

HOME OF A.J. MCALISTER

# The Post Dispatch

A BUILDER IN GARZA COUNTY SINCE 1926

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2013

THEPOSTDISPATCHONLINE.COM

75 CENTS

## Crump joins Centennial as local branch director

The Post Dispatch

LUBBOCK — Centennial Bank Chairman J. David Williams announced this week the recent employment and election of Michael Crump to the position of senior vice president and Post banking center manager.



MICHAEL CRUMP

In that role, Crump will manage the bank's presence in the Post market; develop agricultural loan, commercial loan and deposit relationships and provide community leadership and support.

Crump joins Centennial from Security State Bank, where he has served as an assistant vice president since 2008. A native of Plains, Crump grew up around agriculture and graduated from Texas Tech University with a master's in Agribusiness.

"Michael's background and experience are very beneficial in helping build successful financial relationships in Post," Williams said. "This makes him a valuable asset to both the bank and the community."

Centennial Bank brings 80 years of Texas banking expertise to customers across four key regions of Texas — the Hill Country, Lubbock, the Panhandle and the South Plains.

The \$715 million community bank operates 13 full-service banking centers and two loan production offices with a full-service banking center in Boerne opening in the next few weeks.

## Post 41, Highland Park 27



Lance Dunn/For the Dispatch

Post High School head football coach Steve Smith tries his best to avoid the time-honored "Gatorade Dunk," initiated by a few of his players, including Pake Jones, (2) Mondo Martinez (55) and Jason Walden (77).

## Bold Gold named bi-district champs

By Jerry Pyles  
For the Dispatch

PLAINVIEW — The Post Antelopes (9-2) defeated the Hornets of Amarillo's Highland Park (7-4) in bi-district action last Friday with a score of 41-27.

Post senior D.J. Brown opened the game by return the opening kickoff 37 yards to the Hornet 43 yard line. Post covered the distance in five plays big plays on the drive was a 30-yard reception by Cambry Gilbert from Pake Jones. Two plays later,

Jones would run the bootleg into the end zone for a touchdown. Aron Lopez nailed the extra point.

The Lopes' defense was excellent on the first two plays, but on third down the Hornets quarterback found his favorite target for a 77-yard touchdown, and with the kick the score was tied at 7.

The Lopes would fumble on their next possession giving Highland Park excellent field position. The defense appeared to have

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## Post Notes

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

### Cookie Exchange

The Dispatch is asking for Christmas cookie recipes from our readers to be printed in an upcoming edition. Share your family's favorite recipe for shaped/molded/rolled/refrigerator/no-bake cookies or drop cookies or bar cookies. Three recipes per person — one per category — will be published. For information, contact Anna Gibson 806-495-2816 or by email at annamj89@gmail.com

### Stock shows

Stock show entries are due to Garza 4-H officials no later than 5 p.m. today, and swine validations will be at 4 p.m. Monday at the show barn. For information, call the Extension Office at 495-4400.

### Sausage Fest

The Pep community will have its 68th annual Thanksgiving Festival on Nov. 28, at St. Philip Neri Hall. The self-serve dinner will be served from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Cost is \$10 for adults, and children under 10 will be \$5. Take out plates available after 2 p.m. For information call Anna Belle Walker 806-933-4696 or Marcy Demel 806-933-4324.

See NOTES, Page 2

## A.J. McAlister: 1931-2013

### Longtime postmaster remembered for humor

The Post Dispatch

Longtime postmaster of the local post office, A.J. McAlister died Nov. 6 of bone cancer.

He was 82.

Mr. McAlister was employed by the U.S. Postal Service for 32 years, and the last two decades of that time served as head Post, Texas, facility.

He was born May 2, 1931, the youngest of nine children to Rosa and G.W. McAlister in Wilbarger County. Only one of his siblings survives, a sister, Faye Kuykendall, and a niece who was raised as a sister, Leda Wilson.

Mr. McAlister graduated from Post High School in 1949 and served in the U.S. Army from 1950 to 1953 after which time he returned to Post and began his long tenure with the U.S. Postal Service.

He loved to fish, tinker in his wood shop and search for arrowheads. It was not unusual for him to arise early in the morning to fish at a friend's tank and search for arrowheads between a catch.

Mr. McAlister also was an avid reader, oftentimes buying a book for a trip and completing it before his end destination. He was a natural-born teacher,

approaching the task of teaching his grandchildren how to drive and providing numerous life lessons along the way.

Mr. McAlister will be missed most for his humor, not only by his relatives, but also by his friends.

"He could tell a joke that brought a grin to your face, no matter what your mood," family members said. "We know his family and friends in heaven are happy he is home."

Survivors include his wife of 40 years, Judy King McAlister. He had two children from his first marriage, daughter Tina McAlister Bradshaw and her daughters Callie and Matt and son Tracy and his wife, Twana, and their son Tucker. He also is survived by two stepchildren, who were considered his own, Donna Renfroe and her children Craig and Brent and Bobby Brown and wife, Sherrie, and their children T.J. and Melissa; brother-in-law Lewis Kuykendall. Paw Paw also had seven great-grandchildren, along with numerous nephews, nieces and cousins.

Funeral services were Nov. 9 at Graham Chapel United Methodist Church with John Hedrick officiating. Military graveside rites followed at Terrace Cemetery in Post, under the personal care of Dee and



A.J. MCALISTER

Janet Justice of Justice-Mason Funeral Home.

Pallbearers were Kevin McAlister, Kenneth McAlister, Tino Alaniz, G.B. Wilke, Robbie Wilke and Jim Ellis.

## Corrections

To our readers: Due to a number of issues last week with our veterans profiles, we will be re-printing many, if not all, of those profiles in next week's Thanksgiving edition. We apologize for the errors.

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

## News on the go



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Centennial Bank proudly welcomes Post's newest agricultural & commercial lender, Senior Vice President **Michael Crump**.

Let me get to know you and the people of the Post community. Together, we'll build a successful financial relationship that will last for generations.



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## Deaths

### Kyeta DeLuna

SLATON — Services for Kyeta DeLuna, 56, of Slaton were Thursday at the Church of God of Prophecy in Post. Burial was in Terrace Cemetery under the direction of Hudman Funeral Home of Post. She died Monday, Nov. 18, 2013, in Post.

Ms. DeLuna was born Dec. 1, 1956, in Post to Nacho and Rosa (Gomez) Navarro. She lived in Post for many years prior to



**KYETA DELUNA**  
moving to Slaton.  
She was preceded in

death by her parents and a brother, Sammy Gomez.

Survivors include daughters Margaret DeLuna of Dallas and Patricia Maldonado of Luling; son Leonard Rodela of Post; brother Steve Gomez of Nixon; sisters Leticia Nolazgo of Gonzales and Lupe Flores of Luling; 11 grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

### Syan Thomas

POST — Syretha Ann "Syan" Thomas, 60, of Post was laid to rest on Nov. 8, 2013. Services were at First United Methodist Church under the guidance of John Bill Hedrick and the Rev. Scott Richards. She was buried at Terrace Cemetery under the personal care of Justice-Mason Funeral Home.

Born to Wayne and Jo Thomas on April 27, 1953, in Post, Ms. Thomas attended Post schools and graduated in 1971. During her school years, she was honored as Post FFA Sweetheart and Homecoming Queen. She also was member of the Post FFA and girls basketball team and was co-captain of the cheerleaders her senior year with Sherry Sappington.

After graduation she attended Texas Tech University. From there, she briefly lived in Amarillo, and eventually returned to Lubbock, where she worked at American State Bank before deciding to pursue a career in nursing.

Ms. Thomas attended the Methodist Hospital School of Nursing and received her Registered Nurse degree in May 1985 and worked many years in the emergency room at Methodist Hospital, eventually becoming a charge nurse. She became one of the first paramedic/registered nurses in the state of Texas and worked as a flight nurse/medic for Carelink Air Ambulance for years. During this time of her life she was instrumental in training many of the paramedics within the South Plains region.



**SYAN THOMAS**

Ms. Thomas was subsequently diagnosed with colon cancer, ending her career as a flight nurse. She underwent many challenges to overcome the disease and become a cancer survivor.

She returned to Post and worked as a bank teller at Citizens Bank, and in 2011 she moved to Abilene and worked briefly as a nurse at Abilene Regional Medical Center before being diagnosed with Stage 4 breast cancer and was under the care of a very gifted oncologist Dr. Carolyn Aks. Her condition improved to the point where she was able to return to her home in Post. Unfortunately, Syan's life was unexpectedly cut short, and she passed away in peace at her home Nov. 5, 2013.

At her funeral service, friends and family reflected on the impact she had on so many people. She was a kindhearted woman, who was quick to love and slow to anger. Her faith touched many people from family to friends to co-workers. In briefly reviewing my mother's Bible, I found a handwritten note (one of many) interpreting Philippians 4:8, "Faith is not a state of mind. Faith will cause a state of mind." I believe this brief statement sums up my mother so completely. A woman who had faced many challenges personally and professionally, a woman who at the end of her life did not

have one moment where she was without pain, a woman who despite all of this would greet you with a smile and ask, "How are you doing?" Her faith in the Lord caused this selfless state of mind.

Ms. Thomas is survived by her son and daughter-in-law Radley and Crystal Nichols of Abilene; her parents, Wayne and Jo Thomas of Post; brother and sister-in-law Tol and Angie Thomas of Andrews; sisters Tammye Griffin of Bruceville-Eddy and Jendy Thomas of Riviera; grandchildren Paxton Lyndon Nichols and Madelyn Love Nichols, both of Abilene.

Ms. Thomas had many nieces and nephews, including Riley Holly of Post and his children Destinee, Dakota, and Bailey; Amanda Price of Post and her children Brooklyn Landa, Izaih Landa, Trace Price and Jacob Price; Sunnie and Ryan Holly of Post and their children Cameron, Dawson, Kayden, Branson, Zoey and Samuel; Jennifer and T.J. Thomas of Tahoka and their children Braylee, Brasyn and Brant; Lea Ann and Paul B. Hayes IV of Granbury and their children Ainslea and Paul V; Byron Hayes of Stanton and Rachael Hayes of Big Spring.

Special friends include Sherry Sappington, Darlene Lesley, Sandra Goldsby, Sue Williams.

Pallbearers were Preston Poole, Riley Holly, Ryan Holly, T.J. Thomas, Paul Hayes IV and Byron Hayes.

Memorials are suggested to the Susan G. Komen Race For The Cure at komen.org.

The Thomas family would like to thank all of the friends and family who so generously provided support to the family during this very difficult time. May your own faith cause such a state of mind that you live every day to its fullest.

## NOTES

From Page 1

### Main Street lighting

Welcome the Christmas season in Post by attending the Community Lighting of Main Street at 5:30 p.m. Nov. 29 on the east side of the courthouse. There will be holiday music by the FUMC Bell Choir and First Baptist Christian School Children's Choir. The ceremony will conclude with the lighting of Main Street with the city of Post Christmas lights in the medians. For information, call the Chamber office at 806-495-3461.

### Lights for Gail

The 20th annual Lighting of the Star on Gail Mountain will be at 5:30 p.m. Nov. 29 at the Borden County Courthouse. Santa Claus and refreshments will be available. For information email lightsforgail@yahoo.com

### Tablet drawing

Many businesses in Post are making Small Business Saturday special for local shoppers. On Nov. 30, any shopper who makes a purchase of any amount in a participating store can register to win an iPad Mini. Participating businesses will have a poster with a photo of the iPad Mini displayed in their windows. Sponsored by the Main Street Division of the Post Area Chamber of Commerce, the drawing will be at 4:30 p.m. at Texas Treasures, 207 E. Main St. You do not have to be present to win. For information, call the Chamber office at 806-495-3461.

### 4-H meeting

Members of the Garza County 4-H youth organization will meet at 1 p.m. Dec. 1 at the Extension Office for the group's annual Christmas party and scavenger hunt. Each member is asked to bring a tree ornament to donate to a family along with nonperishable food items. For information, call the Extension at 495-4400.

### Christmas Parade

Local businesses, organizations and residents are encouraged to enter the annual Lighted Christmas Parade. Entry forms are due Dec. 4 to the Chamber of Commerce office in order to be eligible for judging. For information, call Janice Plummer at 495-3461.

### Toys for Tots

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

### Food drive

Post Elementary Gifted and

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

### O.S. Museum

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

### Ragtown Gospel Theater

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

### GED classes

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

### Quarterback club

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

### GED prep

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

### GED test

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

### Veterans benefits

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

### City Council

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

### County Commission

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

### School board

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

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### Lee Fields

LUBBOCK — Les Fields, 63, of Lubbock and formerly of Post, died Monday Nov. 4, 2013, at his home. Services were Nov. 8 in Terrace Cemetery in Post with Mike Hair officiating. Military rites were performed by the Fort Hood Honor Guard. Arrangements were under the personal care of Dee and Janet Justice of Justice-Mason Funeral Home in Post.

Mr. Fields was born July 12, 1950, to John William and Emma Christianna (Krein) Fields in Belle Fourche, S.D. He attended school at Horse Creek Elementary in South Dakota before moving with his family to Post in



LEE FIELDS

1965.

He served in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War, and, after returning from the service, worked as heavy equipments operator for H&M Dirt Construction for many years. For a time he also

worked as a long-haul truck driver. His favorite interests were golfing, NASCAR and the Dallas Cowboys.

Mr. Fields was preceded in death by his parents and two brothers, Jim Fields and Gary Fields.

Survivors include sons and daughters-in-law John David and Sonja Fields, Vincent Paul and Melissa Fields and Jason Lamont and Micah Fields; brothers Royal Fields, Chuck Lobban and John Lakson; sister Barbara Cornelius; grandchildren Austin Fields, Blake Fields, Dakota Fields, Shawn Fields and Madison Fields.

### Rotary inductees



Anna Gibson/The Post Dispatch

Three new members were inducted to the local Post Rotary Club at the group's regular Tuesday luncheon. From left to right is Jerry Wilson with Higginbotham Bros.; the Rev. Jack Maddox, pastor of First Baptist Church of Post; and Elliot Main, junior loan officer at Centennial Bank and Rotary Club President Chris Atkinson.

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MSRP ..... \$39,195  
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SALE PRICE  
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**RKI Service Body Bed**  
Good Condition #51021 Call for details or pictures. .... **\$2,000**

**2002 Ford F350 Crew Cab 2WD**  
White-Tan Cloth, Diesel, Manual Transmission, Flat Bed, #50698 ..... **\$9,500**

**2004 Chevrolet Trailblazer EXT**  
Gold-Tan Leather, 3 Seats, Heated Seats, 84K, #51090 ..... **\$7,250**

**2004 GMC 1500 Ext Cab 2WD SLE**  
Maroon-Charcoal Cloth, Bucket Seats, 97K, #51070 ..... **\$9,350**

**2004 Toyota Sequoia SUV 4x4**  
White-Tan Leather, Sunroof, Navigation, DVD, 3<sup>rd</sup> Row Seat, #51069 ..... **\$11,850**

**2007 Toyota Camry 4DR LE**  
Lt. Blue-Gray Cloth, Sunroof, 78K, #51091 ..... **\$10,500**

**2007 Chevrolet Tahoe 4x4 Z-71**  
Black-Black-Gray Leather, Heated Seats, 155K, #51039 ..... **\$16,500**

**2008 Chevrolet 1500 Ext Cab 4x4**  
Red-Charcoal Cloth, V8, Work Truck, Tow Pkg, 120K, #51051 ..... **\$14,000**

**2009 Chevrolet 1500 Ext Cab 4x4 Texas Edition**  
Silver-Black Cloth, V8, Bedliner, Grille Guard, Step Rails, 42K, #51083 ..... **\$24,000**

**2009 Chevrolet 2500HD Crew Cab 4x4**  
White-Black Cloth, 6.0 V8, Pwr Seat, 28K, #51053 ..... **\$30,500**

**2009 Chevrolet Impala LTZ**  
Red-Charcoal Leather, Sunroof, V6, 130K #51064 ..... **\$7,950**

**2010 Chevrolet Equinox LT**  
White-Black Cloth, 4 Cyl, Auto, LT1, 10K, #51089 ..... **\$19,500**

**2010 Ford Edge SUV SLE**  
Silver-Gray Leather, 2<sup>nd</sup> Row Bench, Good W/S & Tires, 74K, #51073 ..... **\$16,000**

**2010 Nissan Murano SUV**  
Black-Tan Leather, Heated Seats, Sunroof, 35K #57012 ..... **\$23,000**

**2011 Chevrolet 2500HD Crew Cab 4x4**  
Silver-Charcoal Cloth, LT1 Package, Bedliner, Grille Guard, Step Rails, 89K, #51077 ... **\$26,500**

**2011 Chevrolet Suburban 4x4 LT**  
White-Black Leather, Sunroof, Navigation, DVD, 2<sup>nd</sup> Row Buckets, 63K, #51079 ..... **\$30,800**

**2011 Chevy 1500 Ext. Cab 2WD**  
Blue Granite-Black Cloth, 5.3 V8, Bed Liner & Cover, Assist. Steps, 19K, #51034 ..... **\$24,000**

**2011 Chevrolet Camaro 2SS, V8, 6 Speed Manual**  
Red-Gray Leather, Sunroof, 20" Wheels, RS Pkg, 4K, #51056 ..... **\$28,500**

**2011 GMC Sierra Denali Crew Cab AWD**  
Diamond White-Tan Leather, 6.2L V8 Auto, Bose Stereo, 16K, Like New, #50827 ..... **\$38,500**

**2011 Ford F150 Crew Cab 4x4**  
White-Gray Cloth, V6, EcoBoost, RhinoLiner, 86K, #50931 ..... **\$22,000**

**2012 Chevrolet 1500 Ext Cab 2WD LTZ**  
Brown-Black Leather, V8, NAV, 20" Wheels, Rear View Camera, 21K, #51086 ..... **\$30,000**

**2012 Chevrolet 2500HD Crew Cab 4x4 Short Bed**  
White, Pwr Win/Locks, Flatbed, Front Bumper Replacement, 70K, #51002 ..... **\$27,500**

**2013 Chevrolet 2500HD Crew Cab 4x4**  
LS Pkg, White-Charcoal Cloth, 6.0 V8, 20K, #51085 ..... **\$34,500**

**2013 Chevrolet Impala LS**  
White-Charcoal Cloth, 4 Cyl, 16K, #30107 ..... **\$14,775**

**2013 GMC Terrain**  
White-Tan Cloth, V6, Aluminum Wheels, 26K, #30117 ..... **\$24,500**

**2013 Chevrolet Tahoe 2WD**  
LT Pkg, Crystal Red-Black Leather, 2<sup>nd</sup> Row Bench, DVD, Luxury Pkg, 17K, #30115 ..... **\$39,800**

**2013 Chevrolet Captiva SUV**  
White-Charcoal Cloth, 4 Cyl, Pwr Windows/Locks, Cruise, XM, 18K, #30108 ..... **\$20,500**

2013 CHEVROLET 2500HD CREW CAB 4X4

Silver-Black Cloth, 6.0L V8, LT1, Steering Wheel Controls, Pwr Seat, HD Tow Pkg, Positrac. #8763

MSRP ..... \$43,785  
Discounts & Rebates ... \$7,985

SALE PRICE  
\$35,800

2013 CHEVROLET TRAVERSE LTZ

White Diamond-Tan Leather, Front & 2<sup>nd</sup> Row Skylight, V6, Rear DVD. #8732

MSRP ..... \$45,275  
Discounts & Rebates ... \$4,450

SALE PRICE  
\$40,825

2014 CHEVROLET 1500 CREW CAB 4X4 LTZ

White-Brown Leather, V8, Navigation, Bose, Heated and Cooled Front Seats. #8883

MSRP ..... \$50,175  
Discounts & Rebates ... \$4,975

SALE PRICE  
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# The Paperboy Keep chipping away at imperfections

Sometimes in our newspapers we make mistakes. Sometimes we even butcher a page or two.

Do we like it? Absolutely not. Neither myself, nor my staff likes mistakes. We want our readers happy with the product.

I wish I could promise you that we will be perfect. Unfortunately, in the print business, that's an impossibility.

However, I can promise you we will do our best with the resources we have. And when we do make mistakes, we will work to make it right.



CHRIS BLACKBURN

Thank you for the positive feedback on last week's column. I'm thrilled the country's lack of leadership has not gone unnoticed.

We live in a time where one side labels the other side, then neither side wants to be associated with the other side. It's maddening.

I hear how crazy members of the Tea Party are. I hear horror stories about liberals. If you're conservative, you are said not to care. If you're a liberal, people say you're unpatriotic. If you're moderate, you don't go far enough. If you're independent, you can't make up your mind.

Honestly, who cares? As long as everyone in the room can point to one or two things that need fixing, that's a start.

If everyone agrees that all U.S. residents need food, make that work. If we can all agree that

we need more jobs, let's make this country as attractive to businesses as possible. If education is important, let's be great at it — in every state. Get the idea?

If we're ever going to get the ball rolling in terms of leadership, there are some fairly easy fixes to some major things.

I can tell you this: I'm not letting the morons on television make my mind up for me. I will take a look at candidates myself. We need people that can communicate, compromise and lead. That's what I'm looking for.

A quick thought on Facebook: I'm not sure if anything as divisive as Facebook has ever existed. I see it hurt communities all of the time.

We live in a time where people's opinions can be spread instantly and sometimes people can let an irrational thought escape before really thinking it through.

I'm no longer on Facebook, but I keep up with it through employees and friends. Every story I hear about in a negative light makes me cringe.

So, if you're mad, don't post. Give it a few hours. In the end, you'll be glad you did. Words can hurt. Sometimes much worse than we intend. And our towns are too small for us to be hateful.

We're supposed to be family, are we not?

Chris Blackburn is CEO of Blackburn Media Group, owner of The Floyd County Hesperian-Beacon, Hall County Herald, The Hollis News, The Knox County News-Courier, The Post Dispatch, The Childress Index, Wellington Leader and The Stonewall Courier. Email him at [chris@blackburnmediagroup.com](mailto:chris@blackburnmediagroup.com) and follow him on Twitter @WCSBlackburn.

# The Idle American Baylor: From bell ringers to clappers

It is, by many measures, the most delicious season. The general populace — both serious diners and others in the amateur ranks — dream of Thanksgiving dinners. They waken salivating, comforted by assurances that within hours — or certainly days —



DON NEWBURY

aromas wafting from ovens are announcement enough that turkeys and other holiday fare will soon be served.

For the sports-minded, the November scene is likewise heralded, and for the hardcore fan, it is might near as sacred. It is the "put up or shut up" time for contenders, and "wait'll next year" cries for pretenders.

And it is a month — like all the rest, really — when our minds must make room for unexpected news, sports or otherwise. Much of it makes us weep, or at the very least, shake our heads in disbelief.

Who could have dreamed, pray tell, that "bullying," a topic painted vividly in bold type and big headlines — would rear its angry noggin in professional football locker rooms?

NFL brass will try to extinguish this ugly fire as quickly as Red Adair took on oil-rig blowouts. Some of them mutter that their plates are full. They really don't have time to handle media hordes clamoring for more details about locker room shenanigans and football head injuries.

The late Abe Lemons — colorful collegiate basketball coach for almost a half-century known as much for his gentle humor as he was for coaching — would have had a field day coining one-liners. Some of them apply to sports; all of them can help us keep life in perspective.

The NFL brouhaha reminds us that Lemons had the rare ability to keep life well-ordered. Those who knew him best say World War II experiences helped him greatly in the arrangement of his priorities. The jagged edges of war helped him remember that games are indeed just games. We could hope that something short of war would serve the same purposes today.

Lemons opined one day that if he were allowed to add two staff positions, he probably wouldn't add more coaches. He figured better hires would be a hair-dresser

and a psychologist.

What would he suggest today? Maybe tattoo artist, jeweler or interpreter? The philosophical mentor's comments are worth researching. He compared coaching and medicine, saying that when a coach finishes last in the league race, he's called "an idiot." And when a guy finishes last in medical school, he's called "doctor."

Baylor University faithful are still pinching themselves, just to make sure football fortunes introduced by Haskell County native coach Art Briles are real.

Even the most ardent are in various shock stages that the Bears are now 9-0, and one of four undefeated major college teams in the country. One fan bragged — of all things — of gratefulness for daylight-saving time. "It gave us an additional hour to brag," he joked.

Earlier this month, my 101-year-old Uncle Mort provided a sage comment about Baylor football. "For at least a century, the Bears have been much involved in 'bell-ringing' on the football field. What the Bears are trying to get used to now is being the clapper."

Coaches remind fans to get over games completed, won or lost, and to "press on" to the next game on the schedule.

Baylor fans won't soon forget the Bears' dominance of Oklahoma. One crowed that the sun still came up in the Sooner State the next day, but it was an hour late. And the wind did a mild sweep across the plain, but missed its cue, arriving before the rain.

The groan of one disappointed OU fan is worth repeating: "I was so disgusted that when it was obvious on TV that things were only going to get worse in the second half, I changed channels to watch Billy Graham."

Through it all, thousands of people — far in excess of the number of seats in old Baylor Stadium — will one day tell their grandchildren stories about the game. "I was there," they'll claim.

In lean years up the way, they'll boast about how good things were "when Art Briles was here."

That's what they said about another coaching legend Grant Teaff. He, like Briles, proved that Baylor University can sometimes be the clapper in gridiron bell-ringing.

Don Newbury, former chancellor of Howard Payne University in Brownwood, is a Christian humorist and motivational speaker.

# Reward offered in Swenson home burglary

SWENSON — Stonewall County sheriff's authorities and other law enforcement agencies in the area are investigating the Nov. 10 burglary of a home in the Swenson community, and a reward is being offered for information in the crime.

According to reports, a home was broken into and numerous items reported missing, including guns, ammunition, binoculars, scopes, an ivory-handled knife collection and other handmade knives, a coin collection, a crock collection, assorted jewelry, three laptop computers, a handmade quilt, a fiddle and bow in its case and luggage. In addition, Jimbo Humphrey and Trammell bits also were reported stolen.

Sheriff Bill Mullen said his deputies were still investigating and tallying up an estimated

monetary figure for the missing items, but, he said, it would be in the thousands of dollars.

This past week, Clear Fork Crime Stoppers was offering a \$1,000 reward for information leading to an arrest for the crime. The agency works with the public and law enforcement from Stonewall, Fisher, Kent, Jones, Haskell and Shackelford counties to help solve local crimes.

Anyone with knowledge of the incident is asked to call local sheriff's authorities at 940-989-3333 or the Crime Stoppers tipline at 1-800-222-TIPS. Information also may be sent via mobile text messaging to [CFCS@CRIMES](mailto:CFCS@CRIMES). As always, callers do remain anonymous.

The Knox County News-Courier

## Church Directory

### Assembly of God

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

### Baptist

Calvary Baptist Church- 210 E. 6th Street, 990-2342  
First Baptist Church, Post- 402 W. Main Street, 495-3554  
First Baptist Church, Wilson- 806-628-6333  
Grace Baptist Church- 820 N. Avenue S- 990-3497  
Justiceburg Baptist Church- Justiceburg  
Pleasant Home Baptist Church- E. 14th & N Ave F  
Southland Baptist Church- Southland  
Temple Bautista- 315 W. Main  
Trinity Baptist Church- 915 N. Ave O, 990-3038

### Catholic

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

### Church of Christ

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

### Church of God

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

### Disciples of Christ

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

### Evangelical Methodist

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

### Methodist

First United Methodist Church- 216 W. 10th, 990-2942  
Graham Chapel United Methodist Church  
(Pastor: John Hedrick) - 611 FM #1313 806-549-1400

### Nazarene

Post Church of Nazarene- 202 W. 10th, 495-3044  
Grassland Church of Nazarene- 327-5656

### Presbyterian

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

### Nondenominational

Family Harvest Church- (806) 495-1400

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## Skilled troopers



Patti Walker/The News-Courier

Sgt. Jodie Tullos, who heads up the regional Texas Department of Public Safety headquarters in Haskell, advises troopers in his charge of how best to handle an attack situation when faced with a potential threat in the field. The quarterly training session Monday was conducted at the Double Mountain Motor Sports Arena in Aspermont.

# Local DPS train for the worst

ASPERMONT — Regional state troopers with the Texas Department of Public Safety trained Monday at the Double Mountain Motor Sports Arena for different scenarios in which their expertise could save lives.

Sgt. Jodie Tullos, who heads up the regional DPS headquarters in Haskell, conducted the quarterly training for seven of the troopers under his command.

Tullos said a number of situations are covered in reality-based sessions that teach troopers to deal with possible threats

experienced while in their patrol vehicles as well as face-to-face contact.

On Monday, the young troopers trained with several attack dummies as well as target dummies.

"We hope to never have to use this training in real-life situations, but we have to be prepared for anything when the lives of our residents could be in jeopardy," Tullos said.

Patti Walker



## Knox judge's secretary sentenced for embezzling

By Wayne Hodgins  
The News-Courier

BENJAMIN — A Knox County woman accused of taking nearly \$40,000 in funds while serving as a high-level county employee has been sentenced to 10 years in state prison.

Michelle Solis Esquivel, 43, of Knoxville, entered a guilty plea Nov. 6 to an enhanced third-degree felony charge of theft by a public servant before the Honorable W.H. Heatly, judge for the 50th District of Texas.

In a negotiated deal with District Attorney David W. Hajek, Esquivel will serve 10 years in a state correctional facility and be ordered to pay restitution in the amount of \$38,422.06 and court costs of \$455.

However, because she had no prior criminal history,

Esquivel will be eligible to petition the court for community supervision after serving no more than 180 days of her sentence.

Esquivel turned herself into Knox County sheriff's officials last October after a grand jury indicted her and a warrant was issued for her arrest stemming from charges she, while serving in the county's employ, embezzled more than \$20,000 but less than \$100,000 from the county's "hot check fund" between Dec. 28, 2008, and Nov. 4, 2011.

In her capacity as secretary for the county judge and the county attorney, Esquivel was the administrator of that fund.

After her arrest Oct. 29, 2012, she was released later that day on a \$25,000 bond.

She was arraigned Nov. 28 in 50th District Court



MICHELLE ESQUIVEL

and had at that time entered a not guilty plea.

The sentencing brings to a close a nearly five-year ordeal, which has been tirelessly investigated for more than a year by the Texas Rangers, the Knox County attorney and the Knox County treasurer, while the adjudication process was backlogged, bottlenecked, and dragged out by the district attorney's office.

## Pet of the Week



Janice Plummer/For the Dispatch

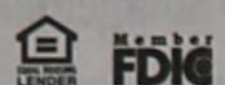
Rufus is one sad little guy. He is at the shelter and scared of everyone he sees. He needs his family. If you recognize him, please contact Post Animal Refuge Center on Facebook at Post Arc or postarc@yahoo.com.

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Sept. 13 Sa  
Sept. 20 Tu  
Sept. 27 De  
Oct. 4 O  
Oct. 11 \*R  
Oct. 18 \*T  
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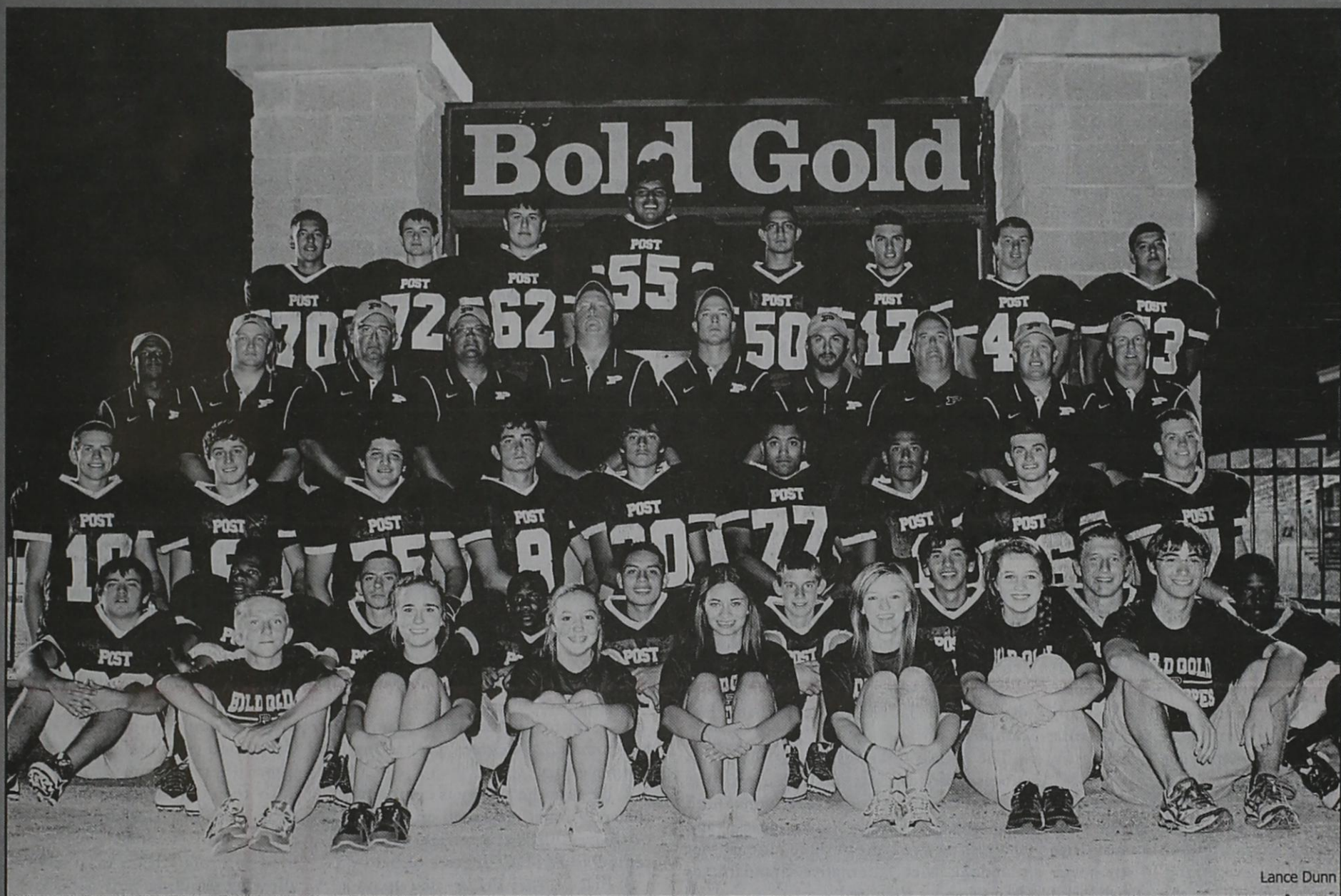


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DATE	OPPONENT	LOCATION	TIME
Aug. 16	Brownfield-scrimmage	Brownfield	6:00
Aug. 23	Sudan-scrimmage	Post	6:00
Aug. 30	Morton	Post	7:30
Sept. 6	Lamesa	Lamesa	7:30
Sept. 13	Slaton	Post	7:30
Sept. 20	Tahoka	Tahoka	7:30
Sept. 27	Denver City	Denver City	7:30
Oct. 4	Open		
Oct. 11	*Roosevelt	Post	7:30
Oct. 18	*Tulia	Post	7:30
Oct. 25	*Floydada	Floydada	7:30
Nov. 1	*Olton (Homecoming)	Post	7:30
Nov. 8	*Abernathy	Abernathy	7:30

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
Sept. 12	@Slaton	6:00
Sept. 19	Tahoka	6:00
Sept. 26	Denver City	6:00
Oct. 10	@Roosevelt*	6:00
Oct. 17	@Tulia*	6:00
Oct. 24	Floydada*	6:00
Nov. 7	@Abernathy*	6:00

DATE	OPPONENT	B	7TH	8TH
Aug. 29	Levelland	5:00		
Sept. 12	Slaton	5:00	6:00	7:00
Sept. 5	Lamesa	6:00		
Sept. 19	@Tahoka	TBA	5:00	6:00
Sept. 26	@Denver City	4:30	6:00	7:30
Oct. 3	@Brownfield	4:30	6:00	7:30
Oct. 10	Roosevelt*	4:30	6:00	7:30
Oct. 17	Tulia*	TBA	6:00	7:30
Oct. 24	@Floydada*	TBA	6:00	7:30
Oct. 31	Olton*	TBA	6:00	7:30
Oct. 31	@Olton*		6:00	
Nov. 7	@Abernathy*	TBA	6:00	7:30

Contact Information  
High School 806-495-2770  
Athletics 806-495-2770, Ext. 211  
FAX 806-495-2945  
Online postisd.net  
Address 501 S. Ave. K / 79356

Post ISD Administration  
Mike Comeaux-Superintendent  
Jadie Matthew-High School Principal  
Marvin Self-Middle School Principal  
Staci Marts-Elementary School Principal  
Steve Smith-AD/Head Football

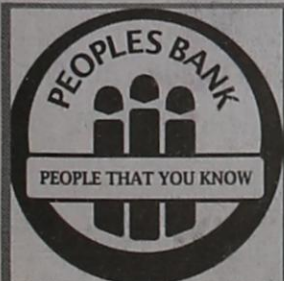
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# Capital Highlights

## Governor reacts to health care proposal

By Ed Sterling  
For the Dispatch

AUSTIN — President Obama's announcement last week proposing an alternative to insurers canceling health insurance plans that no longer meet the federal Affordable Care law's requirement to cover basic benefits like prescription drugs or doctors' visits drew fire from Gov. Rick Perry.

Insurers could offer customers the option to renew their 2013 health plans in 2014, without change, allowing them to keep their plans, the president said.

Perry, in a Nov. 14 news release, said Obama's proposal would "create more confusion for consumers and threatens to destabilize the health insurance industry." Perry also accused the president of "shifting the blame by saying it's up to states and state insurance commissioners to fix the massive problem his signature law has created for millions of Americans who are losing their health insurance."

Obama, however, said the individual insurance market "had serious problems before the Affordable Care Act. And it's important that we don't pretend that somehow that's a place worth going back to. Too often, it works fine as long as you stay healthy; it doesn't work well when you're sick. So year after year, Americans are routinely exposed to financial ruin, or denied coverage due to minor pre-existing conditions, or dropped from coverage altogether — even if they paid their premiums on time."

Currently the federal government estimates that 6 million of the 40 million Americans who do not have health insurance reside in Texas.

### TxDOT marks death toll

Texas' last roadway fatality-free day was Nov. 7, 2000, Texas Department of Transportation reported in a statement circulated last week to mark the 13th year since that day.

According to the agency, 45,032 motor vehicle traffic deaths (13,544 alcohol-related) have occurred on Texas roadways over those years, and despite a steady decline in traffic fatalities in recent years, Texas saw an 11-percent increase in fatalities from 2011 to 2012.

"Having at least one person killed on a Texas road every single day for 13 years is a sobering reminder that we must drive carefully and do everything in our power to stay focused behind the wheel," said John Barton, TxDOT deputy executive director. "These people are our spouses, children, friends and neighbors, and losing

them to traffic deaths has a profound and permanent impact on their families. This staggering number of fatalities needs to stop increasing every 24 hours, and taking personal responsibility for our driving habits is the first step."

Also, "distracted driving" has been a leading cause of roadway deaths. Since Jan. 1, 2008, the agency reported, distracted driving has caused 2,719 roadway fatalities. Furthermore, 5,469 unrestrained vehicle occupants have lost their lives in roadway accidents since Jan. 1, 2008.

TxDOT issued this set of safety recommendations: Pay attention (put phone down and avoid distractions); buckle the seatbelt (all passengers need to be buckled); drive the speed limit (always follow speed limits and drive safer speeds when weather or conditions are present); and never drink and drive (get a sober ride home).

### Judge grants 'lizard' motion

Judge Rudolph Contreras of the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia has granted Texas Comptroller Susan Combs' motion to intervene in a lawsuit filed by environmental groups to protect the dunes sagebrush lizard, a tiny reptile native to New Mexico and four counties of West Texas where petroleum drilling and exploration sites abound.

"The judge's decision ensures that stakeholders who worked on an important lizard conservation plan have a say in the proceedings," Combs said on Nov. 7. "The plan is part of our continuing efforts to help Texas strike an appropriate balance between environmental protection and economic growth."

Filed by Defenders of Wildlife and the Center for Biological Diversity, the lawsuit asked the court to require U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to reconsider its June 2012 decision not to list the lizard as an endangered species.

### Final ratings made available

Texas Education Agency on Nov. 7 released final 2013 state accountability system ratings for more than 1,200 school districts and charters and more than 8,500 campuses.

The release of ratings follows an appeals process for districts and charters that contested ratings originally announced in August. Districts, campuses and charters received one of three ratings: Met Standard, Met Alternative Standard, or Improvement Required.

Complete information for districts, campuses and charters is available at [state.tx.us](http://state.tx.us).

## Nancy's Notions

### Turkey Basics: Safe Cooking

With more than 248.5 million turkeys raised worldwide, 219 million of these were consumed in the United States. It is thought that of those 219 million, about 46 million were eaten on Thanksgiving. In addition, about 22 million are eaten at Christmas and another 19 million were eaten at Easter.

Questions always arise concerning cooking turkeys and food safety, so I thought I'll elaborate this week with a few details from the USDA Food Safety website.

Most importantly, a food thermometer should be used to ensure a safe minimum internal temperature of 165 degrees has been reached to destroy bacteria and prevent food-borne illness.

Following are a few variables to consider concerning the roasting time of a whole turkey:

- A partially frozen turkey requires longer cooking.
- A stuffed turkey takes longer to cook.
- The oven may not heat food unevenly.
- Temperature of the oven may be inaccurate.
- Dark roasting pans cook faster than shiny metals.
- The depth and size of the pan can reduce heat circulation to all areas of the turkey.
- The use of a foil tent for the entire time can slow cooking.
- Use of the roasting pan's lid speeds cooking.
- An oven cooking bag can accelerate cooking time.
- The rack position can have an affect on even cooking and heat circulation.
- A turkey or its pan may be too large for the oven, thus blocking heat circulation.

Wow. Those are the concerns that only show the following roasting instructions are general. Adjustments may be necessary.

1. Set the oven temperature no lower than 325 degrees. Preheating is not necessary.
2. Be sure the turkey is completely thawed. Times are based on fresh or thawed birds at a refrigerator temperature of 40 degrees or below.
3. Place turkey breast-side up on a flat wire rack in a shallow roasting pan 2 to 2 1/2 inches deep. (Optional steps: Tuck wing tips back under shoulders of bird (called "akimbo"). Add one-half cup water to the bottom of the pan. In the beginning, a tent of aluminum foil may be placed loosely over the breast of the turkey for the first 1 to 1 1/2 hours, then removed for browning. Or, a tent of foil may be placed over the turkey after the turkey has reached the

desired golden brown color.)

4. For optimum safety, cook stuffing in a casserole. If stuffing your turkey, mix ingredients just before stuffing it; stuff loosely. Additional time is required for the turkey and stuffing to reach a safe minimum internal temperature (see chart).

5. For safety and doneness, the internal temperature should be checked with a food thermometer. The temperature of the turkey and the center of the stuffing must reach a safe minimum internal temperature of 165 degrees. Check the temperature in the innermost part of the thigh and wing and the thickest part of the breast.

6. Let the bird stand 20 minutes before removing stuffing and carving.

### APPROXIMATE COOKING TIMES

(325 °F oven temperature)

UNSTUFFED (time in hours)

4 to 6 lb. breast — 1 1/2 to 2 1/4

6 to 8 lb. breast — 2 1/4 to 3 1/4

8 to 12 lbs. — 2 3/4 to 3

12 to 14 lbs. — 3 to 3 3/4

14 to 18 lbs. — 3 3/4 to 4 1/4

18 to 20 lbs. — 4 1/4 to 4 1/2

20 to 24 lbs. — 4 1/2 to 5

STUFFED (time in hours)

8 to 12 lbs. — 3 to 3 1/2

12 to 14 lbs. — 3 1/2 to 4

14 to 18 lbs. — 4 to 4 1/4

18 to 20 lbs. — 4 1/4 to 4 3/4

20 to 24 lbs. — 4 3/4 to 5 1/4

Remember: Always wash hands, utensils, the sink and anything else that comes in contact with raw turkey and its juices with soap and water.

When the feast is over and everyone is "stuffed," how should you store your leftovers? Discard any turkey, stuffing and gravy left out at room temperature longer than two hours; one hour in temperatures above 90 degrees. Divide leftovers into smaller portions. Refrigerate or freeze in covered shallow containers for quicker cooling. Use refrigerated turkey, stuffing, and gravy within three to four days. When freezing leftovers, use within two to six months for best quality.

Cooked turkey may be eaten cold or reheated. If reheating in the oven, set the oven temperature no lower than 325 degrees. Reheat turkey to an internal temperature of 165 degrees. Use a food thermometer to check the internal temperature.

To keep the turkey moist, add a little broth or water and cover. If reheating in the microwave, cover your food and rotate it for even heating, allowing standing time. Check the internal temperature of your food with a food thermometer to make sure it reaches 165 degrees. Consult your microwave oven owner's manual for recommended times and power levels.

For information on other methods for cooking a turkey, call the USDA Meat and Poultry Hotline at 1-888-MPHotline (1-888-674-6854).

Nancy McDonald is the family and consumer sciences agent for the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service in Garza County.



NANCY MCDONALD

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

THE STATE OF TEXAS §  
COUNTY OF GARZA §

By virtue of an Order of Sale issued out of the Honorable 106<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Court of Garza County, on the 30<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2013, by the Clerk thereof, in the case(s) styled as follows:

Cause No.	Styling	Legal Description
10-01-06434	Garza Central Appraisal District v. HOLBROOK, FINLEY JR.	1. A 0.015625 Royalty Interest in the Henderson -A Lease, RRC Number 85014113, RJD Management, Operator. Located in Section Eighty-two (82), Block Five (5), Abstract Eight Hundred Fifty-five (855), GH&H Survey, Garza County, Texas.
11-01-06542	Garza Central Appraisal District v. THE UNKNOWN HEIRS OF W.C. MCCOLVEY, DECEASED, ET AL	2. Lots One (1), Two (2), Three (3), Five (5), and Six (6), Block Thirty-six (36) and Lots Eighteen (18), Nineteen (19), and Twenty (20), Block Thirty-one (31), Original Town of Southland, Garza County, Texas.
11-04-06563	Garza Central Appraisal District v. ROBERTS, SERITA JEANINE	3. 006149 Royalty Interest, Richardson Floyd Unit, 85004610, Cholla Petrole - Operator/ Block 1, Section 1282, BS&F Survey, Garza County, Texas. 4. 006149 Royalty Interest, Richardson Floyd Unit NCT, 85068885, Cholla Petrole - Operator/ Abstract 652, Section 1282, BS&F/B J Galbraith Survey, Garza County, Texas. 5. 006149 Royalty Interest, Richardson Floyd Unit A, 85013106, Cholla Petrole - Operator/ Abstract 652, Section 1282, GS&F Survey, Southwest Quarter (SW/4), Garza County, Texas.
12-02-06759	Garza Central Appraisal District, Et Al v. MITTON, DANIEL O., ET AL	7. Lots Four (4), Five (5), and Six (6), Block Fourteen (14), Original Town Addition to the City of Post, Garza County, Texas.
12-04-06779	Garza Central Appraisal District, Et Al v. FLORES, FILVERTO, ET UX	8. Lot Six (6), Block One Hundred Thirty-One (131), Original Town Addition to the City of Post, Garza County, Texas.

and to me, as Sheriff, directed and delivered, I will proceed to sell, at 10:00 a.m. on the 3rd day of December, 2013, which is the first Tuesday of said month, at the East door of the Courthouse of Garza County, in the City of Post, Texas.

Levied on the 30<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2013, as the property of

said defendants, to satisfy the judgment rendered in the above styled and numbered cause, together with interest, at 12 percent per annum, and all costs of suit in favor of each jurisdiction.

\* ALL BIDDERS MUST NOW DISPLAY PROOF OF COMPLIANCE WITH 34.015 OF TEXAS TAX CODE \*

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND THIS 30<sup>th</sup> DAY OF October, 2013.

*Larry L. Morgan*  
SHERIFF, GARZA COUNTY, TEXAS

BY *Larry L. Morgan* Sheriff DEPUTY

### Cryptogram Solution

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**FOOT**  
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## Yesteryears

10 years ago  
November 27, 2003

12-inch city water line that feeds Post's water distribution system from the tanks developed a major leak near 10th and Osage. It became a large problem, as the citizens of Post were without running water.

The Garza County Health Care District board of directors did a little belt tightening last week during their regular November meeting, passing on an upgrade of the districts' phone system and cancelling the districts involvement in the PostTexas.com Web page. Board members discussed ongoing problems with the phone system that has served district facilities since 1990. The system losses memory every time there is a power loss. The board looked at the prices of several suggested replacement systems, but decided that all of the options were "too pricey." Instead, it was decided that the phone switch linked to the system is the primary problem.

20 years ago  
December 1, 1993

Wade Bell, Robert Sanchez and Clay Ashley advance to the 7, 8 and 9th grade Region Choir. These young men sang with a group of about 100 other students from the area in a concert held at the Monterey High School Auditorium.

Inez Ritchie from the Homemaker Extension present Garza County with a new American Flag at the Commissioners meeting. Accepting the flag was Judge Giles Dalby.

30 years ago  
December 7, 1983

The choirs of the First United Methodist and First Presbyterian

Church of Post will present identical performances of "A Night of Miracles."

Chamber of commerce secretary Donna Stelzer was honored last week with visitors to the chamber office on her last day of work. Donna George of Post has been inducted into the Hardin-Simmons University chapter of Alpha Chi, an international scholarship society open to the top 10 percent of upper level college and university students.

40 years ago  
November 29, 1973

Seniors Ricky Shepherd and Jodi Norman have been elected "Mr. and Mrs. PHS" of 1973-74 by the post High School student body.

Ronald Simpson has been promoted from assistant vice president to vice president of the First National Bank and Ben Miller has been added to the bank staff as an assistant vice president.

The nation's energy shortage has brought a lot of changes to the musical opening of the Christmas season here in Post. The Festival of Lights, sponsored by Women Division of the Post Chamber of Commerce, has been changed in name to the Christmas Song Festival and the time has been moved up to 5:00 pm because of the lack of lighting to hold the event any later.

50 years ago  
December 5, 1963

The city council voted unanimously to employ Acting City Supt. E. A. Warren as city superintendent. The council also voted unanimously to give water department employee Jimmy Holleman the title of city water superintendent.

Compiled by Anna Gibson

## The 501 Chasing Oswald and Booth

"Are we out of the woods yet?" Have you ever wondered about the origin of that expression? I haven't.

It's a metaphor we all use unthinkingly. Metaphors are like that.

Ferretting out the origins of such expressions makes for interesting linguistic adventures, but the Internet makes everything too easy. Better to challenge yourself at least to take a guess before turning to Google. Otherwise, your brain will turn to mush sooner rather than later.

Motto du jour: "Think first, Google second." Seriously.

That's our high point. Quit reading now, or stick with me as we chase a few rabbits through the woods and maybe into a clearing.

First, what picture does "getting out of the woods" paint in your mind? I see at least two people being pursued by other people through a mediocre forest. Finally they reach a clearing, meaning they don't have to jump over logs and stuff to run really fast. But conditions also improve for the pursuers when they reach the same place. So, that illustration doesn't hold water, metaphorically speaking.

GOOGLE PAUSE.

A search for "out of the woods" produced these results:

CONTINUED PAUSE.

Well, guess what — no results yet. After 30 long seconds, I'm still waiting. That's the great thing about the farm — a very slow connection to omniscience. I'm forced to think for myself.

What do I know about woods? Very little. Our farm has pseudo-woods in the form of tree rows, a.k.a., shelterbelts, planted circa 1940 by the

Civilian Conservation Corps to combat wind erosion. Each shelterbelt is a narrow forest. At age 70-plus, they're askew with dead limbs and rotting logs, not to mention live low-hanging branches, some with thorns. Watch out for low-hanging branches.

Isn't that a great expression? It means you should watch out for low-hanging branches.

Or does it? We could Google that one too, but since we're nine minutes into the "out of the woods" search, changing horses in midstream seems ill advised.

GOOGLE RESULTS. After 11 minutes of suspense, the answer has arrived: "Out of the woods" means "past a critical phase." Hmmm. That's a pretty dull definition, devoid of anyone chasing anyone else and no interesting origin noted. A tidy no-frills explanation is no fun at all. It's like a shadowy forest giving way to a plain old meadow.

Makes me think of the Kennedy assassination. Wandering around in the Conspiracy Woods is more intriguing than reaching the Oswald-Did-It-By-Himself Clearing.

Maybe I just invented a new metaphor. Or we have the makings of an allegory. I get them confused.

Either way, the Oswald-Did-It theme is lackluster compared to the conspiracy theories. And more keep surfacing.

Yep, when it comes to knowing everything about John F. Kennedy's assassination, we're a half-century down the road and not out of the woods.

Unless human nature changes, we never will be.

Case in point, speculation still surrounds Abraham Lincoln's death. Assassin John Wilkes Booth is said to have escaped to Granbury or Japan.

I like to think it was Granbury.

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



HANABA MUNN WELCH

## FOOTBALL

From Page 1

stopped the Hornets after Jabren Rodriguez tackled the running back for a loss, and Alejo Rodriguez stopped the receiver for no gain. On third down the Hornets scored a touchdown taking a 14-7 lead and shocking the Antelopes for the moment. Brown would return the ensuing kickoff into Hornet territory plus add 15 yards for a horse collar tackle to give the Lopes great field position.

On third down the pass was intercepted. The Bold Gold defense held with Alan Alaniz sacking the quarterback on third down forcing the Hornets to punt. Post would take possession at their 36-yard line. They would score in only four plays.

Brown would cover the final 39 yards for the touchdown, his first of three touchdowns for the game. Lopez added the extra point, evening the score again at 14. The defense forced Highland Park to punt to start the second quarter.

The Lopes took possession at the Highland Park 39 yard line. Post would put together to seven-play drive to take the lead 21-14, with Brown scoring from eight yards out. Lopez continued to kick the extra point.

The Hornets would not go away. Highland Park

would put together a 75-yard scoring drive to tie the game at 21 with four minutes remaining in the first half. The Hornets' defense stopped the Lopes and forced a punt.

The Hornets started their possession at the 25 yard line. On first down, Paden Babb sacked the quarterback, losing 13 yards, on second down eight Lopes made the tackle on the ball carrier, and on third down Campbell Kirkpatrick defended the receiver to force the Highland Park punt.

Gilbert would return the punt to the Hornet 20 yard line. Four plays later, Brown scored on the power play from four yards out. With Lopez' kick, Post lead 28-21 with 25 seconds remaining in the half.

Both defense forced punts on the first two drives to start the second half. When Post lined up to punt the snap was mishandled, and the Hornets had good field position at the Post 49 yard line. The Bold Gold defense held again. Neither team was able to put together any scoring drives during the third quarter.

The Hornets put together a drive during the fourth quarter to cut the Lopes' lead to one point, thanks to Gilbert blocking the extra-point attempt with 7:43 remaining in the game.

The Lopes responded in true Bold Gold form by driving 74 yards in seven plays to extend the lead. Smith ran in from eight yards out. The extra point failed, but the Lopes still lead 34-27 with 2:49 remaining.

The Lope defense came up big on the first play from scrimmage. T.J. Basquez knocked the ball loose, and Smith recovered. The Lopes' offense took over at the Hornet 15 yard line. Smith scored on a 12-yard run, giving Post a 41-27 lead with 47 seconds remaining in the contest.

The Lopes stopped the Hornets to win the bi-district championship.

Post will face Sonora in the area round of the playoffs for the second year in a row. Sonora beat Post last season, 34-10, to advance to the semi-final round of the playoffs.

This will be the fourth meeting between the two programs. Post won, 35-28, in 2009 in the bi-district game. Sonora won, 14-7, the first meeting in 1998 14-7 in the regional round.

Sonora won the District 4 championship and defeated Ballinger in bi-district last Friday.

The Broncos are led by running back Chance Campbell on offense. They also feature a very tough defense. The game is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. tonight in Big Spring.

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# Kennedy's challenge remains a call to action

When dawn broke on Nov. 22, 1963, it promised to be a mild, fall day in Dallas. By sundown, it had become a dark, gloomy day that had changed history not just in this country but around the world.

The youthful exuberance and good looks of President John Fitzgerald Kennedy also captured the hearts of the residents of the United States as well as many nations around the world, but so had the beauty and elegance of his wife,



CHARLES KEATON

Jacqueline Bouvier Kennedy. The President and first lady allowed the world to see everything that was good about our nation — even as he faced the day-to-day tensions that normally surround the office of president of the United States.

With the world still recovering from World War II and the Korean War, the threat of Communism continued to heighten tensions around the globe. Within our own borders, other tensions were mounting brought on by other aspects of life, including civil rights and a growing unrest as black Americans sought equality.

These growing concerns weighed heavily on the mind of the young president as he awakened that fateful day on Friday, Nov. 22, 1962, compounded by the threat of nuclear weapons in Cuba and the expansion of the military into the small, Southeast Asian country of Vietnam.

Fifty years ago, I sat in the second-grade classroom of Mrs. Wanda Houk. Just like other 8-year-olds, I had little to no interest in the politics of this nation; I was more concerned about baseball or football. On this day, just like any other Friday, especially the one right before Thanksgiving, I was ready to enjoy my weekend and looked forward to a short school week, but shortly after lunch, our principal, Mr. P.E. Davis, made an announcement that changed my day, my weekend and Thanksgiving 1963.

As Mr. Davis made the announcement of the tragic news the president had been shot and killed, little did I realize the change that was about to come to this nation. Vice President Lyndon Baines Johnson was sworn in as the chief executive and within a few months signed into law the Civil Rights Act of 1964. President Johnson also escalated the U.S. involvement in Vietnam in 1965, which would last for 10 more years.

As an 8-year-old, most of my free time revolved around playing with friends and watching Saturday-morning cartoons, but things were different this fourth weekend in November 1963. For those who are younger than 50, you have to understand Lubbock had only two television stations in 1963 (and they only broadcast in black-and-white), so to have your Saturday mornings interrupted with all-day, all-weekend coverage of the assassination of JFK was tragic in my small world. But just like everyone else that weekend, I watched it all, trying to understand the significance of what had occurred in Dallas.

I remember hearing the reports of the killing of Dallas police officer J.D. Tippitt as every law officer in the Dallas area searched for the person or persons responsible for shooting the president. This concerned me, even though we lived more than 300 miles away, because my dad was a police officer in Lubbock. My young mind couldn't grasp the concept of distance and that he was safe from what was happening in Dallas.

I was concerned because there were rumors the Soviet Union was preparing to invade the United States. I was concerned because adults were upset and scared of what would or could happen to our country. What would happen if the Soviets invaded? What would happen to the world around me, the one I lived in every day?

The events that continued through the weekend, held me captivated. I missed the live murder of Lee Harvey Oswald on Sunday morning because we were at church. I do remember



President John F. Kennedy's body is carried toward Arlington National Cemetery on a horse-drawn caisson followed by the riderless horse, Black Jack. President Kennedy was killed by an assassin's bullet on Friday, Nov. 22, 1963 and was laid to rest on Monday, Nov. 25, 1963.

the discussions that took place on television as to why Jack Ruby did it. Even as early as two days later, the conspiracy theories were being discussed. Ruby denied the world the answers that Oswald might have provided, but even more so, he raised more questions regarding a conspiracy or other shooters.

As Monday, Nov. 25, 1963, began, a nation was in mourning. School was canceled so everyone could stay home and watch the solemn ceremonies and proceedings taking place in Washington, D.C. My mom and I watched everything from the funeral procession to the final interment in Arlington National Cemetery.

The pain and loss was etched on the faces of everyone from the Kennedy family to the news commentators to the throngs that stood in silence as the horse-drawn caisson proceeded from the Capitol to the White House to St. Matthew's Cathedral and finally to Arlington National Cemetery.

I remember the image of John Jr. saluting his father's casket as it left St. Matthew's. I remember the slow progress from the Cathedral to Arlington National Cemetery.

I can still hear the clip-clop of the horses as they made the slow march to the steady beat of the drums. I remember it as if it was yesterday and the impact it had on the world and the nation in 1963.

Even though the rumors of an impending Soviet invasion disappeared over the weekend, the impact of this event changed my life and changed a nation. For me, it awoke an interest and desire to understand what was happening in the world.

I'm not a 24-hour news junkie, but I do want to know what's happening. I'm drawn to the tragedies that over the last 50 years have struck this nation from time to time.

Many of which I have watched for countless hours. I'm not a historian, but I want to know the historical significance of the events that have shocked this nation and transformed its future.

"What if ...?"  
What if JFK wasn't assassinated? What if Oswald wasn't murdered? What if the Warren Commission wasn't at the mercy of J. Edgar Hoover?  
"What if ...?"

Fifty years later, an event that transformed a nation still dwells in the minds of those who were alive and aware of

the tragic events. Many feel there are still unanswered questions, most of which will never be known.

Where were you when JFK was assassinated? Most of us older than 50 can answer this question without hesitation. We understand what we lived through was a tragic page in the history of this great nation. As a nation, we were changed forever. The challenges JFK issued to this nation were attacked with vigor that day — challenges that eventually would be met and achieved by this great country, which continues to evolve.

In his inaugural address, JFK spoke those now immortal words, "Ask not what your country can do for you. Ask what you can do for your country."

Today, we need to be reminded, that though he served a short time, JFK challenged the nation to continue to be great, to be the leader of the world, to work for peace and to look forward to the future.

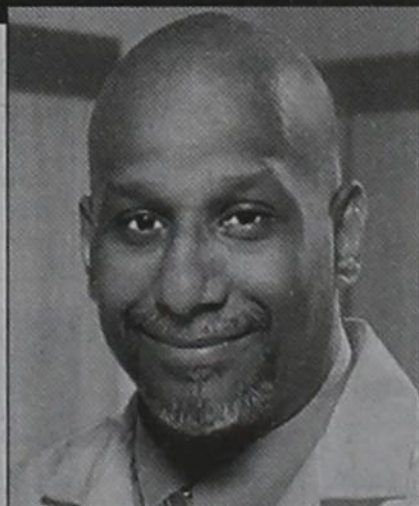
What can you do for our country today?

Charles Keaton is a reporter for the Floyd County Hesperian-Beacon, a sister publication to The Post Dispatch. He is a retired educator, a local sports announcer/analyst and a history enthusiast.

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John F. Kennedy  
Nov. 22, 1963



NOTICE OF INTENTION TO ISSUE CITY OF POST, TEXAS, CERTIFICATES OF OBLIGATION

TAKE NOTICE that the City Council of the City of Post, Texas, shall convene at 6:00 p.m. on the 14th day of January, 2014, at the City Hall, 105 East Main Street., Post, Texas and, during such meeting, the City Council will consider the passage of an ordinance or ordinances authorizing the issuance of certificates of obligation in one or more series in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$1,600,000 for the purpose of paying contractual obligations to be incurred for (i) the construction of public works, to wit: improvements to the city waterworks and sewer system including three new water wells, construction of a water storage tank, construction of additional pipelines and the possible acquisition of sites, and (ii) professional services rendered in relation to such projects and purposes and the financing thereof, such certificates to be payable from ad valorem taxes and a limited pledge of the net revenues of the City's combined waterworks and sewer and systems. The certificates are to be issued, and this notice is given, under and pursuant to the provisions of V.T.C.A., Local Government Code, Subchapter C of Chapter 271.

Deana Watson  
City Secretary  
City of Post, Texas

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## Post Dispatch Weather Summary

### Post's Seven Day Forecast

<b>Friday</b> Isolated Rain 37/28	<b>Saturday</b> Mostly Cloudy 39/28	<b>Sunday</b> Mostly Cloudy 42/31	<b>Monday</b> Mostly Cloudy 46/31	<b>Tuesday</b> Partly Cloudy 43/32	<b>Wednesday</b> Mostly Sunny 51/32	<b>Thursday</b> Partly Cloudy 48/34

### Local UV Index

0-2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11+

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

### Weather Trivia

The zone of atmosphere that we stand in is known as?

**Answer:** The lithosphere.

### Weather History

**Nov. 22, 1988** - Wet and windy weather prevailed across the western U.S., with heavy snow in some of the higher elevations. Winds gusted to 62 mph at Vedauwoo, Wyo., and reached 75 mph at Tillamook, Ore. Shelter Cove, Calif. was drenched with 4.37 inches of rain in 24 hours.

**Nov. 23, 1943** - Northern New Hampshire was in the grips of a record snowstorm that left a total of 55 inches at Berlin and 56 inches at Randolph. The Randolph total was a 24-hour snowfall record for the state.

### Detailed Local Forecast

Today we will see cloudy skies with a 30% chance of rain, high temperature of 37°, humidity of 38%. North northeast wind y, with a north northeast wind 20 to 30 mph. The record high temperature for today is 83° set in 2003. Expect cloudy skies tonight with a 30% chance of rain and snow, overnight low of 28°. North northeast wind 15 mph. The record low for tonight is 18° set in 1975. Saturday, skies will be mostly cloudy with a slight chance of snow, high temperature of 39°, humidity of 21%. Northeast wind 10 to 15 mph.

### Peak Fishing/Hunting Times This Week

Day	Peak Times		Day	Peak Times	
	AM	PM		AM	PM
Fri	2:19-4:19	2:49-4:49	Tue	5:16-7:16	5:46-7:46
Sat	3:05-5:05	3:35-5:35	Wed	6:01-8:01	6:31-8:31
Sun	3:49-5:49	4:19-6:19	Thu	6:48-8:48	7:18-9:18
Mon	4:33-6:33	5:03-7:03			

www.WhatsOurWeather.com

### Sun/Moon Chart This Week

Day	Sunrise	Sunset	Moonrise	Moonset
<b>Last 11/25</b>	Fri 7:23 a.m.	5:40 p.m.	10:10 p.m.	11:11 a.m.
Sat 7:24 a.m.	5:39 p.m.	11:03 p.m.	11:48 a.m.	
Sun 7:25 a.m.	5:39 p.m.	11:57 p.m.	12:23 p.m.	
<b>New 12/2</b>	Mon 7:26 a.m.	5:39 p.m.	No Rise	12:56 p.m.
Tue 7:27 a.m.	5:38 p.m.	12:52 a.m.	1:28 p.m.	
Wed 7:28 a.m.	5:38 p.m.	1:48 a.m.	2:02 p.m.	<b>Full 12/17</b>
Thu 7:29 a.m.	5:38 p.m.	2:46 a.m.	2:37 p.m.	

### Last Week's Almanac & Growing Degree Days

Date	High	Low	Normals	Precip	Farmer's Growing Degree Days			
11/12	53	32	63/36	0.00"	Date	Degree Days	Date	Degree Days
11/13	58	28	62/35	0.00"	11/12	0	11/16	18
11/14	68	39	62/35	0.00"	11/13	0	11/17	11
11/15	75	31	62/35	0.00"	11/14	4	11/18	1
11/16	78	57	61/34	0.00"	11/15	3		
11/17	75	47	61/34	0.00"				
11/18	62	40	60/33	0.00"				

Growing degree days are calculated by taking the average temperature for the day and subtracting the base temperature (50 degrees) from the average to assess how many growing days are attained.

## Dixie Divas

### A thanksgiving for blessings and troubles

If New Year's is a time to regroup and look toward the upcoming year, then Thanksgiving is a time to gather and reflect on the year that has passed. In our family, it is a time when we thank the good Lord for both the heartaches and the blessings.

We thank him for the grace that upheld us and saw us through the troubles and his beautiful goodness in the gifts and blessings he bestowed.

As I look back at this year, I can cheerfully declare it to have been one of the happiest, most blessed years of my existence. Yes, there were little aggravations and stresses here and there, but it was overwhelmingly good even in spite of the death of Tink's precious mother. But that, too, was a blessing of sorts.



A woman of remarkable, steadfast faith, Miss Ruth had been longing — even pleading with God — to go home. She was tired and wearied, and her body was failing her. "Oh, just to be with my sweet Lord and Savior," she would say repeatedly.

She called us one morning, and Tink RICH put her on speaker phone in the car. Brightly and happily, she sang out, "I just called to say good-bye, dear."

"Good-bye?" Tink asked quizzically. She rarely left home. "Where are you going?"

"Well, today I'm going to heaven! I just wanted to call and tell you good-bye, my dear."

"OK," Tink replied in a comical tone. "Have a good trip."

Miss Ruth did not have any loss of mind. She had all her mental facilities, but she was a woman so steeled in faith she really believed she could will her way, through faith, to heaven at a time of her choosing.

Tink called her that evening, and when she answered, he said, "Well, I see you didn't go to heaven today."

"Maybe tomorrow!" she intoned enthusiastically. So, when the angels came to gather her up, through our sadness we saw the blessing. She was where she had spent her life trying to get. Her "tomorrow" had finally arrived.

It's been a happy year, personally and professionally, filled with blessings both simple and complex. The unusual rainy year filled our streams and small river, while grass grew abundantly for the horses, and Dixie Dew lost a pound of dachshund. Tink spent most of the year working from home and not in Los Angeles. I liked that a lot. My only novel was filmed for a television movie that will broadcast in January. I had a cameo in the movie, and Tink's childhood crush, Valerie Harper, co-stars. Our time spent with her and her husband, Tony, has turned into a precious friendship. I adore that remarkable woman.

Unexpectedly, I got an offer to open for the wonderful comedian Bill Engvall at a show in Canada. When I got that call, I was so blown away by God's remarkable graciousness to me that I fell to my face on the kitchen floor and just thanked him over and over.

Daddy used to say, "Thank God for the hard times, because they make the good times so much sweeter."

Amen. For I remember other Thanksgivings when death and tribulations had rained down with hurricane-like force and wearied me to the point I could barely put one foot in front of the other. I begged for a break from all the tearful challenges.

"There's a better day a-comin'," Mama said always during those times. "You can count on that."

She was right. Life is a cycle of good days, bad days and better days.

So, whether this has been a year that leaned more toward blessings or tribulations, give thanks for it. Even the hard times are leading to better times, and when you get to those better days, you'll celebrate them with pure joy.

Maybe you'll even fall to your knees on the kitchen floor like I did.

Ronda Rich is a Southern humorist, storyteller and best-selling author. Her latest book, "There's A Better Day A-Coming," is available at rondarich.com or your favorite online bookseller.

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