



Tam's Front Porch Ponderings
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Fall Break Was A Roller Coaster Ride!

Fall break was a roller coaster ride for our household! Our daughter, Sarah Beth, lives in Leesville, Louisiana, and we decided to pay her a visit during fall break.

We loaded up the car, got my Mom and Aunt Shirley all settled in the back seat and off we went on one of the longest car rides I've EVER been on! We pulled out at 6:30 a.m. and pushed

through five states to arrive at Sarah's house at 1:30 a.m. Eastern time, the next morning. Of course she's on Central time and that kept me confused the entire week. Nineteen hours on the road just about got the best of me. By the time we pulled in Sarah's driveway, I was seeing things. The road appeared to be moving, I thought I saw armadillos and alligators, I was just a mess! But we made it safe and sound and the week flew by. Before I knew it, we had to head for home.

Sarah kept us entertained by taking us sightseeing and come dinner time, she whipped up terrific Cajun meals. I'd try to tell you what we had to eat but since they all had French names, I'm not even going to attempt it. Gumbo, Jambalaya and Craw-dad Creole are the only three I can spell, but I didn't have any trouble eating them. Oh my, a person

could sure get spoiled eating at her house, the food was out of this world! Corky enjoyed the Louisiana cuisine so much, that I came home with the biggest cookbook I've ever owned, full of nothing but recipes from the area.

We visited Ft. Polk and it was sad to see the commissary closed because of the Government shut down. The commissary is a grocery store for military families providing big savings. With its closure, I'm sure it has made a big impact on the household budgets of Ft. Polk. Museums and parks were also closed because of the GOVERNMENT and I tried hard not to voice my opinion. Since my son-in-law is a soldier, I didn't want to add insult to injury by complaining about the GOVERNMENT during our stay.

Sarah Beth surprised me and took us to Natchitoches,

pronounced knock-a-dish, which is the town where Steel Magnolias was filmed. It's the oldest town in Louisiana, established in 1714 and they are known for their Festival of Lights. Each November the town gets all dolled up in millions of Christmas lights and the small community grows to a romping 300,000 in number to enjoy the Christmas celebrations. It was a treat to roam in and out of the shops along Cane River and eat a meat pie at "Poppa's" restaurant. It was unseasonably cool for October, so we were able to stroll about the cobblestone streets without burning up from the heat and humidity!

It was a day I'll never forget and I've already hinted to Corky that I would love to see the town at Christmas time. He promptly suggested that I should go alone to the Festival of Lights, "So you and Sarah Beth can enjoy everything", he said grinning. Yeah, right, he just doesn't want to drive back down there!

The Gulf of Mexico was...well...dirty. It wasn't what I had imagined at all. There were lots and lots of shells and we spent one afternoon loading the back of

Sarah's truck full of them but our hands were black and oily when we were finished. I can't imagine what it must have looked like immediately after the oil spill, how sad! We could see the oil platforms from the beach, large, towering monsters on the horizon. Ships slipped up and down the shore line as we picked up sea shells and for the most part, we were alone. Two other cars arrived while we were there, but other than that, we had the beach to ourselves.

Thursday morning arrived too quickly for me and I fought back tears as we said our goodbyes. I knew the trip home would seem much longer, knowing I was leaving my first born behind. Driving from Alexandria to Tallulah, a fifty seven mile straight stretch through cotton fields as far as the eye could see, made me miss her even more.

It seemed like such a lonesome drive even though Mom and Aunt Shirley kept up lively conversation with me and Corky. In an effort to cheer me up, Corky swerved onto a dirt road that led to a cotton field in full bloom. "You said you'd like to have some cotton, here's your

chance!" he pointed towards the Frogmore Plantation. I bailed out of the car, snapped a few pictures, then snapped a few plants off and shoved them in the trunk. Breathless I climbed back into the car as he sped off. I don't know why I felt like I was doing something dangerous, I'm sure the Plantation owners wouldn't miss 2 cotton plants out of the sea of white. "You ready to go home?" he asked.

"I'm ready," I said quietly

"We're ready too!" said Mom and Aunt Shirley, and we headed towards the mountains of the Bluegrass! As we crossed the mighty Mississippi river, I remembered what Sarah Beth had told me to do, so I broke out in song, "O' Man River, Dat ol' man river, He mus' know sumpin', But don't say nut-hin', He jes' keeps rollin', He keeps on rollin' along".

Corky rolled his eyes at me as we crossed into Mississippi and politely asked, "Don't you need to take a nap now?"

I took that as my cue to stop my lively rendition of "Show Boat" and take a nap. And with that, Corky jes' kept rollin' along!

ESTILL COUNTY SCHOOLS MENUS

Milk is included with every meal; plus assorted juices included with breakfast

MONDAY Oct. 21	TUESDAY Oct. 22	WEDNESDAY Oct. 23	THURSDAY Oct. 24	FRIDAY Oct. 25
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SOUTH IRVINE BREAKFASTS

Breakfast Pizza Assorted Juice	Toast, Cereal Assorted Juice	Biscuit, Apple-sauce, Juice	Muffins, Yogurt Assorted Juice	Cinnamon Roll Orange Slices
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SOUTH IRVINE LUNCHES

Chicken Nuggets Roll Green Beans Carrot Sticks, Tropical Fruit	Cheese Pizza Corn Celery Sticks Peaches Dip	Taco w/Shell Let./Tom./Cheese Refried Beans Pears Taco Sauce	Bosco Sticks w/Sauce Romaine Salad Glazed Carrots Mandarin Oranges	Hot Dog on Bun Baked Beans French Fries Applesauce Gold Fish Cookie
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ESTILL SPRINGS & WEST IRVINE BREAKFASTS

Pizza Flat Bread Assorted Juice	Toast, Cereal Assorted Juice	Biscuit & Jelly Applesauce	Cinnamon Roll Oranges	Mini Blueberry Muffins, Yogurt
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ESTILL SPRINGS & WEST IRVINE LUNCHES

Chicken Nuggets Roll Green Beans Mashed Potatoes Tropical Fruit	Cheese Pizza Corn Celery Sticks Peaches Dip	Taco w/Shell or Deli Turkey Wrap Let./Tom./Cheese Refried Beans Pears, Taco Sauce	Bosco Sticks/sauce Romaine Salad Glazed Carrots Mandarin Oranges Salad Dressing	Hot Dog or Pork Chop on Bun Baked Beans Potato Smiles Applesauce
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ESTILL COUNTY MIDDLE SCHOOL BREAKFAST

Breakfast Pizza Assorted Juice	Scooby Doo Crackers & Cereal	Biscuit Pop Tart Applesauce	Cinnamon Roll Pop Tart Cantaloupe	Blueberry Mini Muffins, Pop Tarts, Yogurt
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ESTILL COUNTY MIDDLE SCHOOL LUNCH

Bosco w/Marinara Sauce or Pepperoni Sub Romaine Salad Carrot Sticks Applesauce	Hamburger or Chuckwagon on Bun, LTP Potato Wedges Apples	Chicken Tenders or Buffalo Chicken Tenders, Roll Mashed Potatoes Green Beans Banana	Nacho Cheese & Chips or Chili Crispito, Salsa Refried Beans Pears	Ravioli or Spaghetti w/meat sauce, Breadstick Romaine Salad Corn Strawberry Cup
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ESTILL COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL BREAKFAST

Cereal Pop Tarts Yogurt	Sausage Biscuit, Cereal, Yogurt Banana or Apple	Chicken Biscuit Cereal, Pop Tart, Yogurt, Fruit	Egg & Cheese Biscuit, Cereal Pop Tart, Yogurt	Breakfast Pizza Cereal Pop Tarts
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ESTILL COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL LUNCH

Bosco w/Marinara Sauce or Pork Chop on Bun Carrot Sticks Romaine Salad Fruit	Spicy Chicken or Deli Turkey on Bun, Baked Beans Potato Wedges Applesauce Tropical Fruit	Chicken Rings w/Roll or Ham & Cheese on Bun Normandy Veggies. Sweet Potatoes Pears, Applesauce	Cheeseburger or Hot Dog on Bun Baby Bakers Let.Tom./Pik./On. Mandarin Oranges Peaches	Chicken Pot Pie or Chicken Sand. Mashed Potatoes Green Beans Pineapples Pears
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Winter Looms Large for Homeless Vets

VETERANS POST by Freddy Groves

Did you buy a new coat for winter? Is there any chance you can buy another one? And maybe some good gloves and a hat? There are homeless veterans out there who could use them.

With temperatures dropping, here are a few ways you can help homeless veterans this winter:

--Donate clothing and other basics: Call the Department of Veterans Affairs medical center nearest you and ask for Voluntary Services. Most locations keep a clothing closet for homeless veterans who come in and need help, or those who are moving out of rehab into a place of their own. Maybe

the clothing closet is good to go on coats but has completely run out of lined jeans and gloves. Maybe they need shirts in a super large size, or even personal-care items and a sports bag to carry everything in. Ask if they need a transition package of household supplies, like soap, towels, toilet paper and a laundry basket.

--Sign up to give rides: Voluntary services can help you with that, too. Homeless veterans often have to get to doctor appointments the best way they can, and in cold weather that can be tough. Look into driving opportunities through the Disabled American Veterans.

--Volunteer at a Stand Down: Go online to VA.gov

and see when there's an event near you. They run from January to November, and this time of the year the emphasis is going to be to get homeless veterans warm and into housing. Call and ask what you can do to help.

If you've a veteran in need of help, call 1-877-424-3838, also known as 1-877-4AID-VET. It's staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and can help with health care, housing, mental health, jobs and more.

Freddy Groves regrets that he cannot personally answer reader questions, but will incorporate them into his column whenever possible. Send email to columngreply2@gmail.com.

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top ten

COMIC BOOK VILLAINS

1. Magneto
2. Joker
3. Doctor Doom
4. Lex Luthor
5. Galactus
6. Darkseid
7. Ra's Al Ghul
8. Loki
9. Dark Phoenix
10. Kingpin

Source: IGN

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Irvine vote wet

Continued from Page 1

Smith told the council that IPD is now making more arrests for driving under the influence of narcotics than alcoholic beverages.

He said that IPD takes the driver suspected of driving on narcotics and a vial to the hospital for a blood draw. The blood is then sent to Kentucky State Police for analysis. The police chief said this includes a \$22 fee.

Smith stated the local court system has automatically attached the recovery of this \$22 fee to a DUI conviction. The fee money is then returned to the Irvine Police Department.

The police chief said that Irvine's present privilege license ordinance does not include a rate for a business selling alcoholic beverages. Over the next few months, the council will find it necessary to amend its ordinance to collect money from those businesses.

A local administrator will be appointed, but it remains unclear if the county or the city appoints the administrator.

Irvine already has a planning and zoning ordinance in place. The council could also look at amending that ordinance to accommodate the new businesses. However, the state ABC board usually makes the final decision on the location of a liquor store.

Police Beat for last week

Brian Scott Garrett, 36, of Harris Ferry Road has been charged with making false statements to prevent reduction of benefits.

The arrest warrant states that between April 17 and May 8 of 2010 that Garrett receiving unemployment benefits while working for Jacob Construction, Inc.

Emma Wireman, an investigator for the Kentucky Division of Unemployment, obtained the warrant. It states that Garrett owes \$2,187.90 to the unemployment division.

The offense is a Class D felony, punishable by one to five years in prison.

Garrett is scheduled to be arraigned in Estill District Court on October 16, 2013.

Irvine Police Officer Jeff Knuckles arrested Curtis Baskin on Saturday, October 10 and served several Estill County bench warrants on him.

The same day, Officer Knuckles arrested Benjamin Cain, 21, on a charge of possession of drug para-

phernalia.

Police Chief Brad Smith said the dispatcher had received a call about a reckless driver. When Knuckles found a vehicle fitting the description, Smith said the driver was Cain.

Jonathan Harrison, 28 of Broadway was arrested by Officer Knuckles on October 13. Harrison was charged with driving on a suspended license, second offense, improper registration plates, and no insurance.