HOME OF S.J. "NATHAN" DAHLSTROM

# The Host Bispatch

A BUILDER IN GARZA COUNTY SINCE 1926

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2013

THEPOSTDISPATCHONLINE.COM

75 CENTS

# Regional driver's Pearl Harbor remembrance license office set for move

By Wayne Hodgin The Post Dispatch

Post residents who either by necessity or choice must drive to Lubbock to renew their Texas driver's license will find the office has moved beginning Monday morning.

Sgt. Bryan Witt, spokesman for the Texas Department of Public Safety regional headquarters in Lubbock, said this week the office would change locations as soon as today.

See MOVE, Page 6



A cast-dye model of a JU52 3MG-52 Auxiliary Bomber flown during World War II is one of about 100 military warplanes on display at the Garza Museum as part of a new exhibit donated by Vietnam veteran Patrick Reilly of the U.S. Marine Corps.

# Norman files for re-election as county judge

The Post Dispatch

County Judge John Lee Norman has filed with the Republican Party of Garza County to run for re-election.

Norman is seeking his third term as county judge of Garza County. He was elected to his honorable position and began his first term in 2007.

He previously worked for Garza County as commissioner Precinct 1



JUDGE JOHN LEE NORMAN

See NORMAN, Page 6

# Military warplanes exhibit to be unveiled at Garza Museum

By Wayne Hodgin The Post Dispatch

Chances are most people in Garza Coun- for the museum's exhibit hall. ty neither know of nor have ever heard the name Patrick Reilly.

Chances are Patrick Reilly never gave much thought to Garza County either until just a few short years ago when passing through Post.

Two years ago, Reilly, a veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps who fought in Vietnam, in an effort to gather financial support to construct a monument to honor veterans who fought in the Vietnam War on the grounds of the Texas Capitol, gave a lecture at the Algerita when it was still in use as a venue by the Post Arts Guild.

Linda Puckett, an official on the Post this new exhibit for the residents of Post Arts Guild board and curator of the Garza Museum, later invited Reilly to tour the

museum during which he told her of a vast collection of cast-dye, mint-quality model airplanes he had that would be a perfect fit

"The idea really came to me when as we were on our way to the museum, we traveled down this stretch of your Main Street just east of the courthouse that looks like a huge airstrip," Reilly said from his home in Cedar Park on Wednesday.

"I asked Ms. Puckett if she would be interested in such a collection, and we let the idea bloom from there."

The airplanes — of which there are about 100 of more than 150 on display — will be a part of the museum's permanent collections, Puckett said.

"We're just thrilled to be able to offer

See **EXHIBIT**, Page 6

### **Post Notes**

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

Toys for Tots

The Post Lions Club is seeking monetary donations or new unwrapped toys for Toys for Tots. Parents needing assistance can obtain an application at Post Elementary or any Post Lions Club member. Toy barrels will again be placed at local businesses to receive any new toys. Contact Jason Porter at Porter Hardware 495-1040 for information.

#### Food drive

Post Elementary Gifted and Talented students is conducting a nonperishable food drive through Dec. 6. Each grade in elementary is competing to collect the most food items. All donations will be given to Post Cares. Call Keri Thompson at 495-3414 for informa-

#### Christmas Parade

Will be December 7 and all entries need to be turned into the Chamber of Commerce Office by December 4 to be judged. For information call Janice Plummer at 495-3461

#### Garza County Museum

New military exhibit opens Saturday, December 7, commemorating the 72nd anniversary of the 1941 bombing of Pearl Harbor. Purple Heart recipient Patrick Reilly donated the 154-airplane exhibit to the museum. For information, call 495-2207.

See **NOTES**, Page 2

# Local author launches book series for kids

By Wayne Hodgin The Post Dispatch

fans of the Hank the Cowdog series, a similar book series being launched by a Garza County author is also sure to please young readers.

S.J. Dahlstrom will introduce his first book in the "Adventures of Wilder Good" series with his first installation, "Wilder Good: The Elk Hunt," in a launch event from 1:30 to 3 p.m. Saturday at Ruby Lane Books & Gallery, 127 E. Main St., Post.

The main character in these books is a boy named Wilder who plays basketball, likes to read and is active in his 4-H Club.

He and his family go to church, and Wilder is a Dallas Cowboys fan.

Wilder is a 12-year-old boy who lives in Cottonwood, Colo., a fictional town in the southeast-

ern portion of the state where the plains meet the mountains.

Wilder goes on outdoor ad-For those children who are ventures that include hunting, fishing, cowboying and just about everything else you can do outdoors.

> "Dahlstrom has created a character children will recognize in themselves," said bookstore owner Rosa Latimer.

"Wilder is a lot like most 12year-old boys who live in Garza County and has committed to writing stories that represent a way of life familiar and dear to many of us."

Dahlstrom draws on his experiences as a cowboy, father, husband and founder of a boys ranch to tell stories that teach good values and are also entertaining.

The second book in the series, "Texas Grit," will be available early next year.

For information about the author or the Wilder Good series,



S.J. DAHLSTROM

visit wildergood.com. cal event, call Latimer at 806-For information about the lo- 495-2665.

### Corrections

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

#### News on the go



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Senior Vice President Michael Crump.



PUBLISHER William C. Blackburn

EDITOR/GENERAL MANAGER Wayne Hodgin

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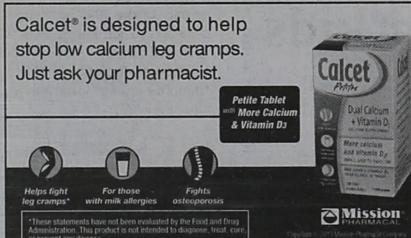
Call 806-495-2816







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2 FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2013 | THE POST DISPATCH

# **Debbie Martin**

POST — Debbie Martin, 58, of Post, went to her heavenly home Tuesday, November 26, 2013, at the Covenant Medical Center in Lubbock. Debbie was born June 27, 1955, to Wayland Hood and Lillian (Dulaney) Hood in Midland, Texas. At the age of 2, she moved to Post. She attended Post schools and graduated Post High School in 1973. Debbie became a locksmith and a manager for Sikes Car Wash here in Post.

She was very active in her church and had served as church secretary for 22 years and a lifelong member. She was especially interested in her children's, grandchildren and other family members activities. Especially all their sporting activities, no matter what the weather or other conditions were.

Debbie was preceded in death by her mother, Lillian Boggs; stepmother Billie Hood; grandparents Ola and Chester Keeton and Lee Dulaney; cousin Judy

**Esther McDougle** 



**DEBBIE MARTIN** 

Huff and stepbrother Leland Hood.

Survivors include son Brandon Martin of Lubbock; daughters Tricia Willborn and Robby Willborn of Post, Kelli Martin and Joseph Martinez of Lubbock; father, Wayland Hood of Lubbock; brothers Wayland Hood and Dora of Lubbock, Dale Hood and Jamie of Graham, Eddie Boggs and Dena of Lincolnton, N.C., and Kevin Hood and Annette of Lubbock; sisters Tonja Lamprecht and Becky Kelley, both of Lubbock; grandchildren Ryan, Haylee and Justin Willborn and Kellan Graves, all of Post, and A.J. Martinez of Lubbock; aunt Linda Curb of Post; special friends Sue Williams and Shirley Taylor, both of Post

Services were Saturday at Trinity Baptist Church with Ivon Williams and Jay Stinson officiating. Burial followed at the Terrace Cemetery. Services were under the personal care of Dee and Janet Justice, Justice-Mason Funeral Home.

Pallbearers were Don Sikes, Wendell Sikes, Kaden Sikes, Luke Buckner, Dusty Clary and Freddy Huff.

Donations are suggested to the Trinity Baptist Church P.O. Box 443 Post, Texas 79356 or to the First Baptist Church Christian School 402 West Main Street Post, Texas 79356.

# From Page 1

NOTES

Rabbit Validations The validation for rabbits has been moved to Saturday, December 14 at 10:00 a.m. at the show barn. For information call the Extension Office 495-4400

O.S. Museum Beautiful and unusual Nativities and Crèches are the stars of the "Reflections of Christmas" exhibit on display at the O.S. Museum. Viewing hours are 10 a.m. to noon and 1 to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday. For information, call 495-3570.

Ragtown Gospel Theater Ragtown Gospel Theater is performing "Say Nicklaus!" through Dec. 14. For information or to purchase tickets visit ragtown.com.

**GED** classes Instructional sessions for the GED test are 5 to 8 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays in Room 18 at Post High School. Call the school at 495-2770 for information.

Quarterback club The Post Quarterback Club meets at 7:30 p.m. Mondays in Post ISD cafeteria to watch game film and hear coaches comments and strategy. All are welcome. For information, call Greg Jones at 806-773-0723.

GED prep The Post Public Library website now offers lifelearning resources for GED test preparation, job search and workplace skills. Visit wtls.tsl. state.tx.us/pplib to register. For information, contact librarian Peggy Ashley at 990-2149.

Christmas sea

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Main Street

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**GED** test The GED test is being revised and will be in use starting January 2014. Classes are available from 5 to 8 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays at Post High School. For information, call the school office at 495-2770.

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

City Council The Post City Council meets at 6 p.m. the second Tuesday of the month in Council Chambers at City Hall, 105 E. Main St. For information, call 495-2811.

County Commission The Garza County Commission meets at 9 a.m. the second and fourth Mondays of the month in Commission Chambers at the Garza County Courthouse, 300 W. Main St. For information, call 495-4430.

School board The Post ISD Board of Trustees meets at 6:30 p.m. the second Tuesdays of the month in the conference room at the Administrative Offices, 501 S. Ave. K. For information, call 495-3343.

spaghetti, garden salad,

with

chips,

Post ISD

Monday: Sausage kolache,

Tuesday: Cheddar omelet

Friday: Cinnamon roll,

Monday: Toasted ham and

cheese sandwich, broccoli bites, garden salad, orange

chicken casserole, garden salad, charro beans, salsa,

Wednesday: Salisbury

steak with brown gravy,

mashed potatoes, carrot

coins, strawberries and

cinnamon applesauce

breadstick, apple slices

carrots

baked

pudding

Wednesday:

served daily)

smiles Tuesday: Chicken

ranch,

fruit,

Hamburgers,

Breakfast

Southwest

### Esther

POST McDougle, 63, of Post, died on Sunday, November 24, 2013, at her home. She was born on November 25, 1949, to Victor Julian and Reyes (Campos) Bustos at Seguin. At the age of 15 she came to Post and later married Oliver A. McDougle Jr. on November 11, 1965. Oliver preceded her in death April 8, 2000. Esther was a homemaker and a caregiver. She was a Baptist.

She is also preceded in death by a daughter Bertha McDougle; grandson Victor Julian McDougle; and a great-grandchild Treyshawn McDougle.

Funeral services were Nov. 27 at First Baptist Church with the Rev. Jack Maddox officiating. Burial followed at the Terrace Cemetery. Arrangements were under

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE

Notice to all persons is hereby given that the original letters of Testamentary upon the estate of

BARBARALEE NEWCOMB deceased, were issued to the undersigned day of December,

2013, in the proceeding indicated below my signature hereto, which is still pending, and that I now

hold such letter. All persons having claims against said estate, which is being administered, in Garza

County, are hereby required to present the same at the address below given, before suit upon same

are barred by the general statutes of limitation, before such estate is closed and within the time

required by law to my attorney Preston L. Poole, Jr., at P.O. Box 296, Post, Texas 79356 or myself,



the personal care of Dee and Janet Justice of Justice-Mason Funeral Home.

She is survived by her children Donna Zapert and A.D. Taylor of Post, Oliver A. McDougle III and his wife Pamala of Coldspring, Venetia Garza and Bobby Dosia of Coldspring and Uretha McDougle and Darnell Curtis of Post; brother Robert Bustos and

his wife Rosa of Lubbock; 20 grandchildren Warren Scot Zapert, Justin Daniel Zapert, Christopher Thomas Zapert, Rachael Nicole Zapert, Oliver McDougle IV, Meagan McDougle, David McDougle, Lori McDougle, Nikita McDougle, Josephina Robles, Jose Robles, Mario Robles, Patrick McDougle, Patricia McDougle, Joyce McDougle, Bianca McDougle, Nathan McDougle, Johnny Garza, Victor Garza and Jane Marie Garza; 10 greatgrandchildren Lorretta McDougle, Ryan Eckhart, Zavian Infante, Justin Daniel Zapert II, Malachi Zapert, Kaylie Zapert, Scot (Bubba) Zapert II, Kendle Zapert and

Pallbearers were Bobby Dosia, Darnell Curtis, A.D. Taylor, Scotty Zapert, Justin

Jaden Ryan.



### Menus

Menu for December 9-13 Thursday:

Southland ISD Breakfast Monday: Pancake on a Friday:

Tuesday: Breakfast Pizza Wednesday: Cherry or (Milk served daily.) Apple Frudel, Yogurt Thursday: Muffins, yogurt Friday: Biscuits, sausage, Breakfast

(Fruit, juice and milk served oven roasted potatoes daily.)

Lunch beef pizza Monday: Crispy Chalupas, garden salad, Thursday: Waffles with refried beans, applesauce, sausage salsa

Tuesday: Steak fingers, bacon whipped potatoes with (100% fruit juice or fresh gravy, carrot coins, hot roll, fruit and milk variety strawberry cup, Wednesday: Chicken fajitas,

charro beans, tortilla chips, Lunch salsa, orange smiles Clay Miller

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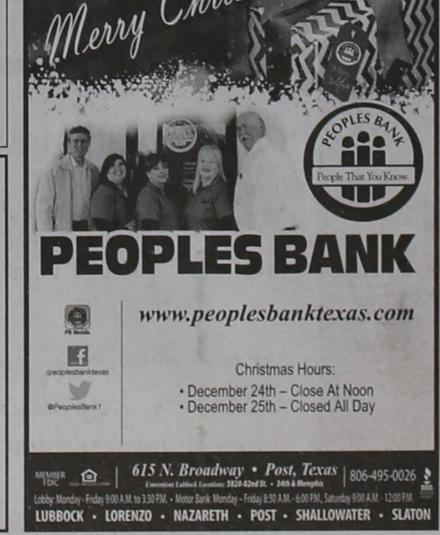
bananas, roll Thursday: Spaghetti with meatballs, garden salad, savory green beans, sliced peaches, breadstick Friday: Hot dog, sweet potato fries, cucumber dippers, fresh seasonal fruit (Milk variety served daily.) Trailblazers

Lunch

Monday: German sausage, sauerkraut, potato salad, black forest parfait, cornbread Tuesday: King ranch casserole, Spanish rice, beans, tortilla, fruit salad, Wednesday: Pork roast, ranch style beans, spinach, baked apples, wheat roll Thursday: Spaghetti with meat sauce, Italian veggies, autumn jello, garlic toast Friday: Talipi, coleslaw, hushpuppies, beans,

cherry crisp

Phil Newcomb, Littlependent Executor Dated Phil new Cont Cryptogram A cryptogram is a puzzle where a sentence is encoded by substituting the actual letters of the sentence with different letters. The challenge of the puzzle is to 'decode' the sentence to reveal the original English sentence. We have provided a few of the decoded letters to help get you started. Hint: Quote by Albert Einstein ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXY © Feature Exchange



### **A Post-card Christmas**

and lighting of Christmas lights down on. Main Street on Nov. 29. The First United Methodist Bell Choir and the First Baptist

The Post community welcomed the Christian School Children's Choir performed Christmas season with a short music program Christmas music until the lights were turned

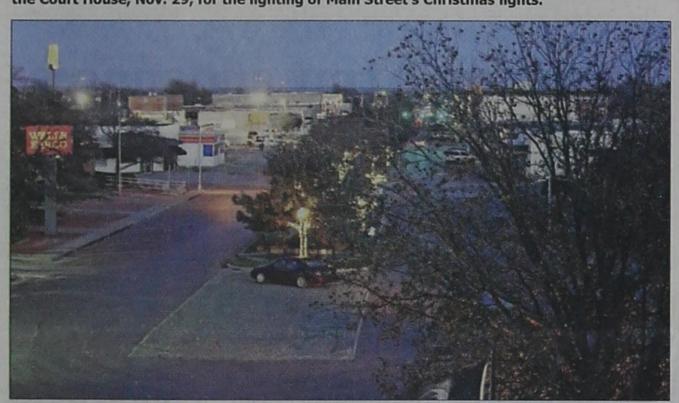
Anna Gibson



Photos by Anna Gibson/The Post Dispatch The First United Methodist Bell Choir performed several Christmas carols Nov. 29 in front of the Court House for the lighting of Main Street's Christmas lights.

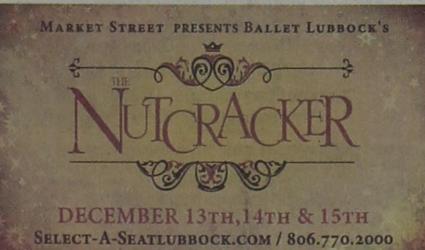


The First Baptist Christian School Children's Choir performed two Christmas songs in front of the Court House, Nov. 29, for the lighting of Main Street's Christmas lights.





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"Who doesn't love a little holiday cheer?"

This holiday season when you're out and about, take a break at our Holiday Open House. There will be plenty of festive refreshments, and friends and neighbors who are happy you're there.

Join us for an Open House to celebrate the holidays on December 6, 2013 from 10-4. Refreshments will be served. Santa will be here.

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**GARZA COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM** 119 North Avenue N.

## **OPEN HOUSE**

Saturday Dec. 7 **Open 10-5** SPECIAL EXHIBIT

Military War Planes

Donated by Patrick M. Reilly USMC

# **Capital Highlights**

# Candidates line up for party primaries

By Ed Sterling For the Dispatch

AUSTIN — Texas' primary election is set for March 4, and the list of candidates for statewide office is largely settled with Monday the filing deadline.

Most recently gaining notice was state Sen. Leticia Van de Putte, D-San Antonio, who announced her candidacy for lieutenant governor Nov. 23. Van de Putte has 22 years of experience as a state lawmaker - eight years as a state representative and 14 years as a senator. She serves as chairwoman of the Senate Committee on Veteran Affairs and Military Installations.

Van de Putte and Sen. Wendy Davis, D-Fort Worth, who is seeking the Texas Democratic Party's nomination for governor, form the nucleus of an effort to end a 20-year Republican sweep in statewide elections.

Also seeking the Texas Democratic Party's nomination for lieutenant governor is Seadrift Municipal Court Judge Reynaldo "Ray" Madrigal.

State Attorney General Greg Abbott, a Republican, is campaigning to succeed Rick Perry as governor. Last summer, Perry chose not to seek another term in the office he has occupied since 2001 and speculation about his mounting a second run for the presidency continues.

Also running for the Republican Party of Texas' gubernatorial nomination are former Univision personality Miriam Martinez of the Rio Grande Valley, author and former radio show host Lisa Fritsch of Austin and secessionist Larry S. Kilgore of Arlington.

While incumbent Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst has presided over the Senate since January 2003, he appears unready to change his job description. Dewhurst, who explored and passed on a possible run for governor, faces a field of three of his fellow Republicans in the GOP primary: Texas Land Commissioner and former state lawmaker Jerry Patterson, Agriculture Commissioner and former state senator Todd Staples and state Sen. Dan Patrick of Houston, chairman of the Senate Education Committee.

#### Attorney general

In the race to succeed Greg Abbott as state attorney general is Houston attorney Sam Houston, a Democrat, the lone candidate seeking his party's nomination. Seeking the Republican Party's nomination are Texas Railroad Commission Chairman Barry Smitherman of Austin; state Rep. Dan Branch of Dallas, chairman of the House Higher Education Committee; and freshman state Sen. Ken Paxton of McKinney, vice chairman of the Senate Transportation Committee and former

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House member (2003-2012).

#### State comptroller

Seeking the Texas GOP nomination for comptroller of public accounts, to succeed Susan Combs as the state's chief financial officer, are Republicans Harvey Hilderbran of Kerrville, chairman of the House Committee on Ways and Means; Sen. Glenn Hegar of Katy, chairman of the Senate Committee on Nominations; and Debra Medina of Wharton, a registered nurse, tea party activist and GOP primary candidate for governor in 2010. Accounting executive and energy company chief financial officer Mike Collier of Kingwood is running for comptroller on the Democratic ticket.

#### Ag commissioner

Now in primary races for the top spot at the Texas Department of Agriculture are Republicans J. Allen Carnes of Uvalde, former state Rep. Tommy Merritt of Longview, Karnes City rancher and attorney Eric Opiela, former state Rep. Sid Miller of Stephenville. Democrat Jim Hogan of Cleburne is seeking his party's nomination for agriculture commissioner. Whoever wins election in November will succeed Agriculture Commissioner Todd Staples, who is running for lieutenant governor.

#### Chief justice

Texas Supreme Court Chief Justice Nathan Hecht, a Republican, has filed for candidacy to retain his current position. Hecht, who has been a member of the high court since 1988, was appointed chief justice on Sept. 10 and was sworn in on Oct. 1. He succeeded fellow Republican Wallace Jefferson. As of Dec. 1, no Democrat had filed as a candidate for chief justice.

#### TxDOT has repair plan

The Texas Department of Transportation on Nov. 26 announced a resolution to manage the maintenance of roads heavily used by energy companies in LaSalle County, where cheap patches on damaged stretches were proposed to the Texas Legislature last summer, due to budget

TxDOT leaders said they have agreed with La Salle County to share responsibility in repairing roads in need and maintaining them over time and agreements with other affected counties in the region are being worked on.

Counties will purchase the materials while TxDOT will perform repairs and provide labor. "Once fixed, the county will take over maintenance of the roads and be responsible for them for five years or until traffic in those energy areas drops off,"TxDOT officials said.

### **Rotary Club**



Daniel Gray, manager of United Supermarkets in Post, was inducted Tuesday into the Post Rotary Club at the organization's regular noon meeting. He was welcomed by board member Ray Bagby.

### Letter to the Editor

# Kennedy remembrance was worth the read

I enjoyed reading the article in the Nov. 22 my president, and I will always remember him, his about a very loved President John Kennedy. worthy of President Kennedy. I'm from the old school where we were taught to respect the president if even at times we didn't agree with him. John Fitzgerald Kennedy was

issue of The Post Dispatch by Mr. Charles Jacqueline, Caroline and little John Jr. with all Keaton, "Kennedys Challenge Remains a Call to the respect they deserve. I will keep the article so Action." It's good to read a good article such as I will remember the man who wrote a column

> JEAN DUNN San Angelo

# Salvation Army announces local Christmas kettle drive

The Post Dispatch

The sound of the Salvation Army bells are ringing at the storefronts throughout Post reminding area residents that Christmas is right around the

Each year the Salvation Army collects money to help those in need in our community. People who donate to the Salvation Army at locations

here in Post can rest assured that money stays in the county to help local residents in need.

For millions across the country, the ringing of Salvation Army Christmas bells announces the beginning of the holiday season. The Salvation Army's Red Kettle Drive has become an American Christmas icon that has grown into one of the most supported fundraising programs in the assistance or a box of food.

The money raised by The Salvation Army's Red Kettle Drive goes to directly help the needy in our community by funding assistance programs that run throughout the year. When someone drops a dollar into the kettle, it could go toward toys for a child at Christmas, help with a winter utility bill, prescription

### Church Directory Watch Up For

#### Assembly of God

Bethel Assembly of God (Bi-Lingual)- 407 May street Lifeline Church- 108 N. Broadway

#### **Baptist**

Calvary Baptist Church- 210 E. 6th Street, 990-2342 First Baptist Church, Post- 402 W. Main Street, 495-3554 First Baptist Church, Wilson- 806--628-6333 Grace Baptist Church- 820 N. Avenue S- 990-3497 Justiceburg Baptist Church-Justiceburg Pleasant Home Baptist Church- E. 14th & N Ave F Southland Baptist Church- Southland

Temple Bautista- 315 W. Main

#### Trinity Baptist Church- 915 N. Ave O, 990-3038 Catholic

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

#### **Church of Christ**

Church of Christ- 108 N. Ave M 495-2326 Graham Chapel Church of Christ- 15th & Ave S

#### Church of God

Church of God of Prophecy- 602 W. 14th, 495-3644 Power House Church of God and Christ, Pine Avenue

#### **Disciples of Christ**

First Christian Church- 812 W. 13th, 495-3716 **Evangelical Methodist** 

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

Methodist First United Methodist Church- 216 W. 10th, 990-2942 Graham Chapel United Methodist Church

#### (Pastor: John Hendrick) - 611 FM #1313 806-549-1400 Nazarene

Post Church of Nazarene- (Pastor: Charles Gibson) 202 W. 10th, 495-3044 Grassland Church of Nazarene- 327-5656

#### Presbyterian

First Presbyterian Church- 910 W. 10th, 495-2135

### **Nondenominational**

Family Harvest Church- (806) 495-1400



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the first aircraft to

(Editor's note: We ends and cohomnist L back to the pages of the and express our conu on the death of her b

at 7:48 a.m. Dec. 7,

U.S. naval base was Japanese fighters, bo torpedo planes in tv Eight U.S. battleshi aged, with four bein but one was later ra returning to fight in The Japanese also



LINDA PUCKETT

casualties totaled 2

1,282 wounded.

The attack was a American people as and led the entry of States into World V the Pacific and Eur aters. The following 8, the United State on Japan, promptis and Italy to declar United States on J was reciprocated b States that same d President Frank Roosevelt proclair 1941, "a date which infamy."

world was literally millions of people suffering. The fina the European the with Germans and ending by April ar of 1945. Japan wa tion. President Ha would give the cor the atomic bomb The following ! mentation and de

For the next for

about to occur. They got the w morning, Aug. 5. vere "go," and the be the day. At the was decided to co assembly of the b exploding if Enol on take-off. Navy

Parsons, who had this idea, now su persuaded the ter perform the diffi in the cramped b They loaded th Enola Gay that

Boy" was 12 feet nches in diamet any bomb pilot ( had ever seen. It equaled 20,000 t



U.S. Air Force Col. Paul Tibbets is shown next to the Boeing B-29 Superfortress bomber named for his mother, Enola Gay Tibbets. On Aug. 6, 1945, during the final stages of World War II, it became the first aircraft to drop an atomic bomb; it's target was Hiroshima, Japan.

# A recounting of the Enola Gay

(Editor's note: We welcome Legends and columnist Linda Puckett back to the pages of the Dispatch and express our condolences to her on the death of her brother.)

e Post ember

icle so

lumn

his week we remember a dreadful time in our history — the 72nd anniversary of the bombing of Pearl Harbor.

This surprise attack by the Imperial Japanese Navy occurred at 7:48 a.m. Dec. 7, 1941. The U.S. naval base was hit by 353 Japanese fighters, bombers and torpedo planes in two waves. Eight U.S. battleships were damaged, with four being sunk. All but one was later raised with six returning to fight in the war.

The Japanese also sank or

three cruis-

ers, three

ship, a



and destroyed 188 LINDA

U.S. aircraft. **PUCKETT** The attack lasted 90 minutes and casualties totaled 2,402 dead and

1,282 wounded. The attack was a shock to the American people and the world and led the entry of the United States into World War II in both the Pacific and European theaters. The following day, on Dec. 8, the United States declared war

on Japan, prompting Germany and Italy to declare war on the United States on Dec. 11, which was reciprocated by the United States that same day.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt proclaimed Dec. 7, 1941, "a date which will live in infamy."

For the next four years the world was literally at war, with millions of people dying and suffering. The final battles of the European theater along with Germans and Soviets were ending by April and early May of 1945. Japan was the exception. President Harry S. Truman would give the command to use the atomic bomb to end Japan's aggression.

The following historic documentation and description by Stephen Sherman tells what is about to occur.

They got the word on Sunday morning, Aug. 5. Conditions were "go," and the next day would be the day. At the last minute, it was decided to complete the final assembly of the bomb in flight, thus eliminating the risk of it exploding if Enola Gay crashed on take-off. Navy Capt. Deak Parsons, who had earlier opposed this idea, now suggested it, and persuaded the team that he could perform the difficult assembly in the cramped bomb bay of the

They loaded the bomb into the Enola Gay that afternoon. "Little Boy" was 12 feet long and 28 inches in diameter — bigger than any bomb pilot Col. Paul Tibbets had ever seen. Its explosive power equaled 20,000 tons of TNT;

or roughly as much as 2,000 Superfortresses such as it could carry — all in a single bomb that weighed about 9,000 pounds. Capt. Parsons practiced the delicate arming process. That night the crew was briefed, for the first time, on the nature of their weapon — an atomic bomb.

Flight of the Enola Gay Chuck Sweeney, with the scientific instruments in the Great Artiste, would follow Tibbets' closely, duplicating his hairpin turn. George Marquardt's photo plane would stay far behind, out of range of the shock wave. The three weather planes, Claude Etherley's Strait Flush, John Wilson's Jabbitt III and Ralph Taylor's Full House, would take off an hour ahead, to scout out the designated target cities. Every crewman carried a standard service pistol; Tibbets carried enough cyanide capsules for all.

They started engines at 2:30 a.m. on the morning of Aug. 6, 1945. Three hours after takeoff, they flew over Iwo Jima at dawn, where 5,500 Americans and 25,000 Japanese had died, so the Air Force could use Iwo as an emergency landing field. They adjusted course and headed northwest. At 7:30 a.m., Capt. Parsons completed his adjustments; the atomic bomb was live. They climbed slowly to their bombing altitude of 30,700 feet.

At 8:30 a.m. they received the coded message from Etherley's Strait Flush, flying over Hiroshima, "Y-3, Q-3, B-2, C-1." The message meant cloud cover over Hiroshima, the primary target, was less than three-tenths. Tibbets gave the word to his crew, "It's Hiroshima." As they reached the coastline of Japan, no interceptors challenged them; the Japanese had become indifferent to small groups of B-29s. They crossed Shikoku and the Iyo Sea.

They looked down at the city below. The other crewmen

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verified it was indeed Hiroshima. They spotted the initial point, or I.P. They turned and headed almost due west. Tom Ferebee peered into his Norden bombsight, and cranked in the information to correct for the south wind.

Tibbets reminded the crew to put on their heavy dark Polaroid goggles, to shield their eyes from the blinding blast. It had been calculated to have the intensity of 10 suns. They easily spotted the distinctive T-shaped bridge that was their primary. Ninety seconds before drop, he turned the controls over to Ferebee, the bombardier. At 9:15 a.m. (8:15 a.m. Hiroshima time), they dropped "Little Boy" and made a 155-degree diving turn to the right. Unable to fly the plane with the dark goggles, they shoved them aside.

Forty-three seconds later, a tingling in Tibbets' teeth told him of the Hiroshima explosion: the bomb's radioactive forces interacting with his fillings. The bomb exploded 1,890 feet above the ground. Bob Caron, the tail gunner was the only crew member to see the fireball. Even wearing the goggles, he thought he was blinded.

The plane raced away, while the shockwave from the explosion raced toward them at 1,100 feet per second. When the shockwave hit, it felt like a nearmiss from flak. The mushroom cloud boiled up, 45,000 feet high, three miles above them,

and it was still rising. They flew away, shocked and horrified at the sight below. The city had completely disappeared under a blanket of smoke and fire. They radioed back to headquarters that the primary target had been bombed visually with good results.

Part-two continues next week.

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

Clay Miller

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## Yesteryears

10 years ago December 11, 2003

A piece of Post is on display at the White House this Holiday season. A life size J&T Imagination Santa was shipped to Washington, D.C., at the request of the First Family. The sixfoot Patriotic St. Nicholas pays tribute to the Bush Family, the courageous men and women who fight for freedom and those who lost their lives on Sept. 11, 2001.

The Post City Council took action at its most recent meeting to alleviate difficult with water distribution when water mains break. The council approved purchasing turnoff valves for the two main water lines from the storage tanks.

#### 20 years ago December 22, 1993

Dear Santa,

I wanta bike that makes a noise that mertercycles makes. I want a toy that i can drive.

Ryan Babb Dear Santa,

i am six years old and in frst grad. i wont a dog for christmas and i wont a cat and i will lev you some cookes and mild under the christmas tree.

Mathew Perez

Dear Santa,

I want to spend as much time with my famley And it donste matter what I get for Christmas. The best thing is a rollabesden. I want a talking doll house. I love Christmas,

Stephinie Martinez

Dear Santa,

I am 6 I am in first grade I am Christopher Curb, I am nice, I whunt a deer, I whunt a fox, I whunt a bear, I whunt alligator, I whunt lion, I whunt a nunbat.

#### 30 years ago December 21, 1983

Dear Santa,

How is Mrs. Clause and Elf. I want a babydoll. and give other children toys. I Love both

Sonya Harp

Dear Santa, I would like a Dallas Cowboy pee wee suit, they are fun to wear. I will take care of it. I have never seem you or Rudolph. I would like the collection of He-Man. A computer will help me count eighty plus fifty.

Jamie Ayala

Dear Santa,

Merry Christmas! I want a E. dog, pig, cat

T.C. Curtis

#### 40 years ago December 20, 1973

Dear Santa, I hope you can make it to Post. I want some decoys, (ducks), and a duck call and Nurf football. If you don't come, I will miss

Will Kirkpatrick

Dear Santa,

I've been good. My mothe already told you so. I just want to tell you that I love you and I love my mom and dad. Get my whole family something. I love you Santa Clause.

Cindee Jackson

Dear Santa,

How is Rudolph, Dasher and all the other reindeer? I want a baby alive and a Michey Mouse Watch for Christmas. I am 9 years old. Crystal Mason

#### 50 years ago December 23, 1963

Dear Santa Claus,

Would you bring me a Chatty Cathy box doll, a baton, Tammy's Family, her dream house, her car, a transistor radio. Please do. I'll give you some coffe if you will bring me that.

Ida Jan Hall

Dear Santa,

Please help Chirstmas to come fast. I am trying to be very good. Will you bring me a Charming Chatty? Carol Davis

Dear Santa,

I am making this letter for you. I like to play on the snow. Would you bring a BB gun, Santa?

Please be good to all the boy and girls. Would you bring me a toy? Christmas is a good holiday.

Noe Saldivar

Dear Santa

I want a Barbie and Ken dolls with cloths. And I want a Kissy doll, a tammy doll and Penny-the-Poodle. My sister wants a Thumbelina doll and a Barbie dream hous. My brother wants a Dick Tracy car and Tiger Joe.

Theresa Flores

### Puzzle of the Week

#### **CLUES ACROSS**

- 1. Nevertheless
- 4. A restaurant bill
- 7. Pastry-lined dish 10. Freshwater duck genus
- 12. Water container
- 14. Many not ands
- 15. Dull pains
- 17. U.S. island territory
- 18. Policeman (French)
- 20. Add details to
- 22. Telegraphic code

19. The upper crust

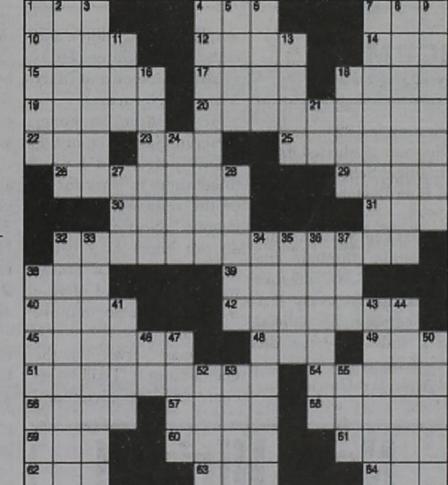
- 23. Squealer
- 25. Criticize severely 26. Serrasalmus
- 29. Extra long staple cot-
- 30. Made a choice
- 31. Feline mammal 32. 37th president
- 38. Angry
- 39. E Anglia Celtic tribe 40. March 15th
- 42. Ice sport
- 45. Iniquitous
- 48. 1st stock offer
- 49. Danish money
- 51. Double hulled boat 54. Consumer advocate
- Ralph 56. Bell operating system
- 57. Semitic fertility god
- 58. Old Norse poems 59. Shock treatment
- 60. Beget
- 61. 8 reale coin
- 62. "Partridge" star Susan
- 64. Lair

#### **CLUES DOWN**

- 1. Bleated 2. Unfasten
- 3. South Pacific island
- 4. Collectively
- 5. Grad
- 6. Divulge a secret
- 7. An active politician 8. Hibernian resident
- 9. Feudal land reversion
- 11. Stage scenery 13. Iowa S.U. city
- 16. Angel 18. Wing movement
- 21. Not caps 24. Peruvian province
- 27. Mythological bird
- 28. Adaba

### **CROSSWORD PUZZLE**

## POST DISPATCH



- 32. Glowing quality
- 33. Personal cyber "theft"
- 34. Highest N. Am. peak
- 35. Weak tides
- 36. Chant
- 37. Twelve
- 38. Faulty billiards shot
- 41. Safaqis
  - 55. Data processing by a off: fell asleep

#### computer **PUZZLE SOLUTION**

44. Hit 50's musical

46. Expression of doubt

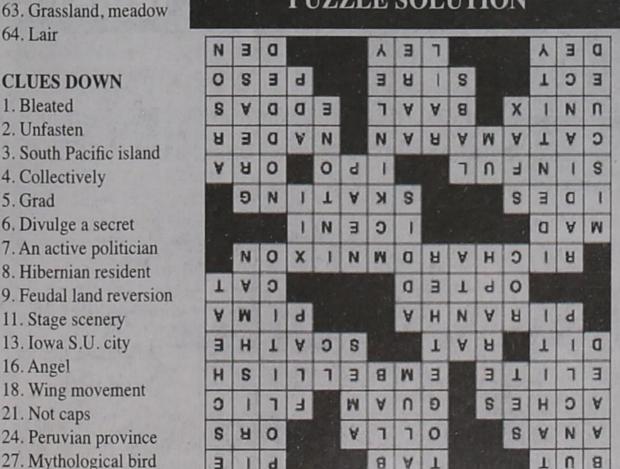
52. A horizontal bar of

53. Swiss river

wood

47. Scientific workplaces

50. Deliberate bulding fire



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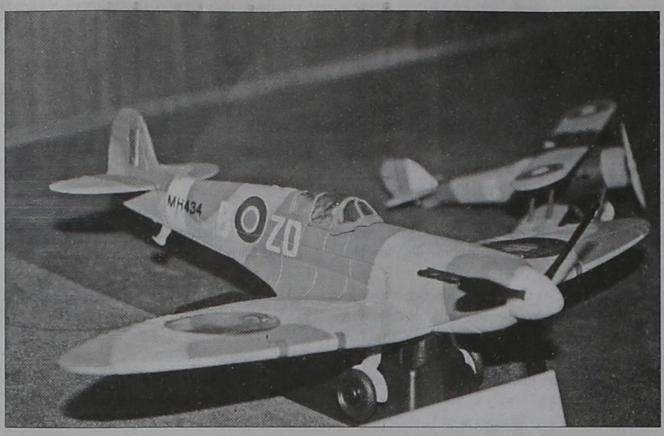
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Anna Gibson/The Post Dispatch

A model of a Japanese Spit Fire ZD-B is one of about 100 military warplanes on display at the Garza

#### EXHIBIT From Page 1

and Garza County and throughout the region," Puckett said. "We encourto come view the exhibit."

Puckett has planned an open house form 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday to coincide the exhibit's opening with Pearl Harbor Day on the 72nd anniversary of the bombing of the U.S. fleet by the Japanese off the coast of Honolulu.

Reilly, a recipient of the Purple Heart for wounds he sustained during one of

"The plan is to begin the

process of relocating the

driver's license office Fri-

day, and we hope to have

that complete before the

weekend is up so it is fully

operational by 8 a.m. Mon-

day for those needing to

visit the local office in per-

The Department of Driv-

er Services will be relocat-

ing from its present loca-

tion on Mac Davis Lane

to 1404 Lubbock Business

Park Blvd., off Interstate 27

son," Witt said.

From Page 1

bloodiest battles - the TET offensive - said he hoped to be able to see his collection on display at the ated by the many veterans museum at some point.

"I still have a number of Plains. age all our military veterans planes I plan to give to the museum there in Post at some point in the future," he said. "Those are just a handful of my collection.

> will become known as the foremost display of such high-quality model planes those who have fought for in the world."

those from the dawning serve in a whole new genof aviation to the present eration of service men and day, with a good deal of women."

today as workers move

the new facility, Witt said.

He said notices and maps

would be posted at the old

location to help residents

locate the new regional

office and a trooper will

be on site to assist anyone

needing additional instruc-

transition as easy as possi-

our services," Witt said.

That office will be closed day.

the Vietnam War's most those like were used during World War II.

Puckett said she hopes the exhibit will be appreciin and around the South

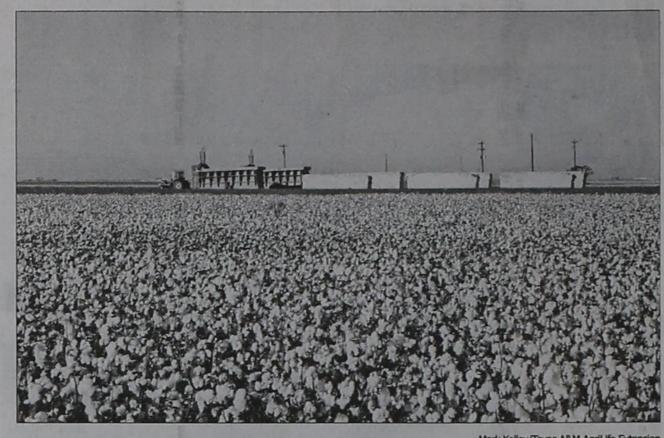
"We have so many, many wonderful men and women who have served this country so bravely right here in Post City," she said. "Their "Hopefully, the exhibit numbers become fewer with the passing years. Hopefully this exhibit will honor our freedom and instill a The models represent sense of pride and a want to

# dress change will be Mon-

The new main office number is 806-740-8700. equipment and set up in

You can locate the new regional office several ways. Going north on I-27, take Exit 7 (Yucca Lane) to Business Park Boulevard and go east; from North Loop 289, take the MLK exit and go north; or from FM 2641 (Regis Street), go "We hope to make this south on MLK.

The address change is ble on everyone who needs also effective for the highway patrol, Texas Rangers DPS will continue to be and the DPS communicafully operational during tions division as well as the this move. The official adcrime lab.



Cotton harvesting in the South Plains is about 60 percent finished, according to a Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service cotton specialist.

## **Preliminary South Plains cotton** quality reports generally good

By Robert Burns

Special to the Dispatch

"Pleasantly surprised."

That's how Mark Kelley, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service cotton specialist, Lubbock, describes cotton producers' reactions as yield and quality reports roll in.

Despite an "unusual" season with a late start, untimely dry weather and more than a few hail and wind damage events, and generally high quality, Kelley said.

Though some factors, such as bark content, have been a little high, and the total crop for the area is below the 10he said.

And the harvest, though still somewhat liked." late, has been helped along by hard freezes and harvest-friendly weather.

fields these days," he said. "There's a lot of cotton still to go, but we're getting it done pretty fast."

about 60 percent finished. Wet weather forecast for the upcoming weekend may slow things down, but he still predicted a majority of the crop to harvested by Thanksgiving.

There will be, however, some lateplanted cotton that will stretch the final finish date into December, he predicted.

Quality is good, with color grades mostly 11s and 21s, he said.

of whether the cotton is white, spotted or light spotted or tinged with yellow. Both 11s and 21s signify white color. There are 25 official American upland cotton grades, and five below grades. "Looks like 11s and 21s coming out

Simplified, color grades are a measure

of both Lamesa and Lubbock U.S. Department of Agriculture classing offices," Kelley said. "Lubbock has a little better color with more 11s."

Leaf grade, a measure of how much leaf many producers are seeing good yields material is in the harvested cotton, has been running mostly two and three.

"I anticipated we might have some leafgrade issues in some locations, just with the lateness of the crop," he said. "Though year average, most producers are happy, our harvest aides performed well, we just didn't get the defoliation we would have

Micronaire has been mostly running in the premium range, 3.7 to 4.2. Staple "We're getting a lot of cotton out of the was running around 36 at both locations, which is a good number, Kelley said.

There wasn't a lot of dryland cotton left, which has brought down the total Kelley estimated harvesting to be estimated yields for the region of about 2.4 million bales, Kelley said.

Of course, at better than 50 percent harvested, a lot depends upon how the rest of the crop goes as for the region's

An "average" year is hard to classify, as in the past few years, totals have been 5 million or more bales, and some really poor years where the total has been below 2 million, he said.

### **NORMAN** From Page 1

beginning in 1993.

Norman graduated from Post High School in 1968 and from Baylor University in 1973.

He has kept up an annual certification through the Texas Tech Law School's Judicial College every year since beginning his judicial career and completed the Texas Association of Counties Advanced Curriculum.

He and his wife, Mar-

sha, have four children and director for the Post/Garza eight grandchildren. He is the son of Glenn and Mary board. He also serves on Margaret Norman.

to serve Garza County as and the Close City Gin. county judge, and I want to continue to work for all active and serves on reof the residents of Garza County," Norman said. "I do not know of a better Health and Mental Recounty to raise a family while working and serving with everyone to improve ernments. our community."

board and is an adviser and a deacon.

County Area Foundation the boards of the Post Eco-"It has been an honor nomic Development Corp.

> In addition, Norman is gional boards for the West Texas Centers for Mental tardation and the South Plains Association of Gov-

The Normans are mem-Norman serves on the bers of the First Baptist Garza County Trailblazers Church, where he serves as

### AgriLife Extension's High Plains Ag Conference set Dec. 13 in Lubbock

**By Steve Byrns** 

Special to the Dispatch

p.m. Dec. 13 at the Texas A&M AgriLife Research and Extension Center, 1102 E. Farm-to-Market 1294,

Lubbock.

"This program will contain a little of just about every topic LUBBOCK — The regional crop producers have High Plains Ag Conference indicated they're interested in conducted by the Texas on the Southern Rolling Plains," A&M AgriLife Extension said Robert Scott, AgriLife Service is set for 8:30 a.m.-3 Extension agent in Lubbock County.

> "Speakers will address everything from cotton varieties to aquaponics, and we'll have a great lunch and continuing education units available, so it should be a day well spent for a number of reasons."

> Individual preregistration, which includes lunch, is \$35 by Dec. 10 and \$45 at the door with no lunch guarantee, Scott said. For more information contact Scott at 806-775-1680 or rj-scott@tamu.edu.

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education units, three general, one laws and regulations, and one integrated pest management, will be available for those with a valid private applicators license.

Topics and presenters, all headquartered at Lubbock, will include: Cotton Varieties, Dr. Mark

Kelley, AgriLife Extension agronomist.

A Look at Alternative Crops, Guar and Sesame, Dr. Calvin Trostle, AgriLife Extension agronomist.

Pigweed Weed Resistance, Dr. Peter Dotray, AgriLife Extension weed specialist.

2014 AgriLife Extension Program Updates, Scott and Mark Brown, AgriLife Extension county agents.

Pesticide Laws Regulations, Steve Boston, Texas Department of Agriculture.

Irrigation Chemigation, Efficiency and Update on the High Plains Water District regulations, Dr. Dana Porter, AgriLife Extension agricultural engineering specialist.

Growing Crops Using Technology, Aquaponic Dr. Russ Wallace, AgriLife Extension vegetable specialist.

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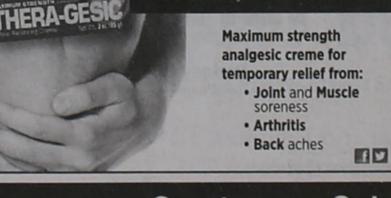
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TRANSFER DRIVERS: Need CDL-A or B AFFORDABLE RESORT LIVING on Lake Fork. RV and manufactured housing OK! Guar-

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#### Post Dispatch Weather Summary

Post's Seven Day Forecast









Sunday

Mostly Sunny

38/21

First

12/9

Full

12/17

Date

11/2

11/2

11/2

11/2

11/3

12/1





Monday Mostly Sunny

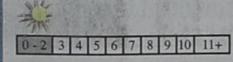
40 / 25





Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Mostly Sunny Partly Cloudy Mostly Cloudy 39/28 41 / 25 35 / 24

#### Local UV Index



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

#### Weather Trivia

How much of the Earth is continually covered in snow?

Answer: Twelve percent of the Earth.

#### Weather History

Dec. 6, 1886 - A great snowstorm hit the southern Appalachian Mountains. The three-day storm produced 25 inches at Rome, Ga., 33 inches at Asheville, N.C. and 42 inches in the mountains. Montgomery, Ala. received a record 11 inches of snow.

Dec. 7, 1935 - Severe flooding hit parts of the Houston area. Eight people were killed as 100 city blocks were inundated. Satsuma reported 16.49 inches of rain. The Buffalo and White Oak Bayous crested on Dec. 9.

#### **Detailed Local Forecast**

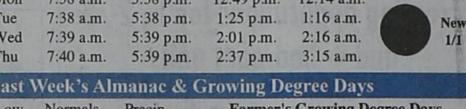
Today we will see cloudy skies with a slight chance of rain and snow, high temperature of 25°, humidity of 93%. North northeast wind 10 to 15 mph. The record high temperature for today is 80° set in 1965. Expect mostly cloudy skies tonight with possibly a record overnight low-of 9°. East northeast wind 10 mph. The record low for tonight is 10° set in 1972. Saturday, skies will be mostly cloudy with a high temperature of 25°, humidity of 86%. East northeast wind 10 mph. Skies will be mostly cloudy Saturday night with an overnight low of 18°.

#### Peak Fishing/Hunting Times This Week

		Peak Times			Peak Times		
	Day	AM	PM	Day	AM	PM	
anda!	Fri	2:57-4:57	2:27-4:27	Tue	6:21-8:21	5:51-7:51	
	Sat	3:52-5:52	3:22-5:22	Wed	7:08-9:08	6:38-8:38	
9	Sun	4:43-6:43	4:13-6:13	Thu	7:56-9:56	7:26-9:26	
	Mon	5:33-7:33	5:03-7:03	www	www.WhatsOurWeather.com		

#### Sun/Moon Chart This Week

-	Day	Sunrise	Sunset	Moonrise	Moonset
1	Fri	7:35 a.m.	5:38 p.m.	10:49 a.m.	10:04 p.m.
John Jan	Sat	7:36 a.m.	5:38 p.m.	11:33 a.m.	11:10 p.m.
4	Sun	7:37 a.m.	5:38 p.m.	12:12 p.m.	Next Day
1	Mon	7:38 a.m.	5:38 p.m.	12:49 p.m.	12:14 a.m.
13	Tue Wed	7:38 a.m.	5:38 p.m.	1:25 p.m.	1:16 a.m.
1 1	Wed Wed	7:39 a.m.	5:39 p.m.	2:01 p.m.	2:16 a.m.
	Thu	7:40 a.m.	5:39 p.m.	2:37 p.m.	3:15 a.m.



Last Week's Almanac & Growing Degree Days									
e	High	Low	Normals	Precip	Farmer's Growing Degree Days				
26	47	26	58/31	0.00"	Date Degree Days		Date Degree Days		
27	52	23	57/30	0.00"	11/26	0	11/30	0	
28	57	33	57/30	0.00"	11/27	0	12/1	6	
29	60	30	57/30	0.00"	11/28	0	12/2	2	
30	68	33	56/30	0.00"	11/29	0			
1	70	41	56/29	0.00"	Growing degree days are calculated by taking the average temperature				
2	71	34	56/29	0.00"	for the day and subtracting the base temperature (50 degrees) from the average to assess how many growing days are attained.				

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### **Dixie Divas** Miss Betty: Bow maker extraordinaire

he renowned bow maker in my hometown died. Only in the South would this probably be news because we Southern women do admire a package well wrapped.

At 85, Miss Betty was still holding court at the drug store where she took



simply stunning. Well, RONDA they were RICH more than

were a work of art. Whenever I got a gift she had wrapped, I would smile and say, "I know where this came

that - they

from." My godmother, Mary Nell, is a good bow maker herself, and even she had to admit that Miss Betty was close to impossible to beat. were homemade and The bows were enormous and fluffy, covering the box up the best we could to completely. They were so beautiful I would always think and usually say, "Do I have to open it? Could I just keep it to admire?"

Now, you know the wrapping and bows had to be special for people to forsake the department stores and boutiques to go en mass and buy at a drug store. Yes, it is an independent drug store, and, yes, it has a lovely gift department, but usually people want to go more upscale to buy a special gift.

One day I was shopping at a local department

store for a wedding gift. I picked out the china, took it to the register and said, as I had always said in the past, "Would you wrap this please?"

"We don't wrap here any longer," she replied, referring to the china department. "If you want it wrapped, you have to take it to the office and all they have is a standard plain wrap."

That meant: Ugly paper with the store's name monogrammed on it.

I smiled and handed the china back to her. "No, thank you. I want a pretty package."

I left, took myself to the drug store and bought a crystal candy dish, which Miss Betty proceeded to

wrap up beautifully. Though Mama always said, "Pretty is as pretty does" and made an emphatic point of it to her freckle-faced, somewhat plain little girl, she also believed in "appearances." Even when our clothes nothing fancy, we fixed look pretty. That's why I think a package should be pretty.

My sister Louise makes gorgeous bows. I've seen her make bows that were two feet wide. When pressed into action, I can make them, too.

It's all in the wrist, you know - at least on one hand. With the other, it comes down to how long you can pinch the ribbon between the forefinger and thumb as you're twirling with the other. And you cannot be stingy with the ribbon if you're to make a truly stellar bow. This is the hard part for me, being a frugal Scotch-Irish. I want to cut corners a bit.

One day, Miss Betty was wrapping a package for me and I said, "You make such gorgeous bows." She beamed. "Is there a secret to it?"

"Why no!" she exclaimed. "It's the easiest thing in the world. Let me show you." She walked to the rolls of paper. "First, you pick the wrap. Then you pick a colorful bow to go with it." She looked at all the spools and decided on a bright Kelly green to complement the blue wrap. "Now, you have to get a lot of ribbon. That's what makes a pretty bow." She yanked off several yards then she proceeded to make a bow in a way I had never seen. She folded the ribbon back and forth - no wrist action required - making the fold about seven inches long. When she finished, she cut a notch on either side in the middle of the bow. She tied floral wire there then spread out the bow.

"See how easy!" What an angel. Then and now.

Ronda Rich is a Southern humorist, storyteller and bestselling author. Her latest book, "There's a Better Day A-Comin'," is available at rondarich.com, where you also can sign up for her weekly news-

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ters to Santa

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