



# PATRIOT'S PERIODICAL

UPSHUR CO. PATRIOTS CAMP #2109  
SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS  
GILMER, TEXAS

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[www.upshurpatriots.org](http://www.upshurpatriots.org)

JUNE 2020

**NEXT MEETING**

**JUNE 2, 2020**

## AFTER THE PANDEMIC

*forbes.com*

It may seem difficult to imagine now, but the coronavirus lockdown will end. One day, when the numbers tell us it's safe, we will leave our masks at home and return to the streets, revive the economy and re-establish our routines.

Until a vaccine is available, it will be essential to be able to identify those who can move freely and those who, like older people or those with underlying conditions, will need to maintain protective measures.

The question, increasingly, is no longer whether we will return to normal after the pandemic, but whether we really want to return to normal. Do we want to return to gridlocked cities, high levels of pollution, inefficient health systems or to schools and colleges that could be improved? Shouldn't the lessons learned encourage change?

If many companies have been forced to try out teleworking, should they not, once the emergency is over, move on to offer their workers flexible systems that allow them to work from home, in a climate of trust that

will enable them, for example, to avoid rush hour and be more productive in the process?

If schools and colleges have tested e-learning systems, should they not rethink the way they teach, so as to improve communication, assessment systems or allowing students with the flu to stay at home without infecting their classmates so they can attend classes remotely?

If we have a health system that is wasting resources on consultations that simply ask the patient to take a test, or to show the doctor the results of a test, should we not develop telemedicine to the fullest extent possible?

Are we really sure that we want to go back to 'normal' after the pandemic? Did we like that "normality" so much? And since we have managed to make a clean break with it... why not take advantage and move on to something better?

**Upcoming Events may be found on the  
Calendar at:**

[www.upshurpatriots.org](http://www.upshurpatriots.org)

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**UPSHUR COUNTY**  
**PATRIOTS CAMP #2109**

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**THE**  
**GUARDIAN**



As we all know the Guardian Program is designed to honor the memory of our Confederate ancestors and provide for the preservation of their final resting places and their sacrifices. As part of our responsibilities in being a Guardian is to care for and protect the grave(s) of a Confederate Veteran, ensuring that the gravesite is kept clean and well maintained year round and to be responsible to appropriately mark the grave so it is designated as a final resting place of a Confederate Veteran.

When visiting a cemetery remember to be respectful. A cemetery is a place for families to mourn and visit their loved ones. Be respectful of those around you. Remember not to leave any trash when you leave, and not to disturb what might be at the memorial.

**Your mission is to preserve**

Sometimes in all the excitement of finding a grave marker that might have information we need, we forget about the basics – we want to preserve that marker and information on it, not damage it.

*Please consider taking part in our Guardian Program.*

Contact Program Chairman Phil Davis for information. [userphill97@aol.com](mailto:userphill97@aol.com)



## UPSHUR CO. PATRIOTS GUARDIANS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Guardian Status</u>	<u>Number of Graves</u>
Phil Davis	Full	29
Kim Duffey	Full	3
Jamie Eitson	Full/GPT	8
Chris Loyd	Full	5
George Linton	Full/W/GPT	40
Tommy L. Mitchell/	Full	5
George Linton		
Eddie Pricer	Full/GPT	33
Milt Ojeman	Full/GPT	4
David Palmer	Full	1
Bill Palmer	Full	10
Tommy Ray	Full/GPT	18
Bill Starnes	Full/W/GPT	7
Frank Smith	Full	2
Mitch Tyson	Full	3
Gregg Gipe	GPT	3

W=Wilderness GPT=Guardian Pro Tem



## ADINA DE ZAVALA

### Women in Texas History



Adina De Zavala, granddaughter of Republic of Texas Vice President Lorenzo De Zavala, was an early influential leader in the historic preservation movement in Texas. In 1899, she and a group of San Antonio friends founded one of the state's first patriotic societies. Her group later joined with the Daughters of the Republic of Texas. One of their primary goals was to save the Alamo.

## OUR PLEDGES



### PLEDGE TO THE U.S. FLAG:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag Of the United States of America, And to the republic for which it stands, One nation, under God, indivisible, With liberty and justice for all.



### PLEDGE TO THE TEXAS FLAG:

Honor the Texas Flag; I pledge allegiance to thee Texas, one state under God, one and indivisible.



### SALUTE TO THE CONFEDERATE FLAG:

I salute the Confederate Flag With affection, reverence, and Undying devotion to the cause For which it stands.



The Sons of Confederate Veterans is a non-profit, heritage organization whose mission is to preserve the history and legacy of Confederate veterans. It is not associated with any anti-government or hate groups. Membership is open to any male descendent of a Confederate veteran who served honorably in the Confederate armed forces.



## CHARGE TO THE SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS

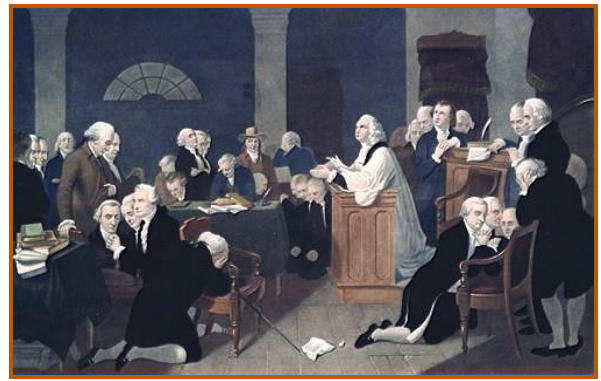
"To you, Sons of Confederate Veterans, we will commit the vindication of the cause for which we fought. To your strength will be given the defense of the Confederate soldier's good name, the guardianship of his history, the emulation of his virtues, the perpetuation of those principles which he loved and which you love also, and those ideals which made him glorious and which you also cherish."



**"Remember, it is your duty to see that the true history of the South is presented to future generations."**



Lt. General Stephen Dill Lee, Commander  
United Confederate Veterans  
New Orleans, Louisiana, April 25, 1906.



## Founding Fathers First Prayer CLOSING CHURCHES DURING THE CORONAVIRUS

From: [aclj.org](http://aclj.org)

*"That religion, or the duty which we owe to our CREATOR, and the manner of discharging it, can be directed only by reason and conviction, not by force or violence; and therefore, all men are equally entitled to the free exercise of religion, according to the dictates of conscience."*

*James Madison*

In light of the current Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, many states and localities are taking aggressive measures to combat the spread of the virus. Some of these measures include recommendations or mandates banning all large gatherings. Normally the notion of government agents shutting churches down would trigger immediate strong concerns and reactions about breaches of religious liberty.

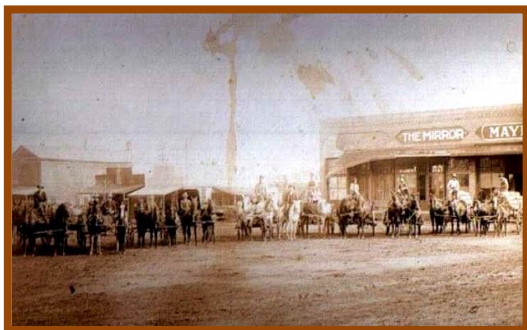
A prohibition on public gatherings is a pretty drastic measure, one that naturally raises concerns and comparisons to the actions of totalitarian regimes past and present. It is incumbent upon the government to reserve such strong medicine for genuinely serious dangers, and



to lift those restrictions as soon as the threat has passed.

If the federal action imposes a substantial burden on religious exercise – and closing churches certainly would do so – then the federal government must prove that it acts to further a *compelling* interest and is taking the *least restrictive means* to further that interest. While *state and local* governments can neutrally apply safety measures to churches, the *federal* government must meet a higher standard.

Churches are actively involved in the process and finding unique ways to provide church services online and through other means. Churches are working with state and local officials to minister to their communities and are committed across the board to not only the spiritual health but also the physical health of their members. This coming together of community is a key part of the fight to stop the spread of this pandemic.



Gilmer Town Square

The square was really a friendly place for dogs, horses, mules, and people to mingle together with one common purpose—to profit from their labors.



## HISTORICAL DATES IN JUNE

### 1861

**June 3**, the Battle of Philippi, (West) Virginia

**June 10**, the Battle of Big Bethel, Virginia

### 1862

**June 25-July 1** - The Seven Days Battles as Lee attacks McClellan near Richmond, resulting in very heavy losses for both armies. McClellan then begins a withdrawal back toward Washington.

**June 26**, Battle of Beaver Dam Creek, Virginia

**June 27**, Skirmish at Gaines Mill, Virginia

**June 27–28**, Battles at Garnett's Farm and Golding's Farm, Virginia

**June 29**, Fighting at Savage Station and Allen's Farm, Virginia

**June 30**, Battle at White Oak Swamp, Virginia

**June 30**, Battle of Glendale, Virginia

### 1863

**June 3** - Gen. Lee with 75,000 Confederates launches his second invasion of the North, heading into Pennsylvania in a campaign that will soon lead to Gettysburg.

### 1864

**June 15** - Union forces miss an opportunity to capture Petersburg and cut off the Confederate rail lines. As a result, a nine month siege of Petersburg begins with Grant's forces surrounding Lee.

**June 15–18** Battle of Petersburg, Virginia.



## **BATTLE OF BIG BETHEL**

*From: thoughtco.com*

The Battle of Big Bethel was fought June 10, 1861, during the American Civil War. Following the Confederate attack on Fort Sumter on April 12, 1861, President Abraham Lincoln called for 75,000 men to aid in putting down the rebellion. Unwilling to provide soldiers, Virginia instead elected to leave the Union and join the Confederacy. As



Virginia mobilized its state forces, Colonel Justin Dimick prepared to defend Fort Monroe at the tip of the peninsula between the York and James Rivers.

In an effort to contain and push back Union forces, Lee directed Colonel John Magruder to take troops down the Peninsula. On June 6, Magruder sent a force under Colonel D.H. Hill south to Big Bethel Church which was approximately eight miles from the Union camps. Establishing his headquarters at Yorktown on May 24, he commanded around 1,500 troops.

On June 6, Magruder sent a force under Colonel D.H. Hill south to Big Bethel Church which was approximately eight miles from the Union camps. Assuming a position on the heights north of the west branch of the

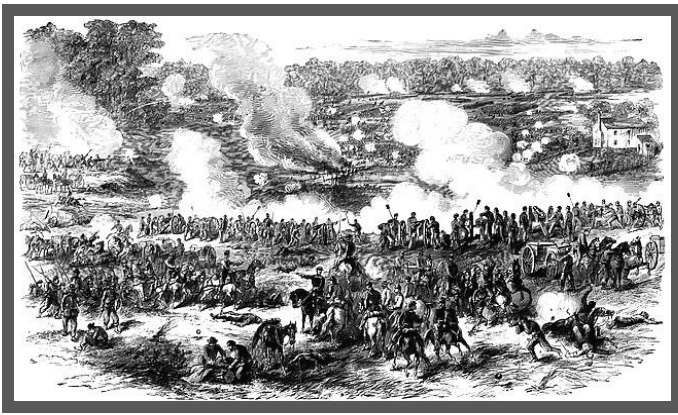
Back River, he commenced building a series of fortifications across the road between Yorktown and Hampton including a bridge over the river.

On the night of June 9-10, Union Gen. Butler put 3,500 men in motion under the overall command of Brigadier General Ebenezer W. Peirce of the Massachusetts militia. The plan called for Colonel Abram Duryee's 5th New York Volunteer Infantry to leave Camp Hamilton and sever the road between Big and Little Bethel before attacking the latter.

As the Union troops approached, Magruder had just settled his men into their lines having aborted a movement against Camp Hampton.

Unwilling to cede this position, Magruder directed reinforcements forward. Left unsupported, the 5th New York was forced to retreat. With this setback, General Ebenezer Peirce directed attempts to turn the Confederate flanks. These too proved unsuccessful and Winthrop was killed. With the battle becoming a stalemate, Union troops and artillery continued firing on Magruder's men.

Though pursued by a small force of Confederate cavalry, the Union troops reached their camps by 5:00 PM. In the fighting at Big Bethel, Peirce sustained 18 killed, 53 wounded, and 5 missing while Magruder's command incurred 1 killed and 7 wounded. One of the first Civil War battles to be fought in Virginia, Big Bethel led Union troops to halt their advance up the Peninsula.



## **BATTLE OF WHITE OAK SWAMP**

From: [thecivilwarbattles.blogspot.com](http://thecivilwarbattles.blogspot.com)

The Battle of White Oak Swamp took place on June 30, 1862 in Henrico County, Virginia as part of the Seven Days Battles (Peninsula Campaign) of the American Civil War. As the Union Army of the Potomac retreated southeast toward the James River, its rearguard under Maj. Gen. William B. Franklin stopped Maj. Gen. Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson's divisions at the White



Oak Bridge crossing, resulting in an artillery duel, while the main Battle of Glendale raged two miles farther south around Frayser's Farm. White Oak Swamp is generally considered to be part of the larger Glendale engagement. Because of this resistance from Brig. Gen. William B. Franklin's VI Corps, Jackson was prevented from joining the consolidated assault on the Union Army that had been ordered by General Robert E. Lee, producing an inconclusive result at Glendale, but one in which the Union Army avoided destruction and was able to assume a strong defensive position at Malvern Hill.

Jackson's men marched south on the White Oak Road with their artillery chief, Colonel

Stapleton Crutchfield, at the head of the column. They marched slowly because they were accompanied by thousands of wounded Union prisoners and many of the stores that they obtained at Savage's Station. They found that the single bridge over the swamp had been burned two hours earlier.

After ordering his engineers to begin rebuilding the bridge, Jackson directed Col. Thomas T. Munford's 2nd Virginia Cavalry to cross the swamp and capture some of the Union guns abandoned during the bombardment.



The action at White Oak Swamp included no infantry activity and was limited to primarily an artillery duel. The Confederates lost 3 artillerymen killed and 12 wounded, but there is no exact record of the number of Union casualties.

## **INTERESTING CIVIL WAR FACTS**

[factretriever.com](http://factretriever.com)

- \* One of every 65 Federals and 1 of every 45 Confederates were killed in action.
- \* Seven future U.S. presidents served in the Civil War.
- \* The average Civil War soldier was 5'8" tall and weighed 143 pounds.
- \* Most Civil War soldiers marched 15 to 20 miles a day.
- \* The first U.S. Medal of Honor was awarded during the Civil War on March 25, 1863.





## BATTLE OF VELASCO 26 JUNE 1832

lsjunction.com



In an armed prelude to the Texas Revolution, the Battle of Velasco marked the first bloodshed in the then deteriorating relations between Texas and Mexico. In the conflict, Domingo de Ugartechea, the Mexican commander in charge of a fort at the town of Velasco, attempted to block attempts by the Texans to transport a cannon for possible use against Mexican forces at nearby Anahuac. After several days of fighting, the Texans under John Austin and Henry Smith prevailed when the Mexicans exhausted their ammunition. Before the fighting ended, however, some 8-10 Texans were killed and another 12 wounded. Mexican losses were placed at 5 killed and about 15 wounded.

Under the provisions of the truce, Ugartechea and his men were allowed to return to Mexico. Tensions later eased somewhat when Mexican officials dismissed the Mexican commander at Anahuac, who had been the primary cause for the Texan's frustration with Mexican authorities in the area.



## CONFEDERATE FLAG REMOVAL

foxnews.com

The commandant of the U.S. Marine Corps wrote that "it is time to exclude" public displays of the Confederate flag in a letter addressed to his fellow Marines.

"I am mindful that many people believe that flag to be a symbol of heritage or regional pride," Gen. David H. Berger wrote. "But I am also mindful of the feelings of pain and rejection of those who inherited the cultural memory and present effects of the scourge of slavery in our country."

He said his move is intended not to judge anyone's opinion of the flag but rather to unify. "We are a warfighting organization, an elite institution of warriors who depend on each other to win the tough battles," he wrote. "Anything that divides us, anything that threatens team cohesion must be addressed head-on." "This symbol has shown it has the power to inflame feelings of division," he wrote. "I cannot have that division inside our Corps."



The Bill of Rights was ratified to put the government on notice that it cannot violate citizens' pre-existing natural rights. When the Founders ratified the 1st Amendment, they banned the government from violating Americans' right to practice their religion, exercise their free speech, petition the government for a redress of grievances, and a peaceably assemble.





**HELL'S GATE**  
**AT RIVER**  
**LEGACY PARK**  
*onlyinyourstate.com*

In Arlington, Texas deep in the forests of River Legacy Park, you will find an ancient trail surrounded by boggy swamps and overhanging trees. At the end of this trail, there's supposedly a large dirt mound in the exact spot where members of the Union Army were executed. If you dare to venture to the spot, you will find parts of the posts that once formed the gate that opened to a tree where the prisoners were hanged. Because of all the tormented spirits still lurking here, it was deemed "Hell's Gate." If you walk along the trail, you can still hear the desperate cries and prayers of the men and women who took their last steps on Earth here.

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**A TEXAN'S GUIDE TO LIFE**

Good judgment comes from experience,  
and a lot of that comes from bad judgment.

Never kick a cow chip on a hot day.

There's two theories to arguin' with a  
woman. Neither one works.

When you're throwin' your weight around,  
be ready to have it thrown around by  
somebody else.

The quickest way to double your money is  
to fold it over and put it back in your

pocket.

Never miss a good chance to shut up.

All old ladies with blue hair in Cadillacs have  
the right of way.



**D-DAY**

*wm.org*

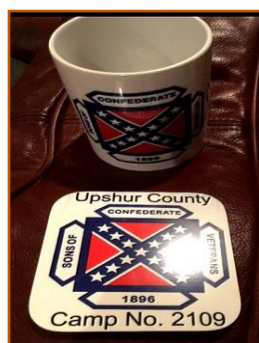
D-Day - 6 June 1944 - was the largest amphibious invasion in the history of warfare. The statistics of D-Day, codenamed Operation Overlord, are staggering. The Allies utilized over 5,000 ships and landing craft to land more than 150,000 troops on five beaches in Normandy. The landings marked the start of a long and costly campaign in north-west Europe, which ultimately convinced the German high command that defeat was inevitable.

The invasion was conducted in two main phases-an airborne assault and amphibious landings.

D-Day was made possible because of Allied efforts across all fronts, both before and after June 1944.



Coffee Mugs and Coasters  
Caps and Flags are available for a donation  
to our Camp fund. Contact Eddie Pricer or  
any Camp Officer.



We thank Bill Starnes  
And the Starnes Family for  
providing a meeting  
Place for the Upshur Co. Patriots



We are proud to be associated with the  
United Daughters of the Confederacy.



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COUNTY MUSEUM**



The Patriot's Periodical is a multi-award  
winning Publication by a Camp in the Texas  
Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans.

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