

PAGE ONE

A QUICK READ OF THE NEWS

Turkeys terrorize suburb

Perhaps it's Thanksgiving revenge. During the past few months, residents in woody, Eagan, Minn., have been both amused and irritated by their newest neighbors: three feisty gobblers.

The trio roost in trees at night, and during the day, they strut their stuff in the middle of the street and on lawns.

Sometimes they harass residents, pecking at them. One mother called police last week to report that the turkeys were becoming aggressive at the school bus stop, chasing kids as they boarded the bus.

What shouldn't be taught

Police thought Emmett Ayers II of Moulton, Ala., was a little early in providing a driving lesson.

Ayers, 20, was arrested last week after he allegedly had his 4-year-old nephew drive him to the sheriff's office because he (Ayers) didn't have his driver's license.

He explained that he didn't want to get in trouble by driving to the jail to pick up his license, which was taken during a driver's license check, a deputy said.

Deputies in the parking lot saw the child driving a 1977 Cadillac Deville.

The boy stood in the driver's seat behind the wheel, and Ayers worked the gas and brake pedals from the passenger's seat.

Ayers was charged with allowing a minor to drive, reckless endangerment and failing to use a child restraint.

Bambi gets a bum rap

Trying to prevent car-deer accidents, the New York State Thruway Authority has put up an 8-foot sign near Rochester that says: "Be Alert — Attack Deer — Next 10 miles."

But officials have gotten several calls complaining that it is disparaging to deer. Even a Thruway employee told the local newspaper: "My God, you read something like that and you think of deer dressed in camouflage, armed with tear gas, hiding in the woods."

The sign will be replaced a more traditional one, said Anya Frost of the Thruway Authority.



Drawing date: Wednesday, Nov. 24
Winning numbers: 09-20-22-26-28-39
Estimated jackpot: \$7 million
Winners: 0
Next drawing: Saturday, Nov. 27
Estimated jackpot: \$10 million

On this date in history

Nov. 29 — The first Army-Navy football game is played (1890).

Nov. 30 — Preliminary peace articles ending the Revolutionary War are signed by the United States and Great Britain (1782).

Dec. 1 — Rosa Parks is arrested when she refuses to give up her front-section bus seat to a white man (1955).

LOCAL WEATHER

Mostly sunny conditions are predicted over the area through Tuesday. Morning lows should be in the mid-30s, while high temperatures should reach about 72 Sunday, 69 Monday and 71 Tuesday.

Editor Ronn Smith can be reached at 272-4536 or ctyankee@fivearea.com

Missed your paper? Call carrier Melissa Flores at 272-6719 or the Journal during business hours, 8:30 am-5 pm. Carriers begin deliveries about 5 p.m.

Bids on new nursing home project opened

By RONN SMITH
Editor

Four bids on the proposed new nursing home for Muleshoe were opened Tuesday.

While hospital administrator Jim Bone told the Muleshoe Area Hospital District's board of directors that night that he recommends the bid of G. Greenstreet Inc. of Lubbock, he also recommended that

the board not act on accepting the bid until later. Bone said he hoped the project's financing would be finalized by the time of a special meeting in December.

Coda Stephenson of the project's design firm, BGR Architects-Engineers of Lubbock, told the board, "We feel like we have a good low bidder. We've worked with him before, and we're comfortable with

him." Craig Wallace of G. Greenstreet attended the board meeting.

Board member Victor Leal asked Wallace to name some of the larger projects Greenstreet has built, and to compare them with the Muleshoe proposal.

Wallace said the company has built some good-sized projects for Texas Tech and a couple of simi-

lar-sized nursing homes, in Shamrock and Lubbock.

Board chairman Buck Campbell asked when the project could begin.

Stephenson said, "It's more a matter of when the bonds sell," adding that his company notifies Greenstreet when that happens.

"My guess is it will start about the first of the year," he said.

License plate honoring horned toad

SPECIAL TO THE JOURNAL
AUSTIN — Which critter best represents the unique nature of Texas?

Why not the horny toad? It's prickly, and it does well in dry heat. And it's a part of the state's heritage that many folks remember fondly from childhood.

There's now a way to turn those fond feelings into action to help Keep Texas Wild.

For \$25 more than the cost of a standard vehicle license plate, Texans can sport a plate with a color drawing of the Texas horned lizard, also known as the "horny toad."

Once common, the horned lizard is now on the state threatened species list.

The new Keep Texas Wild license plate from Texas Parks and Wildlife will help more than horned lizards: It will promote wildlife diversity across the state, benefiting many native animals.

License-plate funds will be used to conserve wildlife habitat and support wildlife research and educational programs.

"Texans can take their passion for wildlife on the road with the Keep Texas Wild conservation license plate," said Andrew Sansom, Parks and Wildlife executive director.

To download an order form for the Keep Texas Wild conservation license plate, visit www.tpwd.state.tx.us/plate.

Information is also available by phone at (800) 792-1112, option No. 1.



Journal photo: Beatrice Morin

The last rows of summer

Baldemar Martínez combines some of the last grain sorghum of the season Tuesday about 16 miles south of Muleshoe on the Vincent Simmacher farm. Yields have been generally good around the area this year, on both irrigated and dryland.

SIDS deaths defy easy explanations

By KATIE PARKER
Journal Staff Writer

What is sudden infant death syndrome and why does it take the life of a sweet and innocent infant?

These are two of the many questions families may ask upon the loss of an infant to SIDS.

SIDS is not caused by suffocation, vomiting or choking. It's not contagious and it is not believed to cause the infant pain or suffering.

SIDS is not predictable or preventable, and it's unexpected even to a physician. Death usually occurs while the infant is asleep.

SIDS is the term used to describe the unexpected and unexplained death of an apparently healthy infant.

SIDS is also the major cause of infant deaths between the ages of 1 month to 1 year, according to the National SIDS Resource Center's Bureau of Community Health Services.

Native American and African American infants are two to three times more susceptible to SIDS than Caucasian infants, according to the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development.

And the National Sudden Infant Death Syndrome Resource Center reports that the number of male infants inclined to SIDS outnumbers the female infants by 60 percent to 40 percent.

In the United States it's also known

as crib or cot death, and is responsible for about 7,000 infant deaths each year, according to the bureau's statistics.

SIDS is as old as the Old Testament, and it occurs at least as often now as it did in the 18th and 19th centuries, according to the bureau.

SIDS can only be determined through an autopsy, a death scene investigation and a review of victim and family case history.

Researchers believe that infants who die of SIDS are born with one or many conditions, making them vulnerable to stress in everyday life, according to information from the

see SIDS on page 2

Cold snap may have helped kill weevils

JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

Last week's freezing weather may have finally ended the boll weevil's activities in Bailey County for the season, but it may be a few days before anyone knows.

Weevil treatments in the three active High Plains eradication zones had been continuing wherever cotton fields still hadn't been deadened by frost.

Until last week, only the northern half of the Northwest Plains Zone (the zone that includes Muleshoe) had seen a killing freeze.

"We are seeing substantial reduction in boll-weevil numbers in these three zones as a result of this year's treatments," eradication program director Osama El-Lissy said recently. "The program is working."

The first year diapause phase of eradication in the Northwest Plains, Western High Plains and Permian Basin will be followed up with three years of full-season treatments to eliminate the pest from the 1.87 million acres in the three zones.



Journal photo: Beatrice Morin

Building up the chamber

Julio Ortega (right) of Sanchez and Sons Construction Co. of Muleshoe marks another cut on materials going into the new headquarters for the Muleshoe Chamber of Commerce. Waiting to do their part are Alfredo Ortega (left) and Herman Hernández.

AROUND MULESHOE

Workforce representative to visit

A representative of the Texas Workforce Commission will be at the Texas Workforce Center in Muleshoe from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Dec. 7 to discuss Project RIO.

Project RIO is a multi-agency program designed to coordinate education, training and employment of prisoners during their incarceration to those same services after release.

Studies show an ex-offender who is employed is three times less likely to return to jail.

State figures indicate that Texans pay \$45 a day per inmate for confinement (more than \$16,000 per year per inmate) and that each new prison cell costs \$20,000. Project RIO is designed to save money by helping former inmates find jobs.

Anyone interested in the project may meet with the represen-

SIDS

from page 1

resource center.

These stresses include both internal and external influences. SIDS can happen in any family and is indifferent to race or socioeconomic level.

The resource center states that infants who sleep on their stomachs are more likely to die of SIDS than those who sleep on their backs. Mothers who smoke during their pregnancy, and infants who are exposed to passive smoking in the household after pregnancy doubles an infant's risk of SIDS.

Another risk factor for SIDS is a mother of less than 20 years in age at the time of her first pregnancy. Infants born to mothers with late or no prenatal care and premature or low birth weights are also factors in an infant dying to SIDS.

According to the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, studies of SIDS victims reveal that many of them have abnormalities in the "arcuate nucleus," a part of the brain probably involved in controlling the breathing and other activities during sleep.

Abnormalities of this sort might be caused from a reduction in oxygen, for example, due to the mother smoking during pregnancy.

Another theory, according to the institute, is that after birth occurs there might be a lack of oxygen, excessive carbon dioxide intake, overheating or an infection — such as a respiratory infection — that sets the process in motion.

A respiratory infection causes a lack of oxygen intake, much like an infant re-breathing its own exhaled air due to sleeping on its stomach and constricting the air supply.

Under normal circumstances the infant would wake up and cry, sensing the inadequate air intake. In such cases, the brain is supposed to direct the infant to wake up and cry.

This changes the breathing pattern and the heartbeat to make up for having too much carbon dioxide and not enough oxygen.

An infant with abnormalities in the arcuate nucleus might not have this protective response from the brain, therefore becoming vulnerable to SIDS.

This could explain why infants who sleep on their stomachs are prone to SIDS, and also why there are many reports of infants having respiratory infections before their deaths.

There are things parents can do to reduce the number of SIDS deaths, including not using alcohol, tobacco or other drugs during pregnancy and getting conventional prenatal care.

The Compassionate Friends, a support group based in Baltimore, offer the following suggestions for dealing with grieving parents after a SIDS death:

- Let genuine concern and caring show. Be available to listen and express sorrow about what happened to the infant. Encourage the grieving parent to be patient and allow them to talk about their infant as much and as often as they want.

- Be sure to reassure them that they did everything they could and that the medical care their infant received was the best, and understand when they give special attention to the infant's siblings in the months to come.

- Friends should not avoid the bereaved out of their own discomfort (being avoided by friends adds pain) or let their own sense of helplessness keep them from reaching out to a grieving parent.

- Don't tell them what they should feel or change the subject when they mention their dead infant. Don't say they can always have another baby, don't avoid mentioning the infant's name, don't say things such as "you ought to be feeling better by now," or anything else that

tative. More information is available by calling (806) 293-8566.

Fine Arts Boosters schedule meeting

The Fine Arts Boosters of Muleshoe schools are scheduled to meet at 6:30 p.m. Nov. 29 in the high school band hall.

The group will be finalizing plans for its bake sale, discussing financial support for the theater and junior high art departments and considering a proposal for a possible project for the spring.

Parents of all high school and junior high band, choir, art, theater, and speech students are being encouraged to attend and become involved in the organization.

Public Calendar

Nov. 28 — 5 p.m. Evangelist Roberto Diaz will preach at Muleshoe's Primera Iglesia Bautista. Vocalist Elsa Diaz will perform.

implies a judgment about the parent's feelings.

A SIDS death can produce intense and traumatic reactions among surviving family members. It's very important how the sudden death is approached by

people around the survivors.

The tragedy will affect the family members for the rest of their lives, and Pat Bartlet of the SIDS Support Group in Amarillo said that in many instances it leads to divorce.

South Plains College to offer 19 spring classes via Internet

SPECIAL TO THE JOURNAL

South Plains College will offer 19 of its spring-semester classes via the Internet, according to an announcement made last week.

Enrollment for Internet classes is scheduled during spring registration, Jan. 13 on the Levelland campus and Jan. 12-13 on the Lubbock campus.

Internet courses will include Agriculture Finance, General Biology, Composition I, Composition II, Technical Writing, American Literature, World Literature I, World Literature II, American Government, History of the U.S. Since 1876, Texas History, Introduction to Criminal Justice, General Psychology, Human Growth and Development, Current Social Problems, Introduction to Computers, Ba-

sic Programming, C Language Programming and Keyboarding/Skillbuilding.

Each class will be offered through either the college's Levelland or Lubbock campuses, not both.

More information is available by calling (806) 894-9611, Ext. 2374 or 2475.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Ute Lake alert

Dear Editor,

Something has come up that I am sure will be of interest to your readers who either have a place at Ute Lake or who come to the lake for fishing or water sports.

This was in a flyer on a table at Logan City Hall:

"The New Mexico Interstate Stream Commission is holding a public hearing on Dec. 11 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. (Mountain time) at the Tucumcari Convention Center in Tucumcari to hear testimony on setting policies for Ute Lake relating to water quality, public recreation, flowage easements, master planning and

private docks.

"For more information, contact ISC staff Mr. Bernie Rodriguez at (505) 827-6117 or Mary Helen Follongstad at (505) 827-6167."

I called Rodriguez and, although he would not say much about it, the word around town is that they want to make big changes on how the lake is used and by whom.

Some of the people who come over to Ute Lake surely need to give these people in Santa Fe a phone call and ask what is going on.

You might not be able to get to their meeting, but you could give them a call.

JOHN CLAYPOOL
Logan, N.M.

AROUND THE AREA

Ultimate Christmas Bazaar scheduled

The 11th annual Ultimate Christmas Bazaar is scheduled for Dec. 4-5 at Cannon Air Force Base near Clovis.

Hours will be from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. (Mountain time) on Saturday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday.

The event will once again be held in Hangar 208 on base, with more than 100 vendors participating.

The offerings will include both traditional and non-traditional arts and crafts, collectibles, antiques, furniture, toys, household and electrical items, Beanie Babies, jewelry, clothing, perfumes and cosmetics, cuisine gift sets and candy.

The base is six miles west of Clovis, just off U.S. 60-84. More information is available by calling Pat Grah at (505) 784-6381.

Christmas in the Canyon scheduled

The visitor center at Palo Duro Canyon State Park near Canyon will be decorated to the hilt for Christmas in the Canyon, a holiday event scheduled for Dec. 11.

From 2 p.m. to 5 p.m., the center will be featuring refreshments, arts and crafts and plenty of holiday cheer.

More information is available by calling (806) 488-2227.

Littlefield getting detention center

Littlefield city officials say construction could begin as early as Dec. 10 on a juvenile detention facility that could bring 150 jobs to the area.

City council members plan an \$11 million bond issue to pay for the 80,000-square-foot, 152-bed facility.

The facility's annual payroll is estimated at \$2.7 million, and city officials have said they believe revenue from the facility will be enough to service the debt incurred.

Portales discussing landfill needs

Officials from Roosevelt County and the city of Portales met last week to discuss what they plan to do if the Portales landfill closes in July as scheduled.

The options being considered are building a new landfill at an estimated cost of \$2 million or hauling the trash to Clovis' landfill.

Portales and Roosevelt County were members of a large regional landfill association that planned a new facility for four years and then fell apart after Clovis officials wanted to change the association's voting structure to give Clovis control, while most other members declined to go along with that.

Portales followed Clovis' lead in withdrawing from the association, only to be confronted with higher-than-promised tipping fees (the charge for dumping in the landfill). That prompted

Portales to begin looking at its own landfill.

Nazareth to build PE facility

The Nazareth School Board in Castro County has accepted a bid to construct a new physical education facility.

The project will involve selling \$1 million in bonds.

Voters approved the plan in June, but at Monday's board meeting, board members were asked to reconsider going ahead with the project.

The board was presented a petition that reportedly contained signatures equaling more than half the district's eligible voters, but the board voted 4-3 to continue the project — the second time in as many weeks that the project had survived by the same split vote.

Workshop on electronic business set

A workshop on electronic commerce will be held Nov. 30 at Clovis Community College.

"E-commerce: A Workshop for Small-Business Executives" is scheduled for 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

U.S. Sen. Jeff Bingaman of New Mexico will host the workshop. Speakers will include Jan Zimmerman, author of Marketing on the Internet, and several people with business experience on the Internet.

Bingaman said the workshop is designed to help businesses in rural areas to compete with businesses around the world that are turning to the Internet.

The event is free of charge but will be limited to 50 participants.

Anyone interested in attending is asked to call (505) 763-3435 or e-mail cccchamber@lefties.com.

Business disaster loans available

Area businesses dependent on farmers and ranchers can apply for low-interest economic injury loans from the U.S. Small Business Administration as the result of losses due to flooding, hail and wind damage to crops between April 14 and June 30.

Affected counties include Bailey, Parmer, Castro, Cochran, Lamb and Hockley.

The deadline for applying is July 3. More information is available by calling (800) 366-6303 or TDD (817) 267-4688.

Farmers and ranchers are not eligible under this program, but should contact the local office of the Farm Service Agency for possible help.

The deadline for items to appear in Around the Area is 5 p.m. Monday for Thursday's edition and 5 p.m. Thursday for Sunday's edition. Items may be brought to the office at 304 W. Second, mailed to P.O. Box 449 or faxed to 272-3567.

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The next Chamber of Commerce sponsored Holiday Madness will be held on December 4. Each \$25 purchase (\$10 at restaurants) made at a participating business earns you a chance to win \$1,000 in Muleshoe Mad Money! See participating stores for details!

MULESHOE SCHOOLS

Nov. 29

Breakfast — Apple sticks, fruit or juice, and milk.

Lunch — Glazed ham, black-eyed peas, blueberry cobbler, hot roll and milk.

Nov. 30

Breakfast — French toast, fruit or juice, and milk.

Lunch — Nachos, lettuce and tomatoes, Spanish rice, apple slices and milk.

THREE WAY

Nov. 29

Breakfast — Pancakes with syrup, Canadian bacon, assorted cereal, graham cracker, juice and milk.

Lunch — Cheeseburgers, french fries, lettuce, tomatoes, pickles, onion, pineapple and orange salad, and milk.

Nov. 30

Breakfast — Doughnuts, sausage, assorted cereal, graham crackers, juice and milk.

Lunch — Pigs in a blanket, chips, baked beans, fried okra, bananas and milk.

Dec. 1

Breakfast — Scrambled eggs, bacon, assorted cereal, graham cracker, juice and milk.

Lunch — Meat and bean chalupas, grated cheese, Span-

School lunch menus

FOR WEEK OF NOV. 29-DEC. 3

ish rice, lettuce and tomatoes, frozen yogurt and milk.

Dec. 2

Breakfast — Breakfast pizza, assorted cereal, graham cracker, juice and milk.

Lunch — Chicken-fried steak, mashed potatoes, gravy, peas and carrots, strawberry shortcake, and milk.

Dec. 3

Breakfast — Biscuit and gravy, sausage, assorted cereal, graham cracker, juice and milk.

Lunch — Fried fish, tartar sauce, scalloped potatoes, cole slaw, cornbread, apple crisp

and milk.

LAZBUDDIE

Nov. 29

Lunch — Corndogs, submarine sandwiches, fish (pre-k and 1), black-eyed peas, spinach, macaroni and cheese, salad, Jell-O, fruit and milk variety.

Nov. 30

Lunch — Burritos, tuna sandwiches, hamburger stew and cheese toast (pre-k and 1), fried okra, corn on the cob, salad, fruit, Jell-O and milk

BIRTHS

MARTINEZ

Efraín and Argelia Martínez of Bovina are the parents of a son, Fernando, born at 1:19 p.m. Nov. 18 at Muleshoe Area Medical Center.

He weighed 9 pounds and was 21 1/2 inches long.

Fernando has three siblings, Carlos, Monica and Efraín.

Grandparents include Aurelio and Maria Jaquez and Basilio and Guadalupe Martínez, all of Mexico.

HUDSON

John and Kristyl Hudson of Andrews are the parents of a son, Ian Thomas Hudson, born at 2:19 p.m. Nov. 3 in Odessa Regional Hospital.

He weighed 7 pounds, 4 ounces and was 20 1/4 inches long. He has a sister, Whitney, age 10.

Grandparents are Dr. Gary and Paula Albertson of Midland, Twila Albertson of Lubbock, and Coy and Marthana Hudson of Early, Texas.

Great-grandparents are Joyce Albertson of Muleshoe, Lorraine Gallman of Amarillo and Bonnie Cearley of Early.

HONORS

VILLAREAL

Jessie Villareal, a junior general studies major at West Texas A&M University in Canyon, was elected to serve as an associate justice on the university's Student Judicial Board.

Villareal is the son of Jessie and Rebecca Villareal of Muleshoe.

He is president of WT's Hispanic Association and a member of University Democrats and the Black Student Association.

OBITUARY

PABLO MARTINEZ

Services were held Friday at St. Ann's Catholic Church in Morton for Pablo H. Martínez, 71, of Morton. The Rev. Ricardo Salditos was the celebrant. Burial was in Morton Memorial Cemetery.

Ellis Funeral Homes handled arrangements.

Mr. Martínez was born April 29, 1928, in Yancey, Texas. He died Monday at Covenant Medical Center in Lubbock.

He married Adelina Garza in Pearsall, Texas, on May 23, 1958, and they moved from Pearsall to Morton in 1969. He was a farmer.

He is survived by his wife; two sons, Jessie Martínez of Morton and Marcos Reyna of Levelland; a daughter, Delamentina Martínez of Morton; two sisters, Clara Martínez and Juanita Méndez, both of Pearsall; a brother, Antonio Martínez of Pearsall; nine grandchildren; and one great-grandson.

BAILEY COUNTY DEVOTIONAL PAGE

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Facts About The BIBLE BY JOHN LEHTI

BIBLICAL JUSTICE FOR THE FALSELY ACCUSED

PUNISHMENTS FOR THE SINNERS AND THE CRIMINALS WERE VERY SEVERE IN BIBLICAL TIMES. THE EXECUTION OF A MURDERER CERTAINLY DID NOT AIM AT THE MURDERER'S REFORMATION! AND PUNISHMENT BY PUBLIC WHIPPING ALSO WAS NOT INTENDED TO REFORM THE OFFENDER! BUT THE LAW WAS UPHELD TO THE LETTER. HOWEVER, WHEN A MAN WAS FALSELY ACCUSED AND THIS FACT REVEALED, THE FALSE WITNESS INCURRED THE PENALTY OF THE CRIME FOR WHICH THE ACCUSED MAN WAS ON TRIAL. (DEUT. 19:16,19) THE BIBLICAL PEOPLE THEMSELVES FELT A SENSE OF TRIUMPH WHEN ONE OF THESE WAS FINALLY VICTORIOUS OVER THEIR TRIALS AND TRIBULATIONS! SUCH AS THE FALSELY ACCUSED JOSEPH WHEN HE WAS JAILED AFTER THE ACCUSATIONS MADE BY POTIPHAR'S WIFE, TO FINALLY TRIUMPHANTLY RISE TO THE SECOND HIGHEST POWER IN THE KINGDOM OF EGYPT. (GEN. 39: 41) AND HOW THE YOUNG HEARTS OF BIBLICAL YOUTH MUST HAVE SWELLED ON HEARING THE STORY OF THE MUCH MALIGNED MORDECAI WHO BY THE KING'S ORDER WAS LED THROUGH THE STREETS ON THE KING'S OWN HORSE AS AN ACT OF HONOR BY THE VILLAINOUS HAMAN WHO HAD TO PUBLICLY PROCLAIM THROUGHOUT THE CITY'S STREETS THE FACT THAT HIS BITTER ENEMY HAD FOUND FAVOR WITH THE KING! (ESTHER 6)



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Tomatoes and peppers can be started very early

By **RONN SMITH**
Editor

The most popular vegetables for home gardeners these days undoubtedly would be tomatoes and peppers.

That's a remarkable change in recent decades, especially in the case of tomatoes — which were considered poisonous by most people until around the start of this century.

Interestingly, though, those also are two of the easier plants to start early indoors from seeds, so by the time the weather warms up to where you can plant them outdoors, you can already have sizable plants started.

Garden centers offer a good selection of varieties in both tomatoes and peppers, of course, but there is an unbelievable number of varieties available in both. Many of them you'll only taste if you grow them yourself from scratch.

The seedlings of both tomatoes and peppers are tough as nails and don't have to be babied. Two main requirements are warmth (which the average house provides, anyway) and keeping the plants growing so they won't become stunted before you can set them in the open ground.

The rule of thumb is to start them indoors six to 12 weeks (or you can push it to 14 weeks, if you want to be responsible for caring for bigger plants indoors) before you set them out.

Now, about setting them in the open ground: Both tomatoes and peppers are very cold-sensitive, so if you plan to set them outside with no protection, the first week of May is about as early as you can count on. Even then, you should be prepared to cover the plants with a sheet or something if the temperature drops near freezing during the first week or so.

But there are ways to cheat Mother Nature and get those plants in the ground much earlier so that you have an established root system by the time other people are planting in May.

The broadest division of these methods could be "above-



ground" and "below-ground."

Above ground, you just set out the tomatoes and peppers the way you would if you bought plants at the garden center, but you do it a month or more early — April 1 or so.

To protect the plants from frost and wind, you put some type of protection around them. This type of protection is called a cloche, and I'll grant you that the old-timey glass bell-shaped cloches are pretty expensive. They look pretty in the garden, but you probably aren't going to go that way, especially if you started several plants.

Modern technology has given us plastic, though, and there are several variations on plastic cloches. Perhaps the most popular one is the Wall o' Water, which I have used and can vouch for.

The Wall o' Water (and some similar variations) is a ring of plastic tubes that you place over the plant and fill with water.

Water is an excellent insulator, of course, and when it freezes it gives off heat.

The Wall o' Water originally was touted as protecting plants to 10 degrees below freezing, but now I see people claiming its effective down to 16 degrees. I only know it works down to the low 20s.

There is also a much cheaper form of "cloche" available — plastic 1-gallon milk cartons!

I have never had the best of luck using milk cartons as cloches, but that's because I haven't found a good way to keep them anchored in 60-mph winds. If you can solve that problem, milk cartons will work just as well as a \$40 glass cloche — and the milk cartons have an advantage: You can put the cap

on when the weather's really cold and take it off on sunny days. (Taking the cap off on really warm days is mandatory, to keep from cooking the plants.)

Now for the below-ground option: You dig a hole and set the plant in it with some fertilizer and a good soaking. Then you put a sheet of heavy plastic over it and scotch it down well — BIG nails at each corner and dirt clods in between will keep the wind from whipping it up.

With pepper plants, you don't need much of a hole to plant them in, because the plants grow slowly at first. But with tomato plants, you'd better make the hole more than a foot deep and about a foot across. In the damp, warm conditions — like a greenhouse — tomatoes are apt to grow like weeds, and you may be surprised at how big they'll be when it comes time to remove the plastic in May.

I have actually rolled back the plastic to spray Tomato Set on blossoms and then replaced the plastic.

This hole-planting scheme is what I have referred to in the past as the "Charles Guthals post-hole method." The Clovis nurseryman was the first person I knew of in this area who was doing this, though I'm learning that it's another of those "old ways" we're re-discovering and thinking we are onto something new.

When you set the plant into the hole, fill the hole with water — don't worry about water being several inches over the top of the plant. This way, unless your soil is extremely porous, the soil should stay moist for a month until you're ready to remove the plastic.

The idea for starting tomatoes and peppers early is, of course, that they take a long time to mature their first fruits. With a little extra effort, you can bring them to bearing age early and extend the crop period considerably.

These same methods also work with many rapidly maturing vegetables, such as melons and squash, but they should not

be started nearly so early — the plants would become unwieldy and, besides, you don't want a plant trying to put on watermelons while it's still sitting on your windowsill!

I know you're thinking, "Well, I might try this, but it's a long time before I need to get serious about it." Think again.

If you're going to set tomatoes about April 1, and if you're going to start them 12 weeks earlier, that's Jan. 1. How far away is that?

Just remember that if you do start tomatoes 12 weeks before they go outside, you'll probably need to transplant them into peat pots or something of similar size before the outdoor planting date.

We'll explore this next week. Happy planting!

Questions or suggestions can be sent to Garden Writer, Route 2, Box 880, Muleshoe, Texas 79347.

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Schools sent clarification letter on prayer

AUSTIN — Attorney General John Cornyn has mailed letters explaining a federal appeals court ruling to school officials across the state, according to a report disseminated by the Associated Press.

Cornyn's letter, sent to school boards and school administrators, states that the ruling prohibits only "school-organized" prayer.

In February, the 5th U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals issued an opinion banning organized prayer from football games and nonsectarian, non-proselytizing prayer from graduation ceremonies.

Some school districts interpreted the decision as a ban on all prayer at football games, creating turmoil where pre-game prayers were a tradition.

"The opinion does not prohibit students from engaging in voluntary prayer and should not be construed to prevent that type of activity as long as the school and school officials are not involved," the letter states.

Citing a recent ruling by U.S. District Judge Sim Lake, Cornyn said schools may adopt policies allowing a student elected by peers to deliver a pre-game message over the school's loudspeaker.

Deer season begins

General deer season opened Nov. 6 in North Texas and runs through Jan. 2. South Texas deer season is from Nov. 13 through Jan. 16.

White-tailed deer attract more



than 500,000 hunters who spend \$2 billion a year on hunting-related purchases in Texas, the Parks and Wildlife Department estimates.

The demand is great and the supply greater with a white-tailed deer population of more than 4 million, the agency said.

Other highlights

- Most Texas gun owners and non-owners alike agree that guns sold in the United States should be childproof, according to a poll commissioned by the Southwest Injury Prevention and Research Center. Twenty children under 18 died of accidental shootings last year, according to the Texas Department of Health.

- Fall enrollment estimates are in, and almost 29 percent of university students and 39 percent of community college students are African-American or Hispanic, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board reported recently. The minority enrollment percentages are the highest on record.

- The Texas Department of Transportation is studying the idea of building separate lanes or roads called "truckways" for tractor-trailers and other large trucks as an alternative to dangerous, congested Interstate 35 from Laredo to Dallas.

- The average price of a hotel or motel room in Texas is \$69.50, according to a report published by the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts. In 1990, the average price of a room was \$49.50. Nearly 1,000 motels and hotels have opened in Texas since 1990, and state revenue from the 6 percent hotel/motel room tax totaled \$220 million in fiscal 1999.

- With Texas Lotto sales down nearly 40 percent in the current fiscal year, Texas Lottery officials are ready to listen to players who may have ideas on how to stimulate interest in the game. The agency has scheduled public hearings around the state to gather input in the coming weeks.

- A study by the University of Texas shows the Internet may generate in excess of \$500 billion in sales this year.

- Court of Criminal Appeals Judge Steve Mansfield last week pleaded no contest to trespassing and was placed on six months' probation. Charges stemmed from a ticket-scalping incident last November in which the judge was arrested by University of Texas police for trying to sell complimentary tickets to the UT-Texas A&M football game. The judge remained on campus after police asked him to leave.

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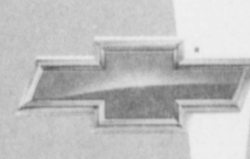


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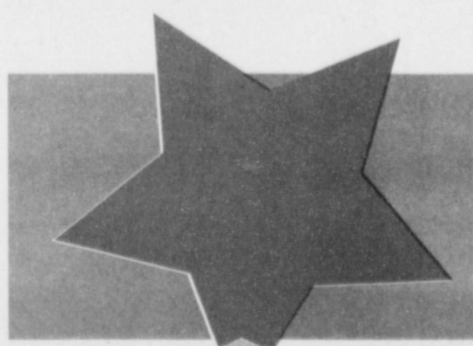


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 • Long Bed
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To Farwell



Lazbuddie honorees

November students of the month for Lazbuddie Elementary School include (back row, from left) Stephanie Williams, Helen Loewen and Shayla Scisson; and (front row) Brianna Sánchez, Ross Steinbock, Kayle Jesko, Cristina Imery and Todd Nichols. Stephanie, a fifth-grader, is the daughter of Howard and Tracy Williams. Helen, a third-grader, is the daughter of Peter and Agatha Loewen. Shayla and Brianna, both fourth-graders, are the daughters of Mark and Tonjua Scisson and Junior and Chandra Sánchez, respectively. Ross is a pre-kindergartner and the son of Terry and Judy Steinbock. Kayle, a second-grader, is the son of Terry and Janene Jesko. Cristina is in the first grade and her parents are Ed and Karen Imery, while Todd is in kindergarten and his parents are Mike and Sherri Nichols.

Dry weather taking toll on wheat, other forage

SPECIAL TO THE JOURNAL
COLLEGE STATION — Dry weather is taking a toll on Texas wheat and leaving livestock with limited winter forage, the Texas Agricultural Extension Service reports.

Extension agronomist Travis Miller of College Station said the next one to two weeks will be a critical period for dryland wheat across the state.

"We have a good wheat crop in parts of the Northern Plains and the Rolling Plains near the Red River," he said. "But the remainder of the crop is in desperate need of rain."

Miller said most wheat was either dry-sown or planted after the rainfall in late October.

"It's planted with 1 to 2 inches of moisture and then dry soil below that," he said. "The moisture is not going to last another three weeks."

Miller said there is limited winter forage as a result of the dry weather.

"We are not obtaining enough moisture for wheat to carry the cattle through win-

ter," he said. Miller said roughly a third to a half of the Texas wheat crop never sees a combine. Instead, it's grazed as a forage crop.

District Extension director Charles Neeb of Fort Stockton said many of the counties in Far West Texas remain in severe drought conditions, and the livestock are having to be fed everything they eat.

Neeb said many growers are waiting on moisture for planting in his district, and they won't be able to wait much longer.

The dry weather is a mixed blessing for Texas agriculture, Neeb added.

"The dry weather that is hurting wheat makes good harvest conditions for other crops like cotton," he said.

In the Panhandle, district Extension director Dr. Bob Robinson said wheat varies from very poor to good.

"Some dryland stands are yellowing and dying from the lack of moisture," he said.

Robinson said sorghum har-

vest is nearing completion. "Yields have generally been good," he said. Extension directors also reported that in the Panhandle, sorghum harvest is nearing completion and good yields are being reported. Cattle are in good condition there. On the South Plains, soil moisture varies from short to adequate. Pastures and ranges are in fair to good condition. Cotton, sorghum, soybean and sunflower harvesting continues.

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Wednesday — Brisket & rib plate, beans, spicy fries or Hot steak sandwich with gravy, french fries and salad

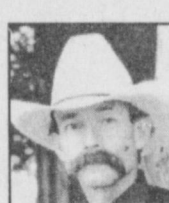
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There are at least five reasons to join the NRA

I can give you five reasons to join the National Rifle Association:
 1) Richard Nixon 2) Oliver North
 3) Bill Clinton 4) Janet Reno and 5) the FBI.



BAXTER BLACK

ON THE EDGE OF COMMON SENSE

With the exception of Reno, who appears inept or at the least, clueless, the others have been willing to break the law to remain in power.

Notice that I do not include Milosovich, Khadafi or Hitler. Our protection against their attacks is the military.

The examples on my list, through megalomania or naiveté, have shown themselves capable of putting personal interest above truth, justice and the American way.

It is a big step to say that because Clinton lied in court and obstructed justice he would be capable of destroying evidence, castrating Congress, and declaring himself president for life ... for the sake of the children, of course.

Or to say that Oliver North could go from loyal soldier to secessionist leader of a band of disgruntled army troops.

Or that a small group of steely-eyed luna-

tic bureaucrats in the FBI could dupe a well-meaning but gullible attorney general, organize a technology-for-campaign-contributions trade for their pet politicians, and then threaten pending nuclear destruction.

Or even that Nixon, when faced with impeachment, would have used his authority as commander-in-chief to put tanks in the street and surround the White House with a loyal battalion.

I know, it's as far-fetched as imagining man on the moon or plastic bumpers 50 years ago.

But imagine a star-crossed scenario where any of these seemingly harmless but integrity-challenged felons fell into cahoots. John Halderman could have run interference for Clinton as easily as Vernon Jordan could for Nixon. The characters are interchangeable.

Let's stay President Nixon is caught burglarizing the home of a communist Chinese spy. This spy is having an affair with Vice President Clinton. Vice President Clinton, under threat of blackmail, has been furnishing her atomic secrets in exchange for silence and Scud missiles.

With Nixon's approval, Clinton has enlisted Attorney General Oliver North to deliver the Scud missiles to the FBI, which is to bomb the upcoming Clinton-Nixon Bimbo and Burglar Reunion being held at the Branch Davidian Bed and Breakfast in Waco.

They all convince Reno it was a vast right-wing conspiracy. The second amendment is declared obsolete. Guns are confiscated.

The numb public by now has resigned itself to immoral, corrupt politics as usual. The citizens will close their eyes and hope that in the next election the rascals will be thrown out of office.

But that never happens because martial law is declared and now they realize there will be no next election.

CONTINENTAL CREDIT

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Families can help Alzheimer patients cope with holidays

HOUSTON—Holiday traditions and memories pose special challenges to families of people with Alzheimer's disease.

"It's unrealistic to expect holiday gatherings to be like they once were if a family member suffers from memory loss and other problems caused by Alzheimer's," said Dr. Naomi Nelson, a psychologist in the Department of Neurology at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston.

"Families are more likely to enjoy their time together if they don't expect perfection," she said.

Nelson offered the following strategies for coping with the holidays:

- If the Alzheimer's patient has difficulty following conversations, avoid seating them in the middle of a room filled with people. "That's information overload," Nelson said. "The patient might be better able to focus on questions and comments in a corner of the room."
- Give clues to help the Alzheimer's patient process information. When introducing family members, for example, mention the relationship, such as "This is Sally, your granddaughter."
- If the Alzheimer's patient wants to talk about past holidays but is unable to recollect them

accurately, avoid correcting every little detail that is mentioned. "Even if the memories are not described accurately, you can promote a sense of belonging and importance by including the Alzheimer's patient in social conversation," Nelson said.

"People with Alzheimer's disease usually enjoy sharing their memories in a safe and respectful setting with family and friends," she added.

• If a disturbing behavior occurs, family members should be informed that it's often the result of the patient being confused. For example, the Alzheimer's patient might forget that a relative died; when someone brings up the name of the deceased, the patient might burst into tears or anger and demand to know why no one told them about the death.

If the patient's emotions seem out of control, Nelson recommends taking the patient to another room to calm down. "Reassure the patient that he or she is loved and welcome," she said.

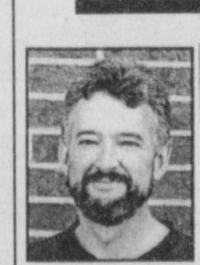
Nelson stresses the importance of enjoying the moments when meaningful communication occurs.

"If the Alzheimer's patient can engage in coherent conversation with a grandchild for only five minutes, treasure those five minutes," Nelson said.

A Sign You'll Never See in Nepal

Maybe my sense of humor is a bit strange, but the big wall display I saw recently as I was walking through a large system (it was once a hospital, but in this age of merger mania, now it's a "system") tickled my funny bone in an odd sort of way. I could have cried, but I chose to laugh instead.

Judging from the sign, it must have been "Pastoral Care Week—October 24-31," which, since I am a pastoral care giver, was



Focus On Faith

Curtis Shelburne

just fine with me. They were evidently trying to honor those who give pastoral care. Well, thank you.

But honoring pastoral care givers in our very politically correct day and age is harder than you might think. I'd hazard a wager that 90% or more of the pastoral care givers who walk down the halls of their hospital are from Christian denominations, groups, and sub-groups, mostly Protestant with a significant number of Catholic folks thrown in, and a much smaller number of Jewish pastoral care people also in the mix. In any case, "Christian" and "Jewish" would surely cover the big end of the pastoral care-giving going on in that hospital. Or even in the whole "system."

But these are the days of political correctness, and you'd hate to miss the chance for a warm fuzzy sort of inclusiveness by leaving someone out, especially if the theme of your Pastoral Care Week is "Diversity in Spirituality," a theme guaranteed to

bring tears to the eyes of the truly politically correct folks in any group.

So the amazingly diverse sign listed pastoral care-giving groups in large letters: JEWISH, CATHOLIC, BUDDHIST, PROTESTANT, HINDU, ISLAMIC. Never mind that, if they wanted to list world religions, Protestant and Catholic could have been covered by CHRISTIAN.

But then they muddied the categorical water further when they added my favorite category: OTHER FORMS OF SPIRITUALITY. Underneath it were "Bahai Faith, Church of Christ in God, Eastern Orthodox, Greek Orthodox, Jehovah's Witness, Metropolitan Community Church, Native American, Reorganized Latter Day Saints, and many others." "And many others" is their term, not mine. Maybe they should have erected a sign borrowed from the altar of the "men of Athens" to whom the Apostle Paul spoke in Acts 17, that said "TO AN UNKNOWN GOD," just to be sure they covered all the bases.

My nephew recently came back from a mission trip to Nepal, of all places. He was a Christian praying on a hillside above a Buddhist temple. But he prayed pretty quietly because he got the strong message that those particular Buddhists didn't get the memo on Pastoral Care Week extolling the virtues of tolerance and diversity in spirituality. I don't know how you'd describe the folks in power in Nepal, but they're not at all diverse and "tolerant" is not the first word that would come to mind.

But, excuse me, just to cover the bases myself, I need to go sing "Amazing Grace," light a candle, burn some incense to Buddha, chant a mantra or two. This diversity stuff, covering all the bases, you know, takes some serious time.

Curtis Shelburne is minister of the 16th & D Church of Christ in Muleshoe.

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Business of the month

Gathered recently to honor Western Drug as the Muleshoe Chamber of Commerce's business of the month are (from left) Helen Schmitz, Blanca Reyes, Gaby Reyes, Laura Reyes, Chamber Manager Pam McCaul, Paul Wilbanks, Kim Shafer, Sheila Stevenson, Judy Wilbanks, Annie Shafer, Joe Flores, Sheree Hunt and Chuck Smith. The business is owned by the Wilbanks family. Not pictured is store employee, Joyce Albertson.

Any way it's sliced, holiday meal dazzles

SPECIAL TO THE JOURNAL

Days spent writing lists. Hours spent in the supermarket shopping for tasty ingredients that offer savings. And hours spent creating and cooking.

What is this masterpiece that requires so much time and hard work to perfect?

One of the most anticipated parts of the holidays — the meal.

From tantalizing appetizers to delectable salads to savory vegetables to mouthwatering dressings, the array of dishes is abundant and delicious.

The piece de resistance is, a beautiful, juicy, cooked-to-perfection turkey. It comes out of the oven perfect, but one problem.

Did the Thanksgiving turkey look less appetizing after it was sliced?

Never fear, carving a bird is easy — if the carver knows the right steps.

The following information, courtesy of *Chic Simple Compo-*

nents: Cooking Tools (Knopf) by Cheryl Merser, will ensure that the perfect creation is sliced perfect.

- After cooking and before carving, let the poultry rest on a warmed cutting board, lightly covered with a piece of foil. (A turkey needs to sit for about 30 minutes.)

- Anchor the meat comfortably with a carving fork.

- If the carved meat is going onto a metal platter, warm it first.

- A novice carver should practice ahead of time on a chicken.

Step 1 — Facing a side of the bird, cavity right, breast left, spear the thigh with your fork, then slice away the thigh and drumstick and remove from the body.

Step 2 — On a separate platter (more room to maneuver), carve the dark meat for the drumstick into even slices.

Step 3 — Pierce the bird with the fork, just above the wing, to secure it. Now cut through the breast parallel to the platter.

Step 4 — Starting midbreast, carve from the top of the bird down in straight, even slices, until you reach the initial "sideways cut," to free the slices for serving.

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Maybe it's time to stop, smell doughnuts

SPECIAL TO THE JOURNAL

Doughnuts are making a comeback. In fact, the National Restaurant Association recognized this resurgence and deemed doughnuts a major trend starting in 1998.

For the past two decades, nutrition and healthy eating have been at the forefront. However, today many people feel there's room in our diet for a special treat once in a while.

People seem to have decided to compromise in their diets as well as their lives and are rediscovering some of the pleasures in life, guilt-free.

Doughnuts are an indulgence that traditionally brings people together — at the office, at social functions, or with friends and family.

Though store-bought doughnuts are tasty, they don't necessarily match up to homemade doughnuts.

Unlike anything usually available at the bakery, made-from-scratch doughnuts have their own unique character. They are beautifully golden and crisp on the outside, yet warm and crumbly in the center.

The beauty of making doughnuts at home is the versatility of unlimited flavor options.

Perfect for the holiday season, a

heavenly pumpkin doughnut will, without a doubt, be a hit. The aroma of spices, the delicate flavor of pumpkin, and the gentle kiss of spiced brown-butter glaze make these an irresistible taste sensation.

Made with simple ingredients, no-cholesterol oil, and a quality deep fryer, these doughnuts are surprisingly easy to make and are even in line with reasonable dietary goals.

The trick to perfect doughnuts is the correct frying temperature. Keeping the oil at the proper temperature instantly "seals" the surface of the doughnut, and the inside cooks to delicious perfection without oil penetration.

Deep fryers come in many sizes for any need, and the frying temperature is controlled automatically — so there's no guesswork.

Some of them, such as the Presto line, even come with a long-handled slotted scoop that makes turning doughnuts almost effortless.

This pumpkin doughnut recipe may be the start of a new holiday tradition when a plate of them is delivered to a friend or neighbor!

Pumpkin Doughnuts with Spiced Brown-butter Glaze
3 1/2 cups all-purpose flour, divided
1 cup sugar
3 teaspoons baking powder

1 teaspoon salt
1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
1 teaspoon ginger
1/4 teaspoon cloves
3/4 cup canned solid-pack pumpkin
4 tablespoons unsalted butter, melted
2 eggs plus 1 egg yolk
Vegetable oil for frying

Spiced Brown-butter Glaze
Sift 1 cup flour, sugar, baking powder, salt and spices into mixing bowl.

In a separate bowl, stir together pumpkin, butter and eggs. Add to dry ingredients and mix on medium speed until smooth, about 30 seconds.

Add remaining 2 1/2 cups flour and mix on low speed until just combined, about 30 seconds.

Turn out onto floured surface and let sit 15 minutes.

Roll out to 1/2-inch thickness with floured rolling pin, or pat out with floured hands.

Cut out doughnuts and holes with floured cutter. Transfer to a baking sheet lined with wax paper; brush off excess flour. Let sit 15 minutes.

Meanwhile, preheat oil in deep fryer. Fry one or two doughnuts at a time until golden, about 1 minute per side. Drain on paper towels.

Dip warm doughnuts in glaze. Transfer to rack or tray until set.

Spiced Brown-butter Glaze

3 tablespoons unsalted butter
1 cup confectioner's sugar
1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
1/2 teaspoon ground ginger
Pinch of salt
1/2 teaspoon vanilla
1 to 2 tablespoons milk
1 cup walnuts, lightly toasted and chopped

Melt butter in small saucepan over low heat and continue to heat over moderate heat until it begins to brown.

Watch carefully. Remove from heat as soon as butter reaches a golden brown color. It will move quickly from golden to black (burnt) if not watched. Let cool.

In small bowl, sift together sugar, spices and salt. Gradually mix in cooled butter, vanilla and enough milk for desired consistency. Sprinkle chopped walnuts over glazed doughnuts.

Search engine benefits consumers

SPECIAL TO THE JOURNAL

OAK VIEW, Calif. — The greatest attraction of the web — its diversity — is becoming increasingly overlooked when it comes to e-commerce.

Hundreds of thousands of e-commerce sites exist on the web to offer an extremely diverse array of products and services.

However, a search for "toys" or "gifts" on most search engines yields just a few major, well-funded businesses such as e-Toys and Amazon.com.

Why? Major search engines have now implemented business models under which they sell "keywords" and "categories."

The consumer ultimately loses by having limited sources to choose from, and small businesses lose by not getting the web sales they need to survive.

HLI Systems, a small, highly creative California software company that develops intelligent systems (with clients such as NASA and the federal government) has been on a crusade since the early days of the web to change that.

Where2go.com is a unique search engine that categorizes only e-commerce sites, including many sites offering unusual, handmade and one-of-a-kind products from around the world.

Developed by HLI Systems, Where2go.com uses HLI's in-

telligent server technology to make searching easier with better, more unbiased results.

"The web has a tremendous amount to offer — yet consumers' choices are beginning to become homogenized due to dominance by mega-merchants," said Doug Lochner, creator of Where2go.com and president of HLI Systems.

"If you want truly unique products, you're going to need to find the specialty shops and independent merchants that offer them.

"We created Where2go.com to give consumers and merchants more choices through better searching," he added.

Lochner said Where2go.com has the largest "rich content" categorized e-business database on the web. The site has indexed extensive data on each on-line merchant, including products and services, payment options, customer-service options, even shipping and delivery methods.

The site has won many awards for design and superior technology.

Users may search for a merchant using more than simple keywords. HLI's technology allows the user to create complex, multi-conditional searches.

For example, one could search for all Internet-enabled

businesses that sell pet supplies, take Discover card, have a toll-free ordering line and ship overnight.

Where2go.com's real-time business feedback provides the consumer with real-time merchant ratings done by consumers.

This addresses one of the major issues limiting e-commerce — which is people knowing who they are dealing with on the web prior to making a purchase.

Merchants benefit, too, with free on-line listings.

Where2go.com does not sell keywords or categories, so the search results provided are more accurate and unbiased.

"Where2go.com's greatest asset is its unique content," Lochner said. "I don't think consumers realize that when they search for a business or product on most major search engines, they are receiving information on companies that have paid dearly to be there. That limits customers' purchasing options.

Microsoft's bCentral Internet business portal recognizes Where2go.com as one of the "best true Internet search engines" on the web.

More information is available by visiting <http://www.hli.net> or e-mail info@hli.net.

END OF GAME NOTICE

HURRY AND SCRATCH 'EM. BEFORE WE DO.



Come December 31, 1999, three Texas Lottery instant games will close — Weekly Grand, Hearts Are Wild and Lucky Lady Bug. You have until June 28, 2000, to redeem any winning tickets for these games. You can win up to \$1,000 per week playing Weekly Grand, win up to \$1,000 playing Hearts Are Wild and win up to \$3,000 playing Lucky Lady Bug. You can claim prizes of up to \$599 at any Texas Lottery retailer. Prizes of \$600 or more are redeemable at one of the 24 Texas Lottery claim centers or by mail. Questions? Just call the Texas Lottery Customer Service Line at 1-800-37-LOTTO (1-800-375-6886).



Overall odds of winning Weekly Grand, 1 in 4.56. Overall odds of winning Hearts Are Wild, 1 in 4.81. Overall odds of winning Lucky Lady Bug, 1 in 4.96. Must be 18 years or older to purchase a ticket. © 1999 Texas Lottery.



Employee of the month

Gathered recently at C&H Equipment to honor Rudy Gonzales as the Muleshoe Chamber of Commerce's employee of the month are (from left) Chuck Smiti, Chamber Manager Pam McCaul, Sheree Hunt, Kim (and Annie) Shafer, Gonzales, Sheila Stevenson and Joe Flores.

Understanding seizures vital for people with epilepsy

SPECIAL TO THE JOURNAL
Liz Newhouse of San Antonio has followed a long and rocky road in the two decades since her son, Scott, had his first seizure.

It's a stressful trek that many parents of children with epilepsy — as well as those with the disorder themselves — make daily.

"Chronic illness such as epilepsy brings stress for the family," Newhouse said. "There is no predictability; the condition changes daily. And with epilepsy, families also deal with a lot of old wives' tales, ignorance and fear."

This ignorance and fear are what make greater awareness of and education about the disorder essential to treatment, according to Betty Flores, director of the epilepsy program at the Texas Department of Health.

The term epilepsy itself is a generic one, used to define a variety of seizure disorders — disturbances in the brain's electrical activity.

About 1 in 10 Americans will have a seizure at some point in life; about 30 percent of people with epilepsy are 18 and younger.

For most of those people, epilepsy is a long-term chronic condition successfully handled through drug therapy and sometimes brain surgery, electronic nerve stimulation or a special diet.

Scott Newhouse is among the relatively few of the more than 200,000 people in Texas with epilepsy and no way to control it.

"I didn't know anything about epilepsy at first," his mother said. "We went everywhere, tried every type of drug and medical therapy."

When Scott Newhouse started school, his mother met with his teacher to explain the seizures.

"I came back to school later and found him seated on a rug by himself, away from all the other children." Fear and ignorance.

"The problem isn't always epilepsy itself," Flores said, "but the attitude of others. People with

seizure disorders are found in all walks of life. We aren't always aware of the problem because, even today, many people do not talk about having epilepsy."

Newhouse agrees. "Often people, including some doctors, do not want to say the word 'epilepsy.'"

Scott, who is now 27, has had brain surgery, electronic nerve stimulation and is on four anti-convulsant drugs. He also has mental retardation and lives weekdays in a group home in San Antonio, spending weekends with his family. And with the help of his mother, he is still searching for a job.

Each child with epilepsy is unique. "Most children with the disorder can remain in a regular classroom because their range of intelligence is the same as other students," Flores said.

"Some need special education programs. And," she pointed out, "epilepsy is never contagious."

Many parents worry about the cause of epilepsy, but, Flores said, "about 70 percent of the time there is no known cause."

Most frequent of the identified causes are head injury, especially from automobile and sports accidents and falls; brain tumor; lead poisoning; infections such as meningitis and viral encephalitis; and problems in brain development before birth.

Epilepsy follows no schedule. Seizures can occur at any time, in a variety of forms and at different levels of severity for each individual. They may or may not be visible to others.

Convulsive seizures often are not difficult to recognize. This type of seizure, lasting several minutes or longer, usually starts with a cry and loss of consciousness. The body becomes rigid, followed by massive jerking movements. Breathing is shallow, then becomes louder as the person relaxes. Seizures are followed by fatigue and confusion.

Non-convulsive seizures are more difficult to spot. Some of the signs that may mean a person is having seizures include:

- Short attention blackouts that look like daydreaming;
- Sudden falls for no reason;
- Brief lack of response;
- Dazed behavior;
- Unusual sleepiness and irritability when awakened;
- Head nodding or rapid blinking;
- Frequent complaints that things look, sound, taste, smell or feel "funny";
- Clusters of grabbing movements with both arms by babies lying on their backs;
- Sudden stomach pain followed by confusion and sleepiness; or
- Repeated movements that look unnatural.

Seizures that begin in the teen years may be especially hard to recognize; some behaviors may be mistaken for signs of drug or alcohol use.

Among indications of a seizure are a blank stare followed by chewing, picking at clothes, mumbling and random movements; sudden fear, anger or panic for no reason; muscle jerks; odd changes in the way things look, sound, smell or feel; memory gaps; and a dazed behavior, including being unable to talk for a short time.

To prevent injury, don't hold the person down but do remove hazards in the area. Roll the person onto his or her side to prevent choking. Loosen tight clothing. Put something — such as a pillow or folded jacket — under the person's head. After the seizure,

HOSPITAL NOTES

Muleshoe Area Medical Center had the following patient load:
Nov. 19 — Filemón Antillón, Kimberly Anzaldúa, Martha Arreola, Cornelius W. Bradshaw, José S. Gonzales, Keri D. Inman, Argelia Martínez, Fernando Martínez, Mary J. St. Clair and Helen V. Tinskey.

Nov. 20 — Kimberly Anzaldúa, Martha Arreola, Carl Ellington, José S. Gonzales, Keri D. Inman, Mary J. St. Clair and Helen V. Tinskey.

Nov. 21 — Martha Arreola, José S. Gonzales, Keri D. Inman, Mary J. St. Clair and Helen V. Tinskey.

Nov. 22 — José S. Gonzales, Keri D. Inman, Mary J. St. Clair and Helen V. Tinskey.

Nov. 23 — Susan M. Claunch, José S. Gonzales and Eula B. Howard.

Nov. 24 — Susan M. Claunch and Eula B. Howard.

Nov. 25 — Nancy E. Isaksen and Matilde T. Rodríguez.

make sure the person is breathing normally. Do not call for an ambulance unless the person is having several seizures in succession without regaining consciousness or a single seizure lasting more than five minutes.

"One of the myths about epilepsy is that people having seizures can swallow their tongue," Flores said. "It's not possible. Never put anything in someone's mouth who is having a seizure. Also someone having a seizure is not a danger to others. Restraint is not necessary and could cause injury."

Her recommendation is to try to stay calm.

"There are many knowledgeable support groups. Families can get overwhelmed — it's a hard balancing act. That happens with many chronic health problems. Asking for help is sign of strength — it's not about being dependent but interdependent," she said.

The Texas Department of Health epilepsy program offers services to people with epilepsy who are not eligible under Medicaid or Medicare or who are uninsured or under-insured.

These services include diagnosis and treatment, a case management system, personal and vocational support services plus public awareness and education.

More information is available by contacting Flores at (512) 794-5185 or Emily Palmer at (512) 458-7400.

Also helpful can be a call to Evelyn Ecker, executive director of the High Plains Epilepsy Association in Amarillo. She is at (800) 806-7236.

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Public Television

American Prophet: The Story of Joseph Smith

American Prophet: The Story of Joseph Smith chronicles the life of one of America's most controversial religious figures. The program airs one hundred fifty-five years after his death at the hands of an angry mob. Academy Award winner Gregory Peck narrates the two-hour documentary.

Smith came of age in the aftermath of the American Revolution, when Americans questioned established ideas about government, society, and God. Smith, an uneducated fifth-generation American who was greatly influenced by the religious fervor of the times, claimed he had the answers.

A host of religious denominations — Baptist, Congregationalist, Presbyterian, Methodist, Shaker, Universalist, and Mormon, among others — were born and gained prominence during this period in history, often characterized as a cauldron of religious activity. Western New York, where Smith and his family moved after poor harvests drove them from Vermont, was later dubbed "the burned-over district" because its citizens were so fired up with religion, debating subjects like the Bible, the nature of God, the afterlife, and the second coming of Jesus Christ. In this environment, Smith, also looking for answers, went into the woods to pray. When he returned, he claimed to have had a vision and spoken with Deity.

Smith's religious quest, born that spring day in 1820, brought him followers, infamy, persecution and, ultimately, death. **American Prophet** explores his beliefs and their effect on established religions and communities. The documentary also examines why Smith was so successful at attracting disciples, so driven to fight for religious freedom, and so hated by those who resisted his radical claims.

American Prophet: The Story of Joseph Smith airs Sunday, November 28th at 4:30 p.m. It repeats Tuesday, November 30th at 12:00 midnight.

Jackie: Beyond the Myth

For a few unforgettable years, she was one of America's most fascinating First Ladies. And for decades, she was an unwavering mainstay in the midst of the 20th century's storm of cultural values.

Jackie: Behind the Myth, a two-hour biography, presents an expansive, intimate portrait of Jacqueline Bouvier Kennedy Onassis, framed by the times in which she lived and informed by the people who knew her.

The film traces the arc of Jackie's extraordinary life, from her seemingly idyllic youth to her days as a beloved First Lady to her post-White House marriage and career, and finally to her valiant efforts to promote and preserve America's cultural heritage. **Jackie: Behind the Myth** reveals an intelligent, insightful woman whose courage and commitment captured the heart of a nation.

Jackie: Beyond the Myth goes beyond the headlines and the hype — and beyond the obvious — to unveil the full story of this remarkable American life.

Jackie: Beyond the Myth airs Monday, November 29th at 9:00 p.m.

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Food-safety web site opened

COLLEGE STATION — The Texas Agricultural Extension Service's food and nutrition unit recently unveiled its new food safety web site, foodsafety.tamu.edu.

"Studies show that food safety is the top consumer concern today. We wanted to design a site that provides information about food safety and our food-safety programs to the people of Texas," said Michelle Ledoux, Food Protection Management Program coordinator for the Extension Service.

The program is designed to train food-service managers and their employees about food safety.

According to Ledoux, in many parts of Texas this train-

ing is already mandated by law. "For that reason, we wanted to include information about the course and the training schedule we offer on this site," she added.

The site also includes links for Extension county agents, consumer information, frequently asked questions and answers, a photo gallery, contact information and an online form that consumers can use to ask experts food-safety questions.

"We hope this site will be a valuable tool for everyone," Ledoux said. "People can even download food and nutrition publications from this site. It even includes links to other reliable food-safety information sites on the web."

Journal Classifieds

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Carriers for the Journal are Melissa & Bobby.

AUCTION

******* AUCTION CALENDAR *******

SATURDAY, NOV. 18, 1999 • SALE TIME 7:00 P.M.
Memphis, Texas • Salmon Estate, Owners
Selling: 520 acres of land and 2 houses

SATURDAY, Dec. 4, 1999 • SALE TIME 10:00 A.M.
Canadian, Texas • Urschel Ranch, Owner
Selling: 4 large shop buildings, farm and ranch equipment

SATURDAY, DEC. 11, 1999 • SALE TIME 10:00 A.M.
Plainview, Texas • 603 El Paso
Selling: Antique glassware, furniture & Coca Cola Collection

TUESDAY, DEC. 14, 1999 • SALE TIME 9:30 A.M.
Texline, Texas • Carrizo Creek Land Co., Owner
Selling: Farm and Ranch Equipment

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 15, 1999 • SALE TIME 9:30 A.M.
Amarillo, Texas • Amarillo Area Farmers, Owners
Selling: Farm, Ranch and Construction Equipment

THURSDAY, DEC. 16, 1999 • SALE TIME 10:00 A.M.
Plainview, Texas • Richard Mahagan Estate, Owner
Selling: Farm Equipment

FRIDAY, DEC. 17, 1999 • SALE TIME 10:00 A.M.
Plainview, Texas • Plainview Area Farmers, Owners
Selling: Farm Equipment

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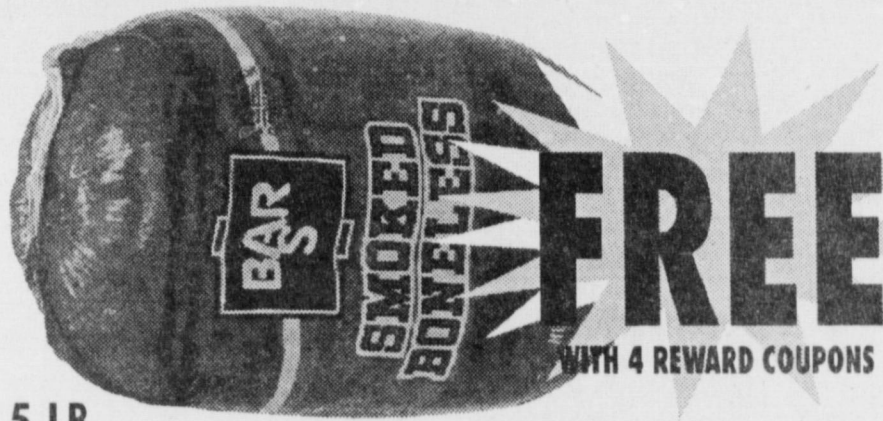


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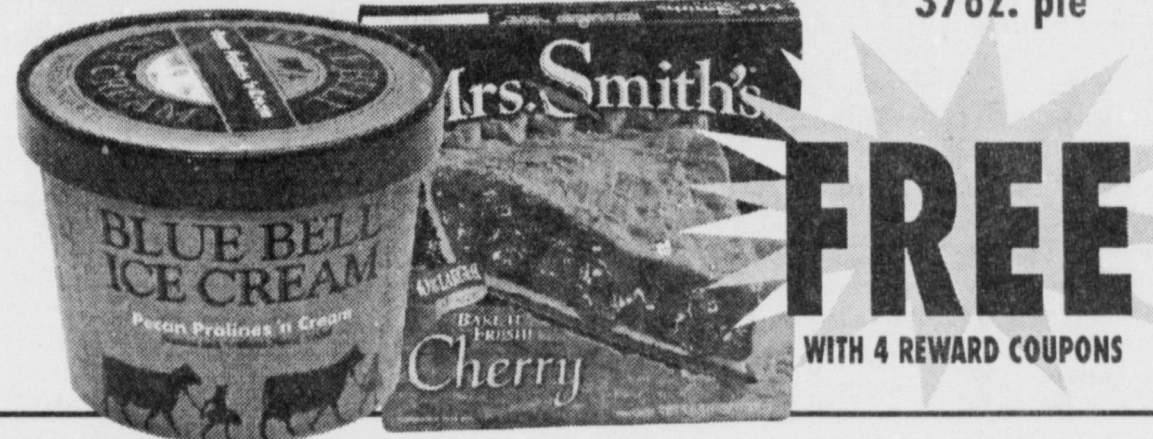
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