



THE STATE OF TEXAS ANNIVERSARY REMEMBRANCE DAY FOUNDATION



THE
“TEXAS SILVER BISON”
DONATION COIN COLLECTION

Presented at

THE TEXAS BISON CAPITAL 2015 LUNCHEON

September 19, 2015-Qutaque, Briscoe County, Texas

Proposed by

The Texas Silver Student Study Group

The Texas Bison Student Study Group

Sponsored by

The STAR DAY Foundation

Minted by

The Texas BisonStar Mint Corporation



AN OVERVIEW

NOTE: The reader may wish to visit the APPENDIX to review supporting Story Bookmark (SB) contents that have been referenced in association with various words and phrases used in this Immediate Release.

The STAR DAY Foundation (SB23) is pioneering and leading an effort to raise \$100 million as a goal in partnership with Texans and Friends of Texas worldwide to establish and maintain “THE OFFICAL STATE BISON HERD OF TEXAS FUND (SB17)” as an “Endowment Fund” whose annual interest shall support and expand the conservation, preservation and restoration work of the Official State Bison Herd of Texas (SB16) management team at Caprock Canyons State Park (SB5) in their quest to save the herd for the people of Texas. The Texas Bison Student Study Group (SB1) sponsored by The STAR DAY Foundation considers “THE OFFICIAL STATE BISON HERD OF TEXAS” as a “**TEXAS STATE TREASURE.**”

To accomplish this fundraising goal, The STAR DAY Foundation shall offer donors of The STAR DAY Foundation a variety of “Donation Premium” packages as thank-you gifts for supporting the fundraising goal and fundraising activities of “THE OFFICAL STATE BISON HERD OF TEXAS FUND.” This Immediate Release illustrates the initial development and use of “Silver”, The Official Precious Metal of Texas (SB20), as proposed in 2006 by The Texas Silver Student Study Group (SB20) sponsored by The STAR DAY Foundation to create a unique historical collection of “Donation Premium” packages that shall provide donors the opportunity support the conservation, preservation and restoration of The Official State Bison Herd of Texas at Caprock Canyons State Park and to also acquire .999 fine silver as an investment for the least possible cost.

“The Official Mascot” of The Texas Bison Student Study Group is “BisonStar” (SB18), a female bison member of The Official State Bison Herd of Texas at Caprock Canyons State Park. BisonStar was born in May 2013. The Texas Bison Student Study Group partners with 6th, 7th and 8th teachers, students and their parents and community volunteers at partnering schools to explore and discover topics including the founding and founders of Caprock Canyons State Park and the origin of The Official State Bison Herd of Texas, to plan, develop and conduct expeditions to Caprock Canyons State Park and to pioneer and lead efforts to help raise funds with the help of their parents, grandparents and other relatives to support the fundraising goal and fundraising activities of The Official State Bison Herd of Texas Fund sponsored The STAR DAY Foundation.

The STAR DAY Foundation has established “The Texas BisonStar Mint Corporation” as a for-profit Texas corporation proposed by The Texas Silver Student Study Group to pioneer and lead the effort to design Donation Premium packages, fulfill donor Donation Premium package requests, maintain and enhance the website of The STAR DAY Foundation and mint a unique series of Donation Coins and other silver premiums..

The STAR DAY Foundation shall offer Texans and Friends of Texas worldwide an opportunity to acquire “Texas Silver Bison” (SB21) Donation Coins featuring 1 gram, 5 grams, 10 grams, 20 grams and 40 grams weights of .999 fine silver, the Official Precious Metal of Texas, as proposed in 2006 by The Texas Silver Student Study Group. When a person makes a donation of a specific donation giving level, the donor shall receive a “Texas Silver Bison” Donation Coin from The STAR DAY Foundation as a gift for pioneering and leading the effort to support the fundraising goal and fundraising activities of The Official State Bison Herd of Texas Fund sponsored by The STAR DAY Foundation. When a person makes a donation to acquire a “Texas Silver Bison” Donation Coin, the value of the silver content must be subtracted from the donation giving level made to determine the amount of the donation giving level that may be used as a tax deduction. The value of the silver content of a “Texas Silver Bison” Donation Coin is calculated as the “melt value of silver” in the “Texas Silver Bison” Donation Coin on the day the donation is made. This information shall be provided to the donor at the time when the donation is made. The Donation Giving Level for each “Texas Silver Bison” Donation Coin is set so that the donor may receive a “Texas Silver Bison Donation Coin” and that the same weight “Texas Silver Bison Donation Coin” can be placed in The Official State Bison Herd of Texas Fund Depository. The Official State Bison Herd of Texas Fund is a physical silver savings fund. The STAR DAY Foundation has selected “**THE TEXAS BULLION DEPOSITORY**” established by the Texas State Legislature in 2015 and managed by the Texas Comptroller to establish and maintain their various physical silver depository accounts.



THE STATE OF TEXAS ANNIVERSARY REMEMBRANCE DAY FOUNDATION



SEPTEMBER 19, 2015-QUITAQUE, BRISCOE COUNTY, TEXAS

The STAR DAY Foundation is sponsoring “The Texas Bison Capital 2015 Luncheon (The Luncheon)” in partnership with Caprock Canyons State Park and the Quitaque Caprock Partners Foundation on Saturday, September 19, 2015 from 3:30pm to 5:00pm at The Quitaque Hope Community Center to honor, recognize and remember citizens of Quitaque for their many year efforts to “conserve” Caprock Canyons lands as a State Park; to encourage the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department to accept and “preserve” a donated JA Ranch bison herd and to establish and maintain the Caprock Partners Foundation to raise need funds to “restore” the park and herd. The Luncheon shall provide an opportunity for State Senator Kel Seliger and State Representative Ken King to formally present to City of Quitaque Mayor Janice Henson an official signed and sealed parchment copy of Senate Concurrent Resolution (SCR) 22 which designated the City of Quitaque as “THE OFFICIAL STATE BISON CAPITAL OF TEXAS.” SCR 22 provided Governor Greg Abbott and the 84th State of Texas Legislature the opportunity to honor and recognize the citizens of the City of Quitaque for their unique conservation, preservation and restoration service achievements of merit to help and save “THE OFFICIAL STATE BISON HERD OF TEXAS” for the people of Texas as a “State Treasure!” SCR 22 was proposed by “The Texas Bison Student Study Group (The Group)” with advice from Caprock Canyons State Park Superintendent Donald Beard and State Park Interpretive and Volunteer Coordinator Ranger Le’Ann Pigg acting as Advisors of The Group. The Luncheon shall feature presentations and guest speakers and feature The Great Texas BisonBurger Luncheon Plate with all the fixings hosted by a Texas commercial bison rancher. The STAR DAY Foundation shall formally induct during The Luncheon the First Park Superintendent Marquis Robertson from Brownwood, the First Park (male) Ranger John R. Garbutt of Rusk, the First Park (female) Ranger Karla M. Helms of Quitaque and Quitaque Caprock Partners Foundation founder O. R. Stark, Jr. (1927-2000) into The First Pioneers and Leaders of the State (PALS) of Texas Hall of Honor established by The STAR DAY Foundation in 2000. The Luncheon is held in conjunction with “THE 5TH ANNUAL TEXAS BISON MUSIC FESTIVAL” which immediately follows The Luncheon activities. The photograph was contributed by State Park Ranger Le’Ann Pigg and features a bison sculpture greeting visitors to Quitaque.



THE STAR DAY FOUNDATION

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SEPTEMBER 12, 2013-MARY ANN (MOLLY) GOODNIGHT DAY, QUITAQUE, TEXAS-Dennis M. Kulvicki, President of The STAR DAY Foundation of El Paso, rounds up the “First Donation Donor” to launch “THE OFFICIAL STATE BISON HERD OF TEXAS FUND.” Donald K. Beard, Superintendent of Caprock Canyons State Park, volunteered and donated the “first dollar” on Mary Ann (Molly) Goodnight Day during a “Caprock Area Tourism Seminar” conducted at the Quitaque Hope Center. Governor Perry, a 1999 STAR DAY Founder, El Paso State Senator Rodriguez, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Executive Director Smith and others sent congratulatory messages to The STAR DAY Foundation. Pictured from left to right are: Dennis M. Kulvicki, Rebecca Miller, Freda Hughes, Brenda Price, Donald Beard, Laramy Estel, Jake Gass, James Orciz and Le’Ann Pigg.

“SILVER”-THE OFFICIAL PRECIOUS METAL OF TEXAS

The STAR DAY Foundation (SB22-See STORY BOOKMARK in Appendix) introduced THE “**TEXAS SILVER BISON**” DONATION COIN COLLECTION (The Collection) at The Texas Bison Capital 2015 Luncheon. The Collection has been designed by Coin Artist Thomas S. Cleveland, a former United States Mint Coin Artist. The Collection is initially composed of five (5) donation coins featuring .999 fine silver weights of 1 gram (15mm), 5 grams (20mm), 10 grams (30mm), 20 grams (40mm) and 40 grams (50mm). The .999 fine silver weight of 40 grams is designated as a “Texas Ounce (TO).” The Collection of donation coins are introduced in metric weights and not measured in troy ounce (to) weights as is customary in precious metal coins.

The 40 grams donation coin is 50 mm in diameter and 2mm in thickness. The obverse side features an engraving of “BisonStar”, the Official Mascot of “The Texas Bison Student Study Group”, established by The STAR DAY Foundation on September 12, 2010. BisonStar, a

female bison, was born at Caprock Canyons State Park in Texas in May 2013. BisonStar is a descendent of “The Great Texas Southern Plains Bison Herd.” Only 100 bison descendents of “The Great Texas Southern Bison Herd” exist at the park today as “THE OFFICIAL STATE BISON HERD OF TEXAS” as designated in 2011 by the Texas State Legislature and proposed by The Texas Bison Student Study Group. The reverse side features the “Official Seal of the State of Texas”. Governor Rick Perry, a 1999 STAR DAY Founder, authorized the use of the “Official Seal of the State of Texas” at the request of The Texas Bison Student Study Group in support of Donation Premiums offered to Texans and friends of Texas worldwide who have volunteered to make donation to The STAR DAY Foundation in support of the fundraising goal and activities of “THE OFFICIAL STATE BISON HERD OF TEXAS FUND” established by The STAR DAY Foundation on September 12, 2013, The Mary Ann (Molly) Goodnight Day in Texas. Since each donation coin in The Collection features a “Bison” on one side and a “Star” on the other side, the donation coins shall be simply called “BisonStars.”

The STAR DAY Foundation is introducing the concept of a “Donation Coin.” A “Donation Coin” is a gift (Donation Premium) presented by The STAR DAY Foundation to a donor for making a specific donation giving level in support of the fundraising goal and fundraising activities of “THE OFFICIAL STATE BISON HERD OF TEXAS,” The Collection is minted in .999 fine silver in various gram (metric unit) weights and packaged with various supporting commemoratives. “Silver” was designated by the Texas State Legislature in 2007 as “THE OFFICIAL PRECIOUS METAL OF TEXAS” at the request of “The Texas Silver Student Study Group” established by The STAR DAY Foundation on October 16, 2006, October 16 each year is now designated by the City of Presidio, Texas as “The William Rufus Shafter Day.” William Rufus Shafter was a founder of The Shafter Silver Mine in Presidio County, approximately 20 miles north of the city. Today, The Shafter Silver Mine is owned and operated by the Aurcana Corporation of Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. The mine has been placed in care and maintenance because of current low silver prices. The mine has a potential 24 million troy ounces. The Texas Silver Student Study Group has planned, developed and conducted three (3) expeditions to the mine sponsored by the Aurcana Corporation to study silver mining engineering and science topics.



PHOTOGRAPH 1: A “Texas Silver Bison” 40 grams weight of .999 fine silver, the Official Precious Metal of Texas, featuring a 50mm diameter and 2mm reeded edge thickness in a coin capsule is displayed on a folding acrylic easel.



PHOTOGRAPH 2: On the left is featured a 2015 “US Silver Eagle” minted by the United State Mint. Approximately 44 million US Silver Eagles were sold to investors in 2014. The “Texas Silver Bison” shall be not be sold but only offered to donors as a service achievement of merit gift for helping to pioneer and lead in supporting the fundraising goal and fundraising activities of “The Official State Bison Herd of Texas Fund.”



PHOTOGRAPH 3: The design of the 1 gram (15mm x 1mm) “Texas Silver Bison” Donation Coin



PHOTOGRAPH 4: A 1 gram (15mm x 1mm) “Texas Silver Bison” in a coin capsule is featured in front of the 40 grams (50mm x 2mm) “Texas Silver Bison” Donation Coin in a coin capsule for comparison. The 1 gram (15mm x 1mm) “Texas Silver Bison” Donation Coin represents a new born calf that once roamed free on the land now known as the State of Texas. The 40 grams (50mm x 2mm) “Texas Silver Bison” Donation

Coin represents a full-grown bison. Each of the “Texas Silver Bison” Donation Coins represents different growth stages in the life of “BisonStar”, “The Official Mascot” of The Texas Bison Student Study Group at Caprock Canyons State Park. The Official State Bison Herd of Texas is considered by The Texas Student Study Group as a ‘TEXAS STATE TREASURE.’

THE TEXAS BISONSTAR MINT CORPORATION

The Texas BisonStar Mint Corporation was established in 2014 by The STAR DAY Foundation at the request of The Texas Silver Student Study Group as a for-profit Texas Corporation with a business plan to pioneer and lead the effort under contract to The STAR DAY Foundation to provide Donation Premium development and manufacturing services for The STAR DAY Foundation including the minting of Donation Coins and Donation Ingots, providing Donation Premium fulfillment services for donors, STAR DAY Foundation website maintenance and upgrade services and other related services.



PHOTOGRAPH 5: The Texas Silver Student Study Group proposed the minting of a “**TEXAS FLAG OF SILVER DONATION INGOT.**” The Texas BisonStar Mint Corporation created a 10 gram .999 fine silver ingot (38mm x 25mm x 1mm) featuring a colorized flag of the State of Texas on the obverse side. The reverse side featuring “The Official Seal of The Official State Bison Herd of Texas Fund” and “The Official Seal of the State of Texas” with supporting weight in grams and purity percentage specifications. The STAR DAY Foundation shall invite every adult Texas to save and make a donation to The STAR DAY Foundation to acquire and display a Texas Flag of Silver Donation Ingot on their desk-top or library shelf at home or work knowing that the proceeds of their donation to The STAR DAY Foundation support the fundraising goal and fundraising activities of “THE OFFICIAL STATE BISON HERD OF TEXAS FUND.



PHOTOGRAPH 6: This photograph illustrates “The Official BisonStar Sculpture” which is hand-carved from Ironwood. The BisonStar Sculpture shall be made available as a “Donation Premium” from The STAR DAY Foundation as an element of The “My BisonStar” Commemorative Collection created by The Texas BisonStar Mint Corporation. The US Quarter is used to illustrate the size of The BisonStar Sculpture.



PHOTOGRAPH 7: The BisonStar Sculpture is a depiction of “The Official Mascot” of The Texas Bison Student Study Group sponsored by The STAR DAY Foundation.



PHOTOGRAPH 8: The combination of a “Texas Flag of Silver” and “BisonStar Sculpture” as illustrated above represents “THE MARY ANN (MOLLY) GOODNIGHT SKY AND EARTH MONUMENT PROJECT (The Monument)” proposed by The Texas Bison Student Study Group.

THE MARY ANN (MOLLY) GOODNIGHT MONUMENT

The proposed **Monument** is composed of a unique interlinked “**Sky Monument**” and “**Earth Monument.**” The Sky Monument is composed of a “**Bison Constellation**” and “**Flag Asterism.**” The Sky Monument development was pioneered and led by Dr. Andrew Kerr, Midland Planetarium Director, in partnership with the Midland West Texas Astronomy Club. The Sky Monument was proposed by The Texas Astronomy Student Study Group sponsored by The STAR DAY Foundation and introduced at a special event hosted by The Midland Planetarium on August 31, 2011, the night of a “Texas Blue Moon”! The Bison Constellation has been created to honor and recognize “BisonStar.” The Bison Constellation is composed of 254 stars one for each Texas County. The Bison Monument rises in the Texas southern sky in September. The Flag Asterism is a patch of sky just east of The Bison Constellation and determined by four (4) sky points as an asterism. The Flag Asterism is a “**Texas Flag of Sky**” with an aspect ratio of 1.5. The Flag Asterism as a Texas Flag of Sky is further partitioned into a matrix of 7920 x 7920 Flag Asterisms or Texas Flags of Sky. The Flag Star of each Texas Flag of Sky (62,726,400) in The Flag Asterism represents a the “Spirit” of new born calf in Texas of The Great Texas Southern Plains Bison Herd that migrated into the land that is now the State of Texas thousands of years ago even before people populated the land. The number 62,726,400 estimates the total number of bison born in Texas and roamed free on the land that is now the State of Texas since the first bison migrated into Texas. The hypothesis of The Texas Astronomy Student Study Group is that each Texas Flag of Sky in The Texas Flag Asterism contains at least one star! The Texas Silver Bison Donation Coin (1 gram .999 fine silver 15mm x 1mm)

represents the Texas Flag Star of each Texas Flag of Sky in The Flag Asterism and represents a unique new born bison calf. In a poetic way, The Flag Stars of each Texas Flag of Sky in The Flag Asterism represents the answer to the rhetorical question: “Where Have All The Bison Gone!”

“THE MARY ANN (MOLLY) GOODNIGHT EARTH MONUMENT” is simply the projection of “THE MARY ANN (MOLLY) GOODNIGHT SKY MOMUMENT” onto a fixed location on the earth. The Bison Constellation projects onto The Bison Sculpture. The Bison Sculpture shall be designed using the Ironwood Bison Sculpture as a model. The Bison Sculpture shall be constructed using an interior tubular framework covered by copper sheet externally etched with the features of a bison. The Flag Asterism of The Sky Monument projects onto a parcel of land immediately to the east of The Bison Sculpture. The parcel of land is a rectangular parcel of land 990 feet by 660 feet (15 acres exactly) and is designated as a “Texas Flag of Land.” Each Texas Flag of Sky in The Flag Asterism is uniquely numbered by a row and column designation. When projected on earth each Texas Flag of Sky in The Flag Asterism identifies a unique matrix address of a Texas Flag of Land in the 15 acre parcel of land. The Flag Star of each Texas Flag of Sky uniquely connects to the associated Flag Star of each Texas Flag of Land. Based on designed specifications, a Texas Flag of Land in the 15 acre parcel of land is exactly 1.5 inches by 1.0 inches.



PHOTOGRAPH 9: The design above is featured on “The PALS of Texas Volunteers Badge” which shall be offered as a “Donation Premium” manufactured by The Texas BisonStar Mint Corporation in support of the fundraising goal and fundraising activities of “THE OFFICIAL STATE BISON HERD OF TEXAS FUND.” The Badge is 1 inch in diameter feature a pin and cap on the back.



PHOTOGRAPH 10: The STAR DAY Foundation shall offer as a Donation Premium a numbered Texas Flag of Sky in The Mary Ann (Molly) Goodnight Sky Valley. Each Texas Flag of Sky is uniquely numbered as illustrated by the associated Texas Flag of Sky Tent which as the dimensions of 3.5 inches by 2.0 inches. The PALS of Texas Volunteers Badge represents a donor who is visiting Camp Goodnight Texas and sleeping under the stars at night deep in the heart of Briscoe County, Texas!

CAMP GOODNIGHT TEXAS

“Camp Goodnight Texas” is a project activity of The Pioneers and Leaders of the State (PALS) Volunteers sponsored by The STAR DAY Foundation. Camp Goodnight Texas shall be the “Official Camping Grounds” of The PALS of Texas Volunteers who plan, develop and conduct an expedition to visit Caprock Canyons State Park but do not have camping tents, camping equipment or camping RVs but yet wish to give their school-age children a frontier experience. Camp Goodnight Texas shall provide supporting camping tents and camping equipment to visiting families and provide supporting services at reasonable prices with reservation service from a supporting website. Texas families and their school-age children that

have camping tents, camping equipment or camping RVs can simply stay at Caprock Canyons State Park which has over 200 camping sites and numerous camping RV parking facilities. The PALS of Texas Volunteers representing Texas Counties shall meet annually in September to review, share and develop fundraising activities and enjoy visiting Caprock Canyons State Park.

The STAR DAY Foundation shall purchase a parcel of land adjoining or adjacent to Caprock Canyons State Park in partnership with The PALS of Texas Volunteers to be set-aside as a conservation land trust as a gift from Texas families and their school children to be designated as “THE WILLIAM ELMO MERREM WILDERNESS FRONTIER.” William Elmo Merrem (1897-1982) (SB22) was inducted into The First Pioneers and Leaders of the State (PALS) of Texas Hall of Honor in 2011 William Elmo Merrem was the first Texas Boy Scout to achieve the rank of Eagle Scout. The First PALS of Texas Hall of Honor was established by The STAR DAY Foundation in 2000.

Camp Goodnight Texas shall be established in The William Elmo Merrem Wilderness Frontier as a conservation, preservation and restoration educational research station for The Texas Bison Student Study Group. Camp Goodnight Texas shall feature a 100KW SolarBattery electricity station, a brackish water desalination system, a satellite Internet and telecom station which shall support a Digital Survey BisonStar Telescope System for researching star properties of the stars of The Great Texas BisonStar Constellation, and surveying the Texas Flags of Sky of The Mary Ann (Molly) Goodnight Sky Valley (The Flag Asterism) along with The Texas Prairie Bison Observatory dedicated to establishing and maintaining a network of BisonStarCams in partnership with Caprock Canyons State Park to observe The Official State Bison Herd of Texas as a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) project proposed by The Texas Bison Student Study Group. The Texas Prairie BisonStar Observatory shall provide live and prerecorded Internet BisonStarCams videos for partnering schools.

The Mary Ann (Molly) Goodnight Monument (Earth Component) shall be established and maintained at Camp Goodnight Texas. The land content of The Mary Ann (Molly) Goodnight Monument Valley (15 acres) shall be used to enhance a Texas Flag of Sky donor. The donor shall physically own a “Texas Flag of Land” in The Mary Ann (Molly) Goodnight Monument Valley that is located using The Texas Flag of Sky registration number as recorded in their Texas Flag of Sky Tent.



PHOTOGRAPH 11: The design of the One Dollar (40mm x 3mm) “Texas Silver Bison” Donation Coin



PHOTOGRAPH 12: The STAR DAY Foundation shall introduce a 40mm x 3mm Aluminum

“BisonStar” Donation Coin in a capsule that shall be offered as a “One Dollar Donation” Premium to Texas families and their children. The Texas Bison Student Study Group is launching “**The Great Texas BisonStar Aluminum Can Roundup**” initiative as an annual recycling and restoration project. The Texas Bison Student Study Group shall invite Texas families and their children to save and recycle their aluminum cans for cash and save out a few dollars to donate and acquire a few BisonStar One Dollar Donation Coins! The proceeds of “The Great Texas BisonStar Aluminum Can Roundup” each year shall support the restoration initiatives sponsored by The STAR DAY Foundation in support of the fundraising and fundraising activities of THE OFFICIAL STATE BISON HERD OF TEXAS Fund. Each BisonStar One Dollar Donation Coin represents a “Spirit Bison” that a young person may collect to enhance their Spirit Bison Herd at their Family Homestead Spirit Bison Ranch in The Mary Ann (Molly) Goodnight Monument Valley at Camp Goodnight Texas in The William Elmo Merrem Wilderness Frontier.



PHOTOGRAPH 13: This photograph illustrates the use of a BisonStar One Dollar Donation Coin and a Texas Flag of Silver to represent “THE MARY ANN (MOLLY) GOODNIGHT SKY MOMUMENT” as a desk-top or library-shelf commemorative display. The BisonStar One Dollar Donation Coin represents “THE GREAT TEXAS BISONSTAR CONSTELLATION” and the Texas Flag of Silver represents “THE MARY ANN (MOLLY) GOODNIGHT SKY VALLEY.”



PHOTOGRAPH 14: The above collection of commemoratives illustrates “The Great Texas BisonStar Migration Roundup (The Roundup)” sponsored by The PALS of Texas Volunteers that concludes at Camp Goodnight Texas on September 12 each year on The Mary Ann (Molly) Goodnight Day in Texas. The Spirit Bison of several Pals of Texas Volunteers families illustrated by Texas Flag of Sky Tents with The PALS of Texas Volunteer Badges representing Spirit Riders. A Texas Flag of Silver represent a Texas Flag at each of The Pals of Texas Flag of Sky Tents at Camp Goodnight Texas. The Spirit Bison are represented by different BisonStar Donation Coins. In the lead on the migration trail is “BisonStar” represented by a BisonStar Sculpture. The Roundup begins on March 12 each year on The Charles Goodnight Day in Texas when Pals of Texas Volunteers families and the school-age children begin an effort to use the funds they raised and saved during the school year to acquire additional BisonStar Donation Coins to expand their Spirit BisonStar Herd. The STAR DAY Foundation encourages the parents, grandparents and other relatives of their school age children to partner together to initially establish and maintains a “PALS of Texas Volunteers Family Homestead BisonStar Ranch” in The Mary Ann (Molly) Goodnight Monument Valley at Camp Goodnight Texas in The William Elmo Merrem Wilderness Frontier in Briscoe County, Texas.



PHOTOGRAPH 15: The STAR DAY Foundation shall offer the 40 grams weight Texas Silver Bison as a Donation Premium featuring a presentation case with supporting display easel and other commemoratives.



PHOTOGRAPH 16: THE "MY BISONSTAR" DONATION PREMIUM SPIRIT RANCH KIT

THE “MY BISONSTAR” DONATION PREMIUM SPIRIT RANCH KIT

The STAR DAY Foundation shall initially launch a Donation Premium package called: “My BisonStar.” The STAR DAY Foundation shall invite Texas parents of school age children to give their children a unique and special commemorative gift for their birthday or other important day with the goal of inspiring and motivating their children to explore and discover “BisonStar” and her family members of The Official State Bison Herd of Texas at Caprock Canyons State Park as well as the story about Mary Ann (Molly) Goodnight (SB2) and her husband Charles Goodnight (SB3). The “My BisonStar” Donation Premium package provides a Texas Family with school age children the opportunity to receive a unique Family Homestead Donation Sky and Land Grant from The STAR DAY Foundation as a service achievement of merit for making a donation to The STAR DAY Foundation to support the fundraising goal and the fundraising activities of “The Official State Bison Herd of Texas Fund” dedicated to pioneering and leading the effort to raise funds to support the conservation, preservation and restoration work of the Official State Bison Herd of Texas management team at Caprock Canyons State Park in partnership with The PALS of Texas Volunteers sponsored by The STAR DAY Foundation.

The “My BisonStar” Donation Premium Spirit Ranch Kit shall consist of:

1. The Mary Ann (Molly) Goodnight Story Bookmark
2. The Charles Goodnight Story Bookmark
3. A Texas Silver Bison “My BisonStar” (1 gram 15mm x 1mm) Donation Coin
4. A Texas Aluminum Bison “My BisonStar” (40mm x 3mm) Donation Coin
5. An acrylic folding display easel
6. A PALS of Texas Volunteers Badge
7. A uniquely numbered Camp Goodnight Texas Flag of Sky Tent, and a
8. “My BisonStar” Donation Premium Authenticity Card

The STAR DAY Foundation shall provide at its website expanded educational materials about the “My BisonStar” Donation Premium Spirit Ranch Kit for donors. A Texas family may partner with their school age children to save and make additional donations to receive One Dollar BisonStar Donation Coins to expand their Family Homestead Spirit Herd. Each One Dollar BisonStar Donation Coin represents a Spirit Bison at their Family Homestead Spirit Ranch.

The STAR DAY Foundation announced at The Texas Bison Capitol 2015 Luncheon the founding of “THE CAMP GOODNIGHT TEXAS “MY BISONSTAR” LIBRARY PROJECT” to pioneer and lead an effort to adopt and republish books that shall support the objectives and activities of The Texas Bison Student Study Group. The STAR DAY Foundation announced the adoption of “Charles Goodnight-Pioneer Cowman” by Sybil J. O’Rear recently republished by Eakin Press of Fort Worth, Texas. The STAR DAY Foundation also announced an effort proposed by The Texas Bison Student Study Group to raise funds and sponsor the publishing of a book (“MOLLY”) devoted to honor and remembering the life and achievements of Mary Ann (Molly) Goodnight (1939-1926).

To fund the publishing of “MOLLY”, The STAR DAY Foundation shall offer a printed version of the Mary Ann (Molly) Goodnight Story Bookmark (SB2) as a “One Dollar Donation Premium.” The text of the “MOLLY” Story Bookmark is the exact of Senate Concurrent Resolution (SCR) 10 authored by State Senator Kel Seliger, sponsored by State Representative Ken King and proposed by The Texas Bison Student Study Group during the 83rd State of Texas Legislative Session in 2013 to designate September 12 each year as “The Mary Ann (Molly) Goodnight Day” in Texas. The STAR DAY Foundation is inviting Texas history teachers and their students to plan, develop and conduct a “Mary Ann (Molly) Goodnight Day” celebration on or about September 12 each year to commemorate her life and her achievements on her birthday as the **“Woman Who Saved The Great Texas Southern Plains Bison Herd”** now known as “The Official State Bison Herd of Texas” at Caprock Canyons State Park. The Texas Bison Student Study Group sponsored by The STAR DAY Foundation believes that “The Official State Bison Herd of Texas” is in fact a “Texas State Treasure!”

The STAR DAY Foundation shall partner with The PALS of Texas Volunteers across Texas to invite Texas families and their school age children to save and donate one extra dollar to acquire the “MOLLY” Story Bookmark. The “MOLLY” Story Bookmark is being printed by the Shweiki Media Corporation of San Antonio. The “MOLLY” Story Bookmark shall have dimensions of 2-11/16 inches by 8-1/16 inches and be printed on card stock (10pt) with a UV coating.

The “Motto of the general fund raising effort of The STAR DAY Foundation is **“BE A BISONSTAR BUCKEROO, DONATE A BUCK OR TWO!”**

Charles Goodnight

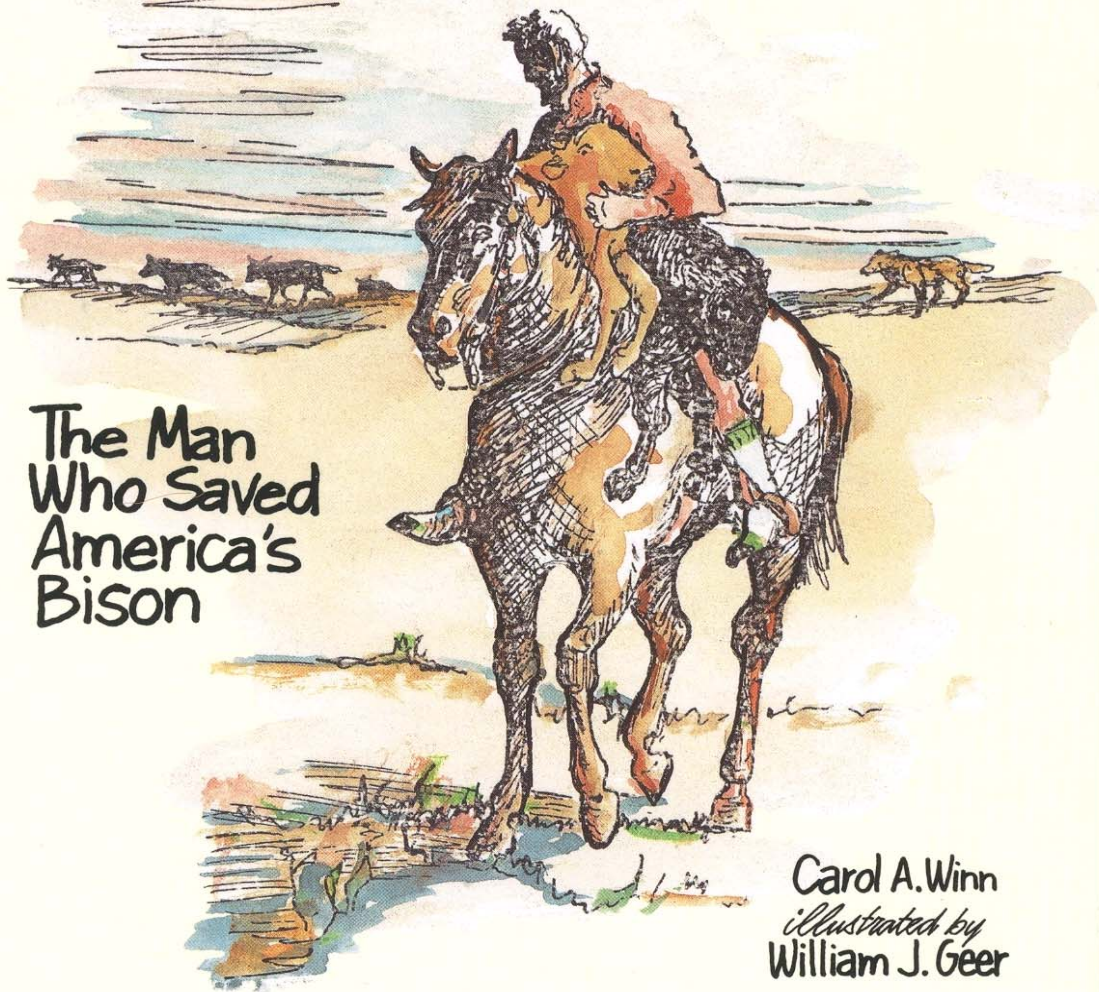
Pioneer Cowman



Sybil J. O'Rear

PHOTOGRAPH 17: The STAR DAY Foundation is pioneering and leading an effort to partner with publishers to republish book titles that have been proposed by The Texas Bison Student Study Group as readers in support The Texas Bison Student Study Group Curriculum. The STAR DAY Foundation shall establish and maintain “THE CAMP GOODNIGHT “MY BISONSTAR” LIBRARY” which shall feature books that shall be offered to Texas families as “Donation Books.” Each Donation Book title shall be supported by a Story Bookmark. “The Charles Goodnight-Pioneer Cowman” is being republished by The Eakin Press at the request of The STAR DAY Foundation and shall be made available as a Donation Book Premium as early as September 2015.

Buffalo Jones



The Man
Who Saved
America's
Bison

Carl A. Winn
illustrated by
William J. Geer

PHOTOGRAPH 18: The STAR DAY Foundation at the request of The Texas Bison Student Study Group shall seek to partner with the publisher of “Buffalo Jones-The M an Who Saved America’s Bison” to republish this title for adoption by “THE CAMP GOODNIGHT TEXAS “MY BISONSTAR” LIBRARY.”



Buffalo Land

W R I T T E N & I L L U S T R A T E D B Y
W I L L I A M D. B E R R Y
A U T H O R O F D E N E K I

PHOTOGRAPH 19: The STAR DAY Foundation at the request of The Texas Bison Student Study Group shall seek to partner with the publisher of “Buffalo Land” to republish this title for adoption by “THE CAMP GOODNIGHT TEXAS “MY BISONSTAR” LIBRARY.”



THE STATE OF TEXAS ANNIVERSARY REMEMBRANCE DAY FOUNDATION

APPENDIX

A

CAMP GOODNIGHT TEXAS “MY BISONSTAR” LIBRARY COLLECTION OF TEXAS BISON STUDENT STUDY GROUP STORY BOOKMARKS



THE STAR DAY FOUNDATION



“EXPEDITION TO CIBOLO CREEK RANCH-PRESIDIO COUNTY, TEXAS” MAY 11, 2010

Students from Presidio ISD Lucy Rede Franco Middle School (LRFMS) in Presidio County gathered on a high bluff to explore and study a herd of bison located in a valley below as the bison migrated toward a watering hole located close by at a natural spring shaded by cottonwood and grey oak trees on the 30,000 acre Cibolo Creek Ranch. The ranch was established by Don Meliton (Milton) Faver (ca 1822-1899) in 1857 and now owned today by Dr. John B. Poindexter. The expedition to the Cibolo Creek Ranch was supervised by Science Teachers Cynthia Obrero (Photographer) and Jasper Valeriano (Back Row-Right). The Expedition school bus driver was Manuel Aguilar. The Ranch expedition was guided by Ranch Manager Robert Cavness (Back Row-3rd left), and Ranch Activities Director Mike “Sugar” Dorris (Back Row-2nd Left).

“The Texas Bison Student Study Group” was organized on September 12, 2010, the birthday of Mary Ann (Molly) Goodnight (1839-1926), under the supervision of Principal Teresa Porras and sponsored by The STAR DAY Foundation of El Paso under the direction of President Dennis M. Kulvicki (Back Row-Left) as an expanded learning opportunities after-school student enrichment program. The Group is engaged in studies to explore and discover ancient Texas Bison, “The Official State Bison Herd of Texas” at Caprock Canyons State Park in Briscoe and Floyd counties, and to pioneer and lead an effort to explore and discover the benefits of the use of Texas bison ground meat in partnership with school cafeteria staff and family volunteers to enhance the school year lunch menu program with a lower fat and calorie content meat. The Group shall also explore and propose ways and means to raise needed funds to support the work of the management team whose mission is save the herd from extinction in these very difficult economic times and engage in activities to enhance the story of Texas for the people of Texas. After a lunch at a beautiful tree shaded natural spring, the students returned from the field to explore and discover the history of “EL FORTIN DEL CIBOLO (The Fort)”, one of three forts established by Faver protecting natural range springs. A tour of The Fort was led by ranch

employee Cindy Hernandez. Dr. Poindexter pioneered and led a decade-long conservation, preservation and restoration effort to historically recreate the three forts established by Faver as ranch guest accommodations featuring an internationally known restaurant. The Cibolo Creek Ranch is located on the frontier of the Great State of Texas at <http://www.cibolocreekranch.com>.

NOTE: The Texas Bison Student Study Group (The Group) proposed a bill in 2010 to designate “The Goodnight Bison Herd” at Caprock Canyons State Park (The Park) as “The Official State Bison Herd of Texas” as a service achievement of merit “SPIRIT OF STAR DAY 2011” birthday gift for the great State of Texas. Governor Rick Perry, a 1999 STAR DAY Founder issued a Commendation Letter to honor and recognized the teachers and students of The Group for their service achievement of merit to enhance the story of Texas for the people of Texas. The STAR DAY Foundation is pioneering and leading an effort to inspire and motivate Texas Junior High and Middle School students with the support of their parents, grandparents and other relatives and in partnership with Texas schools and Homeschooling parents to volunteer and enlist as individuals or in teams to plan, develop and conduct annual service achievements of merit as their “SPIRIT OF STAR DAY” birthday gifts for the great State of Texas. “The State of Texas Anniversary Remembrance (STAR) Day” at the request of a Texas student was established by the 76th State of Texas Legislature in 1999 to celebrate the birthday of the great State of Texas on the 19th of February each year in partnership with Texas schools and other organizations to inspire a greater appreciation of the history of the state and to honor and remember the life and achievements of James Pinckney Henderson (1808-1858), the first governor of the State of Texas. The STAR DAY Foundation was organized in 1999 with the Mission to carry out the legislative intent of the STAR DAY bill (Senate Bill 1656-76th State of Texas Legislature) in partnership with Texas schools by planning, developing and conducting a “SPIRIT OF STAR DAY” event to inspire and motivate students to student and learn about the founding and founders of the great State of Texas. During odd number years The STAR DAY Foundation plan, develops and conducts “THE SPIRIT OF STAR DAY CELEBRATION” in the Texas State Capitol Rotunda on STAR DAY in partnership with sponsoring state legislators. The STAR DAY Foundation is a Texas nonprofit corporation recognized by the IRS as a 501(c)3 tax exempt educational organization. The work of The STAR DAY Foundation and The Group is illustrated at the website of The STAR DAY Foundation.

THE STAR DAY FOUNDATION
<http://www.thestardayfoundation.org>

**STORY BOOKMARK 1
THE TEXAS BISON STUDENT STUDY GROUP
“FIRST EXPEDITION”-MAY 11, 2010**

THE STAR DAY FOUNDATION
FIRST PIONEERS AND LEADERS
OF THE STATE OF TEXAS
HALL OF HONOR



MARY ANN (MOLLY) GOODNIGHT
(1839-1926)

Accomplished Texans who serve as positive role models for young people deserve special recognition, and Mary Ann "Molly" Goodnight, Armstrong County pioneer and wife of Charles Goodnight embodied the strength and spirit that has made Texas an enduring example to the rest of the country.

Molly Goodnight was born September 12, 1839, in Madison County, Tennessee; she moved with her family to Fort Belknap, Texas, in 1854; after the death of her parents, she worked as a schoolteacher and took care of her five brothers.

She met Charles Goodnight in the mid-1860s, and they married in 1870; the couple settled in Pueblo, Colorado, where Charles had already established a ranch; drought and the Panic of 1873 caused the family to return to Texas, where Charles received backing from Irish investor John George Adair, who became his partner.

The Goodnights founded a ranch in the Texas Panhandle based in Palo Duro Canyon; Molly became doctor, nurse, spiritual comforter, sister, and mother to the ranch hands who worked there, but her most important role was wife and helpmate to the most famous rancher on the High Plains.

She became interested in the plight of the baby bison left behind by the commercial hunters who had ravaged the great bison herds that roamed the Plains; recognizing that the extinction of the bison was imminent, she encouraged her husband to establish the Goodnight bison herd, which has since become the Official State Bison Herd of Texas and is now located at Caprock Canyons State Park.

Known as the Mother of the Panhandle of Texas, Molly helped establish Goodnight College, and the town of Goodnight is named in honor of her and her husband; Molly died in 1926, and her headstone reads "Mary Ann Dyer Goodnight, One

who spent her whole life in the service of others."

NOTE: The photograph (PA-653) is used with permission from the Amarillo Public Library's collection. The above text is the text of Senate Concurrent Resolution (SCR) 10 authored by State Senator Kel Seliger and sponsored by State Representative Ken King during the 83rd Regular Session of the Texas State Legislature. SCR 10 designated September 12th as "The Mary Ann (Molly) Goodnight Day" in Texas to honor and remember her life and achievements. She is truly deserving of this signal honor for her pioneering work alongside her husband and her visionary leadership efforts of saving a herd of Texas' Plains bison that is now "The Official State Bison Herd of Texas" at Caprock Canyons State Park for the people of Texas. The bill was proposed by The Texas Bison Student Study Group (The Group) sponsored by The STAR DAY Foundation of El Paso, Texas as an after-school student enrichment program hosted by Texas schools to provide students with the opportunity to explore and discover the history and origin of the Texas Plains bison especially the Official State Bison Herd of Texas; to research and study the history and culture of Native American people who hunted bison; to study and evaluate the feasibility of the use of Texas bison ground meat as a component of school lunch programs; to investigate and propose ways and means to raise needed funds in partnership with their families and others to support the conservation, preservation and restoration work of the Official State Bison Herd of Texas management team at Caprock Canyons State Park under the supervision of the Park Superintendent; and to plan, develop and conduct "Expeditions" to visit Caprock Canyons State Park and local/regional partnering Texas bison ranches to see bison and experience bison ranching first hand. The STAR DAY Foundation shall invite Texas Junior High and Middle School history teachers, librarians, homeschooling families and others to plan, develop and conduct an annual "Mary Ann (Molly) Goodnight Day" classroom student studies activity to inspire and motivate students to explore and discover her life and achievements as an outstanding conservation, preservation and restoration historical role model as the woman who saved Texas Plains bison for the people of Texas now known as "The Official State Bison Herd of Texas, A State of Texas Treasure!" The STAR DAY Foundation invites Texans and Friends of Texas worldwide to volunteer and join the long term effort of The Group to raise donations to support the conservation, preservation and restoration work of the Official State Bison Herd of Texas management team at Caprock Canyons State Park as an annual STAR DAY birthday gift for the State of Texas.

THE STAR DAY FOUNDATION
<http://www.thestardayfoundation.org>

STORY BOOKMARK 2

MARY ANN (MOLLY) GOODNIGHT (1839-1926)

**THE STAR DAY FOUNDATION
FIRST PIONEERS AND LEADERS
OF THE STATE OF TEXAS
HALL OF HONOR**



**CHARLES GOODNIGHT
(1836-1929)**

The names of certain individuals stand out boldly in the history of the Lone Star State, and for more than a century, the life of famed rancher Charles Goodnight has inspired generations of Texans.

Born on March 5, 1836, to Charles and Charlotte Goodnight in Macoupin County, Illinois, young Charles Goodnight joined his family in 1845 on the 800-mile journey to Milam County, Texas, where the boy arrived riding bareback on a white-faced mare named Blaze; from an early age, he learned the virtue of hard work, laboring as a farmhand, racing as a jockey, and hauling freight with teams of oxen.

Mr. Goodnight entered into a partnership with his stepbrother, John Wesley Sheek, in 1856 to raise 400 head of cattle in the Brazos Valley; in the late 1850s, he met Oliver Loving, and together the two young men drove a herd to the gold rush camps in Colorado before the Civil War; during the 1860s, he worked as a scout for the Texas Rangers, taking part in the Comanche wars and fighting outlaws along the Colorado and Brazos River.

After his service with the Rangers, Mr. Goodnight returned to the cattle business, and in 1866, he, Mr. Loving, and 18 cowhands drove a herd from Fort Belknap, Texas, to Fort Sumner, New Mexico, and the route they forged became known as the Goodnight-Loving Trail, one of the most heavily trafficked cattle trails in the Southwest; Charles Goodnight is also credited with inventing the chuck wagon during that legendary drive.

In 1870, he married Mary Ann "Molly" Dyer, a schoolteacher, and the couple settled in Colorado for several years before returning to Texas; in 1876, he entered into a partnership with John G. Adair to set up the JA Ranch along Palo Duro Canyon, with Mr. Goodnight serving as resident manager and part owner of the operation; over the next 11 years, he increased the ranch's herd and expanded its range

and helped establish law and order in the Panhandle; he pioneered the use of many new techniques and inventions, including artificial watering facilities, barbed wire fences, and the development of Hereford bulls through crossbreeding; he also created one of the first western sidesaddles, for use by his wife.

From 1887 to 1926, Charles and Molly Goodnight lived in a spacious, two-story ranch house on the Goodnight Ranch near the Salt Fork of the Red River; when his wife became distressed at the decline of the southern herd of native bison, Mr. Goodnight took up their cause, breeding them on his ranch and shipping buffalo to Yellowstone National Park and to zoos on the East Coast and in Europe; he also raised other animals and performed agricultural experiments with the encouragement of botanist Luther Burbank.

Molly Goodnight died in 1926, and Charles Goodnight followed her three years later at the age of 93, and they are buried together in the Goodnight Cemetery, not far from the ranch they called home for nearly 40 years; the descendants of the Goodnights' buffalo live on as the Official State Bison Herd of Texas at Caprock Canyons State Park, and the legacy of Charles Goodnight, pioneer, cattleman, and naturalist, will endure as long as the Lone Star shines bright over Texas.

NOTE: The picture has been drawn from the Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum, Canyon, Texas. The above text is the text of House Concurrent Resolution (HCR) 51 authored by State Representative Ken King and sponsored by State Senator Kel Seliger during the 83rd Regular Session of the Texas State Legislature. HCR 51 designated March 5th as "The Charles Goodnight Day" in Texas to honor and remember his life and achievements. He is truly deserving of this signal honor for his pioneering work alongside his wife and his visionary leadership efforts of saving a herd of Texas' Plains bison that is now "The Official State Bison Herd of Texas" at Caprock Canyons State Park for the people of Texas. The bill was proposed by The Texas Bison Student Study Group (The Group) sponsored by The STAR DAY Foundation of El Paso, Texas as an after-school student enrichment program hosted by Texas schools. The STAR DAY Foundation shall invite Texas Junior High and Middle School history teachers, Texas homeschooling families and others to plan, develop and conduct an annual "Charles Goodnight Day" classroom student studies activity to inspire and motivate students to explore and discover his life and achievements as an outstanding conservation, preservation and restoration historical role model.

THE STAR DAY FOUNDATION

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QUITAQUE "THE OFFICIAL STATE BISON CAPITAL OF TEXAS"

In 1877, Charles Goodnight became the manager of the JA Ranch in the Caprock Canyonlands of the Texas Panhandle. The once-great bison herds of the area had been slaughtered almost to the point of extinction. At the urging of his wife, Mary Ann, Goodnight rounded up enough of the creatures to form a small herd, which allowed the Southern Plains Bison population to survive.

In 1880, Goodnight acquired the Lazy F Ranch and renamed it "Quitaque," which he believed was an Indian word for "end of the trail." Quitaque is located on State Highway 86 in southeastern Briscoe County. When the county was organized in 1892, the townsite of Quitaque was surveyed and platted.

Caprock Canyons State Park, located approximately three miles north of Quitaque, was acquired from the estate of Theodore Geisler in May 1975. The park opened in 1982 and is the third-largest state park in Texas.

The park is home to the "Official State Bison Herd of Texas." These bison are direct descendants of the last free-range Southern Plains Bison that the Goodnights saved from extinction. The herd was donated to the park in 1996 by the JA Ranch, which is the oldest privately owned ranch in the Texas Panhandle.

For many years, the citizens of Quitaque encouraged the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department to establish a state park in the Quitaque area and encouraged the donation of the JA Ranch Bison Herd to the state park.

O. R. Stark Jr., born in Quitaque, understood the need for a friends group for Caprock Canyons State Park and Trailway. He was instrumental in forming Caprock Partners Foundation in 1996 and served as foundation president until his death. The foundation has supported the park and its historic bison habitat as environmental and recreational treasures.

NOTE: The photograph was contributed by Caprock Canyons State Park Ranger Le'Ann Pigg. The photograph illustrates a bison herd sculpture as an element of the "Welcome to Quitaque" monument. Park Ranger Pigg serves as an Advisor of "The Texas Bison Student Study Group (The Group)" sponsored by The STAR DAY Foundation. State Senator Kel Seliger at the request of The Group authored State Concurrent Resolution (SCR) 22 to designate Quitaque as "The Official State Bison Capital of Texas" during the 84th Texas Legislative Session. SCR 22 was sponsored by State Representative Ken King. SCR 22 was filed on March 5, 2015, "The Charles Goodnight Day" in Texas. The text of this story bookmark is the exact text of SCR 22. State Senator Kel Seliger and State Representative Ken King at the request of The Group authored and sponsored "The Mary Ann (Molly) Goodnight Day" (September 12) and "The Charles Goodnight Day" (March 5) as Senate Concurrent Resolution (SCR) 10 and House Concurrent Resolution (HCR) 51 respectively during the 83rd Texas Legislative Session in 2013. During the 81st Texas Legislative Session in 2011, The Group proposed a successful legislative initiative to designate the bison herd at Caprock Canyons State Park as "The Official State Bison Herd of Texas." State Representatives Warren Chisum, Pete Gallego and Jim Landtroop authored House Concurrent Resolution (HCR) 86 and State Senator Robert Duncan sponsored HCR 86. The Group was organized by The STAR DAY Foundation on September 12, 2009 at Lucy Rede Franco Middle School in Presidio County under the supervision School Principal Teresa Porras as an after-school student expanded learning opportunities enrichment program. The Group is engaged in studies to explore and discover the origin of "The Great Texas Southern Plains Bison Herd" and the Texas Native-Americans who hunted the bison; to study The Official State Bison Herd of Texas at The Park; to pioneer and lead an effort to explore and discover the benefits of the use of Texas bison ground meat in partnership with school cafeteria staff and family volunteers to enhance the school year lunch menu program with a lower fat and calorie content meat; and to plan, develop and conduct "Expeditions" to regional Texas ranches maintaining commercial bison herds. The Group shall also explore and propose ways and means to raise funds to support the work of The Official State Bison Herd of Texas management team whose mission is to save the last remaining Great Texas Southern Plains Bison initially saved by Molly and Charles Goodnight in the late 1800's from extinction in these very difficult economic times of greatly reduced state funding. The service work of The Group may be explored and discovered at The STAR DAY Foundation website.

THE STAR DAY FOUNDATION

<http://www.thestardayfoundation.org>

STORY BOOKMARK 4

QUITAQUE, TEXAS-THE OFFICIAL STATE BISON CAPITOL OF TEXAS

THE STAR DAY FOUNDATION



CAPROCK CANYONS STATE PARK AND TRAILWAY (A View from Haynes Ridge)

Caprock Canyons State Park, located in Briscoe, Floyd, and Hall Counties three miles north of Quitaque, was acquired from the estate of Theodore Geisler in May 1975 and is approximately 100 miles (160 km) southeast of Amarillo. The state park opened in 1982 and is 15,313.6 acres (6,197.2 ha) in size, making it the third-largest state park in Texas and its terrain is the roughest. In 1993, a hiking, biking, and equestrian rail trail opened that stretches through the park through Floyd, Briscoe, and Hall counties. The trailway was created after the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department acquired 64.25 miles (103 km) of right-of-way from the abandoned Fort Worth and Denver Railroad's lines between Estelline and the South Plains.

The park is located in West Texas and has a semi-arid climate. The average January minimum temperature is 19 °F (-7 °C) and the average July maximum is 91 °F (33 °C). The park receives 20.4 inches (520 mm) of precipitation annually. The area contains badlands with mesquite, cacti and junipers with tall grasses, plums, hackberries and cottonwoods in the canyons. The park features spectacular landscapes carved by erosion at the edge of the Caprock, colorful cliffs and canyons, and abundant wildlife African aoudad sheep (barbary sheep), mule deer, white-tailed deer, coyotes, opossums, raccoons, bobcats, foxes, porcupines, numerous species of snakes and lizards, and over 175 species of birds including Golden Eagles are found within the park. Lake Theo contains bass and catfish.

The Park hosts "The Official State Bison Herd of Texas." At the urging of his wife, Charles Goodnight preserved several plains bison from those that were being slaughtered. This herd became one of the genetic sources from which current bison herds descend. The state herd only contains plains bison which have no cattle DNA. One of the park's most interesting features is the Folsom site near Lake Theo, one of five such sites in the nation. Among the artifacts first excavated there in 1974 were several Folsom points and remains of an extinct Ice Age bison. This bison-kill site gives substantial evidence that Folsom man manufactured and made use of his weapons here about 10,000 years ago. Springs in Holmes Canyon probably contributed to making this area a favorite campsite

for pre-Columbian man. Activities available at the park include camping, hiking, horseback riding, fishing, picnicking, swimming, mountain bike riding, rock climbing and sightseeing.

NOTE: The photograph and text was drawn from the Wikipedia website. Additional text was drawn from an article written by H. Allen Anderson and published in the Handbook of Texas Online website. "The Texas Student Bison Study Group (The Group)" was organized on September 12, 2010 under the supervision of Presidio ISD Lucy Rede Franco Middle School Principal Teresa Porras and sponsored by The STAR DAY Foundation as an after-school student enrichment program. The Group is engaged in studies to explore and discover ancient Texas Bison, to study The Official State Bison Herd of Texas at Caprock Canyons State Park, to pioneer and lead an effort to explore and discover the benefits of the use of Texas bison ground meat in partnership with school cafeteria staff and family volunteers to enhance the school year lunch menu program with a lower fat and calorie content meat and to plan, develop and conduct expeditions to regional Texas ranches maintaining bison herds. The Group shall also explore and propose ways and means to support the work of The Official State Bison Herd of Texas management team whose mission is to save the last remaining genetically pure Texas Southern Plains Bison initially saved by Molly and Charles Goodnight in the late 1800's from extinction in these very difficult economic times of greatly reduced state funding. The students and adults participating in The Group are known as "The Pioneers and Leaders of the State (PALS) of Texas Volunteers (The Volunteers)", the official support organization of The STAR DAY Foundation established in 2001. The Volunteers support organization was founded to challenge and encourage young people to volunteer and enlist in a statewide collective and collaborative effort to pioneer and lead with the advice and supervision of volunteer adults to help raise needed funds to support Texas conservation, preservation and restorations initiatives as their service achievements of merit birthday gifts for our state. The Group partnering with their state legislators proposed a bill during the 82nd Texas State Legislature in 2011 that successfully designated the Goodnight Bison Herd at the park as "The Official State Bison Herd of Texas." Governor Rick Perry, a 1999 STAR DAY Founder, issued a Commendation Letter honoring and recognizing The Group for their service achievement of merit. The Caprock Partners Foundation has established a volunteer program to invite the public to help insure the future of Caprock Canyons State Park and Trailway and may be visited at <http://caprockpartnersfoundation.com>.

THE STAR DAY FOUNDATION
<http://www.thestardayfoundation.org>

STORY BOOKMARK 5 CAPROCK CANYONS STATE PARK AND TRAILWAY

**THE STAR DAY FOUNDATION
FIRST PIONEERS AND LEADERS
OF THE STATE OF TEXAS
HALL OF HONOR**



MARQUIS ROBERTSON

Marquis Robertson was formally inducted on September 12, 2013, "The Mary Ann (Molly) Goodnight Day", into "The First PALS of Texas Hall of Honor" sponsored by The STAR DAY Foundation as the "First Superintendent" of Caprock Canyons State Park on November 2, 1976. Marquis was nominated for induction by Caprock Rock Canyons State Park Ranger Le'Ann Pigg. Park Ranger Pigg is the Park Interpreter and Volunteer Coordinator. Park Ranger Pigg has volunteered to act as an eAdvisor for "The Texas Bison Student Study Group" sponsored by The STAR DAY Foundation.

Marquis Roberson was born of December 26, 1941 to Marquis de Lafayette and Virgie May (Riggs) Robertson in Shreveport, Louisiana. Marquis is the youngest of three children. He has two sisters. Marquis's family moved to Galveston, Texas in 1955 where he continued his elementary education at Steven F. Austin Junior High School. His family moved to Houston, Texas where he graduated in the first graduating class of South Houston High School in Pasadena, Texas in 1960. He initially studied at Howard Payne University in Brownwood, Texas. He elected in 1966 to join the AFL-CIO as a Pipefitter Apprentice and eventually became a Journeyman Pipefitter. He worked on the Houston Ship Channel.

In 1973 Marquis applied and was accepted as an entry level Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Park Ranger and served at Lockhart State Park in Lockhart, Texas for a year and a half. He was then assigned to serve as "Assistant Superintendent" at Bastrop State Park in Bastrop County, Texas in 1974. While at Bastrop State Park, he attended Texas Law Enforcement Academy at South West

State University in San Marcos, Texas and was graduated and commissioned as a Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Police Officer on October 31, 1976.

Marquis was offered and accepted the opportunity to be the "First Superintendent" of Caprock Canyons State Park near Quitaque, Briscoe County, Texas in 1976. Marquis and his family began their opportunity on November 2, 1976 living initially in a state trailer at the Park. At that time Caprock Canyons State Park was the largest State Park in Texas with an area of approximately 15,000 acres. Marquis with the help of his colleagues at the Park refurbished a cabin in the park as his family living quarters. The "First Park Ranger" at Caprock Canyons State Park was Park Ranger John Garbutt. Marquis and John pioneered and led a variety of park conservation, preservation and restoration improvements during his tenure. In 1981, Marquis accepted the position of "Superintendent" of Abilene State Park in Taylor County, Texas.

Marquis left the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department in 1983 to take the position as the "Outside Security Director" of the Texas Youth Commissions' Brownwood State School in Brownwood, Texas. In 1985, Marquis pioneered and led an effort to enter private business in Brownwood by founding and opening "The Video Junction" offering video movie rentals. The competition in this field was intense with the entry of national video rental chains. Marquis decided in 1995 to leave private business and accepted a position of "Program Director" at the New Horizons Children's Ranch in Brownwood until his retirement in 2006.

Marquis decided to reenter the work force in 2009 by accepting a staff position at the Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) organization in Brownwood as a "Volunteer Recruiter and Trainer" which position he holds today.

He met and married a Johanna George in 1971 and they have a family of two girls. His wife passed away in 2003. With his daughters grown, married and pioneering and leading professional lives, Marquis now spends and enjoys summer vacations in Colorado with colleagues who are Four-Wheel (ATV) trail vehicle enthusiasts exploring and discovering forest trails in the high country. His most enjoyable pastime in his life today is spending quality time with his grandchildren and great grandchild.

NOTE: "The Texas Bison Student Study Group (The Group)" was initially organized by The STAR DAY Foundation on September 12, 2010. The work of The Group is illustrated at the website of The STAR DAY Foundation.

THE STAR DAY FOUNDATION

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STORY BOOKMARK 6

MARQUIS ROBERTSON-FIRST SUPERINTENDENT-CAPROCK CANYONS STATE PARK

**THE STAR DAY FOUNDATION
FIRST PIONEERS AND LEADERS
OF THE STATE OF TEXAS
HALL OF HONOR**



JOHN R. GARBUTT, III

John R. Garbutt, III was formally inducted on March 5, 2014, "The Charles Goodnight Day", into "The First PALS of Texas Hall of Honor" sponsored by The STAR DAY Foundation as the "First Park Ranger" of Caprock Canyons State Park in August 1975. John R. Garbutt, III was nominated for induction by Caprock Canyons State Park Ranger Le'Ann Pigg. Park Ranger Pigg is the Park Interpreter and Volunteer Coordinator. Park Ranger Pigg has volunteered to act as an eAdvisor for "The Texas Bison Student Study Group" sponsored by The STAR DAY Foundation. The Park is today the home of the Texas State Bison Herd.

John R. Garbutt, III was born on September 16, 1948 to John R. and Jeanne (Trevethan) Garbutt in Amarillo, Texas. He is the older of two children with a younger sister. His father and mother worked for the United States Air Force so the family moved away and back to Amarillo several times during his early childhood and school years.

John graduated from Tascosa High School in 1967, attended Amarillo Junior College and then transferred to the University of Texas at Austin in the fall of 1969 to finish his undergraduate work. He graduated in 1971 with a BA in Anthropology and minor in Philosophy. He remained in Austin after graduation working with the hope of one day realizing his dream of being hired as a park ranger for the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. He stayed persistent in his quest by submitting a new application for employment each year and visiting with key personnel at the department's headquarters in Austin on a regular basis until he received the call he always hoped would come and was offered the "Park Ranger" position at Caprock Canyons State Park in August 1975.

The only problem was John left his sweetheart, Janet Meziere, behind but that situation was remedied in October of that year and he brought his

bride to the park at Quitaque, Briscoe County, Texas. They both fell in love with the community, its people and the land. When Marquis Robertson (the first park superintendent) and his family arrived they quickly formed a lasting friendship and they worked happily together to give birth to a new state park. The community of Quitaque fully supported them and the state park.

During John's tenure Marquis and John worked on refurbishing an old bait store into the park headquarters, an old barn for park equipment and the old Theo Geisler home as a residence for Marquis and his family. John also did an archeological survey for the department on one of the sections in the park and worked closely with the Panhandle High Plains Museum on the important Lake Theo Folsom archeological site. Marquis and John worked on a variety of park conservation, preservation and restoration projects. They will always have fond memories of their life and times at Caprock Canyons State Park.

After two and a half wonderful years at Caprock Canyons State Park and the community of Quitaque John was promoted as "Assistant Superintendent" at Lake Whitney State Park in March of 1978. It was with mixed feelings John left but it was time. John was then promoted to "Superintendent" at Jim Hogg State Historical Park in Rusk, Texas in September of 1980 where he was superintendent until March 2002. At that time the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department decided to give the park to the City of Rusk.

By this time John and Janet had four children. The City of Rusk was their hometown and he did not want to up root them to continue his career and was fortunate to have the department honor his request to be transferred to the Texas State Railroad State Park as "Assistant Superintendent." John retired from the department in December 2005 but could not stay away from the venerable railroad so he returned in March of 2006 as "Special Projects Administrator" for the railroad wearing several hats. In August of 2007 the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department ceased to manage the railroad and with it came a new company to operate the facility. John and many others simply separated from the department and went to work for the new company.

John is still with the Texas State Railroad (2013) working in the "Marketing Department" and enjoys being able to continue to help with the preservation and promotion of this "True Texas Treasure."

NOTE: The work and service of The Texas Bison Student Group is illustrated at the website of The STAR DAY Foundation.

THE STAR DAY FOUNDATION

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STORY BOOKMARK 7

JOHN GARBUTT III-FIRST RANGER-CAPROCK CANYONS STATE PARK

**THE STAR DAY FOUNDATION
FIRST PIONEERS AND LEADERS
OF THE STATE OF TEXAS
HALL OF HONOR**



KARLA MEYER HELMS

Karla M. Helms (right) visits with Park Ranger Le'Ann Pigg on a beautiful day at Caprock Canyons State Park in Briscoe County, Texas

Karla M. Helms was formally inducted on February 19, 2014, "The State of Texas Anniversary Remembrance (STAR) Day", into "The First PALS of Texas Hall of Honor" sponsored by The STAR DAY Foundation as the "First Woman Ranger" of Caprock Canyons State Park. Karla was nominated for induction by Caprock Canyons State Park Ranger Le'Ann Pigg. Park Ranger Pigg is the Park Interpreter and Volunteer Coordinator. Park Ranger Pigg has volunteered to act as an eAdvisor for "The Texas Bison Student Study Group" sponsored by The STAR DAY Foundation.

Karla Meyer Helms was born on October 31, 1960 to Opal and Willie Meyer in Quanah, Texas. She is the third of six children, with three brothers and two sisters. Karla grew up in Flomot, Texas, and graduated from Valley High School in 1979.

After graduating high school, Karla attended Clarendon College where she became a licensed cosmetologist. She took her first cosmetology job in Pampa, Texas, where she resided and worked for the next several years.

Karla returned to her hometown of Flomot, Texas, to marry her high school sweetheart, Kenneth Helms. Shortly after returning she began employment in November 1983 at Caprock Canyons State Park, where she worked on the Force Account for one year. The Force account was created out of a need to complete one-time projects at the park, and it necessitated the hiring of more employees without a guarantee of employment after the projects had been completed.

While working on the Force Account, she diligently worked at miscellaneous park maintenance jobs, the most important being the pouring of the sidewalks in all the camping areas.

After her first year on the Force Account, she was hired as park ranger, where she became the first female park ranger of Caprock Canyons State Park. This job was a great fit for Karla because she loved working outdoors with nature. While working as a park ranger, Karla became licensed to run the water treatment plant when the park still treated lake water from Lake Theo for drinking water. She also cleared trails, maintained vehicles, and supervised summer employment.

After one year as park ranger, Karla left her position to move on to other personal endeavors. Over the next several years, she went on to open an irrigation business with her husband, and they raised their two daughters. Karla and her husband, Kenneth still reside in the area, and her latest passion is volunteering for disaster relief efforts through the Texas Baptist Men since both of her daughters have left for college.

NOTE: The photograph was provided by Callie Helms, daughter of Karla. The biographical sketch above was authored by Callie. The Texas Bison Student Study Group (The Group) was organized on September 12, 2010, the birthday of Molly Goodnight (1839-1926), at Presidio ISD Lucy Rede Franco Middle School as an expanded learning opportunities after-school student enrichment program under the supervision of School Principal Teresa Porras and sponsored by The STAR DAY Foundation. The primary goals of The Group are to provide students with the opportunity to explore and discover the origin of The Official State Bison Herd of Texas; to honor and remember the life and achievements of Molly and Charles Goodnight as the first Texas bison ranch family; to plan, develop and conduct school history and science field trips to partnering Texas Plains bison ranches and Caprock Canyons State Park; to study and evaluate school lunch menu applications of Texas bison ground meat in partnership with student families and school cafeteria staff; to seek ways and means to help raise needed funds to support the conservation, preservation and restoration work of the Official State Bison Herd of Texas management team as a service achievement of merit to enhance the story of Texas for the people of Texas. The Founding and Founders of the Caprock Canyons State Park Project Initiative was proposed by The Group and is composed of a collection of inductee and story bookmarks to be published in The Texas Bison Student Study Group Journal. The work and The Journal of The Group is illustrated at the website of The STAR DAY Foundation.

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STORY BOOKMARK 8

KARLA MEYER HELMS-FIRST RANGER-CAPROCK CANYONS STATE PARK

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**JOSEPH WELDON WATSON
(1911-1990)**

J. Weldon Watson, the "First Executive Director" of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department was nominated for induction by Caprock Canyons State Park Ranger Le'Ann Pigg as an activity of "The Founding and Founders of Caprock Canyons State Park Project" proposed by The Texas Bison Student Study Group (The Group) sponsored by The STAR DAY Foundation as an initiative supporting the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the founding of TPWD. Park Ranger Pigg is the Park Interpreter and Volunteer Coordinator. Park Ranger Pigg has volunteered to act as an eAdvisor for The Group. The Park is today the home of the Texas State Bison Herd now known as "The Official State Bison Herd of Texas" designated by state law by the Texas State Legislature in 2011 and proposed by The Group

J. Weldon Watson was born on June 2, 1911 at Osceola, in Hill County, Texas to Robert L. Watson (1867-1912) and Ella (Stevens) Watson (1873-1967). J. Weldon Watson's father was a merchant in Osceola and in 1904 became a manager of a branch of the First Bank of Hillsboro in Osceola. Robert L. Watson died on December 22, 1912 when J. Weldon Watson was just 18 months old. He was the youngest of four girls and two boys. The family then moved to Hillsboro, Texas when he was age 8.

After graduating from Hillsboro High School and attending Sam Houston University he married Charlotte Ann Read (1909-1992) on June 30, 1934 in Hillsboro. She was a native of Hillsboro and the daughter of John G. and Marion M. (Maddox) Read. She graduated from Hillsboro High School, attended Hill Junior College and graduated from the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor. She taught school at Mt. Calm and Hillsboro High School.

J. Weldon Watson worked for the Texas Railway Commission for 4 years as a statistician

serving in the east Texas oil fields. He worked for the Texas Highway Department. In 1940 he accepted a position of the Personnel Director of the Texas Welfare Department. He served in World War II as an Air Force Officer. He was promoted in 1955 to the position of Deputy Commissioner of the Texas Welfare department serving until August 1963. At that time he accepted the challenge and opportunity to pioneer and lead the founding of the TPWD programs and activities as the "First Executive Director" of TPWD serving from August 23, 1963 through June 31, 1966. He was noted as "one of the nation's foremost administrators." TPWD was created by the 58th Legislature by the merger of the Texas Game and Fish Department and the Texas Parks Board on the premise of forging a more efficient operation of both. After serving as the Executive Director of the TPWD, he retired in Austin from State service with 31 years of total service. He was a 1977 founder of the Texas Retired Employees Association.

He passed away in Austin, Texas on May 6, 1990 and is buried with his wife in Ridge Park Cemetery in Hillsboro. The couple did not have children.

NOTE: A digital image of a painting of J. Weldon Watson was contributed by Melinda Murrell Grace, a great niece. Historical company records of the Marshall & Marshall Funeral Directors of Hillsboro were contributed by Director James R. Fine. Watson historical documents from the Briscoe Center for American History at the University of Texas in Austin were researched and presented by researcher Sally Debauche. Dora Nolan, a volunteer of the Hillsboro Library, provided Watson obituary documents. Additional TPWD historical information was provided by Thomas Harvey of the Communication Office of TPWD. J. Weldon Watson shall be formally inducted on STAR DAY, February 19, 2014, into The First PALS of Texas Hall of Honor during "THE SPIRIT OF STAR DAY 2014 CELEBRATION" conducted at Charlton-Pollard Elementary School in partnership with the Charlton-Pollard High School Alumni Association to celebrate the 168th birthday of the State of Texas with appropriate and patriot programs to inspire and motivate young people to explore and discover the founding and founders of the State of Texas. During odd years the event is conducted on STAR DAY, the 19th of February, in the State Capitol Rotunda sponsored by Texas Legislators in partnership with Texas schools and their students. The work and service of The Texas Bison Student Group organized on September 12, 2010 is illustrated at the website of The STAR DAY Foundation.

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STORY BOOKMARK 9

JOSEPH WELDON WATSON (1911-1990)-FIRST EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR -TPWD

**THE STAR DAY FOUNDATION
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HALL OF HONOR**



**O. R. STARK, JR.
(1927-2000)**

O. R. Stark, Jr., a founder of Caprock Canyons State Park and the Texas Bison State Herd, was nominated for induction by Caprock Canyons State Park Ranger Le'Ann Pigg as an activity of "The Founding and Founders of Caprock Canyons State Park Project" proposed by The Texas Bison Student Study Group (The Group) sponsored by The STAR DAY Foundation as an initiative supporting the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. Park Ranger Pigg is the Park Interpreter and Volunteer Coordinator. Park Ranger Pigg has volunteered to act as an eAdvisor for The Group. The Park is today the home of the Texas State Bison Herd now known as "The Official State Bison Herd of Texas" designated by state law by the Texas State Legislature in 2011 and proposed by The Group

O. R. Stark, Jr. was a visionary man. He had a lifetime love affair with the beautiful canyons and prairies of the Quitaque area and wanted to find a way to share it with others. When he discovered that Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) was looking for new state park land in the Panhandle, he began working to draw their attention to Quitaque. Eventually, his hard work paid off when TPWD purchased the Theo Geisler ranch to make up most of what is now Caprock Canyons State Park.

O. R. Stark, Jr. was also instrumental in the Rails-to-Trails conversion of 64 miles of railroad into what is now Caprock Canyons Trailway. Over the years he had ridden the train many times up the Caprock through the tunnels and knew what spectacular views the Trailway had to offer.

When he learned that the JA Ranch was donating the historic Charles Goodnight bison herd to TPWD, he became a driving force for the local lobbying effort to make Caprock Canyons State Park the new home for the bison herd. His efforts once again became reality when the first bison were

brought to the park in 1997.

O. R. understood the need for a friends group for Caprock Canyons State Park and Trailway. He led Quitaque citizens in forming Caprock Partners Foundation in 1996. He served as president until his death in 2000.

Roots run deep for the Stark family in Quitaque dating back to 1919 when O. R.'s dad, Orlin Stark, first came to Quitaque and was involved in the formation of the First National Bank in 1920.

O. R. Stark, Jr. was born May 4, 1927 to Orlin and Madeline (Whiteley) Stark in Quitaque, Texas. He was the eldest of two children having a younger sister, Patsy Stark Herrington. He started school in Quitaque Elementary and continued his education through the Quitaque schools to graduate in 1944. He attended Texas Tech University for one year and volunteered for the Navy, where he served two years during World War II. After his discharge he entered Texas Tech again, where he majored in Finance and graduated in 1949. He married Mary Hartgraves of Sweetwater, Texas August 21, 1949.

O. R. and Mary began their married life in Quitaque where O. R. went to work at First National Bank as assistant cashier. Over the years they raised their three children, Sherry, Scotty and Randy Stark in Quitaque. O.R. served as president of First National Bank for over thirty years and Chairman of the Board from 1983 until his passing on January 24, 2000.

O. R. was very active in church and civic activities on both the state and local levels and was always a booster of anything positive in the Quitaque area. He published *Comings, Goings & Doings* an informative monthly bank newsletter for customers and other interested readers for over 47 years, and in 1995 it was named "the longest continuously published monthly newsletter in the history of the banking industry in the United States".

O. R. Stark, Jr.'s leadership, foresight, positive outlook, boundless energy, and persistence are permanently etched on the Quitaque area and Caprock Canyons State Park and Trailway.

NOTE: The photograph and biographical sketch were contributed by First National Bank of Quitaque Executive Vice President Randy Stark, a son of O. R. Stark, Jr., with the assistance of Assistant Vice President Jana Carpenter.

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STORY BOOKMARK 10

O. R STARK, JR (1927-2000)-A FOUNDER OF CAPROCK CANYONS STATE PARK

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HALL OF HONOR**



THE JA RANCH BRAND

PART 1-3: The JA Ranch is the oldest privately owned cattle operation in the Panhandle. Its beginning may be traced back to the summer and fall of 1876, when Charles Goodnight drove 1,600 longhorn cattle from Pueblo, Colorado, to the Palo Duro Canyon, where he established his "Home Ranch" near the Prairie Dog Town Fork of the Red River in southwestern Armstrong County. After getting his men and cattle settled in for the winter, Goodnight returned to Colorado to make arrangements to bring his wife, Mary Ann (Molly) Goodnight, to the new homestead. In Denver he met John G. Adair, an English aristocrat who was interested in going into the cattle business himself. As a result of their meeting, Adair agreed to furnish the capital Goodnight needed to build up the ranch. In May 1877 the Goodnights and Adair, along with four cowboys, arrived at the Home Ranch with 100 Durham bulls and four wagons loaded with provisions. On June 18, before the Adairs left for Ireland, the partners drew up a five-year contract under which two-thirds of the property and profits were to go to Adair and one-third to Goodnight. There were to be as many as 1,500 cattle and 2,500 acres of land. Goodnight, who borrowed his third of the investment from Adair at 10 percent interest, was to receive an annual salary of \$2,500. At Goodnight's suggestion the ranch was named Adair's initials. The letters of the JA brand at first were separated; three years later the present connected design was adopted.

After the money was made available, Goodnight bought the first 12,000 acres from Jot Gunter and William B. Munson, Sr., who agreed that he could pick the land wherever he pleased. Over the next two years he continued buying choice pieces of property crazy-quilt fashion in and around a seventy-five-mile stretch of Palo Duro Canyon, carefully selecting areas with good grazing land and water, until the ranch was solidified. In 1878 he drove the first JA trail herd, led by his famous bell ox Old

Blue, north to Dodge City, Kansas, then the nearest railhead. In 1879, desiring a more central location for the ranch headquarters, Goodnight moved it to a choice site at the foot of the Caprock, twenty-five miles east of the old Home Ranch. There he built a new four-room house of cedar logs and supervised the construction of several other buildings, including a bunkhouse, a bookkeeper's house, a wagon boss's house, a blacksmith shop, a wagonyard, and an ingenious milk and meat cooler. Later on, the two-story, nineteen-room main house was added. The old Home Ranch house was used as a line camp until it burned down on Christmas Eve, 1904.

NOTE: The educational use of The JA Ranch Brand graphic has been granted by The JA Ranch of Amarillo. The PART 1-3 text has been drawn from the "JA Ranch" article written by H. Allen Anderson and published in the Handbook of Texas Online. The reader may wish to visit a website featuring an expanded and illustrated history of The JA Ranch at <http://www.ranches.org>. A story of The JA Ranch is illustrated in a series of three (3) Story Bookmarks in support of the educational objectives of "The Founding and Founders of The Official State Bison Herd of Texas Project", a STEMS (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics and Service) Project initiative of The Texas Bison Student Study Group sponsored by The STAR DAY Foundation. The Project initiative also includes honoring and remembering the life and achievements of the men and women that pioneered and led the founding of The JA Ranch. Cornelia Wadsworth Ritchie Adair (1837-1921), a founder of The JA Ranch, was nominated for induction into The First PALS of Texas Hall of Honor by The Texas Bison Student Study Group organized by The STAR DAY Foundation on September 12, 2010, "The Mary Ann (Molly) Goodnight Day" in Texas, to explore and discover the history and science of the Texas Plains Bison, the conservation, preservation and restoration work of the Official State Bison Herd of Texas management team at Caprock Canyons State Park near Quitaque, Briscoe County Texas, the founding and founders of Caprock Canyons State Park and the Official State Bison Herd of Texas at the Park and to pioneer and lead efforts to raise funds to support the goal and activities of "The Official State Bison Herd of Texas Fund" formally launched in Quitaque on September 12, 2013 by The STAR DAY Foundation with the "first dollar" donated by Caprock Canyons State Park Superintendent Donald Beard. Cornelia Wadsworth Ritchie Adair (1837-1921) shall be formally inducted during "THE SPIRIT OF STAR DAY 2015 CELEBRATION" conducted on STAR DAY, Thursday, February 19, 2015, beginning at 12 noon in the Texas State Capitol Rotunda to celebrate the 169th birthday of the great State of Texas.

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**CHARLES GOODNIGHT
(1836-1929)**

PART 2-3-As manager of the JA, Goodnight allowed no gambling, whiskey, or fighting, and would not take anyone who had been fired elsewhere for drunkenness or theft. Even so, he usually was able to hire the men he needed. Cape (Caleb B.) Willingham, Wint Bairfield, Jim (James T.) Christian, Frank Mitchell, J. W. Kent, George Doshier, Mitch Bell, and the brothers Judd, Jeff, and Lige Campbell were among the outstanding JA employees during its early years. Goodnight's brothers-in-law, Walter and Leigh R. Dyer, also worked off and on for the JA, particularly during traildrives and roundups. Almost from the start, Goodnight had sought to improve the quality of the JA cattle by bringing in blooded stock. In 1882 he built what is thought to have been the Panhandle's first barbed wire drift fence across a canyon bed above the Home Ranch to separate the purebred cattle, on which he used a JJ brand, from the main JA herd. He also kept a buffalo herd which he sought to cross with cattle to produce the "cattalo."

By the time their contract expired in 1882, Goodnight and Adair had bought 93,000 acres and were looking for more. In addition, Goodnight had purchased the Quitaque (Lazy F) range in Briscoe County for Cornelia Adair, and the Palo Duro post office had been established at the JA headquarters. To Adair's satisfaction, the enterprise had realized more than \$512,000 in profits; thus the partners opted to extend the contract for another five-year period. In 1883 Goodnight fenced the Quitaque properties and added the Tule Ranch in Swisher County, which he fenced in 1884-85, to the JA

properties. He also made other purchases from Gunter and Munson, the railroads, and the state that increased the ranch's size to 1,325,000 acres in parts of Randall, Armstrong, Donley, Hall, Briscoe, and Swisher counties.

After John Adair's death in 1885, following his third visit to the JA, his widow continued the partnership with Goodnight. By 1887, however, with the building of the Fort Worth and Denver City Railway, falling beef prices, the influx of settlers, and attempts by politicians to curb large-scale ranching, the colonel was ready to sell out and limit his ranching activities; thus their partnership was terminated on the expiration of the contract. Nevertheless, Goodnight, who acquired the Quitaque Ranch in the division of property, continued to act as manager until 1888, when he was succeeded by John C. Farrington, who served in that position for three years. James W. (Jack) Ritchie, Mrs. Adair's son by her first marriage, served briefly as foreman of the ranch's steer division in Tule Canyon before returning to New York City to handle the purchase of JA horses for the New York police department. Arthur Tisdale managed the JA in 1891 and was succeeded the following year by Richard Walsh, an Irish immigrant who had been with the ranch since 1885. Under his leadership, improvements continued to be made through crossbreeding with blooded Hereford and Angus stock in the JA herd, which had increased to 101,023 head by 1889. Walsh soon built up one of the finest-quality herds of cattle in the nation.

NOTE: The picture has been drawn from the Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum, Canyon, Texas. The PART 2-3 text has been drawn from the "JA Ranch" article written by H. Allen Anderson and published in the Handbook of Texas Online. The reader may wish to visit a website featuring an expanded and illustrated history of The JA Ranch at <http://www.ranches.org>. This story of The JA Ranch is illustrated in a series of three (3) Story Bookmarks in support of the educational objectives of "The Founding and Founders of The Official State Bison Herd of Texas Project", a STEMS (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics and Service) Project initiative of The Texas Bison Student Study Group sponsored by The STAR DAY Foundation. The Project initiative also includes honoring and remembering the life and achievements of the men and women that pioneered and led the founding of The JA Ranch. John George Adair (1823-1885), a founder of The JA Ranch, shall be formally inducted during "THE SPIRIT OF STAR DAY 2015 CELEBRATION" conducted on STAR DAY, Thursday, February 19, 2015, beginning at 12 noon in the Texas State Capitol Rotunda to celebrate the 169th birthday of the great State of Texas.

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“THE JA RANCH”

Harold Bugbee (1900-1963)

PART 3-3-As the railroads brought in more settlers, the JA began leasing and selling much of its excess pasture. When several nesters located on school lands within the JA boundaries, Walsh shrewdly purchased their claims or traded land outside the range for their holdings within, thus consolidating the JA properties. In 1891 a school was opened for the children of ranch employees and neighboring settlers, in the Palo Duro community near the ranch headquarters. Over the years the ranch was gradually reduced in size as longtime employees like George Doshier, Wint Bairfield, Mitch Bell, and Jim Christian began their own operations on former JA lands. In 1917 Edward D. Harrell purchased the acreage where the old Home Ranch was located, and the Mulberry Ranch, named for the creek that drains it, was formed out of the JA's Mulberry Division.

After Walsh resigned as a manager in 1910, John S. Summerfield served for a year in that capacity and then was succeeded by James W. Wadsworth, Jr., a nephew of Cornelia Adair. Wadsworth held that position until 1915, when he was elected to the United States Senate from his home state of New York. At that time, Timothy D. Hobart of Pampa was named to succeed him; he and Henry C. Coke, a Dallas attorney, were named executors of Cornelia Adair's estate after her death in December 1921. In her will she left the bulk of the JA properties to her son, Jack Ritchie, and his heirs. Clinton Henry came as the ranch bookkeeper in 1924 and assisted Hobart in the management. In 1935, after Hobart and Coke died, Montgomery H. W. (Monte) Ritchie took over as manager. J. W. Kent retired in 1940, after having worked for a record number of years (since 1883) for the JA. Not until 1948 was the Adair estate, with its accompanying debts and inheritances, entirely settled. By 1945 the JA's operations were confined to 335,000 acres in Armstrong, Briscoe, Donley, and Hall counties. Subsequently, a tract of 130,000 acres was divided into eight leaseholds to decrease labor

and costs further. Watered by the Prairie Dog Town Fork and its tributaries plus several hundred natural lakes, dirt tanks, and fifty-eight wells, the ranch had twelve winter branch camps and five farms that raised feed for the livestock. The winter range in Palo Duro Canyon afforded maximum protection, and the summer range was singularly free from land waste. Nearly two-thirds of the extant JA properties was rolling pastureland; even the land north and west of the headquarters was relatively flat. As of 1990 the ranch was substantially fenced and cross-fenced and noted for its purebred Herefords and Angus bulls. Quarter horses were raised primarily for ranch use, and a small buffalo herd was maintained; some commercial hunting of buffalo and deer was allowed. Tillable land continued to be leased. The Ritchie family also owned ranchland at Larkspur, Colorado, near Colorado Springs.

In 1988 the JA headquarters comprised several ranch outbuildings, including a supply store and garage, and was dominated by the "Big House," whose grounds were well manicured. A herd of longhorns, courtesy of the JA, roamed in Palo Duro Canyon State Scenic Park. In 1960 the house was designated a national historic landmark. Two of the JA's historic buildings, the old milk house and an oat bin, were given by Monte Ritchie to the Ranching Heritage Center at Lubbock in 1971 and 1988, respectively.

NOTE: The oil-on-canvas painting by Harold Bugbee (1900-1963) features a chuck wagon, an invention credited to Goodnight to keep his drovers fed during the cattle drives. The painting is owned by Dr. Gianfranco Spellman, of Austin and has been on display at the Bullock Museum in Austin. The Charles Goodnight "Chuck Wagon" has been designated by the Texas State Legislatures as the "Official Vehicle of Texas." The PART 3-3 text has been drawn from the "JA Ranch" article written by H. Allen Anderson and published in the Handbook of Texas Online. The reader may wish to visit a website featuring an expanded and illustrated history of The JA Ranch at <http://www.ranches.org>. This story of The JA Ranch is illustrated in a series of three (3) Story Bookmarks in support of the educational objectives of "The Founding and Founders of The Official State Bison Herd of Texas Project", a STEMS (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics and Service) Project initiative of The Texas Bison Student Study Group. The Project initiative also includes honoring and remembering the life and achievements of the men and women that pioneered and led the founding of The JA Ranch. This three-part Story Bookmark Series featuring the history of The JA Ranch published by The STAR DAY Foundation was proposed by The Texas Bison Student Study Group.

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**CORNELIA WADSWORTH RITCHIE ADAIR
(1837-1921)**

Cornelia Wadsworth Adair, diarist and rancher, the second of the six children of Gen. James Samuel and Mary Craig (Wharton) Wadsworth, was born on April 6, 1837, in Philadelphia. She spent her early years at Hartford House, her father's country estate near Geneseo, New York. In 1855 the family left for a two-year sojourn in France and England. Soon after their return in 1857 Cornelia married Montgomery Ritchie, a grandson of Harrison Otis of Boston. Two sons were born to them. Her father and her husband died in 1864. The widowed Cornelia took her two small sons to Paris, where the older son died a few years later.

In 1867, while attending a ball in New York City given in honor of Congressman J. C. Hughes, Cornelia Ritchie met broker John G. Adair of Ireland. They were married in 1869 and afterward divided their time between America and their estates in England and Ireland. In the fall of 1874 they left Ireland to see the American West and to experience a buffalo hunt along the South Platte River in Nebraska and northeastern Colorado. Her brother had served as an aide to Philip H. Sheridan, and Cornelia Adair probably used the general's influence to obtain a military escort under Col. Richard Irving Dodge to accompany the party, which departed from Sydney Barracks in Nebraska Territory. She kept a detailed diary of the two-month journey, which included attending a council of cavalry officers and Oglala Sioux, near the South Platte. In 1918 she had it published.

In the summer of 1877, when her husband and Charles Goodnight formed a partnership to found the JA Ranch, Cornelia accompanied the party from Pueblo, Colorado, to the new ranch headquarters

Goodnight had established in Armstrong County, Texas. Because the Adairs lived at the ranch only sporadically, Goodnight became its manager and, under orders from Cornelia Adair, paid high salaries for experienced, law-abiding ranchhands.

After Adair died in 1885, Cornelia became Goodnight's partner. In 1887 she traded a second ranch for his one-third interest in the JA, a share that comprised 336,000 acres, 48,000 cattle, assorted mules, horses, and equipment, and rights to the JA brand. Although she was a naturalized British subject and spent most of her time in Ireland, Cornelia Adair also maintained a home in Clarendon and contributed generously to various civic projects in the vicinity of the JA Ranch, which by 1917 covered half a million acres. She provided funds to build the Adair Hospital and the first YMCA building in Clarendon and strongly supported that community's Episcopal church. She also vigorously promoted the Boy Scout movement since she knew Lord Baden-Powell and many other of its British organizers. She died on September 22, 1921, and was buried next to her husband in Ireland. In 1984 the Adairs' Glenveagh Castle, which sheltered Belgian refugees during World War I, became an Irish national park.

NOTE: The educational use of the photograph has been granted by The JA Ranch of Amarillo. The text has been republished from the "Cornelia Wadsworth Adair (1837-1921)" article published in the Handbook of Texas Online authored by Nancy Baker Jones. Cornelia Wadsworth Ritchie Adair (1837-1921) was nominated for induction into The First PALS of Texas Hall of Honor by The Texas Bison Student Study Group organized by The STAR DAY Foundation on September 12, 2010, "The Mary Ann (Molly) Goodnight Day" in Texas, to explore and discover the history and science of the Texas Plains Bison, the conservation, preservation and restoration work of the Official State Bison Herd of Texas management team at Caprock Canyons State Park near Quitaque, Briscoe County Texas, the founding and founders of Caprock Canyons State Park and the Official State Bison Herd of Texas at the Park and to pioneer and lead efforts to raise funds to support the goal and activities of "The Official State Bison Herd of Texas Fund" formally launched in Quitaque on September 12, 2013 by The STAR DAY Foundation with the "first dollar" donated by Caprock Canyons State Park Superintendent Donald Beard. Cornelia Wadsworth Ritchie Adair (1837-1921) shall be formally inducted during "THE SPIRIT OF STAR DAY 2015 CELEBRATION" conducted on STAR DAY, Thursday, February 19, 2015, beginning at 12 noon in the Texas State Capitol Rotunda to celebrate the 169th birthday of the great State of Texas.

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STORY BOOKMARK 14

CORNELIA WADSWORTH RITCHIE ADAIR (1837-1921)-A JA RANCH FOUNDER

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**JOHN GEORGE ADAIR
(1823-1885)**

John George Adair, Panhandle cattleman, was an English aristocrat of Scots-Irish descent who owned vast estates in England and Ireland. He was educated and trained for the diplomatic service but entered the world of finance instead. In 1866 he made his first visit to the United States and established a brokerage firm in New York City for the purpose of placing British loans in America at higher interest rates than those in Britain. The following year, at a ball given in honor of Congressman J. C. Hughes, he met Mrs. Cornelia Wadsworth Ritchie, whom he married in 1869.

Over the next several years the couple divided their time between Ireland and America. In the fall of 1874 they went on a buffalo hunt along the South Platte River in Nebraska and northeastern Colorado, accompanied by a military escort from Sydney Barracks under Col. Richard Irving Dodge. Adair killed no buffalo but accidentally shot his horse and almost killed himself. Nevertheless, he liked the opportunities the West had to offer and in 1875 moved his brokerage business to Denver, Colorado. The firm made a loan to Charles Goodnight in March 1876, and Adair sought him out when he decided to enter the cattle business. They entered into a partnership on June 18, 1877, in which Adair furnished the money and Goodnight the herd for the JA Ranch in Palo Duro Canyon. The Adairs accompanied the Goodnight party from Pueblo, Colorado, to the ranch headquarters in Armstrong County and stayed just long enough to inspect the range, help tally the cattle, and hunt game before departing for their estate near Rathdair. Adair's

conventional, and sometimes arrogant, British mannerisms were received poorly by the cowboys; even Goodnight later admitted that his partner's overbearing attitude was irritating. However, when the original agreement expired in 1882, the ranch showed a profit of \$512,000, and the owners renewed the partnership for five more years.

In the spring of 1885 Adair made his third and final trip to the JA, accompanied by his personal valet. He died on his return trip at St. Louis, on May 14, 1885. His body was shipped to Rathdair for burial on his estate. His wife maintained the partnership with Goodnight until 1887 and her family still owns the JA today.

NOTE: The educational use of the portrait photograph has been granted by The JA Ranch of Amarillo. The text has been adapted from the "John George Adair (?-1885)" article published in the Handbook of Texas Online authored by H. Allen Anderson. The STAR DAY Foundation is pioneering and leading a project initiative proposed by The Texas Bison Student Study Group called "The Founding and Founders of The Official State Bison Herd of Texas Project." The herd is located in Caprock Canyons State Park near Quitaque, Briscoe County, Texas. The herd was donated to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department by The JA Ranch in 1996, the oldest privately held ranch in Panhandle founded in 1876. The Project shall tell the story of The JA Ranch and its founders John George Adair (1823-1885), Cornelia Wadsworth Ritchie Adair (1837-1921) and Charles Goodnight (1836-1929). John George Adair (1823-1885) was nominated for induction into The First PALS of Texas Hall of Honor by The Texas Bison Student Study Group organized by The STAR DAY Foundation on September 12, 2010, "The Mary Ann (Molly) Goodnight Day" in Texas, to explore and discover the history and science of the Texas Plains Bison, the conservation, preservation and restoration work of the Official State Bison Herd of Texas management team at Caprock Canyons State Park near Quitaque, Briscoe County Texas, the founding and founders of Caprock Canyons State Park and the Official State Bison Herd of Texas at the Park and to pioneer and lead efforts to raise funds to support the goal and activities of "The Official State Bison Herd of Texas Fund" formally launched in Quitaque on September 12, 2013 by The STAR DAY Foundation with the "first dollar" donated by Caprock Canyons State Park Superintendent Donald Beard. John George Adair (1823-1885) shall be formally inducted during "THE SPIRIT OF STAR DAY 2015 CELEBRATION" conducted on STAR DAY, Thursday, February 19, 2015, beginning at 12 noon in the Texas State Capitol Rotunda to celebrate the 169th birthday of the great State of Texas.

THE STAR DAY FOUNDATION

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STORY BOOKMARK 15

JOHN GEORGE ADAIR (1823-1885)-A JA RANCH FOUNDER

THE STAR DAY FOUNDATION



Caprock Canyons State Park Home of the "Official State Bison Herd of Texas"

The State of Texas has customarily recognized a variety of official symbols as tangible representations of the state's historical and cultural heritage; figuring prominently in that distinctive list are animals that played a central role in the rich Western heritage of Texas, including the longhorn and the American quarter horse.

Another deserving candidate for recognition is the bison, popularly known as the buffalo; after arriving in North America some 25,000 years ago, the bison adapted particularly well to the environment of the Great Plains; by the 1700s, as many as 60 million buffalo were living on the continent, and the lands that were to become Texas were among the areas roamed by the vast herds.

The animals were central to the livelihood of the Native Americans of the Great Plains, providing not only their main diet but also materials for shelter, clothing, and many other staples; the ample supply of bison and the hunting culture of the Plains tribes were not to last, however; with the completion of the transcontinental railroad in 1869, it became possible to profitably ship bison hides and meat to eastern markets by rail, and in the next 15 years, buffalo hunters almost completely exterminated the herds; by 1885, fewer than 1,000 animals remained.

Fortunately, some Texans had the foresight to try and save this noble creature; Mary Ann "Molly" Goodnight, the wife of legendary Texas rancher Charles Goodnight, was so distressed by the rapid disappearance of the bison that she convinced her husband to begin capturing and protecting bison calves from the small number of wild animals that remained on the Southern Plains; he began to round up young bison in the 1870s in the northern Texas Panhandle, and the herd at Goodnight's JA Ranch eventually grew to about 250 head by the time Mr. Goodnight passed away in 1929.

The Goodnight bison herd became one of the five foundation herds in the United States from which the majority of surviving buffalo have developed; a number of animals directly descended from the Goodnight stock were donated to the Texas

Parks and Wildlife Department in 1996, and a subset of that group was determined to be a pure strain that had not been crossbred with bison from other areas; given a home at Caprock Canyons State Park, those buffalo and their offspring are today known as the Texas State Bison Herd and are notable for their strong genetic link to the original Southern Plains buffalo and because they continue to live in the area where their ancestors were first caught.

NOTE: The photograph (#18-154) of the archives of The STAR DAY Foundation was captured in May 2013 at Caprock Canyons State Park near Quitaque, Briscoe County, Texas by Dan Baeza, a student intern of The STAR Day Foundation. The text above is the text of House Concurrent Resolution (HCR 86) filed on March 7, 2011. The bill designates the "Texas State Bison Herd" at Caprock Canyons State Park as the "Official State Bison Herd of Texas." State Representative Pete Gallego was the initial author of HCR 86. State Representative Warren Chisum at the request of Rep. Gallego volunteered to be the primary author of HCR 86. State Representative Jim Landtroop and State Representative Pete Gallego volunteered to be joint authors of HCR 86. HCR 86 was sponsored by State Senator Robert Duncan. The Texas Bison Student Study Group (The Group) was organized on September 12, 2010, the birthday of Molly Goodnight (1839-1926), at Presidio ISD Lucy Rede Franco Middle School (LRFMS) as an after-school expanded learning opportunities student enrichment program under the supervision of School Principal Teresa Porras and sponsored by The STAR DAY Foundation. The primary objectives of The Group are to provide students with the opportunity to explore and discover The Official State Bison Herd of Texas, the origin of the Texas Plains Bison and the Native American people who hunted the bison; to honor and remember the life and achievements of Molly and Charles Goodnight as the first Texas bison ranch family; to plan, develop and conduct school history and science field trips to partnering Texas Plains bison ranches and Caprock Canyons State Park; to study and evaluate school lunch menu applications of Texas bison ground meat in partnership with student families and school cafeteria staff; to seek ways and means to help raise needed funds to support the conservation, preservation and restoration work of the Official State Bison Herd of Texas management team as a service achievement of merit "SPIRIT OF STAR DAY" birthday gift to the great State of Texas so as to enhance the story of Texas for the people of Texas. Governor Rick Perry, a 1999 STAR DAY Founder, issued a Commendation Letter to honor, recognize LRFMS teachers and students for their service achievement of merit in proposing HCR 86.

THE STAR DAY FOUNDATION

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THE SEAL OF THE OFFICIAL STATE BISON HERD OF TEXAS FUND

Every Texan knows that these are difficult economic times for Texas families, businesses, and all levels of state government. The State of Texas had to recently pioneer and lead a special effort to balance its budget with the result that state agencies and their programs had to consolidate and in some cases eliminate or greatly reduce support for important programs. The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department budget was reduced with the result that park programs and other sites had to maintain services with less funding.

The Caprock Canyons State Park located in Briscoe County is home to the Goodnight Texas Plains Bison Herd, a State of Texas Treasure! Mary Ann (Molly) Goodnight (1839-1826) with the help of her husband, Charles Goodnight (1836-1929), saved a small herd of Texas Plains' bison now known as "The Official State Bison Herd of Texas." Numbering less than 80 bison today, the herd represents the very last genetically pure Texas Plains bison in the world!

The STAR DAY Foundation has pioneered and led an effort to organize and maintain "THE TEXAS BISON STUDENT STUDY GROUP (The Group)" in 2010 composed of volunteer adults and students at partnering Texas Junior High and Middle schools to provide an opportunity for students to explore and discover the story of "The Official State Bison Herd of Texas" and with the help of their parents and others raise donations each year as a STAR DAY birthday gift for the state to support the conservation, preservation and restoration work of the Official State Bison Herd of Texas management team under the supervision of the Caprock Canyons State Park Superintendent to help "SAVE THE OFFICIAL STATE BISON HERD OF TEXAS---A STATE OF TEXAS TREASURE!" for the young people of Texas forever. The Motto of The Group is-"WORK HARD, HAVE FUN AND MAKE HISTORY!"

The STAR DAY Foundation proposed in 2012 "THE SPIRIT OF STAR DAY FUND" with the primary goal of raising \$183 million over the next sixteen (16) years as a collective and collaborative donation fundraising effort which includes the establishment of a \$100 million permanent endowment fund ("THE OFFICIAL STATE BISON HERD OF TEXAS FUND") whose annual interest shall be presented as a STAR DAY Foundation grant on September 12th on Mary Ann (Molly) Goodnight Day to the Park Superintendent to support the conservation, preservation and restoration work of the Official State Bison Herd of Texas management team at Caprock Canyons State Park; the establishment of an \$53 million fund ("THE JUNIOR PALS OF TEXAS STUDENT STUDY GROUP FUND") to support the after-school student enrichment programs sponsored by The STAR DAY Foundation in partnership with Texas schools; and a \$30 million fund ("THE FORT GOODNIGHT TEXAS FUND") to support the creation and maintenance of THE FORT GOODNIGHT TEXAS website site to establish and maintain a network to promote communication and data sharing among volunteers at participating Texas schools organizing and maintaining one or more Student Study Groups.

THE TEXAS BISON STUDENT STUDY GROUP has pioneered and led three (3) legislative initiatives to enhance the story of Texas for the people of Texas by the students of Texas. THE OFFICIAL STATE BISON HERD OF TEXAS initiative (HCR 86-86th), The MARY ANN (MOLLY) GOODNIGHT DAY initiative (SCR 10-83rd) and THE CHARLES GOODNIGHT DAY initiative (HCR 51-83rd) were all signed into law by Governor Rick Perry, a 1999 STAR DAY Founder.

I invite each reader to pioneer and lead with us to help "SAVE THE OFFICIAL STATE BISON HERD OF TEXAS-A STATE OF TEXAS TREASURE!" for the young people of Texas by saving and making a donation in the amount of your "AGE IN DOLLARS (AID)" each year as a service achievement merit STAR DAY birthday gift for the State of Texas. THE OFFICIAL STATE BISON HERD OF TEXAS FUND shall be launched on September 12, 2013 and featured in a special issue of HorseBack Magazine.

NOTE: The Seal of "The Official State Bison Herd of Texas Fund" was illustrated by Thomas S. Cleveland, a well known United States Mint coin designer/illustrator. Cleveland is owner of "The Artist Within School" in Cypress, Texas. He is the designer/illustrator of The Fund's Donation Coin Premium Series.

THE STAR DAY FOUNDATION

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THE STAR DAY FOUNDATION



"BISONSTAR"

The Texas Bison Student Study Group (The Group) was initially organized by The STAR DAY Foundation at Lucy Rede Franco Middle School in the Presidio ISD under the supervision of School Principal Teresa Porras with the volunteer support of school teachers, staff and community members on September 12, 2010, the anniversary of the birthday of Mary Ann (Molly) Goodnight (1839-1926), known as "The Woman Who Saved the Texas Plains Bison." The primary objectives of The Group are: to provide students with the opportunity to explore and discover the origin of the Texas Plains Bison and the native Americans who hunted them; to understand and appreciate the conservation, preservation and restoration efforts being pioneered and led by the Official State Bison Herd of Texas management team at Caprock Canyons State Park near Quitaque, Briscoe County, Texas dedicated to saving the Goodnight Bison Herd from extinction; to honor and remember the life and achievements of Molly and Charles Goodnight as the first Texas bison ranch family; to plan, develop and conduct school history and science field trips to partnering Texas bison ranches; and to study and evaluate school lunch menu applications of Texas bison ground meat in partnership with student families and school cafeteria staff. The Group shall also seek ways and means to help raise needed funds to support the conservation, preservation and restoration work of the Official State Bison Herd of Texas management team as a service achievement of merit to enhance the story of Texas for the people of Texas. The primary activities of The Group have included pioneering and leading successful legislative efforts to designate the Texas State Bison Herd at Caprock Canyons State Park as "The Official State Bison Herd of Texas", to designate the 12th of September as "The Mary Ann (Molly) Goodnight Day" in Texas and the 5th of March as "The Charles Goodnight Day" in Texas in partnership with the Texas State Legislature. Governor Rick Perry, a 1999 STAR DAY Founder, issued Commendation Letters to honor, recognize The Group for their proposed legislative service achievements of merit. On September 12, 2013, The Group formally launched "The Official State Bison Herd of Texas Fund" to plan, develop and conduct activities over the next fifteen (15) years to raise \$100 million dollars as an endowment fund managed

by The STAR DAY Foundation in partnership with a leading Texas bank whose annual interest shall support a Texas conservation, preservation and restoration grant presented to the Caprock Canyons State Park Superintendent to support the work of the Official State Bison Herd of Texas management team to help conserve, preserve and restore "The Official State Bison Herd of Texas-a State of Texas Treasure" for the people of Texas and friends of Texas worldwide. Caprock Canyons State Park Ranger and eAdvisor of The Group Le'Ann Pigg proposed a male bison born during May 2013 to be designated by The Group as an "Official Mascot" of The Group. The Group named this new born calf "BisonStar." The Group proposed a "Partnership in Education" initiative to Governor Rick Perry to seek his authorization to use the "Official Seal" of the State of Texas as one side of a "Texas Silver BisonStar" donation coin series to be offered to the public to help raise funds. The "first" donation coins with supporting commemorative story bookmarks shall be offered to the general public as a "MY BISONSTAR" Donation Premium Package on September 12, 2014, the 175th anniversary of Molly's birthday as a thank-you gift for saving and making a donation to support the goal and activities of The Fund. The STAR DAY Foundation organized The Texas BisonStar Mint (TBM) Corporation as a for-profit Texas corporation to research, plan, develop, manufacture and package and distribute approved "Donation Premium Packages" as thank-you gifts to donors of The STAR DAY Foundation who seek to volunteer and enlist in the international effort to support the goal and activities of The Fund. The "first" Donation Premium Package shall be called "MY BISONSTAR." The "MY BISONSTAR" Donation Premium Package shall contain a "MY BISONSTAR" silver donation coin of 1 gram weight featuring .999 fine silver contents and be 15mm in diameter. It is true that "MY BISONSTAR" is of small weight and size but so is a new born Texas Plains Bison calf! The STAR DAY Foundation shall invite parents, grandparents, and other relatives of school-age children to save and make a donation to acquire a "MY BISONSTAR" Donation Premium Package for each of their school-age children as a gift to challenge and encourage their school-age children to also volunteer and enlist in the effort to collect and save "Texas Silver BisonStars" to organize and manage their own "Texas BisonStar Spirit Herd" on their "Family Frontier Homestead Spirit Ranch" at Fort Goodnight Texas on the frontier of the future of the great State of Texas as a service achievement of merit STAR DAY birthday gift for the State of Texas each year following in the foot steps of Mary Ann (Molly) Goodnight (1839-1926) when she saved Texas Plains calves from extinction.

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STORY BOOKMARK 18

THE OFFICIAL MASCOT OF THE TEXAS BISON STUDENT STUDY GROUP

THE STAR DAY FOUNDATION



THE GREAT TEXAS "BISONSTAR" CONSTELLATION AND SKY VALLEY

The STAR DAY Foundation of El Paso, Texas is pioneering and leading a Texas Conservation, Preservation and Restoration STEMS (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics and Service) project to inspire and motivate students with the support of their parents, grandparents and other relatives to explore and discover the exciting history and science of "The Great Texas Southern Plains Bison Herd" whose ancestors may have been the ancient bison of China who migrated across the Bering Land Bridge to modern Alaska and Canada nearly 100,000 years ago then down to the upper states and finally arriving in the Texas Panhandle Plains approximately 25,000 years ago. From time to time its fun to add a bit of legend to help students visualize history and science as the ancient people did all over the world to tell their stories by creating land monuments geometrically linked to classical constellations in the night sky.

The Texas Bison Student Study Group (The Group) sponsored by The STAR DAY Foundation was organized on September 12, 2010 in partnership with Presidio ISD Lucy Rede Franco Middle School under the supervision of School Principal Teresa Porras with the volunteer support of science teachers, parents and students as an after-school student enrichment program. The Group pioneered and led a Texas legislative initiative in 2011 that successfully designated the Goodnight Bison Herd (The Herd) at Caprock Canyons State Park as "The Official State Bison Herd of Texas." Governor Rick Perry, a 1999 STAR DAY Founder, issued a "Commendation Letter" to honor and recognize the students, teachers and advisors of The Group for their legislative service achievement of merit in enhancing the story of Texas.

Mary Ann (Molly) Goodnight (1839-1926) with the help of her husband Charles Goodnight (1836-1929) helped save the last free-roaming Texas Plains Bison calves from extermination and extinction in the late 1800's. The surviving 80 descendants today (2013) of Goodnight Texas Plains Bison Herd are now maintained by the Official State Bison Herd of Texas management team of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department at Caprock Canyons State Park in Briscoe County, Texas under the supervision of the Park Superintendent Donald Beard. Mary Ann (Molly) Goodnight (1839-1926) is known as 'The Woman Who Saved The Texas

Plains Bison." Her birthday on September 12th has been designated by the Texas State Legislature in 2013 as proposed by The Group as 'The Mary Ann (Molly) Goodnight Day' to honor and remember her life and achievements.

The Group designated a bison calf born in May 2013 at Caprock Canyons State Park as "BisonStar" with the guidance of Caprock Canyons State Park Interpretative Ranger Le'Ann Pigg who has volunteered to serve as the eAdvisor for The Group. The Group proposed the project sponsored by The STAR DAY Foundation to pioneer and lead an effort to create a legend based in history and science about the Texas Plains Bison in partnership The Marian Blakemore Planetarium in Midland, Texas under the direction of Planetarium Director Dr. Andrew Kerr and in partnership with members of the West Texas Astronomy Club. "The Great Texas BisonStar Constellation (The Sky Constellation) and Sky Valley (The Sky Valley) Project"

The Constellation created is composed of 254 stars, one for each Texas County. The Constellation is illustrated by 38 generally visible framework stars in the southern sky rising in September each year. The 38 framework stars form 39 constellation segments as depicted in the diagram. The Constellation represents a Texas Southern Plains Bison named "BisonStar" roaming free across the night sky forever. Each star trailing "BisonStar" represents the historical spirit of each Texas Plains Bison that once roamed free on the land that is now known as the State of Texas today over thousands and thousands of years. Each "Spirit Bison" is a member of "The Great Texas BisonStar Spirit Herd." Just to the immediate east of The Constellation a patch of sky has been designated by The Group as "The Mary Ann (Molly) Goodnight Sky Valley (The Sky Valley)" and is shaped as a sky rectangle (asterism) with an aspect (run to rise) ratio of 1.5 as is the flag of the State of Texas and defined as a "Texas Flag of Sky." The Sky Valley is home to The Great Texas "BisonStar" Spirit Herd.

The Sky Valley is further subdivided into a matrix of 7,920 by 7,920 Texas Flags of Sky. The "Lone Star" of each Texas Flag of Sky in The Sky Valle represents the "Spirit" of one Texas Plains Bison calf of the past. It is hypothesized by The Group that each Texas Flag of Sky in The Sky Valley has at least one real observable star.

When a student volunteers and enlists in the effort to help save and make donations with the help of their parents and other relatives to support The Project, the student shall receive "Texas Silver Bison" donation coins to establish and maintain a Texas "BisonStar" Spirit Herd on their Family Frontier Homestead "BisonStar" Spirit Ranch at Camp Goodnight Texas as a service achievement of merit STAR DAY birthday gift for Texas!

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STORY BOOKMARK 19

THE GREAT BISONSTAR CONSTELATION AND SKY VALLEY



EXPEDITION TO THE SHAFTER SILVER MINE-OCTOBER 23, 2010

The State of Texas has customarily recognized a variety of official symbols as tangible representations of the state's culture and history.

The precious metal silver has played a prominent role in the story of the Lone Star State, and it continues to be a visible part of Texas culture, reflecting the enduring influence of Spanish colonial design and the western heritage that is so much a part of the state's lore.

Silver has been mined in Texas for more than three centuries, beginning shortly after the Spanish established their first permanent settlements in the area in the late 1600s; the first mines were founded by Franciscan friars who dug for silver deposits near El Paso, and these same sites were worked periodically for the next 200 years.

In the late 1800s, prospectors began exploring other parts of West Texas, with figures such as John W. Spencer, Samuel B. Buckley, Lieutenant John L. Bullis, and Colonel William R. Shafter focusing their efforts on Presidio County; this led to the opening of the Shafter Mining District, which was the site of the famous Presidio Mine; operated between 1884 and 1947, it produced more than 90 percent of all the silver that has ever been mined in Texas and became a prominent business that spurred greater development in the Big Bend region.

Other mining districts in the state also yielded silver; Hudspeth and Culberson Counties were home to the Van Horn-Allamoore and the Plata Verde Districts, and Hudspeth County also contained the Quitman Mountains District; in addition, Brewster County was the site of the Altuda Mountain District, and mining took place at locations in Llano, Mason, and Gillespie Counties in the Hill Country; in total, Texas mines yielded more than 33 million fine ounces of silver, which had a value of nearly \$23.5 million, between 1885 and 1952; the manual labor of carving these riches from the rocks fell to a hardy group of miners who, in true Texan fashion, used their skill and determination to complete a difficult and dangerous job.

Most mining came to an end in the 1950s, but interest in harvesting the state's silver deposits continues; 20 million troy ounces of the metal are believed to still remain in the Shafter Mining District, and resources of this kind may prove

profitable given silver's widespread use in commercial and industrial applications, where it plays a role in everything from photography to coin making, x-rays, water treatment, and electronics.

Jewelry makers and other artisans also rely on this precious metal, and the stately sheen of silver is a key element in beautiful stylistic designs, both rustic and refined, that can be seen throughout Texas; in belt buckles, tie clasps, and boot decorations, it is a staple of the western-wear fashions that harken back to the state's pioneer past; moreover, silver's rich, pure luster also makes it a favorite material for religious jewelry and other devotional objects, as well as any item or decoration that may benefit from its luxurious, glittering hues.

In both its historical and economic significance and its enduring connections to Texas imagery and culture, silver is a fitting symbol for the state and its people, and it is indeed appropriate that this metal receive special legislative recognition.

NOTE: The above text is the text of House Concurrent Resolution 102 signed into law on June 15, 2007 by Governor Rick Perry, a 1999 STAR DAY Founder. "The Texas Silver Student Study Group (The Group)" was organized on October 16, 2006, the birthday of General William Rufus Shafter (1835-1906), at Presidio ISD Lucy Rede Franco Middle School (LRFMS) as an after-school student enrichment program under the supervision of School Principal Teresa Porras and guided by volunteer teachers and others with the sponsorship of The STAR DAY Foundation. The Group proposed a bill in 2007 to designate "Silver" as "The Official State Precious Metal of Texas" as a service achievement of merit "SPIRIT OF STAR DAY 2007" birthday gift for the State of Texas. State Representative Pete P. Gallego volunteered to be the author of House Concurrent Resolution (HCR) 102. State Senator Carlos Uresti volunteered to be the sponsor of HCR 102. The Group planned, developed and conducted an "Expedition to the Shafter Silver Mine" in Presidio County on October 23, 2010 in partnership with The STAR DAY Foundation and sponsored by the Aurcana Corporation of Canada, owner of the Shafter Silver Mine to explore and discover the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics principles of silver mining with mine engineers and staff. The Group has proposed "THE TEXAS SILVER WORKS CAMPAIGN!" to pioneer and lead an effort to explore and discover ways and means to create silver donation coins whose donation proceeds may be used to fund Texas conservation, preservation and restoration initiatives. Governor Rick Perry, a 1999 STAR DAY Founder, issued a Commendation Letter to honor, recognize LRFMS teachers and students for their service achievement of merit in proposing HCR 102.

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A TEXAS SILVER BISONSTAR DONATION COIN-OBVERSE SIDE

The STAR DAY Foundation has organized The Texas BisonStar Mint Corporation to plan, develop and manufacture "Donation Premiums Packages" as thank-you gifts for persons making donations to The STAR DAY Foundation in support of "The Official State Bison Herd of Texas Fund." Various Donation Premium Packages shall be illustrated at "The Donation Premium Center" at the website of The STAR DAY Foundation.

A "Donation Coin Premium Package" shall be composed of a "Donation Coin" and additional educational commemorative items. A 1 Gram .999 Fine Silver Donation Coin with a diameter of 15 mm and 1mm thick shall be manufactured as the "first" Texas Silver Bison Donation Coin. A series of five (5) Texas Silver Bison Donation Coins featuring .999 Fine Silver content with 1 gram, 5 gram, 10 gram, 20 gram and 40 gram weights shall be offered at different donation giving levels. The five (5) different weights shall represent five (5) stages of growth of "BisonStar", the "Official Mascot" of The Texas Bison Student Study Group, who was born in May 2013 at Caprock Canyons State Park.

The Texas Bison Student Group (The Group) was organized as an after-school student enrichment program to provide Texas 5th-9th grade students expanded learning opportunities under the supervision of the school principal in partnership with volunteer teachers, librarians, parents and others. The initial Texas Bison Student Study Group was organized at Presidio ISD Lucy Rede Franco Middle School on September 12, 2010 under the supervision of School Principal Teresa Porras. The story of The Group's goals and activities may be explored and discovered at the website of The STAR DAY Foundation launched on September 12, 2013.

A primary goal of The Group is to pioneer and lead an long term effort to raise funds in a collective and collaborative permanent endowment savings account who annual interest shall support the conservation, preservation and restoration work of the Official State Bison Herd of Texas management team under the supervision of the Caprock Canyons State Park Superintendent. "The Official State Bison Herd of Texas Fund (The Fund)" was

THE STAR DAY FOUNDATION



A TEXAS SILVER BISONSTAR DONATION COIN-REVERSE SIDE

launched on September 12, 2013. The interest generated by The Fund each year shall support an annual grant from The STAR DAY Foundation to the Superintendent of Caprock Canyons State Park to pioneer and lead conservation, preservation and restoration initiatives to help save and enhance "The Official State Bison Herd of Texas-A State of Texas Treasure!" for the people of Texas.

The reverse side of each Texas Silver Bison Donation Coin shall feature the "Official Seal" of the State of Texas. The Texas Bison Student Study Group invited Governor Rick Perry, a 1999 STAR DAY Founder, to authorize the use of the "Official Seal" of the State of Texas to support the manufacturing of a "Texas Silver Bison Donation Coin Series" to help raise funds to support the goal and activities of "The Official State Bison Herd of Texas Fund." The Texas Department of State issued a license to use the "Official Seal" of The State of Texas to The Texas BisonStar Mint Corporation organized by The STAR DAY Foundation.

Each Texas Silver BisonStar shall represent the "Spirit" of a Texas Plains Bison that once roamed free on the land that is now the State of Texas noting that it is believed that bison first entered this land nearly 25,000 years ago. The Spirits of Texas Plains Bison now roam free across the night sky in "The Mary Ann (Molly) Goodnight Sky Valley" a Texas Flag shaped patch a sky just west behind "The Great Texas BisonStar Constellation" which rises in the month of September in the southern sky. The Constellation features 254 stars with a star representing each Texas County. The Constellation design and fantasy legend is illustrated at the website of The STAR DAY Foundation.

The STAR DAY Foundation shall invite Texans and friends of Texas worldwide to volunteer to challenge and encourage their school children to pioneer and lead an effort to explore and discover "The Official State Bison Herd" and to save and support the goals and activities of "The Official State Bison Herd of Texas Fund."

THE STAR DAY FOUNDATION

<http://www.thestardayfoundation.org>

**THE STAR DAY FOUNDATION
FIRST PIONEERS AND LEADERS
OF THE STATE OF TEXAS
HALL OF HONOR**



**WILLIAM ELMO MERREM
(1897-1982)**

Accomplished Texans who serve as positive role models for today's youth are deserving of special recognition, and one such individual is Shiner native William Elmo Merrem, the first person in the Lone Star State to become an Eagle Scout.

Born on May 22, 1897, Mr. Merrem was the son of Edgar Jacob Merrem and Willie Crane Merrem and grew up in Shiner alongside his three siblings; he joined the town's first Boy Scout troop as a charter member, and on July 3, 1913, he was awarded the Eagle Badge; not only was he the first Texan to receive the highest rank that scouting offers, he also was the first person west of the Mississippi River to do so, and he joined that elite group when there were fewer than 50 Eagle Scouts in the entire United States.

The leadership and dedication that Mr. Merrem demonstrated as a Boy Scout served him well throughout his life; a 1914 graduate of Shiner High School, he served his nation during World War I as a pilot in the United States Marine Corps; after completing studies at Southwestern University, he went on to earn his law degree at The University of Texas at Austin School of Law and embarked on a distinguished career in business; he served as vice president of the Houston Oil Company, president of the Southwestern Settlement and Development Company, and founder and vice president of the East Texas Pulp and Paper Company, and he held prominent positions in the Texas and American Forestry Associations.

Mr. Merrem and his wife, the former Mary

Elizabeth Caldwell, were longtime residents of Houston and active members of the congregation at Saint Luke's United Methodist Church; through the years, he volunteered his time to assist various civic initiatives, and he was a 32nd-degree Mason who devoted more than 50 years to the charitable work of the Shriners; after a lifetime of service and achievement, he passed away on June 29, 1982, at the age of 85.

NOTE: The photograph was contributed by Mary Elizabeth Merrem Shaw of Kerrville, Kerr County, Texas. Mrs. Shaw is the daughter of William Elmo Merrem. The text is drawn from State Concurrent Resolution (SCR) 11 (82nd Legislature) authored by State Senator Glenn Hegar and sponsored by State Representative Geanie Morrison. SCR 11 designates May 22nd each year as "THE WILLIAM ELMO MERREM DAY" in Texas. The City of Shiner and Lavaca County had previously approved similar resolutions. William Elmo Merrem (1897-1982) was nominated to be inducted into "The First Pioneers and Leaders of the State (PALS) of Texas Hall of Honor" by Brad Newton, City of Presidio, Texas Administrator, who is an Eagle Scout. William Elmo Merrem (1897-1982) has been formally inducted into The First Pioneers and Leaders of the State (PALS) of Texas Hall of Honor during "THE SPIRIT OF STAR DAY 2011 CELEBRATION" in the State Capitol Rotunda on February 18, 2011, to observe the 165th birthday of the State of Texas. The Shiner High School Band under the direction of Stephen Krupicka and Assistant Band Director Sara Brown performed a concert in the Texas State Capitol Rotunda as "THE OFFICIAL SPIRIT OF STAR DAY 2011 SCHOOL BAND." The Shiner High School Band had dedicated their concert performance in tribute to William Elmo Merrem (1897-1982), the First Texas Eagle Scout and 1914 graduate of Shiner High School. Band Director Krupicka volunteered and organized the band students as "The William Elmo Merrem Student Study Group" in partnership with The STAR DAY Foundation to explore and discover the life and achievements of William Elmo Merrem and to pioneer and lead an effort to invite the City of Shiner, Lavaca County and the State of Texas Legislature to designate May 22nd each year as "THE WILLIAM ELMO MERREM DAY" as a service achievement of merit to enhance the story of Texas for the people of Texas. The STAR DAY Foundation is a nonprofit 501(c)3 Texas corporation founded in 1999 to carry out the legislative intent of The STAR DAY bill (SB 1656 -76th State of Texas Legislative session) in partnership with Texas schools and other organizations to celebrate STAR DAY on the 19th of February each year with appropriate and patriotic programs.

THE STAR DAY FOUNDATION

<http://www.thestardayfoundation.org>

THE STAR DAY FOUNDATION



AUSTIN-FEBRUARY 19, 1846

On Thursday, February 19, 1846, two great Texas politicians met in front of the wood-planked Capitol building of the Republic of Texas in the City of Austin, Travis County to conduct one of the most important peace time flag services in the history of the United States. Dr. Anson Jones (1798-1858), the last President of the Republic of Texas, lowered the Lone Star flag of the Republic of Texas for the last official time at 12 noon and witnessed the flag of the United States being raised over the State of Texas, the 28th state of the Union, as James Pinckney Henderson (1808-1858) was sworn in as the first governor of the State of Texas to the cheers of a few thousand Austin residents and visitors.

The entry of Texas as the 28th state of the United States was a leading factor in the Republic of Mexico declaring war against the United States in 1846. Governor James Pinckney Henderson was formally invited by the first State of Texas Legislature to take a leave of absence from his duties as Governor and lead the State of Texas volunteers into battle which he did as an outstanding leader of men. Governor Henderson was formally honored by the United States Congress with commemorative sword for his feats of valor during the Mexican War.

The concept of "THE STATE OF TEXAS ANNIVERSARY REMEMBRANCE (STAR) DAY" was pioneered and led by Daniel B. Kulvicki, as a 9th grade United States History class paper at Dickinson High School in Galveston County. As part of his paper, Kulvicki invited City of Dickinson Mayor John Mitchiner to issue the first STAR DAY Proclamation on October 24, 1995 designating February 19, 1996 as STAR DAY in Dickinson.

The State of Texas was planning to celebrate the 150th anniversary of Texas statehood on February 19, 1996 as a birthday celebration with a huge cake in the shape of Texas in front of the Texas Capitol draped with a huge Texas flag. Kulvicki was invited to attend the event and participate in a gathering in the Texas Capitol hosted by Lt. Governor Bob Bullock before the birthday party event. Kulvicki brought with him copies of an "EXTRA" edition of "The North Galveston County Weekly News," his hometown newspaper. Editor Timothy Paulissen presented Kulvicki with a press credential letter designating Kulvicki as the official reporter of the newspaper to cover the birthday

party. Copies of the "EXTRA" edition were passed out to guests. In the "EXTRA" edition, Kulvicki included a copy of a broadsheet published in Austin on February 20, 1846 which told the story of the inauguration and featured the Valedictory Address presented by Dr. Anson Jones and the Inaugural Address presented by James Pinckney Henderson after being sworn in as the first governor on a wooden platform constructed by Lorenzo Vanclve (1806-1858), Kulvicki's ancestor. Vanclve is known as the first Texas furniture maker in Austin. Vanclve's oldest child, Eleanor Vanclve (1841-1900), has been recognized as the first girl of record born in the City of Austin.

Kulvicki invited State Representative Craig Eiland and State Senator Mike Jackson to pioneer and lead an effort to designate February 19th each year as STAR DAY during the 75th State legislative session convened in January 1997. The bill was introduced but failed to be passed. State Representative Craig Eiland again introduced the bill and State Senator Mike Jackson sponsored the bill during the 76th State of Texas Legislature at the request of Lt. Governor Rick Perry. The bill was signed into law by Governor George W. Bush on June 18, 1999. In order to show support for the bill, Kulvicki invited and received Memorial Resolutions from all 254 Texas County Judges, a first in Texas history in support of a legislative initiative. The support of all 254 Texas Counties for the passage of The STAR DAY Bill was pioneered and led by Galveston County Judge James D. Yarbrough and Loving County Judge Donald C. Creager.

The STAR DAY bill states that all Texas public schools and other organizations shall celebrate the birthday of the State of Texas on the 19th of February each year with appropriate and patriotic program to inspire a greater appreciation for the history of the state. During odd-years The STAR DAY Foundation pioneers and leads an effort to organize "THE SPIRIT OF STAR DAY CELEBRATION" in the Texas Capitol Rotunda featuring a school band concert, featured speakers and presentations. Since 2001, "THE SPIRIT OF STAR DAY SCHOOL ADDRESS" issued by the governor is share with Texas SCHOOLS and is read at the event by a student. The event is sponsored by Texas legislators representing the school band.

The STAR DAY Foundation was organized in 1998 and established in 1999 as a Texas nonprofit, 501(c)3 tax exempt organization with the MISSION to carry out the legislative intent of the STAR DAY Bill in partnership with all Texas public schools and the people of the Great State of Texas.

NOTE: The drawing "The Final Act" by Norman Price is from the University of Texas American History Collection at Austin.

THE STAR DAY FOUNDATION

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THE STAR DAY FOUNDATION



The Pioneers and Leaders of the State (PALS) of Texas Volunteers was organized and announced by The STAR DAY Foundation on STAR DAY, February 19, 2001 at "The Spirit of STAR DAY Celebration" conducted in the Texas State Capitol Rotunda to observe the anniversary of 155th birthday of the great State of Texas. The PALS of Texas Volunteers was organized with the primary goals to pioneer and lead the effort to plan, develop and conduct the anniversary of the birthday of the great State of Texas on STAR DAY, the 19th of February each year, in partnership with Texas schools and the people of Texas; to pioneer and lead the effort to nominate and support the induction of Texans who are noted as being "First" in a walk-of-life in Texas into "The First Pioneers and Leaders of the State of Texas Hall of Honor" established by The STAR DAY Foundation on STAR DAY, February 19, 2000; and to pioneer and lead the effort to organize and support Texas Student Study Groups sponsored by The STAR DAY Foundation in partnership with Texas schools as after-school expanded learning opportunity student enrichment programs under the supervision of school principals.

The Texas Bison Student Study Group (The Group) was first organized at Lucy Rede Franco Middle School in Presidio, Texas under the supervision of School Principal Teresa Porras on September 12, 2010, the birthday of Mary Ann (Molly) Goodnight (1839-1926), with the volunteer support of school science teachers and staff. The primary objectives of The Group are to provide students with the opportunity to explore and discover Texas ancient bison and the early people who hunted the bison in the Texas Plains over the years; to understand and appreciate the conservation, preservation and restoration work being pioneered and led by The Official State Bison Herd of Texas management team at Caprock Canyons State Park near Quitaque, Briscoe County, Texas dedicated to helping save the "Goodnight Bison Herd" for the people of Texas; to honor and remember the life and achievements of Molly and Charles Goodnight as the first Texas bison ranch family; to plan, develop and conduct school history and science field trips to partnering Texas bison ranches; and to study and evaluate school lunch menu applications of Texas bison ground meat in partnership with student families and school cafeteria staff. The Group shall also seek ways and means to help raise needed funds

to support the work of The Official State Bison Herd of Texas management team as a service achievement of merit to enhance the story of Texas for the people of Texas. Governor Rick Perry, a 1999 STAR DAY Founder, issued Commendation Letters to honor, recognize teachers and students of The Group for their service achievements of merit in proposing successful Texas legislative initiatives to designate the bison herd at Caprock Canyons State Park as "The Official State Bison Herd of Texas"; to designate September 12th on the State Calendar as "The Mary Ann (Molly) Goodnight Day" in Texas; and to designate March 5th on the State Calendar as "The Charles Goodnight Day" in Texas. Mary Ann (Molly) Goodnight has been inducted into The First PALS of Texas Hall of Honor being noted as "The Woman Who Saved the Texas Plains Bison."

The STAR DAY Foundation and The PALS of Texas Volunteers with the help of teachers and students of The Group at partnering schools launched on September 12, 2013 at an event in Quitaque hosted by The Caprock Partners Foundation, "The Official State Bison Herd of Texas Fund (The Fund)" created by The STAR DAY Foundation to pioneer and lead the effort to establish and maintain an "endowment fund" whose annual interest shall be presented to the Caprock Canyons State Park Superintended as a Texas Conservation, Preservation and Restoration Grant to support the work of The Official State Bison Herd of Texas management team to save and enhance "The Official State Bison Herd of Texas-a State of Texas Treasure!"

The Group invited Texas Governor Rick Perry, a 1999 STAR DAY Founder, to support a Partnership in Education Proposal Initiative that would authorize the use of the "Official Seal" of the great State of Texas as one side of a "Donation Coin" series that would be offered to students, Texas families and friends of Texas worldwide as a thank-you gift for making a donation to The STAR DAY Foundation to help pioneer and lead the goal and activities of "The Official State Bison Herd of Texas Fund." The Texas State Department issued a license to use the "Official Seal" to The Texas BisonStar Mint (TBM) Corporation organized by The STAR DAY Foundation to mint a series of "Donations Coins." The first donation coin is called "My BisonStar" and shall be introduced on September 12, 2014, "The Mary Ann (Molly) Goodnight Day" in Texas and the 175th anniversary of her birthday. "My BisonStar" shall weigh 1 gram and shall contain .999 pure silver with a diameter of 15mm. "My BisonStar" shall represent a newborn Texas Plains Bison "spirit" calf also of small weight and size saved by the donor that now roams free in "The Mary Ann (Molly) Goodnight Sky Valley" just east of "The Great Texas BisonStar Constellation."

THE STAR DAY FOUNDATION

<http://www.thestardayfoundation.org>

STORY BOOKMARK 24

THE PIONEERS AND LEADERS OF THE STATE (PALS) OF TEXAS VOLUNTEERS

**THE STAR DAY FOUNDATION
FIRST PIONEERS AND LEADERS
OF THE STATE OF TEXAS
HALL OF HONOR**



**THE SPIRIT OF STAR DAY 2015
CELEBRATION-FEBRUARY 19, 2015**

State of Texas First Lady Cecilia Abbott, Comanche Nation of Oklahoma Chairman Wallace Coffey and The STAR DAY Foundation President Dennis M. Kulvicki met at the Texas State Capitol Rotunda sponsored by State Senator Troy Fraser to participate in "THE SPIRIT OF STAR DAY 2015 CELEBRATION" to celebrate the 169th birthday of the State of Texas on STAR DAY, Thursday, February 19, 2015 in partnership with delegations from schools and other organizations featuring a school band and school choir presentations.

The STAR DAY Foundation dedicated the event to honor and remember the sacrifices of the American service men and women who participated in the World War II "Iwo Jima Campaign" from February 19, 1945 through March 26, 1945 and to honor and recognize the living service men and women in Texas who are survivors on the occasion of the 70th anniversary of "IWO JIMA DAY." Governor Greg Abbott at the request of partnering schools issued "THE IWO JIMA DAY PROCLAMATION" designating February 19, 2015 as "IWO JIMA DAY" in Texas. Governor Abbott also issued "THE SPIRIT OF STAR DAY 2015 School Address" dedicated to challenging and inspiring students to explore and discover the founding and founders of the State of Texas.

The event featured "THE IWO JIMA DAY" Posting of the Colors Ceremony which was performed by The Wilson County Floresville High School Air Force Junior ROTC Cadet Color Guard under the direction of Lt. Col. Steven Rakel and

SGT. Walter Cook. The Air Force Junior ROTC CADET Choir presented a patriotic music program including the song "God Bless America." The Color Guard marched the US and State Flags around the Texas State Capitol Rotunda to the Podium to the stirring march "The National Emblem March" composed by E. E. Bagley and performed by the Gillespie County Fredericksburg High School Band.

The Invocation was presented by the Comanche Nation of Oklahoma Chairman Wallace Coffey in the Comanche language. Chairman Coffey lead a delegation of tribal leaders, Comanche Nation College administrators, teachers and students to witness the induction nominated by students of the Comanche leaders who pioneered and led the signing on May 9, 1847 in Fredericksburg of "The Meusebach-Comanche Peace Treaty." Representative Doug Miller authored "The John O. Meusebach Day" and "The Meusebach-Comanche Peace Treaty Day" House Resolutions for the event.

The Wilson County Floresville High School Junior Historians Club students sponsored by Tambria Read nominated and inducted several inductees into "The First PALS of Texas Hall of Honor." The STAR DAY Foundation inducted twenty (20) Texas including First Lady Abbott who was noted as the "First Hispanic First Lady of the State of Texas."

The Gillespie County Fredericksburg High School Band and Choir also presented an outstanding STAR DAY music program. The Jefferson County Beaumont Charlton-Pollard Elementary School Choir performance was dedicated to their two (2) first Beaumont school principals who were also inducted during the event.

NOTE: The photograph was contributed by Lauren Clay of the Office of First Lady Cecilia Abbott. The event was planned, developed and conducted by The Pioneers and Leaders of the State (PALS) of Texas Volunteers sponsored by The STAR DAY Foundation. The PALS of Texas Volunteers were organized in 2000 by The STAR DAY Foundation to pioneer and lead the effort to help and assist The STAR DAY Foundation in its Mission to carryout the legislative intent of the STAR DAY bill (Senate Bill 1656-76th) in partnership with Texas schools and other organizations to celebrate the birthday of the State of Texas on February 19 each year with appropriate and patriotic programs to inspire a greater appreciation of the founding and founders of the State of Texas. The PALS of Texas Volunteers manage the activities of "The First PALS of Texas Hall of Honor and Library" established by The STAR DAY Foundation in 2000 to induct Texas men and woman who are noted for a "first" achievement and who have made service achievements of merit for the State of Texas.

THE STAR DAY FOUNDATION

<http://www.thestardayfoundation.org>

STORY BOOKMARK 25

THE SPIRIT OF STAR DAY 2015 CELEBRATION-FEBRUARY 19, 2015

**THE STAR DAY FOUNDATION
THE PIONEERS AND LEADERS
OF THE STATE OF TEXAS
VOLUNTEERS**



DENNIS MICHAEL KULVICKI

Mr. Kulvicki has been the President of The State of Texas Anniversary Remembrance (STAR) Day Foundation for the last 16 years. The STAR DAY Foundation is headquartered in El Paso. Mr. Kulvicki also acts the lead Storyteller and Story Bookmark author of The First Pioneers and Leaders of the State (PALS) of Texas Hall of Honor and Library sponsored by The STAR DAY Foundation. Mr. Kulvicki has a Masters of Arts degree earned from the University of Texas at Austin in Mathematics. He completed his undergraduate mathematics studies at Eastern New Mexico University (ENMU) in Portales, New Mexico. He has served as a faculty member of the Department of Mathematics at the College of the Mainland in Galveston County for 5 years. He had been a pioneer and lead Consultant and Workshop developer and presenter for the Society for Applied Learning Technology (SALT) Foundation of Warrenton, Virginia for 10 years. Mr. Kulvicki was a member of the Galveston County Historical Commission for 4 years and served as a member of the El Paso County Historical Commission for 3 years.

Mr. Kulvicki was born on Good Friday morning, March 22, 1940 in Hudson County, Jersey City, New Jersey at Saint Francis Hospital. He is the oldest of the 14 children of Edward and Marion Buckley Kulvicki. He attended and graduated from Sacred Heart School and Saint Peters Preparatory High School in Jersey City.

Mr. Kulvicki arrived in Texas on August 14, 1958 at Lackland Air Force Base as an Air Force volunteer. After basic training, he trained at the Missile Guidance and Electronics School at Lowry Air Force Base in Denver Colorado. His first duty assignment was with the USAF 51 A&E Squadron at Naha Air Force Base on Okinawa. After serving 18 months overseas, he was assigned as a Missile Guidance System Research and Development technician with the rank of Airman First Class at

Holloman AFB in Alamogordo, New Mexico for the remained of his four year tour of duty which ended on August 12, 1962.

After his military service, Mr. Kulvicki entered Eastern New Mexico University (ENMU) in Portales, New Mexico as a freshman in January 1963 majoring in mathematics and physics. Mr. Kulvicki founded the first Veterans Club and German Club at ENMU in partnership with faculty and students. Mr. Kulvicki also pioneered and led and effort with faculty, student and community volunteers to establish and maintain *The Blue Tree Coffee House* in Portales in 1967 to serve as an off-campus social club for students featuring music and classical movies. Mr. Kulvicki had the opportunity to work as a part-time physics laboratory assistant and taught the first freshman astronomy course at ENMU. Mr. Kulvicki built the first telescope and astro-camera at ENMU. Mr. Kulvicki is an avid Amateur Astronomer in El Paso today.

Mr. Kulvicki is a proud father of three children: Alayne D., Michael M. and Daniel B. Alayne graduated from Southwestern University in Georgetown and the University of North Texas Health Sciences Medical School in Fort Worth. Alayne is now a University Assistant Professor in Medicine and a Gerontology and Geriatrics Researcher. Michael and Daniel both graduated from Texas A&M University at College Station majoring in Computer Software Engineering and both are currently employed as software engineers.

When Daniel was a 9th grade student at Galveston County Dickinson High School, he proposed the concept of STAR DAY in his U. S. history class paper to honor and remember the life and achievements of his ancestor, Lorenzo Van Cleve (1806-1858) who was the first furniture maker in Austin in 1839 and to commemorate the birthday of the State of Texas. On February 19, 1846, James Pinckney Henderson (1808-1858), was inaugurated as the first governor of the State of Texas in Austin. Van Cleve built the platform used at the inaugural event. Lorenzo and Margaret Smith Van Cleve attended the event. Their first child has been noted as the first girl of record born in Austin in 1841.

Daniel with the help of Dickinson Mayor Mitchiner, Galveston County Judge Yarbrough, State Rep. Eiland, and State Sen. Jackson along with all 253 remaining County Judges were able to encourage the 76th State Legislature in 1999 to pass Daniel's STAR DAY bill. The STAR DAY bill states that all Texas public schools and other organizations shall celebrate the birthday of the State of Texas on the 19th of February each year with appropriate and patriotic programs to inspire a greater appreciation of the history of the state.

THE STAR DAY FOUNDATION

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STORY BOOKMARK 26

DENNIS M. KULVICKI-PRESIDENT-THE STAR DAY FOUNDATION