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Enjoy A Day of Thanks

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THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

THURSDAY
Nov. 27, 1997
Vol. 49 No. 179
16 Pages 50¢

Home Of Kathy Scott

Thankful for 5; thankful *not* to have 7

Counting their blessings on a special holiday...

See Page 7

By Brent Taylor

As news came out of Des Moines, Iowa last week of the birth of the McCaughey septuplets, people began to ask, "Can you imagine seven babies? If anybody can, you'd be the ones."

Frankly, we can't imagine seven. We have our hands full with just five.

Another question: "How do the McCaugheys feel?" No one knows for sure except the parents, Bobbi and Kenny McCaughey. We can only guess that they have similar feelings to the ones Deshonna and I experienced.

There came a point in our pregnancy where we stopped thinking of naturally losing a baby or two by miscarriage and began wanting more than anything to bring all of our babies home.

Yes, it would be hard work and a lot of sleepless nights, but God gave us these babies because He knew we could handle them. We held to that belief even if at times we wondered how we could do it.

Judging by TV reports and newspaper articles, we've concluded that the McCaugheys think much the same way.

With high-risk pregnancies, you cannot ever be fully comfortable that you will have a successful outcome. You shoot for Week 28 in the pregnancy, because that is the point where the survival rate of infants hits 90 to 95 percent. Any time over that is a bonus. We, like the McCaugheys, made it to 30 weeks.

The McCaugheys were able to schedule their delivery. We were not. Ours was more of an emergency situation where our thoughts shifted from concern for the babies to concern for Mom. As you go to the delivery room, you are hoping and praying for a successful outcome. The McCaugheys had 40 people involved with the delivery...we had "only" 25. Part of the reason was because the septuplets were moved from one building to another. Our quints were moved to the adjoining Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) at St. Mary Hospital in Lubbock.

After the delivery, I had a feeling of nervous excitement. Our babies were all doing OK; but the first 24 to 48 hours are the most critical. I made several trips into NICU, keeping a constant check on the kids.

The babies were so small, but they were alive and doing very well. The McCaugheys' smallest, Joel, was almost twice as big as our smallest, Aleksi. Joel was 2 pounds, 5 ounces; Aleksi was 1 pound, 3 ounces.

Another question: "When will the babies go home?" Even a week after their birth, there is no way anyone can say for sure. We were first told we might get two by Thanksgiving, two by Christmas and maybe Aleksi would be our "Valentine." Remember, our quints were born Sept. 21.

As it turned out, we had four home by the middle of November and Aleksi was home for Christmas. One thing is for sure, the doctors taking care of the McCaughey septuplets will not let anyone go home until they are 110 percent comfortable with the babies' condition.

Compared to the McCaugheys, our media coverage was light. We got more than our share from the area and did appear on CBS This Morning, but we did not go international as they did.

Handling the media is likely to be a major headache for the McCaugheys. After all, there is only one living set of septuplets and our quints were the 44th living set in the United States. Old hat.

Kenny McCaughey made a statement similiar to one I made concerning the media: "I don't want this to turn into a circus. This is my family and we would like to be treated as any other family." That is certainly a nice attitude and one that we share, but it just doesn't happen.

Anywhere we go, we are looked at and must field questions. There have even been times when Deshonna and I are out by ourselves with none of the kids and still get recognized.

Advice we can give the McCaugheys: Don't be afraid to try different ways of taking care of the babies. Parent by trial and error. The best thing is to find out what works best for you. Remember, you are the only ones with seven; there isn't a manual. You will know what is best.

The only way we have been able to cope is with help from friends, family, and volunteers. I get the feeling the McCaugheys are going to have help from those sources, too.

With "supertwins" — a term used to describe triplets, quads, quints, sextuplets and now septuplets — you basically live day-to-day. You can make long-term plans — just accept that they may have to be changed or canceled altogether.

The McCaugheys have really been blessed, much as we have. Families who are given multiples are generally people who want and love kids. We may not be able to provide everything that the world thinks we need, but our kids will be loved.

Do I want seven kids at one time? No, but I'm thankful for just five.



Taylor-made blessing...

At a time to be thankful, family often comes to mind first. That's the case with the Taylor family — Brent, Deshonna and Joshua, center, and from left to right, quints Jacob, Zachary, Jonah, Kenedy and Aleksi. (Contributed Photo)

THE SDN COLUMN

By Roy McQueen

The feller on Deep Creek says, "Happy Thanksgiving."

A few little-known Thanksgiving facts:

--Actually, the main dish at the Plymouth meal was probably lobster. Cape Cod Bay was swimming with lobsters that weighed up to 25 pounds.

--The Pilgrims arrived on the Mayflower with several coops of turkeys on hand. Little did they know that the woods around Plymouth was filled with wild turkeys.

--The Indians already knew about the big birds because they had been domesticated by the Aztecs of Mexico.

--The turkey name, both bird and nation, is derived from the Byzantine word "tourkoi" meaning strong. The male is the tom, the female the hen and the young is a poult.

--Only the male bird goes "gobble, gobble, gobble." The female turkey makes a clicking sound.

--By as early as 1873, the turkey had an image problem. A turkey had come to mean somone who could be easily duped or caught.

--The negative connotation was expanded in 1947 when Howard Hughes' giant wooden airplane prompted the remark: "That bird is a turkey, it just won't fly."

--Disrespect for the intelligence of the turkey may date back to the Indians who considered the bird stupid and cowardly. Some avoided the meat for fear of acquiring those characteristics. So, the meat was offered to the new arrivals. A brother-in-law may have been on the Mayflower.

--Ben Franklin thought the birds were smart and wished the Turkey, not the bald eagle, should be the symbol of the court. He said the bald eagle had a bad moral reputation, "like men who make a living by sharpening and robbing."

--But most consider turkeys dim-witted, responding to storms by looking up at the rain, opening their mouths and drowning. When frightened, they stampede and trample each other.

--For this reason, there are no sports teams named Turkeys. But there is one — in Texas — which is a candidate for a name change — or at least its owner.

'Pardoned' turkey sent home

Thanksgiving tradition continues at White House

WASHINGTON (AP) — Beating the holiday odds, one lucky Thanksgiving turkey won a presidential pardon Wednesday. He will be retired, not stuffed.

The white-feathered 60-pounder is the 50th bird in as many years to be spared in a tradition dating to President Harry S Truman.

The turkey will be retired to a Virginia farm to "bask in the sun, collect his hard-earned pension and enjoy his golden years," President Clinton said.

"That's one less turkey in Washington," he added, grinning.

Unlike some White House turkeys past, the 1997 turkey remained quiet and calm as first the president, then dozens of school kids, stroked its feathers.

The reprieved bird, from the Tarheel Turkey Hatchery in Raeford, N.C. was chosen for his starring Thanksgiving role from a flock of 2,000. He was presented at the White house by the National Turkey Federation.

Although Truman got the White House into the turkey pardoning business in 1947, Clinton recalled that the first instance of a reprieved turkey occurred 83 years earlier when President Lincoln heeded the pleas of his son, Tad, and spared the life of a beloved turkey named Jack.

Later in the day Clinton, his arms around his wife, first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton, and their daughter, Chelsea, home from Stanford, took off by helicopter for Camp David, the presidential retreat in the mountains of western Maryland.

Mrs. Clinton told reporters earlier that Thanksgiving dinner will be traditional with stuffing, mashed potatoes, pumpkin, mincemeat pie and some other turkey.

She recited the Thanksgiving menu while the White House began preparations for an elegant Christmas.

As carolers sang, a horse-drawn wagon rolled up the south drive of the White House to deliver an 18-foot North Carolina Fraser Fir that will stand at the center of the Blue Room during the holiday season.

"The turkey's been pardoned and the tree has arrived," Mrs. Clinton said.

An American bald eagle named "Challenger" later tried to upstage the turkey.

The eagle and his handler, Al Cecere, of Pigeon Forge, Tenn., were at the White House for the making of a video called "The President's Tree," a story of White House Christmas trees through the years.

The eagle will be an on-screen narrator, telling the story with an assist from an off-screen human voice.

"This bird won over the turkey to be the national bird," Cecere said as a crowd gathered to snap photos of the eagle and ask questions.

"But he's not here to rub it in that the turkey is not the national bird," he said.

Holiday lights to be turned on

Snyder's traditional holiday lighting ceremony will be at 6 p.m. Friday, with Santa Claus on hand to help do the honors.

Santa Claus will arrive aboard a firetruck and will greet boys and girls at the gazebo from 6 until 7:30.

In the event of inclimate weather, the ceremony will not be held, said Donna Fowler, chamber of commerce executive director.

The lighting ceremony starts off a series of Christmas season activities.

Among them is the annual Western Texas College Christmas tree lighting ceremony, set for Monday in the central courtyard on campus. The 7 p.m. ceremony will feature music by Cindy Nix. Hot chocolate and cookies will be served.

Next Thursday is the last day to enter the window decorating contest for chamber member businesses. Entries can be made by calling the chamber. Five prices of $25 each will be awarded.

Judging will be held next Friday.

The following day, Dec. 6, is the date of the annual Lighted Christmas Parade. Chamber officials are asking groups and individuals who plan on entering a float to call 573-3558 before the close of business Wednesday.

Prizes will be awarded for most unique and best use of lights.

On Sunday, Dec. 7, Historic Scurry County Inc. and the Scurry County Historical Commission sponsor their holiday tour of homes from 2-5 p.m. Dec. 7. Tickets are $10 and are available at Eddie's Pharmacy, Countryplace and Bar H Bar Family Outfitters.

Snyder Gold Coats is sponsoring a Christmas residential lighting contest on Dec. 13.

ASK US

Q—When will the Snyder Daily News begin accepting Santa Letters to publish in its Christmas edition?

A—Immediately. Mail them to SDN, P.O. Box 949, Snyder 79550.

FORECAST - ALMANAC

Area Forecast: Remainder of Thanksgiving weekend, mostly cloudy with a chance of thunderstorms Friday, slight chance of rain Saturday. Partly cloudy Sunday. Lows near 50 Friday cooling to the 30s by Sunday. Highs 55-65.

Colton West
Rain chance

Sunset:
5:41 p.m.
Sunrise:
7:23 a.m.
Of 330 days in 1997, the sun has shone 315 days in Snyder.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

In all things give thanks.

I Thess. 5:18

Christmas project becomes thriving business

LUFKIN — Marill Gerth is rolling in dough -- thick, brown, sticky, spicy gingerbread dough.

The Lufkin woman has turned a family Christmas project into a thriving business where the oven never cools down.

Working at a pace that would send Santa's elves into a tailspin, employees at Gingerbread Delights by Marill were preparing enough 10-inch gingerbread boy and girl cookies to populate a city.

And like the gingerbread man in the familiar children's story, these gingerbread creations will run away to the shelves of Neiman Marcus, Dillard's, Nordstrom's and other department stores to add to the enchantment of Christmas in homes across the country.

"It started in Dallas in 1981, with a gingerbread house on the mini-page of the newspaper. We had always done a birthday cake for Jesus and wanted to make a gingerbread house," Mrs. Gerth said. "I really did start in my kitchen with my family."

The first venture was successful and then came houses made for Girl Scout troops, Boy Scout troops, friends and family.

In 1983 the Gerths moved to Lufkin and she dreamed of starting her own gingerbread house business while working as a dental hygienist at the Lufkin State School.

"I've always known from the first I wanted to do gingerbread houses," she said. "There's no right or wrong. You can do it any way you want and if you think you made a mistake you can wipe it off and start over."

Mrs. Gerth said she would buy gingerbread house kits on the market and knew she could make a better product.

And being a Texan, and more specifically a Dallas, Texan, she dreamed of marketing her gingerbread houses to Neiman-Marcus.

"I called (Neiman's) and said 'I have something I really want to show you." she said.

The woman at Neiman's said just send us one, Mrs. Gerth said.

"Well, I just decided I would make one and take it to them and then they would have to see me. They just said leave it and we will call you. But that didn't dampen my spirits," she said.

She left the kit at Neiman's and came back to Lufkin to wait for a call.

Neiman's did call, but they wanted the houses assembled. Mrs. Gerth said she wasn't sure she could ship the finished product and asked for a summer to work on the shipping problem.

The summer of 1995, gingerbread houses left Lufkin and arrived in Dallas with varying problems.

They would call and say the icing fell off or the roof was broken, she said.

Finally, using double boxing, the product arrived in Dallas safe and sound and Gingerbread Delights by Marill had it's first contract.

Not only for the houses, they also wanted a line of cookies, she said.

Mrs. Gerth and her elves, otherwise known as family, friends and friends of friends, started mixing and baking to fill Neiman's order. Working out of borrowed space after regular hours in a local bakery and in her own home they managed to meet the order of the famous department store.

This year the company has moved out of borrowed space to it's own building furnished with equipment purchased from a salvage company.

Customers have also expanded and the cookies are featured in Dillard's Christmas catalog and are marketed through Gourmet Food Products. Locally, Gingerbread Delight cookies are sold at "The Very Thing" and in Nacogdoches at "The Cottage" and "Coffee with Style at Schmidt's."

On a recent day workers were mixing, baking, icing, packing and loading boxes while a delivery truck waited in the drive. And the smell of freshly-baked gingerbread filled the air.

All around, stacked on top of one another and on stainless steel cooling racks were silver cookie sheets filled with gingerbread cookies in the shape of boys, girls, snowflakes, Santas, angels and snowmen. There was a "morgue" filled with pieces of cookies that didn't make it and a "hospital" tray filled with cookies that needed to be re-decorated.

In the tiny office at Gingerbread Delights a subdivision of gingerbread houses filled a table top. The Texas house had a Texas-shaped door while the traditional Christmas house featured a door shaped like a Christmas tree. There was also a Black Forest Chalet, Noah's Ark, complete with animals and Mr. and Mrs. Noah and a nativity. All styles were fringed with white icing and decorated with assorted candies.

"They are completely eatable or you can save them from year to year," she said.

"This is an extremely busy time. The thing that is so critical is that we must meet the deadline or the whole order is lost," she said. "It calls for many hours and lots of planning. My business expertise is not the best but I surround myself with people who know more than I do."

Workers at Gingerbread Delights include friends and friends of friends who come in to deliver lunch and end up staying until an order is filled.

Jarrell residents reflect on thankfulness

DALLAS (AP) — The first holiday season since a devastating tornado struck the city of Jarrell is providing a moment of reflection for residents.

Thanksgiving falls on the six-month anniversary of the day when twisters flattened parts of Jarrell, killing 27 people.

Last week, 300 people jammed the school cafeteria for what was billed as "The First Thanksgiving Dinner" in the Interstate 35 community of commuters, farmers and ranchers.

Thanking the thousands of churches, charitable organizations and individuals who spent their time and money to help a shattered Texas town was the goal.

"We've come a long way because we've been helped by so many people," said Dianne Johns, chairwoman of the Jarrell Recovery Board, which collected donations for the needy. "We are trying to recognize them."

Sylvia Gaswint brought framed photographs of her daughter, Bernice Gower, and grandson, Brian Gower. The tornado killed them both.

She tearfully told a story of how her daughter and grandson died in each other's arms.

"Their bodies were intact," she said. "And that was something to be thankful for, too."

Since the disaster, insurance and charity have financed new homes, put new trees in the yards and paid for new furniture.

"What do I have to be thankful for? I'd rather not answer that question," said John Johnson, the Jarrell High School principal. "I've got lots to be thankful for, and many others around here don't."

Six months ago, Johnson helped identify the dead as they were brought to the volunteer fire station. The job took three days. Nine of those killed had been his students.

Johnson said he would rather think about the high school's Lady Cougars, who placed second in last weekend's state 2A University Interscholastic League volleyball tournament in Austin.

Berry's World



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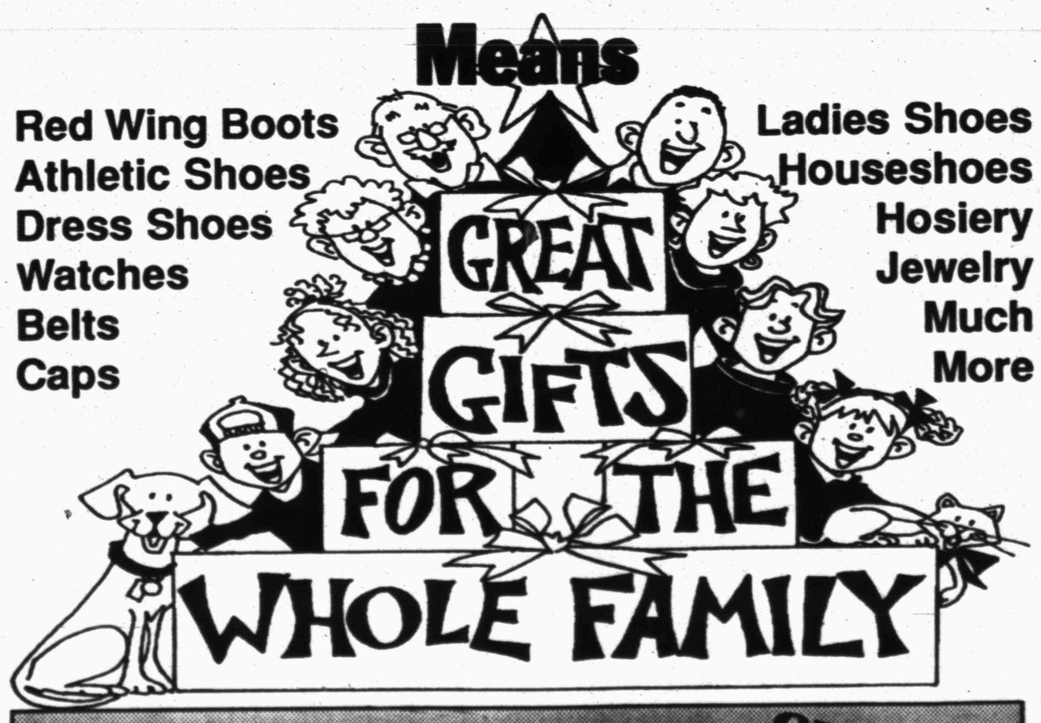
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Bridge By Phillip Alder

	North 11-27-97 ♠ K 10 9 8 2 ♥ K Q 10 2 ♦ J 7 6 ♣ A	
West ♠ 7 5 3 ♥ 7 4 ♦ 10 9 5 ♣ 10 9 7 4 3		East ♠ J 6 4 ♥ J 9 8 6 5 ♦ A Q 8 3 ♣ 2
	South ♠ A Q ♥ A 3 ♦ K 4 2 ♣ K Q J 8 6 5	

Vulnerable: Neither
Dealer: North

South	West	North	East
		1 ♠	Pass
2 ♣	Pass	2 ♥	Pass
4 NT	Pass	5 ♦	Pass
6 NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: ♦ 10

Not just for tournament players

By Phillip Alder

Even if you don't play in duplicate tournaments or at your local club (if not, why not?), you will get something from membership in the American Contract Bridge League.

Along with getting a better insight into the world of bridge, you will also receive a monthly magazine. As I write, it is in an unappealing small-page format with about 150 pages. However, rumors are rife that it will turn to a large-page format — not a moment too soon! If nothing else, this will make the publication more appealing to non-bridge advertisers.

There are articles for all levels of players. Here is a deal from Roselyn Teukolsky. How would you plan the play in six no-trump? West leads the diamond 10. East wins with the ace and returns the three.

You have 11 top tricks: three spades, three hearts, one diamond (given trick one) and four clubs. True, with this layout, you could run East's diamond return to dummy's jack, but that isn't the right play. (Yes, perhaps East should have played low at trick one, although it costs an overtrick here.) Instead, start by testing spades. Win with the diamond king, unblock your two spade honors, play a club to dummy's ace, and cash the spade king. Has the spade jack dropped? If so, claim. If not, play a heart to your ace and try to run the clubs. If still unlucky, you will have to guess what to do in the endgame.

To ask for more details, or to become an ACBL member, call (800) 264-2743; (800) 264-8786 from Canada.

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ADVISOR MEMBER HONORED — Rosalinda Tovar, left, received a plaque from Dee Wilson, service area director for Noah Project-West, as president Cliff Smith looks on. Tovar served as vice president from 1994 to 1997 and directed fundraising activities. (Staff Photo by Jo Ann Nunley)

Best dressed turkey contest cancelled

WARREN, Conn. (AP) — There will be no Greta Gobble, Tom Turkey Cruise or Arnold "The Turkey-Nator" Schwarzenegger competing for the best-dressed award this Thanksgiving.

The Turkey Olympics, an annual event featuring high jumps and nicest-legs contests, has been canceled amid persistent protests from animal rights activists.

Each year for the past 19 years, The Inn on Lake Waramaug hosted the event on its front lawn. Up to 1,000 people would watch two dozen turkeys compete in athletic events and beauty contests. Last year, a turkey wearing a fur coat and pearls won the best-dressed contest as "Greta Gobble," a feathered lookalike for the elusive 1930s screen siren.

The gobbling and strutting has come to an end. Inn owners said animal rights protests posed safety problems. Four protesters were arrested last year.

Community Calendar

THURSDAY

Al-Anon meeting (smoke free), noon to 1 p.m., brown bag. Park Club in Winston Park. For information call 573-4203 or 573-5525.

Bilingual AA meeting; Park Club in Winston Park, 37th & Ave. M; 8 p.m.

New Horizons Alcoholics Anonymous; Park Club Addition in Winston Park; for information call 863-2349 or 573-8626; 8 p.m.

FRIDAY

Free blood pressure clinics; Senior Citizens Center, 9:30 to 11 a.m.

Blood pressures will be taken at Cogdell Hospital Home Health Services, 1800 Cogdell Blvd. Suite B; 1-2 p.m.

ABCL Open Pairs Duplicate Bridge; Snyder Country Club; 1:30 p.m.

Cornelius-Dodson House; open by appointments; 573-9742 or 573-2763.

NA Anonymous; Snyder Park Club; for information call 573-3667, 573-1579 or 573-0949; 6 p.m.

Scurry County Alcoholics Anonymous; Park Club in Winston Park; for information call 573-8626, 573-9458 or 573-8929; 8 p.m., open meeting (last Friday of the month is the birthday meeting, pot luck at 7 p.m.).

Al-Anon; Park Club in Winston Park, 37th & Ave. M; for information call 573-3956 or 573-2101; 8 p.m.

SATURDAY

People Without Partners; Inadale Community Center; games of 42 and dominos; 6:30 p.m.

Narcotics Anonymous; Park Club in Winston Park; for more information call 573-2101, 573-0949, 573-3667 or 573-1579; 7 p.m.

SUNDAY

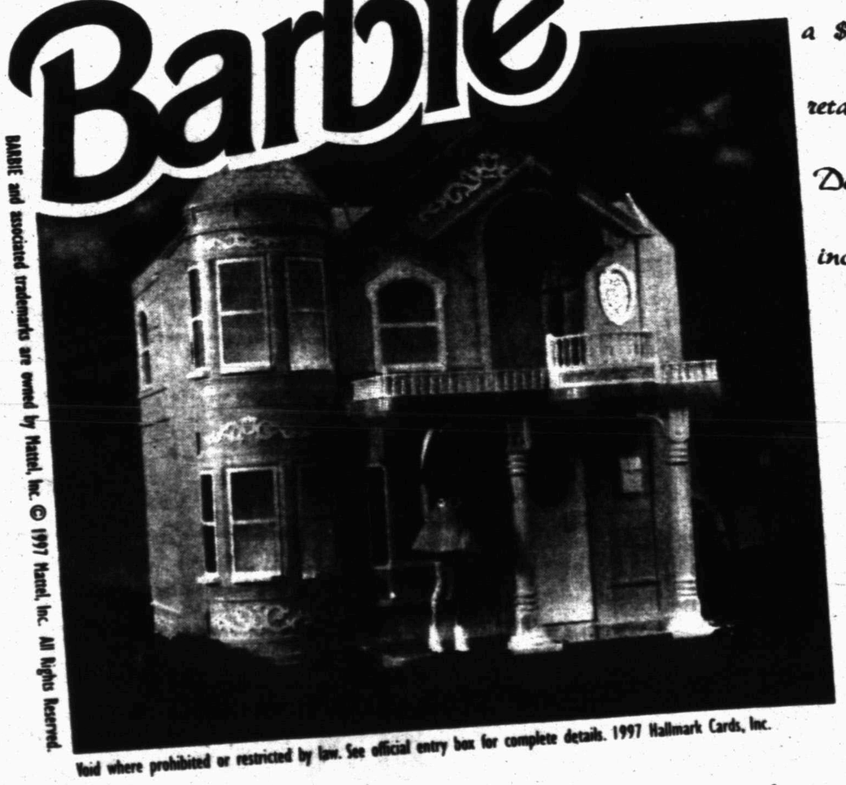
Scurry County Alcoholics Anonymous; Park Club in Winston Park; for information call 863-2349; 10 a.m.

ABCL Open Pairs Duplicate Bridge; Snyder Country Club; 1:30 p.m.



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NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Wayne Gretzky's org.
4 Collar area
8 Animal parks
12 Roman bronze
13 Type of code
14 TV antenna type
15 TV's Peeples
16 A lot
17 French stoneware
18 Most like Picasso
20 Basketball's Malone
21 Chemical ending
22 Tennis equipment
23 Organism
26 Suffer the loss of a loved one
30 Request
31 Cattle enclosure
33 Unused
34 Actor Mineo
35 Actor Nick —
36 Society-page word
37 Radioactive element
39 Atlas pages
40 Had food
41 Sgt., e.g.
43 Door handles
46 Absence of noise
50 Roman tyrant
51 Type of pasta
52 — Lingus (airline)
53 At any time
54 One of the Baldwins
55 Calif. summer time
56 Skinny fishes
57 Type of meat
58 Wide shoe size

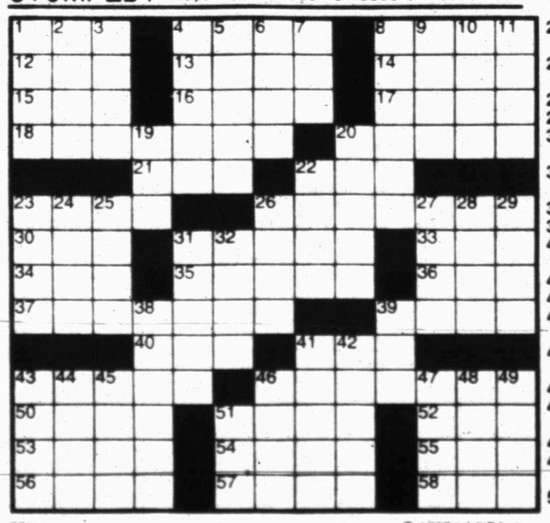
DOWN

1 Zola heroine
2 Inheritor
3 Future LL.Bs.' exam
4 Jack and Jill part
5 Use a pencil
6 Penny
7 Actress Francis
8 Primary cell
9 Rowers' needs
10 S-shaped molding
11 Hissing sound
19 Author Fleming
20 Actress Oberon
22 Like Felix Unger
23 Actress Pitts
24 Gravel ridges
25 South of Kans.
26 Soothing ointment
27 — and the King of Siam
28 Prexy's asst.
29 Rams' mates
31 Makes a sweater
32 Dissipated man
38 Actor Jim —
39 A Stooge
41 Fertilizer ingredient
42 Snap
43 Type of jerk?
44 Granular snow
45 Baseball's Hershiser
46 Fodder tower
47 Back of the neck
48 Grant
49 Art deco illustrator
51 Destroy

Answer to Previous Puzzle

X	M	A	S				Y	E	L	P		
I	M	M	U	R	E		V	E	N	A	L	
I	C	E	B	O	X		I	S	O	B	A	R
			S	T	A	L	L		S	A	T	E
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Good advice given for holiday season

WASHINGTON (AP) — Christmas is coming and the government wants you to be on your best behavior, so good advice is flowing from the Transportation Department, the post office, and the Federal Aviation Administration.

The Postal Service wants your cards and letters to arrive safely and the other two agencies want you to do the same.

"The best defense in a motor vehicle crash is a seat belt," Transportation Secretary Rodney Slater said Tuesday at a pre-Thanksgiving event sponsored by the Air Bag Safety Campaign.

The National Safety Council, sponsor of the campaign, estimated that 124 people will be killed over the Thanksgiving weekend because they failed to fasten their seat belts.

The post office, meanwhile, said it is hiring 40,000 temporary workers to help handle the mail increase, along with 100 added airplanes and 16 million more sacks and trays for mail.

A few problems have been reported in finding enough new workers, notably in Texas and Ohio, but officials said that in general enough new staffers have been found.

Americans are expected to send more than 5 billion cards and letters in December, the agency said. It has established a special section on its World Wide Web site — www.usps.gov — to assist mailers.

Among the advice is the usual: Mail early and use complete addresses and return addresses, preferably typed.

The department urges checking ZIP codes, using tape designed for shipping and cushioning gifts in Styrofoam, newspaper or unbuttered popcorn.

Packages that weigh more than a pound must be taken to the post office for mailing because of security regulations.

Speaking of security, the FAA points out that the extra holiday crowd will tax airport security screening systems. The FAA's suggestions to avoid delays:

—Arrive early. Large holiday crowds coupled with security measures may increase the time needed to check in.

—Parking lots may be full, so consider using public transportation or having a friend drop you off. If driving, add extra time to your schedule.

—Don't leave your car unattended in front of the terminal. At some airports, it may be towed.

—Have your photo identification handy; you will be asked to show it.

—Put your name on your bags and be prepared to answer questions about who packed them and whether you left them unattended.

—Both carry-on and checked bags are subject to being hand-searched, so it's a good idea to leave gifts unwrapped until after you reach your destination. If airline security personnel cannot determine by X-ray the contents of a package, they can and will open it.

—Do not joke about having a bomb or firearm in your possession. Penalties can be severe, possibly prison time or fines.

—Watch your luggage. Keep your eyes open for unattended packages and baggage, and report them to authorities. Don't accept packages from strangers.

Three more babies breathing on own

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP) — Three more little McCaugheys were breathing on their own Wednesday as the history-making septuplets turned 1 week old.

Joel, Brandon and Kelsey were removed from ventilators that assisted their breathing and their conditions were upgraded from serious to fair condition, a hospital statement said. At 2 pounds, 5 ounces, Kelsey was the smallest of the four boys and three girls born one week ago Wednesday to Bobbi and Kenny McCaughey.

The three join Kenneth, the largest of the seven, who was taken off a ventilator Friday, and Natalie Sue, who began breathing on her own Tuesday.

Joel had already been off the ventilator once: He was able to breath on his own for a few hours Sunday before he grew tired and was placed back on it.

Natalie, Joel, and Kelsey also began taking feedings by mouth, which neonatologist Dr. Robert Shaw had said is the next milestone after being taken off a ventilator.

"That's a new test for them," Shaw, the neonatologist in charge of the babies' care at Blank Children's Hospital, had said earlier this week.

Kenneth had been eating for a few days.

Alexis and Nathan remain in serious condition, which doctors say is normal for babies their age and size.

The normally petite Mrs. McCaughey measured 55 inches around when she gave birth at 30 weeks and four days into her pregnancy. That's twice the normal for a full term of 40 weeks — and nearly as big around as she is tall.

When she was sitting, her swollen belly nearly reached her knees.

"I just started growing so much faster — I could feel it," Mrs. McCaughey said on a "Dateline NBC" segment that aired Tuesday night. "It was scary, you know, watching the stretch marks go ever so higher and wider and just thinking, how much longer can this body keep going?"

Bullard's Computer Solutions, Inc. offers holiday specials

"We have some great package deals for the holiday season," said Drew Bullard, president of Computer Solutions. "For example, we have a complete Pentium II level system including printer and software for $1495, and we will deliver it to your house and set it up. Also, we now have a limited supply of used computers for sale starting at $325."

"If you buy a system from us between Thanksgiving and Christmas we will give you the first month of Internet service free," Bullard added.

Bullard's is a local Internet provider as well as a full service computer store. They have over 300 Internet users and continue to grow at a steady pace.

"What people often don't realize," said Bullard, "is that we are very competitive on our prices and are here locally to keep your computer running and solve your problems. This is very important in the world of computers."

BCSI sells new computers, upgrades and repairs old ones, sets up networks, and answers computer related questions. If you have any computer needs, Computer Solutions can be reached at 573-4801 or you can come by their store located at 3405 College Avenue across from the Kwik Kar Lube & Tune. Paid Advertisement

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NOV 27 1997

Texas rancher diversifies by raising turkeys

BULKHOLTS — Turkey talk in Texas isn't cheap. In fact, it's a $180-million business that, while putting turkeys on the dinner table for Texans on Thanksgiving Day and throughout the year, also is diversifying the family farm for an area producer.

"I made the decision to get into the business because of diversification, to keep the family farm going," said Darrell Glaser, who raises brooder toms for Waco's Plantation Foods.

The Glaser farm northwest of Cameron near Buckholts was mainly a cattle and row crop operation prior to its venture into the turkey business.

High feed prices and increased operation costs forced Glaser to take a hard look four years ago at the future of his livelihood.

"It just got to a point that there was no way to make it like it was," said the 30-year-old Texas A&M University graduate, who holds a master's degree in nutrition.

"This way," he said, "we will be able to stay in both businesses. The cattle operation benefits because of the turkey litter, which we use to fertilize our pastures."

Since 1995, the number of turkeys in Texas has soared to more than 8 million and receipts have hit the $180-million mark, according to the state Comptroller's office. With turkey meat popularity on the rise, sales will continue to increase going into the holiday food shopping season.

Katie Harris, a family and consumer sciences Extension agent, said the holiday shopping season brings strong competition among grocery stores, which will offer turkeys at low prices.

"It's a very competitive time of year when everybody tries to get you into their store," Harris said. "When you've got 20 people coming over for dinner, your going to spend a fair amount of change in that store."

Stores have been heavily stocking traditional holiday food items that include everything from sweet potatoes to cranberry sauce. But when people sit down and eat a slice of turkey breast or a piece of whole Turkey Thursday, few may think of where it came from.

At the Glaser's farm, four turkey houses sit on 30 acres, with each house holding 29,000 to 30,000 birds that are three weeks old. After the birds become five to six weeks of age, they are moved to a grow-out house. From there, they are sent to slaughter, where most are breasted and the meat is processed and packaged.

A few of the turkeys are processed whole, ready to be prepared for the dinner table.

The Glaser turkey operation will run 700,000 turkeys through its houses in a year. Profits are in the neighborhood of $20,000 to $30,000 per farm, depending on how efficiently it is run.

"We're real busy when we are putting the baby birds in the first couple of weeks," Glaser said. "It's quite a bit different from chickens. They pile up real easy. For a period of three weeks, it's pretty hectic.

"You have to really pour the feed on and try to get them used to eating. They are going through a really stressful period there, and it takes them a while to get used to everything."

The turkey operation mirrors Bryan's Sanderson Farms, with a network of contract growers. Just like raising chickens for slaughter, Glaser's turkey operation can be confining.

"It's a seven-day-a-week job," Glaser said. "But once you get past that first three weeks, it's not that much of a full-time job. That's why it works so well with other farming operations."

When the houses are cleaned out, Glaser distributes the fertilizer on his pastures to improve grazing for the family's 150-head cattle operation.

"The benefit is hard to measure in dollars and cents, but I know we spent a bunch in fertilizer prior to the turkey houses," he said. "We get a lot of benefits from the manure, like calcium, iron, magnesium ... some of things that you don't necessarily get from fertilizer."

The business has been good for the Glasers. Darrell's mother, Jeanette, worked for the Buckholts school district to support her two children, who were in college before they started their turkey operation.

"I had to take a job in town to support the kids in college and hold onto the farm," she said.

After graduation from A&M, Darrell returned home and was the first in the area to enter the turkey business. After things progressed well, he asked his mother if she would help him if he built two more houses.

"I quit my job and have enjoyed it ever since," she said.

"We both like to deer hunt and play golf, so when one of us wants to get away for a while, there's always either Darrell or myself here looking after things. I don't regret it at all."

Hot springs to open again

TAOS, N.M. (AP) — A once-popular hot springs where Taos-area kids learned to swim and families had picnics could open again after being closed to the public for 30 years.

Last week, the Taos Land Trust bought the Ponce de Leon Hot Springs and surrounding 43 acres in Llano Quemado, south of Taos, for about $500,000 from a group of private investors.

Trust president Ham Brown said it plans to restore the property, then return it to public use for the first time since the mid to late 1960s.

The springs will remain closed until the trust finds a partner to restore them and run the park, which Brown expects to take at least a year.

At one time, the property had three soaking pools, another where people washed clothes and an Olympic-size concrete pool.

The trust bought the hot springs after a donor who swam there 50 years ago volunteered the money so the springs could become public again. The donor wanted to remain anonymous.

"The donor wants the children in the Taos area again to have the experience of picnicking, swimming and playing at this park," Brown said.

From a natural pool 20 feet wide, 98- to 103-degree waters cascade down three rectangular concrete soaking pools, some also fed by smaller springs.

Youngsters are told: Stay in school

ROSWELL, N.M. (AP) — Real-life "Stand and Deliver" teacher Jaime Escalante went on the road to exhort New Mexico youngsters to stay in school.

"You don't waste time when you are in school," Escalante told math students at University High School on Tuesday. "The best thing you can do is get an education — you need it."

Escalante, who helped underachieving East Los Angeles students pass a demanding advanced-placement calculus test, was portrayed by actor Edward James Olmos in the 1988 movie "Stand and Deliver."

Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.



Does toasting affect nutrition?

DEAR DR. GOTT: My family and I enjoy multigrain, enriched bread. Can toasting destroy the vitamins and minerals in it?

DEAR READER: Lightly toasting bread will not reduce its nutritional value or destroy the vitamins and minerals it contains. Over-toasting the bread, however, to the point of burning will lessen its healthful properties.

DEAR DR. GOTT: I'm 75 and my neck is stiff in the morning. To loosen it up, I roll my head around for a few minutes. This practice causes funny noises in my neck, like Rice Krispies. Should I stop doing this exercise?

DEAR READER: As the years pass, all of us develop arthritis of the spine and major joints. This type of arthritis, unlike the inflammatory types (rheumatoid and others), is simply due to normal wear and tear on joints, which do not heal particularly quickly as we age.

In order to protect these aging and weakening joints, nature increases their surface areas by forming calcium deposits around them. This is the reason why osteoarthritis is marked by swelling and thickening at the ends of the bones. In the spine — especially the neck — these shelves of calcium can rub together during motion, causing clicking and popping sensations that are completely harmless.

Keep your joints supple by exercising. Consider the crackling noises to be — let me be poetic — the music of old age. Should the snap, crackle and pop become uncomfortable, use light massage, heat and ibuprofen to reduce pain.

DEAR DR. GOTT: After a bone density test that showed severe osteoporosis, my doctor prescribed Fosamax. I have yet to start the medicine because I hate taking pills. What should I do?

DEAR READER: Take the Fosamax.

Osteoporosis is a chronic affliction, marked by progressive loss of calcium from the bones. Eventually, the bones become brittle and may fracture. This can lead to chronic pain and disability.

To date, Fosamax is the most effective antidote. It not only stops calcium loss, but it actually reverses the process and strengthens bones. I advise you to follow your doctor's instructions. Fosamax is expensive, but it is quite safe when taken according to the manufacturer's directions.

Remember that you also need about 1500 milligrams of supplemental calcium so that the Fosamax will work. Also, your doctor will probably choose to monitor your progress with annual bone-density tests.

Although the medicine, its unique schedule of administration and the nuisance of periodic testing are all expensive and annoying, the therapy is much cheaper than the cost of a fractured hip or spinal bone.

To give you more information, I am sending you a copy of my Health Report "Osteoporosis." Other readers who would like a copy should send $2 plus a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope to P.O. Box 2017, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156. Be sure to mention the title.

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Thanksgiving Blessings



Thanksgiving is an important occasion because it not only reminds us to count our blessings, but to recognize the importance of being good neighbors. And when neighbors work together, everyone prospers.

We're pleased to be able to pitch in and help our neighbors, and thank all of you for your trust and support. May your Thanksgiving holiday be rich in the blessings of family and friends, as you have blessed us with the gift of your friendship.

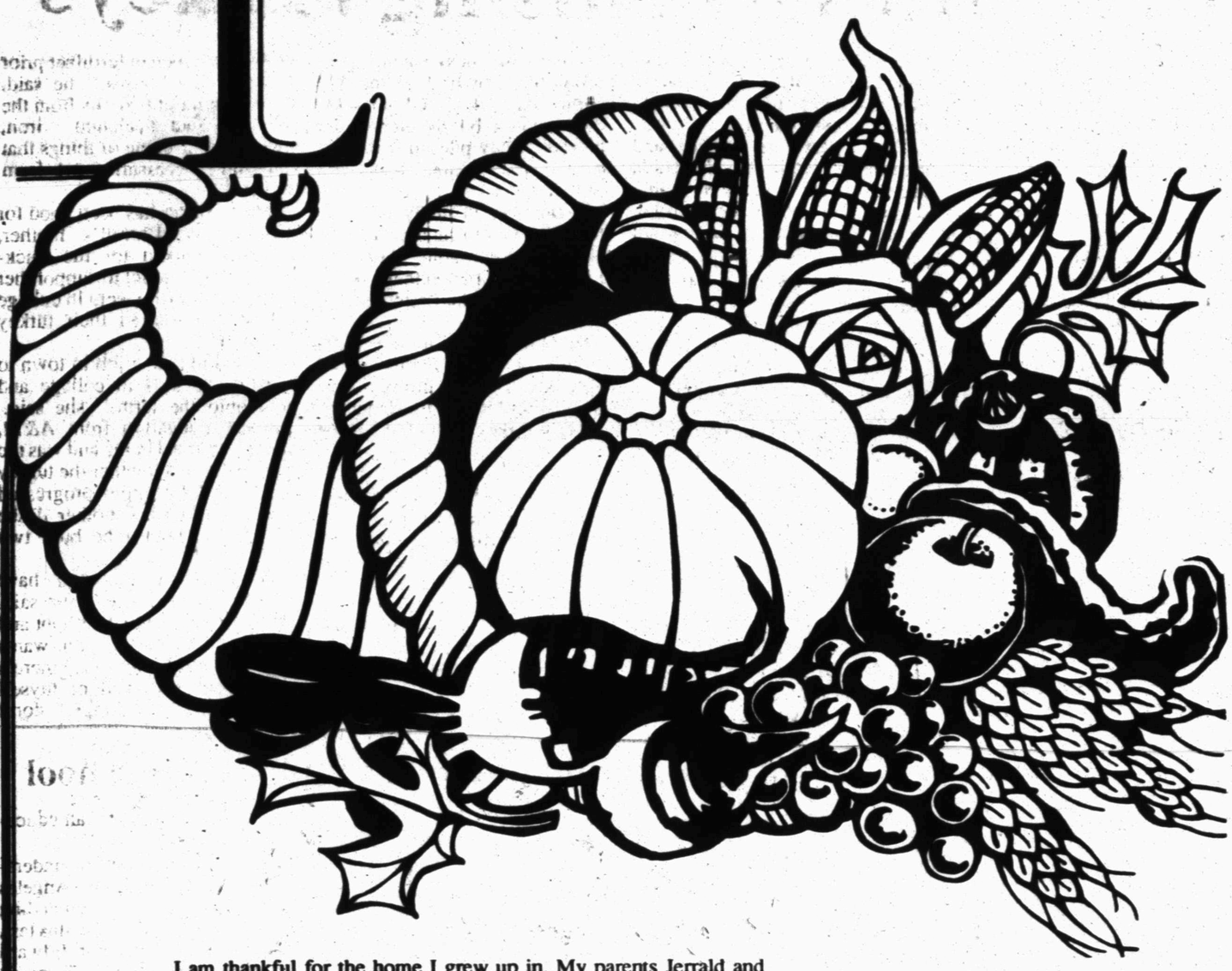
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Let Us Give Thanks



I am thankful for the home I grew up in. My parents Jerrald and Agnes Bowen lived their Christian testimony every day. They showed me that spouses should use words of love and encouragement with each other — not words of abuse or hatred.

They taught me to accept each day as a precious gift of God and not waste it because we don't know what the future holds. They taught me that everyone can use an extra hug.

They taught me to smile and to laugh often. As I say goodbye to my mother, this week, Thanksgiving takes on a new meaning for me. I am forever thankful for the legacy of love she leaves behind in the lives she touched on her journey through this world — especially in mine.
Beth Bowen

Thanksgiving is right around the corner and I am so thankful for the people that are in my life. I have a great family, that I get to see everyday.

The people I want to thank the most are my parents, Ira L. and Mildred Wilson. I am very proud to be their daughter. I was born in 1944 when World War II was going on. Most of the men went off to war and left the ladies to keep the home fires burning while they were away, fighting for our country.

We always had a nice home with a warm bed to sleep in and plenty of food to eat, clothes to wear and lots of love to go around. If we wanted for anything, we didn't know it. All our neighbors were just like we were, just happy to be alive and well.

The holidays were always something special. That meant family coming. We all had a great time eating and visiting with each other.

Christmas was very special, even though money was very tight, we always got a present and lots of food to eat. We were always so proud and grateful for the gifts we received.

We were taught to respect people and things.

My dad, Ira L. Wilson, is in heaven now; but he taught me so many things when I was growing up. I am so blessed that my mother, Mildred Wilson, is alive and lives here in Snyder. I get to see her everyday. She too has taught me a lot of things; and I'm still learning from her.

When I was young, I never realized just how smart my parents were, but as I grow older I see now, that they were pretty smart.

We were so happy with what we had, that we didn't have time to worry about what we didn't have. My parents taught me to have respect and love for everyone. I always knew my parents loved me and my sisters and brother. Family ties are so important, never forget where you come from.

My family was always there in good times and bad, to give me support. I treasure the time I had with my dad and I love the time I get to spend with my mother. It doesn't matter what you have or don't have as long as you have your family. Family is everything.

I am so thankful that God gave me a great husband, Kenneth, and two wonderful daughters, Gina and Leeann, and two loving sons-in-law, David and Paul. Of course, a special thanks for our four grandchildren, Heather, Lesa, Nicholas and Sabrina.

I am very proud to live in Snyder, where the people are friendly. I have a best friend, that I have known since I was a child; she is always there when I need her. Her name is Betty Elam. She is a wonderful person and very caring.

Holidays mean a lot of things to different people; but to me it means getting to see and spend time with your loved ones. That says it all.

Be thankful for all the blessings you have in your life. I hope you have a wonderful holiday.
Jan Pierce
Snyder

East Elementary students say Thanks...

I am thank full for the hospital for helping the old ones.
Chance Grantham

I am thankful for my parents. So I have someone to love me.
Love Jamie Putnam

I am thankful for Thankgiving because of my family getting togather.
Jeremy Reed

I am thankful for my parents. Our I would not be here today.
Anthony Duckworth

I am thankful of my dad for not diad on Thanksgiving and mom giving everone a happy Thanksgiving.
Kellie Rushing

I'm thankful for my grandma to be with us becaus she will give me some money.
Arnulfo Rios

I am tankful for my mom because she takes care of me and cooks for me and she is nice because she helps me a lot.
Veronica Castillo

I am thankful for all the teachers for helping use to learn things.
Wendy Reed

I am thankeful for my parents becase I love them very much and they whach over me.
Michelle Williams

I am thank for the fud and the clos and the teachers.
Travis Hill

I am thankful, for God cause he brouth us in this world.
From Nicholas Martinez

I am thankful that people made turkey because that is the best holiday and best turkey and the happy day of my life.
Vanessa Chavez

I am thankful for a feast because our family gets together and eat turkey. I am thankful for a family that takes care of me.
Elizabeth Dominguez,

I am thankful for my mom and brouyhers and dad. Becuse nice and helpful.
Salvador Guidos

Lord, I am so very thankful for my two loving parents who had me. For having the very best mother in the world, and for resolving almost all problems with my dad.

I want him to know how much his being in my life means, and how lost my life would be without "my best friend, my mom!"

I'm thankful for my niece, Chelsea, my nephews, Blayden and John. I am thankful for my loving, understanding, gorgeous husband, Ricky, and my two beautiful sweethearts, my daughters, Krista and Brittni.

I am thankful all my family is alive and well, especially Della. This could have been a really lonesome Thanksgiving without her. And to the most important one of all, God!! Also to my loving sister, Amy, and my brother, Wyatt.

Thank you God for keeping our family alive and well!!

Love to my family forever always.
Lee Ann Chaidez

This Thanksgiving I am especially thankful for my mom, dad, Wes and Chris and for the health and happiness of all our family and friends.
Love Y'all,
Rachel Everett

I am thankful first of all for Jesus, who died on the cross for me and my sins that I may enter the kingdom of heaven.

I am also grateful for all of my family, children, grandchildren and for my church family at First Baptist Church and everyone who has been so kind and loving toward us.

It is such a special day and I have so much to be thankful for.
Johnnie McNew

I am thankful for the Pilgrims and Indians because they made Thanksgiving special to me.
Christi Williams

I am thankful for thanksgiving because the family gits together.
Steven Wright

I am thankful for having my brother here with me because if he wasn't here right now I would be very lonely. I am thankful for coming to school because if I didn't come to school I wouldn't learn anything.
Crystal Zarate

I am thankful for turky because it tastes good. I am thankful for my mom because she is nice.
Tyler Price

I'm thank ful for my flimy. I'm thankful for my dad's racecar.
Jonathan Browning

Thankfulness leaves no room for discouragement, So I'd better count all my blessings.

First of all, I'm thankful for a good life which God has blessed me with.

I'm thankful for my ancestors in the past who kept the faith and taught it to me.

I'm thankful for my good health which allows me to do what I want to do.

I'm thankful for a wonderful husband and great children who have made my life very good.

I'm thankful for my grandchildren who have made life more precious to me through them.

I'm thankful for a caring church which has loved and nutured me, and has lifted me high to Heaven's gate.

I'm thankful for the gift of teaching which God has imparted to me.

I'm thankful for my students over the years — all unique and different.

They have taught me more than I ever began to teach them.

I'm thankful for the friends I've had through the years that have richly woven a tapestry throughout my life.

Each one has given a different color, tone and shade to enter into my life's counterpane.

Thank you God for allowing me this sheer pleasure!
Mary Williams
Snyder

I am thankful for my family and my pets.
Derek Murphy
Snyder

I am very thankful for my two-year-old daughter, Terra De'Ann Gilbreth; my mom, Dora; my sister, Tabitha; and my brother Larry. Thanks for helping me through my good times and my bad. I love you guys.

Brande Gilbreth

Thank you, SDN for this opportunity to say thanks to everyone who has touched my life these 69 years in Snyder.

A very special thanks to Dr. Robert Pierce who has been a large part of my family's life as a friend, neighbor, co-worker and a life saver for me!

I am grateful, God Bless!
Mildred Clark

Thanks,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my loving wife and my daughter, Reta, for all their prayers and support in 5 years of pain and suffering. I love you both very much.

Thanks, Jerry.
Delbert Jones

I am thankful for a God that loves a wretch like me. One who knows all my faults and sins, the ones hidden in my heart and the ones that are open; but he still loved me enough to send his Son to die for me.

I am thankful for three beautiful children, though not perfect, that are a wonderful blessing and gift from God. I am thankful that 13 years ago God saw a need and desire in my life and my young sons lives that he gave us a wonderful wife and mother. Thank you Lord.
Bobby Wall

I am thankful for my children and their good health; but most of all we are thankful for the Lord leading us to Calvary Baptist Church and the caring people who attend there.

We are thankful for our good friends that have been supportive to us through our hard times.

God bless you all.
Eva Whitt

As I get older the people in my life mean more to me.

I am thankful for a loving mother and father. Also the best big brother anyone could have and two great friends, Marcus and Jennifer.

I am thankful for my life and everyone in it.
Kimberley Burton



Herbie,'The Love Bug', gets home

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Herbie "The Love Bug" has lighted on a new home, just in time for a remake of the 1969 movie about the wheelie-popping Volkswagen Beetle.

Walt Disney Studios presented the little hump-backed Bug to the Petersen Automotive Museum on Tuesday.

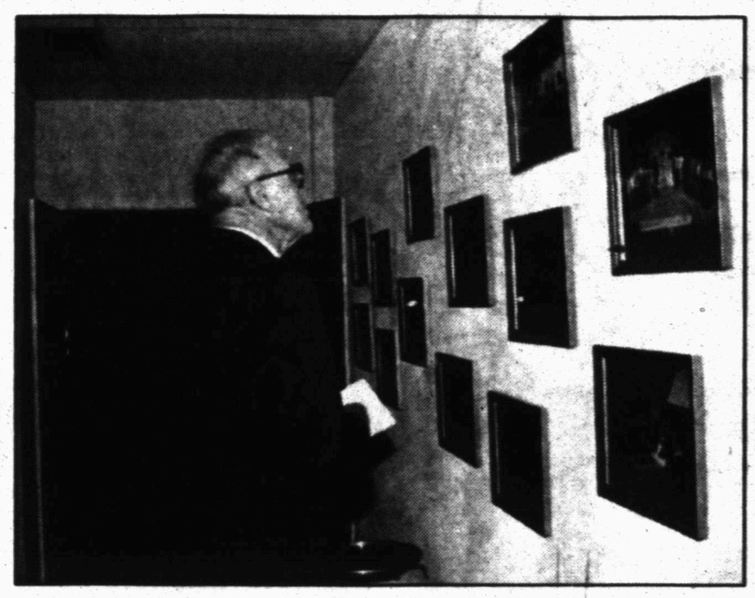


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Many attend Ritz gala grand opening



G.A. Parks Jr. looks at photos of the participants of the Ritz' 18 productions.



Darlene Burk looks at a display of photos taken during the renovation process.



Cindy Nix, left, and Dustee Sollis, visit in the lobby.



Jimmy Hall and Melanie Smith rehearse before the entertainment portion of the event got underway. (Staff Photos By Shirley A. Gorman)

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Layaway Now For Christmas

Owner hired designated driver for boat

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. (AP) — James Colonna knew he wanted to party when he took his cousin and his conventioneering friends out on a nighttime boat ride, so he hired a designated driver for his boat.

The precaution backfired when their 31-foot cabin cruiser was run over by a speedboat moving faster than the 25-mph limit on the Intracoastal Waterway, killing all six aboard the cruiser late Monday.

An empty wine bottle was found aboard the speedboat after its two occupants were ejected and pulled from the inky black water with serious injuries.

The speedboat's owner, Stanley Cameron, 56, of Fort Lauderdale and passenger Deborah Keener, 44, of Houston were hospitalized at Broward General Medical Center.

Cameron was in critical condition with head injuries, and Keener was in serious but stable with internal injuries Wednesday.

Four of the victims were attending a sales achievement bash for Rollins Truck Leasing Corp. vendors and suppliers. The dead included three executives with Chicago-based Navistar, formerly International Harvester.

The victims were:

— Donald Draper, 50, of Chicago, Navistar's vice president of leasing.

— Joseph Mongelluzzo, 48, of Wilmington, Del., Navistar manager for fleet service and an avid boater.

— John D. Colonna, 35, of Sicklerville, N.J., Navistar national accounts manager based in Pennsauken, N.J., and cousin of the cabin cruiser's owner.

— Roger Wypyszynski, 60, of Bausman, Pa., who worked for Navistar supplier Meritor Auto.

— James Colonna, 37, of Delray Beach, boat owner.

— Simon Prankerd, 32, of Lighthouse Point, native of Cornwall, England, charter boat captain hired on as captain of the cruiser to earn extra money.

The collision is one of the deadliest boating accidents in Florida, which leads the nation in recreational boating deaths. Fifty-nine people died last year and 63 so far this year.

The death rate has fed calls for increased regulation and enforcement of boaters, but boating has such widespread support in the Legislature that restrictions come slowly.

The only people required to take boating safety courses are minors under a 1996 law supported by singer Gloria Estefan after a 29-year-old jet skier was killed in a collision with her family's boat.

Residents pressing for restrictions on drinking, speeding and careless boaters on the Intracoastal Waterway submitted petitions to the city this month titled "An Accident Waiting to Happen."

Secret Service agents search student's place

BERKELEY, Calif. (AP) — Secret Service agents searched the apartment of a University of California student newspaper columnist who wrote a satirical attack on Chelsea Clinton, the writer says.

Guy Branum, a columnist for the Daily Californian, said agents searched his off-campus apartment Monday, the same day Chelsea Clinton's mother, Hillary Rodham Clinton, visited the university for a meeting on foster care. Chelsea Clinton is a freshman at rival Stanford University.

Secret Service spokesman Arnette Heintz declined to comment on the investigation itself. But he said agents are required by law to look into every case such as this one, "to make a determination whether there is reason for concern, and whether we need to take any additional steps."

"We do not particularly care to get into a debate in the newspaper pitting us against this reporter," Heintz said. "This is very serious business. This is not something to take very lightly."

The agents checked for weapons, Branum said Tuesday. They also had him sign a release giving them access to his medical records, he said.

"They wanted to make sure there wasn't anything that would demonstrate mental instability on my part," he said. "No pictures of Chelsea with X's through them or something like that."

He said he gave two agents permission for the search after they threatened to detain him while getting a search warrant if he didn't.

Branum said his column, which appeared Thursday, was meant to be satirical. It was intended to rally spirit before the UC-Stanford football game.

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Even grownups have own Christmas wish list

SULPHUR SPRINGS — Dear Santa Claus,

Hi. Remember me? It's been a long time since I've written to you. I guess the last time was when I was 5 years old and I asked you for a REAL pony.

Santa, Christmas just doesn't feel the same to me anymore. I've done all the right things — gone shopping, wrapped presents, strung lights, trimmed the tree, drunk hot cider, decorated the house, sung carols and "ooh'd and ah'd" over Christmas light displays.

I've even tried watching "How the Grinch Stole Christmas," "It's a Wonderful Life," "Miracle on 34th Street" and every corny TV Christmas special on the air.

Still, something's missing. No matter how hard I try, I can't get back the hope, the innocence, the MAGIC that Christmas once held.

I remember how I used to lie awake on Christmas Eve, praying for snow and straining to hear hoofsteps or sleigh bells on the roof. It never did snow, but I just knew I heard you up there. And sure enough, the next morning, the proof was always under the tree.

I guess part of it is just me mourning my lost childhood, but I also think it's more than that. The world isn't the same as the one I grew up in. In twenty short years, it's become smaller, dirtier and meaner.

You're a busy man, Santa, so I won't waste any more of your time. Just let me end this with a short list of Christmas wishes. I know that asking won't change anything, but then again, it never hurts. After all, I did get that pony.

Santa, I wish:

That on Christmas Eve, every child will be sleepless with excitement, not fear, and will awake to joy, not pain.

Someone would discover that fudge is an anti-oxidant.

That influence (and politicians) weren't so easy to buy.

Christmas trees didn't die when you cut them down.

I had concentrated more on learning and less on grades in school.

Some people didn't value drugs or possessions or power more than human life.

Celebrities that become millionaires by making public spectacles of themselves would stop bemoaning their lack of privacy (Madonna, this means YOU).

That this Christmas we would all take a few minutes to appreciate what we have and remember those who are less fortunate than we are.

Life WAS fair.

It didn't seem as if our government considered big business sacred and little people expendable.

We could make sharing a law. (Oh yea, I guess we already did — except it's called "taxes.")

That those who play boys' games and make millionaires' salaries would learn to act like men.

That, just once, it would snow here on Christmas Day.

People of integrity and honor didn't seem so hard to find.

Every day was a good hair day.

People would realize that the earth is worth more than what can be dug out of it, built on it or grown from it.

My Dad was here to read this. The man who spent three hours every evening reading the newspaper from cover to cover never lived to see his youngest daughter in print.

"Peace on earth, goodwill to men" was more than just an expression.

Merry Christmas, Santa, and thanks again.

P.S. I've been a good girl this year and I'll leave you some milk and cookies.

Egyptian temple attackers may have committed suicide

CAIRO, Egypt (AP) — Prosecutors are investigating witness accounts suggesting that Muslim militants who massacred 58 foreign tourists last week killed themselves as well.

The Interior Ministry has said police killed the six gunmen in a shootout after the Nov. 17 massacre. The attack at the Temple of Hatshepsut, near the southern Egyptian city of Luxor, was the deadliest in militants' 5-year-old campaign to oust Egypt's secular government and replace it with an Islamic state.

Reports immediately after the attack claimed that five attackers who fled the temple killed each other in a mass suicide. Police denied that.

Saturday, police officials said on condition of anonymity that prosecutors were questioning witnesses who claimed that all the militants already were dead when police tracked them to a nearby cave.

One witness claimed that a lone police officer arrived after hearing gunfire from inside the cave where the militants had fled. The witness said the officer was carrying a gun too small to kill all five heavily armed militants.

Police sources said coroners were trying to determine whether the militants were killed by police bullets or shots from their own automatic rifles.

Police have identified only one attacker: Midhat Ahmed Abdel Rahman, who they say was a well-known Muslim militant trained in Afghanistan. The opposition Al-Wafd newspaper said photographs of the others have been sent to prisons where jailed militants might be able to identify them.

The newspaper said photos also were being shown to owners of police uniform shops, where investigators believe assailants bought the disguises they wore to gain access to the temple.

Also Saturday, security officials revealed that the Interior Ministry has put together a list of 300 Muslim militants wanted in attacks on Egyptian government officials. Some of them have already been sentenced to death in absentia.

The officials said many of those militants live in Britain, Switzerland, the Netherlands, Pakistan and Afghanistan, and said Egypt will ask for their extradition.

The state flower of Michigan is the apple blossom.

The state tree of Missouri is the flowering dogwood.

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Wonderland of Lights has secret ingredient

MARSHALL —I have not exactly dined with kings and queens in my life, but I've met a few important people, or people who thought they were important.

I've interviewed a couple of presidents after their terms of office, sat in the White House and listened to advisors and cabinet members, I've spoken personally with every governor elected in this state for the last quarter century. I have waded through rooms full of members of both the house and senate, both state and national. I have met a few movie stars and sports celebrities.

With few exceptions, I have never found myself in awe of the person sitting across from me. We all need to take a bath daily to keep from smelling.

Yet, having said that, I now find myself in awe of an entire town, including people whose names I barely know. This position has come about because of my front row seat to the making of Marshall's Wonderland of Lights. I never would have believed it. Indeed, if I hadn't seen the Wonderland develop right before my very eyes, you couldn't have convinced me that such a thing could ever happen at all.

This many people, spending this many hours away from family and recliner and, here's the kicker, doing it for free.

The simple truth struck me a few days ago. The seven gillion lights in Marshall don't mean a thing. It's the people. Seven gillion lights with no warmth behind them are a nuisance. A thousand lights with the spirit of Marshall, now that's something special. If you could plug those lights into the citizens of Marshall and they would shine as brightly.

Just as simple is the reason that half the cities in Texas have tried — and largely failed — to develop a light show of their own: They don't have the people power.

Oh, they may have more people and they may have some extremely dedicated people, but they don't have this many people willing to give up this much time around the holidays. If they don't have the volunteer power, other cities must pay for the work. In that case, the numbers just don't add up.

It takes roughly 12,000 volunteer man-hours to produce the Wonderland of Lights. That means that it would take 20 full-time employees 15 weeks to do the job. Pay each employee the minimum wage and the cost is a cool $61,000. Of course, Marshall has some full-time and part-time workers, too. If you add them in, the personnel cost alone would be well over $100,000 per year.

If you did all that you know what you'd end up with? A crummy imitation of the Wonderland of Lights. Because anyone who has been down to the corner burger joint knows what kind of effort minimum wage earners put into their jobs.

No, this job could only be done by people who love Marshall. Attorneys who make $100 per hour in the courtroom will be giving hours away telling people on a tour bus about Lady Justica on top of our courthouse dome. Businessmen and housewives will be shoveling the stuff Clydesdales leave behind into big barrels. People who spend eight hours a day on a difficult job will spend another six hours a night working on Wonderland.

Why do they do it? Cynics might believe that, though, these businessmen are not getting paid for putting up lights they are getting money in some other way.

But the volunteer who has done the single most (so far as I know) is Wonderland Chairman Monte Bacon, who operates a furniture store. He isn't likely to get a lot of people driving by his store to pick up a couch on the way home. Nope, Monte does it because he loves Marshall.

All of this comes together to produce one dazzling show which never fails to amaze and inspire those who see it.

People drive from halfway across the state and nation and they think they have come to see the lights.

Wrong.

They are here to see the people.

Lottery rejects GTECH's attempt to reverse bids

AUSTIN (AP) — The Texas Lottery Commission has rejected another attempt by its main contractor to halt the commission's search for new bids for the work the private company performs for the agency.

The commission earlier this year put the work out for new bids after months of investigation into the way Rhode Island GTECH Corp. does business. Members of the three-person commission said they believed a new bidding process could save the state money.

GTECH, which has worked for the lottery since its inception, protested that decision this summer. Former lottery executive director Lawrence Littwin rejected that protest and continued the bidding process.

After Littwin was fired last month, GTECH sued the commission, saying the former director set up the new bidding process so as to disadvantage GTECH.

Littwin worked for GTECH competitor Automated Wagering International for more than 20 years. He says the new bidding process was set up fairly.

In addition to suing the lottery, GTECH also asked the commission to reconsider Littwin's rejection of its earlier protest.

In a letter dated Tuesday, the lottery told GTECH attorneys there is no legal process for reconsidering the decision.

GTECH's lawsuit, another attempt to throw out the rebidding process, remains pending. Company officials had no immediate comment.

Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren



All of Us Owe Gratitude On This Day of Thanks

© 1997 Universal Press Syndicate

DEAR READERS: Today is Thanksgiving Day, so here's my traditional Thanksgiving column.

Take a few minutes to think about what you have to be thankful for.

How's your health? Not so good? Well, thank God you've lived this long. A lot of people haven't. You're hurting? Thousands — maybe millions — are hurting more. (Have you ever visited a veterans hospital? Or a rehabilitation clinic for crippled children?)

If you awakened this morning and were able to hear the birds sing, use your vocal cords to utter human sounds, walk to the breakfast table on two good legs and read the newspaper with two good eyes, praise the Lord! A lot of people couldn't.

How's your pocketbook? Thin? Well, most of the world is a lot poorer. No pensions. No welfare. No food stamps. No Social Security. In fact, one-third of the people in the world will go to bed hungry tonight.

Are you lonely? The way to have a friend is to be one. If nobody calls you, call someone. Go out of your way to do something nice for somebody. It's a sure cure for the blues.

Are you concerned about your country's future? Hooray! Our system has been saved by such concern — concern for fair play under the law. Your country may not be a rose garden, but it also is not a patch of weeds.

Freedom rings! Look and listen. You can still worship at the church of your choice, cast a secret ballot, and even criticize your government without fearing a knock on the head or a knock on the door at midnight. And if you want to live under a different system, you are free to go. There are no walls or fences — nothing to keep you here.

As a final thought, I'll repeat my Thanksgiving prayer; perhaps you will want to use it at your table today:

O, heavenly Father,

We thank thee for food and remember the hungry.

We thank thee for friends and remember the friendless.

We thank thee for freedom and remember the enslaved.

May these remembrances stir us to service.

That thy gifts to us may be used for others. Amen.

Have a wonderful Thanksgiving, and may God bless you and yours.

LOVE, ABBY

An afterthought: Want an instant high? The surest cure for the post-holiday blues is to do something nice for someone. Why not call someone who lives alone and invite him (or her) over for dinner?

Better yet, call and say, "I'm coming to get you, and I'll see that you get home." (Many older people don't drive, and those who do don't like to go out alone after dark.)

Try it. And let me know the results.

P.S. Special greetings to those of you in the military who wrote from remote corners of the world to tell me that you are using my Thanksgiving prayer on this Thanksgiving Day.

***

To order "How to Write Letters for All Occasions," send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $3.95 ($4.50 in Canada) to Dear Abby, Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, Ill. 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

Astrograph

By Bernice Bede Osol

Your Birthday

Friday, Nov. 28, 1997

This could be the year when your generosity, thoughtfulness and good deeds will be repaid in greater measure than you expended initially. Nice guys do finish first.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Things that are of significance to you could be used to your benefit today. Do not operate selfishly, but try to keep your interests protected. Astro-Graph year ahead predictions make great Christmas stocking stuffers for all signs of the zodiac. Mail $2 for each to Astro-Graph, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 1758, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10158. Be sure to state the zodiac signs you desire.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Tact and charm are two of your most compelling qualities; use them to your advantage today. Do this without pretense to define who and what you are.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) Putting the needs of an associate on par with yours today is a smart move. The person for whom you are concerned isn't one who forgets thoughtful deeds.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) This could be a significant day for you where your expectations are concerned. You are now in a favorable cycle with high probabilities for fulfillment.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) A decision you've taken recently has won you the respect of your contemporaries, whether you realize it or not. Maintain your present course.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) All moves you make at this point in time could be both lasting and beneficial. Today you might be rather lucky where partnerships are concerned.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) You are up to handling tasks today you previously thought were too tough. While in a good mood finish these frustrating chores you've neglected.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) You could be most fortunate in joint ventures today. They won't be formally structured; they'll just be an alliance of convenience.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Working on labors of love will provide you with a form of gratification you'll be denied in other pursuits. Do something nice for yourself and others.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) If you have a free evening, take care of an old social obligation you've neglected. It will make the recipient happy to be remembered.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Someone with pristine motives might offer you a small consideration today. Do not be reluctant to accept; he or she has no hidden intentions.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) In the early afternoon a material benefit might develop for you in a unique way. It could put you in a good frame of mind for the rest of the day.

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Layaway now until Christmas!



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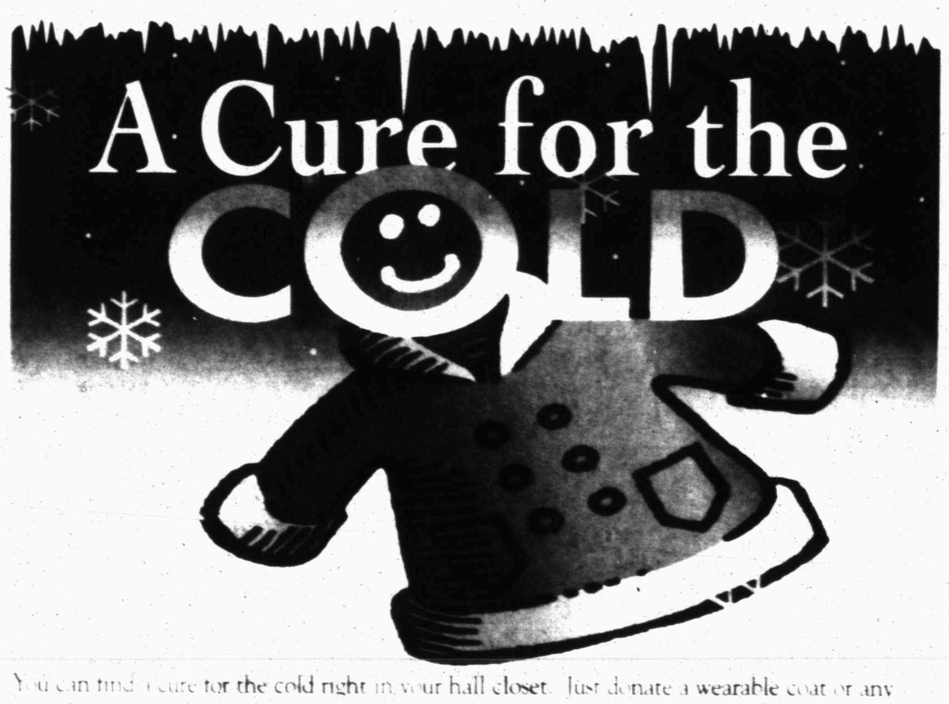
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PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given of the application of Exxon Corporation for a Sour Gas Pipeline Facility Construction Permit; Sharon Ridge Canyon Unit, Scurry County, Texas.

Applicant: Exxon Corporation, P.O. Box 4358, Houston, Texas 77210-4358 For information, Contact Mr. John Lane at (713) 431-1227.

Facility Description: The project involves the construction of pipelines to gather natural gas produced from wells in Sharon Ridge Canyon Unit and the construction of pipelines to supply CO2 injection gas to wells in the Sharon Ridge Canyon Unit.

Gas Gathering Pipeline

Type: Gas Gathering **Diameter:** 14" and 16" **Length:** Approximately 2.5 miles **Description:** API 5L Grade B, Schedule 20. Cement lined internally and externally coated.
Operating Pressure: 350 to 400 psi. **Expected H2S concentration:** 1725 ppm **Description:** The pipeline is comprised of two sections, each running from a meter site in the field (Site #'s 14 & 16) to Central Tank Battery #5.

CO2 Injection Pipeline

Type: CO2 Injection **Diameter:** 6" and 8" **Length:** Approximately 2.5 miles **Description:** API 5L X-52, Wall thickness .332 (6") and .375 (8") Cement lined internally and externally coated.
Operating Pressure: 2000 to 2500 psi. **Expected H2S concentration:** 1725 ppm **Description:** The pipeline is comprised of two sections, each running from Central Tank Battery #5 to a meter in the field (Site #'s 14 & 16).

Geographic Boundaries of the Radius of H2S Exposure: The H2S Radius of Exposure extends 2285 feet on either side of the pipelines which are located approximately 14 miles southwest of Snyder, Texas and approximately 2 miles northwest of Knapp, Texas.

Land Use and Habitation: The land within the radius of exposure is used primarily for agriculture and for oil and gas production operations. There are no inhabitants of the area comprising the radius of exposure.

A copy of this application is available for public inspection at the offices of the County Clerk, located at the following address: County Clerk, Scurry County Courthouse, Snyder, Texas, 79549. Any owner or occupant of land within 100 ppm radius of exposure of the proposed sour gas pipeline facility desiring to protest this application can do so by mailing or otherwise delivering a letter referring to Gas Utilities Docket (GUD) No. 8825 and stating their desire to protest to: Assistant Director, Pipeline Safety Section, Gas Services Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 12967, Austin, Texas 78711-2967. Protests must be received not later than the 30th day after the date this notice of application is published. It is recommended that a copy of this notice be included with the letter. Additional information concerning the protest procedure can be obtained by calling (512) 463-7017.

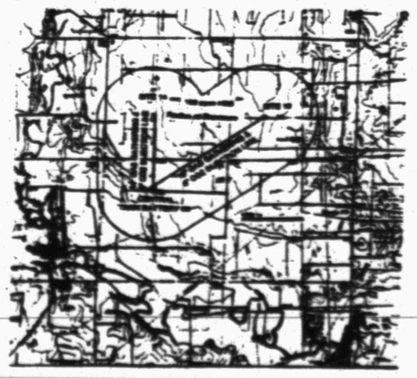
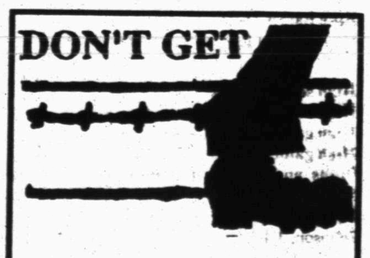


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SPORTS

Seventh grade boys post wins against Steers

Snyder's 7th grade boys basketball teams used different means to accomplish the same objective — a victory over Big Spring.

Snyder A made a fourth quarter rally to top the Steers, 34-30, while Snyder B registered a 46-9 blowout.

The Tigers trailed through the first three quarters of the A game, before posting 13 points in the fourth to steal the victory.

Zach Starnes, who sank Snyder's only two field goals in the decisive final quarter, led the Tigers with nine points.

Stafford Gray had four buckets for eight points and Tanner Beard finished with five.

For Snyder B, the name of the game was defense.

The Tigers held Big Spring scoreless in the first quarter and surrendered only a single basket in the second, to hold a 24-2 advantage at the half.

Snyder finished off the Steers by posting 22 second-half points, while giving up only a free throw in the fourth quarter.

Jorge Mendoza's 10 points paced the Tigers, with Shane Kitchens pouring in seven and Josh McGaha adding six.

Snyder B maintains its perfect mark at 2-0, while Snyder A improves to 1-1.

Both Tiger teams will be in action again Monday at Levelland, beginning at 5 p.m.

Snyder A 34, Big Spring 30
Snyder: Zach Starnes, 9; Stafford Gray, 8; Tanner Beard, 5; Chance Greenwood and Clay Williams, 3; T.J. Jones and Brady Reed, 2; Colby Driggers and Patrick Aldrete, 1.
Snyder B 46, Big Spring 9
Snyder: Jorge Mendoza, 10; Shane Kitchens, 7; Josh McGaha, 6; Chris Sorrells, 5; Cory Lyons, 4; Thomas East and Tyler Pollard, 3; Tyler Kerr, Josh Green, Jason Guynes and Josh Montoya, 2.



GOING NOWHERE — Borden County senior Bryce Dye hauls down Grandfalls-Royalty's Alfonso Marquez for a loss during their regional playoff game last week. Dye registered eight tackles in the Coyotes' 30-26 victory. Borden County (12-0) faces Silverton (9-3) in a state quarterfinal contest Saturday at 2 p.m. in Idalou. (SDN Staff Photo By Eric Drennan)

Saturday's contests will determine Big East bid

By RICHARD ROSENBLATT
AP Football Writer

Syracuse has a lot riding on its game against Miami, and so does the Big East Conference.

If the 16th-ranked Orangemen (8-3) beat the Hurricanes for the first time in 17 years, they'll win the Big East and gain a spot in the bowl alliance, most likely in the Fiesta Bowl.

If Miami (5-5) wins Saturday, the alliance could be left with a Big East team — West Virginia, Virginia Tech or the Hurricanes — not ranked in the Top 25.

The other pivotal Big East game has Pittsburgh (5-5) at West Virginia (7-3) on Friday in the Backyard Brawl.

Both Miami and Pitt need wins to qualify for the postseason, while the Orangemen and Mountaineers already have bowl bids locked up.

Miami has won the last six meetings against Syracuse, including last year's 38-31 decision that knocked the Orangemen out of the Orange Bowl and into the Liberty Bowl.

"I don't like them especially," Syracuse tight end Roland Williams said this week.

On Friday, the Big 12 title game participants are in action, with No. 2 Nebraska (10-0) at Colorado (5-5) and Texas (4-6) at No. 15 Texas A&M (8-2).

The Aggies, beaten 51-15 by the Longhorns last season, are not worried about the Huskers. Yet.

"If you give me a choice to beat Texas and lose the Big 12 championship to Nebraska, I'd rather beat Texas," Aggies coach R.C. Slocum said. "I'd bet the players would, too. I'd have to think about two seconds to make that choice."

The picks:

No. 2 Nebraska (minus 21) at Colorado (Friday)

Huskers' DE Grant Wistrom & Co. give Buffs all it can handle. ... NEBRASKA 42-17.

Vanderbilt (plus 30) at No. 3 Tennessee

Vols' Peyton Manning on final Heisman push. ... TENNESSEE 42-14.

No. 4 Penn State (minus 6) at Michigan State

Nittany Lions need win to clinch bowl alliance spot. ... PENN STATE 31-21.

Arizona (plus 10) at No. 12 Arizona State (Friday)

Sun Devils won't have easy time as they bid for Fiesta Bowl spot. ... ARIZONA STATE 31-28.

No. 14 Georgia (minus 4) at Georgia Tech

'Dawgs have six-game winning streak vs. Yellow Jackets. ... GEORGIA TECH 31-27.

Texas (plus 14) at No. 15 Texas A&M (Friday)

Can the 'Horns win one for coach John Mackovic? ... TEXAS 34-31.

No. 16 Syracuse (minus 6) at Miami

Orange offense just too much for Hurricanes' soft defense. ... SYRACUSE 33-21.

Arkansas (plus 18) at No. 17 LSU (Friday)

Tigers got caught napping against Irish, but wake up for 'Hogs. ... LSU 44-13.

Mississippi (plus 2) at No. 22 Mississippi State

Bulldogs bounce back from last week's loss to win Golden Egg. ... MISSISSIPPI STATE 21-20.

UT to decide coach's fate after A&M game

AUSTIN (AP) — Texas athletic director DeLoss Dodds says he expects an announcement on football coach John Mackovic's future to come quickly after the season ends against Texas A&M on Friday.

"I don't want to put a time line on it, but I would like to move as briskly as we can to resolve it," Dodds said.

The athletics council that advises University of Texas president Peter Flawn met behind closed doors Tuesday and discussed the performance of Mackovic as part of a season-end review, but refused to divulge what was said.

Dodds said he will submit a recommendation on Mackovic's fate to Flawn after Texas' (4-6, 2-5 Big 12) final game at No. 15 Texas A&M (8-2, 5-2) on Friday.

Flawn will make a final recommendation to the school's board of regents.

Newspaper reports have said that school regents already have reached a consensus to fire or reassign Mackovic after the A&M game — possibly as early as Saturday.

The Dallas Morning News, quoting unidentified sources, Tuesday reported that Mackovic would be ousted by Monday and that Texas officials have placed Northwestern coach Gary Barnett at the top of their list of replacements.

The newspaper said North Carolina's Mack Brown, Arizona State's Bruce Snyder, Miami's Butch Davis, Tennessee's Phillip Fulmer, Mississippi's Tom Tuberville and Georgia's Jim Donnan also are on UT's list of candidates.

1997-98 Snyder Tiger Basketball

Date	Opponent	Site	Time
Nov. 29	Big Spring	Away	3:30
Dec. 2	Seminole	Home	7:30
Dec. 4-6	Frenship Tourney	Away	TBA
Dec. 9	Lubbock High	Away	7:30
Dec. 11-12	Seminole Tourney	Away	TBA
Dec. 19	Slaton	Away	7:45
Dec. 20	Sweetwater	Home	7:30
Dec. 22	Big Spring	Home	7:30
Dec. 29-31	Caprock Tourney	Away	TBA
Jan. 2	San AngeloCentral	Away	4:00
Jan. 6	Andrews	Home	7:30
Jan. 13	*Frenship	Away	8:00
Jan. 16	*Estacado	Home	8:00
Jan. 20	*Plainview	Away	8:00
Jan. 23	*Lamesa	Home	8:00
Jan. 27	*Levelland	Away	8:00
Jan. 30	*Frenship	Home	8:00
Feb. 3	*Estacado	Away	8:00
Feb. 6	*Plainview	Home	8:00
Feb. 10	*Lamesa	Away	8:00
Feb. 13	*Levelland	Home	8:00

1997-98 Snyder Lady Tiger Basketball

Date	Opponent	Site	Time
Nov. 29	Clyde	Home	4:00
Dec. 2	Lubbock High	Home	6:00
Dec. 6	Bowie	Away	7:00
Dec. 9	Abilene Cooper	Home	6:30
Dec. 11-13	Wylie Tourney	Away	TBA
Dec. 19	Colorado City	Home	6:30
Dec. 20	Sweetwater	Away	7:30
Dec. 29-31	Caprock Tourney	Away	TBA
Jan. 3	Big Spring	Away	6:00
Jan. 6	*Lamesa	Away	6:30
Jan. 9	*Levelland	Home	8:00
Jan. 13	*Frenship	Away	6:30
Jan. 16	*Estacado	Home	6:30
Jan. 20	*Plainview	Away	6:30
Jan. 23	*Lamesa	Home	6:30
Jan. 27	*Levelland	Away	6:30
Jan. 30	*Frenship	Home	6:30
Feb. 3	*Estacado	Away	6:30
Feb. 6	*Plainview	Home	6:30

SDN Sports Briefs

Football playoff game

The Winters Blizzards will host the Lockney Longhorns in a Class 2A regional playoff game at 7:30 Friday at Tiger Stadium.

Tickets are $5 for adults, $3 for students and may be purchased at the gate.

Also, Snyder Chamber of Commerce is needing volunteers to help with various activities at the game. Anyone interested in helping should call the Chamber at 573-3558.

Little dribblers' sign-up

Sign-ups for boys' Little Dribblers will begin Monday at Scurry County Boys & Girls Club.

Registration for 8-year-olds will be held Monday through Dec. 5. Ages 9-12 will sign-up Dec. 8 through 12.

Registration fee is $20. For more information contact the Boys & Girls Club at 573-3344.

SDN Sports Week

Saturday

Football

Borden County vs. Silverton, state quarterfinal playoff in Idalou, 2 p.m.

Basketball

Snyder JV & varsity boys at Big Spring, 2:00, 3:30.

Clyde at Snyder 9th, JV & varsity girls, 1:00, 2:30, 4 p.m.

BOWLING NEWS

Mens' Commercial

11-18-97

Teams	W	L
Whit's Auto	115	53
Bar-H-Bar	97½	70½
Stephens Office Supply	93½	74½
Eddins-Walcher	88	80
The Shack	73½	94½
P&P Longhorns	69½	98½
Stooges	69	99
Reef Chemical	66	102

High series scratch: Roger Batchelor, 595.
High series handicap: Marcus Carroll, 656.
High game scratch: Barney Tate, 223.
High game handicap: Rick Mammolite, 236.
Splits and special mentions: Jeff Smith, 4-5; Gary Kinder, 5-7; Don Pavlovsky, 3-10; Marcus Carroll, 5-6-10.

Roll & Hope

11-17-97

Teams	W	L
Baze Gun Repair	26½	17½
Redman Pipe Supply	26	18
TCA Cable	24	20
IGA 400	22	22
Martin Herefords	21	23
IGA 100	21	23
Rose Barber Shop	20	24
City National Bank	15½	28½

High series scratch: Cara Lindsey, 510.
High series handicap: Dorris Martin, 642.
High game scratch: Wanda Johnson, 201.
High game handicap: Donna Smith, 220.
Splits and special mentions: Bernie Sealy, 5-7; Lynn Maldonado, (2)5-6; Geneva Findley, 5-6; Rosemary Hernandez, 2-7; Wanda Johnson, 3-10, 201; Cara Lindsey, 510.

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900 College Ave. 573-4903
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Snyder Daily News Classifieds
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010 LEGAL NOTICES

BID NOTICE

The City of Snyder is accepting bids for the purchase of a new, ½ ton or smaller, 1998 Pickup. The bids will be received until Thursday, December 4, 1997 at 3:00 p.m. The opening will take place in the Accounting Department at the City Hall.. Specifications may be picked up at the City Hall. The City of Snyder reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

040 SPECIAL NOTICES

I will not be responsible for debts other than my own, as of 11/25/97. (s) Jim Edward Underwood.

GARAGE SALE

Advertise your garage full of "Don't Needs" in

Snyder Daily News
573-5486

070 LOST & FOUND

FOUND: SUNDAY NIGHT AT WTC DORMS, LARGE WHITE DOG. 573-0987.

LOST: 2 Iron Trailer Ramps on Ira - Union Hwy. Call 573-1217.

LOST: North of Co-Op Gin. One small cow, about 700 lbs., White Charolais with white face. Lost about 3 weeks ago. Call James Wall 573-7063.

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'93 GRAND AM, LOW MILEAGE. 573-8394.

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FOR SALE: 1993 Nissan Maxima, white, 5 speed, power windows/locks, 63K miles, asking $11K. Call 573-6238.

140 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

International Company seeks P/T/, F/T help. WORK FROM HOME possible. No experience necessary. Will train. $700/week possible. Call 1-888-274-9118.

Business Directory of Services

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$ Timely Finance Co. $
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$ **Phone Applications O.K.! $
$ 1926 25th Street 573-9335 $
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WANTED: Beauty Consultant to promote personal care products. PT/FT Flexible hours. Call 573-6999.

MAINTENANCE PERSONNEL: Scenic Mountain Medical Center, 153 Bed Facility has an immediate opening for maintenance technician. Experience preferred in general maintenance including light plumbing, light electrical and general mechanical repair. High school diploma or GED required. Must have clean driving record. Must be willing to relocate to Big Spring area. HVAC, electrical or plumbing license a plus. Includes benefits and 401K plan. Applications may be picked up at the switchboard between 7 a.m. and 9 p.m. for your convenience. EOE No phone calls please. 1601 West 11th Place, Big Spring, Texas 79720.

MANAGER'S ASSISTANT: Assist pharmacy manager with office and other duties. Requires keyboarding, exceptional math and communication skills, and meticulous attention to detail. Apply TWC, 1902 37th Street. EOE

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Cement Mixer, Air Compressor, Wood Burning Stove (shopmade), (3) bicycles, Couch, Bar Stools, Drill Press, Tools and Good Garage Sale items.

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MAYNARD ESTATE

Fri. Nov. 28-11 A.M. to 6 P.M., Sat. Nov. 29-10 A.M. to 6 P.M., Sun. Nov. 30-1 P.M. to 6 P.M.

Contents of a 9 Room House to be sold. Absolutely No Early Sales.

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Lotteryville, U.S.A. — not so rich, but not as deep in debt

ROBY (AP) — Not even a $46.7 million lottery ticket could wipe out years of tough times for area cotton farmers and the people who depend on them.

Sure, backs got slapped and smiles stretched wide last Thanksgiving Eve when 43 happy locals split the fat Lotto Texas jackpot. That was real nice, townspeople say.

Nicer still a year after the windfall — even with loans retired, 1997 cars in driveways and a new cottonseed oil mill up and running — is a bumper cotton crop and the end of three years of drought.

That kind of good fortune gives all 600-odd residents a reason to give thanks, they say.

"Nearly the whole community is in cotton," says Peggy Dickson, bookkeeper at the local cotton gin and coordinator of the lottery pool. "When everybody makes a crop, it helps. And it's looking like everybody made a pretty decent crop this year."

While the lottery winners collected about $1.6 million in annual tax-free checks this month, the cotton crop should bring in more than $20 million. Long-stagnant cotton prices have inched to a profitable level, making Roby's bales that much more valuable.

And agriculture will influence the future, even for the lottery winners, predicts financial planner Tim Riggan. "I imagine they'll put the checks into a money market account until they get the cotton crop in and get it sold," Riggan says. "They won't make any moves until they see where they stand financially."

Any visitor expecting streets of gold running through this four-stoplight town will be disappointed. The most visible sign of big winnings is a rash of shiny new trucks. After all, each of the 43 winners receives just $39,000 after taxes each year for the next 19 years.

"New cars, that's the main thing," says Rex Beauchamp, one of the entrants in the Nov. 27, 1996, lottery pool. "I asked our local mechanic how business was, and he said it wasn't too good. Too many new pickup trucks."

Journalists and curiosity seekers have made Roby a slightly busier place than usual over the last 12 months. A producer was even nosing around about a made-for-television movie. But for all the hoopla, Roby's hard-working people are still quick with a smile and willing to discuss the lottery bonanza with strangers for the umpteenth time.

Beauchamp, one of a few who sold their shares in the pool for lump-sum payments, says he's still working 70- to 80-hour weeks at his convenience store.

"There's not a whole lot you can do with $39,000," he said. "It's good, don't get me wrong. But I'd be filing bankruptcy if I didn't have (the total payoff)."

The money paid his daughter's college loans and his business debts. And bought a new pickup, of course.

Restaurant owner Manuel Valdez says he's putting away most of his winnings for retirement but will use a small chunk to open a second Susie's Fish and Grill, named for his wife, in neighboring Sweetwater.

The biggest single winner in the Thanksgiving pool was Jim Carson, owner of Longhorn Liquor in Sweetwater where the pool members bought their tickets — 10 each for $10.

Not only did Carson share in the pool, he also earned a $467,000 bonus as the ticket's vendor.

"I paid off the house, cars, business notes and MasterCard, and invested the rest of it," Carson says.

With the bonus, Carson has been able to splurge. He treated his family to their first weeklong vacation since 1975 — and made it a $30,000 Alaska cruise in the penthouse suite, highlighted by two helicopter sweeps over the glaciers.

For Results Use Snyder Daily News Classified Ads 573-5486

Holiday hybrid of birds when plain turkey just isn't enough

MARIETTA, Ga. (AP) — Tired of Thanksgiving turkey? Not enthused about another roast chicken? A duck just isn't big enough for your brood?

From the bayou country that gave birth to jambalaya, etouffee and various blackened delicacies comes a holiday hybrid of birds — a triple play of festive fowl that Mother Nature never intended.

Behold the turducken.

"It gives you a taste of everything. It's the best of all worlds," says Jack Greene, an Orange Park, Fla., businessman whose family planned to surprise Thanksgiving guests with the elaborate Cajun combination of turkey, duck and chicken.

"It just blows your mind," says Todd Trichel, chef for a Marietta processing kitchen that assembles one version of the unlikely fowl for Birmingham, Ala.-based Creoles' Inc.

"It makes a massive beast," Trichel says in a soft Louisiana drawl.

Turduckens are growing in popularity, and there are assembly instructions and recipes on the Internet, including the Web site of the tri-bird's apparent father, Cajun chef Paul Prudhomme, who says he made his first one in the 1960s.

But the deboning is treacherous and assembly complicated, so most consumers opt for buying them already prepared.

The version put together by Trichel's operation, which produced up to 200 turduckens a day leading up to Thanksgiving, starts with a 20- to 25-pound turkey, and a smaller duckling and chicken.

Workers flashing sharp knives quickly debone the birds, keeping the meat and skin intact.

Then seasoned poultry and layers of stuffing are assembled with the chicken in the center surrounded by duck and wrapped in turkey. The turkey's skin is sewed and trussed around the layers of meat and stuffing so the whole thing resembles the original bird, including the wings and legs.

Trichel uses shrimp etouffee as a stuffing. Other possibilities include crawfish, spicy Cajun andouille sausage, oyster, broccoli and cheese, and sweet or jalapeno cornbread.

The finished product is roasted just like a regular turkey. But instead of the elaborate carving ritual needed to get the usual roast turkey off its skeleton, the turducken is simply sliced, revealing layers of chicken, duck, turkey and stuffing.

Duane Donner, 29, a Lafayette, La., native who started Creoles' in 1995, expected to sell 5,000 turduckens over the holidays, shipping from the Marietta kitchen to New York and California and points in between. They sell for $50 to $70 each, plus delivery.

"It's been word of mouth — people all over the country are finding us and calling us," says Donner, who has two retail food shops in Birmingham.

Tilton divorce is finalized after 2 years

DALLAS (AP) — Evangelists Robert and Leigh Valentine Tilton are finally divorced after two years of bitter proceedings.

State District Judge William Martin upheld $275,000 in judgments against her Monday in issuing the final divorce decree — rejecting Ms. Tilton's claims that her husband hit and emotionally abused her.

Ms. Tilton, 41, had asked the judge to award her $1.4 million. She said Tilton, 51, assaulted her several times in drunken rages and pushed her down a flight of stairs during an argument at their Florida home.

After "evaluating the credibility of the evidence," Martin concluded that Tilton did not cause Ms. Tilton any injury.

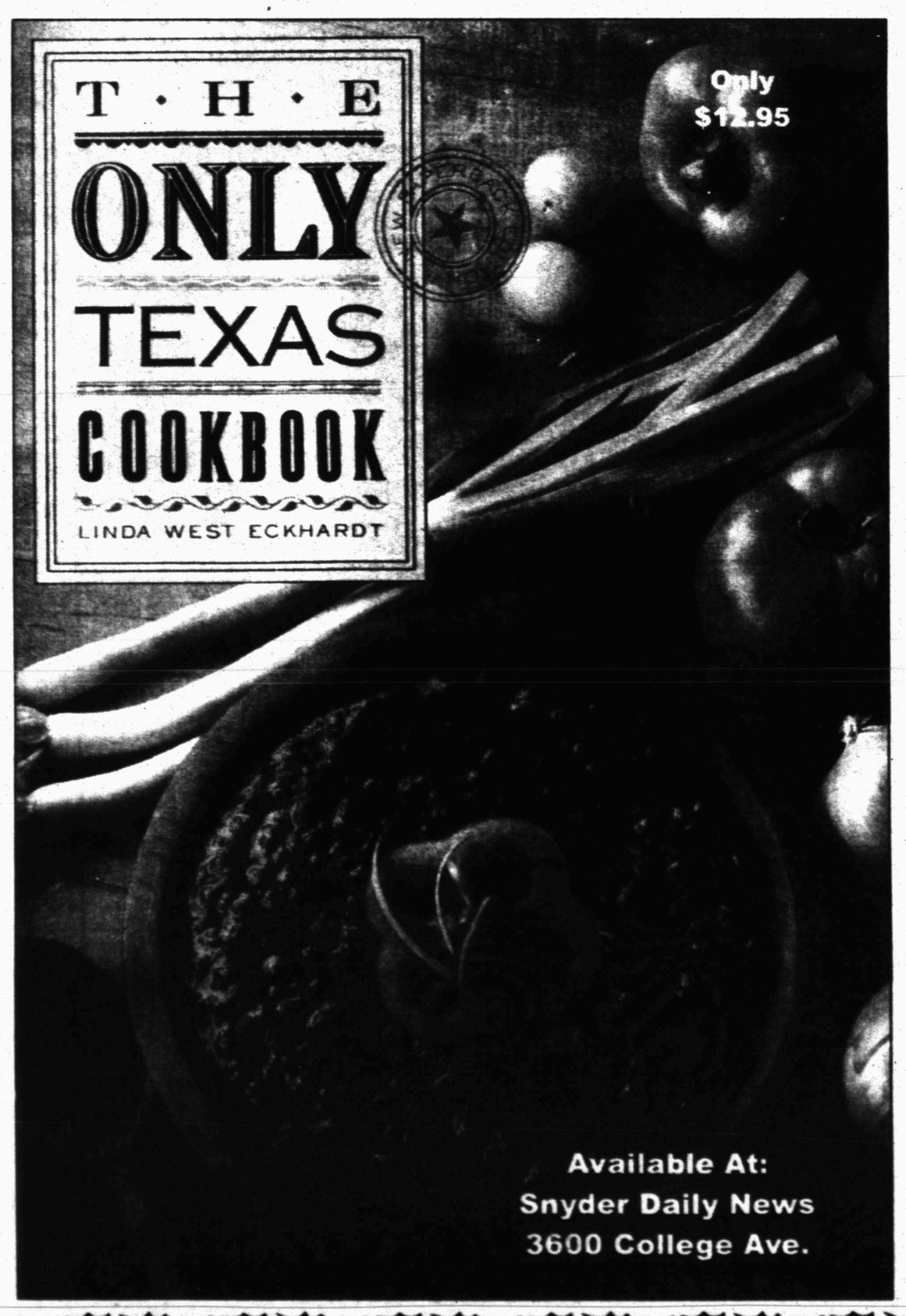
Tilton is senior pastor of Word of Faith World Outreach Center Church in suburban Farmers Branch.

Martin determined that the couple were broke and divided a long list of bills between them, leaving Tilton to pay about $100,000 in marital debts and his ex-wife with about twice that amount. She previously declared bankruptcy.

Evidence showed that the Tiltons spent more than $200,000 during their brief marriage. Ms. Tilton received about $85,000 in court-ordered support after she was fired from her $100,000 a year pastorship at Word of Faith in May 1996.

The judge lambasted Ms. Tilton for her many attempts to draw out the divorce, including changing attorneys, trying to recuse him from the case, "reneging on agreements made in court," refusing to attend trial sessions and filing for bankruptcy in August, the week before the divorce was to be final.

Ms. Tilton "has engaged in a pattern of attempting to delay these proceedings," Martin said. "This litigation has been made much longer and more costly by ... (her) behavior."



Stuffing sets tone for Thanksgiving Day meal

McALLEN — It all comes down to the stuffing, if you ask me.

Turkey is turkey, whether you make it yourself or eat it at your boyfriend's cousin's house. Cranberry sauce doesn't change much, and mashed potatoes are mashed potatoes, once you get beyond the skins or no skins debate.

But stuffing sets the tone for the entire Thanksgiving Day meal. If the stuffing doesn't stack up, the whole dinner comes crumbling down.

In fact, stuffing just might top the list of controversial dishes making an appearance this turkey day. Not only do you have to decide what type to prepare, you've got to decide whether or not to actually stuff it inside your turkey. Then you must decide whether to call it stuffing, as do northerners, or dressing, as do southerners.

Let us, for a moment, reflect upon the stuffing options out there. (And you'll notice I said stuffing. In my book, dressing is what you should be doing after you shower every morning.)

There's that pre-packaged stuff you buy in the grocery store. Fake. Don't use it. Especially not on Thanksgiving.

Then there's the squeeze test. Some camps like their stuffing crunchy, others like it tender.

Personally, I like a little of both. A bit of the toasty stuff on the outside, where the oven has crisped it up a bit, and some good squishy stuffing underneath.

My oldest sister whips up a mean apple and sausage version of stuffing. If you like your stuffing filling (that's a mouthful), this one's for you. And the apple adds a fragrant, fresh-from-the-orchard note.

There's cornbread stuffing (blech!) and stuffing stuffed with strange things like oysters. And you can even make stuffing with popcorn, or so I hear.

But nothing compares to my mom's stuffing, a heavenly blend of celery, mushed up chunks of dry bread, onions and herbs. I'd do almost anything for it. And mom knows to make lots of extra. Heck, I'll even eat it cold for breakfast the next day.

But that's just the beginning in the great stuffing storm of controversy.

The hottest stuffing issue these days is the food-poisoning question. If you stuff your turkey cold, let it sit around and fester, then roast it, all the bread soaks up raw poultry juices — and bacteria, creating a veritable Trojan Horse of food-borne illnesses, experts warn.

Imagine! A turkey time bomb just waiting to inflict stomach cramps and worse on your holiday guests!

Sadly, the experts say it's better to cook your stuffing in a separate container.

But if you insist on stuffing your bird, make sure you thaw and cook your turkey correctly to ward off any salmonella-inducing bacteria. Then check the temperature in both the turkey's thigh and the stuffing before ringing the dinner bell.

Me? I'm an adrenalin junkie, so I like to take the big risk once a year and belly up for a good game of turkey roulette.

I like my stuffing in the bird, thank you.

Supply of mediators outpaces demand

HOUSTON (AP) — The good news: tens of thousands of Texans are trained pretrial mediators who are supposed to help litigants settle out of court. The bad news: nobody wants them to mediate.

Lax state regulation of mediators and the programs that train them is being blamed on the resulting glut of mediators, the Texas Journal of the Wall Street Journal reported Wednesday.

"You have to go through more testing to paint fingernails or cut hair," said Suzanne Duvall of Dallas, former chairwoman of the State Bar of Texas section on alternative dispute resolution.

Consequently, lawyers and judges are turning only to mediation by lawyers, the newspaper said.

The result has been a surplus of mediator-school graduates who simply have nothing to mediate.

Wendy Trachte-Huber, director of the A.A. White Dispute Resolution Institute at the University of Houston, estimated that as many as 30,000 Texans have completed the course work necessary to qualify as court-appointed mediators in the past 10 years. About 10,000 perform mediation work each year, she said.

"It seems almost everyone in Dallas County is trained as a mediator now," said Claudia Dixon, administrative manager for the Dallas Dispute Resolution Center.

The center is one of 13 nonprofit organizations in Texas funded by court filing fees to train volunteer mediators and offer free dispute resolution services to litigants in cases where less than $50,000 is at stake.

Of the 1,000 volunteer mediators registered at the center, only about 350 have mediated more than one case, Ms. Dixon said.

The Legislature legalized pretrial mediation in 1987 to help judges clear their dockets of time-consuming and expensive litigation proceedings. In Travis County, courts last year mandated that all civil cases go to mediation before they can proceed to trial.

Texas, however, has no minimum age or educational prerequisite to enroll in mediation training. There's no licensing test or continuing-education requirement.

And while state law requires mediators to complete 40 hours of training before they can accept court appointments, there are no regulations governing what the courses must cover or who should teach them.

Also, there are no binding ethics rules, no agency or trade group monitoring the system and no grievance process.

Some members of an advisory committee to the Texas Supreme Court are calling for stricter training and certification standards for mediators, as other states have done.

"The atmosphere is ripe for things to go wrong when you don't have any standards, and you have no control over the training or qualifications," said Bud Silverberg, a lawyer and member of the advisory committee.

Date Book

Nov. 27, 1997

Today is THANKSGIVING; it is the 331st day of 1997 and the 68th day of fall.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1889, Curtis Brady of New York was given the first permit to operate a motor vehicle in Central Park.

On this day in 1970, Pope Paul VI was stabbed during a visit to the Philippines by a Bolivian painter disguised as a priest.

On this day in 1978, Marlon Brando made his TV debut in the miniseries "Roots."

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Levi Strauss (1809-1902), businessman; Mona Washbourne (1903-1984), actress; David Merrick (1912-), Broadway producer, is 85; "Buffalo" Bob Smith (1917-), puppeteer, is 80; Gail Sheehy (1937-), writer, is 60; Bruce Lee (1940-1973), actor; Eddie Rabbit (1941-) singer, is 56; Jimi Hendrix (1942-1970), musician; Caroline Kennedy (1957-), daughter of the 35th president, is 40; Robin Givens (1964-), actress, is 33; Jaleel White (1976-), actor, is 21.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1947, Joe DiMaggio won his third MVP award by one vote over Ted Williams.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "Let Wall Street have a nightmare and the whole country has to help get them back in bed again." — Will Rogers

TODAY'S WEATHER: On this day in 1974, snow accumulation reached 2 feet in northern Maine.

SOURCE: 1996 Weather Guide Calendar; Accord Publishing, Ltd.

TODAY'S MOON: Between last quarter (Nov. 21) and new moon (Nov. 29).

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Kentucky is the Bluegrass State.

Ronald Reagans set dinner at home

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Ronald and Nancy Reagan will play hosts for a Thanksgiving Day celebration dinner of turkey and all the trimmings.

"He will be at home with his family," spokeswoman Joanne Drake said Tuesday. The Reagans live in Bel-Air.

The 86-year-old former president, who in 1994 disclosed he had Alzheimer's disease, was at his Century City office Tuesday while his wife headed for the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library in Simi Valley to sign books.

Proceeds from the sale of her book "My Turn" benefit the Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation, a nonprofit organization that supports library programs.

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ALL FELT HATS 1/2 Price
MEN'S & LADIES JUSTIN ROPERS $69.00 (Bay Apache) $72.00
CHILDREN JUSTIN ROPERS Buy 1 pair Get 2nd pair for $10.00
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MONTANA SILERSMITH BUCKLES & JEWELRY 20% Off

OUR CHRISTMAS GIFT TO SWEETWATER AND NOLAN COUNTY AND TO ALL WHO HAVE SUPPORTED US FOR THE LAST 26 YEARS - We offer the following to make your 1997 Christmas a little more affordable.



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We gladly accept "Christmas Cash"

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FRIDAY & SATURDAY ONLY
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23.77 EA. Black & Decker
Tools
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2.27 EA.
70 Indoor/Outdoor Mini Lights
String-to-string set with steady glow or 2-way flashing. Clear or multi-colors. UL listed. 96800,01
25 Outdoor Light Set 96802 .....5.99

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1" x 25' Powerlock Rule
Blade stays rigid up to 7'. Features quick, convenient power return. 24063

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Night of the Lights
You're Invited to the...
"Lighting of the Wagon Wheel Ranch"
Saturday, November 29
Come enjoy this truly exciting event as the ranch will come aglow with thousands of Christmas lights.
Regular Hours at the Rusty Spur Cafe Will Be Observed - 5 to 9 p.m.
Lights will be turned on at 8 p.m. Saturday, November 29
■ Enjoy a special Steak Dinner & Family Dance
Reservations Are Recommended
Dinner & Dance...$15 per person, Dance Only...$4 per person, Children Free
"HIGHWAY 208"
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RUSTY SPUR CAFE
Located on CR. 2128, Just Off The Polar Road
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2ND FRONT PAGE

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Officials invited to palaces

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — President Saddam Hussein of Iraq Wednesday invited U.N. experts and diplomats to visit his palaces to check whether he is hiding any weapons of mass destruction.

The official Iraqi News Agency said the Revolution Command Council, which is headed by Saddam, and the ruling Baath Party made the decision in a meeting Wednesday.

It was not clear whether the Iraqi announcement applied to weapons inspectors already designated by the United Nations or whether Iraq was referring to some new group it wants the world body to send.

The United Nations has always insisted that it must decide the makeup of the inspection teams.

Ewen Buchanan, spokesman for the U.N. Special Commission that is in charge of weapons inspections, had a guarded response to the offer.

"If this is a step toward Iraq recognizing it has an obligation to grant immediate, full and unrestricted access to all sites which the special commission wishes to inspect, then that's welcome," he said.

The Iraqi announcement said Iraq will invite two representatives of countries that are involved in the inspection of Iraqi weapons and five experts or diplomats from the countries in the U.N. Security Council.



GOLDCOATS HONOR PAIR — Goldcoat president Jack McGlaun, left, presented gifts to two longtime members, Betty House and R.C. Patton. House and her husband, Bud, celebrated their golden wedding anniversary Wednesday and Patton celebrated his 87th birthday Wednesday. Following the presentation, Goldcoats planned the lighting of the courthouse set for Friday where Santa Claus will make an appearance, the Lighted Christmas Parade on Dec. 6, a craft show at the coliseum on Dec. 6-7 and the chamber's open house set for Dec. 22. (Staff Photo by Jo Ann Nunley)

Unabomber suspect skipped Wednesday's court session

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — Theodore Kaczynski angrily threw his pen and hissed about "psychiatrists" during a hearing on his mental illness defense, then pouted for the rest of the day and skipped Wednesday's session.

The Unabomber suspect grew increasingly agitated Tuesday as attorneys discussed a proposed battery of psychological and neurological tests to be performed prior to his trial on charges he mailed or planted bombs that killed two men and wounded two others.

Lead prosecutor Robert Cleary mocked the defense's assertion that Kaczynski is too fearful to undergo prosecution psychiatric examinations.

The 55-year-old former math professor first "was afraid of psychiatrists, then afraid of government psychiatrists," Cleary said.

As defense lawyer Gary Sowards responded, Kaczynski furiously passed notes and whispered comments to attorney Judy Clarke, then threw his pen across the table. Clarke reached out to calm him, and a clearly upset Kaczynski whispered loudly in her ear.

Only the word "psychiatrists!" was audible to spectators.

For the rest of the day, the usually chatty defendant refused to speak to his own attorneys, staring straight ahead. No jury candidates were present.

The hearing came on the eighth day of jury selection, a process that by the end of the day had yielded 41 candidates. A pool of 64 prospects is needed before the lawyers begin shaping the jury of 12 and six alternates.

Kaczynski was not present when selection resumed. His attorneys offered no explanation for his absence, but did file a one-page court document stating that he had waived his right to be present. He had never skipped jury selection before, but last Friday he skipped another hearing about his mental state.

As Wednesday's selection got under way, a prospective juror who said she occasionally works across the street from the building where one of the bombings took place. But she said she had not followed the case very closely, and knew few of the details of Kaczynski's arrest.

The woman said she was a supporter of the death penalty, which has been a key issue in prospective juror questioning.

"I get the feeling that a lot of people that are prosecuted ... are not serving the sentences that we think should be imposed," she said.

The government contends Kaczynski is the Unabomber, the anti-technology terrorist suspected in a string of bombings that killed three people and injured 29 between 1978 and 1995. He has pleaded innocent to all charges.

The issue of Kaczynski's mental health is the key to his defense, which will question whether he had legal intent to commit the Unabomber crimes. It is also key to avoiding the death penalty if he is convicted.

Obituaries

Mrs. Hawthorne

1933-1997

AUSTIN — Nancy Janice Hawthorne, a former resident of Snyder, died Monday, Nov. 24, at Austin Diagnostic Medical Clinic.

A memorial service for Mrs. Hawthorne, 64, will be held at 3 p.m. Friday at the Northwest Hills United Methodist Church. The Rev. Martie Thompson will officiate and arrangements are under the direction of Amey Funeral Home.

Born April 14, 1933 in Village, Ark., she was a graduate of El Dorado High School in Arkansas and Abilene Business College.

She married the Rev. W. W. "Bill" Hawthorne Jr. on Nov. 4, 1954 in Abilene. He preceded her in death.

She was also preceded in death by her father, Edgar M. Powledge; her sister, Wanda Powledge Myers; her father-in-law, the Rev. W.W. Hawthorne Sr.; and a brother-in-law, Robert P. Hawthorne.

Survivors include her mother, Iris Powledge of Snyder; three sons, Wm. Stacey Hawthorne of San Antonio; R. Brian Hawthorne of Pflugerville and John M. Hawthorne of Austin; a brother, Dean M. Powledge of Cisco; two grandsons; and numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces and nephews — including three nieces in Snyder, D'Ann Preston, Debbie Roemisch and Danna Daughtry.

The family suggests memorials to the Northwest Hills United Methodist Church Choir.

Ivey Herrley

1905-1997

Funeral service for Ivey Alvie Herrley, 92, is set for 2 p.m. Friday in the Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home Chapel. Burial will follow in Hillside Memorial Gardens. Larry Cardin, former minister of the Hermleigh Church of Christ, will officiate.

Mr. Herrley, a resident of Scurry County since 1941, died Wednesday, Nov. 26, in Snyder Healthcare Center.

Mr. Herrley was a resident of Hermleigh and was a retired mechanic. He was a member of the Hermleigh Church of Christ.

Born Aug. 14, 1905 in Lancaster, he married Bertie Mae Emerson on March 21, 1926 in Jacksonville.

Survivors include his wife, Bertie Mae Herrley of Hermleigh; three sons, Sterling Herrley of Colorado Springs, Colo., and Dillard Herrley and Bert Herrley, both of Snyder; a sister, Vonita Creamer of Jacksonville; two brothers, Arno Earley of Flatonia and William Earley of Conroe; seven grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

Grandsons and great-grandsons will serve as pallbearers.

Personal, Professional Service

BELL CYPERT-SEALE FUNERAL HOME

3101 College Ave. 573-5454

Two arrested Wednesday

Two people were taken into custody Wednesday morning on separate charges.

Officers arrested a 43-year-old female at 9:50 a.m. in the 3000 block of 41st Street on an outstanding county warrant for the issuance of a bad check, seven city warrants for the issuance of bad checks and four warrants for failure to appear.

Officers arrested a 30-year-old female at 11:26 a.m. in the 3900 block of Eastridge on an outstanding Lubbock County warrant for the issuance of a bad check.

An officer was requested in the 2300 block of Sunset at 8:27 a.m. in reference to a dog being in the back yard. The animal warden was notified.

An offense report for Class C assault was filed at 8:56 a.m. as a result of an assault that occurred earlier in the day.

Perry Westmoreland told officers at 9:55 a.m. that someone had damaged his travel trailer. An offense report for criminal mischief was submitted.

Autopsy ordered in man's death

Precinct 2 Justice of the Peace John Williamson has ordered an autopsy in the death of a 38-year-old Scurry County resident.

Thomas Hernandez was found uncoriscious by his daughter at a residence in the 3200 block of S. Highway 84 shortly after noon Wednesday.

Sheriff Deputy Brian Peterson said the man was transported to Cogdell Hospital emergency room by Snyder EMS where he was pronounced dead by Peace Justice Williamson.

Snyder High School
WINTER DRAMA PRODUCTION: "Robin Hood"
Thursday, Friday and Saturday, Dec. 4,5,6
Times: Thursday 7:30 p.m., Friday & Saturday 8:00 p.m.
General Admission $3,
Orchestra Seating (center section down front) $5

events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

Christmas lights for sale

Hermleigh Class of 2000 has Christmas lights for sale, $8 a set, $10 installed. The class will also install your lights for $5 per 100 lights. Call 863-2720. Leave a message, if no answer. Lights will be installed Dec. 1-7.

Lighting of the Star

The fourth annual Lighting of the Star on Gail Mountain will take place at 7 p.m. Friday at the courthouse in Gail. The museum and courthouse will be open from 3 o'clock until after the program, which will consist of local music, a live nativity, Mr. and Mrs. Claus, hayrides and refreshments.

LVN pre-entrance exam

Students wishing to enroll in the March class for licensed vocational nursing at Western Texas College must contact the counseling office to arrange to take the pre-entrance exam. Tests will be given through the first week in December, and interviews may be scheduled through the first week in January.

Call the counseling office at 573-8511, ext. 313.

Landfill closing

The city landfill will be open Friday, but closed Saturday.

Holidays for library

Scurry County Library will be closed through Sunday.

Bible study tapes on TV

Bible study video tapes run weekly on TCA Cable TV Channel 2. The next tape, "The Generation That Seeks a Miracle," will air at 7 p.m. Monday.

Historic Scurry County

Historic Scurry County is asking the public to share their ornaments, cookie cutters, cookie jars and nativity scenes for display at the Cornelius-Dodson House and Dermott School during the holidays. Call Jean Everett at 573-2763 or drop them by CountryPlace anytime or the Dodson House Monday after 9:30 a.m.

Blood pressure clinic

Total Home Health of Post will hold a free blood pressure clinic from 9-10 a.m. Tuesday at the Fluvanna Cafe.

Scurry County 4-H

Scurry County 4-H will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday in the East Elementary cafeteria.

Poinsettia sale

Snyder High School choir members are taking orders for their poinsettia sale. The plants will arrive at the high school Monday and students will deliver them that week. The plants come in three colors: white, red and red with white spots. They are $10 each, to be paid at the time of delivery.

'Robin Hood'

Snyder High School drama department will present "Robin Hood" next Thursday through Saturday, Dec. 4-6, at Worsham Auditorium. Shows are 7:30 p.m. Thursday and 8 p.m. for the final two performances. General admission is $3; orchestra seating $5.

Shelled pecan halves

Snyder High School Technology Student Association (TSA Club) is selling shelled pecan halves at $6 per pound. Contact a club member to purchase.

Tiger banners for sale

Snyder Girls Hoops Club is selling Tiger banners for $25. Call 573-1769 or 573-4283. They will deliver.

Driver's license office

The Texas Department of Public Safety driver's license office will be closed each Monday through Jan. 9.

Married For Life

Marriage Ministries International presents Married For Life, an outreach program, at 7 p.m. next Thursday at the Union Community Center. Attendance at an Outreach Night is a prerequisite to participation in a Married for Life group. For more information, call 573-7471.

Volleyball team fund-raiser

Snyder High School Lady Tigers volleyball team is selling 'Win Win Discount Cards' good through Nov. 30, 1998. The cards are $5 each and can be obtained from players, boosters or at the school office. The cards entitle the bearer to discounts at a number of local businesses.

Christmas tour of homes

A holiday tour of homes will be held from 2 to 5 p.m. Dec. 7. The event is hosted by Historic Scurry County Inc. and the Scurry County Historical Commission. Tickets for the tour are $10 and are available at Eddie's Pharmacy, Countryplace and Bar H Bar Family Outfitters.

Adult basic education

Adult basic education classes are underway at Western Texas College for those seeking their GEDs.

Classes on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays are held from 8-11 a.m.

ESL (English as a Second Language) and GED courses are offered on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6-8:30 p.m. ESL classes are only offered at night. For more information, call 573-8511, ext. 322.

Ag department takes menu to new heights

AUSTIN (AP) — The Texas Department of Agriculture's annual holiday tradition — offering folks a "totally Texas" menu — is growing like a weed.

The department is offering a bumper crop of celebratory suggestions.

They cover everything from food (confetti cornbread sage dressing) and drink (Texas bottled water), to gifts (a camouflage oven mitt) and decorations (a barbed wire wreath).

Using its Internet site, the agency gives computerized Texans tips on caring for poinsettias (a $13 million-a-year purchase in this state), some history (how eating black-eyed peas became good luck) and a coloring book for the kids (featuring farmers, vegetables and a turkey).

Gene Acuna, a spokesman for the department, said the TDA last year began expanding its holiday ideas beyond a simple dinner menu.

"We've tried to promote doing the holidays in a totally Texas way — be it Thanksgiving, Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa or New Year's," Acuna said. "We solicited ideas from every industry in the state. We think it's important that people utilize Texas agricultural products for the holidays."

Agriculture Commissioner Rick Perry says there's something for everyone.

"We can help you find that perfect Christmas tree, decorate your home for the holidays or provide those perfect ingredients for that special homemade gift from the kitchen," Perry said.

"With the help of our farmers and ranchers, folks have a bounty of Texas agricultural products for all their holiday needs."

He's not kidding. A few of the department's offerings:

— Hungry? How about a "totally Texas" Thanksgiving dinner of yellow and red bell pepper soup, roasted whole turkey, loin of pork, Texas red grapefruit and cranberry chutney, creamed giblet gravy, peanut mole, confetti cornbread sage dressing, brown rice and sausage dressing, baked breads, minted carrots, fresh broccoli, sweet potato pecan pie, fresh orange cake, Texas bottled waters and Texas wines.

— Behind on shopping? The agency can put you in touch with merchandisers such as the King Ranch Saddle Shop in Kingsville or Double D Ranch Wear in Yoakum.

— Prefer homemade gifts? Included are recipes for Texas grapefruit muffins, peanut carrot bread, whole wheat pecan loaf and, of course, Texas pecan pralines.

(Editor's Note: The address for the Texas Department of Agriculture's Internet site can be found at http://www.agr.state.tx.us.)

Supreme Court to hear HIV bias case

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court Wednesday agreed to hear the appeal of a Maine dentist found to have illegally discriminated against an HIV-infected woman.

The court said it will decide whether Randon Bragdon violated the federal Americans with Disabilities Act when in 1994 he refused to fill Sidney Abbott's cavity in his dental office.

Bragdon's appeal, supported in a friend-of-the-court brief by the 140,000-member American Dental Association, urges the justices to clarify dentists' legal obligations in such circumstances.

At issue are two questions on which lower courts have split:

—Do people infected with the HIV virus but not yet suffering from symptoms of AIDS have a disability as defined by the federal anti-bias law?

The law states that someone is disabled if they have a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits "one or more major life activities."

—If so, may dentists refuse to provide routine treatment, such as filling a cavity, for such patients outside of a hospital setting?

Ms. Abbott visited Bragdon's dental office in Bangor, Maine, for an appointment Sept. 16, 1994. On her patient information form, she indicated that she was HIV-positive but had no AIDS symptoms.

Bragdon examined Ms. Abbott and discovered that she had a cavity near the gum line on a back lower tooth. He told her that, under his infectious-disease policy, he would not fill her cavity in his office.

Bragdon told Ms. Abbott he would treat her in a hospital setting, and she would have to bear the additional costs imposed by the hospital.

Two months later, Ms. Abbott sued. She sought, among other things, monetary damages.

A federal judge ruled that Bragdon had violated federal law, and the 1st U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals agreed.

"Ms. Abbott's HIV-positive status is a physical impairment which substantially interferes with her major life activity of reproduction, and she is therefore disabled within the meaning of the ADA," the appeals court said.

It added that Bragdon had failed to offer sufficient evidence to show that it would have been unsafe to fill Ms. Abbott's cavity in his office.

"Cases of this kind are necessarily fact-sensitive," the 1st Circuit court said. "Had the patient required more invasive treatment or had the dentist proffered stronger evidence of a direct threat, the result may well have differed."

Before monetary damages could be calculated, Bragdon appealed to the nation's highest court. His lawyers argued, among other things, that reproduction should not be considered a major life activity comparable to walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, breathing, learning, working or caring for one's self.

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FDA OKs cancer drug

WASHINGTON (AP) — Thousands of patients with an incurable type of non-Hodgkin's lymphoma won their first new weapon in a decade Wednesday.

The Food and Drug Administration approved a novel, genetically engineered drug to attack the immune system cancer with far fewer side effects than standard treatment.

Rituxan is not a cure, but the FDA said it has an "excellent" success rate in shrinking tumors safely.

The approval makes Rituxan the nation's first anti-cancer monoclonal antibody — a long-awaited biotherapy in which specially manufactured antibodies bind to cancer cells and trigger the immune system to do the killing instead of toxic chemicals.

One patient who tested Rituxan called the approval "something to celebrate this Thanksgiving."

"Even though my type of lymphoma is still considered incurable, Rituxan has renewed my hope of raising my three children," said Dr. Wendy Harpham, a Richardson, Texas, physician who failed other treatments before Rituxan therapy put her cancer in remission.

About 240,000 Americans have non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, a cancer of the lymph system that targets vital white blood cells. Many patients are successfully treated. But about half of them have an incurable form called low-grade non-Hodgkin's that causes repeat relapses over six or seven years.

These patients try high doses of chemotherapy, radiation and bone marrow transplants that can cause severe side effects.



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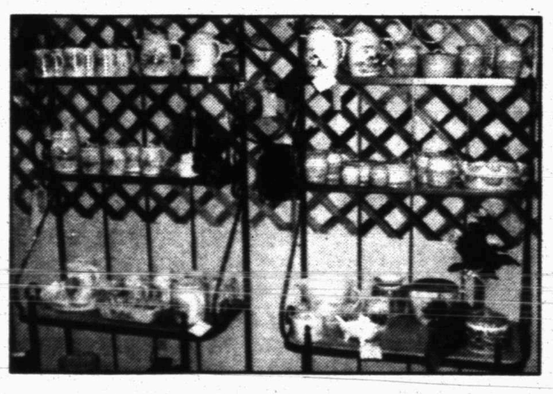
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