The Aust Bispatch

A BUILDER IN GARZA COUNTY SINCE 1926

FRIDAY, JANUARY 4, 2013

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75 CENTS

New Meinzer book highlights legendary Charles Goodnight

By Hanaba Munn Welch The Post Dispatch

BENJAMIN — Photographer Wyman Menizer has plenty of good things to say about his new book about Charles Goodnight, still somehow managing to stay humble. It's his style.

The book is "Charles Goodnight: A Man for All Ages," 2012, Badlands Design & Production. In the first place, Meinzer didn't write it, leaving him room to praise the talents of Byron Price, the author.

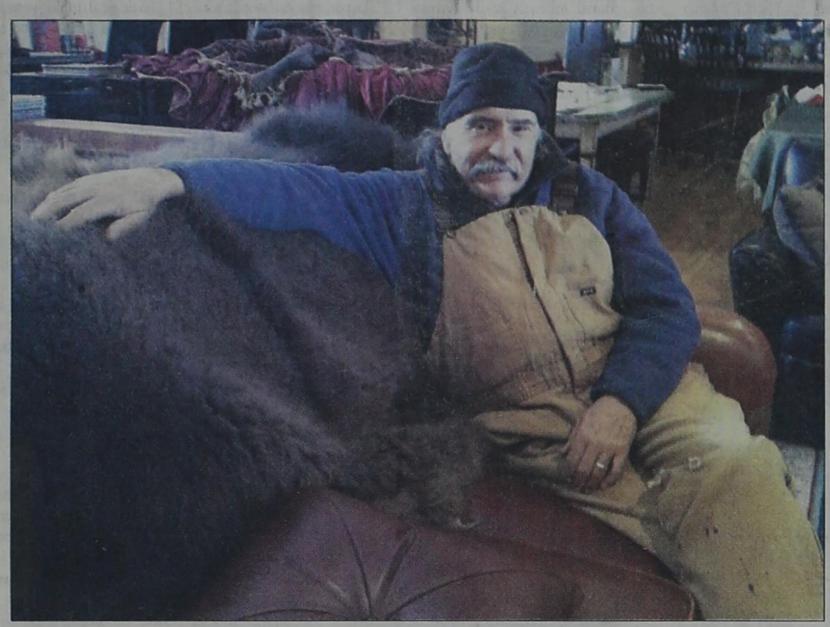
"Byron is a hell of a good writer," Meinzer said. "Very thorough. Really a super writer."

And Meinzer is also inclined to shift attention from himself to Goodnight. A typical inscription from him might read "Hoping you will enjoy our salute to this great Texan!"

Meinzer's challenge when he teamed up with Price was to provide photographs for a book about a man who's no longer around to be photographed. Goodnight, quintessential Texas trail driver and rancher, lived from 1836 to 1929. The Price account of Goodnight's long life deals with the final 50 years in 150 pages of text and pictures — some historic, but most the work of Meinzer, renowned for his photographs of Texas wildlife, cowboys and ranches.

"I realized I was just going to have to go in and hunt the locations where he lived and worked," Meinzer said, working in his comments between signing books at an evening pre-Christmas event last week at Santa Fe on the Brazos in Benjamin, his of the Goodnight book. wife's clothing and gift business.

Santa Claus was there too, eclips-



Hanaba Munn Welch/The Post Dispatch

Prepared to brave the elements on Christmas Day, Wyman Meinzer rests against a buffalo robe and waits for just the right sunlight to shoot pictures on the range. One of Meinzer's photographs of a bison herd in the snow is included in a new book on Charles Goodnight, written by Byron Price with photography by Meinzer.

ing Meinzer for some, including Meinzer's own grandchildren, Addison and Triston Meinzer. But Santa Claus was a secondary figure for Meinzer fans who had driven from as far as Plano just to meet the photographer and get their own signed copy

"One of the dentists I work with has the book," said Vicki Lawson of

Wichita Falls.

Now she and her husband, David Lawson, have their own signed copy. "I'm honored that they would

drive from Wichita Falls — that they would take the time to drive out here," Meinzer said.

The Lawsons were happy enough to make the trip for the book, even on a week night, to meet Meinzer and

then to brave the dark road home, watching for deer and wild hogs, living elements of danger that have a way of tying the present to the past.

Similarly, Meinzer plugs into the past when he photographs bison descended from the Goodnight herd and when he visits sites connected

See MEINZER, Page 3

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.

Barn cleanup

The Garza County 4-H organization will conduct a cleaning at the Garza County Junior Livestock Association barn at 9 a.m. Saturday. Those who are showing are asked to help with the cleanup event. For information, call the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service at 495-4400.

Stock show entries

Cards are now available at the local Extension Office for the Garza County Junior Livestock Association Stock Show, Jan. 17-19 at the Syd Connor Memorial Show Barn. Entries are due to the Extension Office no later than 5 p.m. Jan. 11. For information, call 495-

Chamber award

noms

The Post Area Chamber of Commerce is now accepting nominations from members for its annual Outstanding Business and Citizen awards. The banquet will be Feb. 23, and nominations will be accepted through Jan. 8. For information, call Janice Plummer at 495-3461 or email chamberofcommerce@postcitytexas.com.

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.

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 Singleterry at esingleterry@postisd.

Computer classes

net or call 495-2770.

Free computer classes on how to use a tablet and the Internet will be at 2 p.m. Jan. 3, 17 and 31 at the Post Public Library, 105 E. Main St., in Post. The classes will center on setting up your tablet, how to make the most of it and browsing the internet. Classes are free, but because of limited space and class size, preregistration is required. For information, or to register, call Poka Lambro at 990-9901 or visit 115 W. Main St., Post.

Correction

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

News on the go

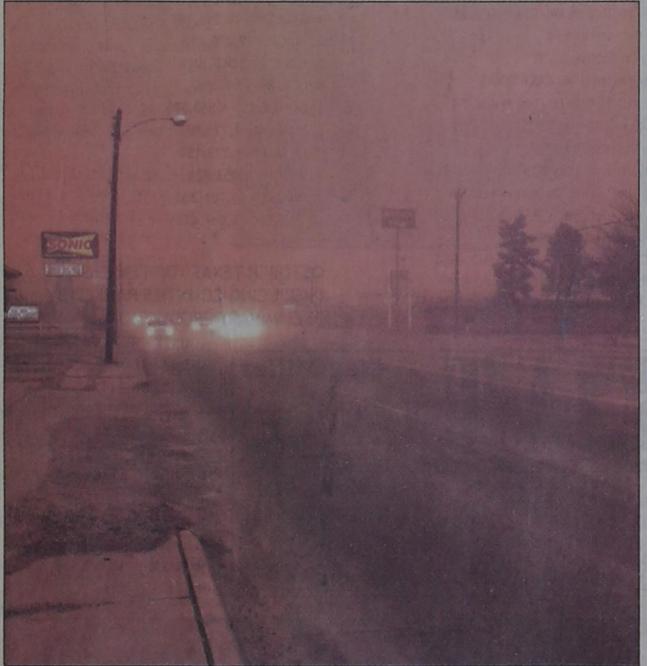


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Storm ushers in Old Man Winter



Wayne Hodgin/The Post Dispatch

Blowing dust and winds in excess of 50 mph that blew through the South Plains on Dec. 19, hindered visibility for many drivers through Post and made for a hectic afternoon for local emergency crews. Visibility was poorest on top of the Caprock, where first-responders were dispatched to a number of wrecks. Garza County sheriff's officials said visibility was zero in some places during the event. The storm was blamed on at least one death on Interstate 27 in Lubbock.

Animal shelter receives \$5,000 from City Bank

By Wayne Hodgin The Post Dispatch

The Post Animal Refuge Center was one of 10 area nonprofit organizations awarded part of a \$50,000 grant recently through the City Bank Community Re-

wards program. The Lubbock-based bank began the program about five years ago and offers residents across the South Plains a chance to vote for their favorite local charities to receive up

to \$10,000 in grant money. Voting for this year's awards began back in November with more than 100 area nonprofit organizations vying for a top 10 spot.

According to reports, more than 300,000 online votes were case during the voting period, which ended the second week of December.

The organization receiving the most votes during the sixweek voting period would receive \$10,000. Those finishing

second, third, fourth and fifth places would receive \$5,000 each, and seventh, eighth, ninth and 10th places would receive \$3,000.

This was the first year the Post Animal Refuge Center had vied for the grant. In fact, said, Janice Plummer, director of the center, all organizations receiving funds this year were had never won before.

The local nonprofit animal shelter won fifth place and was awarded \$5,000.

"We want to thank everyone who helped by voting for Post Animal Refuge Center," Plummer said. "We are truly humbled by the support we received."

She said the money would be used to assist with infrastructure at the facility, including utilities such as power and water.

The overall winner of the \$10,000 prize was the Mackenzie Middle School PTA. Other winners included Mustard

Seed Ministries, Guardians of See **SHELTER**, Page 3



PostSportsRadio.com

LIVE Antelope & Lady Antelope Action!

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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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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

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2 FRIDAY, JANUARY 4, 2013 | THE POST DISPATCH

Ruth Hill

Ruth Hill, 88, of Post, died Friday, Dec. 28, 2012, at the Golden Plains Care Center. She was born Dec. 28, 1924, to Wille and Bessie (Rylant) Windham, here in Post.

She attended Post schools and graduated from Post High. She married Wiley Arthur Hill on Dec. 24, 1942, in Lubbock. He preceded her in death Jan. 30, 1983.

Ruth and Wiley made their home here in Post. Ruth worked for Bowen Abstract and then for the Postex Cotton Mill. She worked there until it closed. She then went to work for Sam Bevers as a bookkeeper. She enjoyed playing pranks on people, as well as others pulling pranks on her. She was a mother, grandmother and great-grandmother who loved doing fun things with all her family. When Ruth was around, everyone had fun.

Ruth also was preceded in death by a daughter, Barbara Wylene Hill, on June 21, 1953.

She was a life long Baptist and a member of the Calvary Baptist Church.

She is survived by a daughter, Billye Ruth Lowe of Post, and a brother, Everette "Heavy" Windham of Slaton; grandchildren Wiley Dee Lowe and his wife, Melissa, of Littlefield and Ruth Deeann Powell and husband, Adon, of Arlington; greatand his wife, Kari, Daniel Powell, feet of natural gas. Jesse Powell, Benjamin Powell, Steven Lowe and Brenna Lowe. mission's estimated final pro-Ruth is also survived by a host of duction for October 2012 is nieces and nephews.

day, Dec. 30, 2012, at the Calvary Baptist Church in Post with John Bill Hedrick of the Graham Chapel Methodist Church officiating and Brother Richard Butts, interim pastor of the Calvary Baptist Church, assisting. Burial followed at the Terrace Cemetery. Arrangements were under the personal care of Dee and Janet Justice of Justice-Mason Funeral Home in Post.

Adon Powell, Wiley Erik Lowe, Daniel Powell, Jesse Powell, Benjamin Powell, Steven Lowe and Brenna Lowe.

Melvin Wadsworth

at his home. Cremation Funeral Home.

Melvin T. Wadsworth, arrangements were under 80, of Justiceburg died the care of Dee and Ja-Monday, Dec. 17, 2012, net Justice, Justice-Mason

Menus: Week of Jan. 7-11

Post ISD

Breakfast

Monday: Breakfast pizza, fruit, milk Tuesday: Churros, sausage link, fruit, milk Wednesday: Oatmeal, bacon, toast, fruit, milk Thursday: Cinnamon rolls, sausage link, fruit, milk Friday: Cereal, toast, fruit, juice, milk

Monday: Chicken and broccoli penne, garden salad, baby carrots, apple sliced, breadsticks, milk

Tuesday: Ultimate taco salad, seasoned corn, fresh fruit bowl, milk Wednesday: Steak fingers, whipped potatoes with gravy, green beans, apple-pineapple d'lite, milk

Thursday: Chicken quesadilla, black beans, baby carrots, orange wedges,

Friday: Pizza, garden salad, fresh veggie cup, mixed fruit, milk

Southland ISD

Breakfast Monday: No school 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: No school Tuesday: Hot dogs, potato rounds, fresh veggie cup, fresh fruit, milk Wednesday: Grilled cheese sandwich, vegetable soup, carrots with ranch,

Thursday: Chicken nuggets, macaroni and cheese, garden salad, green beans, apples, crispy cereal treat, milk Friday: Hamburgers, baked beans, carrots with ranch, sliced peaches, milk

Trailblazers-Senior Citizens Center:

Monday: Lasagna, mix veggies, salad, toast, fruit, milk Tuesday: Beef stew, salad, cornbread, Jell-O, milk Wednesday: Smothered steak, mashed potatoes, mixed greens, roll, cookie, milk

Thursday: Enchilada casserole, pinto beans, rice, combread, pudding, milk Friday: Salmon patties, cucumber and onion salad, potato wedge, roll, fruit

In loving memory of Rodney Ray Moore

The Curtis and Moore families wish to express our sincere gratitude and appreciation to each of you for the many acts of kindness shown during our time of sorrow. Thank you all for the prayers, food, flowers and phone calls. May God bless you all.



Oil production and allowables

Special to the Dispatch

AUSTIN — The Texas average rig count as of December 2012 was 847, representing about 49 percent of all active land rigs in the United States. In the last 12 months, total Texas reported production was 510 million bargrandchildren Wiley Erik Lowe rels of oil and 7.2 trillion cubic

The Texas Railroad Com-48,820,645 barrels of crude oil Funeral services were Sun- and 500,062,457 Mcf (thousand cubic feet) of gas well gas.

The commission derives final

production numbers by multiplying the preliminary October 2012 production totals of 41,178,007 barrels of crude oil and 430,828,342 Mcf of gas well gas by a production adjustment factor of 1.1856 for crude oil and 1.1607 for gas well gas. These production totals do not include casinghead gas or condensate.

Texas natural gas storage reported to the commission for November 2012 was 463,512,227 Mcf compared to 443,491,626 Mcf in November 2011. The December 2012 gas storage estimate is 456,816,111 Mcf.

The Texas Railroad Com-

mission's Oil and Gas Division set initial January 2013 natural gas production allowables for prorated fields in the state to meet market demand of 9,635,103 Mcf (thousand cubic feet). In setting the initial January 2013 allowables, the Commission used historical production figures from previous months, producers' demand forecasts for the coming month, and adjusted the figures based on well capability. These initial allowables will be adjusted after actual production for January 2013 is reported.

TEXAS MONTHLY OIL AND GAS STATISTICS

NOVEMBER PERMITS TO DRILL

The commission issued a total of 1,586 original drilling permits in November 2012 compared to 1,878 in November 2011. The November total included 1,416 permits to drill new oil and gas wells, 33 to re-enter existing well bores, and 137 for re-completions. Permits issued in November 2012 included 446 oil, 127 gas, 941 oil and gas, 57 injection, two service and 13 other permits

Pallbearers were Dee Lowe, OCTOBER CRUDE OIL PRODUCTION

Texas preliminary October 2012 crude oil production averaged 1,328,323 barrels daily, up from the 996,583 barrels daily average of October 2011.

The preliminary Texas crude oil production figure for October 2012 is 41,178,007 barrels, up from 30,894,077 barrels reported during October 2011.

NOVEMBER OIL AND GAS COMPLETIONS

In November 2012, operators reported 1,486 oil, 279 gas, 41 injection and three other completions compared to 674 oil, 305 gas, 45 injection and one other completion in November 2011.

Total well completions for 2012 year to date are 13,997 up from 7,924 recorded during the same period in 2011.

Operators reported 385 holes plugged and three dry holes in November 2012 compared to 189 holes plugged and zero dry holes in November 2011.

OCTOBER NATURAL GAS PRODUCTION

Texas oil and gas wells produced 528,495,674 Mcf (thousand cubic feet) of gas based upon preliminary production figures for October 2012 down from the October 2011 preliminary gas production total of 530,931,972 Mcf. Texas preliminary October total gas production averaged 17,048,247 Mcf (thousand cubic feet) a day.

Texas production in October 2012 came from 132,073 oil wells and 84,302 gas wells.

NOVEMBER TEXAS OIL AND GAS DRILLING PERMITS AND COMPLETIONS BY DISTRICT

RRC District: (1) SAN ANTONIO AREA Permits To Drill Oil/Gas Holes: 273 Oil Completions: 146 -Gas Completions: 30

RRC District: (2) REFUGIO AREA Permits To Drill Oil/Gas Holes: 112 Oil Completions: 68

Gas Completions: 16 RRC District: (3) SOUTHEAST TEXAS Permits To Drill Oil/Gas Holes: 82

Oil Completions: 35 Gas Completions: 18 RRC District: (4) DEEP SOUTH TEXAS

Permits To Drill Oil/Gas Holes: 38 Oil Completions: 20 Gas Completions: 24

RRC District: (5) EAST CENTRAL TEXAS Permits To Drill Oil/Gas Holes: 21

Oil Completions: 4 Gas Completions: 10 RRC District: (6) EAST TEXAS

Permits To Drill Oil/Gas Holes: 74 Oil Completions: 5 Gas Completions: 51

RRC District: (7B) WEST CENTRAL TEXAS Permits To Drill Oil/Gas Holes: 55 Oil Completions: 117

Gas Completions: 20

P.O. Box 923

Ralls, TX 79357

Office (806)253-2506

clay.miller@agtexas.com

Fax (806)253-2060

Cell (806)392-3920

RRC District: (7C) SAN ANGELO AREA Permits To Drill Oil/Gas Holes: 176 Oil Completions: 178

Gas Completions: 1

RRC District: (8) MIDLAND Permits To Drill Oil/Gas Holes: 444 Oil Completions: 769 Gas Completions: 4 RRC District: (8A) LUBBOCK AREA Permits To Drill Oil/Gas Holes: 77 Oil Completions: 72 Gas Completions: 0 RRC District: (9) NORTH TEXAS Permits To Drill Oil/Gas Holes: 158 Oil Completions: 59 Gas Completions: 57 RRC District: (10) PANHANDLE Permits To Drill Oil/Gas Holes: 76 Oil Completions: 13 Gas Completions: 48

OCTOBER TEXAS TOP TEN OIL PRODUCING COUNTIES RANKED BY PRELIMINARY PRODUCTION

COUNTY - CRUDE OIL (BBLS) 1. ANDREWS - 2,556,141

2. KARNES - 2,276,252

3. GAINES - 2,048,101

4. ECTOR - 1,994,692 5. GONZALES - 1,863,370

6. YOAKUM - 1,775,952

7. LA SALLE- 1,773,155 8. UPTON - 1,753,824

9. MIDLAND - 1,731,208

10. MARTIN - 1,647,433

Clay Miller

LOANS FOR

Real Estate

OCTOBER TEXAS TOP TEN GAS PRODUCING COUNTIES RANKED BY PRELIMINARY PRODUCTION

COUNTY - TOTAL GAS (MCF) 1. TARRANT - 68,152,349

2. JOHNSON - 34,965,340 3. WEBB - 20,925,442

4. PECOS - 20,604,677

5. WISE - 18,456,135

6. DENTON - 17,971,375 7. PANOLA - 17,089,926

8. FREESTONE - 15,261,200 9. NACOGDOCHES - 13,791,137

10. ZAPATA - 10,817,539

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 Dr. Seuss

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to the history of the West, including some famous several Armstrong County sites outside his native Texas.

signing about a trip to Wyoming, where he stood at the location of a Dec. 21, 1866, battle between Crazy Horse of the Oglala Lakota and Lt. Col. William J. Fetterman of the

U.S. Cavalry. Meinzer criticized Fetterman for leading his troops into the perfect place for an Indian ambush, imagining how the Indians were able to attack and wipe out the entire Cavalry contingent.

For the Goodnight book, Meinzer was on familiar Texas turf instead, shooting the broad vistas that haven't changed much since the days Goodnight's herds grazed the range and photographing much of the same wildlife - bison, the lesser prairie chicken, on.

A key photograph is them contributors." Meinzer's night shot of the Goodnight ranch house Meinzer is outspoken. just off U.S. 287 between Clarendon and Claude. The Charles Goodnight Historical Center. A separate building under construccomplex. The new Goodnight book is a fundraising tool for the projects.

house looks similar to nocturnal work he does with a special "light painting" technique. Instead, he Meinzer's photographs, captured just enough fading natural light to get a striking shot of the eastern elevation of the two-story landmark.

"They'd turned all the lights on," Meinzer said. "There was just enough reflection in the eastern sky at sunset. It was everything I needed."

Anne Christian, one of residents who has been involved with the Good-He talked at the book night Historical Center, is especially happy with the picture.

"Every once in a while, someone takes the ultimate photograph," she said. "He did it for the book."

Christian had other good things to say about Meinzer.

"He's very good to work with," she said. "The book is going to be a nice profit

Many of Meinzer's fans follow his life and activities on Facebook, among them Jill Murphy, a nurse who lives in Vernon. Murphy was at the book signing to meet Meinzer in person.

"You just don't know what to expect," she said.

Meinzer likes the way Facebook lets him interact with his followers.

"I don't consider them a bobcat, antelope and so my followers on Facebook," he said. "I consider

By some standards,

"I feel obliged to always be honest, regardless of house, essentially restored who it might hurt, but on after six years of renovation the other hand, to be poby the Armstrong Coun- lite to everybody," he said. ty Museum, anchors the "I always try to address everybody who takes the time to write me."

"Charles Goodnight: A tion nearby, slated to open Man for All Ages" is for in April, will complete the sale in Benjamin at Santa Fe on the Brazos, where proprietor Sylinda Meinzer is the power behind Meinzer's shot of the Badlands Design & Production.

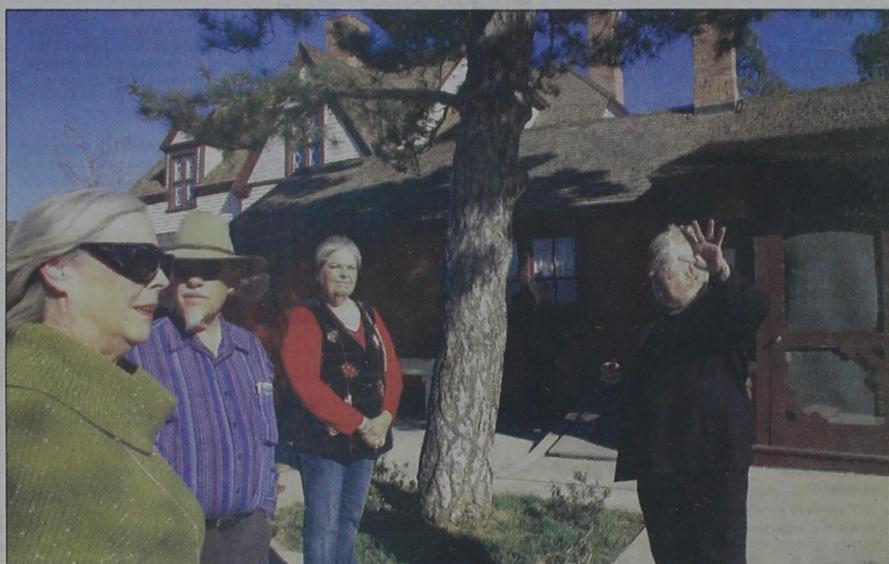
> Also for sale are other books featuring Wyman including some with texts he has written.

> Meinzer has been recognized as the office state photographer of Texas.



Hanaba Munn Welch/The Knox County News-Courier

Anne Christian, a guide at the historic Charles Goodnight House near Claude, listens as Holle Humphries of Lubbock recalls when she herself suggested Benjamin photographer Wyman Meinzer could help produce a book about Charles Goodnight. Humphries was part of a Texas Plains Trail Region group that toured the house earlier this month. In the background are two of the second-story rooms of the famed ranch house. Both feature period furnishings and wallpaper.



Hanaba Munn Welch/The Post Dispatch

Montie Hubbard Goodin, a guide at the newly renovated and restored Charles Goodnight House near Claude, talks to members of a tour group earlier this month -- from left, Carol Campbell of Matador, Wes Phillips of Borger and Rita Isbell of Paducah. Goodin's father worked for Goodnight. She's been described by Benjamin photographer Wyman Meinzer as the "Duracell battery" of the house restoration project, a compliment to her tenacity. Goodin was born in the house in 1931.

SHELTER From Page 1

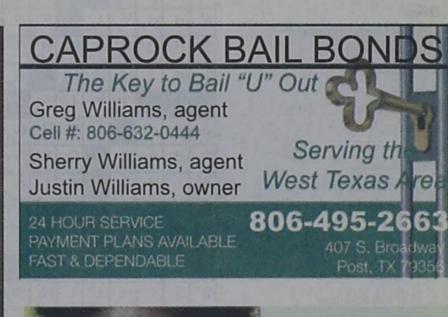
the Children, Hospice of Lubbock and Covenant Children's Hospital, each receiving \$5,000. Winners of the \$3,000 grants included the Children's Miracle Network, Frenship Foundation for Leadership, Lubbock Dream Center and Lubbock Im-

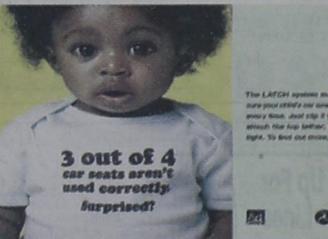
pact. The City Bank Community Rewards program has distributed \$260,000 to 44 different nonprofit organizations since it began in 2007.



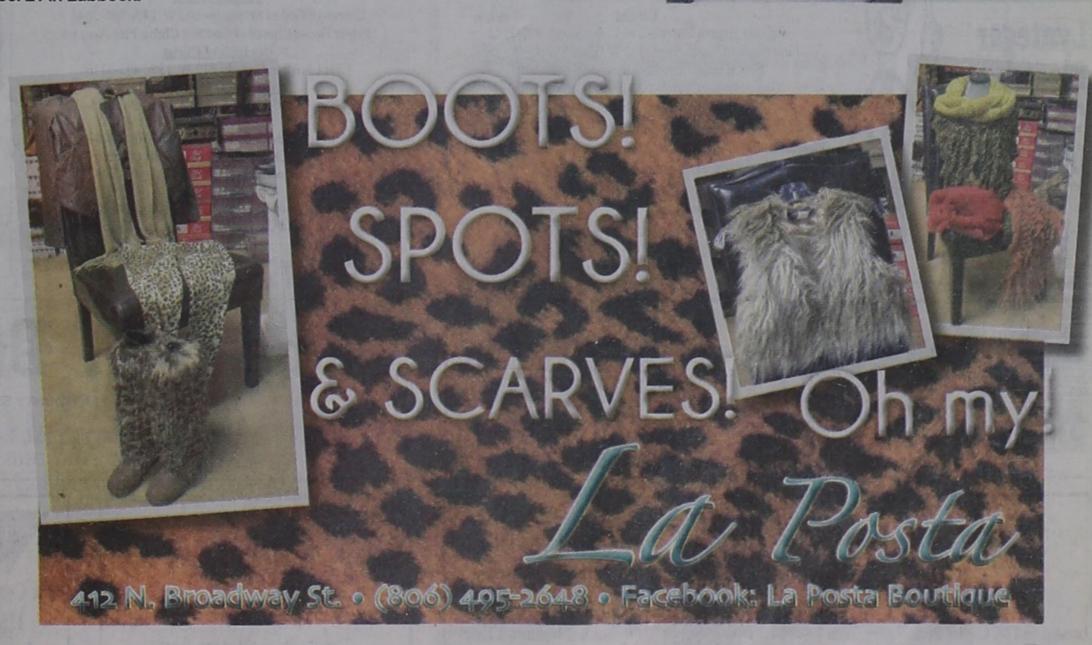
Special to the Dispatch

Janice Plummer and Rick Maestas of the Post Animal Refuge Center accept a check for \$5,000 from the City Bank Community Rewards program at the awards luncheon Dec. 21 in Lubbock.









Nancy's Notions

With

some

Enjoying holiday parties and food doesn't mean it can't be diabetes friendly

The party season is upon us, and often a time when regular



NANCY **MCDONALD**

ful forward-planning, changing your routine and being more selective, you can get the most out of the party season and successfully manage your diabetes at the same time.

Opting for healthier snacks and alternating between alcoholic and soft drinks will help limit the number of empty calories consumed, but still make you feel like you're not completely missing

For people on special

diets, the holiday season does not have to be a time of deprivation. I've included two recipes to keep you on track and

CHICKEN TENDERS WITH SPICY BLACK BEANS

Yield: 4 servings

1 pound chicken breast ten-

1 teaspoon ground cumin

1/2 teaspoon garlic powder

1/2 teaspoon coarsely ground black pepper 1/4 teaspoon salt

1 tablespoon extra-virgin

olive oil 1 cup canned black beans,

undrained

1/2 cup chunky-style salsa

1/2 cup shredded reducedfat Monterey Jack or Mexican-blend cheese (optional)

3 tablespoons finely chopped fresh cilantro or thinly sliced scallions

Rinse the chicken and pat dry with paper towels. Combine the cumin, garlic powder, pepper, and salt, and rub some of the mixture over both sides of the chicken tenders. Place the olive oil in a large nonstick skillet and preheat over mediumhigh heat. Add the chicken tenders and cook for a couple of minutes on each side, or until nicely browned. Reduce the heat to medium, cover, and cook for about 3 minutes more or until the chicken is cooked through. Remove the chicken from the skillet and set aside to keep warm.

Add the black beans and salsa to the skillet and cook over medium-high heat for a minute or two to heat

through. To serve, place a quarter of the chicken tenders on each of 4 serving plates and top with a quarter of the black-bean mixture. If desired, top each serving with some of the cheese and sprinkle with some of the cilantro or scallions. Serve hot.

Nutritional Information Per Serving:

Calories: 201; Protein: 29 g; Sodium: 629 mg; Cholesterol: 66 mg; Fat: 4.9 g; Saturated Fat: 0.8 g; Dietary Fiber: 3.5 g; Carbohydrates:

Exchanges: 1 Bread/Starch, 4 Low-Fat Meat

GUACAMOLE

Yield: 14 servings Serving Size: 2 tablespoons each

Ingredients

chunks

1 1/2 cups frozen peas 1 small ripe avocado, peeled, seeded, and cut into

1 tablespoon reduced-fat mayonnaise

2 teaspoons lemon juice

1/2 teaspoon cumin

1/2 teaspoon chili powder

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1 garlic clove, minced

1/2 cup mild or medium low-sodium or regular salsa

In a small saucepan, combine the peas and 1/4 cup boiling water. Cover, bring to a boil, and simmer 2 minutes. Cool in a colander until cold running water. Drain well. In a food processor container, combine the peas, avocado, mayonnaise, lemon juice, cumin, chili powder, and garlic.

Process until blended but not absolutely smooth, stopping and scraping the container sides, if necessary. Stir in the salsa. Cover and refrigerate 1 to 2 hours or up to 24 hours to allow the flavors to blend. The dip will keep in the refrigerator 1 to 2 days. Serve with fatfree tortilla chips.

Nutritional Information Per Serving: Calories: 36; Protein: 1 g; Sodium: 42 mg; Cholesterol: 42 mg; Fat: 2 g; Dietary Fiber: 2 g; Sugars: 2 g; Carbohydrates! 4 g

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

Justice-Mason Funeral Home

- 1. Wedding pledges
- 5. Detective, at times 9. "___ on a Hot Tin Roof," Williams
- play

14. #1 spot

- 12. Correct, as text
- 15. Cornstarch brand 16. Inhabitant of "The First State"
- 18. Engine sound
- 19. Fergie's ex
- 20. Shops that forge metal 22. Book part
- 24. "__ Calloways" (Disney film)
- 25. Crash site?
- 28. Bent
- 30. Auld lang syne 31. Halo, e.g.
- 33. Arduous journey
- 35. Stage item
- 38. Agenda
- 39. Curtain fabric 41. One of the two main branches of

orthodox Islam

- 42. Allow entrance
- 44, 100 cents 45. Missile with several warheads
- 46. Andy's radio partner
- 48. Alpine sight 50. ___ Dee River
- 51. Come to
- 54. Substances that chemically corrode

52. Container for nitroglycerin

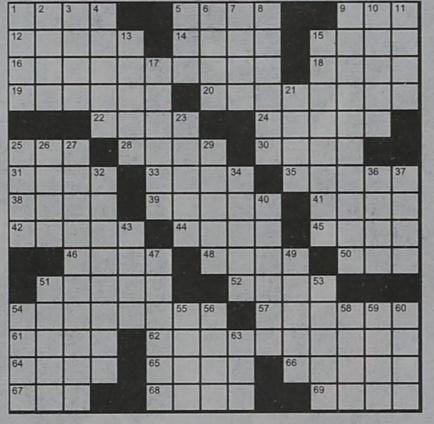
- 57. Carve 61. Arch type
- 62. Large in size or quantity 64. Brews
- 65. Flightless flock
- 66. Paperlike cloth made from bark 67. Big ___ Conference
- 68. Eastern music 69. Back

Down

- 1. Sacred Hindu writings
- 2. Black cat, maybe 3. Fuse
- 4. Tangle
- 5. Toni Morrison's "___ Baby" 6. Air force heroes
- 7. Mosque V.I.P. 8. Mercifulness
- 9. Carnival boat (2 wds)
- 10. Acquiesce 11. High spots
- 13. Dork
- 15. Maxim 17. Looks for
- 21. God with a hammer 23. Madcap comedy
- 25. Perry Como's "___ Loves
- Mambo"
- 26. "__ Lang Syne"

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CROSSWORD PUZZLE

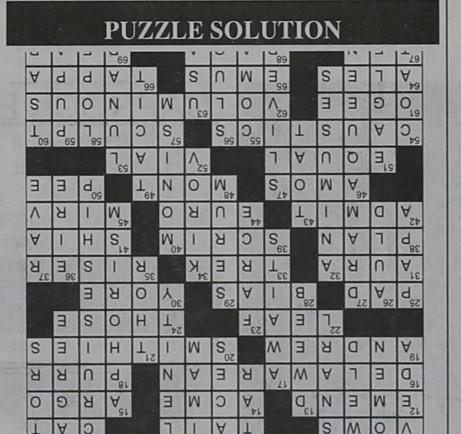


- 27. Person who reacts to situations in
- an exaggerated manner (2 wds) 29. Emergency supply
- 32. Ill will arousing active hostility
- 34. Bolshoi rival
- 36. Cork's country 37. 1990s party
- 40. Theory that reality consists of a single element
- 43. Exactly (3 wds)
- 49. Implied 51. American symbol

47. Chip off the old block

- 53. Kind of cycle 54. Checked item
- 55. Deep sleep
- 56. Wallop 58. Bound
- 59. Insect stage
- 60. Boris Godunov, for one

63. ___ Today, newspaper



Cause No. 1966

IN THE ESATE OF

PAUL ALLEN BEACH,

DECEASED

IN THE COUNTY COURT

GARZA COUNTY, TEXAS

CITATION BY PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF TEXAS

TO THE UNKNOWN HEIRS OF THE ESTATE OF PAUL ALLEN BEACH, DECEASED, In Cause No. 1966 in the County Court of Garza County, Texas, KATHLEEN V. BEACH, filed in the County Court of Garza County, Texas, on the 16th day of November, 2012, an application for DETERMINATION OF HEIRSHIP. said application may be heard on or after the first Monday next after the expiration of ten days from the date of publication of this citation in a newspaper of general circulation in Garza County, Texas.

All unknown heirs of said estate are hereby cited to appear before the County Court of Garza County, Texas at the above time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.

NOTICE TO ALL UNKNOWN HEIRS: You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 am on the Monday next following the expiration of TEN (10) days after the date this citation was published, a default judgment may be taken against you and the Court may enter orders with binding effects upon you.

Issued and given under my hand and seal of said Court at Post, Texas this 20th day of December, 2012.



Jim Plummer Garza County, Clerk

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

Church of Christ- 108 N. Ave M 495-2326 Graham Chapel Church of Christ- 15th & Ave S Church of God Church of God of Prophecy- 602 W. 14th, 495-3644

> Disciples of Christ First Christian Church- 812 W. 13th, 495-3716 **Evangelical Methodist** Faith Chapel- 1105 Green Street, Wilson (806) 628-0018

> > Methodist

Power House Church of God and Christ, Pine Avenue

First United Methodist Church- 216 W. 10th, 990-2942 Graham Chapel United Methodist Church (Pastor: John Hedrick) - 611 FM #1313 806-549-1400 Nazarene Post Church of Nazarene- 202 W. 10th, 495-3044

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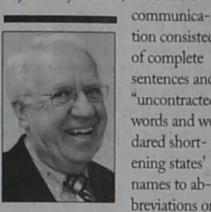
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The Idle American On getting it right...

o far as I know, there are no findings to suggest that persons careful to "dot every 'i' and cross every 't" get it right significantly more often than the rest of us who are more prone to be slip-shod in such matters.

Such seemed even more the case in yesterday's world, when most



DON

tion consisted of complete sentences and "uncontracted" words and we dared shortening states' names to abbreviations only when feeling

NEWBURY feisty. Mostly, we attempted

mightily to "be ourselves," understanding that we'll make goofs, but never, hopefully, of the heart. We harbor hope readers and listeners will be charitable, understanding and — in some cases — forgiving.

An art to be practiced in such matters is merely to smile - as opposed to laughing out loud or crying - when someone stumbles.

Preachers are often "sitting ducks" - OK, maybe "standing ducks" for a couple of reasons. They appear regularly in front of the same folks

— and sometimes they try too hard. Case in point: One parson, urging parishioners to move closer to the front, explained "the agnostics are terrible" in the sanctuary. Reckon he

meant acoustics? Another pulpit blunder — back in 1998 — likewise was caused by a single word. It occurred when Bill

Clinton's name was in headlines for other than presidential reasons.

At a Waco church, the Sunday morning prayer was fervent. It centered on the importance of forgiving. "He makes mistakes, and we make mistakes. He made bad choices, and so do we. He deserves forgiveness as much as we who seek it," etc. It was a lengthy prayer, and the staffer at the lectern fully intended to end it with "So please be with our president."

Instead, he said, "So please be

with our pastor." Ministers know they're going to be second-guessed. The Rev. Dr. Travis Burleson, a Salado pastor, should be so lucky. Instead, he is "third-guessed, fourth-guessed and fifth-guessed," too.

In his flock are five retired pastors, most of them several years his senior.

Claiming they are typically gentle with him, he prizes a hand-written note one of them slipped into a handshake following a sermon. It read: "Your material was excellent, research solid, illustrations effective. However, I could have preached it

A guest preacher was not at a "loss for words" recently. Instead, he was at a "loss for electricity."

The struggling little church was in arrears on the electricity bill, and when the preacher arrived for the Sunday night worship, it was a "candlelight service" - by necessity.

His sermon notes didn't do him much good, however.

Sometimes speakers wander in where angels fear to tread. I did so at First Baptist Church in Plainview in November. I knew the Rev. Dr. Paul Armes, president of Wayland Baptist University and an FBC member there, had taken a nasty fall on his

bicycle last fall.

I thought I'd kid him gently, noting Wayland's next catalog will include a course called "Bicycle Safety 101."There were polite smiles, but little laughter. What I did not know is that a Wayland student had been struck and killed while bicycling a few weeks following Dr. Armes' mishap.

The lesson there, of course, is to avoid trivializing someone else's mishaps. Speakers typically are much better off being their own "fall guys."

Long-ago banter can produce smiles. A friend attended a baseball game at Fort Worth's LaGrave Field around 1930. A World War I pilot was performing daring aerial maneuvers above the field. Two wideeyed 14-year-olds focused intently on the aerial show.

"Can you imagine anything worse than being up there in that airplane?" one asked. "Oh, yes," his friend answered, "Being up there without that airplane!" It may be one of these youngsters who, upon finishing a theme assignment, bunched several commas and periods in the corner on the last page — "extras" the teacher was free to "place wherever

Next week, I'll begin my second decade of weekly column-writing. Some of it will be "on a wing and a prayer."The prayer will be for your continued indulgence, forgiving attitude and charitable nature. I hope some of my stories will make you smile and sometimes even serve to

Don Newbury, former chancellor at Howard Payne University, is a humorist and motivational speaker.

The 501 Spirit of Christmas and faith of a child

Then little children pray, they usually thank God for some obvious things - their dog, their goldfish, the air they breathe, their

parents, their grandparents, toys, whatever, not necessarily in that order. Their lists always bring a smile. When asked to be grateful, children rise to the task. However, back

HANABA MUNN WELCH

when my mother was teaching me to say a bedtime prayer, I thanked God for some stuff and then said, "But I don't thank you for the winter."

Poor mother. She had to stop me at that point to say we should thank God for everything, winter included. I remember thinking I was just being honest. She was probably thinking it would have been easier to stick with "Now I lay me down to sleep." It would have.

I'm thankful I had a mother who felt obligated to go the extra mile beyond the perfunctory prayer, eloquent though it was for a child's rhyme. Maybe she just didn't want me saying the part about "If I should die before I wake. ...

Being childless, I've not had to grapple with the hard questions. I just remember asking them.

When Daddy removed the chimney from our house, I was concerned about how Santa Claus would manage. Never mind the chimney was part of a flue for the wood stove that once stood in the kitchen, it's former presence marked by

a pie plate-looking thing up on the wall that covered the hole where the stovepipe had been. To allay my fears about the lack of a chimney, Mother told me Santa Claus could get in no matter how small the space. I took her at her word, but I still missed the chimney. Every house should

About a year later, when I was about 5, my parents and I were on a road trip of some sort. I think we were about to cross a truss bridge when, from the backseat of the '48 Chrysler, I suddenly remarked, "There's no Santa Claus, is there?" Mother was ready. She said, "There's the spirit of Santa Claus."

I didn't quite know what she meant by that, but it worked for me. Nothing changed, and Santa Claus kept bringing me stuff for years.

When in doubt, be vague.

My friend Kristin also had questions at an early age. Finally she simply told her mother she would have to level with her. Kristin explained to her mother she would someday have children of her own and she wanted to know what to tell them.

Until then, Kristin's mother had prolonged the credibility of Santa Claus by leaving gift tags on certain presents signed "Santa" in totally unfamiliar handwriting. Who but Santa could have signed them?

Well, forgive me for spending all this time on Christmas when a new year is upon us. I can't help it. The spirit of Santa Claus doesn't get dragged off into the sunrise by a team of reindeer. It hangs around a while.

I guess Mother was right.

Hanaba Munn Welch is a contributor and columnist for The Post Dispatch.

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Millions of farmers to participate in Census of Agriculture

By Greg Jones For the Dispatch

The 2012 Census of Agriculture, the only source of consistent and comprehensive agricultural data for every state and county in the nation, is currently being mailed to millions of farmers and ranchers across the United States.

The census helps shape programs, boost rural services and grow your farms future. Conducted every five years by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service, the census provides detailed data covering nearly every facet of U.S. agriculture. It looks at land use and ownership, production practices, expenditures and other factors that affect the way farmers do business and succeed in the 21st century.

The 2012 Census of Agriculture provides farm-

The information gathered through the census influences policy decisions that dents and decision-makers. can have tremendous imcommunities for years to

All farmers and ranchers, no matter how large or small their operation, return their census, so they can voice to the nation the agriculture.

influences community growth and development. Many companies review census data when determining where to establish or expand their business, as well as where they can go for supplies of locally proal products, which further emphasizes the importance formation.

census also is valuable to 888-424-7828).

ers with a powerful voice. explain the many ways farming is important to urban or non-farming resi-

Taking part in the census pact on farmers and their is increasingly important to farmers and ranchers in every community in America because it provides important information and helps tell the true story about the are asked to complete and state of agriculture in the United States today.

All farmers and ranchvalue and importance of ers should receive a census form in the mail by early Census information also January. Completed forms are due by Feb. 4. Forms may be completed and mailed or done online by visiting a secure website.

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Federal law requires all agricultural producers to participate in the census and requires NASS to keep duced food and agricultur- all individual information confidential.

For information about of supplying accurate in- the Census of Agriculture, visit agcensus.usda.gov or Information from the call 1-888-4AG-STAT (1-

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Bold Gold basketball live on the Internet

The Post Dispatch

PostSportsRadio.com is set to carry Bold Gold basketball starting Friday when the Post Lady Lopes open district play at Slaton.

Jim Plummer and Call Windham will bring the live action of both the Post High School girls and boys varsity District 3-2A away basketball games.

In addition to Friday's webcast, both Lady Lopes and Antelopes road games will be broadcast on Jan. 11 from Floydada, from Idalou on Jan. 15, Jan. 25 from Childress and

The final regular season webcast is the boy's game on Feb. 11 from Slaton.

pre-game show 20 minutes prior to tipoff of the scheduled event. Start times can be found online to Post-SportsRadio.com.

The basketball webcast team will the contests live. begin its second season together.

brings 30 plus years of broadcast and audio production experience to the operation and is the producer of the webcasts. He also serves as on Feb. 5 from Lubbock-Roosevelt. the public address announcer at

the PHS home basketball games. Windham, a 2008 graduate of Post High School and former Antelope Broadcasts will begin with the player, is a senior journalism major at Texas Tech.

> In the event of a playoff birth by either the Lady Lopes or Antelopes, or 100? If you're already PostSportsRadio.com will stream there, are you in pretty

Plummer said the Internet opens good enough shape to Plummer, a Texas Tech graduate, up availability to the world "wher- make it another decade? ever Post sports fans are located."

> contact Jim Plummer at (806) 781-1911 or go to PostSportsRadio.com ing in their 100s on this for more information.

The paperboy Life after 100 years

re you going to be self-sufficient **L** at age 70, 80, 90 good shape? Perhaps

By the middle of this Interested webcast sponsors should century, 6 million people are predicted to be liv-

planet. By the end of the century, and perhaps much sooner, the life expectancy

CHRIS

country could end up much older. Of course, that's without something

Today, there are 340,000 people older than 100 around the globe with the highest and Japan, according to figures. Their numbers are projected to grow at more than 20 times the rates of the total population by 2050, making them the fastest growing

Genetics along with medical advances and improved diets, which have stroke, are the reasons

Throw in cutting-edge scientists are making incredible findings regarding the aging process and who knows how old some of us may end up being.

A while back, while checking out some show on aging, more than one scientist spoke about humans being capable of living 150 or 200 years within the next 50 years.

I suppose it would be about quality years. Of course, you might have to have all of your organs replaced (grown at an organ farm) and your bones and muscles would probupgrade. And none of us would want to live that

mentally.

Japan, with its low-fat staple of fish and rice, is expected to have the most centenarians in 2050 -627,000, or nearly 1 percent of its total population, according to census estimates.

That's incredible. Japan has a thriving industry that caters to their advancing population. Personally, I think the Japanese treat their elders better than we do. They seem to give the proper respect to their elderly population and not cast them aside as so often happens in the United States, but I digress.

Here, centenarians are expected to increase from 75,000 to more than 600,000 by 2050. Those hitting and passing the milestone will mostly be baby boomers.

Guess we better get Medicare and Social Security fixed for good!

That many centenarians also means considerable growth in nursing homes, assisted living centers and retirement centers.

When I moved to Childress after college, I lived with my grandfather. He was 82 and was very sharp. I actually did not realize he was rare in terms of being that age and getting around as well as he did. He lived another three years and outside of an ongoing battle with congestive heart failure, was in good health and stayed sharp mentally.

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On the other extreme, my father is 70 with dementia and he's completely dependent on caregivers for everything. My mother died at age

I don't know what that says about my future, but I sure hope my dominant genes come from my grandfather, if you get my

meaning. One thing I'm sure of: Regardless if you live to be 60 or 160, the days get shorter the older you get and the end will be here before you know it.

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

Group.



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cataclysmic happening. concentrations in the U.S. the latest Census Bureau

age segment.

reduced heart disease and people are living longer. technology and the fact

Can you imagine living

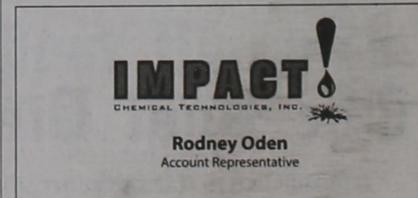
200 years?

fine, if we are talking ably need a significant long without being sharp

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Most children between ages 4 to 8 will need a booster seat to be safe and comply with the law. Safety experts recommend that all children under age 13 ride in the backseat. Adults and children must be buckled up whether they are in the front or back seat.

vehicle are properly secured. and height. State law requires that you

REAR-FACING SEATS From birth to as long as possible, up to the weight or height limit of the seat. At a minimum, keep rear-facing always follow the reanufacturer's until age 1 and 20 lbs.

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IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF LEA COUNTY STATE OF NEW MEXICO

TINA and ALBERTO MARQUEZ Petitioners,

VS.

LEAH DAWN PICKERING and SCOTTIE GLEN ARMSTRONG,

Respondents.

IN THE MATTER OF THE KINSHIP GUARDIANSHIP OF S.D.A., a minor

NOTICE OF PENDENCY OF ACTION

STATE OF NEW MEXICO TO: Scottie Glenn Armstrong

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that the Respondent Leah Dawn Pickering has filed a Motion for Relief from Judgment and for Supplemental Relief which is now pending in the above styled and numbered cause the general objects of which are to set aside the Order Appointing Kinship Guardian Without Consent of Both Respondents entered by the Court on March 16, 2006 awarding Tina Marquez and Alberto Marquez guardianship of your minor child S.D.A., a female child born September 17, 2005 and requesting the Court to restore sole legal and physical custody of said child to Leah Dawn Pickering, and

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that unless you file a responsive pleading or appearance in this cause on or before the 31st day of January 2013 that the court will proceed to a final hearing and that the court may enter judgment in favor of Respondent and against you by default.

COLLOPY LAW OFFICES, LLC (Michael John Collopy) whose professional address is P.O. Box 2813, Hobbs, New Mexico 88241-2813 is the attorney for Respondent in said cause.

WITNESS my hand and the seal of the District Court of Lea County, New Mexico this 19th day of December, 2012.

> NELDA CUELLAR Clerk of the District Court

By: /s/ Elva Rivas, Deputy

and The Lovington Daily Leader

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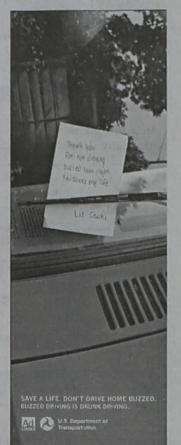
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Post Dispatch Weather Summary

Post's Seven Day Forecast



Friday

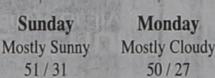
Sunny

40 / 18













Partly Cloudy

45 / 24



Mostly Cloudy

42 / 25

Local UV Index

0-2: Low, 3-5: Moderate, 6-7: High, 8-10: Very High, 11+: Extreme Exposure

Weather Trivia

How many years is the sun's solar cycle?

Answer: Eleven years.

Weather History

Jan. 4. 1989 - Up to a foot of snow blanketed the mountains of West Virginia and strong winds in the northeastern United States produced wind chill readings as cold as 60 degrees below zero in Maine. Mount Washington, N.H. reported wind gusts to 136 mph.

Jan. 5, 1982 - A three-day rainstorm in the San Francisco area finally came to an end. Marin County and Cruz County were drenched with up to 25 inches of rain and the Sierra Nevada Range was buried under four to eight feet of snow.

Detailed Local Forecast

Tuesday

Partly Cloudy

46/27

Today we will see sunny skies with a high temperature of 40°, humidity of 48%. North wind 5 to 15 mph. The record high temperature for today is 78° set in 1976. Expect mostly clear skies tonight with an overnight low of 18°. West northwest wind 5 mph. The record low for tonight is 11° set in 1966. Saturday, skies will be sunny with a high temperature of 48°, humidity of 39%. East southeast wind 5 mph. Skies will be partly cloudy Saturday night with an overnight low of 25°. East southeast wind 5 mph.

Peak Fishing/Hunting Times This Week



Day

Sunrise

Peak Times				Peak Times			
	Day	AM	PM	Day	AM	PM	
	Fri	4:08-6:08	4:38-6:38	Tue	7:45-9:45	8:15-10:15	
	Sat	4:57-6:57	5:27-7:27	Wed	8:47-10:47	9:17-11:17	
,	Sun	5:50-7:50	6:20-8:20	Thu	9:50-11:50	10:20-12:20	
3	Mon	6:46-8:46	7:16-9:16	www	v.WhatsOur	Weather.com	

Moonrise

Sun/Moon	Chart	This	Week
----------	-------	------	------

Sunset

Full 12/28	(3)(5)	Fr
		Su
Last	(a)	Tu
1/4	1 7	W

Date

	LII	1.47 a.m.	5.52 p.m.	12.00 a.m.	11.5/ 4.111.
1	Sat	7:49 a.m.	5:53 p.m.	1:08 a.m.	12:35 p.m.
/	Sun	7:49 a.m.	5:54 p.m.	2:12 a.m.	1:16 p.m.
1	Mon	7:49 a.m.	5:55 p.m.	3:18 a.m.	2:04 p.m.
	Tue	7:49 a.m.	5:56 p.m.	4:25 a.m.	2:59 p.m.
3	Wed	7:49 a.m.	5:56 p.m.	5:30 a.m.	4:00 p.m.
/	Thu	7:49 a.m.	5:57 p.m.	6:31 a.m.	5:06 p.m.
_					

na Da	www.a D	ove	
a.m.	5:06 p.r	m.	
a.m.	4:00 p.r	m. 🝃	
a.m.	2:59 p.r	m.	١

Moonset

New

1/11

First

Last week's Almanac & Growing Degree Days					
igh	Low	Normals	Precip	Farmer's Grow	ving Degree Days
51	18	52/25	0.00"	Date Degree Days	Date Degree Days

12/20	51	18	52/25	0.00"	100
12/21	60	16	52/25	0.00"	
12/22	59	27	52/25	0.00"	
12/23	69	34	52/25	0.00"	
12/24	53	25	52/25	0.00"	1
12/25	35	18	52/25	0.01"	
12/26	36	13	52/24	0.00"	
	THE RESERVE				

12/22 12/26

12/24

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

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FDIE

Dixie Divas The gate

Tt all started with a breakin then continued to a __breaking point when a crazy woman showed up at my door, ranting about aliens who had landed at her house. She needed me to write an article to warn their commander not to send them back to her house. When Tink heard I had

run off a car full of Jehovah Witnesses with my shotgun, he said, "That's it. We're putting in a gate. For

> your safety, RONDA as well as RICH the safety

vah Witnesses." For a while, I had demurred over installing a privacy gate but, finally, I was ready to agree. The crazy woman and her aliens had persuaded me.

of aliens

and Jeho-

"But I'm not going to be in charge of construction," I warned.

We had just had to make what started as minor repair to the balcony but became major. To anyone who has ever had to work with a contractor - especially those who look at women's ideas and questions with disdain - you'll understand that my nerves were stretched to the max.

"Great," he said.

It didn't work out that way. He was working 14-hour days in Los Angeles, executive producing a television series and I was home.

"Just get it started for me. Get the quotes and I'll take it from there."

I called for four quotes. I drew a picture and gave a list of what we wanted. One contractor, the friend of a friend, came but never followed up. One the one I thought I could count on the most — dawdled at putting the quote together, which left two vying for the job.

One man — Brian Parks - hustled to get the job and strived to get it close to our budget. Brian was going to custom weld the wrought-iron gate. Tink, who had been preoccupied with script rewrites and a star with laryngitis, suddenly arose from oblivion when he saw the gate I had sketched. "Not arched," he said.

"Something straight across and not so high." "OK, send me a sketch of what you want, and I'll give it

to Brian." After a few days of reminders and not receiving the sketch, I met with Brian and gave him a

revised sketch. "You can meet with Tink next week and go over it with

Suddenly, out of nowhere, Tink roared to life. He got online and started looking at gates. From an airport somewhere, he texted a photo of the gate he wanted. Sit down. Get ready for this. A cattle gate. The kind that you can go to the local hardware store or farmer's supply and purchase. The kind that when I had a board fence built, I shunned. I had a wood gate built to keep from using the plain, utility gate,

I thought it was a joke. I'm still in hopes that it was, that I haven't married a guy who was serious about using a cattle gate for an entrance gate.

"Please, baby, please," he said. "Please let me have this gate. It's perfect for the Rondarosa (which he has christened our place)."

I laughed it off. "No way." I couldn't believe we were in a disagreement over such. Normally, when it comes to style issues, we agree unfailingly.

Facing defeat, he said, "Let me send an email and ask your family to vote."

"Go ahead. We may be simple, country folks but we have class, style and taste. No one will vote for a cattle gate." I had complete confidence.

Tink attempted to win votes by offering to help get up hay. Still, one by one - with nary a word from me - voted zealously for a wrought-iron gate.

Rodney, after casting his vote, added, "See you this weekend. We're gettin' up hay."

Tink, somewhat graciously, accepted the unanimous vote. But get up hay? Huh, no. He chose a weekend at the Cloister instead.

Ronda Rich is a 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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