

The Post Dispatch

A BUILDER IN GARZA COUNTY SINCE 1926

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2012

THEPOSTDISPATCHONLINE.COM

75 CENTS

White River Lake levels 'critical'

By Wayne Hodgkin
The Post Dispatch

The region's main water source this past week fell to within 3.5 feet of the threshold that dictates when the reservoir is dry.

White River Lake, the main water source for the cities of Post, Crosbyton, Ralls and Spur, this past week fell to about 28.5 feet below the dam's spillway, according to the Texas Water Development Board. At 32 feet below, the reservoir is considered dry by state standards.

As of Tuesday, the lake was only at about 5.6 percent capacity.

Tom Fulton, general manager of

the White River Municipal Water District plant, said the lake has operated and water has continued to be pumped out of the lake well past the threshold considered "dry" by state officials.

"We're not quite there yet, but it's coming," Fulton said Tuesday. "I know I probably sound like a broken record at this point, but we're heading into some pretty drastic times if we don't get some serious rainfall."

Although West Texas is entering into the dry season of the year — it's not likely that needed precipitation will fall — Fulton remains hopeful that lake levels will begin to even out over the next several weeks as resi-

dents cut back watering their yards and, in general, overall water usage.

"This is the time of year where you see a pretty significant cutback in not only the overall water usage but also the water evaporation rate," Fulton said. "So we've got those two things working in our favor at the moment."

The district remains in stage 3 of its drought-contingency plan for the time being, which prohibits, among other things, a moratorium on all outdoor watering and residential washing of vehicles.

The drought status was renewed at the beginning of the month and remains in effect until Jan. 31.

Fulton said while there's no need for residents to panic, that every effort at conservation needs to be made.

"We're at the point where every drop counts," he said. "I can see that our residents are trying hard to conserve; our revenues are down 30 percent already. But sometimes our best isn't good enough. I want to continue to stress conservation to our residents."

Fulton said he prays every day for rain and urged residents to do the same.

"It'll get worse before it gets better," he said. "I can promise you that. In the meantime, we all need to continue to conserve and pray."

Post Notes

Events are listed free of charge for nonprofit civic organizations, schools and community events. Submit listings at least two weeks ahead of the date. Listings will run through the date of the event. Emailed submissions are preferred to thepostcitydispatch@gmail.com.

Church fundy

Holy Cross Catholic Church will have a fish fry from 5 to 7 p.m. tonight at the social hall. Cost is \$8 a plate and will include fish, hushpuppies, coleslaw and a drink.

Christmas parade

The Post Area Chamber of Commerce annual Lighted Christmas Parade will be at 6 p.m. Saturday in downtown Post. All businesses, churches, civic organizations and others are encouraged to participate in this year's event. Entry forms can be picked up in the Chamber office. For information, call Janice Plummer at 495-3461 or email chamberofcommerce@postcitytexas.com. Also visit postcitytexas.com.

4-H Christmas party

The Garza County 4-H youth Christmas party and food drive will be at 2 p.m. Sunday at the Extension Office. Activities will include a scavenger hunt. Participants are asked to bring canned food items and a Christmas ornament to donate. Call 495-4400 for information.

Toys for Tots

The Post Lions Club is seeking donations to purchase books for children in Post for the annual Toys for Tots program. Applications from parents of children ages birth through 18 years who may need help with Christmas gifts may be picked up in the elementary school office or obtained from any Post Lions Club member. Donations from area businesses also are welcome. For information, contact Byron Garrison at 990-9898.

Book drive

The Post High School chapter of the National Honor Society will collect books for children ages newborn to 12th grade for its Christmas community service project. New books will be collected and given to the Post Lions Club for its annual Toys for Tots campaign. To donate, drop off books in the designated boxes at the high school library, elementary or middle school teachers lounges. For information, contact Amy Easterling at 990-9870 or email aeasterling@postisd.net. Deadline for book-giving and monetary donations is Dec. 14.

Christmas exhibit

"The Joy of Christmas," an inspiring exhibit of Nativities and crèches from around the world, is on display at the O.S. Ranch Museum, 201 E. Main St. Hours are 10 a.m. to noon and 1 to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Call 806-495-3570 for information. Exhibit closes Jan. 26.

More POST NOTES on page 8

Curtis back in local custody

Man to be re-tried for burglary in bus battery theft case

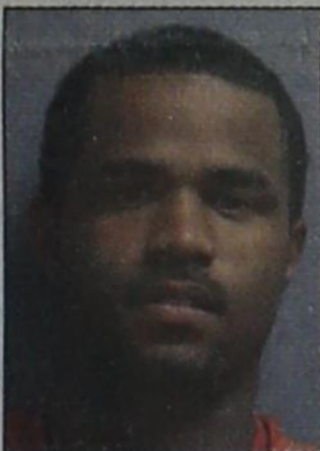
By Wayne Hodgkin
The Post Dispatch

Less than a month after a state appeals court overturned his conviction in a school bus-battery theft case, Jerry Lynn Curtis, 26, of Post is back in the custody of local law enforcement.

Curtis was arrested Nov. 7 in Lubbock County on drug charges when law enforcement officials were notified he was wanted in Garza County on an outstanding warrant issued shortly after his conviction was overturned.

Earlier this month, County Attorney Michael Munk had said he issued a warrant for Curtis' arrest in order to re-try him on charges stemming from a September 2011 burglary of a school bus and theft of a bus battery at the Post ISD maintenance facility.

Last January, a Garza County jury of seven people found him Curtis guilty and the maximum punishment was assessed at one year in jail and a \$4,000 fine for the burglary charge and 180 days in jail and a \$2,000 for the theft charge.



CURTIS

See CURTIS, Page 8

Post 10, Sonora 34



Juan Cabrera/For the Dispatch

Senior Antelope Dalton Holly (18) tries to escape a Sonora Bronco defender during the Nov. 23 area playoffs game in Clyde. Post would go on to lose, 34-10, bringing a close to the season.

Antelopes season comes to end with area loss

The Post Dispatch

CLYDE — The Post Antelope varsity football season ended Nov. 23 in the area round of the playoffs to the Sonora Broncos (9-3).

Post was unable to keep drives going in the first half. The only points during that time came on 24-yard field goal by Aron Lopez.

The Antelopes was successful

in shutting down the Bronco running attack, but Sonora used three touchdown passes during the game to end the Antelopes' season.

Post was able to find the end zone once during the fourth quarter. DJ. Brown raced 91 yards to give the Lopes hope of a comeback. He finished the game with 229 yards rushing.

The Antelopes finished the season with a 9-2 record and a district championship. Post had nine seniors on the team this year, including Seth Babb, Vance Blair, Troy Copeland, Caden Dean, Nathan Gill, Zeb Graves, Dalton Holly, Paul Martinez and Matt Nava.

Jerry Pyles

Animal shelter vies for share \$50,000



Wayne Hodgkin/The Post Dispatch

Janice Plummer, director of the Post Animal Refuge Center, talks to Buster, a Pekinese male, who stands on his hind legs to greet her Wednesday afternoon at the shelter.

By Wayne Hodgkin
The Post Dispatch

The Post Animal Refuge Center is among the near 100 civic and nonprofit organizations across the South Plains vying for a share of a \$50,000 philanthropic giveaway by a Lubbock-based banking institution.

The Community Rewards program sponsored by City Bank will make available a total of \$50,000 to be awarded to 10 area nonprofit organizations to assist them in carrying out their missions of hope and service to people in need in and around the South Plains.

This is the fifth consecutive year the program has been in place, and South Plains residents can help their favorite local charity secure funds ranging from \$10,000 to \$3,000 by casting online ballots.

Balloting is limited to one vote per day per computer. Voting began Nov. 4 and will continue through 5 p.m. Dec. 14.

See SHELTER, Page 8

Corrections

If you spot an error of fact, contact Editor Wayne Hodgkin at 806-495-2816 or thepostcitydispatch@gmail.com.

News on the go

Use your smartphone to scan the quick response, or QR, code to visit us online.

The Post Dispatch
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88th Year, No. 15
USPS 439-620



LIGHTED CHRISTMAS PARADE 6 p.m. Post Trade Days SATURDAY DEC. 1st

BMG | BLACKBURN MEDIA GROUP

The Post Dispatch, 123 E. Main St., Post Texas, 79356, is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Phone 806-495-2816 Fax 806-495-2059 Email thepostcitydispatch@gmail.com

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The Post Dispatch (USPS 439-620) is published every Friday, including holidays, by Blackburn Media Group Inc., P.O. Box 1260, Childress, Texas, 79201-1260. Entered at U.S. Post Office, Post, Texas, for transmission through the mail as a Second-Class matter, according to an Act of Congress, March 3, 1879. Periodical Rate Postage Paid at Post, Texas, 79356. Postmaster: Send address changes to The Post Dispatch, 123 E. Main St., Post, Texas, 79356.

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It is the mission of this newspaper to promote the rights of individualism in the American Declaration of Independence. The right of life, liberty and ownership of property are the cornerstone of freedom. Government's sole purpose is to enhance our liberty and freedom. Therefore, we hold every elected and appointed agent of government accountable to that standard.

DEADLINES
Advertising: 5 p.m. Mondays
Editorial: Noon Tuesdays

SUBSCRIPTIONS
\$25 a year in the county \$30 a year outside the county

Call 806-495-2816

TPA 
Texas Press Association
West Texas Press Association
WTPA.org
www.wtpa.org

Menus Week of Dec. 3-7

Post ISD

Breakfast:

Monday: Breakfast pizza, fruit, milk
Tuesday: Churros, sausage link, fruit, milk
Wednesday: Cream of wheat, sausage, toast, fruit, milk
Thursday: Cinnamon rolls, sausage link, fruit, milk
Friday: Cereal, toast, fruit, juice milk

Lunch

Monday: Corn dog, baked beans, tomato and cucumber cup, apple-pineapple d'lite, milk
Tuesday: Nacho grande, refried beans, garden salad, orange smiles, milk
Wednesday: Chicken sandwich, oven fries, fresh veggie cup, fruity gelatin, milk
Thursday: Beefy macaroni, garden salad, baby carrots, fresh grapes, breadstick, milk
Friday: Pepperoni or cheese pizza, broccoli salad, seasoned corn, fresh fruit bowl, milk

Southland ISD

Breakfast

Monday: Waffles, sausage, fruit, juice, milk
Tuesday: Quesadilla, fruit, juice, milk
Wednesday: Breakfast bar, yogurt, fruit, juice, milk
Thursday: Muffins, yogurt, fruit, juice, milk
Friday: Biscuits, sausage, gravy, fruit, juice, milk

Lunch

Monday: Hamburgers, hamburger garnish, potato rounds, diced pears, milk
Tuesday: Tangerine chicken, brown rice, carrots, broccoli, snowball salad, milk
Wednesday: Tex-Mex stack, Spanish rice, refried beans, garden salad, salsa, cinnamon apples, milk
Thursday: Chicken parmesan, green beans, garden salad, breadstick, fresh fruit, milk
Friday: Stuffed barbecue potato, carrots, Texas toast, fresh fruit, milk

Trailblazers-Senior Citizens Center

Monday: Pork-roast, mashed sweet potatoes, mix veggies, roll, coleslaw, fruit, milk
Tuesday: Salmon patties, scalloped potatoes, green peas, veggie salad, roll peach crisp, milk
Wednesday: Baked chicken, mashed potatoes, Waldorf salad, peas and carrots, milk
Thursday: Meatloaf, green beans, scalloped potatoes, roll, milk, banana
Friday: Beef enchiladas, borracho beans, rice, coleslaw, cornbread, apricots, milk

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LOANS FOR Real Estate

Perry names new Supreme Court justice

Special to the Dispatch

AUSTIN — Gov. Rick Perry has appointed Jeffrey S. Boyd of Austin as justice of the Texas Supreme Court effective Dec. 3 for a term to expire at the next general election.

"Jeff is a highly-respected attorney who has consistently excelled throughout his years of private practice, his terms of public service, and his leadership of important charitable organizations. His addition to the court will continue to protect the rule of law and further the tradition of defending the freedoms that Texans so vigorously uphold," Perry said.

Boyd serves as Perry's chief of staff and previously served as general counsel to the governor. He is a former senior partner in the Austin office of Thompson and Knight LLP, and previously served as deputy attorney general for civil litigation under Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott and former Attorney General and current U.S. Sen. John Cornyn.

He is admitted to practice law before the Supreme Court of Texas, U.S. Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals, D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals, and all U.S. District Courts in Texas. Boyd is also president of the Robert W. Calvert American Inn of Court, and a member of the State Bar of Texas, Travis County Bar Association and Texas Supreme Court Rules Advisory Committee.

Additionally, Boyd is past president of the

board of Volunteer Legal Services of Central Texas, past chair of the board of Goodwill Industries of Central Texas, and a past board member of the Freedom of Information Foundation of Texas and Brentwood Christian School. He is also a past member of the State Bar of Texas Taskforce on Court Administration.

Boyd is a graduate of Round Rock High School, Abilene Christian University and the Pepperdine University School of Law.

Boyd's replacement as Perry's chief of staff will be Ann Bisoph.

Since 2004, Bishop has been the executive director of the Employees Retirement System of Texas, which oversees employee and retiree benefits for more than 500,000 state and higher education employees, retirees and their families.

ERS also manages investment of a \$22 billion retirement trust fund and is the 35th largest public pension fund in the United States. Bishop is a longtime veteran of both the public and private sectors. She has operated an independent business consulting service and served as deputy comptroller of public accounts. She was also the first executive director of the Department of Information Resources.

Bishop holds an undergraduate degree in business from the University of Texas at Austin, and a juris doctorate from Texas Tech University School of Law.

Perry names new secretary of state

Special to the Dispatch

AUSTIN — Gov. Rick Perry has named John Steen Jr. of San Antonio as the 108th Secretary of State.

Steen replaces the state's first Latina secretary of state, Hope Andrade, who resigned her position Nov. 23.

As secretary, Steen will serve as the state's chief elections officer, the governor's liaison on border and Mexican affairs, and chief protocol officer for state and international matters.

The Secretary of State's Office also serves as the formal repository for official and business records, publishes government rules and regulations, keeps the state seal and attests to the governor's signature on official documents.

Steen's appointment took effect Tuesday.

"John's strong business background and dedication to public service throughout the years make him uniquely

qualified to serve in this important role," Gov. Perry said. "His leadership over our state's elections process, economic development efforts and international relations will be an integral part of Texas' goal to expand economic prosperity and opportunity for all Texans."

Steen said he was humbled by Perry's endorsement.

"I am deeply honored by Gov. Perry's appointment to serve Texas as its 108th Secretary of State," Steen said. "Serving the State of Texas is an extraordinary privilege, and I look forward to promoting the Texas success story to create more economic opportunities for our citizens and continuing to work with our neighbor, Mexico, toward a prosperous future. As chief elections officer, I will make it my highest priority to preserve the integrity of our elections and ensure they are fair, accessible and secure."

Steen is an attorney and

past board member of the Texas Public Safety Commission. He is a fellow of the San Antonio Bar Foundation, a life fellow of the Texas Bar Foundation, and an executive committee member of the University of Texas System Chancellor's Council and a member of the Distinguished Leaders Council. He is also vice chairman of the University of Texas San Antonio Development Board, past president of the Fiesta San Antonio Commission and past chairman of the World Affairs Council of San Antonio. Additionally, he is a past commissioner and past chair of the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission, and a past member of the Texas Commission on Economy and Efficiency in State Government. He served as a lieutenant in the U.S. Army Reserve.

Steen received a bachelor's degree from Princeton University and a law degree from the University of Texas School of Law.

Deaths

George Nelson

SWEETWATER — George Clayton Nelson, 77, formerly of Post, died Sunday, Nov. 25, 2012, at Sweetwater Health Care Center. Graveside services were Monday at the Justiceburg Cemetery in Justiceburg. Arrangements by Justice-Mason Funeral Home.

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Got something on your mind?

Send a letter to the editor!

The Post Dispatch welcomes letters from readers on topics of local, state, national and international importance. Email letters are preferred to thepostcitydispatch@gmail.com. All letters must include a first and last name, street address (no post office boxes), daytime phone number. Letters sent via U.S. mail may be sent to P.O. Box 426, Post, TX 79356.)

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS SING
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7:00 P.M.

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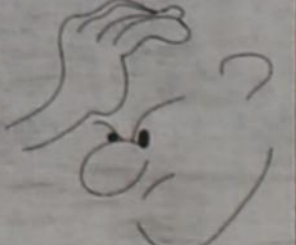
Cryptogram

A cryptogram is a puzzle where a sentence is encoded by substituting the actual letters of the sentence with different letters. The challenge of the puzzle is to 'decode' the sentence to reveal the original English sentence. We have provided a few of the decoded letters to help get you started.

Hint: Quote by the Wicked Witch of the West

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z

T	E		T	T																					
B	X	U	G	V	P	B		B	Y	N	Y	A	J	G	G		P	U	U		B	X	U		
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V	E	D		X	U	W		G	J	B	B	G	U		D	Y	N		B	Y					



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BMG purchases Knox Co. newspapers

Operations will be merged into single publication

The Post Dispatch

CHILDRESS — Blackburn Media Group, the publishing company of The Post Dispatch, has recently purchased two more newspapers in West Texas, owner Christopher Blackburn has announced.

The news and advertising operations of both papers located in Knox County will be merged into a new publication and will be known as The Knox County News-Courier.

Blackburn will serve as publisher of the new publication. "We're thrilled to be back in Knox County," said Blackburn, who previously was publisher of The Knox County News. "To be able to combine resources of both newspapers into a new and improved product will be a boon for the business community and the single, go-to news and information source for residents of these communities."

The publication merged the news, advertising and business operations of both the Knox County News and the Munday Courier.

The Munday Courier had been in operation since 1971 when it was established by Aaron Edgar. Two years later, in 1973, the paper was bought by M.L. and

ON THE WEB

For information about Blackburn Media Group, visit blackburnmedia-group.com.

Mattie Waggoner. Prior to 1971, the local newspaper was known as the Munday Times.

In 1998, Jay and Cynthia White approached Waggoner about purchasing the Courier. The Whites, who also publish a newspaper in Stonewall County, had operated the Courier since that time.

Blackburn once again has taken full ownership of The Knox County News, which has for the last year been operated and published by Tommy and Patricia Wells of Throckmorton. The Knox City paper has been in existence since the 1960s.

Blackburn said the new, combined operation would be beneficial for all.

"Both newspapers were dangerously close to closing their doors for good," Blackburn said. "By combining the editorial, advertising and business operations of both newspapers, we not only will be able to

keep a tradition in Knox County alive, but also help it to become a more profitable business entity for the communities it serves."

The combined editorial and advertising operations will be overseen by Haskell native Wayne Hodgkin, who will serve as executive editor of the new publication.

Hodgkin is a 2001 graduate of Texas Tech University with a degree in journalism. He served as editor of the Tech student newspaper — a 15,000-circulation daily — for two years prior to graduation. Since that time, he has managed successful community newspaper operations in the Lubbock, Houston, Atlanta and Savannah, Ga., markets.

Hodgkin also is editor and general manager of The Post Dispatch and will continue to serve Blackburn Media Group in both capacities.

"Wayne brings a wealth of industry knowledge with him, and we're lucky to have such a professional with his background here in Knox County," Blackburn said.

Blackburn Media Group is owned by Blackburn and his wife, Sharon. It publishes seven newspapers throughout West Texas and southwestern Oklahoma, including The Childress Index — its flagship publication — The Post Dispatch, The Wellington Leader, The Hall County Herald, The Floyd County Hesperian-Beacon and The Hollis (Okla.) News.

Yesteryears

10 Years Ago November 28, 2002

Preliminary autopsy results indicate a drowning that claimed the life of a 66-year-old Slaton man Nov. 17 at Lake Alan Henry was accidental. Constable Daniel Yarbro said no signs of foul play had been found. The body of Lee Maberry, a man described by Yarbro as an "avid fisherman," was pulled from the lake shortly after 5 p.m.

Post Volunteer firemen worked late last week controlling a fire on U.S. 84 near County Road 125 northwest of Post. A load of cotton bales caught on fire as it was being transported by Triangle Manufacturing of Slaton. No one was injured in the incident, but the trailer was considered a total loss. A suspected "hot" bale from the compress was blamed for the fire.

20 Years Ago November 25, 1992

Garza County sheriff's deputies arrested a burglary suspect after he was found hiding under a counter at the Fried Country Barbecue stand in Post. William Raborn III, 23, of Snyder was arrested. Raborn, who had recently been released from the Texas Department of Corrections in September, had been staying in Post with friends.

A 65-year-old Post man escaped serious injury when he was struck by a car as he crossed the street. Jim Watson was hit near dusk Nov. 17. According to Texas Department of Public Safety Trooper Gus Trevino, speed was not a factor in the accident. A preliminary investigation indicated the car driven by Betty Curtis of Post was traveling at about 15 miles an hour at the time of the accident. Watson suffered a shoulder injury and

lacerations to the back of the head.

30 Years Ago November 14, 1982

Lee Gable, 30, of Muleshoe was killed and two Louisiana men injured in a one-vehicle smash up, just south of Post in the Snyder highway about 2:30 a.m. Wednesday morning. The trio was in route to Louisiana. Injured in the accident was the driver of the pickup, Leroy Griffin, and passenger Harold Benjamin Lolley, both of Elm Grove, La. Justice of the Peace Zora Robinson pronounced Gable dead at the scene.

40 Years Ago November 23, 1972

Sammy Maddox, 17-year-old attendant at Long's Enco Service Station, stood off two armed hold-up men about 6:30 p.m. Friday night with an unloaded shotgun, but at the time, he didn't know it was unloaded. Maddox was working on a car in the service station's grease bay when the two men walked toward them from the grease bay, one of them showed him a pistol and told him, "We want all the money you've got." Maddox grabbed a shotgun from the storage room next to the office and leveled it at the two. They took off running for their car. Maddox the son of station owner Fred Long, ran outside to see which way the car went and then ran inside and called the sheriff's office.

Each class at Post Junior High School elects representatives to the Student Council. Those chosen are Jay Lott, Dale Redman, Jill Mitchell, Shorty Bilberry and Larry Dodson. Student Council Officers are president, Danny Sawyers; vice-president, Kelly Mitchell; secretary-treasurer, Kathy Manuel;

50 Years Ago November 22, 1962

Victor E. Hudman of Post has been elected to Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges for 1962-63, it was announced this week by Joe C. Humphrey, academic dean of McMurray College, Abilene. He is a 1959 graduate of Post High School.

A \$241,340 damage suit against the Panhandle and Santa Fe railroad, growing out of a truck-train crash at Post's Main Street crossing early in the morning of Jan. 3, 1961, was expected to go to a district court jury here sometime Wednesday. The suit was brought by Joyce Kyle Hildebrand, former coin machine operator here, who now lives in Big Spring. Hildebrand alleges 10 acts of negligence on the part of the railroad as the cause of the crash.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Craig announce the birth of a daughter, Patricia Lois, born Nov. 15, in Garza Memorial Hospital.

Post Rotarians treated the Post High School football squad and their coaches to a real Thanksgiving dinner of turkey, dressing, and all the trimmings including pumpkin pie Tuesday afternoon at City Hall. It was the club's way of expressing appreciation to the players for a fine season.

The Post Dispatch featured senior for this week is Glenn Polk. Glenn, who has lived in Post all of his school years except for three years when he lived in Denver City, has become the leading figure in the senior class. After graduating this spring, Glenn plans to attend West Texas State College and major in industrial arts.

Compiled by Elizabeth Moreno

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The Idle American Inflation trumps deflation

My old mother would have begun the conversation in one of two ways — 1.) If that don't beat a hen a-peckin', or 2.) Ain't it the "beateneest" thing?

Then, she'd set in on detailing the conundrum faced by Americans across the land during these "whiz-by" days — right on the heels of Thanksgiving with Christmas staring us right in the face.

We are deflated at the thought of the hustle and hassle that accompanies the yuletide season



DON NEWBURY

but are inflated by memories of delectable foodstuff that crowded our table at Thanksgiving — the season that may have introduced the term "second helpings." This was centuries before "more Ovaltine, please."

Though grateful for the rich and wonderful grub that has caused belt extension to the very last hole in our Sunday belt, we now yearn for simpler fare. For a few days, we'll chow down on food most ordinary, like hotdogs, chased down by simple store-purchased snacks.

"Whadda ya mean, no Wonder Bread hotdog buns?" we ask the guy at the grocery store. He kindly explains they aren't baked anymore.

On the next aisle, we search in vain for Twinkies and Ding Dongs, confections that we claim fall into the same general category as Jell-O. You know — it's the dessert there's always room for. I asked him again, "What gives?" "Haven't you heard?" he asked. "Hostess couldn't strike a deal with union employees, so the company is 'kaput.' They'll probably sell the brands to others, but likely in small bites. For a while at least, you'll have to buy other buns and seek other snacks."

No doubt he's an English major working on alliteration en route to writing the great American novel.

Maybe I've been under, behind or distracted by a rock, but I hadn't heard about the bakery closing down. Hmmm, Hostess, formerly "with the mostest," now is reduced to "Hostess with the leastest."

My intent this day is to focus on what should "pump us up," if not fully inflate. Texas A&M fans are swelled to the point of

bursting. Surely there are many among us who are glad the Aggies are waving our state of Texas flag in the faces of Southeast Conference football opponents.

Admit it, even if you are an "orange-everything" Texas fan. The Aggies are "doing us proud" as representatives of the Lone Star State. Who would of thought they'd conquer Alabama in Tuscaloosa? Or boast a freshman quarterback better known across the nation as "Johnny Football"? Or that this remarkable Johnny Manziel already is being groomed for Heisman recognition? Or that the Aggies would string together two great halves in the same game? Or that they would succeed despite not having their own television sports network?

My 100-year-old Uncle Mort showed up the other day in his maroon T-shirt — his "tribute to the Aggies" — never mind his name has never appeared on any university rolls. I doubt if he's ever set foot on the campus, but he's got an Aggie banner flying from the golf cart he puts around on. He asked me if I knew what the moon and Texas A&M have in common? I didn't. "They both control the tide," he laughed.

Uncle Mort then took a serious turn. "Two pieces of news last week just about blew me down," he winced.

The statement brought back memories; that's how my mother used to express amazement. "Well blow me down," she'd say.

He went on to lament the adulterous affairs confessed within hours of each other — one by CIA Chief David Patraeus and the other by the incoming CEO of Lockheed Martin, Christopher Kubaskic, who was to ascend to the top post in January.

"If crying would help, I'd weep," he said, almost in a whisper. "And to think they both had such key roles in defending our nation."

I couldn't disagree with him, and confessed I hadn't thought of linking them to the key roles he'd mentioned. I joined him in remorse, feeling "defenseless." Mort offered a final thought, "Let's try to pump ourselves up with thoughts of Christmas' deepest meaning." Then, he puttered away.

As usual, I expressed thanksgiving that my uncle is an incurable optimist. His mirthful optimism is a tonic for us all

Don Newbury, former chancellor of Howard Payne University, is a humorist and motivational speaker. Email him at newbury@speakerdoc.com.

Nancy's Notions 'Tis the season for giving

Several years ago when the wildfires burned nearly half of our county, we were all so very thankful for our volunteer fire department to all the community members who helped keep them and their equipment up and running.

These men and women had very little rest, but thankfully they are well trained and passionate about serving our county.

Many youth in this county were very aware and amazed at the extent to which many people gave of their resources and time. Our 4-H Club decided

to feed the EMS and fire department volunteers during one of their monthly meetings as a way of saying thank you.

This may not sound like much, but I believe it made a huge impact on our youth.

Janece Williams and I took several of the youth to deliver some good, old-fashioned home cooking. These men and women were very humble and thankful and made our 4-H members feel like the winners. As we left that night, one of the members said, "That was really nice. I'm so glad we did that!"

So who was the real winner? Research, from the University of Michigan Extension Service, shows there are psychological, social and cognitive benefits of youth involvement in volunteer-

ing and community service.

Psychological benefits: Overall, sources indicate students have shown increases in positive feelings and mental health and decreases in depression and stress.

Social benefits: By participating in service projects, students forge bonds that enhance their interpersonal skills and increase their social network. Volunteerism can lead to increased care for others and a desire to cooperate and get involved in positive ways, even among those who had previously exhibited antisocial tendencies. Many students have reported an increased sense of social responsibility, and a subsequent desire to "give back" to the communities from which they have come.

Cognitive benefits: There is a common saying that "you learn something new every day." This definitely holds true for volunteering because with each new experience, old skills are developed as new ones are learned. New information is integrated with past experience, and one's knowledge base grows. When students reflect upon and share their experiences, they experience great cognitive gains. These cognitive gains are a large part of the reason for incorporating volunteering and community service into various curricula and requirements.

Again, who was the real winner? Our youth, of course.

Since joining the Texas A&M 4-H family six years ago, I have been amazed at the number of community service projects that continue to cycle. Our 4-H motto includes the four H's — Head, Heart, Hands and Health.

In 1908 when the first clubs

were established the "Hands" (Community Service) part of the clover was included. They knew back then the positive impact that volunteering and serving others would have on the futures of the membership.

When I started this job, Nita Jo Heckaman and Celia Mason were club leaders and their December meeting was not a "meeting" but a canned food drive.

The 4-H club bought a Christmas tree and lights and 4-H members brought ornaments. They would divide into groups and have a scavenger hunt for canned foods. A decorated tree and all food items were donated to a needy family.

Thankfully, our new club leaders, Marci Oden and Janece Williams, have continued this tradition. The last few years we have been able to give two families a decorated tree and boxes of food.

A few weeks ago, 4-H had a benefit dance for the Post Animal Refuge Center. The cost to get in was \$5, but all money was donated to help with upkeep or dog food.

The event was completely planned, organized and marketed by three 4-H members. Youth who are involved in community service projects and/or volunteering are the real winners.

Look for opportunities. I promise you won't have to look far.

Nancy McDonald is the family and consumer sciences agent for the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service in Garza County.



NANCY MCDONALD

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Holy Cross Catholic Church - Ave K and Main Street - 495-2791

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Faith Chapel - 1105 Green Street, Wilson (806) 628-0018

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Juan Cabrera/For the Dispatch

Senior Nathanial Gill (62) tries to bring down a Sonora receiver during the Nov. 23 area playoffs game in Clyde. Post took its second loss of the season, 34-10, closing out its first post-season playoff effort in a number of years.



Juan Cabrera/For the Dispatch

Antelope D.J. Brown (21) makes his way down the field to score Post's only touchdown of the Nov. 23 area playoffs game in Clyde against the Sonora Broncos. Post lost, 34-10

Sports roundup

The Post Dispatch

Lopes drop contest to Spur

The Post High School varsity basketball team lost, 56-36, to Spur on Tuesday at Antelope Arena.

Lead scorers were Dalton Holly with 9 points; Bryan Smith and XXX Gilbert with 4 points each; Tavish Soto with 3 points.

Box Score	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	Final
Post	6	11	8	11	36
Spur	14	16	14	12	56

JV boys fall to Spur team

Idalou outscored the Post junior varsity gold team Monday night, 29-16. Leading scorers were Josiel Dalgadillo with 10 points; Jayson Walden with 2 points; and Ethan Self and Alex Ramirez with 1 point each.

Box Score	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	Final
Post	1	6	7	2	16
Idalou	11	5	8	5	29

Junior high team runs over Idalou

The Post Junior High B boys team won 20-5 over Idalou on Monday night. Leading scorers were Kevin Finch 6, Fidel Trinidad 4, Colton Thompson 2, Jon Rodriguez 2, Cord Isbell 2, Jonathan Hernandez 2, Justin Romero 2.

Head coach Richard Soliz said, "Once the boys settled down, they played great. They played sound defense and were well-balanced in scoring. If they play like this all the time, they are tough to beat."

Box Score	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	Final
Post	2	4	10	4	20
Idalou	2	2	0	1	5

Lady Lopes dominate Tahoka

The Post Lady Lopes improved to 3-3 in preseason play before the Thanksgiving holiday with a sound victory over the Tahoka Lady Bulldogs on Nov. 20. "Our Post team dominated

ed the court entering the second quarter and never looked back," head coach Shelli Crow said. "Tahoka was in foul trouble early putting our Lady Lopes at the free throw line for 22 points. Taylor Osborn had a season high 28 points and Haily Berry added 15."

Box Score	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	Final
Post	10	25	15	10	60
Tahoka	8	10	7	12	37

JV girls fall to Bulldog team

The Post junior varsity Lady Lopes continue to improve both offensively and defensively, head coach Shelli Crow says.

On Nov. 20, the team lost 32-24 to Tahoka.

"Foul trouble kept a constant rotation of athletes in the game for the sub-varsity Lady Lopes," Crow said. "All players know their team role and are ready to play hard when called upon."

Box Score	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	Final
Post	11	2	3	8	24
Tahoka	6	12	5	9	32

Wayne Hodgins

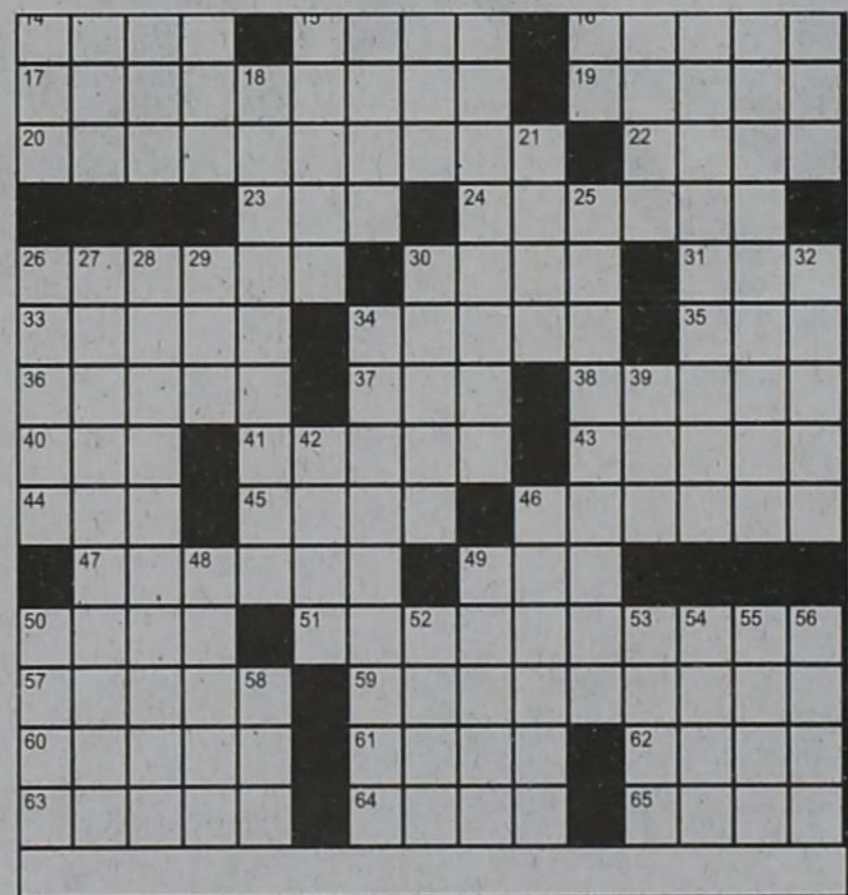
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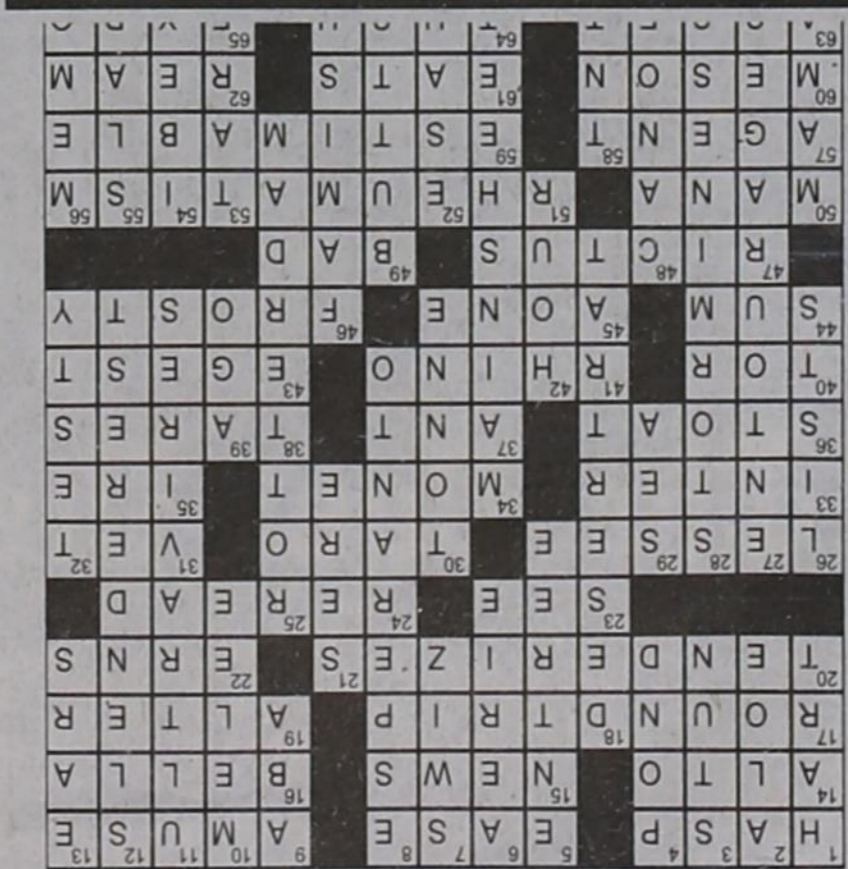
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 - ___ Abzug, Women's Movement leader
 - Traveling to and from over the same route
 - Adjust
 - What marinating does to meat
 - Coastal raptors
 - "Comprende?"
 - Examine and comprehend printed material a second time
 - Rent payer
 - Hawaiian tuber
 - Check for accuracy
 - ___ alia
 - "Haystacks" painter
 - Anger
 - Brown ermine
 - Amazon, e.g.
 - Shipping weights
 - Anderson's "High ___"
 - Safari sight
 - Cast out
 - Bottom line
 - Bang-up
 - Covered in frozen condensation
 - Gaping grimace
 - Good, in the 'hood
 - Supernatural force in a person or sacred object
 - Joint pain
 - Bond, for one
 - Worthy of respect
 - Quark-plus-antiquark particle
 - Beanery sign
 - Enlarge, as a hole
 - Money in the bank, say
 - Rear
 - Big show
- Down
- "B.C." cartoonist
 - ___ vera
 - Bowl over
 - Duck's home
 - Main dish of a meal
 - Cliffside dwelling
 - Swindle (British slang)
 - Artificial language based on many European languages
 - "The ___ Daba Honey-moon"
 - Donnybrook
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Paperboy

Black Thanksgiving is not good for families

Thanksgiving in America: Mom and Grandma have worked hard and prepared a feast. The family has gathered to partake and give thanks for the abundance of gifts life in the United States provides.

Only this day is different. Mom and Grandma serve the meal at 10 a.m. and quickly exit to suit up.

They put their game faces on and leave quickly for the nearest Walmart.



CHRIS BLACKBURN

Once they arrive, they are ready to seek out their items and battle, if necessary, until they are able to purchase what they need.

They shove their way around the store and get into it with neighbors and acquaintances. Grandma takes a swing at her friend whom she had baked bread for the day before.

Mom is reaching for an iPod and just as she grabs it, a lady she's in the church choir with pulls it out of her hand. A fight ensues and the next thing you know, there's a brawl and Grandma and Mom are taken to jail.

This is an example of Thanksgiving in America in the year 2012. A far cry from the first Thanksgiving or any traditional Thanksgiving I've ever heard of.

I was disgusted to see the big box retailers beginning the shopping season on Thanksgiving Day.

I suppose I understand it. After all, these major chains are in the business to make money. However, creating competition amongst people on a day set aside to give thanks leaves a bad taste in my mouth.

Now that the gloves are off and the stores have encroached on the holiday, what's next?

The answer to that question will come in less than a year and it would not surprise me to see the stores open at noon on Thanksgiving or maybe even early morning.

Nothing like spending Thanksgiving Day in a foul mood fighting over Christmas gifts!

Beyond seeing regular folk turn into animals going after the items they seek, it's wrong to make employees pass up time with families to work.

The big box retailers have us. They cannot afford to sit on the sideline while their competition gets a leg up. Once one decided to open on Thanksgiving, the others felt the pressure to do the same or suffer the consequences of poor sales figures.

The precedent this action sets is not going to get better. It's going to get worse and it disrupts the holiday.

Millions of consumers feel they cannot afford to pass up the deals so family traditions and much needed time spent together has now been interrupted by the almighty dollar.

Perhaps I'm just old fashioned. I still believe in God, family and friends and spending time together in order to give thanks for our blessings.

Seeing people behave like thugs in order to get a 52-inch television for \$300 is not what Thanksgiving or any other holiday should be about.

I'm hoping the CEOs of the countries largest retailers get together and decide to tap the brakes and stay closed on Thanksgiving. It's probably wishful thinking. Either way, my wife and I have made a decision not to participate in this rat race. We'll continue to give thanks in a traditional manner instead.

Christopher Blackburn is publisher of The Post Dispatch and CEO of Blackburn Media Group.

The 501

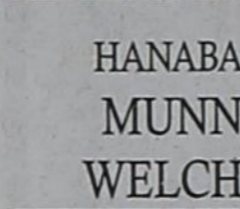
Happy Black Friday

Black Friday. As holidays go, it's become one.

As I write, it's about to happen. As you read, it already has. No matter. Just think of me as being ahead of the game for next year. That's what Black Friday is all about – being ahead of the game.

Speaking of games, Black Friday is managing to eclipse not only Thanksgiving but also some football games, isn't it, as it edges itself backward into Thursday? I'm asking.

I don't pay that much attention to football, but I know that important games get played on Thanksgiving Day, timed for fans to watch as their food digests until, ultimately, leftovers begin to tempt palates again. Evening shopping didn't used to be the other choice



HANABA MUNN WELCH

Holiday-wise, the nice thing about Black Friday is that it can't be commercialized. It already is.

My own heightened sensitivity to such matters comes from my father, who deplored the commercialization of any holiday. I think it was his way of saving money. He wasn't a big tipper either.

Not that he wasn't generous. He was. If somebody needed a loan, he was an easy touch.

When it came to any kind of trade, he made sure the other guy got the best deal, to my mother's chagrin, although she admired him for it.

In any case, Daddy decried the commercialization of any holiday, even Father's Day, as exploitation that tainted the true meaning of things.

But that's life.

If somebody can make a buck off something, they will. I'm the world's worst. When it was thought that Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building bomber Timothy McVeigh might be tried in Lawton, I considered designing a T-shirt to sell to the outsiders who'd be flocking to Oklahoma and would need a souvenir. I envisioned Geronimo as part of the design. I thought Geronimo would sell, based on his cachet and Fort Sill connections. How commercial of me.

But think of it this way:

Merchants and peddlers respond to people's wants. If our nation weren't so materialistic, the commercialization of every holiday wouldn't be an issue. If nobody wanted illegal drugs, there'd be no trafficking.

Now for my death wish theory.

Some psychologists, maybe all – I'm not one so I don't know – say that we all have a death wish. How convenient, since that's what's going to happen to all of us if we live long enough. Meanwhile, maybe we also wish for the next-best thing to death – hard times. Could be we all have deep-seated needs to practice survival skills, if not for real, then vicariously. Witness the popularity of television shows like "Survivor." I've never watched, but I think it pits people against nature and each other.

Who knows? Maybe even Black Friday itself appeals to our survival skills by pitting us against other shoppers to obtain what we simply must have. Such long lines. Such chaos.

PAUSE TO REFLECT.

Picture those trucks that unload food to starving people. Too bad there's not a Black Friday for those people too.

Hanaba Munn Welch is a contributor and columnist for The Post Dispatch. Email her at hanaba.quanah@gmail.com.

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Legends

The life of Hayden Tracy Rogers

Hi, folks. Here we are rapidly approaching the end of 2012. Remember the old saying, "My, my how time flies when you're having fun?" That is so true, so put on a happy face and put some fun in your life while you still can. Hope you have a great day today. If not, it's your fault — just thought I'd throw that in.

This week our Legends is all about the history of Hayden Tracy Rogers, as written by his wife Eva Rogers.

"Hayden Rogers was truly one of Garza County's all-time cowboys. He was born in Silverton, Texas, in 1895. He came to Garza County with his family in 1905, they settled here as farmers. He loved cowboys and horses from the very beginning.

"At the early age of 13, he got his first ranch job on the Bryan Williams ranch. He loved his horse, boots, saddle, the cattle drives, the round-ups and even sleeping on the ground. He could tell stories with the best of them. He worked on the K Stoker ranch, the OS and the OC ranches, but the best of all was the Slaughter's U Lazy S ranch south of Post.

"Later on as a full-fledged cowboy, he could do all of the various jobs

on the ranch, and sometimes he was the chuck-wagon cook — not his favorite job, but one he was good at. Folks use to come from far and near at roundup time just to eat his son-of-a-gun stew and sourdough biscuits.

He spent two years in the service of his country in WW-I. After his return in 1919, he and Eva Wilder were married. They lived in Post, and their seven children were all born in Post. Six girls were Haydelene, Louise, Alma, Edith, Lillian and Mary. They had one son named Slaughter.

"All of his remaining active years were spent as a cowboy, as he loved this Western country. He passed away Jan. 12, 1970, and his widow still lived in Post as of this writing."

See you next week.



LINDA PUCKETT

Linda Puckett is director of the Garza County Museum and Historical Commission.

The Doctor is In Acidic bloodstream can trigger Western disease

It was good to be with family over the Thanksgiving holiday weekend and give some free medical advice over turkey and sweet potatoes.

A couple of years ago my mom's bone-density scan showed osteopenia (thinning of her bones) so her doctor recommended Boniva. At the time I concurred. However, she wanted to know if I now had any other new insights or opinions since my recent transformation into a physician who doesn't believe there is such a thing as "diseases" but merely consequences.

Could even osteoporosis fall into this "consequence" category?

Well, first we need to start with some known truths. Multiple native cultures in South America, Africa, the Far East and other areas of the world don't experience the "Western diseases" of cancer, diabetes, hypertension, heart attacks, osteoporosis etc.

In these locations the local populations consume their traditional diet (void of processed food and sugar). When portions of these populations move to more

Westernized areas and start to consume a Western diet, they suddenly start to develop these diseases, including osteoporosis. This is pretty much a dead give away that it is the diet, not genes, that influence the disease prevalence the most.

So, how does diet influence bone density so much?

The foods you consume can signal your body to pull calcium out of your bone and into your blood stream. Your body desires to keep your blood pH level slightly basic, about a 7.4. This is the optimal pH for health (germs and cancer cells both love acidic blood and hate basic blood).

Certain foods create an acidic bloodstream, and the calcium is pulled out of the bone and into the blood as a buffering agent. Sugar (especially high-fructose corn syrup) causes the blood to turn acidic.

The average American consumes a pound of sugar in four days. A hundred years ago, it took 12 months.

A diet too high in animal protein also causes the blood to turn acidic. Increasing dietary protein from 47 grams a day to 142 grams a day more than doubles the amount of calcium pulled out of the bones.

This doesn't mean to avoid all meats, but moderation is key (actually a diet too low in protein causes decreased absorption of calcium in the intestine).

Forty to 50 grams of protein a day is sufficient for most people and varies depending on height and weight. To calculate, just multiply your ideal body weight by 0.8 to determine the number of grams of protein you need per day.

Sodas are a double whammy for your bones. They contain the high-fructose corn syrup that turns your blood acidic but sodas also contain lots of phosphates and no calcium.

When lots of phosphates are present without calcium, then again the body is triggered to pull calcium out of the bone to balance the phosphates.

A slightly alkaline (healthy) body chemistry will be naturally created when your diet is rich in vegetables, fruits, nuts, healthy omega-3 oils, beans and seeds along with a moderate amount of natural, grass-fed meats.

An alkaline environment will keep your calcium in the bones where it belongs.

Next week I'll tell you what I told my mom about her Boniva along with healthy, natural alternative (think: not patentable, less profitable) options God originally designed our bodies to utilize to rebuild bones.

Dr. Benjamin Edwards is a Garza County physician specializing in holistic medicine and nutrition.



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Windstream participa en el programa de beneficios del gobierno Lifeline que proporciona a los clientes de bajos ingresos que califiquen un descuento mensual en las tarifas del servicio telefónico. El programa se limita a una ayuda por hogar.

Proporcionamos un menú completo de servicios opcionales, incluyendo paquetes con descuentos y servicios básicos a los precios, términos y condiciones especificados en nuestras tarifas. Para preguntas, por favor llame al: Clientes residenciales al 1-800-347-1991, Clientes empresariales al 1-800-843-2914 o visite a www.windstream.com

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"Where Are The Good Old Days?"

Copies of Post native Tom Nolen's book is available by writing him at 9656 CR 290, Buffalo, TX 75831, emailing tnolen26@yahoo.com or calling 903-536-2970. Cost is \$15 and includes shipping. Books will be mailed the following business day.

Application No. 37463-Q

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION

NOTICE OF CESSATION OF OPERATIONS AND DISCONTINUANCE OF WATER UTILITY SERVICE AND CANCELLATION OF CERTIFICATE OF CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY NO. 10620, IN GARZA COUNTY, TEXAS

Caprock Water Supply Corporation (WSC) has filed a petition with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality to cease operations, discontinue providing water utility service and cancel Certificate of Convenience and Necessity No. 10620 in Garza County, Texas. The proposed effective date of the action is immediately. The anticipated effect of the cessation of operations on the rates and services provided to the customers is that service provided will cease and rates charged for that service will no longer be collected by this utility.

The water utility service area is located approximately 0 miles of Post, Texas, and is generally bounded by US Hwy 84 and State Hwy 207, and as specified in detail maps filed with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and available for review at the utility's office at: 105 E Main St, Post, Texas 79356

The application affects current and/or potential customers and service areas in the following zip code(s): 79356

The utility will sell the facilities to a qualified buyer willing to continue utility operations for: \$ N/A. The Owner: City of Post may be contacted at 105 E Main St, Post, TX 79356 or by telephoning (806) 495-2811.

If you wish to protest or comment on this petition, you should notify the utility and must file your protest in writing with the Utilities & Districts Section (Mail Code: 153), Water Supply Division, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, P. O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087 within (30) days of the date of this notice. Only those individuals who submit a written protest will receive notice if a hearing is scheduled.

Si desea informacion en Espanol, puede llamar al 1-512-239-0200.

REQUEST FOR CMAR SERVICES

The Board of Trustees of the Post ISD is requesting proposals for **CONSTRUCTION MANAGER-AT-RISK SERVICES ("CMAR Services")** for 2012 Bond Upgrade and Construction Projects (the "Project"). Interested parties may obtain an RFP packet with Project information from Jim Melton, BGR Architects, 2118 34th Street, Lubbock, Texas 79411, (806) 747-3881.

Project Objective: Construction of Post ISD Bond Upgrades

Estimated Construction Budget - \$25,500,000

Architects - BGR Architects

Proposals will be accepted until 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 11, 2012, and will be opened and read immediately thereafter. Please enclose **eight (8)** copies of your completed response. All responses are due no later than the deadline at the following address:

Mr. Michael Comeaux, Superintendent
Post Independent School District
501 S. Ave. K
Post, Texas 79356
Telephone: (806) 495-3343

All responses must be annotated with the following:
Proposal for Post ISD Bond Upgrade and Construction Program, Construction Manager at Risk RFP No. 2012-001

Failure to have a response physically in the possession of the school district by the deadline shall result in the response not being considered, and such late proposals shall be returned unopened.

THE SELECTION OF THE CONSTRUCTION MANAGER AT RISK SHALL BE A ONE STEP PROCESS IN ACCORDANCE WITH TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE, CHAPTER 2267, SUBCHAPTER F. Any selected construction manager at risk will be required to execute modified AIA contract documents with the District.

Owner reserves the right to reject any and all proposals and to waive irregularities and/or informalities as deemed in Owner's best interest.

WAIVER OF CLAIMS: BY TENDERING A RESPONSE TO THIS REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL, THE PROPOSER ACKNOWLEDGES THAT IT HAS READ AND FULLY UNDERSTANDS THE REQUIREMENTS FOR SUBMITTING A RESPONSE, AND THE PROCESS USED BY THE OWNER FOR SELECTING A CONSTRUCTION MANAGER-AT-RISK. FURTHER, BY SUBMITTING A RESPONSE, THE PROPOSER FULLY, VOLUNTARILY AND UNDERSTANDINGLY WAIVES AND RELEASES ANY AND ALL CLAIMS AGAINST OWNER, ARCHITECT OR ANY OF THEIR TRUSTEES, OFFICERS, AGENTS AND/OR EMPLOYEES THAT COULD ARISE OUT OF THE ADMINISTRATION, EVALUATION, OR RECOMMENDATION OF ANY PROPOSAL SUBMITTED IN RESPONSE TO THIS REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL.



Post Dispatch file photo

Cotton crops, such as this one off FM 399 west of Post, helped contribute more than 103,000 jobs across the High Plains this year, according to a new Texas Tech-Texas A&M study.

Study: High Plains crops support 103,000 jobs

By Mary Jane Buerkle
For the Dispatch

LUBBOCK — An economic analysis conducted by Texas Tech University and Texas A&M AgriLife Extension has found crop production supported more than 103,000 jobs and generated more than \$12.2 billion in economic activity in 2010 in the Texas High Plains region.

Those findings come from a new, first-of-its-kind economic model that can now be used to measure the economic effects of different policy options such as changes in water regulations, energy costs and federal farm programs, said lead researcher, Darren Hudson, the Larry Combest Endowed Chair for Agricultural Competitiveness at Texas Tech.

"We've always known crop production was a huge part of the economy of this region, but now we have a comprehensive model that can measure in dollars and jobs the total amount of economic activity generated by growing, selling and processing crops in the Texas High Plains," Hudson said.

The measures in the study reflect the impact of a wide variety of economic activity including production costs, such as buying seed, fertilizer, fuel, labor and equipment, as well as post-production processing of crops in the area, including livestock and dairy usage, cotton gins, grain elevators and other relevant processing.

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Program Specialist Bridget Guerrero, also a lead researcher on the study, said the research also includes the effects of the spending by businesses and individuals who earn income from all of these activities.

"This is a unique approach to this kind of analysis that isn't done anywhere else in the country," Guerrero said. "We're really on the forefront of being able to determine the full impact of agricultural production to the regional economy, and not just a piece of it."

Economists will use this newly developed model to assess the economic impact of potential policy changes, including changes in regulations on using ground-

water for irrigating crops

The study used a five-year average (2006-2010) of crop production in 41 counties in the Texas High Plains. The crops analyzed were alfalfa, corn, corn silage, cotton, peanuts, grain sorghum, sorghum silage and wheat.

The research project was launched in April 2010 through financial contributions from Texas commodity groups. Representatives from five water districts and six commodity groups serve on a steering committee for the project.

Funding for this research was made possible by North Plains Groundwater Conservation District, Plains Cotton Growers, Texas Corn Producers Board, High Plains Underground Water Conservation District, Panhandle Groundwater Conservation District, Select Milk Producers, Texas Association of Dairymen, Texas Cattle Feeders Association, Texas Farm Bureau, Texas Seed Trade Association, Texas Sorghum Producers, Texas Wheat Producers and Texas Peanut Producers Board.

SHELTER

From Page 1

Votes will be calculated at that time and the top 10 voters will receive funds totaling \$50,000.

Janice Plummer, who serves as director of the Post Animal Refuge Center — the county's only no-kill shelter, is valiantly trying to get out the word to local residents to vote every day.

"We've been sitting at No. 15 for the last several days, so we really need everyone to go online and vote for us," Plummer said. "We have to be in the top 10 in order to be eligible to receive any money."

Voting is relatively easy. By visiting citybankonline.com, us-

ers can click on the Community Rewards information and be directed to the balloting site. Scroll down the list of organizations contending for the money to look for the Post Animal Refuge Center listing.

A name and email address will be required to ensure votes are kept to one per day per computer.

The Post Animal Refuge Center nonprofit organization was begun in 2010 and the shelter was completed in 2011. To date more than 200 adoptions have been processed, Plummer said.

About 15 dogs are currently being housed at the facility.

For information about the shelter, email postarc@yahoo.com or visit Post ARC on Facebook.



Wayne Hodgins/The Post Dispatch
Bobbie Escobar, a senior Life Skills student at Post High School, works with Cocoa, a Labrador mix, on Wednesday afternoon at the Post Animal Refuge Center. The nonprofit organization is vying for part of a \$50,000 philanthropic giveaway by a Lubbock-area bank.

CURTIS

From Page 1

The sentence was to be served concurrently.

On Oct. 12, the Seventh District Court of Appeals in Amarillo overturned that conviction because, the court said, the state failed to prove the value of the property involved in the theft. The court, however, remanded

the burglary charge back to the lower court.

In addition, said Chief Justice Brian Quinn, in writing the opinion, the trial court erred in denying Curtis' challenges for cause levied against potential jurors.

Curtis' defense was being handled by the Caprock Regional Public Defender's Office. However, Curtis has a new court-appointed attorney, Trey Pogue of

Lubbock.

Following Curtis' Nov. 7 arrest in Lubbock, he was extradited to Garza County, where he was booked into the local jail and later posted a \$5,000 bond and released.

According to information from the county attorney's office, a plea hearing is slated for Dec. 18. If a plea deal is not reached and the case proceeds, a trial will be set after the first of the year.

POST NOTES

From Page 1

Holiday dance

The Cowboy Christmas Ball will be from 8 p.m. to midnight Dec. 22 at the Dickens

County Show Barn. Entertainment provided by recording artist DeAnne Roberts. Hors d'oeuvres, soft drinks. BYOB. Tickets cost \$15 and are available by emailing contact@spur2020.org or from any Spur 2020 member. Visit spur2020.org for information or call Cory Witters at 505-314-4852.

GED class

General Education Diploma classes are now in session and are free to the public. Classes meet from 5 to 8 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays in Room 18 at Post High School. Enter through southwest doors. For information, email Ed Singleberry at esingleberry@postisd.net or call 495-2770.



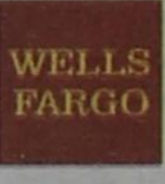
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Saturday, December 1st 11am-5pm
Sunday, December 2nd 12pm-5pm

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Email SnyderTradeDays@sbcglobal.net
or call Michelle Bird 325-207-1388
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This holiday season when you're out and about, take a break at our Holiday Open House. There will be plenty of festive refreshments, and friends and neighbors who are happy you're there.

Join us for an Open House to celebrate the holidays on December 7, 2012 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

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MISCELLANEOUS

RV spaces available at Two Draw Lake. One trailer house hookup also available. For information, call 806-778-0292 or 806-241-1398. 1130p

GARAGE SALES

801 W. Sixth St. Saturday, Dec. 1, from 8 a.m. - ? Downsizing furniture, household, men's golf shirts and clubs, women's size 5-10. 1130p

MISCELLANEOUS

RV spaces available at Two Draw Lake. One trailer house hookup also available. For information, call 806-778-0292 or 806-241-1398. 1130p

Mesothelioma

may occur 30 to 50 years after exposure to asbestos. Many workers were exposed from the 1940s through the 1970s. Industrial and construction workers, along with their families (second hand exposure) are among those at risk for mesothelioma, lung cancer or gastro cancer (throat, stomach, colon). Call us for professional insight.

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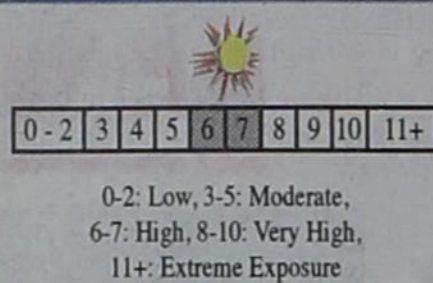
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Post Dispatch Weather Summary

Post's Seven Day Forecast

Friday Sunny 79/41	Saturday Sunny 78/45	Sunday Sunny 79/46	Monday Sunny 78/44	Tuesday Sunny 72/41	Wednesday Sunny 72/38	Thursday Mostly Sunny 68/39

Local UV Index



Weather Trivia

What was the longest drought in the United States?
Answer: Bagedad, California once went 767 days without rain.

Weather History

Nov. 30, 1989 - Squalls produced heavy snow in the Lower Great Lakes region, with 15 inches reported at Chaffee, N.Y. and at Barnes Corners, N.Y. Tropical Storm Karen drenched parts of Cuba with heavy rain. Punta Del Este reported 14 inches of rain in 24 hours.

Dec. 1, 1989 - Heavy snow blanketed the mountains of New Mexico, with 12 inches reported at the Angel Fire Ski Basin. Strong northerly winds, ushering cold air into the north central United States, gusted to 55 mph at Devils Lake, N.D.

Detailed Local Forecast

Today we will see sunny skies with possibly a record high temperature of 79°, humidity of 25%. South southeast wind 5 to 10 mph. The record high temperature for today is 75° set in 1975. Expect mostly clear skies tonight with an overnight low of 41°. Southeast wind 5 to 10 mph. The record low for tonight is 10° set in 1976. Saturday, skies will be sunny with a near record high temperature of 78°, humidity of 21%. West southwest wind 10 mph. The record high temperature for Saturday is 80° set in 1970.

Peak Fishing/Hunting Times This Week

Day	Peak Times		Day	Peak Times	
	AM	PM		AM	PM
Fri	---	11:58-1:58	Tue	3:05-5:05	3:35-5:35
Sat	12:46-2:46	1:16-3:16	Wed	3:51-5:51	4:21-6:21
Sun	1:33-3:33	2:03-4:03	Thu	4:37-6:37	5:07-7:07
Mon	2:20-4:20	2:50-4:50			

www.WhatsOurWeather.com

Sun/Moon Chart This Week

Day	Sunrise	Sunset	Moonrise	Moonset
Last 12/6	7:30 a.m.	5:39 p.m.	7:34 p.m.	9:05 a.m.
Sat	7:31 a.m.	5:38 p.m.	8:28 p.m.	9:48 a.m.
Sun	7:32 a.m.	5:38 p.m.	9:22 p.m.	10:28 a.m.
Mon	7:33 a.m.	5:38 p.m.	10:18 p.m.	11:05 a.m.
New 12/13	7:33 a.m.	5:38 p.m.	11:15 p.m.	11:40 a.m.
Wed	7:34 a.m.	5:38 p.m.	No Rise	12:13 p.m.
Thu	7:35 a.m.	5:38 p.m.	12:14 a.m.	12:47 p.m.

Last Week's Almanac & Growing Degree Days

Date	High	Low	Normals	Precip	Farmer's Growing Degree Days			
Date	Degree Days		Date	Degree Days				
11/20	74	33	60/33	0.00"	11/20	4	11/24	0
11/21	75	35	59/32	0.00"	11/21	5	11/25	5
11/22	80	52	59/32	0.00"	11/22	16	11/26	0
11/23	57	37	59/32	0.00"	11/23	0		
11/24	65	29	58/31	0.00"				
11/25	75	35	58/31	0.00"				
11/26	59	32	58/31	0.00"				

Growing degree days are calculated by taking the average temperature for the day and subtracting the base temperature (50 degrees) from the average to assess how many growing days are attained.

Dixie Divas The bet

One evening I was sorting through clothes in the bedroom while Tink, settled in a comfortable chair, was (as usual) fiddling with his phone. A message he read triggered a story.

He began to tell me a brief story (men leave out a lot of details) about a guy we know and a woman he had recently been dating. There was nothing particularly special about the story unless you are a woman wise in the ways of other women.



RONDA RICH

"What?" I asked as I took a dress off the hanger.

I heard what he said, but I couldn't believe what he said. He repeated it.

I smiled that all-knowing grin of mine, the one I inherited from Mama.

"Within six months, she'll be pushing for marriage."

Tink has no respect for my precious inheritance, that of being a wise and prophesying know-it-all. He rolled his eyes and shook his head then swirled around in his chair to face me. I knew he was serious, because he put down his phone. "They just starting seeing each other," he protested. "It's casual. Just friends."

"He thinks it is just casual, but she is a woman with a plan. Six months. Trust me."

Tink set his jaw. It is a very determined jaw when he does that.

"You are wrong," he said firmly. "That is not going to happen." He shook his head again, adamantly. "You are wrong."

Just an aside here: When one is painting one's self into a corner, it is best to leave a trail to get out. "Think" makes a good pig trail for escaping such as in, "I think you're wrong." Another good one that I like to employ is, "I may be wrong, but I think..."

Usually Tink is reasonable and not one bit arrogant in thought or manner. That would not been the case on this particular occasion.

"No, I'm not." I was equally firm.

"Let's bet," he said. Our bets usually ride on buying me a new pair of expensive high heels. "I'll bet you two pairs of high heels."

Whoa. He was serious. Two pairs. In less time than it took Sherman to strike a match, I took the bet.

"You're on." I smiled confidently, and he nodded with equal confidence.

A couple of days later, over dinner, Tink, who is honorable and will always take his dose of medicine, said, "Oh, by the way, I think I'm going to lose that bet."

I perked up. "Why?"

He repeated a conversation that had happened that brought additional credibility to my prediction. If only I had been born during Old Testament times, I could have been the first female prophet. I'm sure of it.

He shrugged. "So, I guess you're right."

Humility in the face of victory is admirable.

That would not be me.

A woman who can smile demurely and drop her head modestly when she is right, is appealing and attractive.

That would not be me. A woman who holds her tongue is a highly prized woman.

That would not be me.

In fact, Tink will tell you his biggest gripe is the many times I will declare with absolute glee, "I told you that was going to happen, didn't I?"

As usual, I declined to take the high road.

"Let me ask you something," I began, a teasing smile sliding across my face. "Why on earth would you bet against me on something like this? I write books on women like this, on how women can use their wiles and charms to get the man they want. Why would you even question me?"

He's a good sport. He rolls with the punches and, as a result, most of our disagreements have a comical flair to them.

He shrugged.

"I keep thinking one day I'm going to win one of these bets." I laughed.

"Just remember: Two pairs."

Ronda Rich is Southern humorist, storyteller and best-selling author. Her latest book, "There's A Better Day A-Comin'" is available at rondarich.com.

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