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The Post Dispatch

A BUILDER IN GARZA COUNTY SINCE 1926

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2014

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CHILD'S SHOOTING DEATH STUNS POST CITY



Wayne Hodgins/The Post Dispatch

A makeshift memorial of stuffed toys of all colors, shapes, animals and kinds line the wooden fence around a home in southwest Post as a tribute to a 2-year-old toddler who was shot to death last Thursday evening in a tragic crime for which her 34-year-old mother has been arrested.

34-year-old mother faces death; close-knit Garza community shaken by tragic event

By Wayne Hodgins
The Post Dispatch

One week after a 34-year-old mother was taken into police custody and charged with capital murder in the shooting death of her 2-year-old daughter at their home in Post, residents in and around Garza County are still collectively stunned by the events and continue ask questions, for which there may never be any answer.

Garza County Sheriff Terry Morgan said the local 911 operations center received a call a few minutes before 5:30 p.m. Feb. 20 from a woman reporting her child's death.

When deputies responded to the home in the 400 block of South Avenue H in Post, they found the woman alone in the home and the gruesome discovery of a toddler's body, dead from an apparent gunshot to the head.

Ashlee Anne Dean, 34, was arrested and taken to the custody of the Garza County sheriff. She remains behind bars at the Garza County jail, where she was arraigned Saturday via teleconference before Justice of

the Peace Gordon Terry. She was charged with one count of capital-offense murder, which is mandatory in homicide cases involving children younger than the age of 10 in the state of Texas.

Her bond was set at \$1 million. The capital offense charge means if Dean should be found guilty through the course of the legal system, she would be eligible for the death penalty.

At the arraignment, Dean was represented by private counsel, Lubbock attorney David M. Guinn Jr. of Hurley & Guinn. Guinn is formerly with the Lubbock Division of the Federal Public Defender's Office for the Northern District of Texas.

Dean's live-in partner and father of the child, authorities say, was at work at the time of the incident. No one else was at home, they said.

Sheriff Morgan said no other arrests are pending at this time.

Less than a half-hour later after arriving on the scene, Morgan called in the Texas Rangers to assist in the investigation.

"In smaller communities, this

practice is common in cases like these because of limited resources of local law enforcement and to ensure a thorough investigation," Morgan said.

Although Morgan said formal toxicology reports were pending, friends and family reported the woman had a history of abuse with a designer synthetic drug commonly referred to as "bath salts," so called because of its appearance to Epsom salt and in instances in which the drug is sold under that guise.

Only outlawed within the last two years, the drug often contains substituted cathinones, which have similar effects to amphetamines and cocaine, and is known to cause hallucinations, paranoia and violent behavior in some users.

Investigators with the Texas Rangers continue their probe of the case, Morgan said, and would be turning it over to the district attorney when complete.

Morgan said to his knowledge this case is the first of its kind ever in Garza County.

"Garza County has seen its share of bizarre crimes, but, to my



ASHLEE ANNE DEAN

knowledge at least, never anything of this magnitude," said Morgan, a longtime Garza County resident who is serving his first term in office.

News of the girl's death and subsequent arrest of her mother spread through the usual channels of word of mouth and social media.

The only resonating question that continues to cast a pall over the usually bustling city below the Cap is "Why?"

Chris Atkinson, director of the Community Recovery Center of Post, a unique facility that offers counseling and drug and alcohol abuse rehabilitation, said the "Why?" quite possibly will never be known.

Speaking in general about the

See SHOOTING, Page 6

Post Notes

Events are listed free of charge as a service by this newspaper for nonprofit groups, civic organizations, churches, schools and select community events. Listings should be submitted at least two weeks in advance and will run as often as possible through the date of the event. News staff does not guarantee placement of events. Emailed submissions are preferred to thepostcitydispatch@gmail.com.

Trade Day

Post Trade Day is this Saturday in downtown Post. More than a dozen unique shops with indoor and outdoor vendors will set up shop throughout the downtown business corridor most of the day. For information, call the Post Area Chamber of Commerce at 806-495-3461.

Special worship

Bethel Assembly of God Church in Post will have a special service "Encounter: Awakening a Generation" tonight at the Tower Theater, 111 E. Main St., Post, featuring the worship band JSBM and guest evangelist Junior Martinez. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. For information, contact the Rev. Vicente Villalou, pastor at Bethel Assembly, at 806-201-3248.

Benevolence account

A deposit account has been set up at Wells Fargo to help offset funeral expenses for the family of Alexandria Lee Courtney-Dean. Donations may be made at any branch. For information, call Jona Jones at jonarenea@yahoo.com.

GED classes

Free classes to prepare individuals to receive a General Equivalency Diploma are conducted from 5 to 8 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays at Post High School. For information, contact the school at 806-495-2770.

Corrections

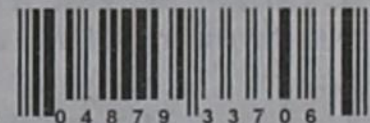
If you spot an error of fact, contact Editor Wayne Hodgins at 806-495-2816 or thepostcitydispatch@gmail.com.

News on the go



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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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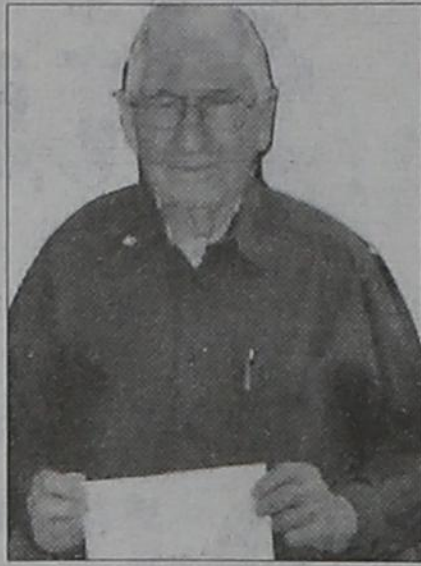
LOANS FOR Real Estate

Deaths

Walton McQuien

Services for Walton Ray McQuien, 90, of Post were held at 11 AM Tuesday, February 25, 2014 in the Hudman Funeral Home Chapel with Charles McCook and John Hedrick officiating. Burial in Terrace Cemetery was under the direction of Hudman Funeral Home.

Walton died Sunday, February 23, 2014 in Lubbock. He was born on November 26, 1923 in Garza County to John Willis and Maggie



WALTER MCQUIEN
(Matsler) McQuien. He

was a member of the Masonic lodge and a veteran of WWII. He farmed and ranched in eastern Garza County.

Survivors include 1 Sister: Nannie Jean Jones of Midland, a Sister-in-Law: Helen McQuien of Plainview and a number of nieces, nephews and cousins.

Pallbearers were Paul Matsler, Martin Matsler, Ted Tatum, John Schenk, Donnie Cornell and Jim Bocko.

Penny Adams

Georgia Mae "Penny" Adams, 82, of Post, died Thursday, Feb. 20, at Golden Plains Care Center. Graveside services, under the direction of Justice-Mason Funeral Home, were Saturday in Terrace Cemetery, Post, with the Rev. John Bill Hedrick officiating.

School Menus

Menus: Week of March 3-7

Southland ISD Breakfast

Monday: Oatmeal cookie bar, yogurt, fruit, juice, milk
Tuesday: Breakfast burrito, fruit, juice, milk
Wednesday: Breakfast pizza or cereal, yogurt, fruit, juice, milk
Thursday: Biscuits, sausage, gravy, fruit, juice, milk
Friday: Muffins, yogurt, fruit, juice, milk

Lunch

Monday: Corn dogs, baked fries, baked beans, cookie, fruit, milk
Tuesday: Nachos grande, refried beans,

garden salad, oranges, milk

Wednesday: Chicken sandwich, oven fries, fresh veggie cup, fruity gelatin, milk

Thursday: Spaghetti with meatballs, garden salad, carrots, fruit, breadstick, milk

Friday: Pizza choice, garden salad, seasoned corn, fresh fruit bowl, milk

Post ISD Breakfast

Monday: Chicken and waffles with syrup, fruit juice, fresh fruit, milk
Tuesday: Oatmeal muffin, yogurt, fruit juice, fresh fruit, milk
Wednesday: Texas toast, scrambled eggs, sausage patty, fruit juice, fresh fruit, milk
Thursday: Breakfast club, fruit juice, fresh fruit, milk
Friday: Biscuits and

gravy, sausage patty, fruit juice, fresh fruit, milk

Lunch

Monday: Chicken sandwich, salad, potato rounds, Western-style beans, diced pears, milk

Tuesday: Pig in a blanket, baby carrots, steamed broccoli, pineapple tidbits, milk

Wednesday: Tex-Mex stack with corn chips, Spanish rice, refried beans, garden salad, salsa, hot cinnamon rolls, milk

Thursday: Stuffed barbecue potato, Texas toast, baby carrots, fresh fruit bowl, milk variety

Friday: Chicken Parmesan, breadstick, garden salad, savory green beans, fresh apple slices, milk

Wayne Hodgins

Letters to the Editor

Gates gets in right in new book

"Duty," by Robert M. Gates, is now available at the Post Public Library for your consideration. Mr. Gates had worked for six presidents in both the CIA and National Security Council, and was working as president of Texas A&M University when he received a call to replace the divisive Donald Rumsfeld as U.S. Secretary of State for President Bush and continued in that capacity under President Obama.

Under the chapter on "Reflections," Secretary Gates has some observations that are worth considering. Page 583 on the book, "Duty," states as follows: "And it seems the more vitriolic the opinion, the more attention it gets. This system is clearly more democratic and open, but I believe it has also fueled the coarsening and dumbing down of our national political dialogue. These discouraging elements of our democracy and civil society are well entrenched. But presidents and members of Congress are not helpless in confronting either the polarization or paralysis. They could start by restoring civility and mutual respect; by listening to and learning from one another; by curbing the purposeful distortion of facts; and by not pretending to have all the answers and demonizing those who differ, and by putting country before self and before party."

PRESTON POOLE
Post

'501' column sparks an interest

I enjoyed Hanaba Munn Welch's column in the Jan. 24, 2014, issue of The Post Dispatch, "Rock Collecting for the Ambidextrous." For years, I collected glass chickens of all shapes and sizes, until I got tired of dusting them — and books. I guess I'll always collect books, and I'll thin out the collection until I find a new author. Most recently I've found Craig Johnson, who writes the "Longmire" series, which A&E bases its popular TV show, which I love, of the same name. I also collect horses. Although I've never really been around horses, I love them and enjoy collecting pictures, calendars and whatnots. I try to stay away from Tractor Supply for this reason.

And I do still write letters in longhand. I am 71 years old, and don't own a computer, although I might have to learn about them and buy one.

JEAN DUNN
San Angelo

Not all in favor of ATV trail

I am a Crosby County taxpayer and I attended the public meeting in Post on 2/13/14 concerning the proposed ATV trail at White River Lake.

In my opinion, the most important thing to come out of that meeting is that if the park is not kept open AND maintained for 20 years the taxpayers of Post, Crosbyton, Ralls and Spur (the towns that own the lake) will be responsible for paying back the \$1,000,000 grant money. This means that our property taxes and water rates will increase.

Please ask your mayors and city council to tell Texas Parks and Wildlife that WE DO NOT WANT IT. I personally do not want this hanging over my children and grandchildren's head.

DAVID TATE
Lubbock

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF ALVIS IRIS ROBERTSON SHEPHERD, Cause No. 1994

Notice to all persons is hereby given that the original letters of Testamentary upon the estate of **ALVIS IRIS ROBERTSON SHEPHERD**, deceased, were issued to the undersigned on the 18th day of February, 2014, in the proceeding indicated below my signature hereto, which is still pending, and that I now hold such letter. All persons having claims against said estate, which is being administered, in Garza County, are hereby required to present to the same address below given, before suit upon same area barred by the general statutes of limitation, before such estate is closed and within the time required by law to my attorney, Preston L. Poole Jr., P.O. Box 296, Post, Texas, 79356, or myself, Quintella Davenport, 911 W. 11th St., Post, Texas, 79356.

Quintella Davenport
Quintella Davenport, Independent Executrix

PUBLIC NOTICE

STATEMENT OF NONDISCRIMINATION

Lyntegar Electric Cooperative Inc. is the recipient of federal financial assistance from the Rural Utilities Service, an agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and is subject to the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended; the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended; and the rules and regulations of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, which provide that no person in the United States, on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, or handicap, shall be excluded from participation in, admission or access to, denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination under any of this organization's programs or activities. The person responsible for coordinating this organization's nondiscrimination compliance efforts is Greg Henley, CEO. Any individual, or specific class of individuals, who feels that this organization has subjected them to discrimination may obtain further information about the statutes and regulations listed above from and/or file a written complaint with this organization; or the Secretary, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250; or the Administrator, Rural Utilities Service, Washington, D.C. 20250. Complaints must be filed within 180 days after the alleged discrimination. Confidentiality will be maintained to the extent possible.

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF A.J. MCALISTER, Cause No. 1993

Notice to all persons is hereby given that the original letters of Testamentary upon the estate of **A.J. MCALISTER**, deceased, were issued to the undersigned on the 29th day of January, 2014, in the proceeding indicated below my signature hereto, which is still pending, and that I now hold such letter. All persons having claims against said estate, which is being administered, in Garza County, are hereby required to present to the same address below given, before suit upon same area barred by the general statutes of limitation, before such estate is closed and within the time required by law to my attorney, Preston L. Poole Jr., P.O. Box 296, Post, Texas, 79356, or myself, Judith King McAlister, 1551 B Cedar Hills Road, Post, Texas, 79356.

Judith King McAlister, Independent Executrix

Praying for rain.

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NOTES

From Page 1

Close City Car Show
The second annual Close City Community Antique Tractors, Car and Toys Show will be April 5. No admission fee. Games, parades, food, vendors. Bring the whole family. Call Jim Ellis at 806-495-2753 for information.

Ragtown show
Performances of "Gethsemane" are at 7:30 p.m. Fridays and 3 p.m. Saturdays through at Ragtown Gospel Theater. Tickets and information at ragtown.com.

Early voting
Early voting ahead of Tuesday's state primary will conclude today. Call the Garza County Elections Office for information at 806-495-4430. A valid photo ID for registered voters is required to cast a ballot.

Tabana Yuane
The annual sunrise wind ceremony predicting the upcoming crop season will be March 22 at City Park.

Military exhibit
The Garza County Historical Museum, 119 N. Ave. N, Post, has a new exhibit of more than 100 cast-dyed military warplane models on display as part of the 72nd anniversary of the 1941 bombing of Pearl Harbor. The planes were donated by U.S. Marine Corps veteran Patrick Reilly and will be part of the museum's

permanent collection. This county museum is housed in an old sanitarium built in 1912 by C.W. Post. Exhibits feature artifacts significant to the county and of general interest to visitors. For information, call 806-495-2207.

Taxpayer clinic
Students at the Texas Tech School of Law conduct free clinic for low-income taxpayers throughout the year to assist them with federal tax issues related to individual tax matters. Eligibility is determined by the federal poverty guidelines. For information or schedule an appointment, call Nancy Mojica at 806-834-7972 or 800-420-8037.

GED classes
Instructional sessions for the GED test are 5 to 8 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays in Room 18 at Post High School. Call the school at 495-2770 for information. The Post Public Library website now offers life-learning resources for GED test preparation, job search and workplace skills. Visit wtlts.tsl.state.tx.us/pllib to register. For information, contact librarian Peggy Ashley at 990-2149.

Veterans benefits
Wartime veterans or surviving spouses may be entitled to monthly income from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. For information, contact Marsha Mahurin at West Texas Senior Resources at 806-781-3901 or email marsha.mahurin@yahoo.com.

State looks to honor longtime family farms, ranches

Program recognizes land in use for 100 years or more

By Wayne Hodgin
The Post Dispatch

Garza County farmers and ranchers whose land has been continual use since 1914 are encouraged to apply to the state's Family Land Heritage program, which recognizes farms and ranches in the state of Texas that have been operated by the same families for at least 100 years.

Administered by the Texas Department of Agriculture, the Family Land Heritage program first began recognizing families that, through generations of hard work, perseverance and love of the land, have operated their farms and ranches for a century or more, helping Texas become a \$100 billion powerhouse of agricultural productivity.

In Garza County, this

designation has been bestowed upon only one farm, the John Ira Wilbourn Homestead, established in 1902 in the Graham Chapel community.

According to state officials, more than 98 percent of all farms and ranches in Texas continue to be family owned.

Applications for the 2014 Family Land Heritage program are now being accepted and must be submitted by May 1. Those accepted into the program will be honored at a ceremony this fall at the Texas Capital in Austin, where state officials will recognize farms and ranches established in 1914 or earlier.

Eligible farms and ranches must still be owned and operated by the descendants of the founder, either through blood, marriage or adoption. At least 10 acres of the land must be in continuous agricultural production for the past 100 years or more. There is no

cost to apply for the recognition.

To date, the state has recognized more than 4,800 properties in 237 counties across Texas. In 2000, the Family Land Heritage program began honoring families for 150 and 200 years of continuous agricultural production. Since then, 133 farms and ranches have been recognized for 150 years of operation, and six ranches have been honored for 200 years of operation. Fayette County has been recognized more than any other county since the program began.

Applications for the 2014 Family Land Heritage recognition are available for download at TexasAgriculture.gov.

Recognized farms and ranches in Garza County 2003 — John Ira Wilbourn Homestead (1902): 1 mile south and ¼ mile east of Graham Chapel.

The Paperboy

Olympians, heroes, tech dependency, apathy

Some Olympic thoughts:
I cannot imagine doing a tenth of what I saw athletes do on skis, snowboards, skates or sleds during the past two weeks. It's just unbelievable what they achieve and the manner they achieve it.



CHRIS BLACKBURN

I thought NBC did a good job in their coverage. I'm not a big Matt Lauer fan,

but he did a better job than Bob Costas while filling in. Perhaps I'm just growing tired of Costas bringing his opinion into things. Really, Bob, we don't care about your opinion on gun control. Just give us the sports.

I'd like to publicly thank our first-responders for the job they do. It's been brutally cold this winter, but you've answered the call.

In addition to first-responders, the power people need a slap on the shoulder as well.

We live in times where we are absolutely dependent on certain things. If we're in trouble, we expect the police or deputies to be there in a hurry.

If there's a wreck, the fire department and EMS are there ready to save lives.

You've got DPS troopers watching the highways and TxDOT personnel trying to stay ahead of the weather.

The men and women who work any number of emergencies we might find ourselves in we take for granted — until we need them.

According to Google Director of

Engineering Ray Kurzweil, computers will be able to understand our languages, learn from experience and outsmart the vast majority of us by 2029.

I'm not sure I'm real cool with the fact there will be machines running around smarter than us. Maybe I've seen one too many Terminator, Matrix or iRobot movies, but you know as well as I do that many times life does imitate art. After all, the phone in your pocket is probably better than what Captain Kirk was using on early "Star Trek" episodes.

Anyway, this Kurzweil fellow made a prediction in 1990 that a computer would be able to beat a chess champion by 1998.

Interestingly, IBM's Deep Blue topped chess great Garry Kasparov in 1997.

Look how much we depend on technology today compared to 20 years ago and the 20 years before that. It's safe to say in 20 years we'll be that much more advanced. Hopefully, these advances will be of long-term benefit.


Early voting ends Friday, and I bet 50 percent of adults don't even realize it is going on. I'd even bet you 20 percent don't have a clue there is a primary.

Apathy has taken over at a time we need people paying attention and taking interest in their communities, states and nation.

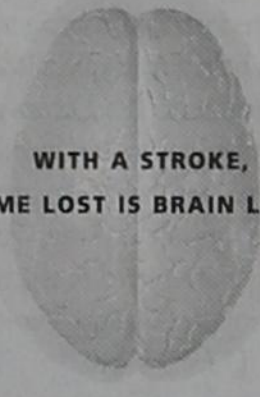
What must our veterans think when they see voter turnout at 20 percent?

I implore you, take an interest and vote. Too many have sacrificed for us to be complacent and take free elections for granted.

Chris Blackburn is CEO of Blackburn Media Group, owner of The Floyd County Hesperian-Beacon, Hall County Herald, The Hollis News, The Knox County News-Courier, The Post Dispatch, The Childress Index, Wellington Leader and The Stonewall Courier. He can be reached by email at chris@blackburnmediagroup.com and you can follow him on Twitter @WCSBlackburn.



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JAY YOUNG
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Justice of the Peace #2
Voting Precincts #3 & #4
Vote Early Feb 18 - Feb 28
Pol Adv Pd for by Jay Young



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Learn more at StrokeAssociation.org or 1-888-4-STROKE

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Bus tour departs from Colorado City for:

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- ◆ 2 nights in NEW ORLEANS with a Jazz Dinner Cruise and City Tour (including areas affected by Hurricane Katrina)
- ◆ 2 nights in NATCHEZ, Ms with two evening shows and also just in time for their Spring Pilgrimage Tour... see some of our country's most beautiful Antebellum Homes open to the public only during this time!
- ◆ 1 night in VICKSBURG, Ms and tour the Civil War Battlefield.
- ◆ 1 night in the DALLAS area with a stop in CANTON, Tx for lunch and shopping at the famous Canton Trade Days!

CALL Sunny Tidwell at National Travel for prices & information 798-5999
sunnyr@takeavacation.com

J Allen Carnes

Pol. adv. paid for by:
Walt Hagood Michael White Ryan Gill
Jim Blankenship Tye Mason
Curtis Erickson Valton Stephens

- J Allen Carnes farms near Uvalde growing vegetables, grain, cotton and cattle.
- J Allen Carnes is overwhelmingly supported by farm and ranch organizations

Early voting is February 18-28. Election Day is Tuesday, March 4.

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR OIL AND GAS WASTE DISPOSAL WELL PERMIT

CAL OIL CO., 8700 COMMERCE PARK DRIVE, SUITE 105, HOUSTON, TEXAS, 77036, is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a permit to dispose of produced salt water or other oil and gas waste by well injection into a porous formation not productive of oil or gas. The applicant proposes to dispose oil and gas waste into the YATES & UPPER SAN ANDRES CAROL SUE REED WELL NUMBER 6503. The proposed disposal well is located ELEVEN AND SIX-TENTHS OF A MILE (11.6) NORTH OF POST IN THE POLLAN (ELLENBURGER) FIELD IN GARZA COUNTY, TEXAS. The wastewater will be injected into strata in the subsurface depth interval from 1,100 TO 2,500 FEET.

LEGAL AUTHORITY: Chapter 27 of the Texas Water Code, as amended, Title 3 of the Texas Natural Resources Code, as amended, and the Statewide Rules of the Oil and Gas Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas. Requests for a public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected, or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within 15 days of publication, to the Environmental Services Section, Oil and Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 12967, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas, 78711 (Telephone 512-463-6792).

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR FLUID INJECTION WELL PERMIT

SWANSON, TOMMY OIL CO. INC., 1812 ROSE ST., WICHITA FALLS, TEXAS, 76301, is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a permit to inject fluid into a formation productive of oil or gas. The applicant proposes to inject fluid into the STRAWN FORMATION, KIRKPATRICK "878" LEASE, WELL NUMBER 2. The proposed injection is located FIVE AND SEVEN-TENTHS OF A MILE (5.7) WEST-NORTHWEST OF JUSTICEBURG IN THE ROCKER-A (STRAWN) FIELD GARZA COUNTY, TEXAS. Fluid will be injected into strata in the subsurface depth interval from 7,954 TO 8,153 FEET.

LEGAL AUTHORITY: Chapter 27 of the Texas Water Code, as amended, Title 3 of the Texas Natural Resources Code, as amended, and the Statewide Rules of the Oil and Gas Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas. Requests for a public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected, or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within 15 days of publication, to the Environmental Services Section, Oil and Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 12967, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas, 78711 (Telephone 512-463-6792).

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 Meryl Streep

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
				O																	H				

T E E T T E
H Q O S E O X H S F D H C D Q U P X J V O F J S R

F R H Q X H K O Q X N O H Q O B C K O E

C D O P B X H Q I

© Feature Exchange

Post Elementary Competes at 58th South Plains Regional Science and Engineering Fair

The 58th South Plains Regional Science Fair was held Friday, February 14, 2014 at the United Spirit Arena in Lubbock, Texas.

There were 562 projects entered. At the elementary level there were 312 projects entered. 180 projects were entered at Middle School level and 60 projects were entered at the High School level.

Post Elementary sent the top 5 winners from our local science fair held in December in both 4th and 5th grades. Ten students represented Post Elementary.

Judging at the Regional Science Fair is based on two rounds. In the first round students are placed in 1st, 2nd, or 3rd place. ONLY the students receiving 1st place in the first round are then judged in the second round where an overall winner is picked and presented with a trophy.

The following students in 4th grade placed:

2nd Place Adriana Hernandez - Does Chewing Gum Improve Memory? Mr. Rodriguez is her teacher.

2nd Place Jakeb Morris - Can You Walk On Water? Mrs. McDonald is his teacher

2nd Place Kyna Hudson - Measuring Sugar in Sodas Mrs. Maldonado is her teacher.

1st Place Medal Lillian Perez - Glowing Ice Water Mrs. McDonald is her teacher

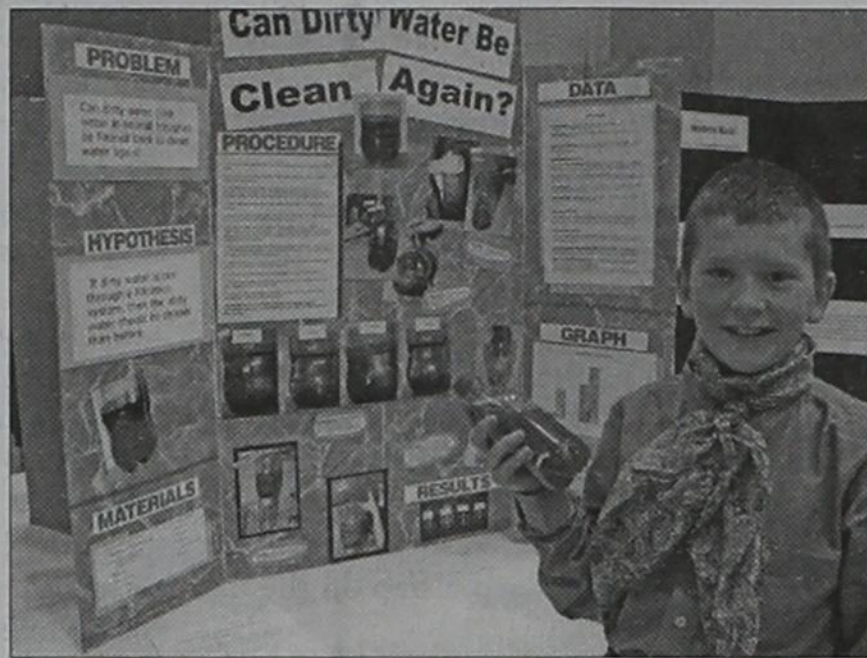
1st Place Medal Drew Porter - What Color Grows Best? Mrs. Self is his teacher

The following students in 5th grade placed: (All students are taught by Mrs. Crystal Osborn)

2nd Place Jacob Isbell -



Shown above are the students from Post Elementary who recently competed in the South Plains Regional Science and Engineering Fair.



Shown above is Kolton Wink who received two special awards during the fair.

There is Fat in my Bread
2nd Place Anna Lonis -
The Sprout that Could
2nd Place Kolton Wink -
Can Dirty Water Be Clean Again?

1st Place Medal Octavia Silve - How Good Is Your Sense of Smell?
1st Place Medal Carson Holson - Alka-Seltzer Film Canister

Two Special Awards were presented to Kolton Wink.

Certificate of Achievement from the City of Lubbock Department of Water Utilities for an Outstanding Water Research Project. He received a certificate and a calculator. The second special award presented

to Kolton was a framed certificate from the TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY FOR ENVIRONMENTAL EXCELLENCE

We are so proud of our elementary students and teachers for these wonderful achievements. Last year Kolton Wink place first in the first round of judging and then was chosen as the overall winner in physical science and was presented with a trophy.

We are already looking forward to next years competition. Thank you parents for all of your help and support. Congratulations to our students!

Legends Fourth life of Sea Cloud

(Editor's note: This week's Legends column by Ms. Puckett is the fourth installment of a seven-part series on the S.S. Sea Cloud, the sailing yacht once owned by Post beiress Marjorie Merriweather Post. I'm thoroughly enjoying reading about the ship's storied and fascinating history. I hope y'all are, too.)

Here we are in part four of the Sea Cloud saga. As the Davies assignment in Moscow ended, one has to speak of the terrible rein of Stalin. Apparently President Roosevelt had no inkling he was sending Joseph and Marjorie Davies into Russia during the one of the country's darkest periods.

Stalin's brutality and cold-blooded slaughter eliminated two-thirds of his leadership. The Leningrad trials took place from 1935 through 1938 as most of the nation's prominent leaders stood up in court and were forced to confess to crimes, all of which earned them the death penalty, as if it was a written script. Could this scene be recreated? In our country? Pretty scary!

In 1938 Davies attended the trials each day. Many of the men on trial he had associated with personally, such as a physician who had treated him and befriended him, were executed. Also executed was the People's Commissar of Trade, whose home the Davies' had been guests.

Marjorie held numerous dinner parties for Russian dignitaries, many of whom were later shot. One incident was their friendship with a mysterious Baron Steiger, a man of German origin who held a cultural-liaison position in the Soviet government. The Davies accepted an invitation from Steiger to join him in the Royal Box at the opera. The Davies' daughter E.K., and some other members of the American party, accompanied Steiger afterward to the night club at the Hotel Metropole. Joe and Marjorie declined the invitation. During supper, two men in civilian clothes approached Steiger, tapping him on the shoulder. He excused himself and left with the two men. He was never seen again. Later, his name appeared on the list of those executed for treason.

On one summer day, Marjorie and Dina decided to take the Sea Cloud out in search of an attractive place for a swim and a picnic. They had a Russian pilot on board as the yacht moved down the river toward the sea. After sometime they spotted an island with a sandy beach that looked ideal, so Marjorie ordered the captain to make for land.

The Russian pilot got a little excited and told them they must not go ashore for the island was not Russia but Finland, and that it would require several days of bureaucratic paperwork to get permission. Marjorie announced she had never heard of anything so silly, and they headed to the island anyway and had a fine picnic. She was willing to play the Kremlin's game on Russian soil, but on

the Sea Cloud, she was the law.

Among the remarks surrounding Marjorie's Soviet tour was that she brought the Sea Cloud laden with frozen foods and left with a ship stuffed with Fabergé and other Russian art. Many of those pieces are on display at the Hillwood Museum in Washington, D.C.

SACRIFICE FOR THE NATION

By August 1941, The New York Times reported the Coast Guard was pleading for private yachts that could be used for defense purposes, and within six months they had mobilized 23. On Jan. 8, 1942, one month after Pearl Harbor was bombed, The New York Times printed a picture of the Sea Cloud fully rigged, an official Navy photo, and reported: "The Navy Department has leased for one dollar per year the Sea Cloud, a powered four-masted brigantine clipper owned by Joseph E. Davies, former Ambassador to Russia. It will be returned to its owner after the war."

The truth of the matter was Joe Davies also had paid Marjorie \$1 per year just to claim ownership, when everyone knew Marjorie and her former husband, E.F. Hutton, were the ones who had the ship built.

Somewhere I read Marjorie declared Joseph Davies became an actor just two weeks after they married. To some he was seen as an opportunist, and Marjorie's granddaughter Marvee thought he was "just a 14-carat phony."

The Coast Guard took over the yacht and transformed her into a weather patrol ship at a cost of \$318,000. The four towering masts and bowsprit were removed, and the hull and super-structure were painted camouflage grey. The Golden Eagle figurehead and expensive furnishings were put into storage. In their place the yacht was given heavy armored plating, eight 40-mm anti-aircraft guns, 16 20-mm anti-aircraft guns, two 3 1/2-inch guns, depth chargers, K-guns (side throwing depth charge equipment), and an ahead-throwing anti-submarine weapon called the "mousetrap." One of the first radar systems was installed, for tracking submarines. A huge steel weather shack was installed with a helium pumping station for weather balloons and bunks for the 175-man crew. Nothing much remained of the imposing millionaire's yacht, even its name. The ship was now known as the IX-99, the Navy code name for "unclassified vessel" went to war.

The usual area of operation for IX-99 was around the Azores and south of Greenland, going out on routine patrol lasting four to six weeks and returning to its new home port for supplies and repairs. Her first captain was Cmdr. Bernier. Later, Capt. Carlton Skinner, a young officer, yachtsman and former journalist, took over.

The Sea Cloud completed its war service with flying colors, and on Nov. 4, 1944, it was released from its duties with the U.S. Coast Guard and returned to its rightful owners in East Boston.

Next week we will learn about the Sea Cloud's decommissioning.

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

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All-State list includes Bold Gold players

Three seniors selected for elite Texas Greenbelt Classic

By **Geoffrey Baumgartner**
The Post Dispatch

Several members of the Post High School varsity football squad have been selected for the All-State team by the Texas Sports Writers Association.

While some members also qualified for the All-South Plains Teams, a designation awarded by the sports staff at the Lubbock Avalanche-Journal, the All-State team is identified not only regionally but also statewide. In addition, some local players qualified for the Texas Greenbelt Bowl, the prestigious Childress Rotary Club event played in June.

The defensive lineman selection from Post was senior T.J. Basquez, who is 6-foot-2 and 220 pounds.

The fullback position went to junior Bryan Smith, who is 6-foot-2 and 190 pounds.

Post senior Mondo Martinez, who is 6-foot-7

and 275 pounds, was given an honorable mention for tackles, while juniors Alejo Rodriguez and Bryan Smith were each selected as linebackers for the All-State team.

Sophomore Aron Lopez, who is 6-foot-1 and 165 pounds, was not only selected to be a punter on the team but also qualified as the kicker as well.

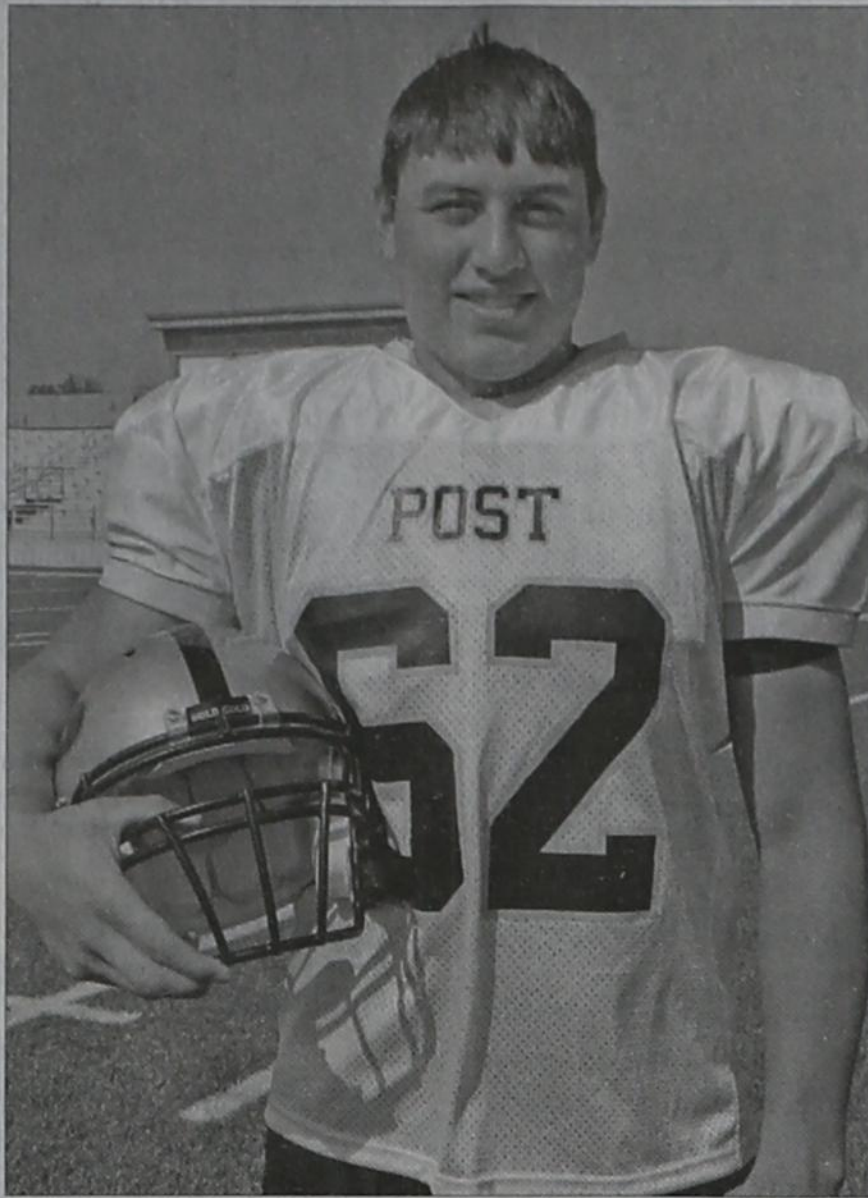
Both the running back position and the kick-returner position went to Post senior D.J. Brown, who is 5-foot-6 and 155 pounds.

In addition to their All-State qualifications Post seniors Mondo Martinez, T.J. Basquez and D.J. Brown were also recently selected to the Greenbelt Bowl this June.

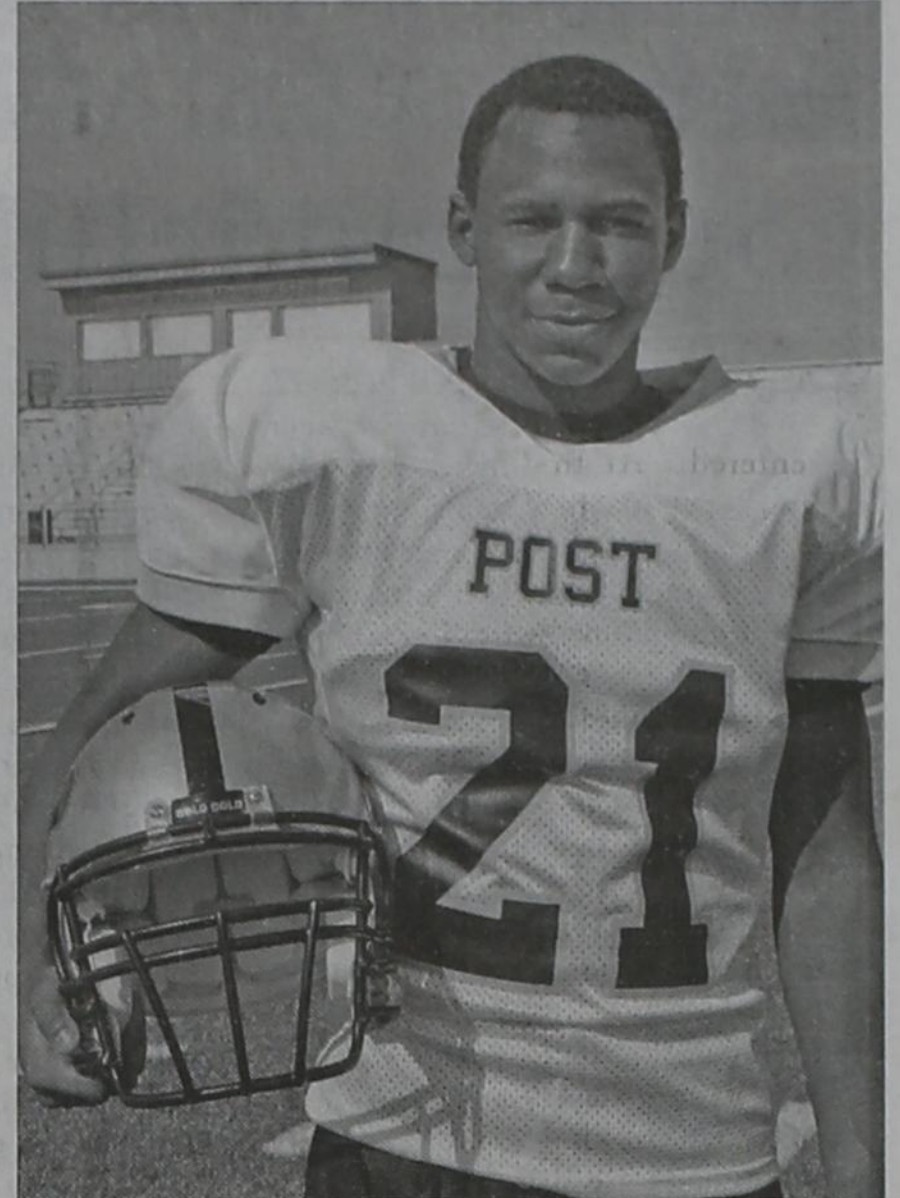
While it is an honor, this is not the first time Post players have been selected for the event, and Post Athletic Director Steve Smith could not be more proud.

"Last year Nathaniel Gill and Dalton Holly participated in this event for the Post Bold Gold football team, and to have three players chosen this year is a great honor," Smith said.

First played in 1950, the game was conceived to give exposure to talented high school football play-



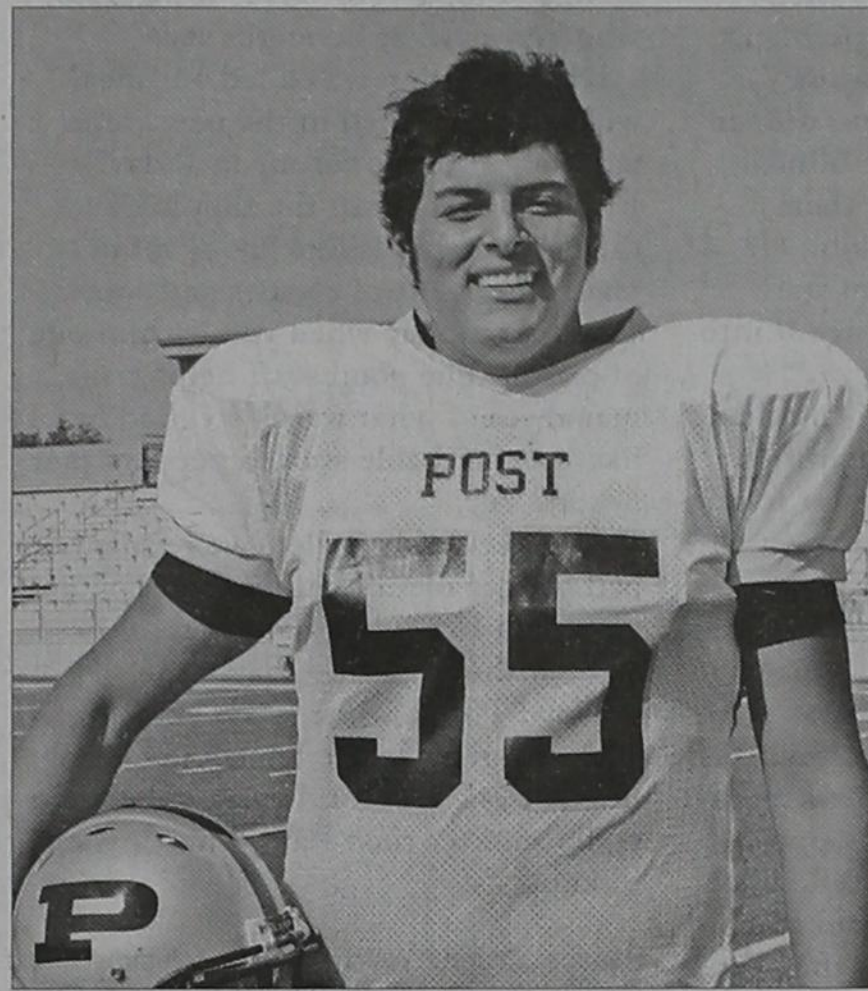
T.J. BASQUEZ



D.J. BROWN

ers at smaller schools who might otherwise be overlooked for college scholarships.

When this year's 64th annual game is complete, more than 3,500 players will have competed, with many of those receiving scholarships they might not otherwise would have obtained.



MONDO MARTINEZ

Way to go, Bold Gold!

Cryptogram Solution

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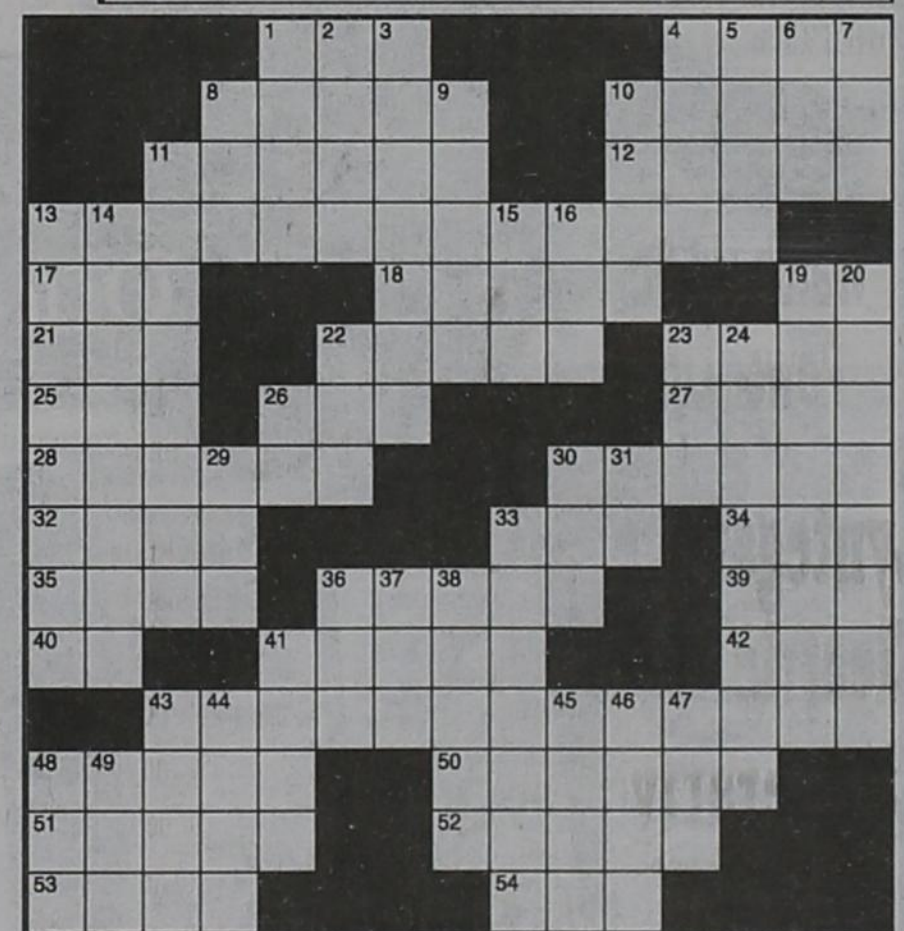
Puzzle of the Week

CLUES ACROSS

- Dish baked in pastry-lined pan
- Radioactivity units
- Overcooked toast
- Gaultheria shallon
- "I Am Sam" actress Fanning
- Central Florida city
- Soothsayer
- Wrath
- Stomach creases
- Of I
- Tooth caregiver
- Retire from military service
- Glance over
- Gadget: ____mo
- Terminal
- Sharp spasm of pain
- Something that baffles understanding
- "Gunsmoke" actress Blake
- Source of the Blue Nile
- Possessed
- Holiday egg drink
- So
- A hard translucent fossil resin
- Prizefighter Muhammad
- Atomic #66 symbol
- Once more
- Rubbish container
- Irrelevant
- "1836 siege" in Texas
- Hacks
- European nation
- Regarding
- F ____: bone concavity
- European money

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

POST DISPATCH

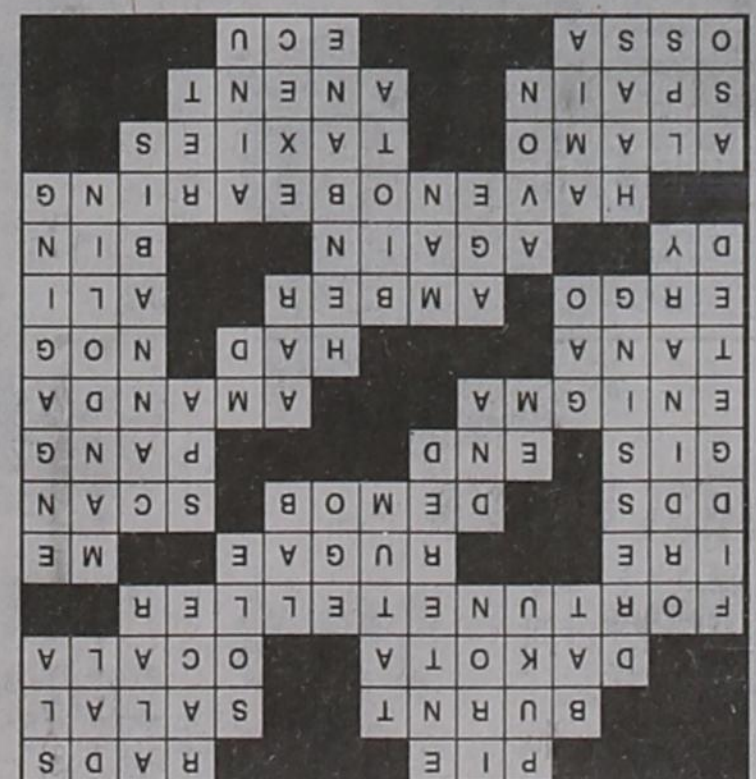


- material
- Health resort
- Dried leaves of the hemp plant
- Auntie in "The Wizard of Oz"
- Crunches federal numbers
- Swiss river
- 7th state (abbr.)
- Hyoscyamus
- Length of time something has existed
- Member of the family Hom-
- inidae
- Combined flora & fauna of a region
- River in England
- Popular avocado
- Macad ____: nut
- Company officer (abbr.)
- No. Japan aborigines
- Process of soaking flax
- Volcano in Kyushu, Japan
- Played at 33.3 rpm

CLUES DOWN

- Antelope genus Adenota
- Symbol Fe
- Went into
- People of the same genetic stock
- ____m: warning device
- Decalitre
- Patti Hearst's captors
- Nocturnal flying mammal
- "Paper Moon" actress O'Neal
- Green fish dish
- Dever goddess or blue cheese
- Moved restlessly
- Commonplace
- Self-importance
- Workplace for scientific research
- Pear shaped lute-like instrument
- Tending to draw favorable attention
- Double helix genetic

PUZZLE SOLUTION



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The 501 Are you smarter than your grandchildren?

Do you know your bell peppers? Can you differentiate between red, green, yellow and orange?

Of course you can. The brightly-colored peppers are easily recognized. They're the ones that cost more than their humble counterparts in standard issue green.

Colors and prices aside, can you tell the difference blindfolded?

It's the kind of taste test that gets grandchildren to eat their crudités. (No, I didn't spring that word "crudité" on mine. Didn't want to push my luck.)

The exercise also answers the question of whether there's a dime's worth of difference between the colors. There isn't.

For the experiment, grandson Cutter, 7, turned all four dinner napkins into blindfolds, laying them out on the floor. He explained you start

with a bandana and then change it into a blindfold. Who knew?

Neither Cutter nor I nor his mother, Rachel, or his sister, Rylee, identified all the peppers. I got three out of four. Cutter, Rylee and Rachel each got two right. We shifted our answers as we sampled all four colors, comparing each to the other.

The main course for dinner was stuffed baked peppers in all colors.

The kids were willing for their mother to get the choice red one as a post-Valentine's tribute. That left yellow for Rylee, 11, because she's cheerful and orange for Cutter because it's the next-best thing to red. They accepted that logic. And I accepted the green one.

Is there a lesson here?

Use real napkins. They make the best blindfolds.

Pay for color if you can. If you can't, comfort yourself with the thought that the difference in taste isn't worth it.

Learn to share red.

During our meal we discussed the curious rule of good manners that you pass both salt and pepper to anyone who asks for either, effectively making my grandchildren superior to any of their contemporaries who don't know that rule. I hope it's still a rule.

Like all grandchildren, they are inherently superior.

After the meal, Cutter and I played games while Rylee texted friends. Cutter, freshly literate, read all the cards he drew in the game "Sorry!"

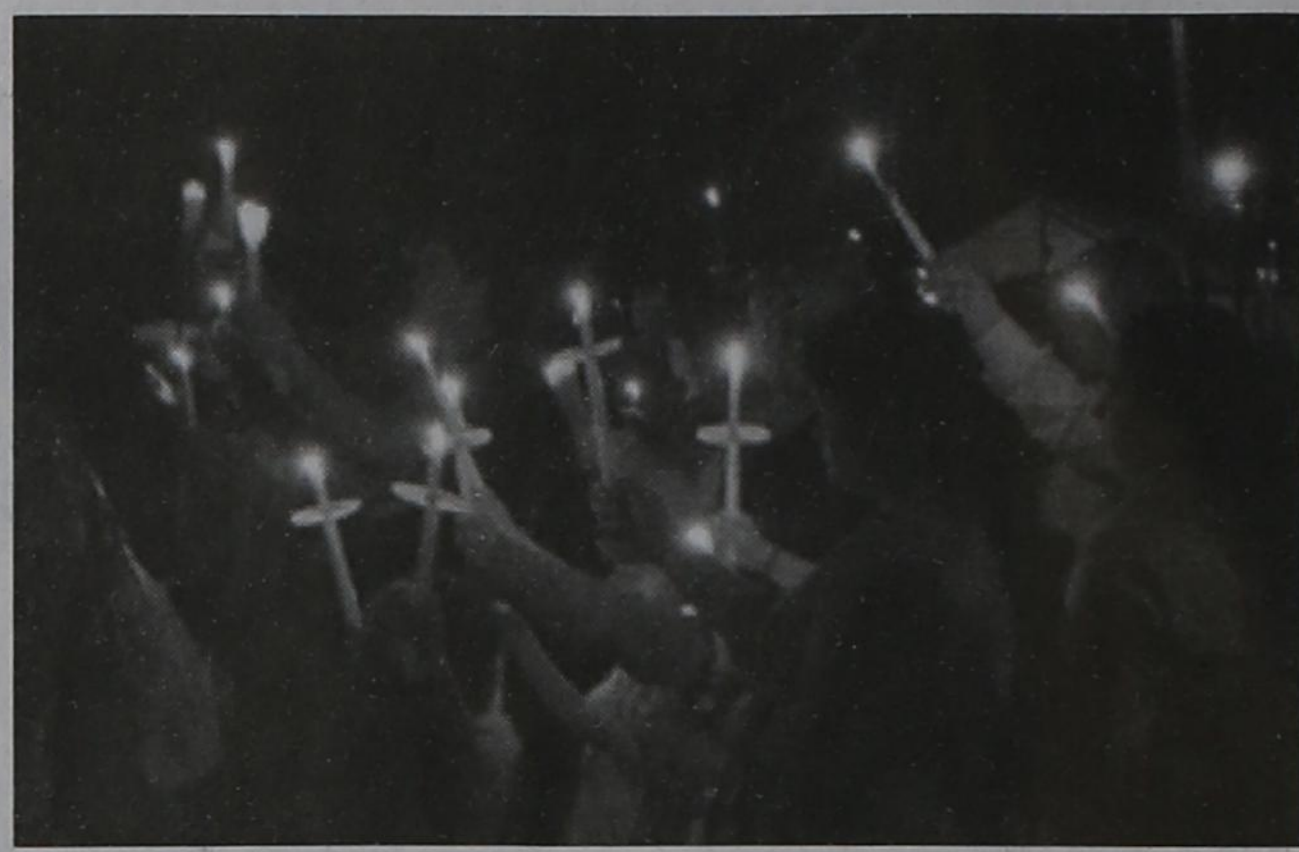
Each time he came to the word "either," he pronounced it "ether." In realms of toMAYto versus toMAHto, who knows what he might say?

Did I mention we ended our meal with crepes flipped in the new crepe pan they gave me for my birthday? Ending a meal with the flipping and eating of crepes is like giving an inmate a new suit of clothes and some spending money when you let him out of prison. The good stuff helps erase memories of what wasn't so good before like unremarkable stuffed peppers that needed salt.

As the evening ended, we recalled our bell pepper identification scores. Cutter remarked I couldn't have gotten three right without getting four right.

Wow! Think about it. He's right! Once again, I didn't push my luck. I didn't ask him for details. If he's not really smarter than I am, I don't want to know.

Hanaba Munn Welch is a columnist and regular contributor to Blackburn Media Group newspapers.



Scores of Post City residents attended a candlelight prayer vigil Saturday evening at a local church in a service held to help area residents bring some semblance of closure to a horrific crime in which a 2-year-old girl was shot to death at her family home. The girl's 34-year-old mother has been charged in the case, and remains behind bars.

SHOOTING From Page 1

effects of drugs on those who use them, Atkinson said the after effects are just nearly always a case-by-case basis.

"There are so many different factors that come into play when you consider how a drug affects someone, because that same drug will affect someone else differently," he said. "Really, when you consider synthetic drugs, unless it was made out of the same batch, there's a good chance even two packages of

drugs laying side by side, alike in name, taste and color and otherwise, will have different chemical properties.

"Factoring in other things such as emotional and mental state of mind, of which could be on any range from high to low; any other drugs they might be taking.

"There's a host of 'what ifs.' So to the question of 'Why?' there are infinite possibilities."

Local pastor the Rev. Jack Maddox said tragedies such as this one hit hard in communities no matter the size.

"Anytime a tragedy such as this ends in the death

of a child, it will tend to shock communities to the core," he said. "Post is and has always been an extremely close community, and people here lean on each other in tragic times. This incident was a terrible blow to the community, as it would be anywhere and anytime a child's life is taken so soon and in such a horrific way.

"The only way we can respond to such a tragedy is through the Gospel of Jesus Christ and taking comfort in the peace that comes in knowing children are recipients of God's special grace."



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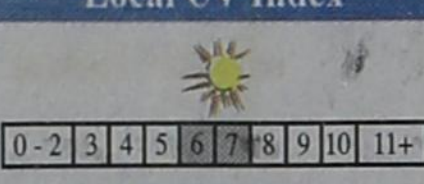
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Post Dispatch Weather Summary

Post's Seven Day Forecast

						
Friday Mostly Sunny 77 / 43	Saturday Mostly Sunny 73 / 45	Sunday Mostly Sunny 62 / 33	Monday Mostly Sunny 37 / 25	Tuesday Mostly Sunny 43 / 31	Wednesday Partly Cloudy 48 / 34	Thursday Mostly Cloudy 44 / 32

Local UV Index



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

Detailed Local Forecast

Today, we will see mostly sunny skies with a high temperature of 77°, humidity of 17%. West wind 10 to 15 mph. The record high temperature for today is 82° set in 1974. Expect partly cloudy skies tonight with an overnight low of 43°. South southwest wind 5 to 10 mph. The record low for tonight is 22° set in 1984. Saturday, skies will be mostly sunny with a high temperature of 73°, humidity of 20%. South southwest wind 5 to 15 mph. Skies will be partly cloudy Saturday night with an overnight low of 45°. South wind 10 to 15 mph.

Weather Trivia

Could global warming cause entire nations to disappear?

Answer: If sea levels rise, some island nations could submerge.

Peak Fishing/Hunting Times This Week

Day	Peak Times		Day	Peak Times	
	AM	PM		AM	PM
Fri	11:16-1:16	11:46-1:46	Tue	3:18-5:18	2:48-4:48
Sat	12:41-2:41	12:11-2:11	Wed	4:08-6:08	3:38-5:38
Sun	1:34-3:34	1:04-3:04	Thu	4:59-6:59	4:29-6:29
Mon	2:26-4:26	1:56-3:56	www.WhatsOurWeather.com		

Weather History

Feb. 28, 1988 - Thunderstorms in California produced severe weather during the early morning hours. Strong thunderstorm winds, gusting to 74 mph, downed trees in the Sacramento area. Unseasonably mild weather prevailed in the northwestern United States.

Feb. 29, 1988 - "Leap Day" proved to be a wet one for Southern California, with 4.76 inches of rain reported at Tommys Creek in Ventura County. Sixteen cities in the central and western United States reported record high temperatures for the date.

Sun/Moon Chart This Week

Day	Sunrise	Sunset	Moonrise	Moonset
New 3/1	Fri 7:13 a.m.	6:42 p.m.	6:30 a.m.	6:20 p.m.
	Sat 7:12 a.m.	6:43 p.m.	7:12 a.m.	7:28 p.m.
	Sun 7:11 a.m.	6:43 p.m.	7:52 a.m.	8:34 p.m.
	Mon 7:09 a.m.	6:44 p.m.	8:31 a.m.	9:38 p.m.
First 3/8	Tue 7:08 a.m.	6:45 p.m.	9:11 a.m.	10:41 p.m.
	Wed 7:07 a.m.	6:46 p.m.	9:52 a.m.	11:40 p.m.
	Thu 7:06 a.m.	6:46 p.m.	10:35 a.m.	Next Day

Last Week's Almanac & Growing Degree Days

Date	High	Low	Normals	Precip	Farmer's Growing Degree Days			
2/18	81	42	59/30	0.00"	Date	Degree Days	Date	Degree Days
2/19	79	34	59/30	0.00"	2/18	12	2/22	3
2/20	63	35	59/30	0.00"	2/19	6	2/23	0
2/21	68	31	60/30	0.00"	2/20	0	2/24	0
2/22	76	30	60/31	0.00"	2/21	0		
2/23	62	38	60/31	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.			
2/24	70	30	60/31	0.00"				

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Dixie Divas 'Oh, dear, bless her heart'

She said it, of course, with smirk. Those women who really don't understand the ways of the women of the South seem to always speak about us in words vividly cloaked in disdain.

"The thing about you Southern women," she began as I shifted from one foot to another and instinctively crossed my arms defensively. Whenever someone says "you Southern women," it is not going to be a hymn of praise. "You think you can say anything you want about anyone then excuse it all with 'bless her heart.'"

Exception taken. First of all, as I explained to her, if I have something uncomplimentary to say, it is based in fact, not opinion. And, normally, it will have something to do with an unkind or unethical something done to me or one of mine. Especially, one of mine. I'm serious about protecting those I love. Secondly, as I told her pointedly, if I have said such a thing, I see no reason at all to be blessing



RONDA RICH

anyone's heart. I do use the phrase, but when you hear it from me it will be with sincerity and compassion not sarcasm. I hear of someone whose cup is running over with problems and aggravations so I'll say, "Bless her heart. Is there anything we can do?"

Now, like any self-respecting Southern woman, I do keep a judicious eye on good grooming, but should I choose to comment about it, it will be in the form of a question such as, "My goodness, it looks like she would have run a comb through her hair before she left this morning, doesn't it?"

At least I'm not like Mama who used to say, "Do you think she has any idea just how bad she looks?"

Of course, in the past couple of years as soon as I say something about uncombed hair, Jesus speaks to me and says, "Let's just hope no one stops by your house and sees how you look on a busy day." I do have a conscience.

But I'll tell you what is much more deadly and more cleverly used by Southern women than "bless her heart." It's "dear." Oh my goodness, that word can bring anyone to her knees. It is endlessly sniping.

Now listen up: Southern women use "sugah," "honey," "darlin'," and "baby" as their primary sweet words of endearment to both those we love and those we only know. "Dear" is generally reserved for the clever put down.

A woman in Memphis wrote to correct me on the spelling of a town's name I had used in my weekly newsletter. Now, we all know that Memphis women are among the best Southern women. They know their black-eyed peas and collards when it comes to Southernism. She corrected me, spelling the name in capital letters leaving out an extra "r" I had put in. Then she wrote, "It only has one 'r,' dear."

That's when I knew I had really been put in my place. I could just hear the condescension in her tone.

Once, a young woman forcefully refuted a logistic I had given her. "That is not correct," she said rather hatefully.

Since it was my schedule and my flight, I knew for a fact that it was. I was nice the first two or three times I defended it but when she persisted, I said, "Yes, dear, it is." I heard the edge in "dear" when I said it and knew I had crossed a line. One I had never crossed before.

Someone who heard me say it later asked, "Did you really call her 'dear'?" As though I had spoken a cuss word.

Dazed by my own mouth, I nodded. But something felt good about it. I had gotten my point across because she finally fell silent. And I had pretended to be sweet about it.

Bless my heart.

Ronda Rich is a Southern humorist, storyteller and best-selling author of "There's A Better Day A-Comin'." Visit rondarich.com to sign up for her weekly newsletter.

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

The White River Municipal Water District (WRMWD) will hold a public meeting on:

Thursday, March 13, 2014, at 7 p.m. at the City of Ralls Community Storm Shelter located at 821 Tilford Avenue, Ralls, Texas 79357.

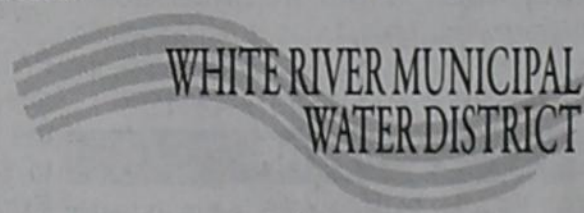
The purpose of this meeting is to provide information regarding the proposed master plan of park improvements on property adjacent to White River Lake. The proposed master plan, park and multi-use trail system improvements are being partially funded by an 80% grant through the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Texas Recreation Trails Fund. Comments relative to the proposed master plan may be presented at the meeting.

White River Municipal Water District has been working with the Texas Parks & Wildlife to develop and diversify our lake recreational facilities since 2012. The District accepted a \$176,000 grant in 2012, has been offered a \$500,000 grant for 2013, and has just recently applied for a \$477,000 grant for 2014. These grants total \$1,153,000. The District would be obligated for \$230,600 that can be paid by "in kind services" by operating and maintaining the facility.

The District is excited about pursuing these proposed recreational facility improvements. Some of the improvements include \$25,000 for security systems, \$200,000 for roads, \$170,000 restroom, \$80,000 for fencing to totally enclose the ATV Park and \$250,000 for professional built trails. RV improvements include safety, camping, picnicking, waterline, and fire protection. Some of the equipment includes 2 regular ATV's, 1 Police ATV, 1 EMT/Rescue UTV to be housed in a maintenance building on site.

The facilities will provide provisions for Americans with Disabilities, hiking/walking, jogging/running, bird/wildlife, mountain biking, equestrian, motorcycles and all-terrain vehicles.

All interested parties are invited to attend this Public Meeting. Persons interested in attending the Public Meeting who have special communication or accommodation needs are encouraged to contact Phil Elledge at 903-531-0131 at least seven (7) days prior to the Public Meeting. Every effort will be made to accommodate these needs.



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