

Nichols
Worth



Memories that Flash

I watched a television show, or at least part of it, the other night. In the show, an older man was blinding everyone in the family with a giant, heavy, manual focus super-flash camera.

The funny thing was, I used to lug one around just like that!

That set me to remembering photography the way I was first taught it.

When I first went to work for these papers, in March of 1978 (gasp, it can't have been that long!) I was given a three minute camera course. For sports photos there was a battery pack that had to be carried over the shoulder. It was supposed to only weigh five pounds, but lugging it up and down the sidelines at a football game I was convinced that it weighed at least 15 pounds.

There was a cord that went to this enormous flash unit, and the camera had to be manually focused, the lens aperture and shutter speed manually set.

I shot lots and lots of photos, because for every one that was good there were three or four that were too dark, too light or out of focus. If the photographer was too close to the subject there would be two black dots for eyes and perhaps a trace of mouth. Everything else was "blown away".

Shortly after that, cameras became lighter, and SLR revolutionized photography. Single Lens Reflex basically

translated to "what you see is what you get". It was still painfully manual focus, and light and shutter had to be set by lining up a little needle inside of a little ring, but it was such an improvement.

Then, autofocus, real, true autofocus, not fixed focus, came to be. I thought I'd died and managed to achieve heaven! Properly lit, properly focused.

Of course, all of these rolls and rolls of film had to be processed in a dark room, and printed using smelly chemicals.

So, about two years ago, we discovered the wonderful world of digital photography. This MUST be heaven. No film, auto focus, light weight, gorgeous clarity! No chemicals, just download to the computer and adjust it, then print it out.

Twenty five years and they are approaching perfection. At least, that's how it appears. But, that's what I thought back when they came out with SLR cameras. How fast technology moves!



Deport passes sales tax to help repair streets

The City of Deport voters approved a 1/4 percent sales tax on election day, November 5, 2002, which will be used for street repairs.

The vote totals were 23 for and 12 against for a total of 35 votes.

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Legion playground is dead issue

After waiting for several months on an answer from the American Legion, the Parks Council has been informed by Charles Foster that the Playground Proposal is a dead issue. "This is something that we were expecting, I'm disappointed, but certainly not surprised," said Tim Wood who initially made the proposal.

The Parks Council will now begin with the alternate plan which was to procure grant funding and using land that the City Council had previously granted them permission to use.

The construction will be postponed until 2004, as the grant application and approval will take the next 12 months to complete.

PISD board to meet Nov. 18

The Prairiland ISD Board of Trustees will meet at 7 p.m. on November 18 with the following items on the agenda:

Public hearing to discuss 2001-2002 AEIS report; resignation/replacement of board member; bids for sale of bus 17; grants through Ark-Tex Council of Governments; Region VIII Commodities Commission Co-Op Resolutions; Cam-

pus and district textbook committees; and personnel.

Executive Session will be held to discuss personnel.

Non action items include teacher/student recognition UIL, C/C, VB, FB, SRO officer; water problem at Deport Campus/ report from Texas Mnthly magazine/ TACS; school calendar of events; and architect's monthly report.

Papers on sale now, save money, give the perfect gift

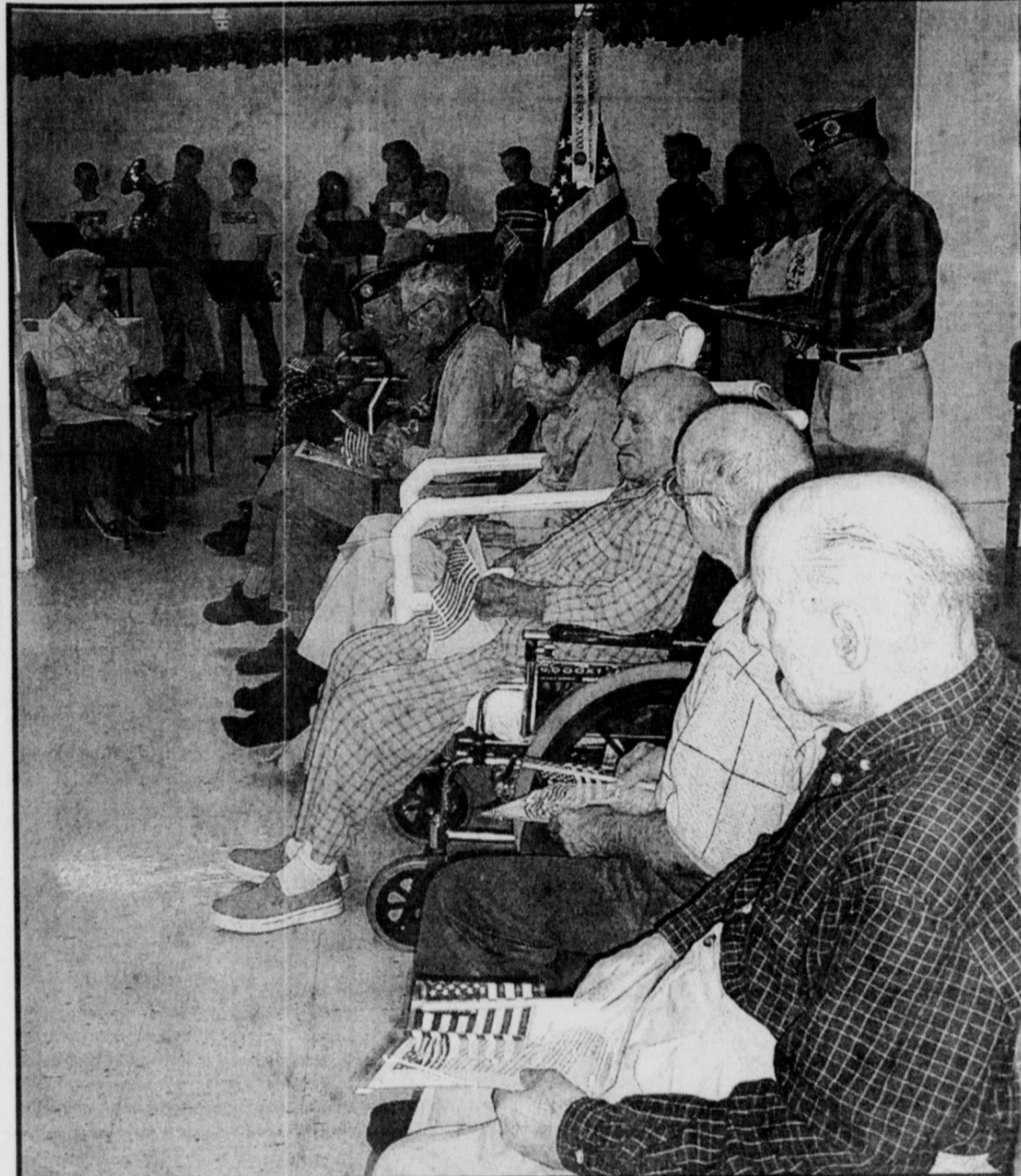
This year, when you are looking for an easy, yet great way to fill your Christmas gift list, think about your local newspaper. As usual, the Blossom Times, Bogata News, Deport Times and Talco Times are on sale NOW for \$2 off the yearly price. Regularly \$23 for an entire year, during the last two weeks of November and through December the paper will only be \$21 in Lamar, Red River or Titus Counties, and only \$23 everywhere else!

These newspapers have been around serving local people with the best in news, photos and advertising for many years. The Deport Times began in 1908, as a matter of fact! And though times have changed, one thing hasn't,

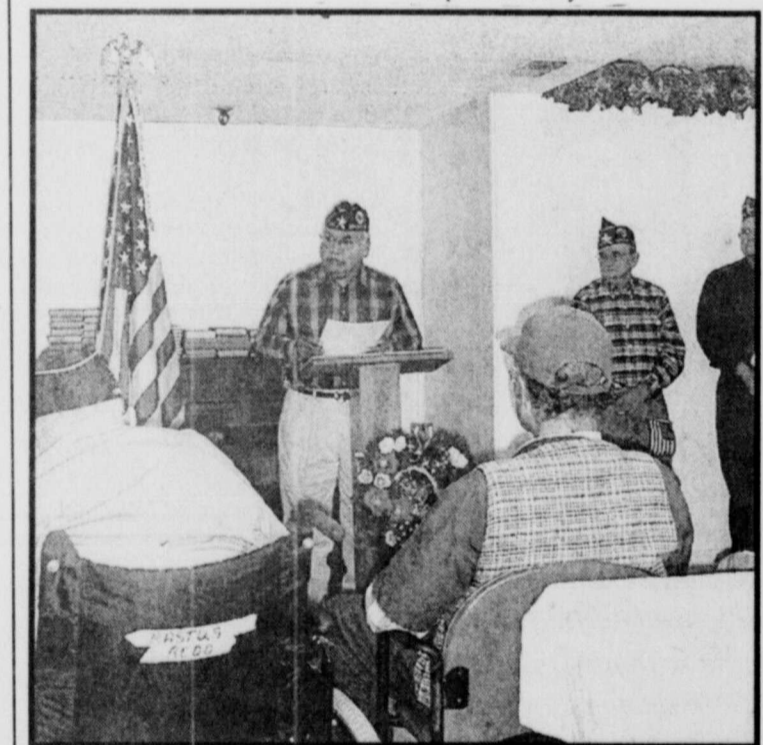
that's the fact that people love to see their kid's pictures in the paper, they love to read humorous columns (that have won numerous state-wide awards) they love to clip the recipes out of the cooking column, and they love to keep up with upcoming events and what their friends are doing. Everyone enjoys feature stories and photos of local people.

Any of these papers are a great gift for old and young alike. Young families look forward to the school news, photos and sports, retired people enjoy those recipes. Everyone enjoys knowing what is going on in THEIR own town, somewhere far from home.

So use the handy coupon on the full page ad and send in your subscriptions today!



VETERANS -ten veterans who reside at Deport Nursing Home were honored by the City of Deport and by the Deport American Legion Post and citizens as well as nursing home staff. The Deport Junior High band played patriotic music, each veteran received a certificate. Charles Foster of the American Legion spoke to the group. Pastor Freddy Burden said a prayer and the Prairiland Band Director Mr. Phillips played taps. The ten veterans are Rastus Redd, Bill Farris, Delmar Babb, Robert Jones, Harold Kay, Harold Norris, Archie Fair, Burrell Kincaid, James Cupler and Milow Hume. (Staff Photo by Nanalee Nichols)



MAYOR GILBERT ARRIAGA read a proclamation to the veterans at Deport Nursing Home Monday. It read "The City and Citizens of Deport, Texas would like to express their deep appreciation and gratitude to all of our nation's veterans. We can never imagine the hardships and sacrifices you have faced while serving in the armed forces of this great nation. During times of war and peace, military men and women have shown the rest of us what true heroism is. Today we honor you. Whether you served in a foreign country or here at home, a simple "Thank You" will never be adequate from those of us whose way of life and whose country and freedom you have protected. God Bless You All and God Bless America." (Staff Photo by Nanalee Nichols)

Veterans recognition day announced in Deport

Whereas November 11, 2002 has been designated as Veterans Day to acknowledge the valor and sacrifice of our local veterans and

Whereas in respect and recognition of the contributions these men have made to the cause of freedom and

Whereas we wish to maintain the importance of the liberties which these men helped to secure,

Now therefore, I Gilbert Arriaga, do hereby proclaim November 11, 2002 as recognition day for the Veterans of the City of Deport and encourage all citizens to join me in this important observation.

Signed this 11th Day of November, 2002.
Gilbert Arriaga, Mayor



PLACING THE WREATH-Members of the Deport American Legion placed a wreath at the Veteran's Memorial at the Deport American Legion Post on Monday, November 11th. (Staff Photo by Thomas Nichols)



AS A COMMUNITY PROJECT Junior G.S. Troop # 60, made Fall table decorations for the Deport Nursing Home. The girls delivered them to the nursing home to be enjoyed by all. Back row left to right: Brittany Black, Britney Patterson, Laura Brooks, and Ashley Thomas.....Front row left to right: Courtney Filkins, Abbie Nichols, and Johna Gilliam.

Editor's Quotes
What do we live for if not to make the world less difficult for each other?
George Elliott.



Country Cooking
By Liz Irwin



I found some great recipes this week and think that you will really like them. They are fairly simple, most of them and you will be able to use ingredients that are usually on your kitchen shelves. With the holidays coming up, they will work for all of that company that you will be entertaining. So, have a great week and we will see you in the kitchen! lizirwin@hotmail.com or tppub@1starnet.com

SPEEDY CHICKEN CASSE-ROLE-using Bisquick makes it short and sweet to prepare!

SPAGHETTI CHICKEN CASSE-ROLE-everyone loves this recipe!
'STUFFIN' SQUASH CASSE-ROLE-this recipe is wonderful!
MEXICAN CASSE-ROLE-another one of those "throw together" that will work any time!
SPICY TOMATO SAUCE-this is great to make ahead of time and used for many different dishes!
CROCK POT ENCHILADA CASSE-ROLE-fix, mix and place in crockpot and serve when ready!

Thursday, November 14, 2002
Casserole recipes

Speedy Chicken Casserole

14-1/2 can stewed tomatoes
2 cans cream of celery soup
16 ounce can French-cut green beans-drained
1-1/2 teaspoon Italian seasoning
2 cups Bisquick mix
1-1/2 cups milk
1/2 cup cheddar cheese-shredded
Heat oven to 450 degrees. Mix tomatoes, soup, beans, chicken and 1 teaspoon Italian seasoning in ungreased casserole dish. Mix baking mix and milk. Pour evenly over chicken mixture. Sprinkle with cheese and 1/2 teaspoon Italian seasoning. Bake 25-27 minutes or until crust is golden brown and cheese is melted.

Spaghetti Chicken Casserole

12 ounces spaghetti
2 chicken fryers
2 cans Ro-Tel tomatoes
1 can tiny English peas-drained
1 pound processed cheese
1 large green pepper-chopped
1 large onion-chopped
1-1/2 sticks butter or margarine salt and pepper to taste
Boil chicken in seasoned water and save broth. Remove from bone and cook spaghetti in broth. Grate cheese and add to spaghetti while pepper and onion in margarine and add to spaghetti mixture. Add Ro-Tel, peas and chicken. Mix well and pour greased casserole dish. Bake at 350 degrees until blended throughout.

Stuffin' Squash Casserole

6 cups yellow squash-sliced
1 small onion-chopped fine
1 can cream of chicken soup
1 cup sour cream
1 cup shredded raw carrots
1 package seasoned stuffing mix
1/2 cup melted butter or margarine
Cook squash and onion in boiling, salted water for 5 minutes. Drain. Combine soup and sour cream, stir in shredded carrots. Fold into drained squash and onion. Combine butter and stuffing mix. Spread half of stuffing mix in bottom of casserole dish. Spoon vegetable mixture on top. Then cover with remaining stuffing mix.

Mexican Casserole

1-1/2 pounds ground beef
1 medium onion-diced
1 can cream of chicken soup
10-1/2 ounce can Ro-Tel

8 ounce can enchilada sauce
8 ounces cheddar cheese-shredded
4 ounce can sliced ripe olives
diced green chilis
oregano to taste
cumin to taste
garlic powder to taste
chili powder to taste
6 large corn tortillas
1 cup grated Jack cheese
Brown ground beef and drain off fat. Combine ground beef with onion, soup, Ro-Tel, enchilada sauce, cheese, olives and green chilis, and spices to taste. Tear 3 tortillas and place on bottom of dish. Top with meat mixture and layer remaining. Sprinkle with cheese and bake at 325 degrees for 30 minutes.

Spicy Tomato Sauce
2 tablespoons olive oil
2 medium onions-chopped
4 cloves garlic-minced
1 can Ro-Tel
1 can whole peeled tomatoes-cut up
6 ounce can tomato paste
2 teaspoons dried oregano
2 tablespoons dried basil
1 tablespoon sugar
salt and pepper to taste
1/2 cup white cooking wine-optional
In 3-quart saucepan over medium heat, cook onion and garlic in hot oil until tender. Stir in remaining ingredients except wine. Heat to boil and stir occasionally. Reduce heat and cover and simmer for 15 minutes. Stir in wine and simmer for 5 minutes. Makes about 1-1/2 quarts sauce.

Crock Pot Enchilada Casserole

14-1/2 ounce can tomatoes
1 small onion-chopped
1 clove garlic-minced fine
1/2 teaspoon ground red pepper
1/2 teaspoon salt
1 6 ounce can tomato paste
1 pound ground beef-browned
1 package dry taco seasoning mix
2 cups shredded Cheddar cheese
9 corn tortillas
Blend tomatoes with onion and garlic in blender. Pour in medium saucepan. Add pepper, salt and tomato paste. Heat until boiling and simmer 5 minutes to 10 minutes. Place 3 tortillas in bottom of crock pot. Layer tortillas, meat mixture, tomato sauce and cheese; form two more layers in this order. End with cheese. Cover and cook on low 6-8 hours.

Free health forum is November 19

A free community health forum, "Diabetes Dialogue: Heart of the Matter," will be held here on Tuesday, Nov. 19, at CHRISTUS St. Joseph's Medical Center, North, 865 DeShong Dr.

The forum, which will include a panel composed of Family Practitioner Stephen Burns, M.D., and Cardiologist Julian Eliz, M.D., will be held at Lewis Hall in the Women's Pavilion.

Activities will get under way with a "Life Scan" blood sugar meter trade-in from 5-6 p.m. Those having makes of meters other than Life Scan may bring them to Lewis Hall where they will be traded free of charge for a Life Scan One Touch Ultra. Trades will be accepted as long as supplies last. Registration for the program will be held from 6-6:30 p.m. during a "meet and greet" period, and at 6:30 p.m. the program will begin. In addition to the physician panel, activities will include the showing of a 25-minute video and recognition of 2001-2002 Diabetes Self-Man-

agement Program graduates.

The program will conclude with a healthy snacks reception, distribution of "goody" bags and drawings for door prizes.

About 17 million Americans have some form of diabetes, representing 8.2 percent of the population. In addition, some 800,000 people are newly diagnosed with diabetes each year. CHRISTUS St. Joseph's officials also said recent studies have shown that heart disease and stroke are the leading cause of death for people with diabetes. "This program will provide practical information about aggressive management of blood pressure, cholesterol, glucose and weight," explained Lisa Allen, RN, certified diabetes educator at CHRISTUS St. Joseph's. "We'll also have some tips on leading a healthy lifestyle," she added.

Those desiring more information about the program, or about diabetes management services at CHRISTUS St. Joseph's may call 903-737-3922.



* The Post is open Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 3:00 p.m. until 12:00 midnight and Saturday from 1:00 p.m. until 1:00 a.m. Pool tables and shuffle board are open to enjoy all the time.

*The Ladies Auxiliary will meet the 2nd Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. Members are urged to attend.

* The VFW men will meet the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. Members are urged to attend.

*The Post has a shuffle board tournament every Saturday beginning at 3:00 p.m. Everyone is invited to come out and share the fun. The board has recently been renovated and is ready for play.

* On November 8, members of the VFW and Ladies Auxiliary placed flags on veterans graves at the Bogata Cemetery in honor of Veterans Day, November 11, 2002. The group hope they did not fail to get each veterans grave honored.

* November 11 a delicious brisket meal was served in honor of Veterans Day. It was well attended and special thanks is sent to those who smoked the brisket and the good desserts the ladies donated.

* Happy Birthday to: Ethan McClendon on his 5th birthday and Cindy Crow.



REX NEEDS A GOOD HOME! Rex is a very playful young black Lab. He is in excellent health and has a current Rabies shot. He enjoys retrieving a tennis ball when thrown and drops it at your feet. Could be trained to retrieve birds. He needs a loving home in the country. Please call 903-427-0377. Humane society will pay 1/2 of neuter cost.

Detroit to discuss forming new league

A meeting will be held in the Detroit High School cafeteria at 2:00 P.M., Saturday, November 16 to discuss forming a new Little Dribbler Basketball League for all area youth.

ETMC Harvest Festival Dinner is November 22

ETMC-Clarksville auxiliaries will sponsor their annual turkey and dressing dinner with proceeds going to the nurses' scholarships and other auxiliary projects on Friday, November 22.

Serving times are from 5:30

Looking for a dog or cat?

Are you thinking of getting a dog or cat? Please visit the Clarksville shelter first. There are many darling puppies and very friendly cats and kittens available.

Call Joe Cain, Animal Control Officer if you can provide a good, loving home for any of these animals.

The Red River County Humane Society will spay or neuter shelter animals at no cost. 903-427-3836.



I would like to thank the folks of Precinct 1, Red River County, that have put their trust in me by electing me County Commissioner. Please feel free to call me with any problem or question. I want to help. Thanks Again, Rufus Ward

Obituaries

Gilbert M. Combs dies November 10

Gilbert M. Combs, age 87 of Talco died Sunday, November 10 in Titus Regional Medical Center in Mt. Pleasant.

Graveside services were held at 11:00 a.m. Wednesday, November 13 in Talco Cemetery under the direction of Wood Fuenral Homes of Bogata.

Mr. Combs was born October 1, 1915 in Kentucky, the son of James Boyd and Naomi Fern Goase Combs. He married the former Pearl Quilantan on October 6, 1938 in Mt. Pleasant. She died April 18, 1996. He was a World War II veteran, serving in the U.S. Army where he was decorated with three Bronze Stars and Purple Heart.

He is survived by a sister-in-law, Inez Bolin of Talco; two brothers, Jack Combs of Michigan and Robert Earl Combs of Talco; a number of nieces and nephews including LaJuana Sansom Gay Horton, Brandi Watson, John Gaddis, Donald Combs and Christopher Gaddis, all of Talco, Crystal Alvarez of Mt. Pleasant, Kimberly Combs, Victor Madrid and Craig Combs, all of Paris, Renea Harold, Ricky and Ronnie Harold of Thibodeaux, LA.

Honorary bearers were David Townes, Mike Garretson, Steve White, Carl Wood, Sidney Bond, Bo Whitney, Billy Horton and Irvin Parrie.

Margaret Guest Patterson dies November 8

Margaret Guest Patterson, age 74 of San Antonio, formerly of Valliant, OK, died Friday, November 8 at University Hospital in San Antonio.

Services were held Tuesday, November 12 at 2:00 p.m. in Lindeman Chapel of Clarksville Funeral Home with Rev. James Brown officiating. Burial followed in Detroit Cemetery under the direction of Clarksville Funeral Home.

She was born July 6, 1928 in Paris, TX, a daughter of John and Louise Guest. She was a member of the Methodist church and was a retired Government employee. Her husband, Gerald L. Patterson, preceded her in death.

Surviving are a son, Craig and his wife Valerie Patterson of Ft. Bragg, NC; and five grandchildren.

Card of Thanks

We would like to express our most sincere thanks to everyone who offered their condolences to our family during the loss of our loved one, Anthony McGee. Thank you for the many phone calls, visits, cards, food, prayers, plants and flowers. The continual thoughts and prayers are certainly a comfort to us during this time of sadness. A special Thank You to Kent Cooper of Bates-Cooper Funeral Services for your guidance, Bro. David Snelson and Bro. John Hines for the beautiful service, Marla Logan for the lovely song, and to our family and our community for coming together to help us through this difficult time.

May God bless you all.
Pete and Christelle McGee
Randy and Lorry Randolph
The Family of Anthony McGee

Color coding designed to aid hospital visitors

CHRISTUS St. Joseph's Medical Center, South, has initiated a color-coded wayfinding system in which patients and visitors may find their way by following colored stripes on the walls.

"This is not something new," explained Facilities Director Tom Brunette. "Larger hospitals have had color-coded wayfinding systems for years. We thought that the color system would, with the recent relocations, help everyone in finding certain areas."

At the present, only services found on the hospital's first floor have the color coded guides: Red indicates the emergency room areas, blue indicates the cardiac cath lab and day surgery, and green

directs visitors to the radiology waiting area. Elevator entries are also coded, with purple stripes leading to elevators designated for public use. Yellow bands around elevator doors indicate that the elevator is reserved for patients and the movement of supplies; and green indicates that the elevator is to be used by radiology and hospital staff members.

Plans call for elevators on all floors to eventually be color coded, Brunette said, and depending on the success of the color coding on the first floor, the wayfinding project may be expanded to include other floors and services.

Pre-registration underway for "Turkey Trot"

CHRISTUS St. Joseph's Health System's wellness centers will host the 27th Annual Turkey Trot race on Thanksgiving Day as walkers and runners gather at Noyes Stadium to compete in a series of events.

Activities will begin at 9 a.m., with nine age divisions competing in one or more of three separate events.

"The Turkey Trot is designed for walkers and runners of all ages and abilities," explained Traci McDonald, race coordinator. "We will have a lot of fun - and get some good exercise - as entrants compete for trophies and medals."

Entry fees are \$10 for children 10 and under, and \$13 for all others if registration forms are post-marked by Nov. 22. Late entries are \$15. Those wishing to register may pick up entry forms at any sponsor's location: Compass Medical, Liberty National Bank, J.W. Jones Swimming Pools, Williams Sporting Goods, Tijerina-Dunnington-Le Urology Clinic, Kwik Kopy Printing, Durham Masonry, In., or Advance Alarm. Entry forms are also available at either Aerofit or RACE Wellness Center. Those wishing to pay by

credit card, or who have a late entry, should do so at one of the wellness centers.

Events will include a 5K run, a one and two-mile walk, and a fun run designed for children 10 and under. In the 5K Run, trophies will be awarded to the overall first place finisher in the male and female categories as well as first-place finishers in each of the age divisions. Second and third place winners will receive medals. And in the one and two-mile walk, to be held at the Dragon Park Walking Track, walkers will be asked to estimate the time it will take them to complete the loop. Those coming closest to their estimated times will win, with first through fifth place finishers to be awarded trophies in both the one and two-mile competition. First place winner in the Fun Run will receive a trophy, with medals going to second and third place finishers.

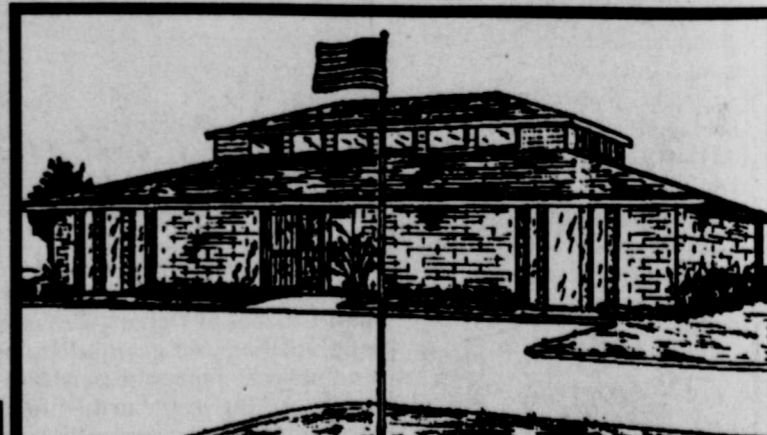
All participants will receive a "Turkey Trot" t-shirt.



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Lady Patriots Take Area... Head For Regional This Friday Night

Patriots set school record with Warrior win

Senior Eric Berry ran up a total of 264 yards and added another two touchdowns to his record on Friday night as the Prairiland Patriots took on the Honey Grove Warriors and won the right to continue on to the bi-district playoffs this Friday night. The game is scheduled to be played in Mt. Pleasant against the Hooks Hornets with kickoff at 7:30 at Sam Parker Field.

The Pats opened the game going 71 yards down field to set up a 5-yard touchdown by Blake Smith. The next possession by the Patriots had them moving 80 yards on 13 plays. Berry took the ball and went in from 6 yards to make it 13-0. The Warriors ran a TD before the end of the first half to make the score 13-7.

The second half had Berry running another 32 yards to go in for the touchdown. His third touchdown of the game came soon after as Smith handed off the ball to

him and he ran 21 yards to make the score 28-7.

Halfway into the final quarter, Smith went to Lance Connot for a 19-yard hit. Honey Grove came back with some short yardage to make the scoreboard read 34-19. The Pats rushed 332 yards with 55 passing yards for a total of 387. They 1-0 fumbles and 4-30 penalties. Individual rushing amounted to Berry 37-264, Cody upchurch 6-29, Smith 11-32, Cody Hicks 1-6 and Justin Elrod 1-1. In passing Smith was 3-7-0 55 and Berry was 0-1-1. Jared Gage was 1-31, Lance Connot 1-19 and Upchurch 1-5 receiving with Smith having 1 reception.

This is the first Patriot district title in the school's history. The team holds the record of 9-1 overall and 5-0 for district and it now stands as the best season record for the Patriots. See you at Mt. Pleasant!

Regional semi-final is Friday

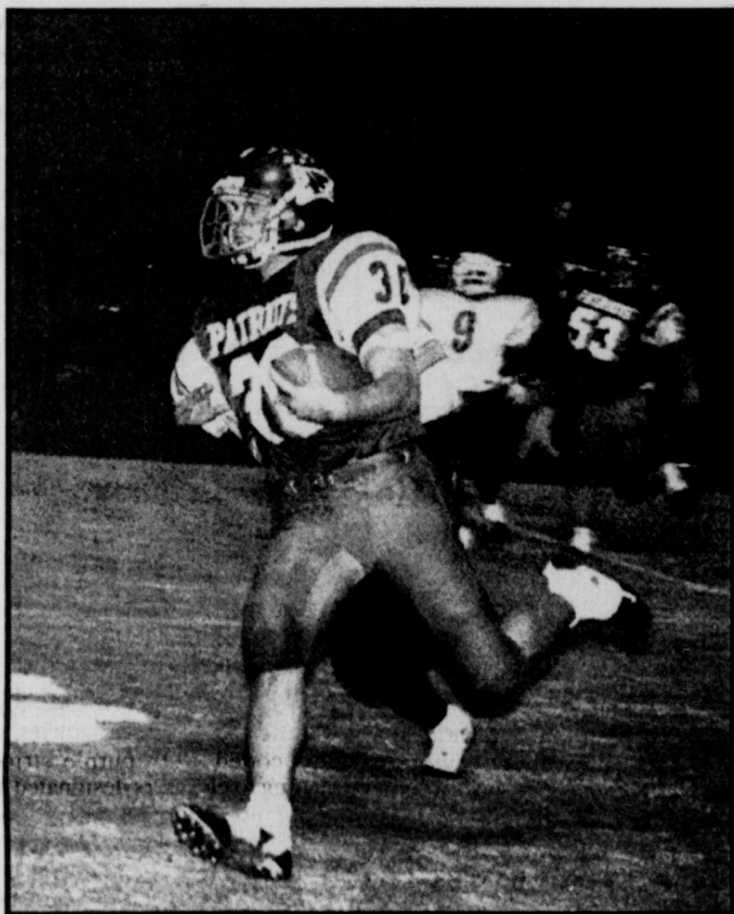
The Prairiland Lady Patriots rolled over Redwater for the regional quarter final championship 15-2, 15-3

Bolton had 19 kills and 2 blocks. Megan had 21 assists and 1 ace. Britney Martin had 5 kills.

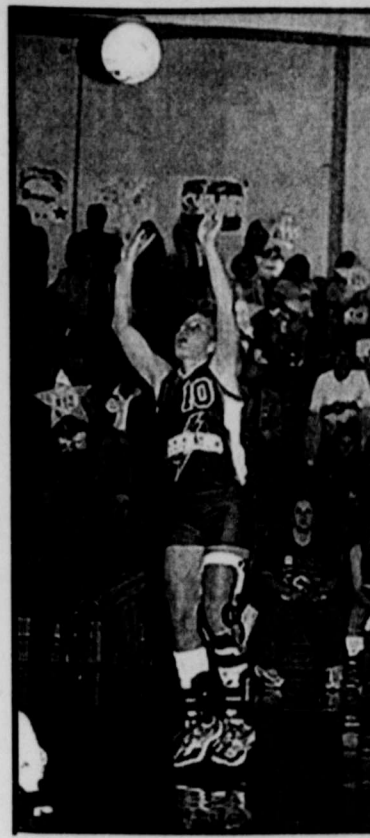
Amanda Nichols had 3 kills and 2 aces. Nikki Bybee had 1 kill and 5 digs. Lacy Davis had 1 ace and 4 digs.

Next up is the regional semi final at John Tyler High School in Tyler on Friday.

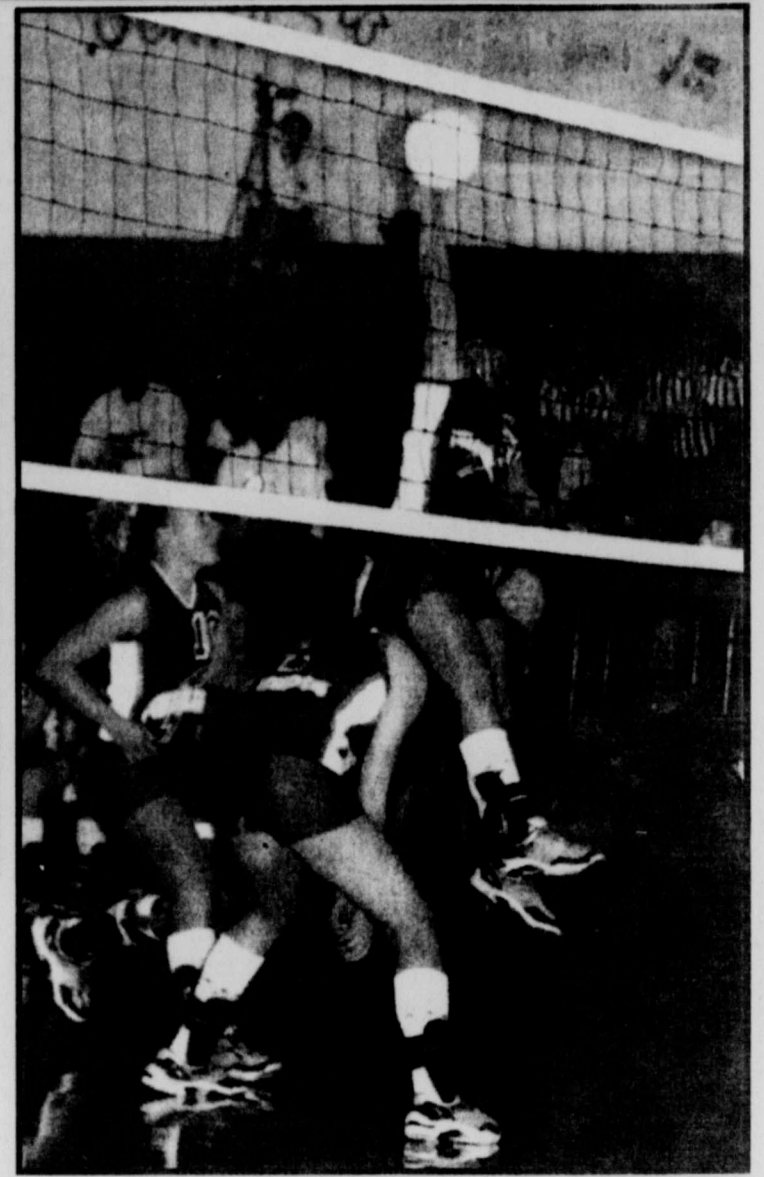
Patriot Football Heads To Bi-District Tonight! (Thursday)



PRAIRILAND Senior Eric Berry raced around the end for a big gain against the Warriors last Friday night. (Staff Photo by Thomas Nichols)



HARD AT WORK FOR THE AREA CHAMPIONSHIP- The Lady Patriots easily took the area championship from Big Sandy on Tuesday night at Chisum, 15-1, 15-5. Pictured is #10 Megan Graham who piled up stats of 8 service points, 11 assists and 3 kills for the night. (Staff Photo)



LADY PATRIOTS AT THE NET-Hitting the ball is Lacy Davis and assisting is Britney Martin as they took the area championship on Tuesday night against Big Sandy at Chisum, 15-1 and 15-5. (Staff Photo)

Prairiland over Big Sandy

Lady Pats were on their best behavior as they took a dominating area championship over Big Sandy 15-1, 15-5. They hit the floor with an intent manner from the first serve.

Every girl stepped up to perform at a play-off level. Emilee Bolton had 5 kills and 1 block. Britney Martin had 4 kills and an ace and Nikki Bybee had 3 kills and 1 block and 1 ace. Megan Graham had 11 assists, 3 kills and 2 aces.

Lacy Davis had an excellent defensive game along with 3 kills. The Lady Patriots will now play the winner of Redwater and Ore City for the regional quarter final championship at a time and site to be determined.



THE PATRIOTS beat the Honey Grove Warriors 34 to 19 to claim the District Championship. They also posted a school "win" record. (Staff Photo by Thomas Nichols)



Good Luck Teams!

The following businesses extend the best of luck to area school sports teams this year!



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School Menu



Prairiland High School
Week of November 18
Monday

Volunteer Fire Fighters Lay It On The Line



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\$4.90 Bag, \$188.00 Ton

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Breakfast:
Breakfast burritos
Salsa
Juice, milk
Lunch:
Hamburger
Lettuce tomato
french fries
peaches
Milk

Tuesday

Breakfast:
Sausage, cheese biscuit
Juice, milk
Lunch:
Corny dog
Macaroni and cheese
Pinto beans
Grah crackers
Milk

Wednesday

Breakfast:
Sausage on stick
Juice, milk
Lunch:
Steak fingers
Potatoes, gravy
Macaroni and cheese
Biscuits
Milk

Thursday

Breakfast:
Breakfast pizza
Juice, milk
Lunch:
Spaghetti and meat sauce
Salad
Corn
Garlic bread
Milk

Friday

Holiday

LOOK

IT'S IN THE CLASSIFIEDS



*Susan Renee Hobbs
with fiance Christopher Ryan Templeton*

Hobbs-Templeton announce engagement

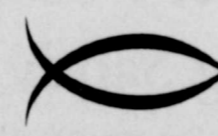
Dr. and Mrs. George Hobbs of Huntsville are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Susan Renee Hobbs to Christopher Ryan Templeton of Huntsville.

The bride-to-be is the granddaughter of Helen Williams of Bogata and the late Phillip H. Hobbs of Deport.

The prospective bridegroom is the son of Mrs. Ann Collins of Starke, Florida and Robert Templeton, Jr. of Iola, TX.

Both are graduates of Sam Houston State University. Susan is employed as a teacher at Summit Christian Academy. Ryan is Network Specialist in the office of the Inspector General at the Department of Criminal Justice in Huntsville.

The wedding is planned for December 7, 2002 at the First Presbyterian Church in Huntsville.



Attend The Church of Your Choice



GERRI AND BOOTS need good homes. Both dogs are female, about 1 year old. They are mixed breed and very friendly. The Red River County Humane Society will spay them at no cost. These dogs get along well but can be placed singly. If you can offer one of these "girls" a good home call Joe Cain, Clarksville Animal Control Officer at 427-3836.

Cunningham News

by Neva Jean Oats

Happy birthday to Neva Oats, Cindy Nichols, Jennifer Syrus and Dewayne Baker.

Happy anniversary to Ricky and Pam Norwood.

The Cunningham Community Center and Fire Department's stew cookoff, skeet shoot and horseshoe tournament were very successful, thanks to everyone in the community. Teresa Smith and Ricky Norwood won first in the stew cookoff, Jeanna and Mike Smith won second and Patsy Landrum Smith won third. Clint Davis, Vickie Davis, Bruce Watson and Kenny Gifford cooked great pots of stew. Mike Yaross won the skeet shoot and Michael Smith and Bruce Watson won the horseshoe tournament. Roy Davis won the rifle. Everyone enjoyed a day of fun, good food and fellowship.

Linda Anderson and Pat West visited their great aunt in Denison on Thursday. Rusty, Cindy, Marty, Susan and Carrie Anderson and Wendy, Carlos and Cord Ordorica were Sunday dinner guests of Ricky and Linda Anderson.

Sunday, November 10 was the 50th anniversary for Pete McKnight's draft into the army. Fifty years ago he left for the army base in San Antonio. Happy Veterans Day.

Bobby and Shelby Kennedy spent Saturday and Sunday in Mesquite watching Laytner Kennedy play baseball.

Sunday visitors of Johnny and nelta Musgrove were Stacy, Linda, Stoney and Charity Musgrove, Zarinska Morton, Natalie and Ben Hutchison, Jay, Angie and Bailey Samide, Julie Copeland, Chance Bankhead, Lyn and Betty Holeman, Rick and Teresa Mannis, G.W. and Mildred Pratt and Marge Shell.

Sunday guests of Geneva Norwood were Billy Ray and Neva Oats, Brandon, Marsha and Brayden Oats, Kaylee Lane, Brad and Georjeana Nutt, Frankie, Logan, Layton and Caleb Norwood, Treda and Spur Norwood. Matt and Amber Galloway and Josh Osburn.

Velma Cox visited Dora Hester and Walker Devlin Sunday.

Caleb Norwood, Kelby Cole and Carrie and Susan Anderson attended the PIP camp at North Lamar Sunday.

Scotty Norwood and Matt Galloway attended a bull sale and buckout in Ft. Worth Sunday.


Amber and Matt Galloway moved into the Odis and Marie Watson house that they have remodeled this weekend.



NEW ARRIVALS

Joseph and Dallas Whelchel and brother Llandan Whelchel of Manhattan, KS announce the birth of Tristan Elisha Lalman Whelchel, born September 26 weighing 8 lbs. 11 oz. Grandparents are Lloyd "Chock" and Carolyn Whelchel of Blossom and great-grandparents are Ozella Prigne of Paris and Lorene Adam of Paris.

School Menu



Deport Campus
Week of November 18
Monday

Pizza
Salad
Oranges
Milk

Tuesday

Vegetable beef soup
Cheese sticks
Pickles
Crackers
apples
Milk

Wednesday

Barbeque beef
Corn
Pickles
peaches
Milk

Thursday

Turkey and dressaing
Cranberry sauce
Potatoes
Green beans
Fruit salad
Milk

Friday

Holiday

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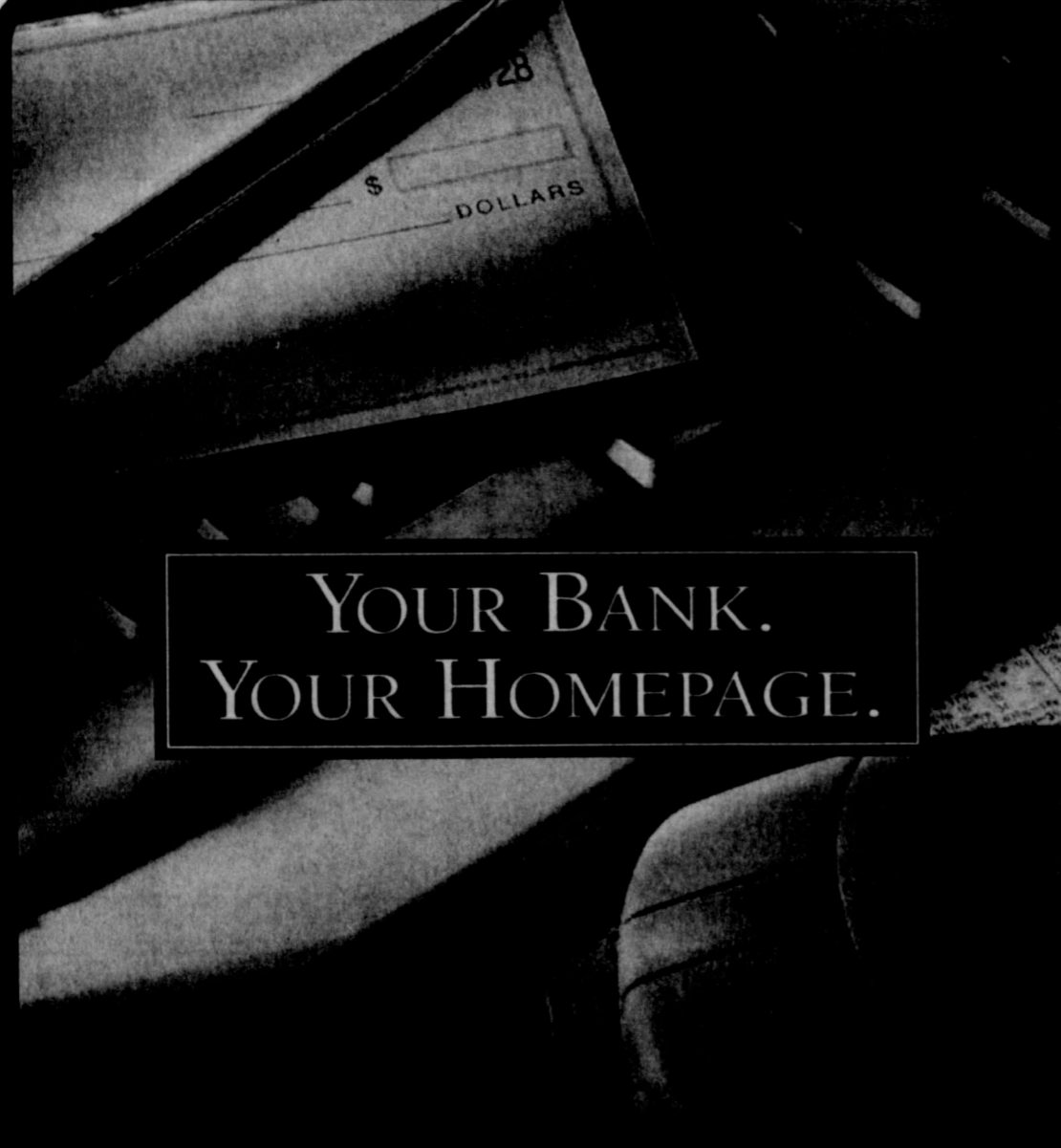
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THE BROWNIE Scout Troop #133 from Deport joined other area troops on Saturday, October 26th at TLC Miniature Horse Ranch in Bairdstown, TX. The theme of the day was "The Pony Parade Birthday" in honor of Juliette Gordon Low (she started the first troop in the United States in 1912). Her birthdate was October 31, 1860. The girls spent the day taking pony-cart rides, learning about and grooming the horses, eating a picnic lunch, and playing lawn games. From left to right: Macee Mabry, Kaylynn Patterson, Billie Jo Patterson, Kristen Patterson, Mikala Nelson, and Emily Willis.



MADLINE BELLE GREER celebrated her fourth birthday with a power puff party at Wade Park on November 7. Several friends and relatives attended and enjoyed seeing her open her gifts and enjoyed cake and ice cream. She is the daughter of Mandi Greer and Shane Greer. Grandparents are Buddy and Shirley Greer of Paris, Elvin and Joan Bell of Pattonville. Great-grandmother is Marie Bell of Honey Grove.

Presbyterian Women meet with Joyce Davidson

Joyce Davidson was hostess for the November 11 meeting of the Presbyterian Women in her home. Reba Temple opened the meeting with prayer, then read a selection from the Women's Devotional Bible, "Wealth" by Florence Littauer, taken from Judges. Frances Franklin gave the Least Coin devotion, "Vision Towards National Reunification," a voice from Korea. The coins were collected and dedicated with prayer. From the Mission Yearbook of Prayer, Joyce Davidson read the article "Hanmi Presbytery". This is a Korean language presbytery within the Synod of Southern California and Hawaii. Joyce also gave a report on the Thank Offering including Health Ministries, which is funded by Presbyterian women. The Creative Ministries Offering Committee met March, 2002, and approved grants totaling more than \$930,000 from the 2001 Thank offering. This year 60 recipients were chosen from 159 proposals submitted. The offering is received in the fall of each year. Continuing the Study of the Letter to the Ephesians, Frances Franklin directed the third lesson, "Our Way of Life". The Loving Lesson: God's grace circles the church-past, present and future. The meeting was closed with the Mizpah benediction. Refreshments were served by the hostess.

UMW meets

The United Methodist Women met Monday, November 4 at 7 p.m. in the fellowship hall of the church. Marianne Ladd, president, called the meeting to order and asked Lucille Pickering to open with prayer. After reading from the prayer calendar, the roll was called with 12 members present. Following the business meeting, Martha Glover was announced as program leader. Her program was entitled "Time Began in the Garden." At the close of the program, Marianne Ladd announced that the next meeting would be December 2. Ruth Cheatham will be program leader and a covered dish will be served. The Mizpah was recited by all. Everyone enjoyed a delicious meal prepared by Juanita Sparks, hostess.



Deport Locals

Call Your News To 652-4205

Mike Scaff of Montgomer, Alabama has spent the week with his mom, Alma Scaff.

Happy birthday to Chuck Davis, Dee Dee Gifford, Patsie Abel, Ruth Flores Barnard, Kasey Kincaid, Charles Ridens, Cindy Tisdale, Colton McMikel, Daniel Moses, Shirley Gifford, Skylar Ragan, Sydney Ragan, Mickey Kincaid, Danny Miller, Delma Babb, Kristen Vance, Lucy Fowler, Becky Robinson, Betty Wrenn, Breanne Barnes, Deborah Bolton, Carole Fellows, Sammy Strickland, Boyd Slaton, Donna Slayden, Matt Malone, Dana Reiley.

Happy anniversary to Eva and Boyce Flenniken, Karen and Mark Francis.

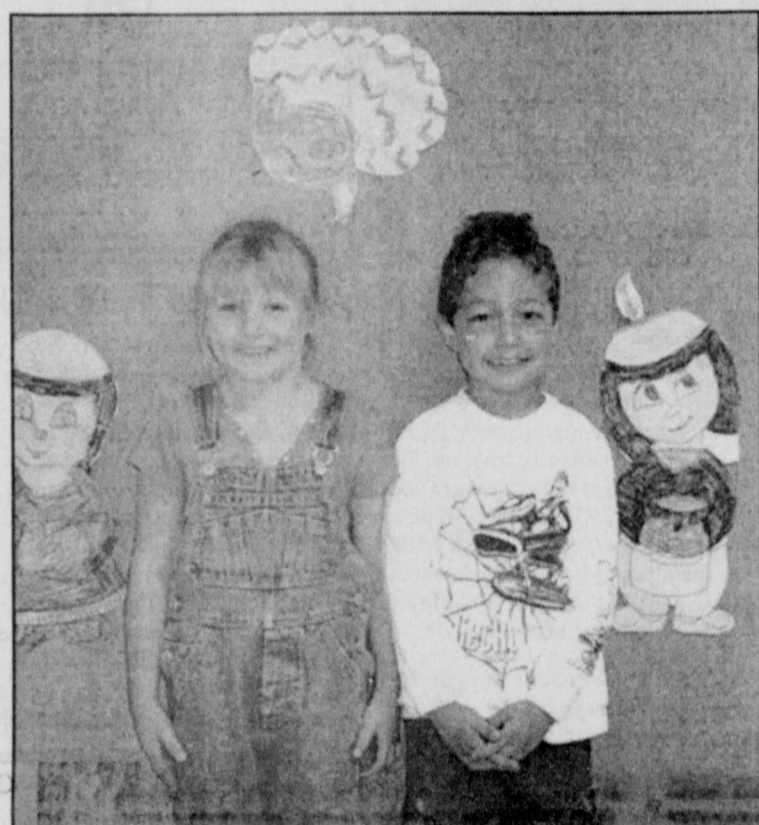
Nina Sparks, Keith and Peggy Parsons vacationed in Sedona, AZ and Las Vegas, NV last week with Bob and Judy Ellington, Ronnie, Kelly and Caleb Ellington of Huntsville.

mJoe and Kay Gage of Diboll and grandson Trent and Jacob, sons of Mr. and Mrs. Phillip Gage of Colorado visited Virginia Kirkland and Ruth Murrell.

Mary Mantooth, Thomas and Nanalee Nichols went to Garvin, Oklahoma, then up to Queen Wilhelmina State Park and on to Hot Springs, Arkansas for the weekend. The fall colors are really at their peak.

Many have enjoyed attending the Prairiland Volleyball games and the Prairiland Football games. Congratulations to both teams for their tremendous season and for going to the playoffs.

Lucille Pickering's granddaughter Amy, her husband Tom and son John Freeman Yarbrough spent Wednesday night and Thursday on their way home to Nacogdoches from a vacation in Colorado.



Deport First Grade Star Students Kerri Anderson and Jordan Jones



BILLIE FORD is this week's Employee of the Week at Deport School campus. She enjoys teaching, visiting with her mother, spending time with family, reading and writing poetry. She is married to Leonard and they are the parents of Carol, Lowell, Joyce, Tracy, Kay Lynn and David and their families. She loves children and her co-workers. Her favorite book is "Where the Red Fern Grows"; movie, "Miracle on 34th Street"; candy bar, Hershey; flavor, chocolate; time of year, all seasons; sport, basketball and baseball; TV program, "Touched By An Angel"; music, country and gospel. Her favorite quote is "With God, nothing is impossible."



DENISE BROOKS was awarded the Green Angel award and certificate, a five year membership pin and volunteer award pin and certificate for being named Neighborhood Chairperson for the Deport-Blossom Girl Scout Troops. She was recognized at the Delegate Meeting on November 9 at Calvary Methodist Church. She is also junior troop leader in Deport. Her neighborhood brought home the top trophy for this year, beating all of the other neighborhoods in the Red River Valley Council.

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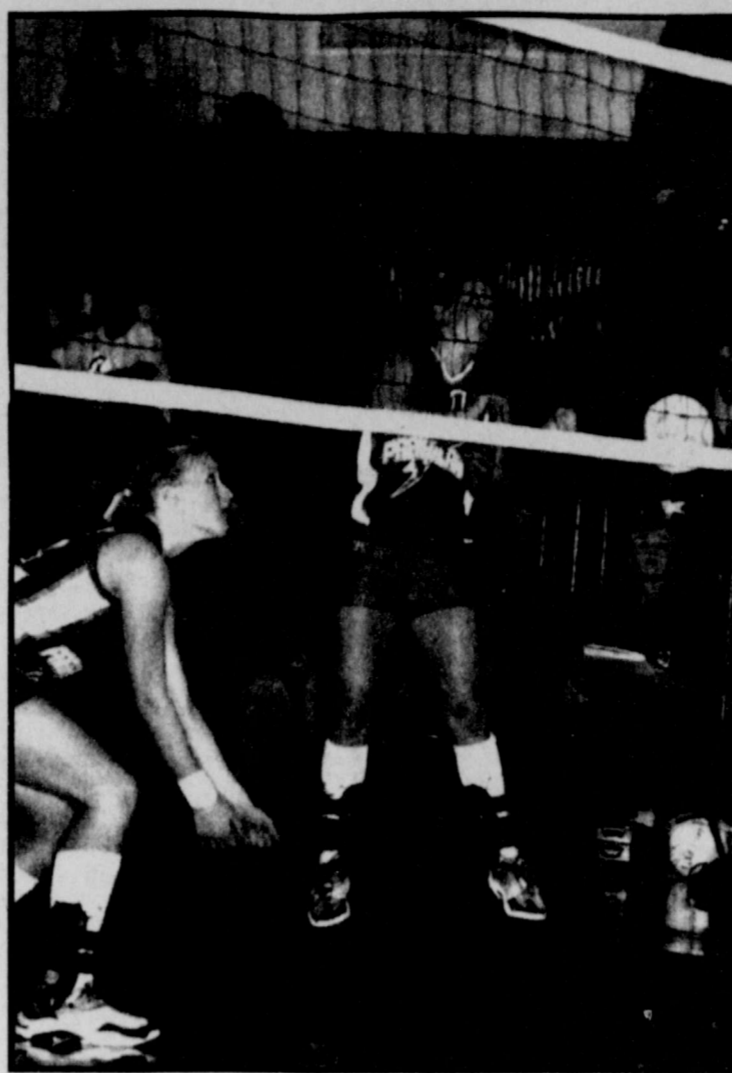
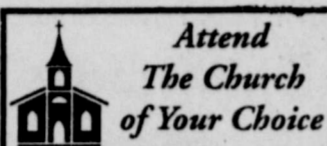
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Fire Belles launch Christmas food drive

The Blossom Fire Belles have launched their Christmas food drive. Collection boxes are in place at the Texas Superette, Blossom Hardware, Triple C Fina and Wag A Bag. The ladies are accepting names of families needing a helping hand. Contact Mary at 982-5816 or Angie at 982-6325.



LADY PATRIOTS TAKE AREA-The Prairiland Lady Patriots took the areachampionship on Tuesday night against Big Sandy at Chisum. They will be playing this Friday and Saturday during theregional finals. Pictured spiking the ball is Lacy Davis. Backing her up is Nikki Bybee at the net and Megan Graham in back. (Staff Photo)

PATTONVILLE NEWS
 By Peggy Parsons

Happy birthday to Skylar and Sydney Ragan, Elvin Bell, Lucy Fowler, Matt Malone, Mary Moss, Larry Gibson, Melanie Borders, Jo Biddle, Clayton Bogard, Carley Conley, Chris Brook, Carl Ray Hatcher, Dwight Skidmore, Rickey Brazeal, Donald Brown, J.R. Butler, Judy Hodgkiss, Sue Denton, Christine Dickinson, Judy Skidmore, Charlie Thompson and Harley Skidmore.

Happy anniversary to Boyce and Eva Flenniken, Mark and Karen Francis.

Marine Pvt. Brian Long returned to San Diego, CA for additional advanced infantry training last week. He will go to Ft. Sill, OK for artillery training later. Brian is the grandson of David and Sue Shelton.

Ruby D. Blevins and Sandy Ring visited Inez Weaver in Paris Sunday. Steve and Rexine Grant of Laguna Hills, CA arrived Wednesday to visit her mother, Inez, grandmother Jessie Newsom and sister Pam and Dale Sulsar of Fulbright. They had lunch with Inez Sunday. The Grants left for

California Monday. Mickey eener and Sandy Ring were visitors of Bill and Ruby D. Blevins.

Lyman and Audra Rooks of Lake of the Ozarks returned home after visiting Ed and Sandy Ring. Ashleigh McLean and Heather Anderson.

Keith and Peggy Parsons and Nina Sparks met Bob and Kelly Ellington, Ronnie and Kelly Ellington and Caleb of Huntsville in Henrietta on November 2. They spent several days in Sedona, AZ shopping, sightseeing and touring the Grand Canyon. They visited in Las Vegas with Ruby Shreve and Jim Ozbourn before returning home.

Sympathy is extended to the family of Donald Wadley, 62 of Dallas, who died November 10. Pattonville VFD breakfast will be Saturday, November 16, 7 a.m., AYCE for \$.

Congratulations to the Prairiland Patriot football team and volleyball team and coaches for making the playoffs.

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Post Oak News
 By Geneva Lee
 982-5309

A few men attended the men's breakfast at the Post Oak Baptist Church Saturday morning. Several from the church visited the revival at Friendship MBC in Clarksville last week. They will have a dinner Saturday at noon to

honor the senior citizens of the church. Everyone is invited. The seniors are not to bring any food. Bro. Henry Blackmon will go to represent the East Post oak MBC at the Texas Missionary Association meeting at the Woodlands near Houston this week.

Donna and Hooter Johnigan and boys of Waco spent the weekend with her parents, Don and Phyllis Vaughn and attended church with them Sunday.

Linda Mitchell of Ft. Worth spent the weekend her with her parents, James and Mickie Freelen.

Newman and Betty Low went on a trip last week to celebrate their 50th anniversary. They left Greenville, MS Sunday on their way home.

Pattonville VFD
Upcoming Events

November
 16 Breakfast, 7-10 a.m., AYCE, \$4
 22 Dance, 8 to 11 p.m., concession provided
 25 Business Meeting, 7 p.m.

Burglary is Crime of Week

You can earn up to \$1000.00 in cash, by providing Crime Stoppers with the information that will lead to the arrest of the person or persons responsible for committing the following felony crime.

Sometime between August 20 and September 1, a man riding a motorized cart in the parking lot of the Pavillion Apartments on NE Loop 286 in Paris was robbed by an unknown male. The suspect stole a Rolex watch and a diamond bracelet from the disabled man.

If you have any information on this, or any other felony crime, please call Crime Stoppers. If Crime Stoppers receives that information by November 18, an arrest is made of those persons responsible, Crime Stoppers will pay you a cash reward of up to \$1,000.00. All calls do remain anonymous and you will not have to testify in court. So lets all work together to fight crime! Call Crime Stoppers today at (785-8477).

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School Menu

Blossom Campus
 Week of November 18
 Monday
 Pizza
 Salad
 Oranges
 Milk
 Tuesday
 Vegetable beef soup
 Cheese sticks
 Pickles
 Crackers
 apples
 Milk
 Wednesday
 Barbeque beef
 Corn
 Pickles
 peaches
 Milk
 Thursday
 Turkey and dressaing
 Cranberry sauce
 Potatoes
 Green beans
 Fruit salad
 Milk
 Friday
 Holiday

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HOME AND ACREAGE - Spacious comfortable 3 bdrm, 2 bath brick home with a country sized kitchen and eating areas, family room with fireplace, enclosed porch, wood deck, 2 car garage sand approximately 7 acres. Prairiland ISD. **\$79,900**



TOP TEN-The Junior High girls Top Ten Cross Country District winners are pictured with smiling faces. Among the group are Prairiland's Miranda Sessums (back row, far right) and Kaylee Graham (back row, 5th girl on the right). Congratulations girls!! (Staff Photo Nancy Brown)

Public Notices

NOTICE
 Prairiland I.S.D. is offering for sale through sealed bids, one used school bus. Bus 17 is a 1987 Chevrolet with a Thomas body. Bus 17 has a 350 engine, automatic transmission, and a single speed axle. It is a 59 passenger bus with 9.00-20 tires and wheels. It may be seen at Prairiland High School. The Bids will be opened at 7:00 p.m. on November 18, 2002 at the Prairiland administration building, Route 1, Box 200, Pattonville, Texas 75468. For information, call Buddy Freeman, 903-652-6476. Please submit bids in a sealed envelope to the above address or fax to 903-652-3738. Prairiland reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids.
 11-14

RESOLUTION NO. 008-02
 As amended Oct. 10, 2002
 A resolution of the City of Blossom, Texas, to determine regular meeting time date and place of Blossom City Council

WHEREAS, Chapter 22, §22.038(d), Local Government Code, requires the City Council to determine by Resolution the time, date and place of the Regular Council Meetings; and

WHEREAS, the Blossom City Council, meeting in legally posted Public Session, deem it prudent and necessary to adopt such resolution:

Therefore, be it resolved that the Regular Meeting of the City of Blossom, Texas, shall be scheduled as detailed below:

Date: Second Thursday of each month
 Time: Amended to read 6:00 p.m.
 Place: Blossom City Hall, City Council Chambers, 1240 W. Front Street, Blossom, Texas 75416.

Be it further resolved that the final Agenda for all Regular and Special Meetings, and Public Hearings will be posted at the Blossom City Hall at least 72 hours in advance of such meetings, and that such Agendas will be distributed to the Blossom Times and the Paris News.

Amendment passed and adopted this 10th day of October, 2002.
 Roger S. Johnson, Mayor
 11-14

To all interested persons, agencies and parties:

The City of Detroit, located in Red River County, has applied for funding from the Texas Water Development Board. Funds are intended for use on improvements to the City's wastewater system. Specifically, the improvements include lift station upgrades and rehabilitation of the wastewater treatment facility.

The City of Detroit has completed an environmental study on the effects of the project, and findings are included in the Environmental Information Document (EID). This EID will be available for review and comment at Detroit City Hall, 190 E. Garner Street, Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to noon and 12:30 to 2:30. This document concludes that impacts to the environment caused by this project are minimal and can be effectively mitigated.

The City of Detroit will accept comments to the EID. Comments can be sent by letter addressed to Mayor Travis Bronner, City of Detroit, 190 E. Garner, Detroit, TX 75437, and should be received within 30 days of the date of this notice.
 11-14

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WARM UP THE BUS, warm up the bus was the chant from these Patriot supporters last Friday as they excitedly anticipated a trip to the playoffs at the Patriots clinched the District. (Staff Photo by Thomas Nichols)

...
 Conscience is the inner voice that warns us that someone may be looking.
 -H.L. Mencken
 ...

NAP application deadline nears

Karen Byrd, County Executive Director for the Lamar County Farm Service Agency, reminds local farmers and ranchers that the application closing date to sign up for the Non-Insured Assistance Program for native grass and improved pastures is December 1, 2002.

NAP covers crops damaged by severe weather that result in a loss of 50 percent or greater. Losses are generally determined by percentage of loss compared to the producer's actual yield history. Lost production eligible for payment is paid at 55 percent of crop value.

NAP coverage is only available for crops where coverage is not available under the Federal Crop Insurance Program. Production evidence is not required for perennial pastures that are grazed only. The December 1, 2002 deadline to purchase NAP coverage also applies to persons who have an existing policy and want to renew their coverage for 2003.

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Fulbright News

BY BETTY RODGERS
 652-6051

Dave and Kay German of Whitney visited her mother, Jimmy King, Thursday through Saturday. Friday they took the scenic route through Idabel and Beaver's Bend back to Paris and ate lunch at the Fish Fry.

Betty Rodgers and Melissa Arriaga attended the arts and crafts festival in Beavers Bend, OK on Saturday.

Betty and Ray Smith of Detroit visited Betty Rodgers Monday. Dick King of Paris visited Jimmy King Saturday. Duane and Bobbie, Kyle and Kuchie King were visitors Sunday evening.

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ALOT Angus Association's Annual Black Angus Bull (and a few choice females) Sale is Saturday, November 30, 2002 at the Titus County Fair Sale Facility behind the Civic Center, Mt. Pleasant. Lunch served at 11 a.m. and sale of over 80 head begins at 12 noon. For catalogs, call Beth Wicker 903-667-5581 or visit us on the web at www.skally.net/alot

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 Beautiful, dark orange, long-haired male cat. Found in Deport, needs a new home. Please call 652-9986 or 652-2624

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FOR SALE BY OWNER: 3BR, 2B, 2 car carport, large sunroom, lots of ceramic tile, covered patio, in-ground pool, 20x30 shop. On 1.9 acres in Bogata. 903-632-4709. MA 11-14

FOR LEASE: Approx. 15 acres hay meadow for lease in city limits of Bogata. 903-632-5554. MA 11-28

HOUSE TO BE MOVED: in Mt. Pleasant, 4BR, 2B, living room, den, breakfast room. Solid wood, old world charm. \$20,000. 379-4391. MA 11-28

COOPER'S DOZER SERVICE: James Cooper, owner. All job types. Rt. 1, Box 20B, Pattonville, TX, 903-652-5765. MA t/c

DOZER WORK: Fences, pools, roads, culverts, etc. \$35-40 per hour. Shane Wright, 903-379-7535. MA 11-21

BACKROOM FLORAL DESIGN: Get ready for football season. Order your mums & garters. Will deliver to school. 903-632-2003 or Touch of Country, Mt. Vernon, 903-537-2042, next door to Sonic, come by and visit. MA t/c

HOUSE FOR SALE BY OWNER: 3BR, 2B, carport, completely remodeled, hardwood floors, new paint, central heat and air, two acres. 711 Clarksville St., 903-632-2057. \$54,000. Must see. MA 11-28

Sales
CAKLEBERRY'S: Crafts, angels, gifts, lawn furniture, Adirondacks. Hwy. 271 south, six miles from Talco. Open Thursday through Saturday or call anytime 577-7158 or 572-3825. MA t/c

PRESTONWOOD Flea Market: inside and outside spaces. Open Th-Fri-Sat-Sun, 8 to 6. Paris' newest flea market. Hwy. 19&24 across from Chisum School. Air conditioned. 783-1656. MA t/c

MAIN STREET FLORIST, 105 North Main, Bogata, next door to True-Value. Flowers for all occasions and plants. Many gift items. A dealer for "Super Blue Stuff" as seen on TV. Guaranteed results. We deliver. 903/632-2837 or 1-800-510-9775. We deliver. MA t/c

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FOR SALE: New tractor specials, TN5542hp Synco-Shuttle, 1 remote, WAC \$1530 down, \$230 for 72 months. Conroy Tractor, Inc., Mt. Pleasant, 903-572-2629.

MISCELLANEOUS AUCTION: November 19, 6 p.m., Stanley's Store, Hagansport. Door prizes at end of auction. Every first and third Tuesdays. Mike Fox will have new Xmas gifts, toys, tools, etc. Frankie Norwood, Auctioneer #7994. 11-14

DISTRICT GARAGE SALE: District wide garage sale at Detroit ISD on Saturday, November 23 from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Detroit High School. Desks, computer parts, etc. use entrance to FB stadium. 11-21

MUSGROVE BAIL BONDS
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MATTRESS SALE: Twin set, \$19 down; full, \$29 down; queen, \$39 down; king, \$49 down. Instant credit, no interest or finance charges and free delivery. Save-More Furniture, 1806 W. Main, Clarksville, TX. M-F, 9-6; Sat, 9-5. MA t/c

FOR SALE: 155 preconditioned fancy Brangus heifers, big boned, gentle, 1 brand, keeping kind, \$550. Sell any amount, free delivery. Norris Ballard Cattle Co., Paris, TX 903-785-0192. MA 11-14

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ROZELL TREE SERVICE: Tree trimming/removal, 70' bucket, stumps ground. Free estimates. Insured \$2 million. David, Neil & Russell Rozell, 903-632-5617. MA t/c

FOR SALE: 1999 Ford Taurus, white, loaded. Judy Ward, 903-632-4931 after 5 or 674-4355. MA 11-21

GREAT LOW PRICES! 310 E. 9th @ N. Washington, Mt. Pleasant, 903-572-3700. Tues-Sat, 8:30-5:30. No shipment of hardware supplies. Used & new furniture (household & office) plus lots of other good stuff. Used merchandise shipments weekly. The Garage Sale. MA t/c

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SEARS ALUMINUM 12' boat for sale, also Sears gas generator, iron bed and lots of other stuff at the Bargain Store, Front St., Detroit, TX. MA 11-4

JACK'S TREE SERVICE: Insured with reasonable rates, trees trimmed or removed. Brush clean-up and stump grinding. Edna & Jack Tucker, Detroit, TX. Home 903-674-4945, mobile 903-491-8321. MA t/c

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FOR SALE: Meadowbrook Gardens Cemetery, Lot 90, Section F, spaces 3 and 4. Both lots for \$500.00. 903-652-6052. t/cnc

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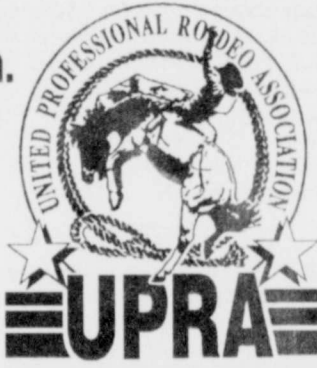


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A TEXAS PUMPKIN! Dustin Fowler of Blossom carved this pumpkin as a truly Texas Treat! It features an outline of the state with the Eiffel Tower and Cowboy Hat so well known in the area.



HIT AND RUN-Tuesday night, November 5, during a basketball scrimmage between Rivercrest, Lone Oak and Prairiland, this car was severely damaged by a 4WD pickup or SUV bumper. The driver left the scene of the accident. A reward is offered for any information leading to the guilty party. Please contact the Texas DPS or Red River County Sheriff's Office.



IRENE BRYANT attended the second birthday party of her granddaughter, Landree Proffer of Quinlan, daughter of Brian and Marleena Proffer. An Elmo theme was carried out with cake, ice cream and hot dogs. Others attending were Margaret Akehurst, great-grandmother and Pat and Lois Frahm, cousins, all of Vancouver, Washington, from Paris, Wilma Bailey, great-grandmother, Beverly and Joe Proffer, grandparents, Ann Proffer, aunt and friend Ragin Bryan, Jason and Misty Proffer, Ryan and Jacey, Linda Proffer, great-aunt, Lori Bramlett and Taylor, Kelly and Payden and Casey Dorries and other friends from Dallas.



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A Special Section of Memories Honoring Veterans From All Branches of the Armed Services of the United States of America

Young eyes opened by veteran's words students look at war with new views

Veterans Day took on new meaning Monday for some Deport 8th grade students. Pam Norwood took her American History class to the Deport Nursing Home to visit with some residents.

Also with the group was Shirlene Harrell and Principal Paul Allen.

Mrs. Dora Flenniken and Mrs. L.C. Hodges entertained a group of girls sharing stories about life as young girls during World War II. Another group of students visited with Bill Farris, who served in the National Guard. Mr. Farris shared his experiences and those of a brother who served in the military. Other groups went to visit with Veterans Rastus Redd, Archie Fair, Robert Jones, Burrell Kincaid, James Cupler, Harold Kay and Milow Hume.

Charity Musgrove, after her visit, wrote: "I visited with Mr. Milo Hume yesterday. He used to live in Cunningham, so I already knew him. But I never knew that he was in World War II and was taken prisoner. As I was listening to him, I was amazed by his story. I never knew that talking to someone that served in the military could be so interesting. I realized that soldiers back then really went through a lot. As he was talking, he began to cry. It was very sad. I have learned on Veteran's Day I really need to stop and appreciate those who fought for our country."

Some of the other things the students learned about Mr. Hume were that he was 24 when he went overseas. He was captured in El Gitar, Africa. He was captured when they were in a dugout place in the ground and the Germans snuck up behind them. The guy he was with could speak German and told him that they said "Surrender now or we'll kill you". He was kept in an old school house where he was fed old peas with worms and bugs. He was there for 2 years and 18 days. They had to pick up potatoes and put them in a wagon. He lost from 165 lbs. to 115 lbs.

The 3rd Army liberated him. He didn't trust anyone by that time, but began to drink milk and a nurse convinced him to trust her.

Hailey Norwood also visited with Mr. Hume and says "I visited with Mr. Milo Hume, after yesterday's visit I respect Veterans a lot more. I thought it was very interesting to sit down and talk with him and listen to what he went through as a prisoner of war. Because it was hard for Mr. Hume to talk, his younger brother gave us a lot of information about what

happened during those years of war. I think we all learned a huge lesson yesterday.

Lacie Cole says "When I first heard that we were going to the Nursing Home I was kind of like well, this isn't going to be much fun. But after I began to hear Mr. Hume's story of being captured and taken prisoner I began to see what really went on. I was really interested. It made me sad when I heard what happened to him and saw him cry. They all went through some very, very hard times to save our country. I am so glad that we got to go hear their stories.

James Cupler, another resident, had a group of boys hanging on to his every word. Mr. Cupler was definitely a favorite with the students.

Cole Smallwood wrote: "I felt very good visiting with Mr. Cupler, he had so many stories. I am going to go back and listen to him some more. I had so much respect for him because he had taken a big risk and fought for his country. We even got off of the subject of war and he was nice enough to talk about his wife and how it was like for him as a child. He also told us that people don't have kids, they have children. Goats have kids, he says. He was fun."

Blake Stogsdill had this to say about meeting Mr. Cupler "When I met him at first I felt kind of shy. But when we were getting to know him I felt very good. When he was telling us about his life, I felt proud because I might be one of the few people to know about that day when the U.S. went to war. Now I know what really happened from someone who was there."

Mallory Bush met Archie Fair. She said that he was a really nice guy. "I thought it wouldn't be fun to learn and listen to someone, but it was. He had been to five countries and fought. He was very lucky to be alive."

Chris Parker met Rastus Redd and wrote "He was very happy to see us and tell us about veterans. I was surprised. I learned many things about the wars he was in. It changed me. Now I know many things about veterans. I was surprised that he lived and made it back because many did not. I think war changed him too. I have a lot more respect now."

Leah Cathy visited with Bill Farris: "Talking with him has really shown me how important these veterans are that fought for our country. If they hadn't, where would our world be today? These men were willing to sacrifice their lives to help protect our country."

Not only did they sacrifice their lives, but their family's too. From now on, I will understand and be more appreciative of Veterans!

Nikki English met with Archie Fair: "At first when I went in there I thought it was going to be so boring, but it was really interesting. He talked about what kind of medal he got. Maybe we should go and talk with these people more often because they have experiences we can only dream about."

Brandi Richey, like many of the students, was nervous at first but warmed up quickly. "I feel different about the elderly now. I want to go back and talk with them more. I have a great new respect for them. Next Veterans Day will be different to me."

Cody Sullivan talked with Harold Kay. He says "I felt sad listening to his story about war. At first, he started to cry. He said he probably couldn't tell us about it, but he was going to try. He told us a good story. I'm very glad we went to the nursing home."

Robert Jones was with the Combat Engineers. Angel Deanda visited with him. She writes "I learned that he was an engineer in World War II and that he was stationed in Japan. Sitting with him made me realize that a lot of sacrifices were made to serve his country. We also visited with Burrell Kincaid. Mr. Kincaid was in the Navy. The veterans changed my feelings about Veterans Day. These men and their families made a lot of sacrifices for their country."

Danbri Mitchell visited with Robert Jones. "I thought it was neat to talk with him. He had some interesting stories. He talked about having to leave his family behind and be away from home 3 1/2 years. I thought it was neat that he was stationed in Japan because he was able to go to a different country. I also think it was neat to be able to communicate with them. I was very touched and proud to be able to talk with a person who has served their country and come back to talk about it."

We here at the newspapers were impressed not only with the wide variety of service and sacrifice that the veterans made for their country, but with the way they connected with the students that visited with them. We hope that the visits of these students will inspire other young people to take the time to visit with veterans and learn first hand more about the stories they have to share.





376th Heavy Bombardment Group VA reunion

by Charles Wilkinson

The 376th Heavy Bombardment Group Veterans Association Reunion was held in Omaha, Nebraska this year. The Reunion began on Wednesday, September 25 and lasted through Sunday the 29th.

On Sunday, September 22, my sister, Marjorie Glover, arrived at our home from Tyler, Tx. Monday the 23rd we loaded our van and began our trip to Omaha at 9:00 a.m. driving north from Anson on Hwy. 277. We entered Oklahoma just north of Vernon and had lunch at a small park near a Methodist church in Rocky, Oklahoma. We spent the night with a nephew, J.B. Parsons in Ponca City, OK.

On Tuesday, the 24th we left at 8:00 a.m. Since my older sister, Dora Thompson had lived for many years on a farm east of Ponca City, we decided to see if could locate the road to their farm. Their old home place is now covered by Kaw Lake. We drove on to McPherson, Kansas where we met a niece, Karon Morrow and her husband, Rob and her mother, our sister-in-law, Mary Ann Evans. We had a nice visit with them while having lunch.

Following lunch we resumed our trip. We drive I 35 to Wichita, Kansas and 81 to Salina Kansas. I was stationed at the Smoky Hill Air Base there in 1943 for my final phase training before going over seas. We were the first crews to receive training there. Our new B-24D's were supposed to be there when we arrived, they were not. They arrived a month later which caused us to be in Salina two months instead of one.

From Salina we went to Abilene, Kansas where we stayed over night. We visited the Eisenhower Museum and complex. We also visited Old Abilene Town. Old Abilene Town was owned by two brothers. One brother died and the other wouldn't keep it up or sell it. It is now a completely run down eye sore.

Wednesday we resumed our trip and had beautiful weather until about 20 miles west of Omaha. It began to rain. We arrived in Omaha in the afternoon. Our motel was the Park Inn Regency Lodge which we missed by three or four blocks, but, turned around and found it with no problem. At the entrance we met a friend just unloading. He and his son helped up unload.

While Jean and Marjorie put things away went down stairs. The first people I saw were a couple that had missed the last two reunions, Larry and Debbie Wissman of Cincinnati, Ohio. They are good friends of ours and he is the one that I wrote about several years ago, who was shot down over Northern Italy. He weighed 186 pounds when he was shot down and when released from POW camp weighed 89 pounds.

Wednesday evening we had dinner with the Wissmans. We recalled our first meeting with them being in Knoxville, Tennessee

in 1997 at our reunion.

On Thursday morning following breakfast we boarded buses and went out to Offutt Air Force Base. We had lunch at the Officer's Club and again boarded the buses and toured the base. Our tour guide was a colonel. Offutt was formally Ft. Cook established between 1894 and 1896. Many of the original buildings are still in use. In 1940 the Army Air Corps chose Ft. Cook as the site for a new bomber plant. They built two one-mile long runways, six large hangers and a huge 1.2 million square foot aircraft assembly building. A total of 1,586 B-26 Marauders and 531 B-29 Superfortresses were built there. Two of the Superfortresses "Enola Gay" and "Bock's Car" dropped the atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan. Also, maybe of interest to some, one of Bogata's own flew B-26's in WWII. W.V. Humpherys flew B-26's in North Africa and maybe out of England. Making Offutt interesting to Marjorie, Jean and myself was the fact that our nephew, Paul Wilkinson, was stationed at Offutt from 1981 to 1985 and my brother, Thomas Paul, was stationed at Offutt in 1944.

Friday morning we toured the Outdoor Adventure Zoo and Botanical Gardens, which we skipped, too much walking for me. At 4:30 we boarded buses for the SA & S Museum. We saw the U2 which was the type plane that Gary Powers was flying when he was shot down over Russia. They had an SR-71 called "Black Lady", which replaced the U2. The "black Lady" carried a crew of 1, flew 80,000 feet altitude at 2,000 mph. It had no guns, but depended on its speed and altitude. It cost \$250,000 per hour to operate and could carry 170,000 lbs., which was mostly fuel. There were only 4 of these planes built. Also in the SA & S Museum we saw a Saber Jet (F-86) flown in the Korean War and an F-84 which was hard to take off. It was sometimes called the Lead Sled or Hanger Queen. There was also a B-25, the only plane named after a man, Billy Mitchell. The B-25 was the type plane that Doolittle used to take off from a carrier to bomb Tokyo. There were many more planes there, all with their own story. I could go on but will just say we had a good meal and then back to the hotel.

On Saturday following breakfast we had our Squadron meeting with a Group meeting following that. We were told the 2003 Reunion will be in Colorado Springs, Colorado the last part of September.

Following a buffet luncheon reunioners boarded buses to tour the Western Heritage Museum and Omaha's Old Town. We skipped this trip also due to too much walking.

Saturday night we had our room party which started for just my crew. However, over the years it grew. This year 28 people came. Larry Wissman and his bomber

dier, Pete Komlemich who were together for the first time since they were shot down in 1943 over Northern Italy. The CO of my Squadron, Norm Appold and his wife, Eddie and Kim Hobbs, the guy I invited to entertain my class at the 60th graduation anniversary from Bogata High School in 2001 was also there. His father has flown with us. The party was a success.

Sunday we were on our own after church service which was conducted by a retired pastor who was a gunner in our outfit. At 5:00 Sunday evening we had our pictures made for our picture book and Sunday night we had our Memorial banquet. We had our Color Guard of the six surviving members of one crew from our outfit dressed in WWII uniforms including one man wearing a kilt and playing the bag pipes which was very impressive. Our speaker was Lt. General Thomas B. Goslin Jr, Deputy Commander in Chief, U.S. Strategic Command, Offutt Air Force Base, Nebraska. The command is responsible for all U.S. Air Force and Navy strategic nuclear forces supporting the national security objective of strategic deterrence. He is a command pilot with more than 4,300 hours including 635 combat hours. He has flown 7 different types of planes including the B52 and B-2A.

The program included the reading of the names of our members who have died since our reunion.

Monday following breakfast we loaded our cars and said our good-byes and headed home. We stopped in Geneva, Nebraska for pictures in front of the Geneva Bank and Court House and spent Monday night in Enid, Oklahoma.

On Tuesday we drove to Hennessy, Oklahoma. Kim Hobbs owns a ranch near there. We called him and he met us in Dover. We went out and visited for a couple of hours. Kim's father flew in our outfit and he began coming to our reunions with his father in 1995. After his father's death he has continued to come. After our visit we continued on our way home and arrived around 6:30 p.m. tired but happy we had gone.

A small history of the 376th is: we went overseas at the Halpro group. We were the first American unit to attack "Fortress Europe"; 12 June 1942-Ploesti Refineries. Lead Polesti low level attack on Polesti Refineries 1 August 1943; 451 combat missions; 3 Distinguished Unit Citations; Destroyed 220 enemy aircraft plus 69 probables; 1479 causalities and 169 aircraft lost; last mission flown on 15 April 1945; III fated "Lady Be Good" lost in the Sahara Desert was from the 376th HBG.

If you are interested in reading the history of the 376th, the Bogata Library has the book by James W. Walker "The Liberandos" a WWI History of the 376th Heavy Bombardment Group and its Founding Units.



VETERANS HONORED-area veterans and their families were honored on Monday, November 11 by the Blossom School with a special program which included music from the Jr. High Band members as they performed a medley of military tunes. (Staff Photo)



THE RIVERCREST ELEMENTARY-first grade classes did their part in the Veterans Day program held at the school on Monday. The students, under the direction of Mrs. Neva Oats, performed patriotic music in honor of the nation's veterans. (Staff Photo Nancy Brown)



THE STUDENTS-of Rivercrest Elementary performed a special Veterans Day program on Monday morning under the direction of Mrs. Neva Oats. Pictured are the second grade classes as they sang for their classmates, teachers, staff and visitors. (Staff Photo Nancy Brown)

1st Infantry Division
 Nickname: Fighting First (also the Red One).
 Shoulder Patch: Red Arabic numeral "1" on solid olive drab background.
 Slogan: "No mission is too difficult no sacrifice too great."
 Song: "The Spirit of the First Division"
 Type of Division: Regular Army.

2nd Infantry Division
 Nickname: Indian Head
 Shoulder Patch: A red faced Indian head on a white star, superimposed on a black shield
 Slogan: "Second to None";
 Source of Division: Regular Army
 History: Organized Bourmont, France, August, 1917.
 Actions: Chateau Thierry, St. Mihiel, Meuse-Argonne, Blanc Mont and Soissons.

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783-0100

BA's 909 Diner
909, Bogata TX
632-5719



1st Armored Division
 Nickname: Once called Old Ironsides. Members dropped it.
 Shoulder Patch: Regular armored patch, a triangle with three equal areas, yellow for cavalry; blue for infantry and red for field artillery. A red bolt of lightning crosses the black tank tread and cannon.

2nd Armored Division
 Nickname: Hell on Wheels
 Shoulder Patch: Conventional Armored triangular design of Infantry blue, field artillery red and cavalry yellow areas bearing black Arabic numeral "2".
 Type of Division: Regular Army.
 Activated June, 1940

7th Armored Division
 Nickname: Lucky Seventh
 Shoulder Patch: Regular armored patch with the numeral. Songs: "Song of the Seventh" by B. Dunford and "The Seventh Attacks" by T/5 Ben Maugham.
 Activated March 1, 1942, Camp Polk; has no history to present war.
 Other stations: Desert Training Center; Ft. Benning, Maneuvers, LA-TX. Desert Tr. Center Overseas: June, 1944 (ETO)



Sidney and Leroy Pratt



JAMES C. FRANCIS enlisted in the Army when he was 17 years old. He went to the Oahu, Hawaii for basic training and then to Korea. He was a tank commander in Korea. He was stationed in Germany for several years before being discharged. He served in the Second (Indian Head) Division.



Wartime Memories, at home

It was near mid-term of my senior year in high school when we heard the special radio announcement on December 7, 1941 of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. The next day at school, our first period class on government was spent listening to the radio news about the attack along with discussions about its ramifications to the future.

Boys had been required to register for the draft and had speculated about their number being drawn for "call up". But now that we were actually engaged in war, some braggadocio remarks from 17 and 18 year olds were "I'm gonna join up and shoot me some Japs," or other macho exhibits of their prowess. Others were more circumspect; some were devout, volunteering to donate urine specimens for their friends in order to foul up their physical examination to exempt them from induction, or plotting to consume numerous aspirin. Others, eager to be in military service, plotted to stuff themselves by eating dozens of bananas in order to meet the weight requirement.

Despite such foolishness, they were eager to join a military service and "do my duty." Among us girls was fear for the future of all our boys with the probability they would be inducted and the possibility they would be in combat. This reality hit home when my brother, Sidney Pratt, was inducted in early 1942. He left home alone and reported to Clarksville where he boarded a bus that took him to basic training at Ft. Sill, OK. While the family wanted to see him off, I now realize he preferred that we not be there so that he could maintain emotional control as he left the town and people he loved, without knowing with certainty when, or if, he would return.

Daily life in Detroit changed. It felt as if half the population had left town. With rationing, we were dedicated to conserving coffee, sugar, meat, gasoline, tires, shoes and other rationed items. We were conscientious about tendering the proper number of coupons from our ration books for every purchase we made. We were determined to cooperate with the war effort in every way.

Troop trains passed through Detroit very often. These were unscheduled trains transporting military personnel across the country. Ladies in town began baking cookies and muffins to serve to the men on trains that stopped in town. With so many men and so many trains at irregular hours, the effort became impossible.

Roar of aircraft was heard and we watched bombers and fighter planes in formation as they flew overhead, easterly and westerly. Long convoys of military vehicles passed through Detroit and sometimes bivouacked in fields surrounding town. On one such occasion, troops were bivouacked south of town, beside U.S. 82. The highway then turned south at a 90 degree angle onto present day Route 410, then continued south to the turkey farm where it turned west again.

Dad took me to visit the "soldier boys" who were setting up tents. They were camping in a pasture where brother Leroy would later build his home. Much to my embarrassment, Dad kept telling young soldiers about this own experience as a soldier in France during WWI. Little did I expect to be doing the same sixty year later by telling our experiences and those of Sidney who served with the 12th Armored Division and fought through France, Belgium, Germany and into Austria. That will follow later.

Mother and Dad began inviting young men from Camp Maxey in Paris to our house for Sunday dinner. She said it was the least she could do; that she hoped some other mother would do the same for her sons. The boys were usually polite and pleasant but a few bad apples spoiled the arrangement. One thoughtless boy was permitted to ride my horse, Dick. When we later found Dick, he was lathered up and standing in our front yard with his mouth frothing, head drooping, saddle slipped sideways. After that, invitations were discontinued.

We made up care packages to send my brothers and friends. We enclosed home made cookies and candy, toothpaste, tooth brushes, socks, underwear, a can or jar of something they liked and such small items that we thought they might need or enjoy.

By the fall of 1942, my girlfriends had left Detroit to attend college or take jobs. Some married and moved away. The boys were being drafted, volunteering for service or otherwise leaving town. Feeling left behind, I was desperate to do something worthwhile to aid the war effort. During a disagreement with my dad, he suggested that I join the WACS. That was an auxiliary army corps for women over age 21. I replied that he knew I wasn't old enough to which he said that I could see Dr. Meers who had aided in my birth, that he would give me a birth certificate showing my age as 21.

Dr. Meers' office was located on the east side of U.S. 82, adjacent to an alley behind Tommy Ellis' cafe located in one side of the Texaco Station on the corner of Front Street. Dr. Meers was recovering from a stroke but still seeing patients. He sat at his roll top desk, pulled out an extension on which to write and with a straight face said, "Let me see. You were born about 1926 weren't you?" I mentally calculated the birth date I needed in order to join the WACs and replied, "No, I was born in 1921." Without changing his expression, he ceremoniously filled out a certificate with the birth date I wanted and explained that

my mother or dad would have to sign it.

Triumphantly, I took the birth certificate to Dad to be signed. He laughed heartily but told me to take it to Mother to sign. She didn't. She said she wouldn't certify a lie and so that was that.

We began learning of the deaths of our friends and other friends' brothers and sons. Mrs. Clara Sharpe became a Gold Star Mother when her son, Hugh, was killed. As was patriotic tradition, she displayed in a front window, a small banner with a gold star in the center. Our classmates, Wayne Miller and Harold Deacon Ridley were killed. The sad reality of war had come home and we prayed hard and long for it to end and for our beloved brothers and friends to come home, well and safe.

I was permitted to attend college in Dallas where I resided in a girls boarding house. On weekends we and girls from other colleges and clubs were invited to attend lodge and USO dances for the entertainment of boys stationed at the Naval Air Station and Love field. Famous bands came to town or local bands provided big band music for the dances.

USO chaperones explained rules of behavior which we applied to lodge dances as well. Essentially, they were that we girls could not refuse to dance if asked; we were to be friendly and polite; we were not permitted to leave with or make dates with the boys; we were not to dance too closely; to dance with modesty when jitterbugging and not give our address or telephone number to boys who asked.

Conga lines formed and provided great fun as we circled the ballroom. There were dance contests with prizes such as a box of candy or bottle of cologne. When a couple showed exceptional dancing talent, the floor cleared while everyone watched them finish their dance, we then applauded them enthusiastically. We never saw the servicemen again but we all enjoyed our brief contacts.

Perhaps our brothers gave our names and addresses to their friends. Irrespective of how it came about, some of us developed pen pal friendships with boys we would never see. Spirit of the time made it our duty to write to service men who were away from home. Many businesses in Dallas provided products or service to military men gratis. Military Police and Shore Patrol kept watch over downtown streets for unruly servicemen or any of them still on the street after curfew.

During this time, Sidney had finished basic training and reported to Camp Campbell, KY where he was assigned to the 12th Armored Division which was activated in September, 1942 for the duration of the war. They chose the name "Hellcats" for their division. He was assigned to Company C of the 714th Tank Battalion, one of three tank battalions of the Division. They trained on maneuvers in Tennessee for three months and then were transferred to Camp Berkeley, TX for desert training. There he met his future wife, Winnie Cross.

During training, he hitchhiked home on leaves as brief as a three day pass. In those days, it would have been unthinkable to pass up any military man seeking a ride. Sidney wrote home faithfully and sent home much of his pay which he designated as savings for his little sister's college fund. On one visit, he brought Mother a gold wedding band that she had wished all her married life to wear. On another brief leave, he brought his young sister to Dallas on the day Charles, my fiance, and I had chosen for our wedding, only to be thwarted by his assigned flight to deliver another aircraft to India, a geographical area that now is in Pakistan.

Departing from Sidney's experience: Charles Pohutsky, my husband, also performed remarkable service during the war. He was with the 5th Ferry Command. His duty at Love Field was to serve as flight engineer on flight crews that delivered B-29 bombers from the factory in Wichita, KS to all points of the globe where they were needed. The aircraft were outfitted for armor but they carried no ammunition. Each crew member wore a .45 caliber pistol for protection of the Norden bomb site they carried on board in a box.

After the planes were delivered, the flight crew found their way back to Love Field. They sometimes brought back damaged or stripped B-29's for repair; they hitched a ride on any vehicle and in any space in which they could fit. Charles once returned on an unescorted hospital ship returning wounded men.

Crew members were issued books of TR's, travel requests, which they used for hotel accommodations if military billeting was unavailable, and commercial travel when it could be found. Crews broke up and each man found his own way back.

By September, 1944, Sidney's 12th Armored Division was scheduled to leave Camp Berkeley and report to Camp Shanks, NY for deployment to Europe. Sidney took his final leave home in Detroit and had his last home cooked meal with Charles and me in Dallas.

At the staging area in NY, strict secrecy required removal of all identification of the unit including shoulder patches. Marks on vehicles were painted over. Men were not supposed to know who they were, where they had been or where they were going. Mail was censored and other precautions taken to enhance security for safe crossing of the Atlantic. During their week in NY, 12-hour passes were granted for visits into New York City.

By September 19, trains took them to a ferry from where they marched a mile to waiting ships. They carried all their possession on their backs.

Ships were of varying sizes, one carrying as many as 5,000 troops and other smaller vessels called Liberty ships. After struggling up the gang plank, last names were read as the men boarded and first names were given in reply. Their ships made up a convoy surrounded by destroyers that provided escort across the Atlantic were German submarines prowled. They landed at Liverpool, England on September 27, 1944. After a series of moves, they went to Tidworth Barracks in Wiltshire, England October 20 where they endured cold rain and wet ground on which they camped in tents on Windmill Hill. Finally, they crossed the English Channel and landed at LeHarve, France where they first saw a town struck by allied bombs. They learned there that not all French citizens welcomed them as heroes as evidenced by one old man who cursed them because they'd bombed the city with only a few thousand German soldiers in it.

From then to the end of the war in Europe, men of the 12th Armored Division were constantly on the move, fighting. They fought under three different commands, the 7th Army, the 3rd Army and the French 1st Army. The 12th came to be known as the "Suicide Division" for victoriously engaging, outnumbering and better armored enemy troops. They were known as the Mystery Division of the Third Army by spearheading Patton's thrust through then French Palatinat to the Rhine River. The 12th was one of only four U.S. Divisions who fought under command of the First French Army. They received commendations from every command under which they fought.

There was little celebration among the Hellcats of the 12th Armored Division with the official announcement of Germany's unconditional surrender on May 8, 1945. Perhaps the division had seen the end approaching; perhaps the men were too tired. More likely it was because they knew the job was still unfinished. Occupation of Germany and the defeat of Japan remained....

The 12th Armored Division was comprised of 10,800 men organized into infantry, tanks, artillery, mechanical, engineering, ordnance, medical, signal, police, band, chaplains, with ancillary and headquarters units. Their principal armament included medium and light tanks, Howitzers, rocket launchers, mortars, rifles, carbines and more.

Sidney's 714th tank Battalion had 720 men, 41 of whom were killed; one man being Blackie, a member of his own tank crew. The 12th Armored Division lost 817 men due to mortal wounds and 2,656 wounded.

One of my most vivid wartime memories is of VE Day when the streets leading to the intersection of Commerce and Ackard Streets in Dallas were crowded from building to building with celebrants. People of all ages, military men and civilians, gathered there to sing, dance, shout, hug, hoist people on their shoulders and celebrate in the most exuberant way. From the upper floors of the Baker Hotel, feathers drifted down from ripped pillows, toilet tissue, papers and other streamers were released into a flood of confetti falling on us in the streets below. It was a jubilant celebration with forgotten concern for the moment about the continuing war in the Pacific. That would be own a few months later with more subdued celebrations chilled with sadness over the great and tragic cost of human life. We began looking forward to our brothers and friends coming home.

After VE Day, some men in military services remained for occupation duty, others had the misfortune to be transferred to the Pacific theater to continue the war against Japan.

Both my brothers, Sidney and Leroy, survived the war and returned home. Sidney returned to Detroit on Christmas, 1945. Leroy served with the 15th Air Force as a radio man on B-26 crews who flew bombing missions over Germany. They are now deceased. Neither of them talked about their wartime experiences in Europe. Sidney was unobtrusive by nature and taciturn by choice regarding his memories of war. But we knew the circumstances under which he brought home a .22 caliber Walther rifle taken from a civilian who shot a heel off his boot as he searched structures in a German town. His buddy retaliated by targeting the woman, taking her rifle and presenting it to Sidney.

Sidney and other boys inducted for service in WWII came home men. As all the others, he did what he did because it was his duty. He did remember for the rest of his life his comrades in arms, the battles they fought, the sounds of battle and the smell of death. Loss of his friend, Blackie, still moved him to tears after 50 years.

They all came home different men. They married, raised families, worked hard, some lived to grow old before their remarkable accomplishments were acknowledged.

Time is taking its toll on our World War II veterans. Sidney and others did not live long enough to know that we recognize them as men to whom we owe our most heartfelt admiration and gratitude. I only regret I could not contribute this small acknowledgment of my brother's heroism when he was still alive. As much as he tormented me as a child, I loved him more as a man. Sidney was my rock of the family, a big brother whose memory I cherish.

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A Christmas day burial at sea

My Marine outfit was evacuated from Hungnam, North Korea on December 24, 1950, aboard the LST 898, one of the last three LSTs off the beach that afternoon. We watched the demolition team blow up the port after we pulled away to a safe distance. We then set sail for Pusan.

That night, before midnight, we ran into groundswells that caused the LSTs to roll violently. The Marines were called below to secure the vehicles.

We stopped the next morning while the LST behind us buried a young Marine who had been crushed between a tank and the bulkhead during the groundswell.

He had survived the Chosin Reservoir battle where the 15,000

men of the 1st Marine Division had been surrounded by nine Chinese army divisions in subzero weather, and fought their way out of the trap and through 130,000 Chinese troops along the 80-mile route to Hungnam and the relative warmth and safety of the LSTs that awaited them. In their wake were left several Chinese divisions unable to take the field when the spring thaw came.

Military historians are remembering it today as "a battle fought against odds and under conditions without parallel in the annals of military history".

What I remember most is the death of a young Marine who almost lived to tell about it.

Quinnon Davis

James Cunningham, soldier and cook

James Cunningham volunteered into the army on Feb. 7, 1941. He went to boot camp in Brownwood, Texas and trained in Louisiana. In October 1941, his company was sent to the State Fair of Texas to show uniformed presence. They slept under the Cotton Bowl for two weeks. He was on leave at his home in Petty, Texas when Pearl harbor was hit. He was sent to guard the west coast, camping in state parks in California to Washington. Later in Washington State, after a minor knee injury, he was assigned as a cook, where he cooked for twenty or up to three hundred men. At one point, he asked the captain to send him to

cooking school, but the Captain said "No, we like your cooking just the way it is!". Mr. Cunningham also spent time in South Carolina.

Upon his discharge from the army when the war was over in the fall of 1945, he returned home to marry Dorothy Short, a teacher in Deport and they made their home in Petty where James farmed and ran the Petty Gin.

James Cunningham is now 85. He volunteers at Christus St. Joseph's North and is still a very good cook, cooking for friends, relatives and neighbors.

James was in service from February 1941 to October 1945.

The Battle of Okinawa

By Rastus Redd

The Navy had 90 assault Squadrons consisting of Troops Squadrons arriving on March 31st, 1945, with 548,000 troops. Total ships broken down was 1,213 of which 318 combat ships broken down was: 15 large aircraft carriers, 18 battle ships. The Vicksburg and 63 other carriers, 148 destroyers, and a great number of landing craft and minesweepers and small boats.

The combat troops were the First Marine Div., Second Marine and Sixth Marine Div. The Army had the 27th Div. and the 77th Div. and eighty first Div. They landed on Easter Sunday, at 8:00 a.m. First Wave was near the village of Hagushi. The Navy had their hands full because the Jap had thousands of suicide planes, boats, one man subs to strike the U.S. Forces. The had thousands of motor boats stored on the little islands around Okinawa to sink U.S. Ships and they did sink some, but the Navy knew about these, so they sent a crew out to destroy them first. But some hit their mark. The Japs had a plan that called for 2,500 planes to gas up for a one way stop, hit the target and keep on until he was out of gas or got shot down and killed.

The invasion of Okinawa was on May 15th when the task force 58 hit the air field at Kvosha. The carriers Hancock, Batan, Hornet (Wasp) Bennington, Bellea Woods, an Jacinto, Enterprise, Franklin, intrepid, langley, Independence, and a large force of smaller ships. They destroyed hundreds of Japanese Plane and damaged runway. Then the Japs knew the Battle of Okinawa was coming. Between March 16 to 29th some of our ships had been knocked out of action by the Kamikaze forces. The carrier Franklin had been hit. There were 1000 casualties, some of them were

taken by other ships for treatment. But the Franklin made it back home on it's own power.

The landing started at 8:00 Easter Sunday morning with 500,000 troops going ashore. The troops were under the command of General Simon Buckner. The next day the Kamikazes struck the West Virginia and three attack cargo vessel and 4 troop transports. Two days later the Wake Island and a mine sweeper were damaged by them. By that time the damage to the Fleet was so bad that the American command ordered part of the fleet circled and put out a smoke screen to cover the fleet at night. Then the high command and the whole island surrounded by small ships about 15 to 10 miles apart. This gave early warning of attacking Jap planes. By April 6th the Japs set up a suicide plane and paratroop attack with 700 planes coming at our forces.

The men on the guns on the ships never left their stations for 48 hours. There was one attack after another. The Japs came in from the west so the sun would be in the gunners eyes. Our forces shot down some 249 planes by task force 58, but not before the Japs plowed into 10 of our ships, sinking the destroyer USS Newcomb and other ships. On April 6th the Japs got together a line of ships, all they had left, and came through Bungo Strait. The southern exit from Japan's island sea on an attack mission.

The fighting went on and on through April 21, on to May. The big part of the battle ended June 21st. All was over but the mopping up. It took several weeks to round up all the Japanese that were headed out.

Well, the Japanese lost 107,539 men and 110,755 wounded or captured. Our forces lost 12,820 dead, 36,631 wounded.

Jimmy Little receives special badge

Roger and Patsy Little write that "Jimmy Little is a Staff Sergeant in the Army. We are very proud of him and his family serving our country. While Jimmy was stationed in Okinawa, Japan he earned a German Military Efficiency Badge.

Jimmy is now stationed at Ft. Hood here in Texas.

Roger Little has been away from the Detroit area for a number of years, but still loves the area very much. He and Pat live in Combine Texas, a small community just east of Dallas.

From Stars and Strips, Oct. 21, 2001; Fort Buckner—Several soldiers here have the mettle to be ranked among Germany's best field soldiers, and they have the badge to prove it.

Five soldiers from the U.S. Army's 1st Satellite Control Battalion here earned Germany's Bundeswehr-Leistungsabzeichen, the German Armed Forces Efficiency Badge.

The award-rare for U.S. soldiers stationed in Germany was heretofore unheard of for soldiers stationed in Asia.

"They said it's the first time it's been done in the Pacific" said Army Staff Sgt. Timothy Harrell, who helped coordinate the tests and earned one of the five gold badges. "There are only a limited number of slots because you have to participate with German troops."

At the past Army ball, Staff Sgt. Jimmy Little said he saw only one of 1,000 soldiers wearing the badge.

"The badge isn't available at uniform stores," Little said "I couldn't even find a picture of it over the internet. If you lose the badge or it gets broken or damaged, you have to go through the Republic of Germany to request a replacement and they check their records to ensure you are qualified to wear it."

The idea to bring the efficiency competition to Okinawa came when Harrell and Little were searching for ways to improve soldiering skills among their troops. They started with phone calls to the German Embassy in Tokyo, where they got the badge requirements from German De-

fense Attache' Navy Capt. Raimund Wallner and Assistant Attache' German Army Sgt. Maj. Frank Motte.

"At first the idea came to me as a surprise," Motte said, "I thought it would be a good way to give something back to the U.S. soldiers for all they've given me."

Motte, who was stationed for nearly five years at Ft. Monroe, Va., said the badge is a distinguishing mark on a German soldier's record.

He forwarded the badge-testing requirements to the soldiers on Okinawa. The road to German battle efficiently wasn't a cakewalk.

The soldiers had to qualify on a 9mm pistol, perform first-aid techniques, complete sports-related tests and complete a 20 mile march.

Eighteen soldiers contended for the rights to wear the foreign badge: five made it.

During the testing, Motte joined up with the soldiers. He issued a challenge for them to run the 20 mile forced march. In fact, he finished the course first, waiting at the end for the soldiers.

"Any time we talked to them, they impressed me" Harrell said. "They were willing to do anything to help. With all the opportunities they had to say No it's amazing we got this off the ground. I have nothing but praise for the Germans".

Jimmy Little is a 92Y-Unit Supply Specialist with a secondary MOS of 11B-infantryman. His Basic Active Service Date is 31, October 1990. He has served tours in the Republic of Korea, Alaska, Japan, Ft. Benning, Georgia, and Ft. Polk, Louisiana. He is currently stationed at E. Company, 1st Satellite Control Battalion, Okinawa, Japan. His service decorations include the Expert Infantry Badge, Military Drivers Badge-Wheel, Good Conduct Medal (3rd Award) Army Commendation Medal 4 (with Oak leaf Clusters), Army Achievement Medal (2nd Award). His foreign awards include the Bundeswehr Leistungsabzeichen, German Armed Forces Efficiency Badge. He was recently inducted into the Order of St. Martin, a society that was established to honor our outstanding logistical supply personnel.



Here is a verse written by Henry Lee Somerville during World War II.
Red is the color of Christmas,
Red is the color of blood.
Gold & Green is the Christmas Scene,
Here, Brown is the Jungle Mud.

American Legion Urges Veterans to Enroll in VA Health-Care System

The American Legion believes that funding of the nation's largest category of veterans could be endangered if the veterans fail to enroll in the Department of Veterans Affairs health-care system.

Veterans in Priority Group 7 - VA's designation of non-indigent veterans without service-connected disabilities or injuries - NEED TO ENROLL in the system before Congress decides the funding no longer exists to accept them.

By enrolling, veterans will have access to a health-care system that includes a pharmacy that requires just a \$7. copayment for each 30-day supply of medication.

Veterans can enroll in person at any VA medical center or clinic. The VA form 10-10EZ is currently the application used to enroll veterans for VA health benefits.

Fried cheese-----please!!

My father, Ben F. Wright of Deport, served in the U. S. Army in World War I, was stationed at the military hospital in Waco, and served as a cook.

Daddy relayed this story to me years ago. He said he was on duty alone one night in the mess hall. It was rather late. Occasionally higher-up officers would drop by unannounced at any hour for a snack. Several officers entered the mess hall. Daddy said all ordered coffee, but one asked for a "fried

cheese sandwich".

Now Daddy had never heard of a "fried cheese sandwich". But he quickly returned to the kitchen and put some cheese on to fry. He said as the cheese warmed in the hot grease, it disappeared. He looked at the skillet in dismay, but low and behold, in a few seconds, it reappeared. He lifted the "fried cheese" with his spatula and loaded the sandwich. He said he never received a complaint.

---Sybil Wright Hanson

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Section B: Special Veterans Day Edition, Page 5

The Bill White Story

Let me tell you about Bill White. This is a supplement to my recollections, however, the facts are real and relevant to the history of the battle for the island of Iwo Jima. His experiences in the Marine Corps are as unique as are his experiences on Iwo Jima. After the invasion of the Mariana Island of Saipan, he was given a commendation signed by Major General C.B. Cates for excellent service as a rifleman in the capture of Saipan in June to July 1944. His citation read in part that "his initiative and skill in the operation of his weapon and his devotion to duty substantially contributed to the annihilation of the enemy."

I think Bill's story illustrates the dire need that our country had for men to fight in the Pacific during World War II. The Pacific War was in full swing when he joined the Marines in September, 1943. He was only 18 years old. He was sent to boot camp at Camp Pendleton, San Diego, California. After just six weeks there he was put on a troop transport and sent directly into combat at the Kwajalein Atoll in the Marshall Islands. His assignment was on the islands of Roi and Namur. Here the Marines routed the Japanese in short order. Hence one Battle Star. From here he went to Maui Island, the fourth Marine headquarters, to train for the invasions of Saipan and Tinian Islands in the Mariana group. Here Bill earned two more Battle Stars and a commendation. Then, back again to Maui to train for the next island invasion. He said that all invasions were bad but Iwo Jima was the worst for him.

On the morning of February 19, 1945, he climbed down a cargo net into a landing craft infantry which held about 40 Marines for

the ride to the beach. "We went in standing up but we went back out flat on our backs," he said. Out of the 200 marines in our company only 20 were not wounded or killed. The moment the LCI hit the beach the front ramp dropped and we hit the beach running. It was hot, shells were exploding all around us. There was not a time that I did not see a Marine falling. I didn't know if they were wounded or killed. There was little or no protection, it was every man for himself." Bill and others spent the day crawling on their hands and knees or running in a crouched stance, moving forward little by little. His assignment by nightfall was to be just above the sunken Japanese ship called the Japanese Boat Basin. The code name given by the Marines for this area was Blue Beach 2 on the extreme right flank of the entire beach landing area. "Each landing was different but this was the hottest. It was hot all the way from the moment that I hit the beach until I took a 50 caliber bullet in my gut. I didn't think that I was going to live through this even before I was shot," he said.

By evening, he and the others that were left, dug in for the night and waited for the Japanese to mount a Banzai attack. None came. During the Saipan campaign, the Japanese pulled one of their mounted attacks and over ran an Army National Guard Unit that had been sent in to relieve Marines that had taken the high ground after five days of hard fighting.

Many Americans were killed by the surprise attack.

At daybreak on the second day, company B began working its way up the bluffs on the big end of the island. Bill had been a BAR man

during his first three campaigns, but now he was carrying an M-1 rifle, ammunition plus a pocket full of hand grenades. In going up the bluffs no one saw any caves. Once on top they took whatever cover they could find. They spread bright colored banner on the ground between them and the Japanese so that pilots disintegrating from the enemy, their commander called in for support and a squadron of Navy helicopters from a nearby carrier came to their aid. It was on the second pass made by the Hellcats that Bill took one of their 50 caliber bullets clear through his body. It entered the front and exited his back. "The bullet went through my guts and took part of my kidney," he said. A corpsman was called and he gave him a shot of morphine and then "stuffed sulphur powder in the hole in my body."

Some friends carried him down the bluffs and onto a LCI for his ride out to a hospital ship that had a "big red cross painted on the side of it" Bill said that they operated on him that very day. "They cut me wide open so that they could repair the damage to my body in order to keep me alive. I really didn't think that I could live". Bill was just 19 years old and he now had earned four Battle Stars, a Commendation and now a Purple Heart.

The trip home was via several hospitals. The first was at Guam, then Honolulu, on to San Francisco and finally to San Diego, California where it all started. After a brief stay back at his home in Bogata, Texas, he was sent back to duty to stand guard at a base in Sanford, Florida until his discharge.



Bill White in World War II

3rd Infantry Division
 Nickname: Marne Division
 Shoulder Patch: A square with three diagonal white stripes against a dark blue field, blue for Inf.; three stripes for major operations and numerical designation.
 Motto: "Nous resterons la."
 "We are staying there!"
 Song: The Dogface Soldier
 History: Organized November, 1917, Camp Greene, SC from RA units.
 Overseas: April, 1918.
 Campaigns: Chateau Thierry, Champagne-Marne offensive, Aisne-Marne, St. Mihiel, Meuse-Argonne.



LIFE IN WORLD WAR II—Mrs. L.C. Hodges and Dora Flenniken spoke with Tenesa Brown, Cassie Brummett, and Brandi Richey about what life was like during World War II. The residents of Deport Nursing Home were happy to visit with the Deport Junior High 8th graders, who interviewed Veterans on Veterans Day.



JAMES CUPLER was a hit with Deport Junior High eight graders when he spoke to them about his war experiences. From left are Chaz Wilson, A.J. Syrus, Blake Stogsdill, Brandon Crawford and Cole Smallwood. In seated is veteran James Cupler.


Wacs Help Care For Wounded Service Men

Hamilton Field, Calif. — G. I. James have volunteered for one of the challenging jobs of the war here. Wacs are giving their free time to caring for men flown back as casualties by the Air Transport Command from Saipan and the Marianas.

They are doing the things an over-busy nursing staff can't find time for. They are helping in every way possible. Besides assisting with routine hospital tasks, they write letters for the men to eager mothers and wives. They shop at the P. X. for personal things the men want—shirts, ties, razor blades, service ribbons.

When the first group of casualties began to arrive at Hamilton Field, the Wacs, whose regular assignments are in administrative work, were a little hesitant to offer their help. The boys seemed shy, and were certainly leery of being stared at—and weren't at all sure how to act before women soldiers. But small groups of Wacs began visiting the wards, hoping they might alleviate the boys' loneliness, and it soon became plain that they were not only welcome guests, but very much needed.

Men brought as casualties to Hamilton Field from the fighting fronts of the Pacific stay here a week or 10 days. They are rested, thoroughly checked, and given additional medical care before being moved to Army hospitals nearer their homes.



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Patriotism and friendship

By Ed Ring

I've always been patriotic. I believe that we live in the best country in the world. We have problems, but I've seen how people have to live in other countries. We are very fortunate to live in the U.S.A. We have rights and we have the freedom to say and do pretty much as we please. If we don't like what our leaders do, then we have the ability to not only charge what they do, but to change who our leaders are. We do this by voting. None of this would be possible if it weren't for the fact that Americans were willing to fight and die for the rest of us...not only for Americans but every human being in the world.

I volunteered for the Army and I volunteered to fight in Viet Nam. I know it was an unpopular war, but I felt that it was my turn to do my part as so many have done before me.

I would like to tell a war story about myself and two American heroes. They were heroes in my eyes.

I landed at the air base in Cum Ranh Bay when the plane came to a stop. I looked out the window and couldn't believe what I was seeing. There were all these little people with pointed straw hats running around. The first thing that popped into my mind was "the munchkins on Wizard of Oz".

I don't know how long I sat there, but I was brought back to reality by a loud voice saying "last stop, soldier, get off". This was the beginning of my adventure in hell. As myself and all the other new guys or cherry boys as they called us, went from building to building, picking up our gear, there was the constant sound of rockets and mortars going off. It doesn't take long after you are in country as they call it to distinguish which is outgoing and which is incoming. There is also a smell that to this day I haven't forgotten. We were put in bunkers to await our orders to where we would be stationed next, which turned out to be many days for me. My orders didn't come down very fast, so I got to experience some duties that I wasn't familiar with. One that will stick with me til the day I die was pulling out cut down 55 gallon drums full of human wastes, pouring diesel fuel on it and burning it. I got to stand them until everything was burnt up, then put the barrels back. A few days of this and I was ready for my orders!

Whenever some's orders came down they would run to one of the old guys (maybe 20 or 21 years old) and ask what it was like there. I remember one guy that got his orders for Saigon and went to one of the GIs that was going home. He asked him what it was like, where it was going. The older GI told him it was great, he couldn't ask for a better duty. This went on for a couple of days, then the day came when I got my orders and went looking for a GI that was going home so I could ask him what it was like where I was going. The older, experienced soldier looked at my orders and looked back at me and said "Sorry, Man". I said "What do you mean". He said "It's a bad scene up in Da Nang".

He also told me to make sure I filled out paperwork on my next of kin. If he was trying to scare me, it worked!

This is where my heroes come in. I landed at Da Nang air base all by myself, a scared 19 year old hillbilly kid. I had no idea where

to go and if I did, how to get there. As I stood there, wondering what I had gotten myself into, two GIs came up to me and asked where I was going. I told them I had orders for 80th General Support Group. They had orders for the same place. This was the beginning of a great friendship, which, by the way, I was warned against. Later on in my tour I found out why.

I asked my new friends if someone would come pick us up? They laughed and told me it didn't work that way. I guess I should tell you my new friend's names. We'll just call them Jackson and Joe. Jackson set out to get us a ride which he did in short order. We arrived at the gate at 80th General Support Group, got our gear out of the trunk and walked towards the gate. Jackson told me to give him a copy of my orders. Jackson and Joe did all the talking at the gate. Joe turned to me and motioned me to follow them. Now that I think about it, Joe wasn't much of a talker. We walked across the road, put our gear down by an old, shot up guard shack. Jackson looked at Joe and myself and said "We'll wait for them here".

We were there for 2 days. My new friends got me where I was supposed to be. Now the problem, of food turned out to be no problem for Joe and Jackson. If it hadn't been for them, I probably would have starved to death at Da Nang Airbase. As we waited for whoever was coming, I talked with my new friends and found both had been in Viet Nam before, Jackson had married a Viet Namese woman and taken her to the states. He reenlisted and signed up for Viet Nam so he could get combat pay to support his family.

Joe had come back because he couldn't deal with what was going on in the states with the protests and adjusting to civilian life.

One day a convoy pulled up in front of the gate and a sergeant yelled out our names. Jackson told me to get my gear and lets go. So we climbed in the trucks and we were off. To where and why, I didn't know. As I looked around at the other guys they looked old and hard. Some were probably only a year older than me, but they looked 10 years older.

Jackson, Joe and I looked out of place with our new jungle fatigues and there was talk about new guys. I wondered why Jackson and Joe didn't tell them they were on their 2nd tour. One thing I did notice was on the way back there was no talk about new guys.

I asked Jackson where we were going and for what. Joe motioned for me to keep quiet. Jackson told me I'd find out when it was time.

The North Vietnamese had blown up the bridges in front of the convoy. So, they called for a ship. I was amazed that the whole convoy could fit on this ship. This was something a hillbilly wouldn't see in a lifetime. After we got underway I walked up to the bow of the ship with the waves crashing into the bow and thought maybe I should have joined the Navy. About that time the enemy realized we were no longer on the road and started shelling us from shore. I took off running toward the trucks and a sailor yelled "Hey, soldier, where were you running to?".

I gave up my thoughts of Navy and figured I'd take my chances on land. We landed at Chu Loi and moved hundreds of tons of aluminum to get hundreds of tons of brass which we loaded on trucks.

I have to back up a little here. Back on the ship we were called to formation. The colonel in charge of the mission thanked us for volunteering for this suicide mission and told us how proud he was of us. Jackson leaned over and whispered to me "Now you know". Later I asked Joe and Jackson if they had volunteered us and they said no, that's just the way it was.

That was the first time I heard the expression "don't mean nothin".

It seems the Vietnamese were going out after a fire fight and picking up spend brass, sending it to Red China where they melted it down and made ammunition to shoot at us. Military Intelligence found out about the stock pile and it was our job to retrieve it. I don't want to mislead you, the Vietnamese did not give up this brass willingly. This story is about two American heroes, not blood and guts, but there was plenty of that. My two friends got me through this mission and taught me a lot that first 2 to 3 weeks. But, this is just one of many incidents we went through together. I probably wouldn't have lasted a week if it weren't for my two heroes.

We put our life on the line for each other many times, and there were times we even had some fun together.

But what I want to tell you about my heroes is, that they loved this country as I do. We thought we were fighting for not only freedom, for the people of the United States but for the people of Viet Nam to have the same chance at freedom as we did. We hear of the constant hatred among ourselves because of race, religion or creed, and even financial status. So, in closing, I would like to tell you about myself and my American heroes. I was a skinny 19 year old hillbilly kid. Jackson was a tall, African American, married to a Vietnamese woman and he had a child. Joe was a Mexican American from Texas. But we were all fighting for what we thought was the right thing. I till think it was the right thing.

I met a lot of GIs later in Viet Nam that signed up to go back because of the way they were treated when they came home to the U.S. Many of them told me that this was not their country any more.

I never understood what they were talking about until I came back and arrived in California to people from my country spitting on me and calling me a baby killer. Until I got back to the hills, I was pretty much shunned.

I would like to ask everyone, Please, don't treat our military personnel like this again. They are fighting for us to live free and without fear.

I was awarded the Bronze Star for going into a South Vietnamese Village that was under attack by North Vietnamese. I secured the village and pulled the wounded out. I did this by myself. I should have had the stupid award.

I was awarded the Army Commendation medal for the suicide mission my story is about.

I was awarded a citation for being part of the military guard for President Johnson's funeral when I got back to the states.


I went to Fort Dix, New Jersey for basic training, then Advanced Individual training. Then I went to Ft. Hood, Texas, and on to Viet Nam, then I came back and finished my three year enlistment at Ft. Hood.



Ed Ring



Ed Ring receiving award



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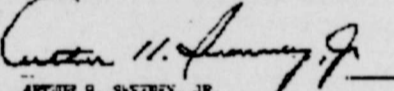
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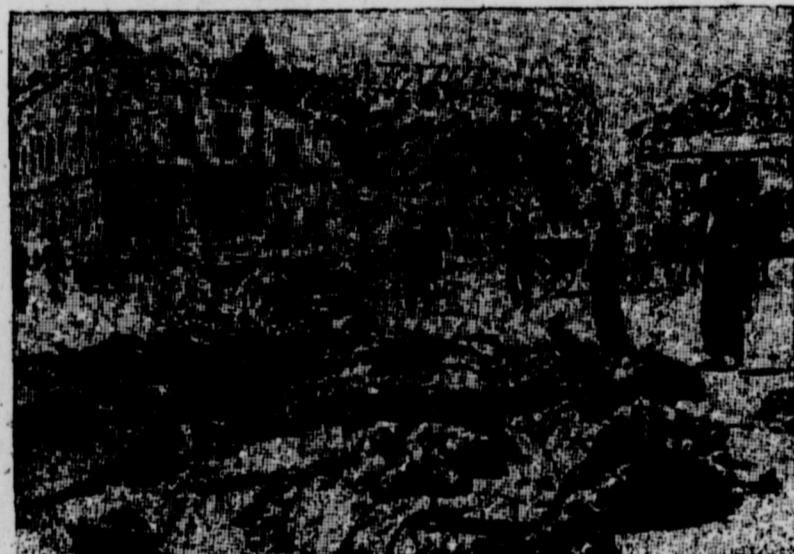


ARTHUR H. SALSBERY, JR.
Major General, USA
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E. TEXAS, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1941 SIXTY-NINTH YEAR

Russians Continue Assaults on Fleeing Nazis In Rentless Day, Night Attacks

Smuggled Picture of Mass Executions in Yugoslavia Shows How Germans Try to Quell Rebellious Serbs



A smuggled photo shows a mass execution in Yugoslavia.


London, (AP)—The Russians have driven wedges into German positions which have made it impossible for the Germans to hold their retreat and have demolished the Hitler pretense that the Nazis are executing an orderly withdrawal to reorganize their line, an authoritative military commentator said Sunday.

The subpretense was shored up on a Soviet propaganda broadcast on the Moscow radio today announcing that the Red army had recovered a tank, machine gun, and other military equipment from a highway between Zhitomir and Ovruch, 100 and 200 miles south of Moscow, respectively.

Other tanks mentioned in Russian reports included 200 westward bound ones being made by the Germans from the wreckage of tanks.

A Moscow broadcast said Red army troops were on Sunday capturing 200 German soldiers and 100 machine guns in the area of Zhitomir, 100 miles south of Moscow.

All these 200 soldiers were captured in the area of Zhitomir, and the German soldiers were being sent to the German rear areas.



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Heroism at Pearl Harbor



The dying captain of a battleship displayed the outstanding individual heroism of the day. As he emerged from the conning tower to the bridge, the letter to fight his ship, his stomach was laid completely open by a shrapnel burst. He fell to the deck. Refusing to be carried to safety, he continued to direct the action. When the bridge became a blazing inferno, two officers attempted to remove him. But he ordered them to abandon him and save themselves.

Husbands Whose Wives Are Self Supporting Must Enlist

Washington, (AP) — The government will become hard-boiled about drafting husbands whose wives are self-supporting, the senate was told, as military leaders made known their view that this country must have an army much larger than 4,000,000 men.

Four million men isn't an army today, Brigadier General Wade H. Hurlb, assistant chief of staff for personnel, declared to the senate military committee. The army will be expanded as rapidly as equipment can be obtained, he said, "without any set number in view."

A system of allowances for the families of married men inducted into service was advocated by Brigadier General Lewis B. Hershey, director of the selective service system. He said the attitude of draft boards toward dependency and hardship cases must "inevitably" become tighter.

However, about 1000 farm boys inducted into the army will be returned to the farm this spring, he announced, adding that induction of many farm youths would threaten vital agricultural production.

The testimony of both officers, given at a closed committee session reached the senate in printed form.

Hershey's proposed system of allowances would be modeled, he explained, on the World War practice of requiring a selectee with dependents to make an allotment from his pay to support his family, which the government matched with an allowance.

4th Infantry Division

Nickname: Ivy Division (Famous Fourth)

Shoulder Patch: Green with four ivy leaves extending from a circle N, S, E and West. The four leaves represented the numeral IV or I-Vy.

Source: Regular Army Units.

History: Organized Camp Greene, NC, 1917.

Overseas: June 5, 1918 (56 casualties en route from torpedo). Actions: Aisne-Marne, St. Mihiel and Meuse-Argonne campaigns; occupation of Germany, seven months.

7th Infantry Division

Nickname: Hourglass Division

Shoulder Patch: Red circular patch bearing black hourglass which is formed by a "7" resting on an inverted "7"

Type: Regular Army

History: Organization directed December 6, 1917, assigned Camp Wheeler.

Overseas: July to September, 1918.

Actions: Villers-en-Haye.



Ohio's 37th Division Kills 500 Japs in Hill Battle

Bougainville, Solomon Islands, March 16 (Delayed.—Ohio's 37th Division has "avenged the rape of Nanking," wiping out hundreds of Japanese in some of the bloodiest fighting of the war, its commander, Maj. Gen. Robert S. Beightler, said today.

General Beightler termed the battle for Hill 700 the most vicious fighting he had seen in two years. More than 500 Jap bodies were counted along the barbed wire entanglements after the American victory.

Avery Boy Among 'Pawlak's Raiders,' Daring Army Unit

By WILLIAM HIPPEL

U. S. ARMY HEADQUARTERS IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC, (AP) — One of the legends of the New Georgia campaign is the story of "Pawlak's Raiders."

"Pawlak" is First Lieut. Ray Pawlak of Toledo, O., commanding officer of a daring Army company which gained South Pacific fame for its terse communications and swift, successful actions.

Once, 10 Pawlak men, supported by fire of two rifle platoons, advanced within 10 yards of one of the strongest Japanese points near Munda.

The men took shelter behind a large log and poured small fire into the Japanese position, routing 45 enemy soldiers and killing at least 15.

Five enemy officers' sabers were captured. One was sent back to a commanding officer with a note tied to it.

The note said: "Hill has been taken. No prisoners. Signed: Pawlak's Raiders."

One saber was retained to engrave the names of the 10 men on the patrol.

Besides Lieutenant Pawlak, they included Pfc. Milton McEntyre, Avery, Tex., and Pfc. Donald V. McClanehan of Ringgold, Tenn.

Ohio's 37th Division Kills 500 Japs in "Hill 700" Fight

(Continued from Page One)

my Illinois unit inflicted 20 losses to one of theirs. I am proud to say that not one nervous case was reported in the division. This shows a high state of morale."

Japanese efforts to break American perimeter lines on Bougainville produced some of the toughest fighting of the Solomons campaign but "our losses in comparison with the Japs" are fantastically light," Lt. Gen. Millard F. Harmon, commanding the army in the South Pacific, said.

At times rifle fire was unbelievably heavy. Even generals have taken a hand in the fighting. Once General Beightler led the front line counter-attack, personally expending 40 rounds with a carbine.

"I've been trying to get a Jap sword since the Munda campaign," he confided. "Suddenly I spotted one. I made a dive for it but a private beat me by inches."

The Japanese still persist in making mass drives against small sections of lines, piling themselves up in front of American wires in a useless demonstration of fanatical fighting.

(This was the first indication that fighting still is in progress here. The big enemy push started March 8 and Gen. Douglas MacArthur reported in his March 18 communique that "the enemy's offensive has completely broken down," and "his formations have been dispersed and decimated.")

Pfc. Hilton W. McEntyre of Avery, has been presented the Combat Infantry Badge. Private McEntyre is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Bose B. McEntyre of Avery, Rt. 2, and is now serving as an assistant squad leader in the Southwest Pacific.

Since starting his tour of overseas duty on May 26, 1942, he has been stationed in New Zealand, Fiji, and Guadalcanal.

Most Vicious Fighting

"I saw combat in both wars," the former Ohio highway director declared. "If there ever was any real tough, vicious fighting in those wars it was here. The Japs' attack on Cannon Ridge was about as vicious as anything that has ever happened. The Japs were suicidal, determined, completely desperate. They had everything to gain, nothing to lose, since death to them is meaningless."

"My division in defending a nine-mile front in the jungle was performing a task three-times the size it was intended to do. On Cannon Ridge the men, mostly from Cleveland and Akron, decimated two Japanese Battalions and to my left

(Continued on Page Two, Col. 14)

Pfc. Hilton W. McEntyre, son of Mrs. Bose B. McEntyre, Avery, Texas, has been promoted to sergeant. He is an assistant squad leader in a rifle platoon in the 37th Division.

Sergeant McEntyre went overseas in May, 1942, and is a veteran of the New Georgia and Bougainville campaigns. He has been awarded the Combat Infantry Badge for exemplary conduct in action.

Our Ship, the "Minnie"

by Jack Dodd

I want you to meet my ship, the USS Minneapolis (CA36). She was the Fighting Minnie of World War II.

The USS Minneapolis CA36 was a heavy cruiser. Her sister ships were the San Francisco and the Indianapolis hat was attacked

later in the war. The Indianapolis carried two atomic bombs dropped on Japan across the Pacific to the waiting Enola Gay. Only 250 of 1200 sailors and Marines survived when the Indianapolis was torpedoed by the Japanese subs.

- Stars on the Asian-Pacific Ribbon are associated for service during the following events:
- 20 Feb. 1942 Bougainville
 - 4-8 May 1942 Coral Sea
 - 3-6 June 1942 Midway
 - 7-9 Aug 1942 Guadalcanal
 - 10 Aug 1942 Guadalcanal
 - 23-25 Aug 1942 Eastern Solomons
 - 30 Nov 1942 Tassafaronga
 - 5 Oct 1943 Wake Island
 - 13 Nov- Dec 1943 Gilbert Islands
 - 29 Jan-8 Feb 1944 Marshall Islands
 - 16 Feb 1944 Truk
 - 11 June-15 Aug 1944 Saipan-Guam
 - 21 April-1 June 1944 Western New Guinea-Hollandia
 - 6 Sept.-4 Oct 1944 Western Carolines-Palau
 - 10 Oct-16 Dec 1944 Leyte
 - 6 Jan-14 Feb 1945 Luzon-Lingayen Gulf
 - 25 Mar-12 April 1945 Okinawa
 - 2 Sept 1945 Flagship of 7th fleet when Japanese surrendered
 - 8 Sept. 1945 Participated in support for initial landing for occupation of Korea at Jinsen Harbor, Korea-Flagship
 - 30 Sept 1945 participated in support for
 - landing at TAKU, China, flagship
 - 3 Oct 1945 Participated in the landing party in
 - Chenawangto, China, flagship
 - 7 Oct 1945 Ships landing forces met with Chinese 8th
 - Route Army at Wei Hai Wai, China, flagship
 - 30 Oct 1945 participated in landing of the
 - Chinese 13th Army at Chinwangoo, China, flagship

The Minnie sank four Japanese ships, shot down 15 Japanese airplanes.

The Minnie was built in the Philadelphia Navy Yard, launched September 1933 and commissioned in May 1934. She was slightly over 580 feet long and 60 feet wide at the beam. Originally built as a ten thousand ton cruiser, she took on eight over the years up to her full load displacement of over thirteen thousand tons. She was designed for a little under 32 knots with a cruising range of 2,000 miles. The Minnie participated in 25 WW II engagements and earned 17 battle stars in the Pacific Theater of Operations. During her WWII battle cruises, she lost 35 of her crew, 80 feet of her bow and 3 of her 4 firerooms which were torpedoed out of commission. Her crew fashioned a temporary coconut log bow at

Tulage and she crawled to Espiritu Santos, New Guinea for a temporary steel bow. She then set out with a noticeable limp to Pearl Harbor and the West Coast where her worn out gun barrels were re-bored or replaced battle damage repaired, equipment updated and made ready to return to the front. She did not miss any battle because of her nine month absence. Once back on station in the Pacific, the Minnie participated for more than over 20 months in non-stop front line action. After WWII Minnie sailed through the Panama Canal back to Philadelphia where she was decommissioned and put in moth balls. In August 1959 she was taken out of moth balls and scrapped for her wealth of metal. She may be gone, but the Scrapper lives on in the heartbeat of each of her crew.

25 Most Frequently asked questions from Women Vets

The most frequently asked questions from women veterans — along with the answers — can now be found on the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Web site. The information will soon be available in Spanish.

"These 25 questions are the ones we hear most often," said Dr. Irene Trowell-Harris, director of the Center for Women Veterans. "Too many women veterans don't know that they are eligible for the full range of VA benefits. Too many are unaware of special programs VA runs for them."

Dr. Trowell-Harris said the information will be helpful to male veterans, too. Topics include the services available to women veterans; information about gender-specific services (including pap smears, mammography, and pre-natal and child care); evaluations for nursing home care; and employment options for women veterans.

The Web site, www.va.gov/womenvet, offers women veterans direct access to the Center for Women Veterans where they can express concerns, ask questions and provide feedback about VA benefits and services.

Congress passed legislation in 1994 authorizing VA to establish a Center for Women Veterans. The center collaborates with other federal departments on issues related to women veterans, develops materials on VA benefits programs and health care services, and conducts outreach to make women veterans aware of these services.

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Blossom Feed Store
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903-982-6811

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903/427-2373

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Bogata Propane Gas, Inc.
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(903) 572-4377
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928 W. 16th Mt. Pleasant

Darden Sparks Department Store
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903-652-4515

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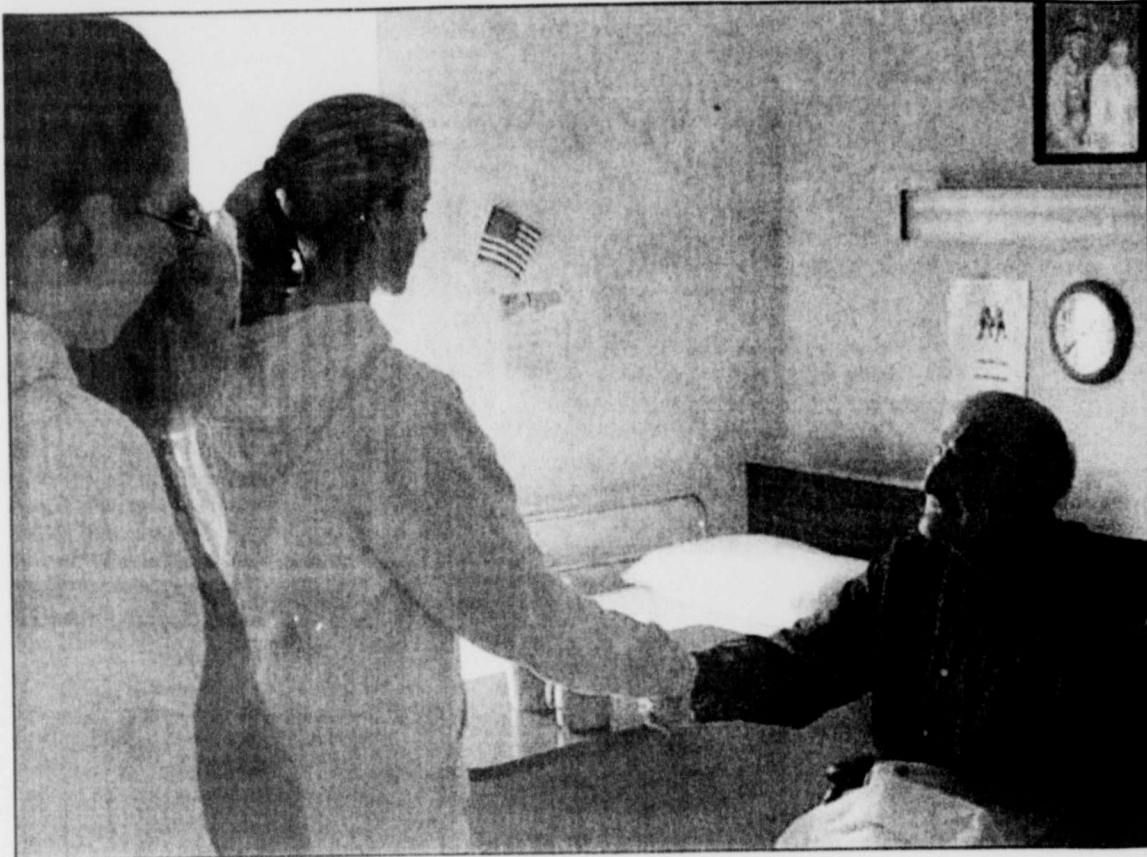
James Hodge Motor Company
5100 S.E. Loop Paris, TX
903-785-8447

Paris Monuments
2341 Clarksville Paris, TX
784-7888

Lonesome Dove Cafe
Hwy. 271 Deport, TX

Lamar County Cellular
3940 Lamar Paris, TX
785-8852

BLAKE FURNITURE & APPLIANCE
302 W. First Mt. Pleasant, TX
903-572-1821



WELCOME-Hailey Norwood, Charity Musgrove and Lacie Cole are greeted by Milow Hume before sitting down to learn about his war experiences. The visits with the veterans at Deport Nursing Home opened a whole new world to the Deport Junior High 8th grade students.



BOGATA VFW AND LADIES AUXILIARY-members placed flags on Veterans graves at the Bogata Cemetery on November 8, 2002 in honor of Veterans Day, November 11, 2002. The group were happy to honor those who fought for our country and if any one was missed it was not intentional. However, if someone was left out if the family would please contact the VFW or Ladies Auxiliary President, Phyllis Duffer the oversight will be corrected when flags are next put out.



To the men and women who died for our freedom:

We Thank You

Please, remember your Star Spangled manners!!

This Independence Day, more people than ever will be showing their patriotism and loyalty to America by displaying the American Flag. Here are examples of how to display the flag properly:

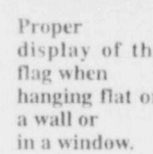
**Unless illuminated at night, flags displayed outdoors should only be flown from sunrise to sunset.



**The flag should not be flown on days when the weather is inclement, except when an all weather flag is used.



**The flag should not be draped over the hood, top, sides or back of a vehicle or of a railroad train or a boat. When the flag is displayed on a motorcar, the staff should be fixed firmly to the chassis or clamped to the right fender.



Proper display of the flag when hanging flat on a wall or in a window.

**When displayed either horizontally or vertically against a wall, the union should be uppermost and to the flat's own right, that is, to the observer's left. When displayed in a window, the flag should be displayed in the same way.

**When used on a speaker's platform, the flag, if displayed flat, should be displayed above and behind the speaker.

**The flag, when flown at half-staff, should be first hoisted to the peak for an instant and then lowered to the half-staff position. The flag should be again raised to the peak before it is lowered for the

day. On Memorial Day the flag should be displayed at half-mast until noon only, then raised to the top of the staff.

**The flag should never be displayed upside down, except as a signal of dire distress instances of extreme danger to life or property.

**The flag should never touch anything beneath it, such as the ground, the floor, water or merchandise.

**The flag should never be used as wearing apparel, bedding or drapery. It should never be festooned, drawn back, not up, in folds, but always allowed to fall free.

**The flag should never be used as a covering for a ceiling.

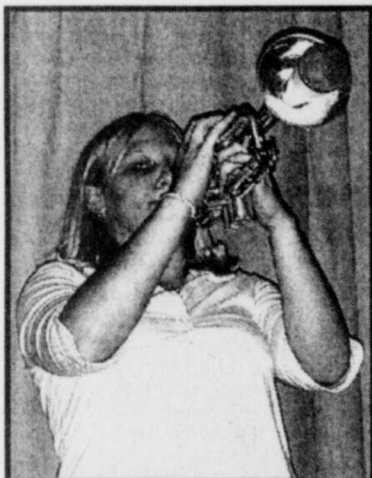
**The flag should never be used as a receptacle for receiving, holding, carrying or delivering anything.

**The flag should never be used for advertising purposes in any manner whatsoever.

**The flag, when it is in such condition that it no longer is a fitting emblem for display, should be destroyed in a dignified way, preferable by burning. Contact your local American Legion or VFW post for information on flag-burning ceremonies, which are often held on June 14, which is Flag Day.

12th Armored Division
 Nickname: Hellcat Division
 Shoulder Patch: Regular armored division patch
 Slogan: "Speed Is The Password"
 History: The 12th has no history prior to World War II. Activated September 15, 1942, Camp Campbell, KY. Other station: Camp Barkeley, TX. Overseas: September, 1944 (ETO)

101st Airborne Division
 Nickname: Screaming Eagle
 Shoulder Patch: Black shield with a black arc streaming above. On the shield in white is a screaming eagle with gold beak and red tongue.



TAPS-Tiffany Giles is pictured playing Taps for the students, staff and visitors to the Rivercrest Junior High Veterans Day program held Monday. Tiff, who is the daughter of Gene and Connie Giles of Bogata, did a wonderful job! (Staff Photo Nancy Brown)

To be a paratrooper, or not

Roy White, Deport, was signed paratrooper with the 11th Airborne Division. He was 17 years old when he joined up.

White got into paratrooper school because of a buddy having a little fun at Roy's expense. The buddy put Roy's name and serial number in a box set out for volunteers who wanted to become



VETERANS REMEMBERED-These area veterans were honored on Monday, November 11, Veteran's Day on the Blossom School Campus. They are pictured here as they visit during the reception held in their honor in the cafeteria. (Staff Photo)

Remember 9-1-1, Let's Roll!!

When my family and I relocated to Detroit in 1966, there were numerous World War I veterans around. I know of no one from that war now.

My wife, Dottie and I were discussing different ideas about the Veterans Day write-up. This came to mind.

How many of you can trace your family members from World War I and World War II, to include the Korean conflict plus Viet Nam. The price of freedom is paid for by the young men and women who serve our country and some of these pay the ultimate price.

There were eight of my family involved in World War II. We served in almost every branch of service. I volunteered for the Army Air Corp February 4, 1942. I was stationed at Lubbock Army Air Base, then shipped to Laredo base where I remained for the duration of the war. This was a training base for B-17 and B-24 gunners. These men tried to protect

their airplanes from enemy fighter aircraft. The base trained thousands of aerial gunners and shipped them to other bases where they were teamed up with a crew. Then they were shipped to the European and Far East Theater of war.

To give you an idea of the danger these boys faced, on one mission over Germany we lost 600 B-24's and B-17's. This loss was 6,000 men in one day. There were 10 crewmen in each aircraft. Each part of the personnel suffered heavy losses in personnel and equipment.

Always, please remember the veterans who served our country in wars so that you could be free. Everything is not right in the U.S.A. but it is the greatest country on earth.

We will win this war on terror by being united. Remember 9-1-1, fellow Americans. Let's roll.

---John Pete Ritchey

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Warren League American Legion Post 199
 Deport, TX

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 1-800-8TIMBER

Deport Nursing Home
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 903-652-CARE

Complete Family Care
 Caroline Wilson, M.D.
 Susan Scholz, CFNP
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 739-8300

Rick's Station
 Hwy. 82
 Detroit, TX
 674-2525

Loop Tire Sales
 1540 N.W. Loop
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 785-1305

Allen's Food Mart
 Grocery-Market, Deli,
 VFM Feed, Texaco Gas
 Owners: Allen & Stacy Huddleston
 Deport Tx. 652-3520

Main Street Florist
 Main Street
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 632-BUDS
 1-800-510-97752