

A roundup of notable quotables

“What is the corruption of the American soul that makes us want the drugs in the first place? Opioids—which are killing more Americans now than either car crashes or guns—are a response to pain. We have to ask the question: What is the pain?”

—Don Winslow, who authored an article in *Vanity Fair* magazine entitled “The Dirty Secret of El Chapo’s Downfall.” <https://www.vanityfair.com/news/2019/02/the-dirty-secret-of-el-chapo-downfall>

“I gave her a big hug. I told her how proud I was of her.”

—Pickens County (South Carolina) Sheriff Rick Clark, discussing his response to a local woman who shot and killed an escaped inmate who had kicked in her back door. The inmate, Bruce McLaughlin Jr., had just escaped from county jail with an accomplice, and he broke into the unnamed woman’s house at 3 o’clock in the morning. She was home alone, and she shot McLaughlin in the head, having gone through training for a concealed weapon permit. <https://www.yahoo.com/news/sheriff-woman-kills-jail-escapee-kicks-her-door-181806403.html>

“We take some disturbing cases. Delivering meals is one of the highlights of our week as we are able to focus on something positive.”

—Greg Whitley with the Special Prosecution Unit in Huntsville, on that office’s volunteer work for Meals on Wheels for nearly two years. (contributed by Jack Choate, SPU Executive Director) https://www.itemonline.com/news/features/meals-on-wheels-provides-homebound-texans-with-food-interaction/article_5fd3f4ae20b-5e71-ad71-f376ce38412a.html

“People in our community take better care of their pets than you took care of your kids.”

—Judge Keith Williams of Kerr County as he sentenced Amanda Hawkins to four sentences of 20 years each for leaving her 2- and 1-year-old children alone in a hot car overnight while she attended a party, smoked marijuana, and had sex. She also delayed getting medical treatment for the kids because she “didn’t want to go to jail.” <https://hillcountrybreakingnews.com/2018/12/12/amanda-hawkins-sentenced-today-40-years-in-prison>

Have a quote to share? Email it to the editor at Sarah.Wolf@tdcaa.com. Everyone who contributes will get a free TDCAA ball cap!

“PLEASE GOD, DON’T LET HIM HURT LORA.”

—the last words of Doug White, a newlywed from Mesquite, just before Alvin Braziel Jr. shot and killed him in 1993. Mr. White had been on a hiking trail with his wife, Lora—they’d been married just 10 days—when Braziel jumped out from behind some bushes with a pistol, demanded money, and shot White twice, killing him. When Braziel went to shoot Lora, his gun malfunctioned, and instead of shooting her, he took her to a bushy area near the trail and sexually assaulted her. Braziel was executed in mid-December for White’s murder. <https://www.statesman.com/news/20181212/man-who-killed-newlywed-during-robbery-executed-in-texas/1>