry. "Likewise, Jeff brings extensive legal expertise in a variety of issues the Governor's Office handles on a day to day basis. His guidance will be integral as we navigate the challenges our state faces moving forward."

Johnson most recently served as campaign manager to the governor's successful re-election campaign. Prior to that, he was chief of staff to Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst, and also served as his deputy chief of staff and campaign manager of his 2002 campaign. He also served as chief of staff to Congressman Jay Dickey in Washington, D.C. Johnson received bachelor's degrees in political science and public relations from Southern Methodist University. He lives in Austin with his wife, Allison, and two sons, Carter and Tyler.

Boyd was most recently

a senior partner at Thompson & Knight in Austin, where he began his legal career in 1992 and became a partner in 1998. In 2000, he was appointed by then-Attorney General John Cornyn as Deputy Attorney General in charge of Civil Litigation and continued to serve in that position under Attorney General Greg Abbott until he returned to Thompson & Knight in 2003. Boyd is a member of the Texas Supreme Court Rules Advisory Committee, past president and board member of Volunteer Legal Services of Central Texas, and past chair and board member of Goodwill Industries of Central Texas. He received a bachelor's degree from Abilene Christian University and a law degree from Pepperdine University School of Law. Boyd lives in Austin with his wife, Jackie. They are parents to twin

daughters, Hanna and Abbie, and a son, Carter.

Marty has worked in the Governor's Office since 2007, most recently as the governor's deputy legislative director and House liaison. She was also policy director for the governor's 2010 primary campaign. She has previously served in several capacities working for elected officials within the House of Representatives. Marty received a bachelor's degree in government from the University of Texas and a law degree from St. Mary's University.

Prior to joining the Governor's Office, Rister served as the executive director of the Texas Legislative Council for the 80th and 81st Legislative sessions. During his 20 years at the State Capitol, he has served as an advisor to several public officials, including as

research director for Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst and chief of staff to Senator Jane Nelson. He also previously served as both political director and executive director of the Republican Party of Texas. Rister lives in Georgetown with his wife, Nancy, and has two grown daughters, Amy and Amanda.

Floerke most recently served as director of organization for the governor's successful re-election campaign. She previously served as the governor's director of community affairs at the State Capitol. Prior to serving in the Governor's Office, Floerke worked for the Republican Party of Texas and the Texas House of Representatives Committee on Local and Consent Calendars. She received a bachelor's degree in public relations from Texas Tech University.

# Texas Comptroller's Office Schedules January Tax Help Seminars

A diverse economy, growing work force and friendly business climate attract more businesses to the Lone Star state every day. Texas Comptroller Susan Combs' office regularly presents free taxpayer seminars throughout the state to help new and existing business owners understand their state tax responsibilities.

Seventeen seminars will take place throughout January at various locations across the state. A complete list of locations, dates and times is available at [www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/seminars.html](http://www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/seminars.html).

At the seminars, taxpayers can learn about sales tax forms, filing and paying taxes electronically, taxable goods and services,

e-services to help taxpayers manage their accounts online, the Comptroller's e-mail subscription service that alerts taxpayers when new tax information is posted online, and the array of other services and information available from the Comptroller's office to assist taxpayers. Comptroller representatives will answer questions and provide

assistance to attendees. "A strong and diverse business community is the key to Texas' economic strength," Combs said. "We are committed to assisting Texas businesses by making taxes simpler, smarter, faster and, above all, transparent. We owe it to our taxpayers to provide the best customer service possible." For more information about the

seminar in your area, call the Comptroller's field office in your area. Those who are unable to attend the seminars can call the Comptroller's tax assistance line at (800) 252-5555. Tax forms and tax information can also be found on the Comptroller's website, [www.window.state.tx.us](http://www.window.state.tx.us).

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 830-597-4200

City of Sabinal

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 Anita Herndon 830-988-2630

**Real County County Judge,** Sonny Sansom, Jr. 830-232-5304

**County Attorney,** Bobby Jack Rushing 830-232-6461

**County/District Clerk,** Bella Rubio 830-232-5202

**Justice of the Peace** Diane Rogers: 830-232-6630

**Justice of the Peace** Chris Lacy: 830-597-4111

**Sheriff,** James Earl Brice 830-232-5201

**Tax Assessor-Collector** Donna Brice: 830-232-6210

**Treasurer,** Vicky Cantrell 830-232-6627

**Appraisal District:** Chief Appraiser Kelley Shults:

**Real County Public Library** 830-232-5199

**Camp Wood Public Library** 830-597-3208

**Real County Commissioners:**

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#2: Bryan Shackelford

#3: Gene Buckner

#4: Joe W. Connell, Sr.

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