



The Lion's Roar



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Hospital Bans Bibles

No Bibles for Wounded Soldiers

FoxNews: Todd Stranes

While the media were preoccupied with other disastrous Obama policies, military bureaucrats under Barack Obama passed a **new rule that barred loved ones from bringing Bibles to wounded soldiers.**

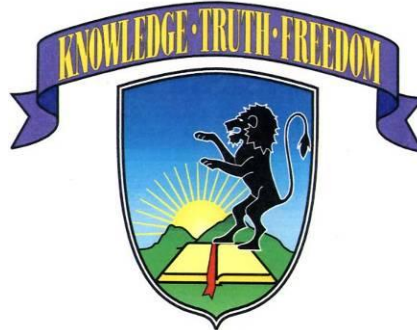
The US Military says they are rescinding the order but only after a Republican lawmaker denounced the policy on the House floor.

Todd Starnes reported: Walter Reed National Military Medical Center said they are rescinding a policy that prohibits family members of wounded military troops from bringing Bibles or any religious reading materials to their loved ones.

The decision to rescind the ban on Bibles came exactly one day after a Republican lawmaker denounced the policy on the House floor and called on President Obama to publicly renounce the military policy.

"The President of the United States should address this and should excoriate the people who brought about this policy and the individual who brought it about should be dismissed from the United States Military," Rep. Steve King (R-IA) told Fox News & Commentary.

King spoke from the House floor Thursday blasting a policy memorandum from the commander of Walter Reed



You shall know the truth and the truth shall set you free

National Military Medical Center written by Chief of Staff C.W. Callahan. The September 14th memo covers guidelines for "wounded, ill, and injured partners in care."

"No religious items (i.e. Bibles, reading material, and/or artifacts) are allowed to be given away or used during a visit," the policy states.

"That means you can't bring in a Bible and read from it when you visit your son or your daughter, perhaps – or your wife or husband," King said. "It means a priest that might be coming in to visit someone on their death bed couldn't bring in the Eucharist, couldn't offer Last Rites. This is the most outrageous affront."

The original order came from: Charles W. Callahan Colonel, Medical Corps, U.S. Army Chief of Staff, Walter Reed National Military Medical Center

Deputy Commander
Walter Reed National Military Medical Center
8901 Rockville Pike
Bethesda, MD. 20889-5600

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Love to Read?

LAUSD Invites a ~~Porn Star~~ "Actress" to Read at Elementary School

A Los Angeles area elementary school is facing major criticism from parents after school officials invited a porn star to read to a group of first graders as part of the Read Across America program.

Photos of porn star Sasha Grey reading to the children at Emerson Elementary School in Compton on November 2 have been circulated on the internet and in the press. Grey also tweeted about the experience, gushing that the students were the "sweetest."

Angry parents fired back at the school's decision, complaining to the PTA, who then contacted the school's principle.

A spokesperson for the school district, however, flatly denied that Grey was ever present at the school, in spite of the photos.

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YOUR TAX DOLLARS AT WORK



While countless school districts cut programs and increased class sizes due to financial cutbacks, and while unemployment is at an all time high, President (for now) Obama arranged for an active duty aircraft carrier to be temporarily converted into a basketball arena!

Non-military workers constructed a regulation-sized basketball court and seating areas aboard the Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS Carl Vinson (CVN 70) at the request of the Commander and Chief.

President Obama attended the basketball game between the Michigan State University Spartans and the University of North Carolina Tar Heels in San Diego, taking a little detour while traveling to Hawaii.

The basketball game was held aboard the aircraft carrier Veteran's Day, Nov. 11, 2011 and is a first in both college basketball and naval history. Cost estimates were not revealed.

Approximately 7,000 spectators, most of them active-duty military personnel, joined the president for the onboard game.

Of note, USS Carl Vinson is the aircraft carrier from which Osama bin Laden was buried at sea.

ELECTIONS MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Are your kids safe from public school mandates?

By Joe Messina - Wm. S. Hart Union High School District Trustee
Nationally Syndicated Radio Talk Show Host of The Real Side Radio Show.

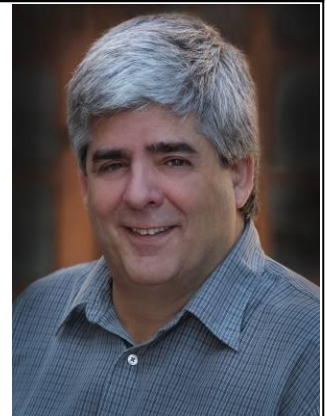
Let me first introduce myself. My name is Joe Messina. I am an elected Trustee on the Wm. S. Hart High School District Board. I was also **an APS-Dad** for almost 2 years. It was the best thing we could have done for our daughter at that point in time in her educational career.

I want to thank Richard for allowing me to share some concerns I have with our educational system in our state and our country.

Let me start by saying **I am a strong advocate for home schooling** and alternate forms of education (including vocational and arts instruction). I believe that with these types of avenues for our children and parents we, the parents, would always be able to guide and mold our children to make sure they receive the safest and best education possible.

You have chosen to home school for many reasons. Some of your children are actors and actresses. Some of your children don't do well in a "large school" environment. Some don't learn well when there are 40 other kids in the class. Some home school for religious reasons and/or reasons of conflicting values. Some simply because you want to make sure your children are taught the truth about history, English, and the arts. Whatever the reason, you chose this path to have a say and some control over your child's education.

Well, do some of you remember a few years back, a CA court decision that would have taken away your rights to home school? Thank GOD it was rejected, at least for the moment. Some of you are familiar with the term **"Charter School"**. They were created to give children an alternate form of education, in the form of a



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APS FAMILY NEWS

At the beginning of the school year students in the APS Yearbook Team were asked to answer the following:

What Should a Yearbook Convey to Its Readers and Why?

Below are answers written by:

Amber Halaby (10th grade).

Melissa Henri (12th grade)

The yearbook is an important and much anticipated part of the school year. Since they are usually presented at the conclusion of the year, yearbooks are expected to be a quality keepsake, as well as contain highlights and accentuate the best that the school has to offer. The highlights can include all sorts of materials, from the life lessons the students learned, to the wonderful parents that helped make it possible.

One of the many characteristics a yearbook should possess is an ability to convey memories. Invoking remembrances of the great times you had with your friends and classmates, often with the use of photographs, is one of the chief roles of a yearbook. People obtain more pleasure from reading a yearbook when they know they can find themselves in it. It is also an important task for the yearbook team to include proper pictures of every student in the school.

Another thing that a yearbook should contain is raw facts. It is not particularly to one's liking to read something that, even though it may be composed of wonderful graphics, contains errors and inaccurate information. Being precise with information is an important job the yearbook team should not take lightly. The team should be proud that the responsibility they have undertaken to be accurate and professional will last for years to come.

A yearbook is something that will last generations. It should instill in the students a sense of pride in another successful school year. It should also convey in them a feeling of unity and school spirit when they see their names listed among their classmates, and above all make known to them the glory of God.

The memories can further empower students to strive for excellence and pursue the will of the Lord for their lives. However, most kids may only see it as something cool to look at, and then store it in a box in their garage until they are retired. They then may look at it with fondness and wish for the return of their youth.

□□□

A yearbook can be a magnificent piece of work that becomes a beauty to the readers' eyes and an inspiration to their hearts. But what causes a yearbook to transform from hundreds of faces and names on page after page to a purposeful collection of charming memories and astounding achievements? In my opinion, the key steppingstones to a yearbook masterpiece are the presentation of joy, the provision of hope, and production of gratitude.

At the very foundation of this journey, is the demonstration of overflowing joy in the lives of the students represented. When the readers see the vast array of educational, extracurricular, and athletic opportunities in which the youths participate, they will attest to the fact that these children's lives are fulfilled with myriads of positive experiences this world has to offer them. The most essential part of these activities however, is that they are based on the values of God's Word and a relationship with Him. If learning about and pleasing the Lord is not the driving force behind all of the represented students and their education and activities, then they are no more to be regarded than the majority of adolescents in the world today. The real reason the children demonstrate a noticeable joy in their scholastic endeavors, is because the Lord is working in these individuals' lives. Undoubtedly the Lord utilizes activities to demonstrate the joy He brings and to produce eager and able-minded citizens in this desperate world. Documenting these foundational aspects of a school year is crucial because it provides an insight into how these lives are different from most of the world, which will lead us to our next steppingstone.

Once the reader realizes that these individuals are drastically different and fully prepared for living in a fallen world, a resounding hope will form in the observers' hearts. Because this world is careening to its own destruction, we are often tempted to believe that there is no hope for the evil of this world. We become totally disarmed by the ominous forces of this wicked world. However these kids are being raised to

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PORN STAR AT SCHOOL

What Should a Yearbook Convey?

Continued from page 1

"We have several celebrities who read to our students each year. The [actress](#) you have indicated was not present," the rep told reporters.

The LAUSD has been accused of a cover-up (no pun intended).

Earlier this year, Grey told [FOX411's Pop Tarts](#) column that she was finished with the porn industry and wanted to transition into mainstream acting.

She has appeared in HBO's "Entourage," where she played a fictional version of herself and [Steven Soderbergh's](#) 2009 [film](#) "The Girlfriend Experience," where she played a hooker.

"From now on I will not be playing roles where I play a version of myself, or a hooker, for a very long time," she told Tarts. "I think 'The Girlfriend Experience' and 'Entourage' were the best places to play those two roles and it can't get any better. I don't want to repeat myself, and I think if I continue to take those types of roles I will only be given those roles."

She also released a [book](#) of her own earlier this year; a photography compilation entitled "NEU SEX."

There was no indication of exactly what material she read to the students. □□□

Continued from page 1

NO BIBLES FOR WOUNDED SOLDIERS

Now, after Rep. Steve King's speech, the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center website posted the following:

Thank you for your interest in the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center. We apologize for any confusion that resulted from our policy. In no way was the instruction meant to prohibit family members from providing religious items to their love ones. The intent of the instruction was to respect the religious and cultural practices of all of our patients. We are drafting a new instruction that will clearly articulate our respect for religious and cultural practices of all of our patients and families.

Again, we regret any confusion that this might have caused and we thank you for your support of our Warriors and their families. On behalf of the Command...

Charles W. Callahan bio: http://www.bethesda.med.navy.mil/visitor/about_us/deputy_commander.aspx

Walter Reed website: <http://www.bethesda.med.navy.mil/>

Source: The Gateway Pundit

Continued from page 3

mature into exceptional, upstanding members of the next generation. Knowing these youths will manage to make a difference in their world, grants comfort and inspiration to the members of the present generation. Those which follow us will be able to implement their knowledge in altruistic deeds to help the suffering in the world. More importantly however, they will be able to efficiently minister to the spiritually dead! Their lives instruct us to strive in changing our world for Christ as well. What more could we ask from the next generation but that they develop into individuals who will change the world for Christ?

Because we gain hope from these joyful and prepared youths, a well planned yearbook will elicit gratitude from its readers. The readers' thanks should first be directed to God for enabling the production individuals who honor Him. Without His sovereign and merciful hand on our nation, we would be without all of our religious and educational freedoms that allow such magnificent results to be reaped. Also praise will be given to Him for softening the hearts of many of these students and for providing God-fearing leaders and teachers, who in turn will also be demonstrated to be worthy of receiving appreciation from the readers. Without their humble service the school year could not have been organized, labored through, and brought to life. Gratitude is a natural response to the previous portrayals of the success of the school year.

If gratitude is begotten from a hope which is sparked by promising pupils, then the yearbook is truly a success. There are several facets to why creating a yearbook that incorporates these steps is valuable. As Christians we want to show the world that the Lord has changed us in every aspect of our lives.

Naturally, education is a weighty aspect of life. Therefore a yearbook is not just a bland record of the past school year but instead a testimony of our great God's transforming power.

Similarly it demonstrates that there is a greater end to education. Applying one's education for the greater good of man and glory of God, gives purpose to an otherwise purposeless accumulation of facts.

Every reader either needs to be reminded that their job is to change the world for Christ, or that they need to repent of their sins and turn to our great Savior in the first place. Simply put, a yearbook actually can be a God-honoring product in every sense of the word." □□□

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GRADUATING \neq LEARNING

GOVERNMENTIUM DISCOVERED

Attending a class is not the same as learning. Learning is not a spectator sport. Learning is a participation sport. **Home schooling works because parents participate with their students in the daily discipline of learning. The more parents delegate this responsibility to others the less likely their kids will actually learn.**

Take for example the students mentioned in this article from the *New York Times*.

In June, Desiree Smith was graduated from [Murry Bergtraum High](#). Her **grades were in the 90s**, she said, and she had **passed the four state Regents exams**. Since enrolling last month at LaGuardia Community College in Queens, Ms. Smith, 19, has come to realize that graduating from a New York City public high school is not the same as learning.

She failed all three placement tests for LaGuardia and is now taking **remediation in reading, writing and math**.

So are Nikita Thomas, of [Bedford Stuyvesant Prep](#); Sade Washington, of the [Young Women's Leadership School](#) in East Harlem; Stacey Sumulong, of [Queens Vocational and Technical](#); Lucrecia Woolford of [John Adams High](#); and Juan Rodriguez of [Grover Cleveland High](#).

"Passing the Regents don't mean nothing," Ms. Thomas said. "The main focus in high school is to get you to graduate; it makes the school look good. They get you in and get you out."

Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg has made the rising graduation rate — to 61 percent in June, from 46.5 percent in 2005 — the No. 1 symbol of his educational accomplishments. But that rate is less impressive when paired with the **percentage of graduates who need remediation** in all three subjects when they enter LaGuardia or other [community colleges](#): 22.6 percent in 2010 (2,812 students), up from 15.4 percent in 2005 (1,085).

"A few years ago, we noticed the numbers really jump," said John Mogulescu, the senior university dean for CUNY. **Overall, 74 percent of city high school graduates enrolled at the system's six community colleges take remediation courses in at least one subject.**

The parents of these students delegated the education of their children to a school system from which they graduated. Then real life hit and the kids found, as many do, that they were just not ready.

The bottom line: Parents, work with your kids every day on everything. Carpe diem. Carpe curricula. □□□

Source NY Times

Highly Secretive Government Research Facility Announces Discovery Of Heaviest Element Ever Known

Lawrence Livermore Laboratories has discovered the heaviest element yet known to science.

The new element, Governmentium (Gv), has one neutron, 25 assistant neutrons, 88 deputy neutrons, and 198 assistant deputy neutrons, giving it an atomic mass of 312. These 312 particles are held together by forces called morons, which are surrounded by vast quantities of lepton-like particles called peons.

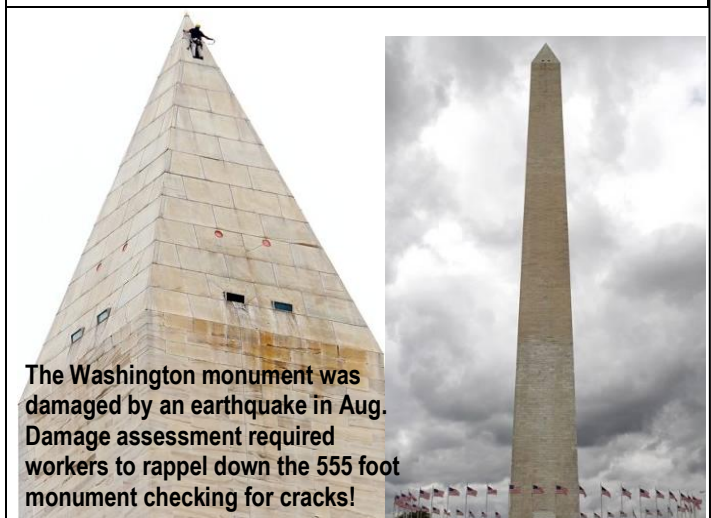
Since Governmentium has no electrons, it is inert; however, it can be detected, because it impedes every reaction with which it comes into contact. A tiny amount of Governmentium can cause a reaction that would normally take less than a second, to take from 4 days to 4 years to complete. Governmentium has a normal half-life of 2 – 6 years. It does not decay, but instead undergoes a reorganization in which a portion of the assistant neutrons and deputy neutrons exchange places.

In fact, Governmentium's mass will actually increase over time, since each reorganization will cause more morons to become neutrons, forming isodopes. This characteristic of morons promotion leads some scientists to believe that Governmentium is formed whenever morons reach a critical concentration. This hypothetical quantity is referred to as critical morass.

When catalyzed with money, Governmentium becomes Administratium, an element that radiates just as much energy as Governmentium since it has half as many peons but twice as many morons.

Source: Author Unknown

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WHILE YOU WERE AT THE MALL

As the following incident demonstrates it is critical that parents are **ALWAYS vigilant** when it comes to the safety of children. This is true in our neighborhoods, at APS field trips to public places like museums, in sports locker rooms, at parks and when shopping or running errands. Do NOT assume your kids are safe – make sure they are.

Detectives with the Special Victim's Bureau of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department are investigating the **sexual assault of a boy at the Valencia mall**, a local sheriff's deputy said.

At about 4:30 p.m., Monday, Oct 17, a boy was reported to authorities as having been sexually molested inside a washroom at the Westfield Valencia Town Center mall, said Lt. Joe Efflandt of the Santa Clarita Valley Sheriff's Station. "We had a sex crime," he said. "It involves a juvenile. Detectives with the Special Victim's Bureau downtown are investigating."

A noticeably distraught woman who identified herself as the boy's grandmother told reporters that law enforcement officers were scouring the mall to find the suspect without success.

UPDATE: On Oct 19, a 25-year old man from Saugus turned himself in at the Santa Clarita Valley Sheriff's Station. Casey Crockett of Gold Canyon Road turned himself in to deputies in connection with the molestation of the boy at the mall.

In an unrelated crime;

A 28-year-old registered sex offender, who recently pleaded guilty in federal court to possession of child porn, admitted Friday Oct 14, 2011 in state court that he molested a 5-year-old boy in a shopping mall restroom in the city of Orange, California. □□□

A San Fernando Valley middle-school **student has been awarded \$1 million by a jury** after a LAUSD school administrator used him as a decoy in a failed pot sting.

Laura Custodio, (then) dean of Porter Middle School in **Granada Hills, CA**, asked the (then) 7th-grade student to pose as a potential drug buyer after he reported that an 8th-grade student at the school offered to sell him marijuana.

Without consulting police or parents, Custodio asked a 12-year-old boy (who had a history of discipline problems) to act as a decoy buyer and gave him a marked \$5 bill.

"I was pretty scared," the decoy testified. "She told me it was the right thing to do and I had to do it . . . and I didn't want to disappoint her."

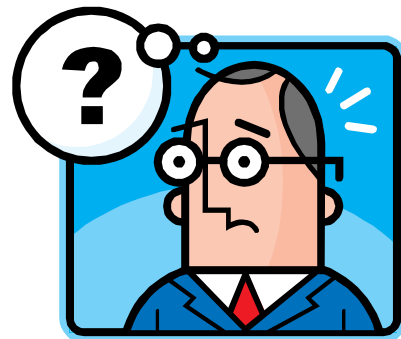
Custodio also discussed the scheme with Assistant Principal Armando Mejia and Principal Joyce Edelson, **both of whom approved the plan.**

The sting failed when the 8th-grade student spotted a **teacher's aide hiding in the boys' bathroom** where the sale was supposed to happen.

The boys' parents sued the Los Angeles Unified School District and have now won a \$1 million judgment from the cash-strapped school district.

Custodio continues to work for the district as a teacher at the Sherman Oaks Center for Enriched Studies. Assistant Principal Armando Mejia and Principal Joyce Edelson have retired. □□□

**And now, the winner of the
"What Was I Thinking"
Award**



**SCHOOL DEAN USES
12-YEAR OLD STUDENT AS A
DECOY IN FAILED POT STING!**

**If you saw this in a movie you
simply would NOT believe it.**

ASHLEIGH BUCK

CHRISTMAS STORY

ASHLEIGH BUCK

Attached is a scanned copy of a Christmas Story written by Ashleigh Buck (2nd grade). APS-Mom writes:

"She was so excited to write her story the day it was assigned at Teaching Tuesdays she ran right upstairs as soon as we got home. A few minutes later she came down with her rough draft. I helped her correct her spelling and punctuation errors, and then she copied her final draft onto the paper Cindee Grant gave her. She really likes to write, and was very excited about this project. Cindee must have made it sound super fun!"



Great job Ashleigh. You are a very good writer. Congratulations!

Christmas with a friend
 Once upon a time there was a girl named Lisa. She had a friend named Mia. They were both seven. One winter morning they woke up and looked at the calendar. Mia said "It's Christmas eve!" They went and found their piggy banks. Lisa said "We've got to buy presents!" For Mia's friend Eva she bought a bracelet. For Lisa's friend Cathy she bought a puppy with white spots. For Eva's little sister, Mia bought a book with the alphabet. For Cathy's little sister, Lisa bought a phonics book. The next morning they woke up and found Santa's presents. Lisa got a baby bunny. Mia got a baby bunny too. Then they went to Eva's house to give the presents they bought. When they got there the house was empty. Then Cathy, Eva and their little sisters jumped but and shouted "Merry Christmas!" They opened presents next. Lisa got an adventure book. Mia got a quilt. Their friends loved the presents Mia + Lisa gave them. Then they said together "I love having Christmas with a friend." The end ♡

APS FAMILY NEWS



Daughter Chloe holding Mommy's new CD in the church book store.

APS-Mom **Kathleen Salsbury Lipson** is excited to announce that her new CD ***Sing Unto The LORD*** is finished and has been released.

It is for sale in The King's Way Bookroom at both the east and west campuses of The Church On The Way in Van Nuys.

It is also available at New Life Community Church of the Nazarene in Pismo Beach.

It can also be purchased directly from Kathleen. kathleensalsbury@yahoo.com

The CD is \$12 or \$20 for two with the proceeds being given to the Body of Christ Ministries' Infant Orphanage in Rameswaram, India.

Kathleen writes:

Thank you so much for your encouraging and loving messages with thoughtful words of appreciation for this music, and thank you for your prayers for this music ministry!

May God bless and closely keep you and your families. Have a beautiful Advent Season and a very Merry Christmas!



Allow us to introduce **Jonathan Buchan**.

Jon was in APS a long time ago when he was little. He is not so little anymore (6'4", 4% body fat, strong like a bull!).

Today, Jon is a Scout Sniper in Marine Amphibious Reconnaissance. (Marine Recon for short)

Jon is in his 2nd tour of duty in Afghanistan. He is reluctant to publish exactly where he is located, but it is in Sangin Province.

You can make Jon's job a little easier by:

- 1) Praying for Jon and asking your kids to pray for him every day.
- 2) Sending him a Christmas card with hand written notes from your kids.
- 3) Sending him a gift box.



The US Post Office has military (APO/FPO) Priority Mail flat rate boxes that go to US service men / women anywhere in the world. Postage is \$12.95 regardless of how much your box weighs. These boxes will make it to Jon in about 4 weeks. Keep a list of what you put in the box because the post office will ask you to write out what's in it.

Please send a gift box and / or cards to:
Cpl BUCHAN, Jonathan W.
1st RECON BN, Bravo Co., 2nd Platoon
Unit 40530
FPO AP 96427-0530

Thanks and Merry Christmas

MORE ATTACKS ON

CHRISTMAS

MORE ATTACKS ON

As seen in articles throughout this issue of *The Lion's Roar*, it seems that attacks on Christmas and Christianity are increasing. Schools, 'approved' curriculum, malls, and generally anywhere in the "Marketplace of Ideas" Christians are having to fight for their right to express the Christian message. Press On!



A group of five, six and seven-year old children will be able to sing 'Silent Night' in their Christmas program after public **school officials decided to ignore a complaint filed by a group that called the song "unconstitutional."**

The news came as a relief to students and teachers at G.W. Trenholm Primary School in Tuscumbia, AL after they found themselves thrust into the war on Christmas.

"We've always sung 'Silent Night' and we've never had a problem," Principal Janice Jackson told Fox News & Commentary. "We were just surprised, very surprised."

Jackson said she received a letter from **Americans United for the Separation of Church and State** asking them to drop the song from their annual Christmas pageant.

Barry Lynn, executive director of Americans United noted that the song "celebrates the birth of Christ as the savior, and not all families believe that."

"Those who do are free to teach it at home or at church," Lynn said. "Public schools are not the proper places for religious indoctrination."

Silent Night is sung as part of a play called 'The Reindeer Rebellion' which is a secular production involving Santa's reindeer going on strike. Lynn accused a teacher of choosing to "graft this Christian hymn onto the play."

"We were so surprised because we are such a small school and we're a small community. We can't believe we were singled out for this," Jackson said. "I thought it was a joke but the more I checked into it, I immediately called my superintendent."

David Cortman, senior counsel for the Alliance Defense Fund, told Fox News & Commentary they plan on offering legal services to the school district free of charge in the event someone tries to file a lawsuit.

"Groups on the left such as Americans United have been trying to bully schools across the country all during this Christmas season," Cortman said. "When they tell schools it is unconstitutional to include a song such as 'Silent Night' in their Christmas program, they are simply wrong not only as a matter of law but also as a matter of fairness."

He praised the school system for standing up to Americans United instead of caving in to their demands.

"I think it's about time that not only Americans but schools specifically stand up to these Grinches who go on this Christmas attack every year yet deny there is any war on Christmas," Cortman said.

Jackson said the children in grades K-2 didn't understand the controversy.

"They just love to sing and they were even going to perform sign language with the song," she said.

The community outcry, though, has been tremendous.

"I think it's sad," parent Amy Johnson told television station WHNT in Huntsville. "I don't think this is the place to make your point politically or religiously. Christmas is about Jesus and that's what the song is about."

After consulting with their attorney, the school system decided to allow the students to perform the traditional Christmas carol.

"These children are just five six and seven years old," Jackson said. "I guess we're living in that kind of a world."

She said she is relieved that the boys and girls will be able to sing and sign their song next week at the Christmas program. Had the song been cancelled, Jackson said she worried about how they would have told the children. ☐☐☐

Source: FoxNews



VOLLEYBALL

Church of the Nazarene

VOLLEYBALL

We are excited that we will have our volleyball program at

The Church of the Nazarene gym
23857 The Old Road, Newhall, CA 91321
near the Calgrove exit off of the 5 Freeway.

APS Volleyball will take place **Friday afternoons from 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm.**
Fri 02/03/12 to 05/25/12

We are very excited to be able to return to the same gym as last year for our volleyball program. The location is **conveniently located to families in both the SCV & SFV**, and will also allow for post-game 'hang-time' at the local **In-N-Out** which is also just down The Old Road from the gym!



THE TEAMS ARE FULL
If you have not turned in your coupon it is too late – but you can still come cheer on the teams.

This facility will allow us to accommodate four teams playing simultaneously on two courts.

We hope the **APS Volleyball program becomes a family activity** giving both parents the opportunity to cheer for their kids and help with the volleyball program. The gymnasium has plenty of seating for parents and siblings and bathrooms are readily accessible.

Using the church gym comes with a few rules that must be strictly adhered to in order to maintain a positive relationship with **The Church of the Nazarene**.

1. **Siblings must be with a parent at all times.** Parents who are coaching, score keeping, line judging, etc must make arrangements for another adult to supervise their non-player children, otherwise the non-player children may not attend.
2. **Children** (including team members) **may not run / roam around the gymnasium** or surrounding areas.
3. **Children** (including team members) **may not play / 'hang' in or around the church Campus.**
4. **Children** (including team members) who roam away from parents or otherwise violate the rules **will lose the privilege** of attending future volleyball sessions.

If any of rules are violated we run the risk of losing out on this great opportunity. Our students', siblings' and parents' best behavior is expected.

The start date for the volleyball program is **Friday, February 3 from 3:00 - 5:00 pm.**
The program will run for eleven weeks. The last game day will be Friday, May 25.

Thank you for your participation,

Danny Carver

Danny Carver, APS Volleyball Team Manager Dkcarver5@sbcglobal.net

MORE ATTACKS ON

CHRISTMAS

MORE ATTACKS ON

News from the planet Bizarro

The superintendent of a public school district in Arkansas said **it's time for Christians to take a stand and that's why he's decided to reinstate a Nativity scene – in spite of possible legal action.**

"Enough is enough," said Jerry Noble, superintendent of the Green County Tech school district. "It's His birthday. We celebrate Jesus' birthday. One person should not be offended by that. We don't leave it up all year. We're not promoting religion. It's not an effort to convert anybody."

Noble told Fox News & Commentary the controversy surrounds a **Nativity scene on a bulletin board at Green County Tech Primary School. The bulletin board also included the words, "Happy Birthday, Jesus."**

Noble said they had received some complaints about the decorations and after consulting with an attorney, he decided to remove the Nativity.

"My personal belief is that we should fight this sort of thing, but I didn't want to put the school district at risk," he said. "I could not take it upon myself to get the school in a legal entanglement over separation of church and state because we would have to use tax dollars to fight it and that's not my job to do that."

But his decision sparked a massive outcry in the community – and one organization offered to cover any legal costs the school system might incur over a lawsuit. That offer helped change the superintendent's mind.

"To be honest with you, we offended a lot more people by taking it down than leaving it up," Noble said. "So we put it back up."

Noble, who is a Christian, said he doesn't understand why anyone would be offended by the Nativity.

"Personally, I'm a Christian and if I'm going to offend somebody, I'd rather offend the non-believer – if it's legal to do so," he said.

The American Civil Liberties Union of Arkansas told radio station KUAR that the school district must obey the Constitution.

"To say that if you have to offend somebody you'd rather offend those in the minority, well that's just what the Constitution and the First Amendment are all about – not offending the minority, standing up for everybody's right to



Nativity Bulletin Board - photo by KUAR

practice their religion whether there is one person in your town or a thousand," ACLU Director Rita Sklar told KUAR. "That the superintendent and perhaps others don't have respect for that, I think is very sad."

The Nativity scene was erected by Kay Williams, a counselor at the primary school. She's been doing it for more than 20 years without any hint of controversy.

"We do live in the Bible Belt," Williams told the Paragould Daily Press. "One thing that really disturbed most of [the supporters] was we hear about things like this all the time in other parts of the country. But, this is kind of a first for the Bible Belt, here in Arkansas."

That, Williams told the newspaper, is why they decided to take a stand.

"I think the people realized [this issue] is here and we better take a stand," she told the newspaper.

Noble said the community support and the offer for free legal services led to his decision to allow the Nativity back into the primary school.

"The Christians in America have been silent for too long," Noble said. "That's why I struggled with it in the beginning."



APS FAMILY NEWS



As part of Teaching Tuesdays' 'Heroes and Bad Guys' unit study, the Bonaventura home was invaded by scary (and cute) pirates! A big thank you to Cindee Grant, Lisa Nakata, Liz Bonaventura, Becky Buck, Heather Solomon, Deanna Meadows, and all the other helping moms.
Arrrrrrrr – Here are me'n'th' crew aboard the right fine ship, Bon Adventure!

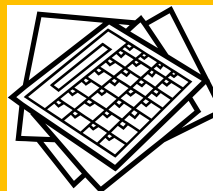
This year we are asking **EVERY APS family to sponsor one Special Event.** IT's Easy!

How to do Special Events: Follow these easy steps and you'll find how simple and fun it is:

- Choose something your kids will LOVE**
 It does not have to be fancy or expensive. Just think of what YOU and your kids would LOVE TO DO.
- Find a date that works**
 Check APS Calendar & Check w/ Master Calendar Lady, Jenni Gilbert by e-mail: gilbertsco@gmail.com
- Complete template with ALL details**
 The template is found on the APS website (FORMS) and even contains questions you can answer to get all details, like date, time, cost, location, age-group – not really hard.
- Send template to Master Calendar**
 E-mail the completed template to Jenni Gilbert: gilbertsco@gmail.com, and someone will contact you.

To get your event into the January coupons, please send the info by January 8. You will be a homeschool hero!

Lego Day
A hike The Getty
Whale Watching



Event Date and Day:
Event Title:
Event Time:
Include this event with coupons for: Double-click box then mark "checked"
<input type="checkbox"/> Sept <input type="checkbox"/> Jan <input type="checkbox"/> Nov <input type="checkbox"/> Jun <input type="checkbox"/> Apr
Event Location:
Event Address:
Event Phone:
Event Staff Info:
Event OPEN TO:

SCHOOL BANS CHRISTMAS

Gov. RENAMES CHRISTMAS TREE

News from the planet Bizarro

Students and parents in Fort Worth, TX are outraged after the school district declared that Christmas celebrations – including visits from Santa Claus would **no longer be allowed during the school day.**

The Fort Worth Independent School District **also banned students exchanging Christmas gifts** after they determined that public schools could no longer “endorse or sponsor any religious activity or doctrine.”

A spokesman for the school district said that **“in an effort to be politically correct” teachers are not allowed to “post something that would foster or promote or impugn one doctrine or religion over another – or even give that impression.”**

Robert Jeffress, the pastor of the First Baptist Church in Dallas, **said it’s time for Christians to rise up and put a stop to what he called “political correctness gone awry.”**

“America is a Christian nation,” Jeffress told reporters. **“It’s time for Americans to stand up and push back against this increasing encroachment upon our First Amendment rights.**

He called on Christians in Fort Worth to protest the school district’s policy.

“They need to pack the next school board meeting with Christians demanding this policy be reversed,” Jeffress said.

Clint Bond, school district spokesman, said the district does not have an out-right ban on Santa Claus or Christmas celebrations –

But there’s a catch. Bond said the Santa visits and gift exchanges can only occur **“before school starts, after school ends or on the evening or weekend.”**

“Do it at the appropriate time,” he said.

“Outside the instructional day.”

[When kids are NOT PRESENT!]

Parents like Brandon Brewer are outraged. He has three children at Ridglea Hills Elementary School. **“In their effort to be PC, they’ve achieved the absurd,”** Brewer wrote in an e-mail to the [Fort Worth Star-Telegram](#). “They’ve taken legality out of the equation insisting that holiday traditions (secular or religious) are suddenly too much of a distraction, and besides, if we let Santa in, maybe a Voodoo Witch Doctor will want to visit the classrooms, and gee, we’d have to let ‘em.”

Bond said the policy has been blown out of proportion. He said many schools still have Santa art work on the walls.

“We’re not killing off the Great Pumpkin,” he said. “We’re not killing off Valentine’s Day. We’re not killing off the Easter Bunny. Those holidays are welcome in our school – at the appropriate time.”

Pastor Jeffress said the district’s real agenda goes beyond Santa Claus.

“We all agree he (Santa Claus) is not the reason for the season,” he said. “However, it is a more **insidious attempt to remove acknowledgement of Christmas from our mindset. The bottom line is Christmas is a day to remember Christ’s birth – and yes we live in a pluralistic society, but we were still founded as a Christian nation and I believe as Americans we have every right to exchange Christmas gifts and in the school district to celebrate Christmas.**” □□□

A Rhode Island lawmaker is calling Gov. Lincoln

Chafee “Governor Grinch” after he defied lawmakers and declared that the state would have a **“holiday tree” instead of a “Christmas tree.”**

Last January Rep. Doreen Costa sponsored a **resolution declaring the tree customarily erected in December be referred to as a “Christmas tree and not as a ‘holiday tree’ or other non-traditional terms.”**

Gov. Chafee (AKA Gov Grinch) simply ignored the resolution.

Costa told Fox News & Commentary: “He’s just to the left as far as left as you can possibly be. He tries to be politically correct 24-7.”

“He is refusing to honor what’s passed in the House of Representatives,” she said. “That’s more concerning than anything else.”

Costa said the governor’s rebuff has become her line in the sand.

“I’m sick of being politically correct,” she said. “Nobody’s been offended by calling a Christmas tree a Christmas tree. If we have a Menorah in the State House, what are we going to call it – a candle with sticks?”

So Costa has decided to erect her own Christmas tree – at the State House. And she plans on lighting it the same day Chafee plans to host the official “holiday” tree lighting event.

“We’re going to sing Christmas carols and drink hot chocolate,” she said. “And I’m going to make a sign – Christmas tree lighting to the right and holiday tree to the left. We’ll see who gets the crowd.” □□□

News from the planet Bizarro

For nearly 60 years at Christmastime, Christian congregations from **Santa Monica, California** have come together to organize a **life-sized Nativity scene, using 14 display areas in a city park to illustrate the story of the birth of Jesus Christ.**

This year, however, the story had to be abridged because **groups of atheists took over 11 of the 14 displays.**

The City adopted 'lottery system' to dole out available spots in Santa Monica's Palisades Park, along Ocean Avenue. **Atheists were able to claim most of the display spaces traditionally used for the Nativity,** leaving room for only three of the scenes.

Damon Vix, an atheist, had a display last year that included a quote attributed to Thomas Jefferson: "Religions are all alike -- founded on fables and mythologies." And this year, he told the Santa Monica Daily Press that he encouraged other atheists to join him.

"For 60 years, it's almost exclusively been the point of view of Christians putting up Nativity scenes for a whole city block," Vix told the Daily Press.

The group that has long organized the Nativity scenes bristled at the atheists' move, saying it upends a long-standing winter tradition for the city -- and impedes their freedom of expression.

"By trying to push the Nativity scene out of the park and silence us, these people are infringing on our freedom and 1st Amendment rights," said Hunter Jameson, a Nativity organizer, said in a statement.

"The truth is this: The Nativity Scenes Committee has no objection to displays anyone else puts up under the rules that disagree with ours. That is fine. That is the American way of free speech and fair play. Unlike our opponents, we are not trying to push anyone out of Palisades Park. There is plenty of room for all the displays that ever have been erected at Christmas, including this year."

One of the other displays includes a menorah set up by a Jewish group.

City officials said it turned to the lottery system to make sure the process for distributing the display spaces was fair. City Atty. Marsha Moutrie told the Daily Press that "everyone has equal rights to use the streets and parks for expressive activities."

Some questions have arisen, however, as to **how the atheists were able to 'win' 11 of the 14 spaces. It seems mathematically improbable, unless there was an organized effort to fill the city lotto system with an overwhelming number of atheist entries.** ☐☐☐

NY Churches will have to vacate rented public schools by Feb. 12, 2012.

The US Supreme Court has rejected an evangelical church's plea to overturn New York City's ban on renting public schools for religious worship services. That means the city now has a green light to begin **evicting congregations** who pay rent to use public school buildings for church services.

The Supreme Court's decision not to hear the case leaves in place a federal appeals court ruling that upheld the city's policy to forbid churches to rent public schools for Sunday services.

The court case involved the Bronx Household of Faith -- a church that paid weekly rent to hold worship services at a public school since 2002. The church, along with **five dozen other congregations,** was allowed to continue worshipping at public schools pending the outcome of the lawsuit.

It's a sad day for religious liberty," said Jordan Lorence, the church's attorney and senior counsel for the Alliance Defense Fund. **"Churches and other religious groups should be allowed to meet in public buildings on the same terms as other community groups and they're being denied that in New York City."**

"What's odd about this is that of the top 50 school districts in the nation, New York City is the only school district that has a policy banning worship services," he told Fox News & Commentary. "It does not show respect for religious liberty."

The immediate impact means dozens of Christian churches will have to find a new place to hold services.

"A lot of churches are going to be homeless," said George Russ, executive director of the New York Metropolitan Baptist Association. He said about seven of the 220 Southern Baptist churches in the city will be impacted by the decision.

Russ said churches will be scrambling to rent hotel space, banquet halls and movie theatres.

"It's going to be a lot more money," he said. "The odd thing is these churches have blessed the schools they've been in," Russ said. "They all have good relationships with the schools they've been in. They've purchased furniture for the teacher's lounge they've given video equipment to the schools. They've done so many thank-you kinds of projects."

The 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals determined that allowing churches to use schools resulted in an "unintended bias in favor of Christian religions". ☐☐☐

USFS EVICTS WWII MEMORIAL FEATURING JESUS STATUE

News from the planet Bizarro

The U.S. Forest Service has ordered the Knights of Columbus to **remove a nearly 60-year-old World War Two memorial** from Montana's Big Mountain (National Park) **because the memorial includes a statue of Jesus.**

"It's outrageous," said Rep. Denny Rehberg (R-MT). "This is a **bunch of attorneys getting skittish**, worrying about something that doesn't need to be worried about."

The statue was **erected in 1953** by a local chapter of the Knights of Columbus. Every 10 years, the group has to renew a special permit to maintain the small plot of land in the Flathead National Forest.



But this year, the group's permit was denied and the Forest Service gave them until the end of December to submit a detailed plan in writing on how they plan to remove the statue.

"Recent established case law is not in favor of renewing a permit of this type," said Phil Sammon, the Forest Service media coordinator for the northern region. "As a federal agency, we are bound by certain regulations and stipulations that call for us to make the decision that was made."

Government officials were concerned that the Jesus statue might be considered a violation of the Establishment clause of the U.S. Constitution. In other words, the **Forest Service was afraid that someone might sue the federal government because the memorial included a statue of Jesus. Ironically, the Forest Service said no one has ever complained about the statue.**

"To my knowledge, there haven't been any formal written complaints," Sammon said.

Congressman Rehberg said he hopes someone will cut through the government red tape and intervene.



"I hope they will come to their senses and extend the lease," he said. "If they don't, then we're going to get a little more cantankerous about it."

Bill Glidden, the grand knight for KOC Council No. 1328, said he is disappointed in the government's decision.

"It's more than just a religious icon," he said. "It's a memorial to our vets. That's what the statue's plaque indicates."

Glidden said the small community near the mountain is outraged over the news.

"They want to know what's going on here," he said. "I'm not real happy about it either."

Sammon said he understands the community's frustrations.

"We totally understand the local sentiment," he said. "The agency certainly understands and appreciates the local significance and the historical aspect of the statue but the regulatory guidelines we have – put us in sideboards that we don't have a lot of room to operate out of."

The Knights of Columbus have filed an appeal – and congressman Rehberg hopes that an agreement can be reached.

"It would just be a real shame if they can't come to some sort of reasonable accommodation," he said. "If they can be reasonable, we can be reasonable. There's no reason to escalate this any further."

But if they don't, Rehberg said he is prepared to take his cause to the nation.

"This is about honoring the World War II veterans," he said. **"Do they (Forest Service) really want to go down the path of slapping them in the face? I don't think so."**

WHY ENGLISH IS HARD TO LEARN

Bad grammar and spelling make a bad impression. E-mails, text, letters, and resumes – the way you write says a lot about you.

Don't let yourself lose an opportunity over a simple spelling or grammar mistake. Teach your kids to write well.

Here are some simple grammatical errors that should never be seen in your emails, letters and resumes.

You're / Your

The apostrophe means it's a contraction of two words; "you're" is the short version of "you are" (the "a" is dropped). If your sentence makes sense if you say "you are," then you're good to use you're. "Your" means it belongs to you, it's yours.

- You're = if you mean "you are" then use the apostrophe
- Your = belonging to you

You're going to love your new job!

It's / Its

This one is confusing, because generally, in addition to being used in contractions, an apostrophe indicates ownership, as in "Dad's new car." But, "it's" is actually the short version of "it is" or "it has." "Its" with no apostrophe means belonging to it.

- It's = it is
- Its = belonging to it

It's important to remember to bring your telephone and its extra battery.

They're / Their / There

"They're" is a contraction of "they are." "Their" means belonging to them. "There" refers to a place (notice that the word "here" is part of it, which is also a place – so if it says here and there, it's a place).

- There = a place
- They're = they are
- Their = belonging to them

They're going to miss their teachers when they leave there.

Loose / Lose

These spellings really don't make much sense, so you just have to remember them.

"Loose" is the opposite of tight, and rhymes with goose.

"Lose" is the opposite of win, and rhymes with booze. (To show how unpredictable English is, compare another pair of words, "choose" and "chose," No wonder so many people get it wrong!)

- Loose = it's not tight, it's loosey goosey
- Lose = "don't lose the hose for the rose" is a way to remember the same spelling but a different pronunciation

I never thought I could lose so much weight; now my pants are all loose!

Lead / Led

Another common but glaring error. "Lead" means you're doing it in the present, and rhymes with deed. "Led" is the past tense of lead, and rhymes with sled. So you can "lead" your current organization, but you "led" the people in your previous job.

- Lead = present tense, rhymes with deed
- Led = past tense, rhymes with sled

My goal is to lead this team to success, just as I led my past teams into winning award after award.

A lot / Alot / Allot

First the bad news: there is no such word as "alot."

"A lot" refers to quantity, and "allot" means to distribute or parcel out.

There is a lot of confusion about this one, so I'm going to allot ten minutes to review these rules of grammar.

Between you and I

This one is widely misused, even by TV news anchors who should know better.

In English, we use a different pronoun depending on whether it's the subject or the object of the sentence: I/me, she/her, he/him, they/them.

This becomes second nature for us and we rarely make mistakes with the glaring exception of when we have to choose between "you and I" or "you and me."

Remember that "**between you and I**" is never correct, and although it is becoming more common, it's kind of like saying "him did a great job." It is glaringly incorrect.

The easy rule of thumb is to replace the "you and I" or "you and me" with either "we" or "us" and you'll quickly see which form is right.

If "us" works, then use "you and me" if "we" works, then use "you and I."

Between you and me (us), here are the secrets to how you and I (we) can learn to write better.

That / who

We want to hire someone *who* is great at grammar, and we will buy books *that* we can use for reference.

Use the word "who" when you are talking about people, and "that" when you're talking about objects.

Me, myself and I

This one got a lot of enthusiastic complaints about people using the word "myself" in sentences like "You will have a meeting with Bob and myself."

Myself is a reflexive pronoun, and it's a bit confusing, *Myself* can be used to add emphasis, as in "I painted it myself." But please, never say "You'll be meeting with Bob and myself."

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WHY ENGLISH IS HARD TO LEARN

Continued from page 16

Just remember:

"You'll be meeting with Bob."

You'll be meeting with me."

"You'll be meeting with Bob and me."

"I'll be meeting with you and Bob."

Should have / should of

The problem here is that the words "should have" and "could have" were contracted in spoken English to "should've" and "could've" and some people now think that means "should of" and "could of."

The correct expression is

"should have," "could have," or "would have" and that is how you write it out.

Pluralizing with apostrophes

The way we make words plural in the English language is usually by adding the letter 's' to the word. So egg becomes eggs and CEO becomes CEOs. Apostrophes are not used to pluralize words. **Ever.**

Less / fewer

Fewer is used when you're talking about something you can count. Less is used for things you can't specifically quantify. So if you want to weigh less, you will want to eat fewer candy bars.

Then / than

"Then" refers to the passing of time, and "than" indicates a comparison.

First you need to be better than she is, and then you can win.

Loan / lend / borrow

This one is kind of tricky.

Traditionally, "lend" is a verb and "loan" is a noun.

Remember:

"lend" and "verb"

both have an "e" in them and

"loan" and "noun"

both have an "o" in them.

In American English, you go to the bank and ask for a loan, and they lend you money.

Or they loan you money, and then you can tell people that they lent you money. Or loaned you money. And now you have a loan to pay off.

To / too

"To" means in the direction of, as in *They went to the movies.*

"Too" means in addition to, as in *Our daughter came along, too,* or to an excessive degree, as in, *We left early because it was too hot in the theater.*

Of course, none of these are the same as the number two. Duh.

By the way, a simple grammar check caught most of the mistakes here. When in doubt, let your software tell you when you've got it wrong.

REASONS WHY THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE IS HARD TO LEARN:

(Read this out loud, or aloud)

1) The bandage was wound around the wound.

2) The farm was used to produce produce.

3) The dump was so full that it had to refuse more refuse.

4) We must polish the Polish furniture.

5) He could lead if he would get the lead out.

6) The soldier decided to desert his dessert in the desert.

7) Since there is no time like the present, he thought it was time to present the present.

8) A bass was painted on the head of the bass drum.

9) When shot at, the dove dove into the bushes.

10) I did not object to the object.

12) There was a row among the oarsmen about how to row.

13) They were too close to the door to close it.

14) A seamstress and a sewer fell down into a sewer line.

15) To help with planting, the farmer taught his sow to sow.

16) The wind was too strong to wind the sail.

17) After a number of injections my jaw got number.

18) Upon seeing the tear in the painting I shed a tear.

19) I had to subject the subject to a series of tests.

20) How can I intimate this to my most intimate friend?

LET'S FACE IT—ENGLISH IS A CRAZY LANGUAGE!!!

1) There is no egg in eggplant nor ham in hamburger; neither apple nor pine in pineapple.

2) English muffins weren't invented in England, nor French fries in France, nor Russian Dressing in Russia.

3) Sweetmeats are candies while sweetbreads, which aren't sweet, are meat.

Quicksand can work slowly,

Boxing rings are square

Guinea pigs are not from Guinea nor are they pigs.

And why is it that writers write but

- fingers don't fing,
- grocers don't groce and
- hammers don't ham?

If the plural of tooth is teeth, why isn't the plural of booth beeth?

We have one goose, 2 geese.

So what about:

One moose, 2 meese?

Why, one index, 2 indices?

(Pronounced in-dah-sees)

You can make amends but you can't make one amend.

If you have a bunch of odds and ends and get rid of all but one of them, what do you call it?

If teachers taught, why don't preachers praught?

If a vegetarian eats vegetables, what does a humanitarian eat?

In what other language do people:

Recite at a play and play at a recital?

Have noses that run and feet that smell?

How can a slim chance and a fat chance be the same, while a wise man and a wise guy are opposites?

Why can your house burn up as it burns down,

How can you fill in a form by filling it out? Why, when the stars are out,

they are visible, but when the lights are out, they are invisible? □□□

TEBOW – TEBOW – TEBOW

*F*or those who have just returned from five years on the moon or for some other reason are unaware of the homeschooled, Christian, NFL Superstar “Tim Tebow” please allow us this opportunity to:

- 1) Introduce you to a fantastic young man, and
- 2) Really encourage you to get out more.

Timothy Richard "Tim" Tebow; born August 14, 1987) is an American football player who is currently the starting quarterback for the Denver Broncos of the National Football League (NFL). He was drafted by the Broncos as the 25th overall pick in the 2010 NFL Draft and played college football at Florida.

Even though he was homeschooled, Tebow was ranked among the top quarterback prospects in the nation as a high school senior. He ultimately chose to attend the University of Florida.

As a backup to starter Chris Leak and a key situational contributor, Tebow helped the Gators win the national championship during the 2006 college football season.

Tebow was the Gators' starting quarterback during the 2007 season and became the first college football player to both rush and pass for 20 or more touchdowns in a single season. Consequently, **he became the first college sophomore to win the Heisman Trophy (and the first homeschooler too).**

Tebow was born in Makati City in the Philippines, to American **parents who were serving as Christian Baptist missionaries at the time.**

His mother, Pamela Elaine (née Pemberton), is the daughter of a U.S. Army colonel, and his **father, Robert Ramsey Tebow II, is a pastor.**

While pregnant, his mother suffered a life-threatening infection with a pathogenic amoeba. Because of the drugs used to treat her, the fetus experienced a severe placental abruption. Fearing a stillbirth, **doctors recommended an abortion to protect her life, although abortions are illegal in the Philippines, but she remained adamantly pro-life and refused having an abortion.** Timothy Richard Tebow was born very much alive.

Tebow is the youngest of five children. All of the Tebow children were homeschooled by their mother, who worked to instill the family's Christian beliefs as well as academics.

In 1996, legislation was passed in Florida allowing homeschooled students to compete in local high school sporting events. The law specifies that homeschooled students may participate on the team of the local school in the school district in which they live.

The Tebows lived in Jacksonville, Florida. After playing one semester for a private Christian school, Tim decided to attend Nease High School, under head coach Craig Howard. With the rest of his family living on a farm



in Duval County, Tim and his mother moved into an apartment in nearby St. Johns County, making him eligible to play for the football team at Nease.

His performance soon turned heads and led to a minor controversy regarding the fact that he was a homeschooled student.

Tebow was considered one of the nation's top recruits and was the subject of an ESPN "Faces in Sports" documentary. The segment was titled **"Tim Tebow: The Chosen One"**, and focused on **Tim's homeschool controversy and missionary work in the Philippines**, as well as his exploits on the field of play and the college recruiting process.

After careful consideration he decided to play for Urban Meyer's Florida Gators. One of the reasons he chose Florida was because of Meyer's spread option offense, an offense for which Tebow was deemed a perfect quarterback.

Tebow spent the three summers prior to enrolling at the University of Florida in the Philippines, assisting with his father's orphanage and missionary work.

On January 7, 2007, Tebow was featured prominently in an ESPN "Outside The Lines" feature on homeschooled athletes seeking equal access to high school athletics in other states. Because a homeschooler's access to public and private school athletic functions vary by state, **Tebow and New York Jets defensive end Jason Taylor** (who was allowed to play at his local high school in Pennsylvania) **argue in favor of extending the right to play for local teams to more states.**

Continued on page 20

APS FAMILY NEWS



This year's Jr. Sr. High Christmas Banquet had a number of changes that were very successful. A room full of students and their parents still enjoyed a delicious catered meal featuring our traditional menu of Tri-Tip and BBQ Chicken, mashed potatoes, salad etc. But, we added two VERY FUNNY games in place of the 12 Days of Christmas game. Teams of students decorated three very cooperative APS-Dads as Christmas Trees.

Danny Gibson, Danny Fernandez and Danny Carver sat remarkable still as their designated team retrieved decorations and applied them head to toe

The teams also competed in gift wrapping boxes. The trick in this game is that the two wrappers were blindfolded and each could only use one hand. Instructions as to what to do were given by their willing helpers.

The gift exchange was also changed into a fun circle activity with all of the gift exchangers working together at the same time as they listened to a Christmas story. But rather than explain it all, let's look at some great photos taken by APS-Mom Donna Henri – Thanks Donna ☺☺☺



APS-Moms helped serve the delicious meal. Above (Left to Right) Karen Carver, Kaye Gibson, Linda Krager, Melissa Sircusa and Marie Caulkins. Marie and Vaughna Colaco (not pictured) worked for weeks planning, arranging and executing a lovely evening.

TEBOW TEBOW

Suspended for Tebowing?

Continued from page 19

Upon becoming the **first homeschooled athlete to be nominated for the Heisman Trophy**, Tebow remarked, **"That's really cool. A lot of times people have this stereotype of homeschoolers as not very athletic – it's like, 'go win a spelling bee' or something like that – it's an honor for me to be the first one to do that."**

Tebow's example inspired equal access supporters in Alabama to name their bill in the Alabama Legislature "The Tim Tebow Bill". The bill, which is pending in the Alabama Legislature, will allow Alabama homeschool athletes to play for their local high school teams just as Tebow did in Florida.

In January 2009, the "Tebow bill" was introduced in the Kentucky General Assembly. This bill, which is still pending, is also modeled after Florida state law, allowing homeschool athletes to play for their local sports teams.



'Tebowing', e.g. kneeling in praying during or after a game, has become a national phenomena since Tebow embraced the practice.

During his college football career, Tebow frequently wore references to biblical verses on his eye black. In the 2009 BCS Championship Game, he wore John 3:16 on his eye paint, and as a result, 92 million people searched "John 3:16" on Google during or shortly after the game.

Additionally, later, when Tebow switched to another verse, there were 3.43 million searches of "Tim Tebow" and "Proverbs 3:5-6" together.

Tebow stated of the searches *"It just goes to show you the influence and the platform that you have as a student-athlete and as a quarterback at Florida"*.

The NFL has a rule prohibiting players from wearing messages on eye black; so, Tebow is not able to continue the practice in the NFL. In 2010, the NCAA created a new rule which, like the NFL, prohibited college players from wearing messages on their eye black. The media dubbed this new rule **"The Tebow Rule"** but the NCAA denies the rule was influenced by Tebow.

Tebow's Christian beliefs are often the subject of media scrutiny. When one intrusive reporter asked him about his sex life, the unmarried Tebow boldly informed the reporter that he was saving himself for marriage.

A nationwide controversy surrounded Tebow's decision to appear in an ad funded by Focus on the Family that was broadcast during Super Bowl XLIV on CBS. There were two 30-second commercials, which included Tebow's personal story as part of an overall pro-life stance. The abortion issue was not specifically mentioned in the ad. Pro-abortion groups condemned the ad, while pro-life groups rallied around Tebow.

Tebow is the exciting starting quarterback for the Denver Broncos. He has lead the team to some amazing 4th quarter come-from-behind victories, including an amazing win against the Chicago Bears. Dec 11, Denver again trailed in the 4th quarter, this time 10-0 against the Chicago Bears. Tebow threw a touchdown pass with **2:08 left**, then drove his team to set up a successful tying 59-yard field goal try **with only eight seconds remaining** and a winning 51-yard field goal in overtime (both by kicker Matt Prater) for another dramatic comeback win. □□□

On Dec 14, a group of high school athletes were suspended for staging spontaneous 'Tebowing' at their high school. According to Connor Carroll, a senior at Riverhead High on Long Island (N.Y.), school administrators handed out one-day suspensions to four student athletes after they knelt in the school hallway (and prayed?) in Tebow fashion.



Other students spontaneously joined them resulting in almost 40 teens 'Tebowing', representing nearly each athletic program in the school.

Connor Carroll and his brother, Tyler Carroll, both of whom are football and baseball players, as well as Wayne Drexel (football) and Jordan Fulcoly (soccer) -- were handed one-day suspensions for what can only be described as a somewhat specious reason: 'Blocking the school's hallways.'

"The administration told us that our Tebowing was blocking the halls and could potentially cause a riot." said Carroll.

Carroll insisted that there was plenty of room for anyone to pass by while the athletes were Tebowing.

Though about 40 students participated, only the original four were suspended.

Would the school prefer students follow Chicago Bears' Sam Hurd, who was arrested the same week for dealing drugs? □□□
Source: Pep Rally Yahoo Sports

ELECTIONS MAKE A DIFFERENCE

DON'T MESS WITH TEXAS

Continued from page 3

“non-traditional” public school. They have to follow MOST state education statutes but DON'T have to have union teachers or adhere to the credentialing other PUBLIC teachers must go through. The teachers union is now chipping away at this. They will eventually force their way in and education and curriculum changes will take place.

“So what?” you say. Think real hard. Think about some of the bills and laws our legislators have pushed on us. I don't care if you are a Democrat, Republican, Libertarian, or Independent. It doesn't matter. Many of you lean conservative and when it comes to education the group in charge now is far from that.

The new legislation that will require public school curriculum to include the **“POSITIVE CONTRIBUTIONS” of gay, lesbian, and transgender in our history books is another affront on our children**. If schools do not purchase new books within a few years, my understanding is that a “supplemental booklet” will be available to our history teachers and districts will be required to purchase them. PLEASE NOTE “POSITIVE CONTRIBUTIONS” means no negative information will be allowed about the “Protected Group” and, no, I am not speaking about your children. You will not be able to have historical events documented in the history books should a gay, lesbian or transgender commit a horrific crime. With that criteria, as an American of Italian descent, I should be able to ask that any reference to Italians when talking about the influence of the Mafia in the early 20th century be removed!

This kind of legislation is just plain crazy and yet we keep sending “crazy's” to Sacramento. Our legislators have enacted laws that would allow your child to have a school administrator take them for a “life altering” procedure without your permission, but won't administer an aspirin to your child without your permission. Does this make sense to anyone else, because it doesn't to me!

AND DON'T THINK that once they get this law worked out and moving forward that they won't try to push it into private, charter, and HOME SCHOOLERS in California. What will be next? Will home schoolers have to check in with the public schools every week, month, quarter? **My point is PLEASE PAY ATTENTION.**

Many of you live in what's called the “38th Assembly District” for the state of California. Next year Assemblyman Cameron Smyth will “term out”. He has been a strong advocate for home schoolers and alternative schooling, but he will not be able to run again. **There are currently 4 people running for that seat. I ask that you PLEASE! PLEASE! PLEASE! pay attention to the candidates.** Attend the forums. Ask specific questions of them and pay CLOSE attention to the answers and the words they use (or don't use) to respond.

Ask them if they believe in home schooling and parental rights, When they say “yes”, ask them

HOW THEY WILL PROTECT YOUR RIGHT TO THESE THINGS.

And ask them to be specific. Listen for their answer. Did it really answer the question (often it does not, even though it sounds really good!).

Locally, I have endorsed Scott Wilk. Though this is NOT a POLITICAL article, I feel we ALL need to do our homework and let people know who we are supporting and why. I have spent many years working with Scott on educational, social, and political issues. **He is passionate and aggressive in protecting parental rights. He believes in home schooling and alternate education.**

The people you send to Sacramento and Washington DC are making decisions that will affect your children now and for years to come. They make it very hard for public school board members to make decisions that protect your children (**Doug Bryce, a member of the Saugus Union School Board and a former APS-Dad, can attest to that fact**). ASK people around you that are engaged and involved in education or politics and find out what candidates line up with your belief systems and moral values. **Your vote, input, and continued involvement really does count and, yes, though your kids are home schooled, public education does affect your children and ultimately, your grandchildren and their children.** □□□

As many as 5,000 attended a rally in a small Texas community to show their



support for a Nativity scene in Henderson County, TX under attack by a atheist group based in another state.

“We are humbled at the turnout of the crowd,” said Nathan Lorick, pastor of the First Baptist Church in Malakoff and one of the organizers of the rally.

“We believe that God led us to do this and so we knew He was up to something great,” he told Fox News & Commentary. “This message is resonating in the hearts of people all over the country. This was a real statement to the nation that **Christians are tired of the persecution and suppression. We want all to know that we are ready to contend for the faith.**”

The Freedom From Religion Foundation (FFRF) sent a letter explaining they wanted the Nativity removed from the Henderson County courthouse lawn. The FFRF alleged that the Nativity sent a message of intimidation and exclusion to non-Christians.

The attack prompted a tremendous outcry.

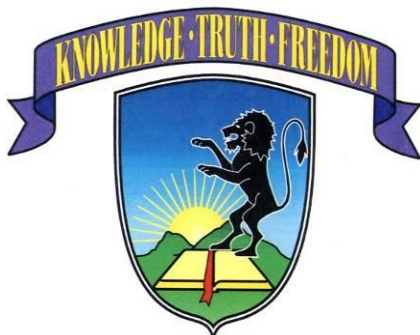
The Texas Attorney General offered to defend the county in the event the atheists sued, arguing that the county has no legal obligation to remove the Nativity scene from the courthouse grounds. □□□

Glory to God in the highest

Merry Christmas; Richard, Cindee, Brandon and Brittany Grant



Advantage Preparatory Schools, Inc
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*Grow in the grace and knowledge
of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.
To Him be the glory, both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.
2 Pet 3:18*