



Liberty Church of Christ
 Join us this Sunday for Bible Classes for all ages at 9 a.m. and stay for Worship at 10 a.m.
 We meet Sunday night at 5 p.m. and Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.
 We meet at 3201 North Main Street and have a parking space just for you.
We'd love to see you soon. We've saved you a seat!
 3201 N. Main St., Liberty • 936.336.2213 • libertycofc.org



Frankly Speaking –

Forever Lucy!

by Frank Jordan

Watching a vintage movie recently, a gorgeous blonde gal appeared in showgirl costume – a very young Lucille Ball in a very minor part! The leading comedic lady of television came into this world in 1911 in Jamestown, New York, as Lucille Desiree Ball. Lucy in 1929 became a model with modest success, including being the “Chesterfield Cigarette Girl,” while acting on Broadway under the names “Diane Belmont” and “Lucy Montana.”

She moved to California and was discovered by the Goldwyn Movie studio; making 10 movies in 1933-34 and becoming known as the “Queen of Bs,” due to the mediocre quality of the movies. Her most commercially successful movie was “Stage Door” in 1937 in which she played an aspiring actress, together with life-long friend, Ginger Rogers, and Katharine Hepburn. During this time she appeared, believe it or not, in movies with both the Marx Brothers and the Three Stooges!

After changing to RKO, she fine-tuned her talents under the tutelage of Lela Roberts, the mother of another great star, Ginger Rogers. Then came Desi Arnaz. The famous dancer, Ann Miller, introduced the two who she said, “It was like love at first sight.” Would you believe they eloped and were married at the Byram River Beagle Club, recommended as a romantic setting by the JP doing the ceremony!

After moving to MGM, she officed next to Buster Keaton, who heavily influenced her comedic style. The trademark “Lucy” red hair came when dyed for her first MGM movie. “When I chose this shade [of red] things began to break for me.” That flaming

red hair became known to millions of fans worldwide.

The “I Love Lucy” show became a reality in 1951 with Lucy, the zany wife, and Desi, a band-leader named Ricky Ricardo. Lucy was 39 when baby Luci arrived, with the show becoming a huge #1 TV hit, being the first TV show to be produced live on film. The show promoted a happy, if frantic, marriage in association with landlords – Ethel and Fred Mertz.



Did you know she was also the co-inspiration through the Desilu studio of mega-hits such as “Mission Impossible,” “The Untouchables,” “Our Miss Brooks” and “Star Trek?” Desilu Studios also was home to “Make Room for Daddy,” The Dick Van Dyke Show,” “The Andy Griffith Show” and “I Spy.” Amazing! Lucille Ball Arnaz was a very wealthy woman, influencing television history in a major way!

Lucy divorced Desi Arnaz after 20 years and birth of Desi Jr., with Lucy moving to New York to perform again on stage. She then sold her interest in Desilu and formed her own Lucille Ball Productions. She regained happiness when she married comedian Gary Morton, to be her husband for the rest of her life.

The new “Lucy Show” ran on CBS from 1962-68 and the “Here’s Lucy” show from 1968-74. “I Love Lucy,” and others are still in syndication worldwide as Lucille Ball entered

1983, but then health issues challenged her ability to perform. Lucy returned to make an appearance on a Bob Hope show in 1989, looking healthy and fit at 77. But only a few weeks after, she suffered a massive heart attack which the queen of laughter did not

survive. While Lucille Ball has been gone for almost 37 years physically, she is still with us in our hearts and on television. Her images of losing a battle on a candy conveyor, staring cross-eyed at her nose on fire, or stomping grapes in a slip-

Brents announces candidacy for mayor

LIBERTY - Liberty City Council Member and Mayor Pro Tem Tommy Brents has announced his candidacy for Mayor of Liberty in the May 2 general election.

Brents, who has served on the council since 2022, said his campaign is focused on accountability, transparency, and responsible stewardship of taxpayer resources.

“The taxpayers of Liberty aren’t just residents. They’re shareholders in our city. And they deserve leadership that treats every dollar like it matters,” Brents said.

During his time on the council, Brents has been known for his consistent attendance, willingness to ask difficult questions, and commitment to being prepared on city issues. He has advocated for livestreaming council meetings, supported a more disciplined approach to budgeting, and voted for police body cameras and school resource officers. He has also stayed engaged beyond council meetings and maintained open communication with residents.

“Good government starts with doing the basics well,” Brents said. “Reliable infrastructure, responsible budgeting, and open communication with the public are not optional. They are the foundation of everything else.”

As mayor, Brents said his priorities will center on streets, utilities, drainage, and public safety, while maintaining a disciplined approach to spending. He also emphasized strengthening relationships across the community, including local businesses, civic organizations, churches, and other local partners.

“My responsibility is to the people who live here today,” Brents said. “I want to continue that work at a higher level with a clear and steady focus.”

Brents and his wife, Whitney, are raising their family in Liberty. He is also a small business owner.

Residents can learn more at www.tommyforliberty.com.

Brents was elected to the Liberty City Council in 2022 and re-elected in 2024. He is seeking election as Mayor in lieu of re-election to his current council position.



TOMMY BRENTS

Free computer classes continue

LIBERTY - The Liberty Municipal Library will offer free adult computer classes this spring with volunteer Ann Rogers, instructor. Classes are usually held from 1:30-3 p.m. but 5-6 p.m. is available by request.

Microsoft Word: April 21-23. Students must have basic computer skills. Topics will include typing documents, editing, saving, and sending documents.

Printers: April 28. Installing, using, and getting the most out of a printer. Learn how to save on ink, select correct paper types, print pictures and greeting cards, and troubleshoot. (Attendees will need to know their home computer’s operating systems.)

Laptops: April 29. Learn how to choose a laptop computer, add peripherals, disable the camera, etc. This is a “round table” discussion, so bring your own laptop if you have any questions about it.

Internet: May 5. Basic computer skills required. Class covers antivirus programs, finding information on websites, browsers, and privacy issues. E-mail will not be covered.

Other classes available by special request include PowerPoint, Excel, and Certificates & Greeting Cards with openings on May 6, 12, and 13. For more information on these classes, email: annr@wt.net.

Classes will be taught using Windows 7, 10, and 11 to accommodate student’s own operating systems. Classes will be held in the upstairs library computer lab. Class size is limited to four students. There is elevator access to the classroom.

Students must register with Jill now at the library’s information desk. Signups are on a first-come, first-served basis. Since class size is limited and there is usually a waiting list, registered students are asked to let the library know if they cannot attend so someone else can take that opening.

For more information on the classes, call the library at 936-336-8901. The library is located inside the Geraldine D. Humphreys Cultural Center at 1710 Sam Houston Street, across from the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church. Hours are: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 1 to 5 p.m. on Friday, and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Liberty Municipal Library will provide reasonable accommodation for persons attending and/or participating in this event. To better serve you, requests must be made at least 24 hours prior to the event. The building is wheelchair accessible with parking available on the north and east sides of the building.

Dayton Rotarians continue to prepare for 100th anniversary

The Dayton Rotarians are preparing to celebrate their historic 100th anniversary! A celebration and event are scheduled, along with numerous behind-the-scenes activities. The club would like to extend its gratitude to all sponsors, donors, and supporters who have contributed to this milestone.

In addition to the main celebration, the club has partnered with Clayton Bracey, Precision Lawns, and the City of Dayton to plant a live oak tree and install a bench commemorating the 100th Anniversary at the Dayton

Community Center. President Luke Chachere stated, “Our club is pleased to contribute to the ongoing enhancement of our community center for future generations. This will be our third bench donated for public use at the center, following our partnership with the Dayton Lions Club in 2020 for two previous benches. The Dayton Rotary Club has had a meaningful impact on our community center, including the construction of the Life Flight helipad in 2012. This helipad has saved numerous lives and

played a crucial role in delivering supplies during emergencies and hurricanes. The Dayton Rotary Club remains dedicated to serving our community and looks forward to future projects that will continue to improve the lives of our residents.”



Longtime Rotarian Ken DeFoor, at right, led this much-needed service project for a helipad, which is located at the Dayton Community Center.



Rotarian Jeff Jones and Rotarian Jennifer Perkins assemble the newly donated bench.

DISD bands showcasing their talents

DAYTON - Woodrow Wilson Junior High (WWJH) band students showcased their talent and dedication at the UIL Concert and Sightreading Evaluation held recently at Silsbee High School, earning top distinctions across the board.

All four WWJH competing bands received Superior ratings in both Concert and Sightreading, the highest rating awarded in UIL competition. This outstanding achievement marks only the third time in school history that the WWJH band program has earned four Sweepstakes trophies in a single year.

The Sweepstakes honor reflects consistent excellence in both prepared concert performance and sightreading, demonstrating the students’ strong musicianship, discipline, and preparation.

Dayton ISD congratulates the 7th and 8th-grade band students and their directors for this remarkable

accomplishment and for representing the district with excellence.

Three Dayton High School bands also performed at the UIL Concert and Sightreading Evaluation at Nederland High School and earned unanimous Superior “First Division” ratings.

This achievement completes only the third full program Sweepstakes in district history, with all WWJH and DHS bands earning the highest possible ratings. It reflects the strong foundation and continued excellence in teaching and learning throughout the band program.

The DHS bands are under the direction of Abigail Fenton (JV Band B), Danny Williams (JV Band A) and Kevin Heckaman (Varsity Band). Also to be recognized are Perfecto Aleman for his work supporting percussionists across all seven bands this year, as well as Betty Woods and Byron Malone for their continued dedication to student success.