

Lifestyles



Recent bride honored

A bridal shower honoring Amanda Rickman Romo, recent bride of Steven Romo, was held Saturday in the home of Marline Watson. Pictured are, from left, Susan Rickman, sister of the honoree; Martha Rickman, her mother; the honoree; and Rachel Henslee and Erma Rickman, grandmothers of the honoree.

Watson home site of bridal shower

Amanda Rickman Romo, recent of Steven Romo, was feted with a bridal shower Saturday in the home of Marline Watson. Guests were greeted by the honoree and her mother, Martha Rickman. Susan Rickman, sister of the honoree, served refreshments while

Lori Paetzold presided at the guest register. Special guests were Rachel Henslee and Erma Rickman, grandmothers of the bride. Refreshments of pound cake with orange sauce, sausage balls, fresh fruit, punch and coffee were served

from a table centered with a floral arrangement in burgundy and blue. Cookware was the gift from hostesses Carolyn Baxter, Nancy Buchanan, Cindy Cassels, Merle Clark, Valerie Fellhauer, Pruda Fults, Shawn Gonzales, Lajan Henry, Martha Paetzold, Debbie Reinart, Darla Rodriguez and Marline Watson.

Ann Landers

Book is supportive companion for those with medical problems

Dear Readers: Who among us has not been touched by a life-threatening illness, whether our own or that of a family member or close friend? Sickness and the thought of death take us to life's darkest corners. It is not easy to live in such a space. No one should have to face it alone.

A supportive companion for those who are struggling with serious medical problems is a book by Dr. Jerome Groopman, a renowned cancer and AIDS specialist at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in Boston. This book deals both medically and philosophically with problems that can be overwhelming. It casts a comforting light on shadowy subjects that most people don't know how to talk about.

I would not have believed there could be hope or comfort in a book dealing with cancer and AIDS, but I was wrong. If you or someone you care about is struggling with either of these illnesses, I urge you to get this book. The title is "The Measure of Our Days." The publisher is Viking. The price, \$23.95. It could be the best investment you will ever make.

Dear Ann Landers: A woman named Carrie Schneider wrote the enclosed letter to the editor, which I read in The Repository in Canton,

Ohio. It was extremely moving and helped me realize how great American teenagers are and how rarely they get the credit they deserve. I hope you will print this so they can get some positive publicity for a change. -- Longtime Reader in Ohio

Dear Ohio: Teenagers today seem to be getting a lot of bad press. I'm pleased to print something positive. It would be wonderful if those teenagers saw this letter and contacted Carrie Schneider. I hope she'll let me know if it happens. Here's the letter to the editor:

"A few days ago, I experienced an incredible act of kindness from two teenagers. I was visiting Canton, and while driving with my triplet babies, my car was hit from the side. I was thrown out and was lying on the road, nearly unconscious, with no idea if my babies were dead or alive.

"The person who had smashed my car was already long gone, and while many people were crowding around to stare, no one was doing anything. Then, out of nowhere, two teenagers were at my side -- Christina Shorie and Shawn Carey. Christina immediately called 911 from her cellular phone, and they instructed her to keep me awake and talking.

Shawn talked to me, and at that time, Christina noticed the babies and got them out of the car. Not half a minute later, the car went up in flames.

"The only thing I know about the two is that Christina goes to a local high school and Shawn was visiting from New York City. They did everything in their power to make sure that I and my babies survived. I will be forever grateful to them. I owe them my life, not to mention the lives of my precious children.

"Thank God they stopped at the accident because if they hadn't, I wouldn't be here today. -- Carrie Schneider, Calif."

Dear Ann Landers: I am writing about a recent letter in your column concerning a brother who refused to reconcile with his sister in spite of her efforts to extend the olive branch. I noted with interest that he is a preacher. What does he preach about? -- M.S.C. in Sherman Oaks, Calif.

Dear M.S.C.: I don't have the faintest idea. Maybe a member of his congregation who knows about the situation will write and tell us.

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Gilter gives club program on style pics

Members of the Toujour Amis Study Club met recently at "Style Pix on Video." The program was given by Cathy Gilter, owner.

Members answered roll call by naming a person whose "style" they admired.

Sandy Josseland, president, conducted a short business meeting. Among items of discussion was raising money for Mothers' Park.

Hostesses Diana Griffin, Tami Charest and Leisa Lewis served cappuccino cheesecake, German chocolate cheesecake, coffee and tea to Trish Brown, Melinda Bridge, Cindy Black, Shannon Hagar, Julia Laing, Sally Nolen, Becky Reinart, Lori Paetzold, Jan Reeve, Kim Porter, Heather Hicks, Sarah Lawson, Tammy Yenser and Josseland.

The next meeting will be Oct. 14 and the program will be "Sugar and Spice Creations" by Tonya Carder.

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Today in History

By The Associated Press
Today is Tuesday, Sept. 30, the 273rd day of 1997. There are 92 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:
On Sept. 30, 1952, the motion picture process Cinerama - which employed three cameras, three projectors and a deeply curved viewing screen - made its debut with the premiere of "This Is Cinerama" at the Broadway Theater in New York City.

On this date:
In 1791, Mozart's opera "The Magic Flute" premiered in Vienna, Austria.

In 1846, dentist William Morton used ether as an anesthetic for the first time on a patient in his Boston office.

In 1927, Babe Ruth hit his 60th homer of the season to break his own major-league record.

In 1938, British, French, German and Italian leaders decided to appease Adolf Hitler by allowing Nazi annexation of Czechoslovakia's Sudetenland.

In 1949, the Berlin Airlift came to an end.

In 1954, the first atomic-powered

vessel, the submarine Nautilus, was commissioned by the Navy.

In 1955, actor James Dean was killed in a two-car collision near Cholame, Calif.

In 1962, black student James Meredith succeeded on his fourth try in registering for classes at the University of Mississippi.

In 1986, the U.S. released accused Soviet spy Gennadiy Zakharov, one day after the Soviets released Nicholas Daniloff.

Ten years ago: Two top campaign aides to Massachusetts Gov. Michael S. Dukakis resigned after one of them, campaign manager John Sasso, admitted leaking an attack videotape that helped bring down the presidential candidacy of Delaware Sen. Joseph Biden. (Sasso returned to the campaign a year later.)

Five years ago: The Bush and Clinton campaigns opened negotiations for a series of presidential debates. George Brett of the Kansas City Royals reached 3,000 career hits during a game against the California Angels.

One year ago: With just hours to spare before the start of the fiscal year, the Senate passed and President

Clinton signed a \$389 billion spending bill.

Today's Birthdays: Former Georgia Gov. Lester Maddox is 82. Actress Deborah Kerr is 76. Actress Angie Dickinson is 66. Singer Cissy Houston is 64. Singer Johnny Mathis is 62. Actor Len Cariou is 58. Rock singer-musician Dewey Martin (Buffalo Springfield) is 55. Singer Marilyn McCoo is 54. Actress Rula Lenska is 50. Rock musician John Lombardo (10,000 Maniacs) is 45. Singer Deborah Allen is 44. Actor Barry Williams is 43. Singer Patrice Rushen is 43. Singer Basia is 41. Actress Fran Drescher is 40. Country singer Marty Stuart is 39. Actor Eric Stoltz is 36. Rapper-producer Marley Marl is 35. Actress Crystal Bernard is 34. Rock musician Robby Takac (Goo Goo Dolls) is 33. Actress Jenna Elfman is 26. Actor Ashley Hamilton is 23. Olympic gold medal gymnast Dominique Moceanu is 16. Actress Lacey Chabert ("Party of Five") is 15.

Thought for Today: "You can only protect your liberties in this world by protecting the other man's freedom. You can only be free if I am free." - Clarence Darrow, American lawyer.

Names in the News

JIMMY STEWART
BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP) - The longtime home of the late Jimmy Stewart has been put on the market for \$6.7 million.

The 6,300-square-foot home owned by Stewart for nearly 50 years has five bedrooms, staff quarters and a three-bedroom guest house.

Stewart, star of such films as "It's a Wonderful Life" and "Mr. Smith Goes to Washington," was 89 when he died July 2.

KHANDI ALEXANDER
LOS ANGELES (AP) - Bulletin: Khandi Alexander is leaving "NewsRadio."

"I have thoroughly enjoyed playing the role of Catherine Duke over the last three seasons," Alexander said.

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La Madre Mia tours art gallery

Sixteen members of La Madre Mia Study Club traveled to Tulia Thursday evening to tour Kenneth Wyatt's Art Gallery.

Following the tour, they dined at El Camino Restaurant.

Attending were Carolyn Baxter, Ruth Black, Francine Bromlow, Linda Cumpton, Mary Herring, Betty Lady, Gladys Merritt, Jan Metcalf, Lavon Nieman, Bettye Owen, Nancy Paetzold, Tricia Sims, Mysedia Smith, Betty Taylor, Mary Beth White and Judy Williams.

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Teams are numbered in ads: check games and mark box number of team selected as winner. **GOOD COPIES AND FACSIMILES OF THE OFFICIAL ENTRY BLANK WILL BE ACCEPTED.** Entries must be deposited at the BRAND office before 5 p.m. Friday. All mail entries must be post-marked no later than Thursday to be eligible. Those post-marked no later than Thursday, or received late will be disqualified. Only one entry is allowed per person. Violations of this rule will result in disqualification. All entrants must be at least 8 years of age to be eligible. Prize winner residing in Deaf Smith County **MUST** appear **IN PERSON** prior to the next week's contest to claim an award.

Prizes not claimed within 5 working days become null and void. Entrants outside the county can appear in person or enclose a self-addressed envelope with entry. **Be sure to guess total score in the tie-breaker game.** Staff members of the Hereford Brand and their families are not eligible. Decision of the judges is final.

NAME _____
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1. <input type="checkbox"/>	2. <input type="checkbox"/>	13. <input type="checkbox"/>	14. <input type="checkbox"/>	25. <input type="checkbox"/>	26. <input type="checkbox"/>	37. <input type="checkbox"/>	38. <input type="checkbox"/>	49. <input type="checkbox"/>	50. <input type="checkbox"/>
3. <input type="checkbox"/>	4. <input type="checkbox"/>	15. <input type="checkbox"/>	16. <input type="checkbox"/>	27. <input type="checkbox"/>	28. <input type="checkbox"/>	39. <input type="checkbox"/>	40. <input type="checkbox"/>	TIE BREAKER	
5. <input type="checkbox"/>	6. <input type="checkbox"/>	17. <input type="checkbox"/>	18. <input type="checkbox"/>	29. <input type="checkbox"/>	30. <input type="checkbox"/>	41. <input type="checkbox"/>	42. <input type="checkbox"/>	Guess the score of this game. Ties will be determined by winner, total score and point margin.	
7. <input type="checkbox"/>	8. <input type="checkbox"/>	19. <input type="checkbox"/>	20. <input type="checkbox"/>	31. <input type="checkbox"/>	32. <input type="checkbox"/>	43. <input type="checkbox"/>	44. <input type="checkbox"/>	Hereford _____	
9. <input type="checkbox"/>	10. <input type="checkbox"/>	21. <input type="checkbox"/>	22. <input type="checkbox"/>	33. <input type="checkbox"/>	34. <input type="checkbox"/>	45. <input type="checkbox"/>	46. <input type="checkbox"/>	vs. Pampa _____	
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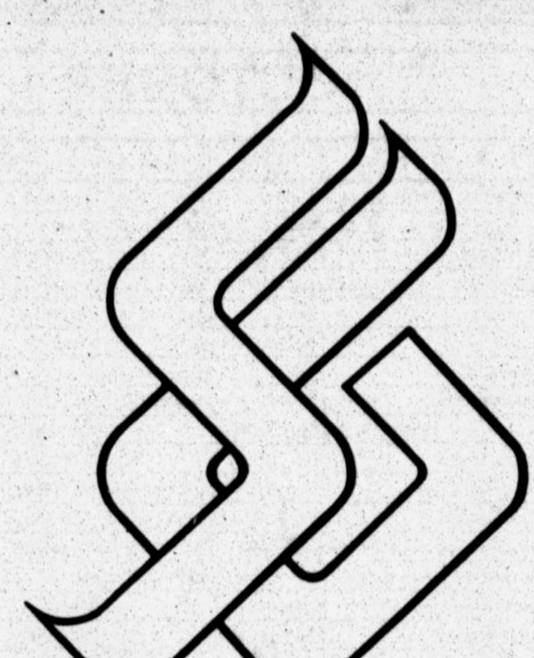
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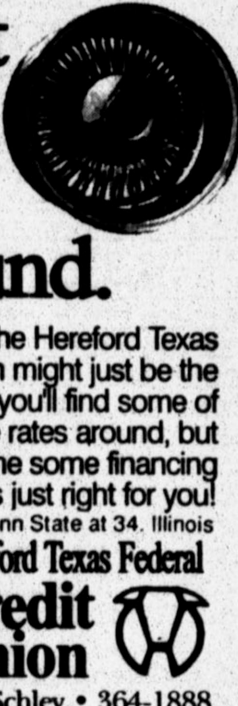
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Happy birthday to you

Members of the Texas Plains Chorale made a surprise appearance at Bluebonnet School Friday to sing happy birthday to teacher Cookie Tarr, holding the cake. The performers, from left, Jane Gulley, Ray Jenkins and Amy Gilliland, made the special "Over the Hill" performance as a fund-raiser for the Chorale's trip to England in 1998.

Chapels in converted trailers help bring spiritual food to truckers

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) - Semitrailer driver David Pianezzi can get gas, food and other supplies when he pulls into a truck stop. Sometimes, he can even go to church.

Pianezzi was recently singing hymns and listening to the Rev. Doug Kraus preach at Prayer Heaven, a converted freight trailer at the Antioch Truck Stop of America off Interstate 24 in Nashville.

The Sistine Chapel it isn't. But chaplains are there 24 hours a day, providing everything from Christian services to counseling.

"It's a safe zone," said Dale Love, a truck driver from Portland, Tenn., motioning toward the paneled walls in the narrow trailer lined with chairs holding Bibles and hymn books.

Prayer Heaven is part of Transport for Christ, which operates 22 chapels in 16 states, Canada and Russia. There also are Trucker's Christian Chapel Ministries of Enon, Ohio, and Truckstop Ministries Inc. of Jackson, Ga.

The chapels bring the church to the

parking lot, which is about the only way some truckers can worship, said Kraus, who drove trucks for 27 years before becoming a minister.

"They are hardly ever at home to go to church ... When a long-haul trucker gets home he's generally only there Friday and Saturday. He has to leave Sunday for a Monday morning delivery," Kraus said.

It's a lonely, isolated existence that is tough on marriages and families and filled with temptations.

"These guys live, eat and sleep in the truck stop for weeks at a time. It ceases to be a job and becomes a lifestyle," Kraus said.

Transport for Christ was started in 1951 in Ontario, Canada, as a volunteer organization by the Rev. James Keys, a truck driver who began what was then a mobile ministry. Fifteen years later, his Trailblazer Chapel got under way, logging 30,000 miles a year traveling to truck stops around the United States.

The first permanent chapel was established in 1985 at Harrisburg, Pa.

The early mobile chapels held

safety meetings at trucking company terminals during the week and worship services on Sundays. As companies developed safety programs, the chapels concentrated on spiritual guidance.

Most drivers attending Sunday services or Bible study are Christians looking for fellowship and support, Kraus said. But others need help with personal problems.

"We do a lot of counseling," he said. "Eighty to 90 percent deals with family stresses and marriage problems."

The freight trailers are donated and cost about \$15,000 to convert to a chapel. Chaplains must then raise their own support through donations.

The back doors of the trailers are replaced with a wall and doors, and windows are cut in the side. Bare-bones living quarters are installed in the front of the trailer, leaving about 48 feet for the chapel.

For Pianezzi, the chapels are a boon: "You can't take a big rig and drive it to church."

Hints from Heloise

Dear Readers: Did you know that one in 10 men and one in five women will suffer some type of depression over the course of their lives? It could be you, your next-door neighbor, a family friend — no one is immune.

If you feel you may be suffering from depression, don't fret. There is help in a big way waiting for you — a free screening!

The National Depression Screening Day has attracted almost 350,000 people over the last six years. Oct. 9, 1997, is the day to mark on your calendar. There is no pain and a lot to gain. All you need to do is call 1-800-573-4433, starting Sept. 8, to find the site nearest you where a screening will be held.

Go on Oct. 9 and you will listen to an educational talk on depression, take a written test about any symptoms you may be having and then discuss the results with a trained professional. If you need additional

help, they can recommend mental health-care facilities/doctors in your area. It's that easy!

The screenings are free and anonymous as always, so don't hesitate. A screening may help you gain control of your life again. — Heloise

REGISTRY GIFT LIST

Dear Heloise: A young couple, close friends of mine, got married. Because they were in the bridal registry of several stores, it was easy to select an appropriate wedding gift.

There will be other occasions for me to buy gifts for them, so I made a point of picking up a current print-out of their bridal registry lists. Some stores keep them in their system for a number of months.

So now goodbye to agonizing over gift ideas. By selecting items from their own wish list, I know they'll be happy with "my choices" for years to come.

I hope this tip will be useful to others who are family or friends to

newlyweds. — I.W., San Antonio

A quick check of several stores showed they keep the registry on file anywhere from three months to a year or even longer. Good advice. — Heloise

CAR SEAT

Dear Heloise: If you're in a hurry putting a car seat back in the car and don't have time to install the seat belt through it, lay it down on its side so you won't think it's strapped down the next time you use it.

I've driven around town before, only to realize that the seat had been loose all day. — John Larkin, Moscow, Idaho

This would definitely be a good habit to get into, since we all get harried and in a hurry. Also, the next person might not realize the seat isn't strapped in, if it's sideways, that's a sure sign. — Heloise

Send a money- or time-saving hint to Heloise, PO Box 795000, San Antonio TX 78279-5000.

To Your Good Health

DEAR DR. DONOHUE: I recently read that those with a diagonal earlobe crease are three times more likely to have a heart attack than people without the crease.

I am a 59 years old and have such diagonal creases. Is there any truth to the above? — E.D.

ANSWER: It's been 20 years since the observation was first made, linking earlobe creases to clogged heart arteries and heart attacks.

The crease is a deep indentation running diagonally from the attachment of the lobe to the ear across to the edge of the lobe. It's right about the position where an earring is worn.

In those 20 years, bickering about the observation's validity hasn't stopped.

Proponents of the theory say that the crease forms because the earlobe's slender blood vessels are clogged, and that indicates heart-artery blockage. Opponents vociferously disagree.

The theory makes sense to me, although I'm not certain it's valid.

In any case, you need to put such information into focus. If you are not a smoker, if your cholesterol and blood pressure are normal, if your family history is not replete with heart disease, if you get daily exercise and if you are not overweight, I would put little faith in the significance of an earlobe crease as the sole sign of heart disease.

DEAR DR. DONOHUE: Can you explain the significance of "Dohle bodies"? And will you explain what a positive VDRL test means when further tests for syphilis are negative? I am told that VDRLs are used to diagnose other illnesses even when syphilis is not at all suspected. — K.L.

ANSWER: Dohle's bodies are bluish blobs found in the periphery of white blood cells when viewed with a microscope. They can signal that a viral infection is brewing. Or they can indicate that there is a focus of inflammation somewhere in the body. They are seen in conjunction with some cancers.

A Venereal Disease Research Laboratory test is a syphilis test. It is not very specific; it can be positive when there is not a trace of the syphilis germ in the body. Positive VDRL tests are checked by submitting a blood specimen to a more accurate syphilis test. If the second test is negative, then the VDRL is considered falsely positive.

Falsely positive VDRLs can be seen with a fairly large number of illnesses. Lupus and rheumatoid arthritis are two examples. Aging often makes the VDRL positive. One of every 10 people older than 70 will have a positive test and not be infected with syphilis.

Where does that leave you? The blood test for Dohle's bodies ought to be repeated to see if they were present only transiently. The falsely positive VDRL calls for an investigation into the many ills that can produce such a reading.

DEAR DR. DONOHUE: My 32-year-old daughter was diagnosed with anti-phospholipid antibody syndrome. She is now on blood thinners. She has had many blood clots and miscarriages. What do you know of this illness? — C.H.

ANSWER: Phospholipids are aggregates of phosphorus and fat. They float in the blood, where they keep platelets from sticking together and forming a clot.

With anti-phospholipid antibody syndrome, the immune system produces antibodies that wrap themselves around phospholipids and inactivate them.

As a result, clots form in arteries and in veins — a dangerous state of affairs. A clot in a brain artery leads

to stroke. A clot in lung blood vessels can destroy large portions of the lung.

Women with the syndrome tend to have repeated miscarriages.

Coumadin is employed to prevent blood-clot formation.

DEAR DR. DONOHUE: I have been diagnosed as being anemic. My doctor feels there is no problem unless my count goes lower.

I experience severe stomach discomfort occasionally. Could the stomach problem and the anemia be related? — A.A.

ANSWER: "Anemia" is an umbrella word for a great many different conditions that cause a drop in the number of red blood cells.

Iron deficiency causes anemia, as does vitamin B-12 deficiency, for example. But those two anemias are quite different and call for different treatment.

Your doctor's task is to find the cause of your anemia so that proper treatment can be instituted.

Could your stomach problem and your anemia be related? Definitely. An ulcer can ooze blood — which would produce an anemia in short order.

You can't let matters stand where they are now. You deserve to have a cause found for your lack of red blood cells. Without that information, proper treatment is impossible.

Dr. Donohue regrets that he is unable to answer individual letters, but he will incorporate them in his column whenever possible. Readers may write him at P.O. Box 5539, Riverton, NJ 08077-5539.

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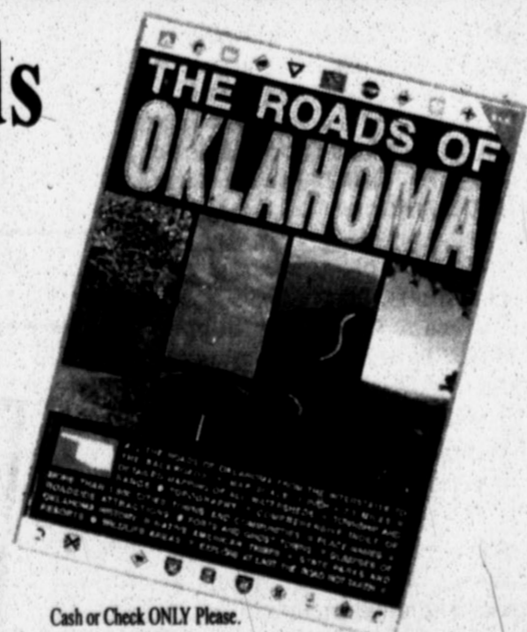
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News Digest

POLL: TWO-THIRDS OF AMERICANS SAY IRS ABUSES ITS POWER

ARLINGTON, Va. (AP) - More than two-thirds of Americans believe the Internal Revenue Service has too much power and frequently abuses it, according to a *USA Today/CNN/Gallup* Poll.

The survey conducted after last week's Senate hearings on IRS abuses found 69 percent believe the IRS "frequently abuses its powers," while 27 percent think the agency generally uses power responsibly, *USA Today* reports in today's editions.

On other topics, the poll found that: 73 percent believe Attorney General Janet Reno should seek appointment of an independent counsel to investigate the Democratic Party's 1996 fund-raising practices.

55 percent believe Congress should pass campaign finance reforms this year.

63 percent say they would ask a smoker not to smoke in their home and 60 percent say they would ask a smoker not to smoke while sharing a table with them in a restaurant.

56 percent think there should be a ban on all cigarette advertising.

The telephone poll was conducted among 1,006 adults Thursday through Sunday. It has a margin of error of 3 percentage points.

NEW HOME SALES FALL 2.2 PERCENT IN AUGUST

WASHINGTON (AP) - New home sales fell 2.2 percent in August, pulled down by declines in the West and Midwest.

Single-family homes sold at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 800,000, down from 818,000 in July, the Commerce Department said today.

The August decline was somewhat larger than expected. Most economists had predicted a drop of less than 1 percent. Sales had risen 0.4 percent in July and 6.7 percent in June and August marked the 20th consecutive month of sales above the 700,000 level, the longest such string since 1978-79.

During the first eight months of the year, sales are running 6 percent ahead of the same period of 1996. The supply of new homes for sale - 284,000 in August - was the slimmest in four years and enough to last just 4.4 months at the current sales rate.

It's the eighth consecutive month of a supply of less than five months, the longest stretch since 1971. That should be an incentive to builders to continue a healthy construction pace.

Economists said strong income and job growth have made buyers confident they can handle mortgage payments. And declining mortgage rates, at a 19-month low for 30-year, fixed-rate loans last week, are making the payments more affordable.

Sales of existing homes had jumped 3.3 percent to a record high seasonally adjusted annual rate of 4.32 million.

Israelis, Palestinians to talk

NEW YORK (AP) - Israel and the Palestinian Authority scheduled talks next month to take up a U.S. appeal for a "timeout" in Israeli settlement construction and confiscation of Arab property. But leaders indicated today that progress will be difficult.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said today that construction would continue to accommodate natural population growth. And the Palestinians insisted peace negotiations cannot resume unless Israel stops all building. "This is the bottom line as far as all Palestinians are concerned," said Palestinian Cabinet minister Hanan Ashrawi.

On Monday, Palestinian negotiator Mahmoud Abbas said his side also will push for a suspension of Israeli demolition of Arab houses on the West Bank and what he called "collective punishment."

Israel agreed to discuss the "timeout" in U.S.-supervised negotiations with the Palestinians in Washington beginning Oct. 13. An earlier round of talks will be held in the Mideast next week under an agreement Secretary of State Madeleine Albright worked out here with Israeli Foreign Minister David Levy and Abbas, a high-ranking official of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Today, Netanyahu said, "There is an agreement to discuss the concept of the timeout, and each side will submit its ideas ... and you know we are building in the settlements, and making natural growth of the settlements possible, and I don't intend to change our policy."

Sales of new homes in August fell 12.6 percent in the West to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 215,000. That followed an 11.3 percent jump in July. Sales fell 4.5 percent in the Midwest to a rate of 147,000. They rose 3.1 percent in the South to 364,000 and soared 15.6 percent in the Northeast to a three-month high of 74,000.

The median price of a new home, meaning half sold for more and half for less, was \$145,000 in August, down 0.6 percent from a month earlier but up 5.8 percent from a year ago.

CLINTON, CONGRESS TO TALK ABOUT TOBACCO DEAL

WASHINGTON (AP) - President Clinton is inviting congressional leaders to the White House to discuss changes that could increase cigarette prices \$1.50 a pack.

Meanwhile, the tobacco industry said Monday the original \$368 billion deal it signed with states in June eventually would raise cigarette prices that much anyway. And industry negotiator J. Phil Carlton pledged to push Congress to approve that original deal - not Clinton's tougher version - even if cigarette-makers win a key federal court ruling next month.

The 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals will decide in October whether the Food and Drug Administration can regulate nicotine. There have been suggestions that if the 4th Circuit rules against the FDA, cigarette-makers would lose some incentive to settle.

"We are prepared to go ahead with the June 20 agreement ... regardless of what the 4th Circuit does," Carlton said at a tobacco seminar Monday.

As for Clinton's plan to require even high tobacco industry payments, he said, "They have milked this cow dry."

FREIGHT TRAILER TURNED INTO TRUCK STOP CHURCH

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) - Semitrailer driver David Pianezzi can get gas, food and other supplies when he pulls into a truck stop. Sometimes, he can even go to church.

Pianezzi was recently singing hymns and listening to the Rev. Doug Kraus preach at Prayer Heaven, a converted freight trailer at the Antioch Truck Stop of America off Interstate 24 in Nashville.

The Sistine Chapel it isn't. But chaplains are there 24 hours a day, providing everything from Christian services to counseling.

"It's a safe zone," said Dale Love, a truck driver from Portland, Tenn., motoring toward the paneled walls in the narrow trailer lined with chairs holding Bibles and hymn books.

Prayer Heaven is part of Transport for Christ, which operates 22 chapels in 16 states, Canada and Russia. There also are Trucker's Christian Chapel Ministries of Enon, Ohio, and Truckstop Ministries Inc. of Jackson, Ga.

Netanyahu said he was willing to press ahead with the peace negotiations, but that the Palestinians must first prove that they are committed to crushing Islamic militant groups responsible for more than a dozen suicide-bombings in Israel since 1994.

Arguing the atmosphere for successful negotiations would otherwise be hurt, Albright initially proposed Israel refrain from constructing homes for Jews in Jerusalem and other actions that the Palestinians considered provocative.

The Palestinians tried to get a time-out included in the agreement Monday to resume negotiations after a six-month lapse. Israel resisted.

With U.S. support, the Palestinians got the issue placed on the agenda for negotiations with Israel next month. And a senior U.S. official told reporters the time-out should last at least through negotiations on an overall settlement.

The negotiations would include deciding the future of Jerusalem, Palestinian demands for a state, and the disposition of refugees. Judging by the current pace of talks that could take years.

Last week, Netanyahu approved 300 new apartments for the Efrat settlement on the West Bank and asserted the right of Jews to live in what the Bible calls Judea and Samaria.

Albright, announcing the resumption of negotiations, said it stopped a "downward spiral" in Mideast peacemaking.

Names in the news

LARRY GATLIN

ODESSA (AP) - The last time Larry Gatlin's high school won the big game against its cross-town rival, the year was 1964 and he was the quarterback.

After the Odessa High School Bronchos ended 33 years of frustration against the mighty Permian High Panthers, Gatlin joined in the celebration.

"Hallelujah! Hallelujah! That's my comment on the victory," Gatlin said Saturday when contacted at his Myrtle Beach, S.C., home. "And they said it couldn't be done."

Gatlin, a 1966 Odessa High graduate, remembers playing the entire 1964 game on a broken foot.

He returned to the Bronchos' two-a-day football workouts last August to meet with the team, and ended by giving a pep talk that he called "just a visit with the boys."

But some Bronchos fans said Gatlin's presence in this West Texas town bridged the 33-year confidence gap between victories.

Gatlin, with brothers Steve and Rudy, had numerous country music hits in the late 1970s and '80s, including "All The Gold In California," "Houston (Means I'm One Day Closer To You)" and "Broken Lady."

ALEC BALDWIN

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP) - In the movie "The Edge," Alec Baldwin battles Anthony Hopkins. In real life, his rival is New York's Republican Party.

State Democratic Party chairwoman Judith Hope said Baldwin wants to help bring down the GOP's Gov. George Pataki and Sen. Alfonse D'Amato in next year's elections.

"He feels very strongly that Pataki can be beaten and he feels even more strongly that D'Amato can be beaten," Hope said.

Baldwin's interest comes as the struggling New York Democratic Party opened its fall meeting Monday. Baldwin was not at the meeting, but Hope said he has offered to campaign for Democratic candidates and to fund raising.

Both Baldwin, who is from Long Island, and his wife, Kim Basinger, have long been activists for various social causes. He has promoted everything from funding for the arts to campaign finance reform legislation.

Earlier this month, Basinger and other animal rights activists pressured a New Jersey laboratory to turn over 40 beagles to the American Humane Association. The dogs were being used for osteoporosis research.

LOU REED

NEW YORK (AP) - It was an interview on the wild side for a British journalist who said rocker Lou Reed was so rude that she walked out.

"I've never come across someone so ridiculous and arrogant," Joanna Coles, New York bureau chief for *The Guardian*, told the *New York Post*.

Coles, who has interviewed O.J. Simpson, Mikhail Gorbachev and Tony Blair for her London newspaper, met Reed last Wednesday in Manhattan to talk about a video production of his song "Perfect Day" from the "Transformer" album. As the two were walking to a cafe, Coles asked Reed what he was working on.

"Are you starting this interview? Because you've got exactly 30 minutes," Coles said Reed snapped. Reed then lashed out at Coles during the interview for asking if he had children ("How dare you ask me such a personal question!") and for asking if he had been paid to do the production with the BBC ("That's an offensive question!"). At that point, Coles walked out.

"He shouted after me pathetically, 'Oh please, can't we be friends?'" Coles said. "It must have been terribly embarrassing."

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