

The Burton Bulletin

“The Best Kept Secret in Texas”

January 2026



The Burton Bulletin is a monthly publication
For the Burton Texas area.

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We at the Burton Bulletin wish everyone A Happy New year! Be safe, especially if you are traveling.

Rooster Talk

Lately, in our Thursday Coffee Clatch, we've been pondering how we got so old so fast... There may be a few out there that haven't wondered, with the crazy stuff we did growing up, how did we survive?

It's a good question. Philosophically, there are libraries full of books in every language of modern society, thousands of plays and movies, all exploring the topic in every way possible. Brilliant people are always being quoted:

"Do not grow old, no matter how long you live. Never cease to stand like curious children before the Great Mystery into which we were born." — Albert Einstein

And yet, this life is the most personal thing we have in our existence. There is but one of each of us in this instant. And we are the culmination of every event of our lives, every moment, relationship, touch, thought, and interaction. Wow. Then think about the thousands of chance events of our family tree back eons, and the whole discussion becomes so neural in its structure that we can only be grateful for the myriad of interconnections that got us here. The current state of the world, with conflict in nearly every direction, personal pain and loss, and yet the beauty of those miracles that we only see if we are open to... that is worth the journey's cost.

All identified elements of aging and they help give structure to the discussion:

1. **Aging as Wisdom:** Many philosophies view aging, not just as physical decline, but as a journey toward greater wisdom, patience, and self-knowledge. With age comes the benefit of perspective on life's highs and lows.

2. **Embracing Impermanence:** Eastern philosophies, like Buddhism, teaches that aging reminds us of life's impermanence and the importance of living each day mindfully and compassionately.

3. **Leaving a Legacy:** Many cultures emphasize the value of elders as storytellers and mentors, whose experiences become a gift to future generations.

WISDOM. Many writers have said we must do dumb things to learn and, therefore, be smart. In the broad sense, I agree, but I have known too many folks along the way who did not survive the lesson. I think back in my own life and can quickly remember multiple occasions where, in retrospect, I probably should not have survived.

Aging is a journey where experience transforms into wisdom. It is also said that the Journey is the destination. Over the years, every challenge faced, every mistake made, and every story lived contribute to a deeper understanding of life. Unlike knowledge, which can be gained at any age, wisdom is refined over time through reflection and perspective.

Ways wisdom manifests with age (AI):

• **Judgment and Perspective:** Older adults can see situations from multiple angles, recognizing complexity and nuance.

• **Patience and Acceptance:** With years come greater patience and an ability to accept things that cannot be controlled.

• **Empathy and Compassion:** Having experienced more of life's ups and downs, older individuals often show more empathy and understanding toward others.

• **Practical Solutions:** Wisdom often means knowing what matters most and finding realistic approaches to life's challenges.

Wisdom broadens the view, while sharpening the ability to discriminate and be critical. It is what allows people to look back at their lives with gratitude, and forward with hope—even as the years advance. The years bring the weathering of this vessel in which we travel, the aches, pains, and pleasures that it is capable of, and the surprises as it goes into decline. It is the quiet strength that comes from having ridden out the storms of life and still choosing to learn, adapt, and share.

IMPERMANENCE. To embrace impermanence means accepting that everything in life, including youth and vitality, is temporary. This perspective is central to many Eastern philosophies, especially Buddhism, which teaches that change is an inevitable part of existence. In acknowledging impermanence, we may discover a deeper gratitude for each day, and a liberating freedom in knowing that every season of life has its unique beauty.

"Nothing is permanent in this wicked world, not even our troubles." — Charlie Chaplin

Why embracing impermanence matters with age (AI):

• **Letting Go:** Recognizing that nothing lasts forever—good or bad—helps us to let go of regrets, disappointments, and fears about aging.

• **Living in the Moment:** Understanding life's fleeting nature encourages us to appreciate the present and find joy in simple, everyday experiences.

• **Reduced Attachment:** Accepting impermanence helps us avoid being overly attached to possessions, roles, or appearances, fostering greater inner peace.

• **Openness to Change:** As our bodies and circumstances evolve, a mindset of impermanence allows us to adapt and grow gracefully.

LEGACY. A personal legacy is the lasting impact and influence we leave behind through our actions, values, and connections. As we age, thoughts of legacy often become more prominent, inspiring us to consider how we wish to be remembered and what contributions we hope to pass on.

(Continue on Page 3)



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(Continue from Page 2 – Rooster Talk)

Aspects of a meaningful legacy (AI):

- **Relationships:** The love and lessons we share with family, friends, and community endure long after we're gone.
- **Values and Principles:** Instilling core beliefs—such as kindness, honesty, and resilience—in others creates ripples that extend beyond our lifetime.
- **Stories and Wisdom:** *Sharing personal stories and hard-earned wisdom gives guidance and comfort to future generations.*
- **Acts of Service:** *Volunteering, mentoring, or supporting causes close to our heart are concrete ways to leave a positive mark on the world.*
- **Creative or Professional Contributions:** *Art, writing, innovation, or professional achievements can become a lasting source of inspiration.*

This element bring us to the quality of life we've led, and ultimately, a personal legacy is everything from birth to that moment we pass, and in our contrail, whatever we created or whatever impact we've had on others through our existence. It is the story we write in time. In my travels I learnt something every day, witnessed events that became global importance, and wept at the beauty of my sons' being born. I believe everyone gives their best effort to their journey, regardless of how complex or confusing things are. Some folks never stop to ponder the journey, regardless of how complex or confusing things are. Some folks never stop to ponder the "today", yet

that is where the lessons live. Socrates spoke of the "unexamined life...." An I "today", yet that is where our legacies lie. Each time I have been asked to write a book of my life adventures, I am fraught with the duality of ego vs. legacy. I see the 90% of existing as life clicked away, while most folks see only the 10% of being in the right (wrong) place at the right (wrong) time. So, I let others write my legacy, and I hope they are kind.

"The longer I live, the more beautiful life becomes."
– Frank Lloyd Wright

Article by Pete Horn

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TRY THAT IN A SMALL TOWN – A Series Highlighting Burton Blessings What’s Great About Our Town:Part II of the Renaissance of Burton

By Ned Ross, contributing writer

Last month I wrote about the revitalization of Burton in the last couple of years. As soon as I hit “Send” to the editor I realized I left off an important restoration next door to our little project: Faubion Studios. Melinda and Mike did a great job of restoring the tin building on Washington into a very pleasant studio / office for Melinda, and they are wonderful neighbors. Mike’s woodwork is on display in the studio and is something to behold.

What other buildings are screaming for attention in our town? Let’s consider what could happen if other buildings were restored and in use.

Schatz Building – One of the first buildings to greet folks entering town is the orange brick building across from Orvie’s / Roadhouse. The building has a long history but is in tough shape. The brick walls were built without framing, I am told, and there are large gaps in the walls where separation is occurring. I don’t know how many more years the building will remain without extensive reconstruction, but it is worth a look if it becomes available.

Old Texaco on Main next to the Gin and brick home next door – These structures are along the corridor that is heavily trafficked by all visitors in town during the Cotton Gin Festival and other events. The gas station requires a good bit of refurbishment, but I am told by local historians that it can be done. Instead of an eyesore for visitors, imagine that gas station being restored with crisp wood siding, a period-appropriate paint job, and original gas pumps out front. It could become a showpiece in town. Its history is rich as it was a bustling station when Hwy 290 ran past it. When the current highway bypass was built, business slumped. The house beside it could be a charming bungalow – 1930s if I had to guess. Any coffee drinker would love it because they could walk across the street to Neon Moon each morning.

The late Hilton’s place – This half block of land at Colorado and Cedar has an old home in front and a large tin barn in back. I am not sure if the home can be restored, but the barn on the back is reportedly a good structure for any number of purposes. Some of you may know it as the property with all the tractors on it. The land was left to Hilton’s son who lives out of state but is working on next steps. Incidentally, the other half block is owned by someone else and has been untouched since it changed hands a couple of years ago. Buying both properties would allow someone to put up to 4 nice homes on a city block with generous yards.

Why would revitalizing these properties be important? Well, to answer a question with a question, how many towns have you entered that appeared to be boarded up and on their way out? Showing life and improvements in a town this size is

critical for its image to continuously attract families to town. We have experienced an amazing amount of revitalization in the last two years, but there is always more to do. Equally important is providing needed tax revenue to the city and children to our schools. New people = new ideas and new energy = a continued renaissance.

Many of you may not know that Burton’s very existence today is possible only because of the largesse of the state. Approximately half of the \$1.2M+ cost for the new water well was paid by the state. The failure of the Knittel lift station will cost \$254,000 to repair, and the state is chipping in about 90% of that money. Burton is nowhere near being independently funded. But we can grow closer to financial independence by continued investment in town. Keep in mind that third party sources of funding often come with unattractive requirements. Thankfully, we have leaders in Austin who do not require absurd policies to be adopted by the town in return for funds. I am optimistic about Burton and its continued renaissance. Perhaps all of you are as well. Let’s keep the momentum going that we have.

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Some Thoughts on Unity

By Robert "Doc" Schultz

A New Year's Desire

I suppose everybody has heard the statement, "United we stand, but divided we fall." I would like to share some history about the phrase and consider the impact of this truism on us in the present day.

Aesop was a Greek fabulist and story-teller (circa 620-564 BC), credited with a number of brief fables we now collectively refer to as *Aesop's Fables*.

Even though his existence remains unclear and no writings by him survive, many tales collected across the centuries have been attributed to him.

So, I share with you his fable about *The Four Bulls and the Lion, and Application* as translated by Samuel Croxall (1688-1752), an Anglican Churchman. The fable is also known as *The Four Oxen and the Lion*.

The FABLE:

Four Bulls, which have entered into a very strict friendship, kept always near another, and fed together. (Whenever the Lion came near, they turned their tails to one another, so that whichever way he approached them he was met by the horns of one of them). The Lion often saw them, and as often had a mind to make one of them his prey; but though he could easily have subdued any of them singly, yet he was afraid to attack the whole alliance, as knowing they would have been too hard for him, and therefore contented himself for the present with keeping a distance. At last, perceiving no attempt was to be made upon them as long as this combination held, he took occasion, by whispers and hints, to foment jealousies and raise divisions among them. This stratagem succeeded so well, that the Bulls grew cold and reserved towards one another, which soon after ripened into a downright hatred and aversion, and at last, ended in total separation. The Lion had now obtained his ends; and, as impossible as it was for him to hurt them while they were united, he found no difficulty, now they were parted, to seize and devour every Bull of them, one after another.

THE APPLICATION:

The moral of this fable is so well-known and allowed, that to go about to enlighten it, would be like holding a candle to the sun. A kingdom divided against itself cannot stand; and as undisputed a maxim as it is, was however thought necessary to be urged to the attention of mankind, by the best man that ever lived. And since friendships and alliances are so great importance to our well-being and happiness, we cannot be often cautioned not to let them be broken by tale-bearers and whisperers, or any other contrivance of our enemies.

Jesus also emphasized this concept of unity versus division in the Gospels. In Matthew 12:25, Jesus said, "*Every kingdom divided against itself will be ruined, and every city or household divided against itself will not stand.*" (This is also found in Luke 11:17 and in Mark 3:24-25.)

John Dickinson, a Founding Father of America, wrote a song in 1768, prior to the American Revolution called "*The Liberty*

Song" which had eight verses and a chorus. In the sixth verse he wrote:

*Then join hand in hand, brave American all,
By uniting we stand, by dividing we fall;
In so righteous a cause let us hope to succeed,
For heaven approves of each generous deed.*

"United we stand but divided we fall" was adopted as the official state motto of Kentucky in 1792.

I am now living in the 8th decade of my life. I have had many jobs in which I gained a new supervisor, or had a new boss who was hired that I had to work under. Whether I favored or liked this new person was not important. What was important is that I did the job I was hired to do under this person's direction, and whether he or she was pleased with me.

Once the managers or owners of the business or organization had made their decision, my job was to support and comply rather than to obstruct. America is considered a Democratic Republic. We elect our leaders for a time. Then we support them, and acknowledge their leadership, and follow their direction, because that is the will of the people.

When this country was founded, it wrestled and struggled with ideas of leadership, representation, and how to acknowledge and recognize the individuals while maintaining and supporting the overall organization. That is how we became the United States.

Each state had a stake in its own way of operating and function and had developed their own culture and their own desires, but uniting as a singular body, they did not want to give up the individuality, nor should they have to. They united, as individual states, in unity for a common purpose and goal. And out of this struggle and choice, they developed the Constitution of the United States that is still effective after more than 250 years.

So, when I see people protesting for the sake of protesting against leadership and not offering any reasonable solutions to that they're protesting, I am a bit dismayed at how they are undercutting the unity and the stability of our great nation. And when I see elected leaders who accept their offices and spend their time criticizing and undercutting the leaders for the sake of criticizing and undercutting, it shows that they are not united, nor do they seek the unity of this great United States. When criticism of leadership becomes primary and most frequent activity, you are not supporting unity, you are not supporting the Constitution, and you are fomenting insurrection, or at least dis-unity, which is destructive to our community. Allowing such uneducated dissent and destruction is like the Lion's lies in Aesop's Fable.

So, I ask you, are you going to join and unite with something greater than yourself to benefit many? Or are you going to be a selfish infant demanding what you want without consideration of any of your compatriots?

Would you have Unity or Destruction? Wholeness or Dissolution?

Learn from history, if you want 250 more years of the greatest nation on earth. Let's be Americans, in the Land of the Free, and the Home of the Brave.

I pray that we will all have a year of greater fellowship and unity, so that this great land will be blessed and be a blessing to all.



January-March Seniors' Menu 2026

Date	Menu	Host Church (Desserts)
Jan. 9	Cheese Enchilada Casserole, Charro Beans, Salad (Madeline & Cindy)	Greenvine Baptist
Jan. 16	Tater Tot Casserole, English Peas, Rolls (White Horse)	St. John's UCC
Jan. 23	King Ranch Casserole, Salad, Bread (On Deck)	Zionsville Lutheran
Jan. 30	Fried Fish, Mac n Cheese, Cole Slaw, Hush Puppies (The Cannery)	Greenvine Lutheran
Feb. 6	Beef Stew, Salad, and Cornbread (Madeline & Cindy)	Rehburg Lutheran
Feb. 13	Lasagna, Salad, Bread (On Deck)	Greenvine Baptist
Feb. 20	Cowboy Spaghetti, Green Beans, Bread (White Horse Tavern)	St. John's UCC
Feb. 27	Red Beans & Rice, Slaw, Garlic Bread (Madeline & Cindy)	Zionsville Lutheran
Mar. 6	Creamy Cajun Chicken, Spaghetti, Salad, Bread (On Deck)	Greenvine Lutheran
Mar. 13	Taco Lasagna, Mexican Corn, Bread (White Horse)	Rehburg Lutheran
Mar. 20	Fried Chicken, Potato Salad, Vegetable (Brookshire Bros)	Greenvine Baptist
Mar. 27	Chicken Cacciatore, Caesar Salad, and Garlic Bread (Madeline & Cindy)	St. John's UCC

If you're 55+ and have health issues that keeps you homebound, let one of our volunteers deliver a hot meal to you each Friday at no charge. Call the Bridge Office, 979-337-3370, for more information. Our delivery area is limited to Burton. **If you will not be home to receive your meal, call Lois Mooney at 979-421-0617 or tell your driver.**

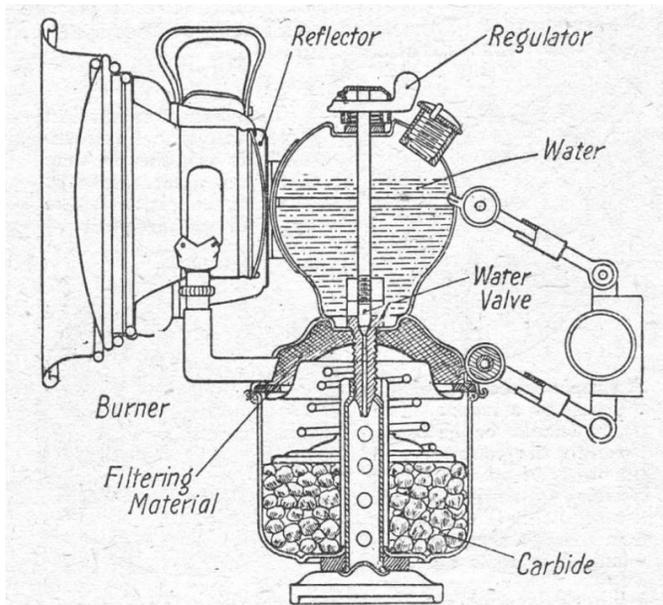
If you want a "to go" meal, you can pre-order the meal no later than the Tuesday preceding the Friday but must come inside to pick up your meal. Call the Bridge Office, 979-337-3370. We will serve our dine-in seniors first and then prepare the "to go" meals. Arrive at 12:10 pm to pick up your meal.

Meals are \$4.

Life and Times of Pete Horn

As some of you know, I look at this life as an amazing experiment. I was blessed to grow up in a rural area in northeastern Connecticut, along the Natchaug River, with a large junkyard (Dad had a repair garage) as a playground. Nirvana for a young boy of that era. I was always messing around, concocting this thing or that, generally figuring out how to put back together what I had just taken apart... but not always.

I was reading and “discovered” this thing called a “Miner’s Lamp”. And shortly thereafter, I discovered a trove of used ones at the local Surplus Center (no Amazon Prime back then). I think I paid a couple of bucks for a lamp, and another buck for a one-pound can of carbide



An acetylene lamp in section, showing the component parts. The water drips into the central tube, and does not actually fall upon the carbide.

I had lots of fun getting it to work, then later taking it apart... several times. I read up on the chemical reaction, and when I knew just enough to be dangerous, I decided I could build a bigger, brighter light. In retrospect, I should have studied more. So with a modicum of knowledge and the blind confidence of someone who doesn't fully understand anything (I was like 10-12 years old), I set out to build this “better” lamp. There are no surviving drawings, sketches, or photos of what I built, so far as I know.

With full confidence I started gathering the things I needed from the junk yard. There was a bench and table in the old wood shed that I determined would be a GREAT place to build the new device. I found a 5-gallon plastic (important) water bottle as they use in offices. I salvaged some tubing and stuff from a few different cars, and assembled the grand machine. Visualize the water bottle with the neck up, and inserted into that the tubing and car seat foam as a stopper. The whole thing was pretty simple, actually a bit TOO simple.

So there it sat. I kept on tweaking the design, but nothing too significant, and I had bought a fresh can of carbide. I wasn't sure how much water to use, vs. how much carbide to use, since the lamp I was basing this on had a miniscule drip mechanism, and I was planning a SUPER LAMP. I filled the bottle a little more than half way (important) and decided to use the bottom half of a Styrofoam cup to carry the carbide. The woodshed door was opened (important) and I dropped the carbide into the water in the bottle. It effervesceted, and the bottle quickly filled with acetylene gas.... Building up enough pressure to create a good stream of gas from the end of the tubing.

Everything after that moment happened very quickly. I put a burning wood match to the stream of gas, and in an instant found myself lying on my back, soaking wet, with the material that had once been the woodshed lying around me. My ears were ringing, I didn't see any blood, nor did I see any shed. But I was okay. Then Dad showed up. Apparently, blowing up the woodshed had not gone unnoticed. He looked down at me, asked if I was alright, looked where the shed had been and expressed plainly that I owed him a woodshed and wouldn't be doing anything else with my spare time until its competition.

Over dinner, the experiment was the main topic of discussion. He said it sounded like a stick of dynamite going off, and he rushed to check if his older son was still alive. Daunting, I'm sure. So he asked lots of questions. And there, that was the lesson of the moment. The important stuff: First, the bottle being plastic kept me from being shredded by glass, God watch over me in that one, because the first bottle I found was around 3 gallons made of glass.

Second, the shed door being opened served me well in two regards: it allowed fresh air into the shed so the acetylene didn't fill the shed, and it gave me an obstacle-free path to fly through.

Third, filling the bottle more than halfway made for a huge splash from the explosion, and being soaked protected me from the ball of white flame that erupted on ignition. I did get singed hair on my head and eyebrows (yes, I had hair back then).

So that's pretty much the story. I learned some basic carpentry skills while building the shed. The cost of the shed's materials ended the funding of my experiments for a while. And, I had learned a lot of chemistry and physics in the process, as well as a bit of carpentry—little things like the inability to compress water and the nature of gases under pressure. Learning how to frame a wall and hang a door has been useful throughout my life.

I didn't stop messing with stuff, but I did learn to be a bit more cautious. As long as my life journey continues, to the extent I can, I will continue to experiment and continue to be thankful that I am being watched over. Dad's explanation for my survival was “God looks after fools and drunkards, and I hadn't been drinking.”

Submitted by Pete Horn

Small Town Summit - Experiential Tourism

By Destination Burton Association
Deeply Rooted Ranch
Jan 12 from 11am to 1pm CST

Overview

Join us for the 2nd annual Small Town Summit to discuss hospitality and tourism-driven economic development!

Small Town Summit - Experiential Tourism

Get ready to dive into the world of experiential tourism at the Small Town Summit! This is your chance to explore how small towns create unforgettable experiences for travelers as they partner with local historic, agricultural and rural destinations. Join us in person to connect, learn, and share ideas with folks who are passionate about turning local culture into amazing adventures. Whether you're a local or just curious, this summit is all about celebrating the unique charm of small-town tourism!

Following a highly successful launch last year, the Small Town Summit returns with its 2025 theme: Experiential Tourism – Agricultural, Historical & Rural. This year's event will be hosted as a Lunch & Learn on January 12th from 11 AM–1 PM at Deeply Rooted Ranch, located at 5255 Ganske Road, Burton, TX 77835.

Featured Speaker: Jennifer Eckermann City of Brenham Tourism and Retired Marketing Director

Jennifer Eckermann brings more than two decades of leadership in community revitalization, heritage tourism, and cultural preservation. In 2025, she was honored with the Anice B. Read Award of Excellence in Community Heritage Development from the Texas Historical Commission. This award recognizes “exemplary work in community revitalization, preservation planning and protection, or heritage tourism which significantly advances the impacts of historic preservation in Texas.” Eckermann led Brenham's Main Street Program from 1999–2022, serving as the guiding force behind many of the positive improvements the community enjoys today.

Her work helped establish Brenham as a Certified “Tourism Friendly Texas” Community. In receiving her statewide honor, Eckermann emphasized that the award reflects the power of community collaboration, noting that none of the progress would have been possible without the people and teams working alongside her. Eckermann was also instrumental in Brenham being chosen as only one of 8 cities in Texas who hosted the traveling exhibit from The Smithsonian.

At the summit, she will share how Brenham's commitment to hospitality, heritage and tourism-driven economic development has shaped its success—and what other small towns can learn from that journey.

The summit will also feature a dynamic panel of leaders in experiential tourism, each bringing firsthand knowledge of developing memorable visitor experiences:

Sherrie Cooke – Busted Oaks Cellars

Stephanie Jarvis – Texas Cotton Gin Museum

Jana Huffman – Deeply Rooted Ranch

Event Highlights

Insights from award-winning tourism leader Jennifer Eckermann

Panel discussion with local experts in rural, agricultural, and historical tourism

Fresh, farm-to-table lunch prepared by Chef Chris of Deeply Rooted Ranch

Networking with small-town advocates, business owners, and tourism professionals

Actionable ideas for strengthening small-town destinations

🔪 Tickets: \$30 available at Eventbrite, includes a farm-fresh lunch served by Chef Chris.

Letter to the Editor

I appreciate the publication of the Burton Bulletin and wish to commend several articles in the December issue.

Thank you, Pete Horn for your insights and tips on gardening. I also enjoy the recounting of your first-person experiences in Russia and its former satellites.

Also, it is great to see the generosity of our citizens supporting our community with the donation of the air-compressor to the BVFD.

Ned Ross wrote an insightful article on Burton's attempt to keep the good old days. It's so true that “change is constant and inevitable.” Change happens by default, if there's no care or willingness to plan. But goals can be achieved if the community plans and unities in the implementation of those shared plans. This is commonly called unity and cooperation.

Thank you for a publication that is community rooted, diverse, and had an eye on the governance of the city and community. I also enjoy the humor that is interspersed throughout each issue. Keep up the good work, pardners.

Robert “Doc” Schultz

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Weeks before Christmas, my wife was telling me she was having recurring dreams about jewelry – rings, necklaces, earrings, bracelets. She asked me what did I think that meant. I told her she would find out on Christmas day. So, I bought her a book titled, “How to Interpret Dreams.”

Engineer – Solving problems you didn't know you had in ways you can't understand.

Thoughts for today- **ID EST QUOD ID EST**
(Latin for “It is what it is.”)

Math illiteracy affects 7 out of 5 people.

Quantum Mechanics – The dream stuff is made of.

As long as there are tests, there will be prayers in school.



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Burton City Hall Meeting

The City of Burton held its regular meeting on December 9, 2026 at Burton City Hall.

Business Development Manager, Rocky Rodriguez, with Aoka Engineering Company, from Ft. Worth Texas, met with the council. Mr. Rodriguez spoke about some of the services that his company offers to assist cities in its growth. According to their website, services entail building codes, residential codes, plumbing codes, mechanical codes, energy codes, fire codes, historical building codes, green building standard codes, administrative codes, national electrical codes and adopted local ordinances.

The Council approved awarding Rub-A-Dub Plumbing Company for the improvement of the Knittel Lift Station. The total cost of the project is \$354,576. The majority of the funds, \$327,500 will be paid by a grant from Texas Department of Agriculture. The City will pay the remaining \$27,221.

There was no action taken on the Washington County Appraisal District to reallocate the surplus for specified uses. The City approved the Holiday Schedule for 2026. The City Hall will be closed on Thursday, January 1, for New Year's Day and Monday, January 19, for Martin Luther King Jr. Day. The next regular city hall meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 13th at 5:30pm.

Two snowmen stood in a field. One said to the other, "Funny, I smell carrots too.

Velcro! What a rip-off!

Letter from the Editor

I wish to thank everyone for the support of the Burton Bulletin Newsletter. We have had positive responses from everyone I have talked to. I want to thank all the contributors, subscribers and advertisers. Without you, this newsletter would not be possible. I hope you have enjoyed reading it as much as we have putting it together. We wish everyone a Happy New Year and may 2026 be a great year for you.

There's that moment when you put your steak on the grill and your mouth waters all over from that amazing smell. Do vegans feel the same when they mow the grass?

Moses had the first tablet that could be connected to the cloud.

Improve your memory by doing unforgettable things.

I had a really bad day. First, my ex got ran over by a bus. Then I got fired from my job as a bus driver.

An elderly couple was watching television and the husband said he was going to the kitchen to get some ice cream. His wife said, "Get me a bowl of ice cream with chocolate syrup on it."

After several minutes the husband brought her a plate of eggs and bacon. She stares at the plate for a few seconds, then looks up at her husband and asked, "Where's my toast?"

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