

LEADER

VOL. V

ELDORADO, TEXAS (76936) THURSDAY, MARCH 1, 1979

NO. 7

Commissioners Get Good News During Court Meeting Monday

Schleicher County Commissioners received some good news during their meeting Monday. The good news came when Sheriff and tax assessor-collector Orval Edmiston reported that the South Concho River Flood Control District had been disbanded, and money collected for the district would go to the county.

Edmiston explained that the flood district was created to construct dams on tributaries of the Concho River to avoid floods. The district was triangular in shape. It began at the city limits of Eldorado, with two lines extending to the northwest and to the northeast to a third line just over the Tom Green-Schleicher County line.

However, the district never received any help from other governmental agencies to build the dams; therefore, it was disbanded this month.

Tax money for the district was collected only during the first three years of its existence (1967 to 1970) and the funds have laid dormant since then. Schleicher County citizens put in 77.9 percent of the money and the county will receive that percent of the total funds, to the tune of \$21,968.91. This is the amount paid by people of Schleicher County living in the district.

The court also received some encouragement of financial help through a letter from the Texas Association of Counties. The letter stated that several pieces of legislation had been introduced proposing that counties in Texas be able to retain larger portions of motor

vehicle registration fees. Current state law states that counties retain the first \$50,000 of motor vehicle registration fees and 50 percent of the fees collected thereafter until \$175,000 is retained.

The court also met with architect Atmar Atkinson who presented preliminary blueprints for a new law enforcement center. The plans contain offices for deputies, sheriff, game warden, justice of the peace, cells for juveniles, women and men prisoners and living quarters for a jailer. Atkinson said the building, if made by these plans, would cost \$760,000 because of the ever increasing price of materials.

After a discussion, the court decided to try to hold a bond election for that amount in the summer. This is about \$210,000 more than the original estimates on the building.

Meeting with the court on behalf of the Schleicher County Emergency Service were Bob Lester and Rusty Meador. The two men reported the service was being reorganized and there were 22 men on the roster, but only five or six had CPR or Red Cross training. They asked the court to sponsor a multi-media course for ambulance attendants, which costs \$400.

"It doesn't matter how much equipment we have if we don't have well-trained personnel to use it," emphasized Meador. He explained that the course was 24 hours of classroom training, meeting two nights a week for two hours. Lester said the course covered traction, splinting, CPR, dealing with a crushed chest, and delivering a baby. Participants must take a state board test and are certified for two years if they pass.

The court agreed to sponsor the course. Commissioners again discussed a request by Bill Freitag to close the road on his property. The road was declared a county road last May, which means the county is assuming

responsibility to maintain it. However, Freitag is asking that the road now be declared a private road so he can put a gate across it. Commissioners authorized Judge Johnny Griffin to write Freitag's attorney, Ancial Middlebrook, a letter stating the court still felt the road was a public road because the county has maintained it for many years and it was used as a mail route and school bus route in previous years.

Griffin told the court that Mrs. Flora Riley, who prepares weekly meals for the Lions Club had requested an air conditioner in the Lions Club room of the memorial Building. Judge Griffin said he would see where an air conditioner could be placed and report to the court at a later date.

The court also authorized deputy Maria Tobias to attend a school for county and district clerks on March 6-8, in College Station.

The court also authorized the judge to advertise for bids for the road foreman's pickup. They are wanting a 18 ton, V8, 350 engine and three-speed pickup that uses either diesel or gasoline.

Commissioners David Meador, Joe Christian, Holvey Enoch and Richard Jones were present.

Filing Deadline Is March 7

Anyone interested in filing for positions on the school board, city council or hospital board have until March 7 to file.

Those planning to file for the school board should contact school superintendent Guy Whitaker in the high school building. City council hopefuls should file in City Hall and those running for the hospital board have to file with Pete Peters at Meador-Peters Insurance Agency.

Election to the boards will be April 7.

Saldivar Home Destroyed By Fire On Saturday

Mr. and Mrs. Juan Saldivar and their three children are out of a home after a fire totally destroyed it Saturday afternoon. The fire possibly began because heaters were left burning in the bedrooms.

The Saldivars have one son, age five and two daughters, ages two and four. Anyone wishing to help the family with donations may go by 306

E. Brooks or call 853-2191 or 853-3083.

Another fire Monday afternoon destroyed a loading chute on the Fenna Whitten place on the old Fort McKavett road. Because the pens had been used recently, there was no grass around which helped firemen to extinguish the fire quickly. Cause of the fire is unknown.

Open House Is Scheduled At Catholic Church

An open house will be held from 2-5 p.m. Sunday at the new rectory of Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church.

The rectory was purchased by the parish recently and was placed behind and to the side of the church building.

Members of the church have had several fund raising activities to pay for the building, including a festival and tamale sales. Purchase of the structure was helped by a grant from the Catholic Extension Society and a loan from the San Angelo Diocese.

Mark Wallis Becomes Eagle Scout Monday

Mark Wallis, son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Wallis, was presented his Eagle Scout badge during the Blue and Gold Banquet held Monday night.

J.B. Ward of San Angelo held the court of honor for the young man and Dave Gilman of San Angelo gave his background in scouting. Wallis has worked on the award since he was twelve years old.

The banquet was held in conjunction with the 49th anniversary of Cub Scouts and the 69th anniversary of Boy Scouts. Phil Edmiston was master of ceremony for the occasion which was attended by over 100 people.

Den Three won the Cubby Award for having the most parents and friends attending. Cub Scouts receiving awards were Jon Bumgardner, Trey Preston, Stan Meador, Howard Ledbetter, Steve Whitten.

Those attending were entertained by Den Three which presented a skit called "Melodrama" and Den Four which sang a variety of songs. Helen Pfluger narrated the skit for Den Three.

Former Eagle Scouts attending the

banquet were Johnny Griffin, Meador, Herman Walker and Gilman.

The following boys received awards from Troop 18 during a court of honor: David Doran, environmental science, den chief, senior patrol leader; Wray Crippin, assistant senior patrol leader, star badge and den chief; Wade Wallis, den chief, camping skill award and merit badges for pets, basketry, rowing, leather work, and first class badge; Paul McWhorter, emergency preparedness; Clint Bumgardner, den chief; McWhorter lacks only two merit badges to earn his Eagle badge. David Meador conducted the court of honor.

Special guests were the Rev. and Mrs. Gene Stark, Johnny Griffin, Wade, Gilman, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Awtrey and Ivan White, district chairman of the Amangi Trail District of the Boy Scouts' Concho Valley Council. Gilman is chairman for the scouting program in Eldorado. Ward is the district executive chairman for the district which covers 13½ counties.

Carolyn Mayo Named New City Secretary

The city of Eldorado will finally have a city secretary, after action taken during a called emergency meeting Monday night in City Hall. Named as city secretary, effective April 1, was Mrs. Carolyn Mayo, who is currently employed by Ken Braden Motor Co. in Sonora.

At the first of the meeting, the council called a closed executive session to brief Mayor Pat Ragsdale on interviews of applicants. The mayor has been absent from several recent council meetings and the interviews because of surgery. After the 25 minute executive session, the council returned to regular session and voted unanimously to hire Mrs. Mayo. The announcement was made exactly five months after the death of

city secretary Phil Olson.

Mrs. Mayo, a native of Santa Anna, is married to Johnny Mayo Jr. and lives outside the city limits. A native of Sanat Anna, she is a graduate of Santa Anna High School and attended Howard Payne University in Brownwood.

Before becoming business manager for the Sonora firm, she had been an executive secretary, receptionist, filing clerk, legal secretary and payroll secretary. She has also been secretary to the city finance director in San Angelo.

Mrs. Mayo will assume her duties April 1 and begin with a salary of \$12,000 yearly.

The next regular meeting of the city council is Tuesday night.

Open Houses Planned In Eldorado Schools

The local school system is hosting two separate open houses in conjunction with public school week which is March 5-9.

Open house in the elementary grades is set for Tuesday. The elementary chorus will give a presentation at 7 p.m. in the high school

auditorium.

Open house in the high school will be Thursday. The band will give a presentation at 7 p.m. in the auditorium.

Theme for the observance is "Texas Public Schools: Democracy in Action." The Texas State Teachers Association is joining in with other education organizations and Masonic bodies throughout the state in urging teachers, students and the public to participate in the 29th annual observance of the special week. Mrs. Virginia Stacey, TSTA president, points out that TSTA is on the eve of its own 100th birthday, as it was founded in 1880.

The open houses will give parents and other school patrons a chance to meet teachers and get a better understanding of the way their schools operate.

Don't Forget Makeup Day

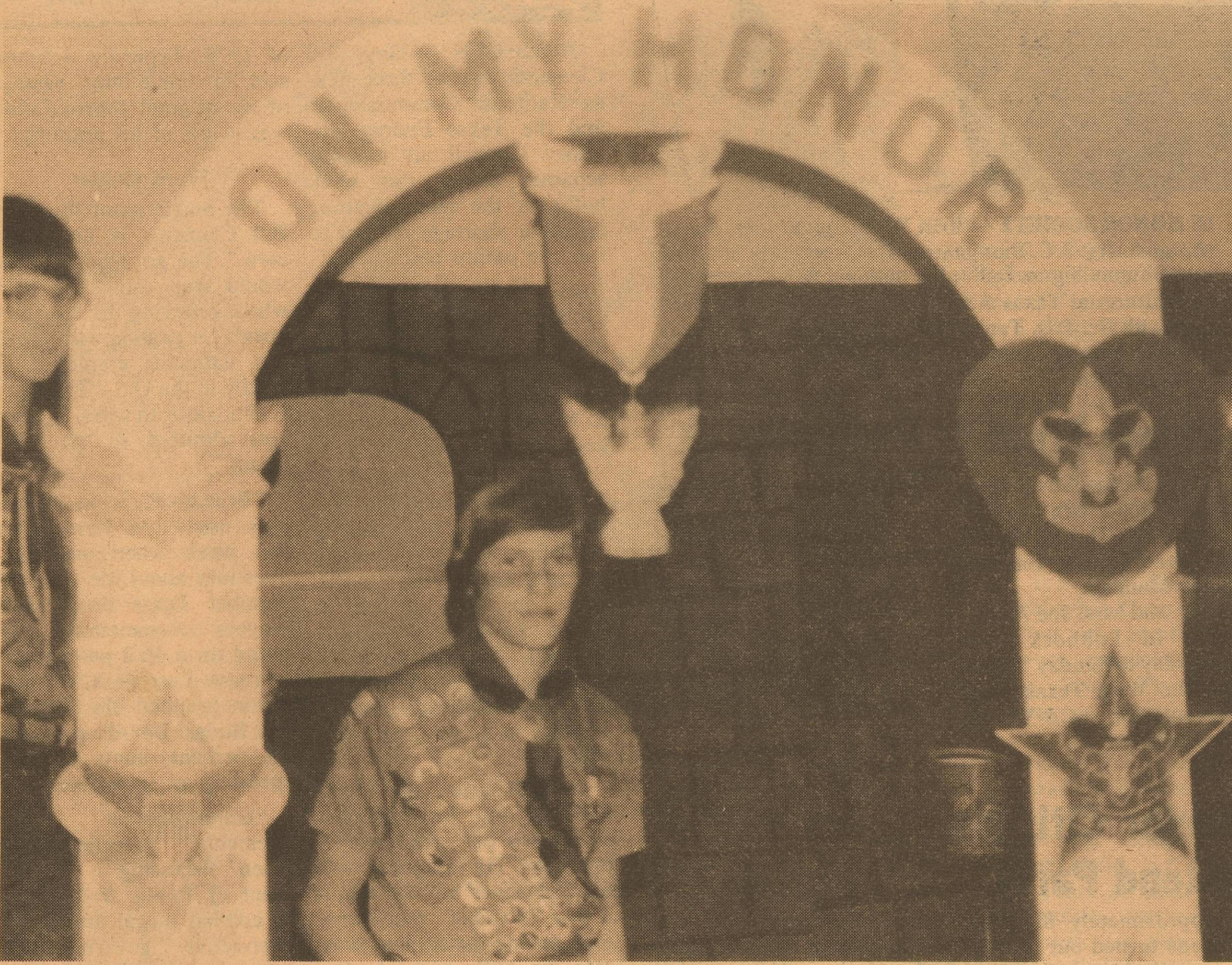
Don't forget to send your children to school on Friday. This is a makeup day for the one day school was closed after Christmas due to bad weather.

The day was originally set up as a teacher work day, but teachers will take up that day on Saturday.



CUBBY AWARD WINNERS — Shown are the winners of the Cubby Award during the Cub Scouts Blue and Gold Banquet Monday night. Pictured are, from left to right, Trey Preston, Jon Bumgardner, Danny Willeke,

Skeeter Roubison, Stan Meador, Jon Hodnett, Howard Ledbetter and Marco Sandate. The cubby award is given to the troop with the most parents and friends attending the event.



LATEST EAGLE SCOUT — Mark Wallis kneels under an arch during the Cub Scout Blue and Gold Banquet Monday night. The youth was presented the Eagle award during the event which was attended by 100

persons. He has been working toward this honor since he was 12 years old and is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Wallis.

Short Stuff

By JOE AWTREY

We are told that bread cast upon the water will someday return. But it looks as though the dough this country has cast across the ocean may never return.

—s—
This past week my wife, Angie, and I travelled to Lubbock to attend the West-Texas Press Association meeting. We had really been looking forward to it. I was looking forward to talking to some of the other publishers and gathering information from the programs on the agenda. Angie was looking forward to (1) getting to go out of town, (2) not having to cook meals, (3) having someone pick up after her and (4) the shopping centers.

As usual we were running right on schedule (two hours late) so Angie decided to call the hotel in Lubbock and tell them we were going to be late and to please hold our room. The hotel person told her that they did not have reservations for us. When she informed them that the reservations had been made in January they begged her pardon and said the reservations probably hadn't come through their computer yet. After a few cracks about their computer she finally got us a room and we were on our way.

Outside Lamesa we ran into a West Texas sand storm. Unless you have witnessed one of these storms you can't imagine what it is like. Visibility dropped somewhere below zero and when we came out of it somewhere around Tahoka there was this person beside me wheezing, coughing, red-eyed and a mess in general. Needless to say the pleasure part of the trip went with the sand storm.

This publisher has not been in Lubbock for quite a while so when we arrived at the city limits I began reading road signs. Highway 84 was supposed to take us right to the entrance of the hotel.

Not that easy! Just happens that 84 splits at the darndest place. Angie said turn left and the sign read 84 and pointed right so I hooked a big right. About five miles and a lively discussion down the road I decided that maybe she was right. As I turned the car around I didn't say anything to her about it because she wasn't speaking to me anyway.

Upon arrival at the hotel we found out that this is the only hotel in existence that doesn't accept checks, credit cards or any kind of personal references. They want cash in advance for all the nights you will be there and they have the only room left vacant in Lubbock. We finally got the room.

The remainder of our visit in Lubbock was rather uneventful, however on the return trip we lost a car tire to vandals while visiting with friends in Big Spring.

Due to the fact that our spare tire is one of those handy little emergency tires that is good for 30 miles at 25 miles per hour and looks like it belongs on a motorcycle and due to the lack of interest of several business establishments as far as opening up their place of business at 10 p.m., we returned home in a borrowed automobile.

Everything worked out okay and we made it home, however I feel like I should tell our neighbors that — yes, that was my wife kissing the drive way at 12:30 Sunday night.

THE CLASSIFIED ADS

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GARAGE SALES

YARD SALE— Furniture, all sized clothing, household items, new stereo, diamond ring, puppies, corner of Doris and North East Streets, brown trailer house. Thursday, March 1, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. 222k2c

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FOR SALE OR RENT — 2 and 3 bedroom mobile homes, furnished. Owner may finance. Call 853-2116. 31slenc

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FOR SALE Registered Hereford Bulls. Service Age. Contact Arch Edmiston at 853-2221. 1123tfnc

FOR SALE — Amana Radar range, under warranty. Kenmore portable dishwasher. Call 853-2408, Bill Hodges. 215htfnc

FOR SALE — 1976 Honda, 360T, has 600 miles, perfect condition. May be seen at Whitten's Liquid Feed Store. 22212c

FOR SALE — Two 1975 Yamaha's, 350RD. Call 853-2603 after 4:30 p.m. 312tp

FOR SALE — Chest of drawers, \$50. Call 853-2045 31k2c

PERSONAL

PLEASE HELP! We are taking up donations for the family of Juan Saldivar whose home burned down this past week and are badly in need of help. Any little thing will be greatly appreciated. They have a boy age five and two girls, ages four and two. Call 853-2191 or 853-3083 or come by 306 E. Brooks. 31s2p

IF YOU WANT TO DRINK THAT'S YOUR BUSINESS. IF YOU WANT TO STOP DRINKING, THAT'S OUR BUSINESS. Persons interested in joining an alcoholics anonymous group in Eldorado are asked to come to the Memorial Building every Monday night at 8 p.m. for a meeting.

CARDS OF THANKS

We would like to express our thanks to our friends, neighbors, and relatives for the food, flowers, phone calls, memorials and any other act of kindness they did for us during the illness and death of our dear mother. God bless each and everyone of you. Family of Mattie Thornton 31h1p

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a public service of this newspaper and the Texas Tourist Development Agency

We all hate to go to the doctor and shell out for doctor bills. It's even worse when you take your child and find out you're sicker than he is.

That's what happened to Angie Awtrey Tuesday when she took her daughter to have her knees checked by the doctor. While waiting for him to come in the examining room, she took a deep breath and coughed real loud because she knew that she was going to have to cough sometime and didn't want to do it when he was there.

Well, sure enough, just when she did, he walked in. He looked at both of them and said, "Just who is sick?"

He examined Teresa's knees and told her to stay off of them for a while. Then he turned to Angie and said, "And now for you." When he got through with her, she was walking out with a prescription for a large bottle of Actifed for a month.

In some ways it pays to go see a doctor and in some ways it doesn't.

THERE'S SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE IN THE CLASSIFIED ADS

Schleicher County LEADER

"Schleicher County's Only Newspaper"

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MEMBER TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

MEMBER WEST TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

Just Talking
By NELL EDMISTON

Wednesday was Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent. As a child I grew up in a predominately Catholic Community and we all "gave up" something during Lent. That meant we did without or did not do a certain something until Easter.

When we were little, we gave up candy and gum and did quite well, with Mama's help, of course. And Mama gave up yelling at us kids so much, and we almost drove her crazy.

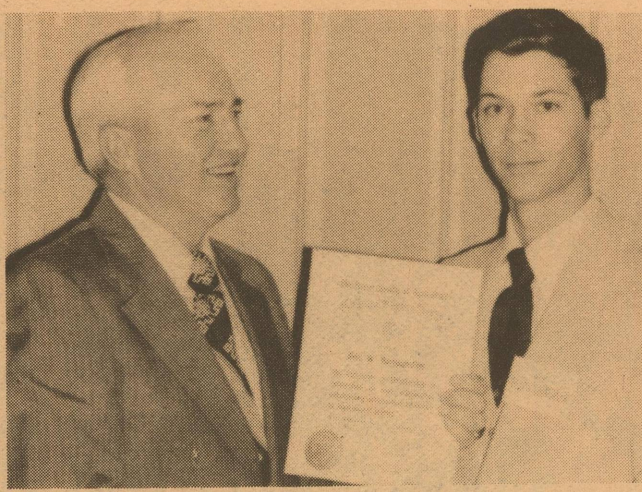
When we got a little older, a little more independent, and much smarter, we gave up other things. For instance, one year, some friends and I gave up mountain climbing, water skiing, ice skating, and skin diving. Mama didn't give up yelling that year.

In college, I gave up beer and dating boys, but only because I needed to lose weight and didn't want to admit I didn't have a date to the rodeo, so it was a way out.

And now, I'm giving up yelling at my kids. It's a vicious cycle and now my kids are driving me crazy.

Isn't there something exciting about seeing the first insects just before every thing bursts forth in bloom the first part of the spring? It seemed spring would never get here this year, but Sunday my daughter spied a Lady Bug on the back door and a wasp buzzing around above it. Later I spotted a beautiful black and blue Monarch butterfly in the shed.

And if you'll notice, many of the fruit trees in the area and even some of the mesquite trees look like they are ready to bust. It won't be long now before everything will again be green and beautiful.



IN HONOR SOCIETY — Britt W. Bumgardner, son of Mr. and Mrs. J.C. Bumgardner, was recently initiated into Gamma Sigma Delta, the national honor society of agriculture, at Texas A&M University. He is pictured here with Dr. T.D. Tanksley Jr., president of the Texas A&M chapter of the society. Bumgardner is majoring in agriculture.

Home Front — Designing Is Program Topic

Mrs. Bessie Doyle spent the weekend with her son, Jerry Doyle and his family, in Menard. She returned home Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Awtrey were in Lubbock from Thursday to Sunday attending the West Texas Press Association Mid-Winter meeting.

Senior Citizens Attend Party

Approximately 40 senior citizens turned out to celebrate Washington's birthday at the Senior Citizens Party sponsored by the Extension Homemakers Clubs and the Aging Committee in this county. The party was held last Thursday in the Memorial Building.

Refreshments for the occasion were provided by Flora Riley, Sadie Davidson, Evelyn Wimer, Rosa Faight, Dorothy Powers, Gaila Pina and Ola Ruth Barbee.

Musical entertainment was provided by Mrs. Frank Van Horn, Mrs. Mercedes Pina and Mrs. Evelyn Stigler.

Calendar Of Events

Today, March 1 — Jaycees, 7:30 p.m., club house.

Friday, March 2 — Makeup day at school; Luncheon for women, noon, Lions Club room, Memorial Building.

Saturday, March 3 — Teacher's work day, Moving day at First Baptist Church, 9:30 a.m.; Firemen's Ball, Memorial Building.

Sunday, March 4 — Sunday devotional at nursing home, 3:30 p.m.

Monday, March 5 — Historical Society, 3 p.m., museum.

Tuesday, March 6 — Girl Scout Leaders, 1 p.m., Memorial Building; TOPS, 6:30 p.m., Memorial Building; Country Cousins, 7 p.m., Memorial Building; City Council, 7 p.m., City Hall; Volunteer Firemen, 8 p.m., Fire Hall; Open House at elementary school, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, March 7 — Methodist Men's Prayer Breakfast, 7 a.m.; Lions Club, noon, Memorial Building.

Thursday, March 8 — Open House at high school, 7 p.m.

Friday, March 9 — Kerrville Outreach Program, 11-noon, Neighbor hood Center.

Saturday, March 10 — Eldorado Jamboree, 8 p.m., Memorial Building.

Sunday, March 11 — Mixed foursome at golf course; devotional at nursing home, 3:30 p.m.

Monday, March 12 — Order of the Eastern Star, 7:30 p.m., Masonic Hall; School board, 7:30 p.m., high school library; Beta Sigma Phi Sorority, 7:30 p.m., club room of Memorial Building.

Tuesday, March 13 — Woman's Club, 2:30 p.m.; TOPS, 6:30 p.m., Memorial Building; Country Cousins, 7 p.m., Memorial Building; Firemen, 8 p.m., fire hall.

Wednesday, March 14 — Methodist Men's Prayer Breakfast, 7 a.m.; Lions Club, noon, Memorial Building.

Thursday, March 15 — Beta Sigma Phi sorority bake sale, 10 a.m.; Clinic for pre-school children, 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., First Methodist Church; Jaycees, 7:30 p.m., clubhouse.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor: I wish to express my gratitude to all the newspapers in the 56th District for fair and objective coverage during the seven weeks of campaigning for State Representative.

All the candidates ran a clean campaign which allowed the media to report on issues without the mudslinging which exists in some campaigns. The media was able to serve its readers well by reporting the issues honestly and truthfully.

Thank you, Gerald Geistweidt State Representative District 56

Dear Sir: Monday night Susan and I were guests at the Cub Scout Blue and Gold Banquet in the Memorial Building. It was good to see so many boys actively enjoy-

ing cub scouts and boy scouts. The program impressed upon my mind what important principles scouting instills in the boys participating. Eldorado should be proud of all these boys.

I do not know everyone's name who works with these boys but everyone of them needs to know how much they are appreciated for the hard "volunteer" work they are doing.

Sincerely, Gene Stark

Dear Sir: Am enclosing a check for \$6.50 for my subscription to the paper. Mrs. Loleta Dempsey shared some of her papers from home with me, which I enjoyed very much. My congratulations for a much improved paper. Yours respectively, Mrs. Nina Klink

STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

By Lyndell Williams
TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

AUSTIN — Gov. Bill Clements, two of three Texas Railroad Commissioners and the Texas Energy Advisory Council all sounded separate alarms this week but over the same awaiting crisis—a shortage of fuel to run the nation on.

In Washington, Clements declared: "We do indeed have an energy crisis," and went on to bombard President Carter for having failed so far in securing an oil and gas deal with Mexico.

On the home front, Railroad Commissioner Jim Nugent made the first chilling revelation that gas rationing loomed ahead. His remarks came during a speech in Dallas. Fellow Commissioner Mack Wallace was quick to agree. "We are talking about rationing our gasoline supplies in peace time," said Wallace.

John Poerner, the chairman of the three-member RRC, was the lone voice of optimism. He disagreed with his colleagues but did admit it was "possible" that sometime during the coming summer the U.S. might face a slowdown in gasoline production because of the cut-back in crude oil from Iran. The mid-east country supplies 10 percent of the world's oil and five percent of that is gobbled up by the U.S.

Poerner said he was not "alarmed" even though the nation's reserves had fallen to a 70-day supply. "When we reach a 60-day reserve," Nugent remarked, "Schlesinger (Energy Secretary James Schlesinger) will be extremely nervous." At the time of the 1973-74 Arab oil embargo that created shortages and long lines at some gas stations across the country, the normal U.S. reserve was 54 days.

"I think we are in the most precarious international situation since World War II," announced Wallace, a frequent critic of the national energy policy forged by the Carter administration. A strategy Wallace feels emphasizes "cosmetic" solutions to expected shortages. "I don't see the administration encouraging production," Wallace remarked.

In an emergency meeting of the Texas Energy Advisory Council called to consider the repercussions of cutbacks in Iranian oil, a resolution offered by Wallace called on the nation to begin a no-holes-barred effort to produce the energy needed to keep the nation running. "We must face up to the problem," Wallace said before attending the council meeting. "The thrust of the nation's energy policy needs to be changed."

Ironically, in the first interesting action on the House floor, the leaders of what Speaker Bill Clayton calls the "loyal" opposition managed to slash in half an emergency appropriations bill for the RRC and specified that the money be spent only to implement the federal National Gas Policy Act

Clinic Set For Eldorado

The Menard Plan A Co-Op is sponsoring a pre-school clinic from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. March 15 in First Methodist Church in Eldorado.

The clinic will be closed from noon to 1 p.m. for lunch.

Parents with children four or five years old on Sept. 1 are asked to bring these children to the clinic.

Purpose of the clinic is to identify any vision, hearing, medical or psychological problems the child might have early enough so corrections might be made before the child starts to school.

There is no fee for the clinic.

of 1978. Typically, Clayton said he didn't think passage of the original appropriation was a test of his authority.

Word Game

The magic word for Gov. Bill Clements is not "Bracero." The governor said he would stop using the term when referring to his proposals for dealing with Mexican nationals employed illegally in the U.S. "The word is obnoxious to some," Clements admitted, so "Bracero" is out.

"Excessive" is in. Clements used that term again this week when answering questions about the 160,000-member Texas Public Employees Association's demand for a 10.2 percent pay increase. Last week, the governor branded the Legislative Budget Board's proposed 22 percent jump in state spending as "excessive."

"Unimaginative" was Clements' favorite term when discussing a Department of Public Safety plan to combat illegal drugs. The ever-active governor has taken to re-writing what the DPS handed him.

Wiretaps are already part of the DPS strategy, and Clements backs such an idea, but if he doesn't watch it, the governor may come up with a dry hole. Lt. Gov. Bill Hobby says a law legalizing wiretaps in narcotics cases will most likely get unplugged in the Senate.

With that in mind, Clements announced the creation of a citizens committee to help him in his crusade against drug trafficking. H. Ross Perot, head of one of the world's largest computer firms, was named to chair the 10-member panel. Perot is from Clements' old stomping grounds—Dallas. The remaining members of the committee, dubbed "Texans War Against Drugs," will be named later.

Courts Speak

The Texas Supreme Court this week upheld a state ruling that limits the practice of acupuncture to licensed physicians.

And the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals upheld the 1976 robbery conviction of former professional football player Warren Wells.

Short Snorts

Speaking figuratively, of course, Lt. Gov. Bill Hobby said the "bloodiest" struggle of the 66th session might well come over attempts to raise the home mortgage ceiling. But not a drop was spilled this week as House and Senate committees failed to act on legislation that would raise the home loan interest rate from 10 to 12 percent.

Diabetes Assn. Plans Meeting

The Concho Valley Chapter of the American Diabetes Association will have its monthly meeting at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday in the Texas Room of the First City National Bank in San Angelo. Medical professionals will be present to answer questions. The public is invited to attend.

A Lions Club will give a film presentation concerning the Lions Camps. If anyone knows a child who has Diabetes and is interested in Diabetes camps this program will be of special interest to them.

Our ADA Chapter will be sharing a booth at the San Angelo Fat Stock Show with West Texas Blood Services, courtesy of Texas State Bank. Come by, visit and pick up Diabetes educational materials.

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In Those Days

(Compiled From Eldorado Success Files)

ONE YEAR AGO
March 3, 1978 — Ernest Roy "Pete" Bryant, 81, was killed in a two-vehicle accident on Highway 277.

A new car wash was under construction on the corner of South Main Street and the old Sonora Highway. Owners are Mr. and Mrs. David Vannett.

The Gong Show netted \$910 for the Eagle Band.

Residents of Schleicher county contributed \$1,446 to the Arthritis Foundation.

Members of Beta Sigma Phi sorority were planning a Come As You Are Party, Founders Day celebration and spring rush.

FIVE YEARS AGO
Feb. 24, 1974 — Sam Ritch Jay, 66, of San Angelo died at his home. He was the father of Robert Jay of Eldorado.

Teresa Gail Callis and William R. Rives were married in McCamey.

Karen Trudy Hight and Larry Eston Shelnett were married in the home of her parents here.

Bob Krueger announced his candidacy for U.S. House of Representatives.

12 YEARS AGO
March 2, 1967 — Several Eldorado High School students participated in the Sonora Speech tournament. Receiving medals were Martha Sue Page, Kathy Robinson, Susan Hill, Peggy Hill, Buddy Calk. There were 16 EHS students in the final competitions.

Buddy White was elected to fill the place of John Hodges on the Housing

Authority. Hodges had moved to Louisiana.

The Eldorado Woman's Club planted redbud trees on the small city park area across from City Hall.

A new ceiling was installed in the main room of the Memorial Building.

An early morning fire completely destroyed a ranch home on the Cecil Meador ranch on the Merton Highway. It was occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Salvador Perez and their five children.

Mrs. and Mrs. W.O. Alexander celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary.

35 YEARS AGO
March 3, 1944 — Mrs. Frank Bell, national defense chairman for the 21st district, was to address a joint session of the local American Legion Post and the Ladies Auxiliary.

Members of the Eldorado Lions Club who had been drafted were to be entertained with a banquet and program at the Methodist church.

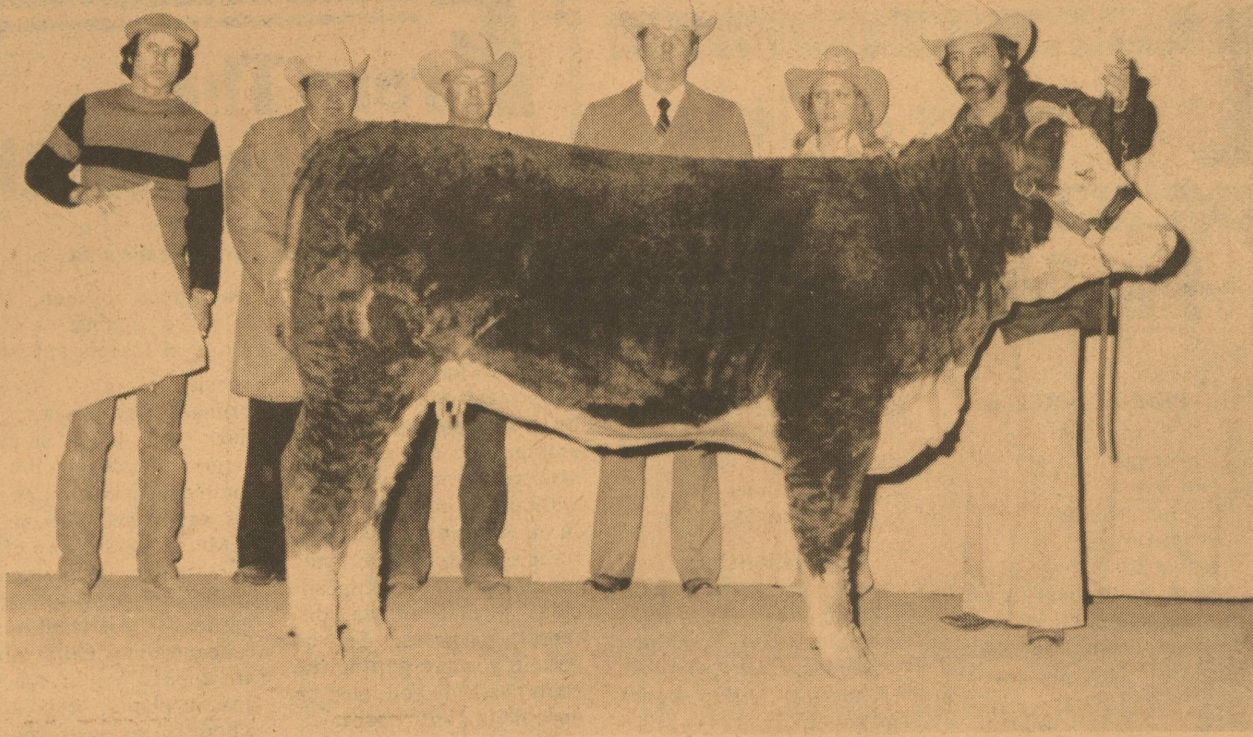
Mr. and Mrs. W.O. Shafer became owners of the West Texas Cafe, buying it from Mr. and Mrs. L.B. McClary.

W. Irl Breedlove, publisher of the Eldorado Success, endorsed the establishment of a municipal band in the city.

Polly McLaughlin was taken to a San Angelo Hospital where she underwent an appendectomy.

Mrs. Pat Finley left for San Diego, Calif., for a visit with her husband, seaman Finley.

Mrs. Bob Page had returned from a visit in Center and Alexandria, La., and reassumed her duties as Red Cross Chairman. Goal for Schleicher County's Red Cross drive was set at \$2,732.50.



CHAMPION BULL CALF — The Reserve calf champion bull award at the Louisiana State University Register of merit in Baton Rouge, La., went to the junior bull calf class winner of Rocking Chair Ranch at

Fort McKavett. Shown with RCRLI Domino 831, which weighs 1,128 pounds, are Jackie Jackson and RCR manager Kenneth Loso.

SCHOOL MENU

All lunches served with hot rolls, milk and butter. Menus subject to change.

Monday March 5

- Meatloaf
- Pinto beans
- Creamed potatoes
- Applesauce
- Cupcakes

Tuesday March 6

- Spaghetti & meatsauce
- Cream style corn
- Lime Jello
- Peanut butter cookies

Wednesday March 7

- Hot dogs with chili
- Corn chips
- Fruit cup
- Rice Krispie cookies

Thursday March 8

- Turkey & dressing
- Giblet gravy
- Wax beans
- Cranberry sauce
- Harvest cake /icing

Friday March 9

- Barbecue-on-a-bun
- Fried potato rounds
- Ranch style beans
- Chocolate pudding

BREAKFAST

One-half pint of milk served with each breakfast.

Monday March 5

- Orange juice
- Hot biscuits-bacon-jelly

Tuesday March 6

- Grape juice
- Hot oatmeal-toast

Wednesday March 7

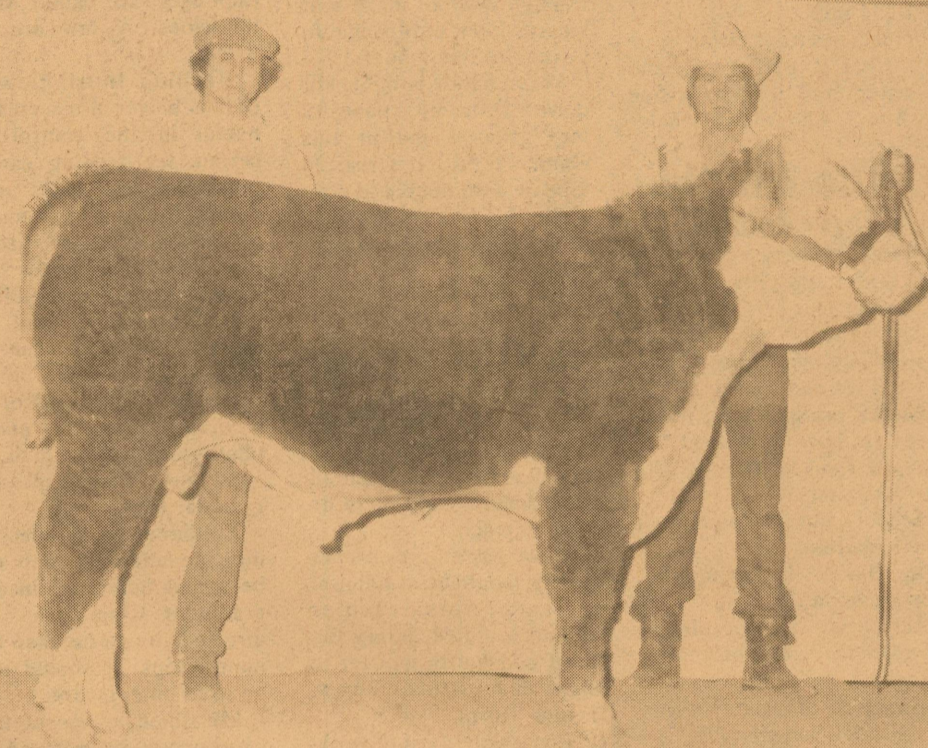
- Applesauce
- Muffins

Thursday March 8

- Apple juice
- Cinnamon toast

Friday March 9

- Banana
- Choice of ready-to-eat cereal



RESERVE CHAMPION FEMALE — The reserve grand champion female at LSU's Register of Merit Hereford competition was SD Aster Lass, the first place senior heifer and female calf champion. She is owned by Rocking Chair Ranch, Ft. McKavett and J&J Cattle Co. in Longview. With the winner are, left to right, RCR herdsman Jackie Jackson; Bob Kunde, American Hereford Association director; Alfred Meeks, judge; James Melton, Hereford Association president; Maureen McCain, Louisiana Hereford Queen and Lloyd Whitehead, RCR owner.

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Bridge Team Winners Again

Tom Peaslee of Sonora and Billie Porter won first for the third week in a row during Duplicate Bridge Club play last week. Second place was won by Mary Christian and Jack Bebee. Bobby Sanders and Frankie Williams tied with Margaret Frost and Pete Finley for third. Tying for fourth were Lottie Puckett and Fred Adkins of Sonora and Bee and Hollis McCormick.

Mrs. Edmiston Host Meeting

All members of the Two-Bits Bridge Club were present last week when Imogene Edmiston hosted the meeting. Dorothy Evans won high and Ethel Etheredge won low. Mrs. Edmiston and Bobbie Sanders won bingo.

Nursing Home News

The Schleicher County aging committee and the Extension Homemakers Clubs in this county sponsored a party last Thursday afternoon in the auditorium of the Memorial Building in honor of the elderly persons in Schleicher County.

They have been doing this for a number of years and we all enjoy and appreciate it very much. Some of us play games or solve puzzles and there is also music for entertainment. There are useful prizes given for the ones who happen to draw the lucky numbers.

Valentines Are Program Theme

"Love, Hearts and Flowers" was the overall theme for the Feb. 13 program of the Eldorado Woman's Club.

Mrs. Evelyn Stigler, program leader, gave a brief history of Valentine Day. Old love songs were led by Mrs. Oliver Teele with Mrs. Stigler at the piano.

Mrs. Stigler read an interesting article "Just Call Me Cupid." Each of the 12 members present told how she met her Valentine.

During the business meeting, winners of the speech contest were announced. They were Jolynn Jay, first; Janet Bradshaw, second and Lorrie Powell, third.

Mrs. Hollis McCormick was accepted into the club as a new member.

St. Wall Now In Nebraska

Omaha, Neb. — Staff Sergeant Glenda F. Wall, daughter of Mrs. F. Vaughn Taylor of Sallisaw, Okla., has arrived for duty at Offutt AFB, Neb.

The sergeant, a telecommunications operations specialist with a unit of the Air Force Communications Service, previously served at Hickam AFB, Hawaii.

Sergeant Wall is a 1972 graduate of Sallisaw High School. Her husband, Dennis, is the son of Donn M. Wall of 2096 Dalmation, Idaho Falls, Idaho.

The sergeant's father, J.L. White, resides on Rt. 1, Eldorado, Tex.

The home had no visitors last week. I suppose it was too cold to get out of the house unless it was necessary.

The United Pentecostal Church conducted the service in the dining room Sunday afternoon. Bro. Walter Ford is the pastor of that church. Next Sunday is the day for the ST. Luke Missionary Baptist Church to conduct the service here. We hope they can be here as we enjoy their pastor's sermons and also their singing.

The bingo winners last Wednesday were Beulah Harris, 2; Bess Andrews, 1; Juanita Sanchez, 1; LaVita Brooks, 2; Dehlia Gardener, 1 and Fred Gunstead, 1.

On Friday the winners were Erna Rexroat, 1; Elva Daniels, 1; Juanita Sanchez, 1; Beulah Harris, 2; Bess Andrews, 1; Ernest Boehler, 2 and Myrtle Wade, 1.

On T.V. this morning we say the phenomenal total eclipse of the sun in the northwestern portion of the United States. There will not be another total eclipse of the sun until 2024, forty-five years from now, so scientists say.

If you are tired of winter, believe me, it won't get any better: the first touch of spring is the Internal Revenue Service.

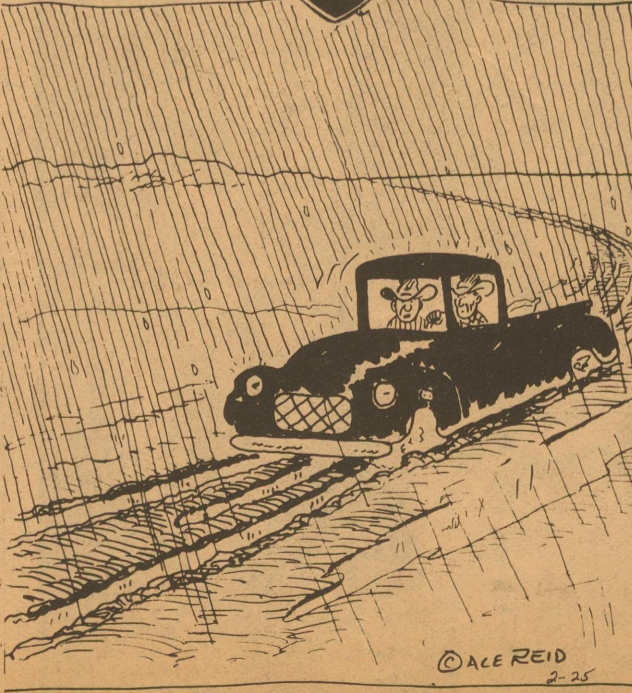
Reporter,
LaVita Brooks and Beulah Harris

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Eldorado 853-2872

COW POKES by Ace Reid



"Here we're going to town to get our drought relief check and before we get there we're eligible for flood relief."

Family, Food, 4-H

by Nancy Lester
County Extension Agent - Home Economics

"Generic" or "unbranded" products — also known as "no-name" or "no-frills" labeling — offer consumers "another" choice.

Traditionally, retailers have sold two major types of brands — national or name brands and store or private label brands.

"Generic" products come in plain packages and carry no brand names or trademarks.

The labels are generally black and white with bold lettering, state only the basic name for each product — such as "sweet peas" — and the essential complementary information — such as ingredients, net contents and name of manufacturer or distributor.

Generic items carried by food stores number from around 10 to 100, but most stores carry between 25 and 50 of these products, according to USDA interviews with 15 chain stores and three wholesalers that handle generics.

Many retailers said they may slowly increase the number of items, but had no plans to extend beyond 45 or 50. Retailers generally carry only one size of any items.

Virtually all firms carry some type or style of canned corn, beans and peas.

Other popular food items are canned tomato products, canned fruits, canned fruit and vegetable juices and drinks, packaged macaroni and cheese dinners and larger sizes of dry pet foods.

Carried less frequently are ready-to-eat cereals, baking needs — including oils and shortening — tea bags, peanut butter, mayonnaise, cheese and packaged processed meats.

Most retailers place all generic products together in the store in one mass display.

Responses of retailers indicate that consumers can expect to save an average of 25 percent over national

brands and about 15 percent over store brands. Savings can vary from no savings to over 50 percent, depending on individual product and retailer.

Sources of savings on cost of generics are product quality — cheaper ingredients — reduced advertising and promotion, and less expensive packaging and labeling.

The standard minimum specification for generic food items was USDA Grade C, with some Grade B to fill in where needed.

National brands and top-line store brands, on the other hand, use primarily Grade A and some Grade B.

The USDA Grade B and C are acceptable quality for table use, cooking and casseroles, sauces, tarts and puddings. Grade C products may have less uniform size, color, texture and maturity.

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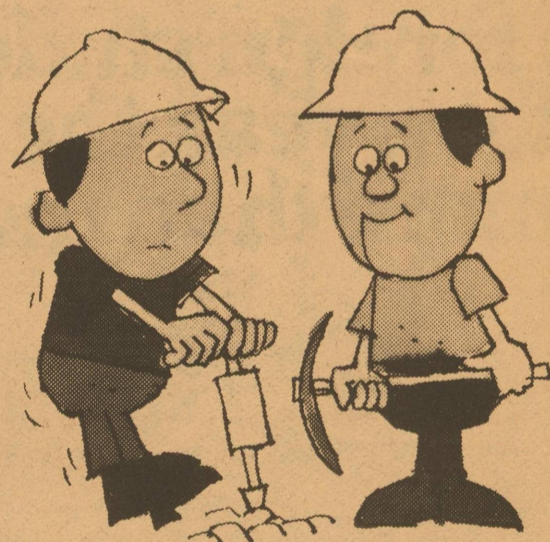
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See Kirk Douglas, John Cassavetes and Amy Irving in Brian DePalma's supernatural thriller, "The Fury." Also coming up, "The Choir Boys" starring Lou Gossett. HBO is too much to miss!



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CHRISTOVAL ★ News & Views

Jack Pardee Homecoming Date Postponed; Barbecue Slated

The Jack Pardee Homecoming Club met Feb. 19 in the Community Building. Word has been received that Jack cannot come this year for the planned homecoming stating that it would be better for him if the celebration in his honor could be held in 1980.

The club decided to have a barbecue on June 16 this year for the purpose of

making money to promote the celebration for Jack sometime in the future.

The Homecoming Club would like for anyone in the area who is interested to join. When dues are paid a membership card will be issued.

There will be notices put out later to remind everyone of this year's barbecue.

Recipe Roundup

by Liz Clark

PEANUT BRITTLE CANDY

2 cups sugar
1 cup water
1 1/2 cups peanuts
1/2 cup Karo
2 tsp. soda
Cook until spins thread. Add peanuts. Cook until brown. Then add soda. Beat fast. Pour out thin on foil.

DIVINITY

3 cups sugar
1/2 cup white Karo
1/2 cups water
2 egg whites (in large bowl)
1 cup nuts
Pinch cream of tartar
Cook sugar, karo, and water until it spins a fine thread. Add to stiffly beat-

The Months

By FAY NORTH

With January comes a brand new year. Christmas is over with all of it's cheer. February most always gives us ice and snow. March brings strong wind: Gee, how they blow! April finds daffodills and Income tax. School's out in May and all Kids relax. In June, it swimming, Vacation and sun. July is independence Month, and oh, what fun! August means buying School clothes again. Then in September, Football begins. October brings Halloween And all of it ghosts. In November it's Thanksgiving and that's when we boast. Of all of our blessings and all of our friends Now that the year is Nearing it's end. Next comes December With it's Christmas joys And old Santa Claus with All of his toys. We've lived another Twelve months, and then. We recycle the months And use them again.

en eggs which cream of tartar has been added. Beat until mixture loses its sheen. Add nuts and drop by tsp. onto wax paper.

BATTER ROLLS

Soften in 1/4 cup water: 5-10 minutes — 1 pkg. active dry yeast. Combine: 1 cup milk, scalded and cool to lukewarm. 1/4 cup sugar, 1 tsp. salt.

Add and beat well, 2 cups flour.

Add and beat well, 1 egg to yeast mixture.

Stir in 1/2 cup shortening. Enough flour to make stiff batter. Beat until smooth. Cover, let rise 1 hour.

When batter is light, stir down. Drop by spoonful into greased muffin tins about 1/2 full. Let rise 30 min. or until double in size. Bake at 375 degrees for 20 to 25 minutes. Makes 24 rolls.

COUNTRY WISDOM

By LIZ CLARK

Followers of moon signs in treatment of human and animal ailments say that all procedures should be in its various places.

Most agree the proper timing should be as follows:

Dental work: cavities should be filled during the third and fourth quarter in signs of Aquarius, Taurus, Leo or Scorpio.

Extraction during working moon period of first and second quarters, but in signs of Pisces, Gemini, Virgo, Sagittarius or Capricorn.

The best time to pull teeth, remove tonsils or remove any growth is when the sign is in the knees and feet.

Removal of corn calluses or warts: Use barren signs, Aquarius, Aries, Gemini, Leo, Virgo, Sagittarius with moon in fourth quarter.

Heart operations should never be performed during the sign of Leo. Leo rules the heart.

From The Horses Mouth

By JERRY SWIFT
Schleicher County Agricultural Agent

GARDEN PESTICIDES

The next time you purchase a garden pesticide be sure it is what you want. To simply ask for a pesticide by it's name is about as ambiguous as asking a groceryman for a soda pop without saying what kind. In other words, a manufacturer's trade name may represent a host of pesticides formulated for different purposes. To be certain you are getting the right pesticide you must be specific in your request.

Chemicals used to kill insects are called insecticides, those that kill mites are miticides, and those that kill slugs and snails (molluscs) are called Molluscicides. A few are as listed:

Bacillus thuringiensis (BT) is bacterial insecticide useful in the control of certain leaf-feeding caterpillars of butterflies and moths. It kills as a stomach poison and acts slowly, so it may take 3-5 days for the insects to die. It is used like other insecticides and is available as a powder or liquid.

Diazinon (Spectracise) is a broad spectrum phosphate insecticide. It is a good soil insecticide in granular form.

Kelthane is a specific miticide and may not kill bees and beneficial insect predators when used as directed. It can be used on many crops. It should not be used on eggplant.

Malathion is one of the phosphate insecticides

least toxic to man. It is effective against a wide range of insects and some species of mites. It kills primarily by contact, but does not have stomach action. Residual life is limited, especially at the low rates used on crops.

Metaldehyde is an effective molluscicide against snails and slugs. Its use in gardens is restricted to low concentration baits which are applied only to the soil around plants, or in areas where these pests congregate.

Methoxychlor is a chlorinated hydrocarbon insecticide. It is generally non-toxic to crops, except some cucurbits, and has many uses. Its repeated use causes a build-up of aphids.

Rotenone is made from a tropical plant. It is available as one percent powder that can be sprayed or dusted. Rotenone kills both chewing and sucking insects and will not injure plants.

Sevin (Carbaryl) is a general purpose carbamate insecticide, that is highly toxic to bees. It has a short waiting period on many vegetables. Sevin is effective against many insects which have become resistant to chlorinated hydrocarbons and/or phosphate insecticides. Its repeated use may cause a build-up of mites because natural enemies are killed.

Before purchasing a chemical always read the label.

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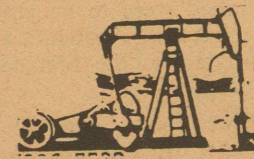
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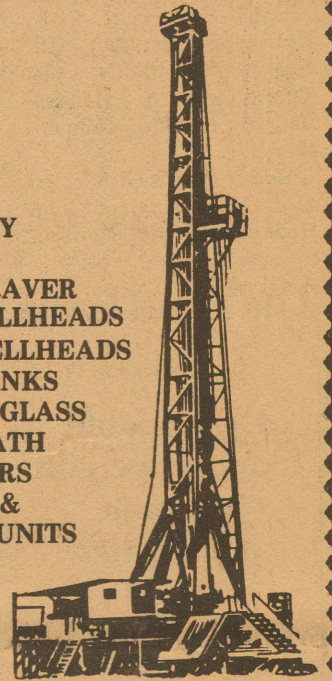
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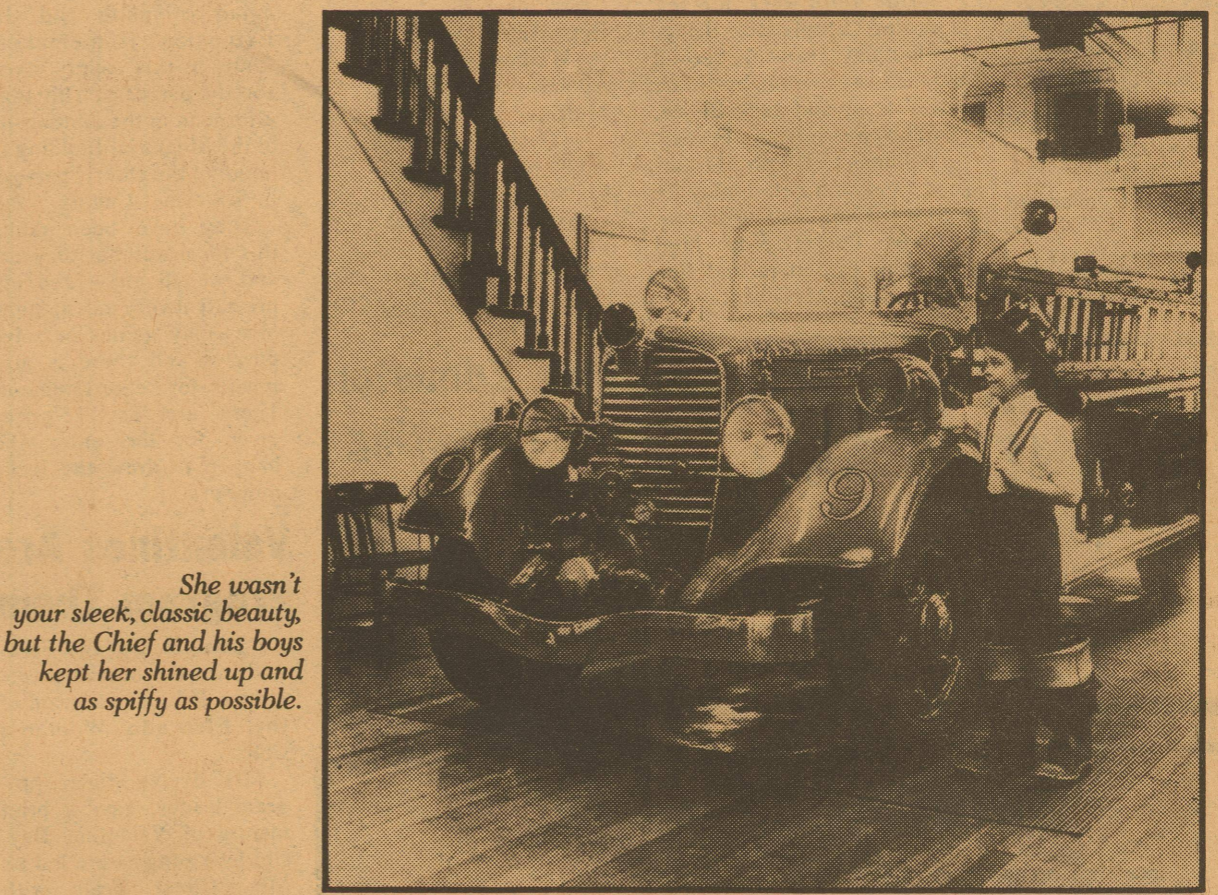
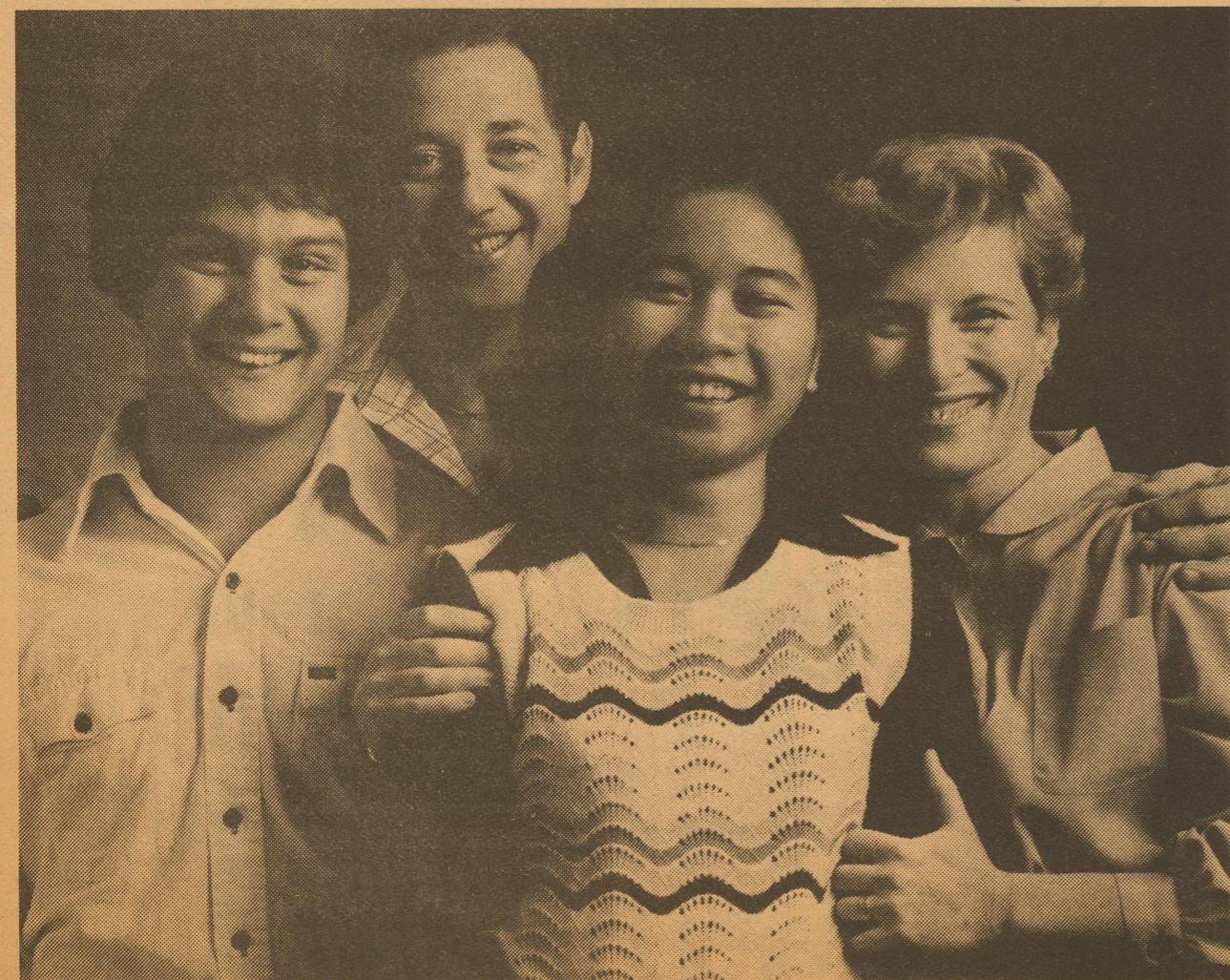
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Old Number 9.

First you'd hear the siren piercing through the trees. Then Old Number 9 would heave into sight, wallowing down the street and galumphing toward her destination like a dinosaur with flat feet.

She wasn't your sleek, classic beauty, but the Chief and his boys kept her shined up and as spiffy as possible for an aging lady who had put out a lot of fires in her time.

I loved that fire engine. And my grandfather knew it. When he gave me my first Savings Bond, he smiled and said, "Save enough of these, boy, and someday you can buy your own fire engine."

I couldn't get enough of Old Number 9. Even her siren had a special wail that gave me goose bumps. Kind of lonely and yet reassuring at the same time. Sometimes they'd park her out in front of the station, and I'd walk slowly all around her. She'd sit there, all alone, resplendent in her red coat, her chrome fixtures

gleaming and winking at me in the sun.

I grew up, moved away, and on to other things. But I never forgot Old Number 9. Guess that's why I joined the local club for fire engine buffs. Turned out there were a lot of us around. Enough of us to be able to pool our Savings Bonds and go looking for a fire engine to buy.

I finally found Old Number 9. Spending her retirement on the edge of a highway under a big "Mack's Red Hots" sign. But we changed all that. Today, Number 9 has the place of honor in every town parade. She leads the march down Main Street. With me at the wheel, of course.

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Parallel Terraces Will Help Farmers Get Higher Yields

Steve Williams, director of Zone III in the Eldorado-Divide Soil and Water Conservation District, has installed 42,381 feet of parallel terraces and 8,627 feet of internal blocks on about half of his section farm. Steve entered the Great Plains Conservation Program on September 27, 1976. The Soil Conservation Service designed the parallel terrace layout and cost shared on 60% of the terracing expense. The construction of the terraces was done by Steve, himself.

Conventional terraces once stood in the place where the parallel terraces are now located. These terraces were not doing a satisfactory job of containing the run-off water. Also, the numerous point and short rows, caused an expensive time consuming problem. Parallel terraces have reduced Steve's problems in that; (1) he is better able to control erosion by containing the run-off water; (2) fuel and labor costs have been reduced by the elimination of numerous point and short rows; (3) and a better distribution of run-off water will result in higher crop yields.

The conventional ter-



INSTALLS PARALLEL TERRACES — Steve Williams has 42,381 feet of parallel terraces on his farm with assistance from the Soil Conservation Service. With the parallel terraces Steve is more able to control erosion, reduced fuel and labor costs and better distribute run-off water, which will result in a higher crop yield.

aces are not satisfactory on the other portion of Steve's farm, but he plans to use the old terraces as guides and construct terraces parallel to them. This elimin-

ates the cost of leveling the old terraces and reconstructing new terraces in approximately the same location. In this method of terracing, the conventional terraces need to be modified, to some degree, in order to eliminate sharp and unnecessary curves.

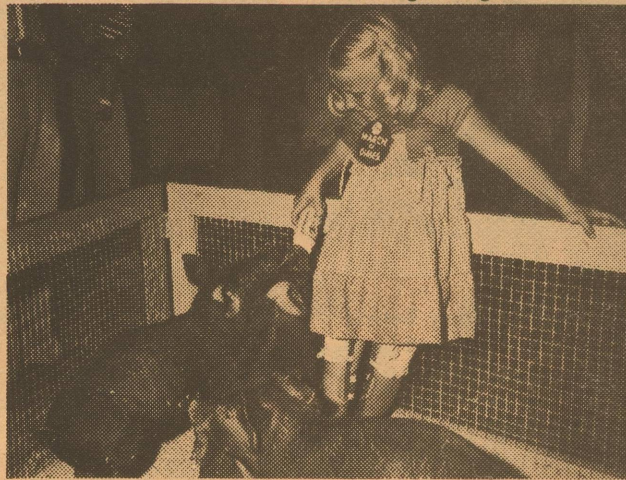
Due to the larger type of equipment being used and the higher fuel and labor costs, parallel terraces have become a great advantage in today's farming efficiency.

Steve feels parallel terraces are a great advantage to his farming operation. Future increased crop yields will exceed the cost of the parallel terrace installation.

During the 1978 fiscal year in Schleicher County, 218,964 feet of parallel terraces were constructed under the Great Plains Conservation Program. Under the Agricultural Conservation Program (ACP), parallel terraces were put in two more fields and conventional terraces in an additional field. In the next three years an additional one million feet of parallel terraces are planned to be installed throughout the county.

If You Could Talk To Animals, Just What Would You Say?

AND THIS LITTLE PIGGY went straight for the bottle. It's feeding time at the Dallas Children's Zoo and March of Dimes National Poster Child Melanie Brockington is glad.



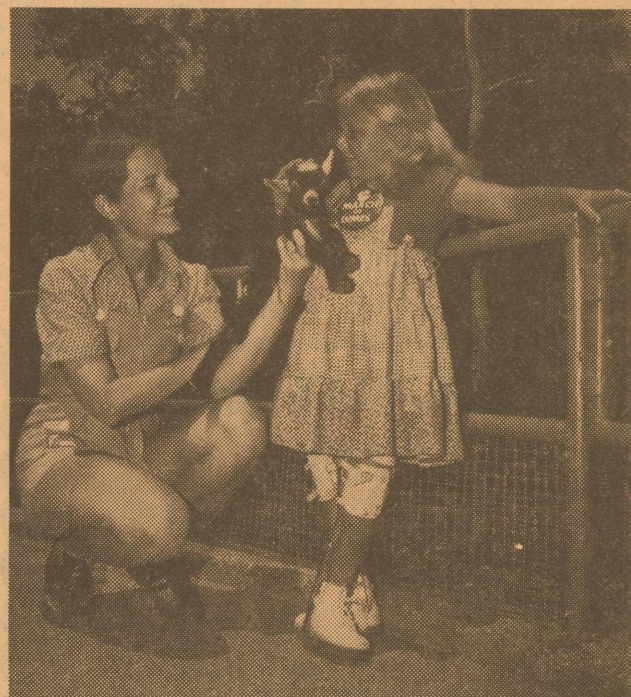
If you could talk to the animals, what would you say? In a whimsical way, Melanie Brockington, 8, of Lancaster, Tex., tells them she is the March of Dimes National Poster Child. Born with open spine, Melanie is an active youngster who walks with the aid of braces and crutches. Keen on animals she enjoys spending a day at the zoo. At home she devotes much time to playing with her pet poodle "Peaches". Melanie represents some quarter-million youngsters born each year with physical or mental handicaps.



FAST FRIENDS. Melanie has her hands full with Linus. The chimp went bananas over his new pal who is in third grade at West Main Elementary School in Lancaster, Texas.



THE TORTOISE and the Poster Child. Melanie and a baby goat are sitting pretty while being taken for a ride aboard Oliver, a 117-year-old Galapagos Islands turtle.



KID STUFF. Chris Seifert, Dallas Children's Zoo Director, does the introductory honors as Melanie gets acquainted with a baby goat, the newest member of the Zoo family.

NOTICE OF HOSPITAL DISTRICT ELECTION

Notice is hereby given that the annual Director election of Schleicher County Hospital District will be held on Saturday, April 7, 1979

The present law requires that any person desiring his name to be printed on the ballot as a candidate for director shall file a petition, signed by not less than 10 legally qualified voters, with the secretary of the board of directors, asking that such name be printed on the ballot. Such petition shall be filed with such secretary at least 25 days prior to the date of election, such date this year being March 13th.

Three directors are to be chosen at the April 7 election. Terms of Evelyn Wymer, Pat Sykes, and Ruben Minor expire.

The term of office is for two years.

E. C. PETERS, SECRETARY

Noticia del Distrito del Hospital Eleccion

Noticia se es dada que la eleccion anual de directores para Schleicher

County Hospital District se llevara acabo el Sabado, 7 de Abril, 1979.

La ley presente requiere que cualquier persona depeando su nombre publicado en el boleta como candidato para director debe archivar una peticion firmada por no menos de diez (10) votantes calificados legalmente, con el secretario de la mesa directiva, solicitando que tal nombre sea publicado en el boleta. Tal peticion debe ser archivada con tal secretario a lo menos veinte y cinco (25) dias antes de la fecha de la eleccion. Tal fecha siendo el 13 de Marzo.

Tres (3) directores seran elegidos en la eleccion del 7 de April.

Terminos de Evelyn Wymer, Pat Sykes, Ruben Minor.

E. C. PETERS, SECRETARIO

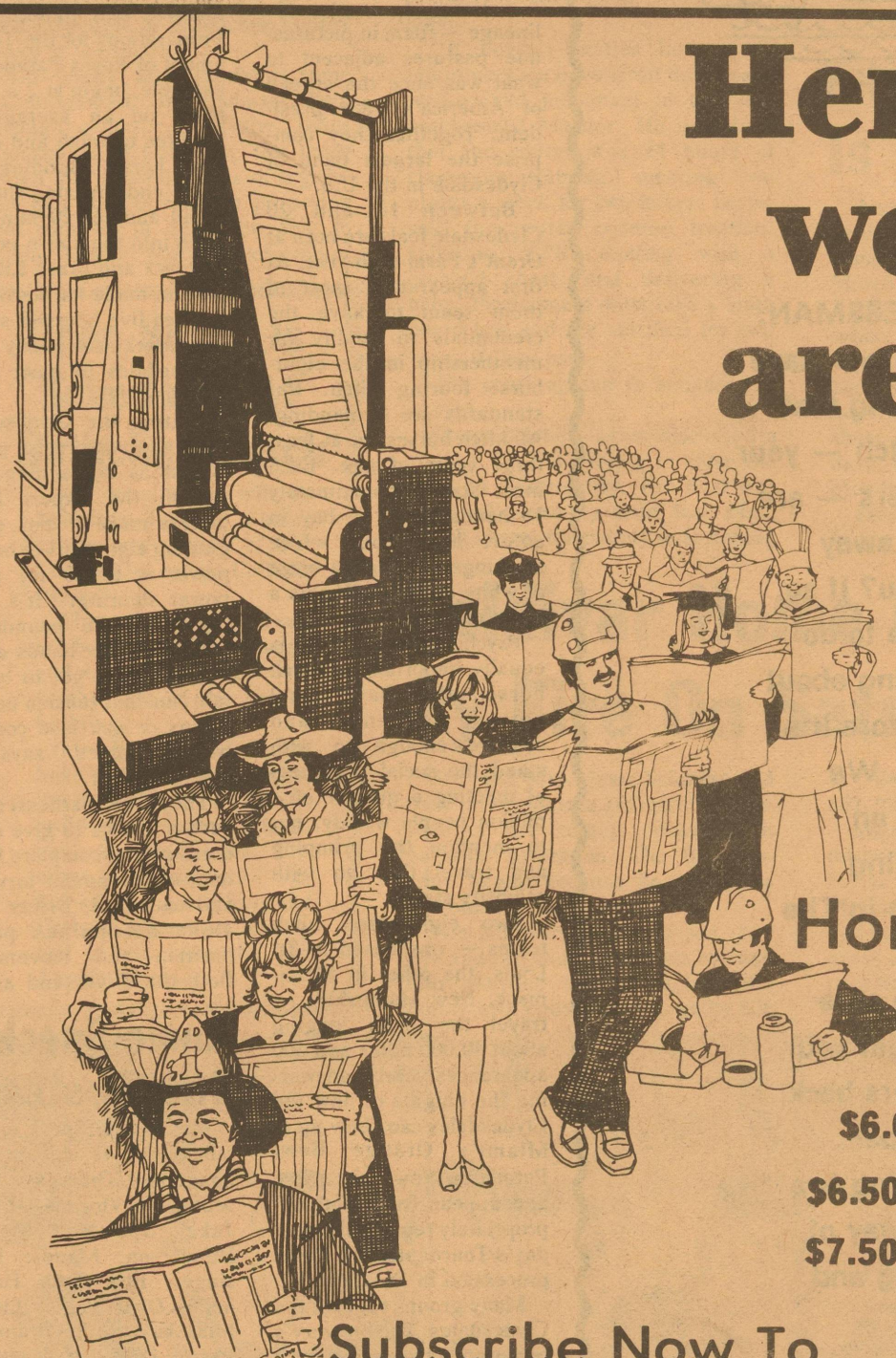
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HOW DO YOU SAY THANK YOU? Members of Brownie Troop 72 line up behind Missy Burlison during a Girl Scout Thinking Day Feb. 19. The Brownies served foods from five countries: crepes, mints, tortillas, punch and fortune cookies, which they made themselves. They also learned to say "Thank You" in five languages and made flags from five different countries. These activities are to earn a World Friendship Badge.



LINING UP — Girl Scouts from a local troop line up as guests of the Brownie scouts Feb. 19. They enjoyed the foreign food made by the Brownies, especially the fortune cookies. In turn, they taught the Brownies to sing a song from the Belgian Congo. As a finale, the girls teamed up to play an African game similar to tug-of-war.

Bake Sale And Dance Planned

Mary Nolen received the ritual of jewels during the meeting of Xi Xi Chi Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi sorority Monday night. Also during the meeting, the sorority decided to have a bake sale at Parkers Foods March 15. Each member will donate \$10 worth of baked goods. The chapter will also sponsor a dance for the hospital's fund raising efforts on April 6. The Side-winder has agreed to donate their time for the occasion.

Eleven members were present at the meeting. Hostesses were Peggy Williams and Sheila McClure.

date	high	low
Feb. 19	58	26
Feb. 20	74	36
Feb. 21	76	42
Feb. 22	76	42
Feb. 23	74	35
Feb. 24	63	26
Feb. 25	58	26

Fog was reported on Feb. 19 and 20.

Flora Hubble reported on a drawing for a free trip to a Dallas Cowboy football game in the fall. She will give further information at a later date.

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Eldorado

Gentle Giants Are Delight For Millions

What weighs eight tons, has 32 powerful legs and can appear in a nationally televised New Year's Eve parade in Florida and another the next afternoon in California?

It's the famed Anheuser-Busch Clydesdales, those eight goliath geldings who've delighted millions over the years — effortlessly powering the coach of The King of Beers and New Year's parade floats that risk upstaging by the horses' elegance, grace and matchless power and size.

Just one of the surprisingly gentle giants is some-

thing to behold. Hitch eight of them to their antique draft wagon, and the message is clear — "Here comes the king."

From their custom-forged four-pound shoes, past nature's stockings feathered like fleece, past lean, broad shoulders, to the tip of their brawny black and brass collars, the Clydesdales are breathtaking. Together they gait in unison, gleaming, graceful, nimble to a fault.

Since 1933, the fabled hitch has thundered its way into the hearts of America, appearing at parades, festi-

vals, rodeos and shopping centers. The largest brewer in the world, St. Louis-based Anheuser-Busch, regards them as unmistakable symbols of the company's position in brewing and of the quality of its products. Ancestor to the noble steed which bore brave warriors to battle in the Crusades and more recently of Scottish descent, the Clydesdale was declining in numbers when August A. Busch, Jr. acquired a team to celebrate the repeal of prohibition.

In the early days of American brewing, it was said that a brewer's fortune was limited by how far his draft horses could travel in a day's time. Horsepower went under the hood after World War I; that and packaging innovations made two things obsolete: local beers and the horses that pulled them to market. (The Clydesdale seemed to face a bleak future.)

Today, in comparison, they flourish. What began 43 years ago as a ceremonial gesture has become breeding science. At Grant's Farm in St. Louis County, nearly 100 champion-sired pure breeds — each of impeccable lineage — roam in picturesque pastures adjacent to what was once the spread of America's 18th president. Together they comprise the largest band of Clydesdale in the U.S.

Between 15 and 20 Clydesdale foals are born at Grant's Farm each year. At first appearance, most of them seem to have the credentials to qualify for membership in the eight-horse touring hitch. But standards are demanding. All hitch horses are at least three years of age. Each must stand approximately 18 hands high, be bay in color, have four white stockings and feet, a blaze of white on the face plus a black mane and tail.

Psychological make-up is equally important. A hitch horse must have steel nerves, gentleness and courage enough to withstand the social pressures of meeting a quarter of a million people weekly, not to mention the primping and travel that go with celebrity status.

Two eight-horse hitch teams — one based in St. Louis, the other in Merrimack, New Hampshire — travel the U.S., logging about 40,000 miles and 300 appearances yearly; answering the enigma of how the Clydesdales can show up in Miami's Orange Bowl Parade on New Year's Eve and appear fresh and appropriately regal in the next day's Tournament of Roses procession in Pasadena.

Many groups request the Clydesdales. The brewery's corporate promotions staff in St. Louis receives more than 5,000 solicitations annually, but must evaluate

each in light of other commitments, budget and logistics. Anheuser-Busch pay most expenses.

Transporting the Clydesdales is more mammoth than they are. They travel in style, befitting their designation as "The King's Horses." Each touring entourage includes three 40-by-8-foot vans with air cushion suspension and thick rubber flooring to ease the rigors of standing. Vent fans and insulation assure fresh air and comfortable temperatures. The caravan stops each 100 miles — to attend to their comfort. The entourage stops at night to provide the horses with exercise and a good rest in spacious stalls.

Their diets are equally sumptuous. One 2,200-pound Clydesdale will consume as much as 25 to 30 quarts of feed in two daily meals with a few pounds of carrots. The feed is a mix of beet pulp, crimped oats, bran, minerals, salt, molasses and water. On top of that, the horses consume up to 60 pounds of hay daily.

Grooming and dressing the Clydesdales for public appearances are no less massive and undertaking. Preparations for the Tournament of Roses Parade, for example, begin at 2 a.m. It takes on an average 45 minutes to wash and clean each horse. Braiding the mane and dressing the tail entail another 20 minutes. Then into the spit-n-polished black and brass \$30,000 custom-made harnessware. It takes five hours of strenuous work to ready the Clydesdales to meet their public.

Putting the Clydesdales through their precise paces is just as demanding. Although the expert hitch drivers make it look easy, guiding eight tons of horsepower is a far cry from power steering. "It's having 60 or 70 pounds of weight in your hands at all times; you've got to maintain constant tension on the reins or you lose contact with the horses," says one veteran driver.

They are harnessed in such a way as to give each horse almost complete freedom of movement forward and backward. Driver skill alone determines pace, position and movement. Both the driver and assis-

tant have their hands full continuously. While one drives the other is busily straightening the reins. The stress of guiding 12-plus tons of horse and wagon is so great drivers generally trade duties as often as every 15 minutes.

There was a subtle change in the appearance of the wagon for 1976 — the 100th anniversary of Budweiser. Rough-hewn replicas of the original Anheuser-Busch beer case have replaced the customary gleaming red and white boxes which customarily appear.

The "official" home in St. Louis of the Clydesdales is perhaps the most lavish quarters ever designed for horses. In 1885, Anheuser-Busch founder Adolphus

Busch built an ornate \$35,000 building on the St. Louis brewery grounds to house the family horses. An oval-shaped brick and stone structure with cathedral glass windows, it included when built an office, waiting rooms, carriage parking, harness room, stalls for 25 horses and, in that day, such unique amenities as steam heat and electricity. The Clydesdale stable is one of the three buildings withing the 70-block Anheuser-Busch complex in South St. Louis to be designated a registered National Historic Landmark.

Time has not diminished the love between Anheuser-Busch and the Clydesdales, much less the millions of people they delight each year.

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