

**MORE THAN A HOME**  
The ReMarker looks back as students prepare to build their tenth Habitat for Humanity home.

CHRIS MCELHANEY PHOTO

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## DEAR FALSE PATRIOTS

To paraphrase Atticus Finch, courage is more than a man with a gun in his hand.

This idea may ruffle some feathers, especially here in Texas. But then again, if you're not willing to make some people mad, why share your opinion?

If there's anyone who needs to learn this lesson, it's the group in Oregon who has been engaged in a weeks-long standoff for seizing government property using lethal force. Not only did their basis for protest lack conviction, but their use of force and coercion undermines their claims that their actions are motivated by patriotism.

I would like to send a message to those armed, white militiamen: toting a gun and hating the government doesn't make you a patriot. It makes you a thug.

A patriot is someone who loves America and is willing to fight for our country's values. Not someone who uses military-grade weapons to intimidate their fellow citizens and seize government property.

A patriot understands that in our country, a representative democracy, if you want change, you fight for it with activism. Not with guns and intimidation.

A patriot respects those who disagree with him, and doesn't meet opposition with fear tactics and coercion.

But a thug doesn't care about the will of the people or believe in the inherent value of the democratic process.

A thug resorts to violence rather than peaceful protest.

A thug wants to circumvent the democratic process.

A thug hides behind violent weapons because he is a coward.

Imagine a situation where an armed group of Black Lives Matter protesters or Muslim-Americans seized a government building. I'd bet anything that instead of a lengthy standoff, the militiamen would have been immediately gunned down, much to the applause of false "patriots" like Ammon Bundy and his co-conspirators. They'd be labeled thugs, terrorists, anti-American.

Now I don't say this to condone these coercive actions in any situation, or by any group of people. I wish merely to point out that these men in Oregon benefited from a misconception that white men with guns are patriots and black men with guns are thugs: an insidious manifestation of white privilege.

As a white male, I feel a duty to understand how our society can so often be tainted by structural discrimination against any number of minorities. Especially people of color.

All this to say, just in case anyone was unaware:

White people can be thugs, too.

## QUICKHITS stories around campus in brief

### • ANNUAL COAT DRIVE SUCCESSFUL

More than 400 coats were collected in the week of Jan. 11 by the Eighth Grade Community Service Board, an improvement of 117 more than last year's total.

The coats collected will be donated directly to the Austin Street Centre, St. Vincent DePaul Thrift Store and Letot Juvenile Center.

"The goal of the Coat Drive is to help out people that are unable to buy coats on

their own," said Devan Patel, a member of the Eighth Grade Community Service Board. "We donate coats so they can spend their money on other essentials."

### • HOLIDAY GIFT DRIVE REACHES GOAL

More than 2,100 gifts were collected by the Student Council and the Community Service Board for the 2015 Gift Drive. The gifts, collected through Dec. 16, were distributed to underprivileged children through the Salvation

Army and other service organizations.

"It's our job, being people who have a little more, to give back to the community," Gift Drive co-chair Zachary Naidu said. "It's a very doable goal, but, more than that, to show that we're a caring part of the community"

### • SIXTH ANNUAL BLOOD DRIVE COMING UP

The sixth annual Blood Drive will return to the school Feb. 24 in Nearburg Hall, available to students and faculty

age 18 and over.

The drive's donations will go to support Carter BloodCare, a local blood donation organization based out of North, Central, and East Texas. The Community Service Board expects to offer three service hours for blood donation and five for plasma.

"One of the points we make is an effort to communicate to our community is that 'blood is life,'" Community Service Director Jorge Correa said. "Hopefully, none of us will need it,

but if they do, we're doing our part to make sure it is there."

### • MATH TEAM HOSTS COMPETITION

The Math Team hosted and operated the Metroplex Math Contest Jan. 7, which included 120 students from ten schools in the Dallas/Fort Worth area and one team from Wichita Falls.

"Because we host it we don't compete in it, all of our math team members wrote all of the problems for the contest, organized it, ran it, proctored tests and graded tests," Math Team coach Amy Pool said.

— Andre Arsenault, Blake Daugherty, Zoheb Khan and Noah Koecher

## in the MOMENT events on campus told through photos



**BUILDING** Seniors Alden James (left) and Henry Goldberg (right) hammer nails as the Habitat for Humanity build begins to take form.

## Around the corner

### TODAY

**What** World's Original Indoor Rodeo  
**When** 7:30 p.m.  
**Where** Cowtown Coliseum, 121 E Exchange Ave., Fort Worth

**What** Jackson Pollock Exhibit  
**When** All-day  
**Where** The Dallas Museum of Art, 1717 N Harwood St.

### WEEKEND

**What** A Mid-Winter Night's Dream  
**When** Saturday, 7 p.m.  
**Where** 3630 Harry Hines Blvd.

**What** Amazing Scavenger Hunt  
**When** Saturday, All-day.  
**Where** Union Station, 400 South Houston St.

### NEXT WEEK

**What** Food Bites! Dallas Tour  
**When** Monday, 1:00 p.m.  
**Where** 408 W. Eighth St.

**What** Valentine's Day  
**When** Next Sunday  
**Where** Everywhere



CREATIVE COMMONS

**THE BIGGEST OF THEM ALL** The World's Original Indoor Rodeo will take place today at 7:30 p.m. The first of its kind occurred 120 years ago, 29 different events are scheduled for the night in Fort Worth.

## Say what?

comments made by faculty, staff and students around campus

	Y'all just kind of sit there and pulsate — Nancy and Jeffrey Marcus Master Teacher Dr. <b>Bruce Westrate</b> on dancing
	Have you ever been on a subway in New York? They're literally filled with naked people. — Sophomore <b>Zach Landry</b>
	Mama's hungry. — Senior <b>Henry Goldberg</b> about himself before eating
	Just because I hate usurers more than murderers doesn't make me an unreasonable person. — Senior <b>Ward Rushton</b>
	Estoy trabajando en un mixtape. — Sophomore <b>Abdullah Akbar</b>
	Puberty is a loooong process. — English Department Chair <b>Michael Morris</b> after a voice crack