

City councilman won't seek office

Incumbent City Councilman John Johnson said Monday night that he will not seek re-election in the May 6 city election.

Johnson, 31, director of clinical services at Cogdell Memorial Hospital, told other council members prior to the Monday night council meeting that he will not seek a second two-year term in order to spend more time with his family.

Johnson is one of two at-large councilmen, serving city-wide. The other at-large council member, Paul Zeck, filed for re-election Monday, the first day to file, as did Mayor Troy Williamson.

Second incumbent...

2 more announce for school board

Two more candidates, to include the second incumbent with an expiring term, announced their intent Tuesday to run for two at-large positions on the Snyder school board.

Incumbent board member Luann Burleson officially filed for her second term Tuesday. Also filing as a candidate was Mark Zeck, vice president here for YZ Industries.

The two filings brought the

number of candidates seeking the two at-large positions to four. For at-large posts, elected by all school district voters, the two candidates receiving the greatest number of votes will be declared the winners this coming May 6.

Burleson, 38, lives at 3106 48th St. and has been a resident of Snyder for seven years.

Zeck, 35, lives at 3205 42nd St. He has been a resident of the school district for 30 years.

On Monday, the second incumbent, Ken Branam, filed for re-election. Also filing Monday was Sam Robertson.

Branam, 40, is pastor of First Baptist Church here and Robertson, 47, is the owner-operator of Sam Robertson Insurance.

Both Branam and Burleson are completing their second year on the board after being first elected in a special ballot held in April of 1987. At that time, the board

reorganized to implement single member districts.

School trustees serve three-year terms.

An eligible candidate for the board must be a registered voter and must reside within the school district.

Monday was the first day and March 22 will be the last day to file as a school board candidate.

Tuesday

Feb. 21,
1989

Ask Us

Q. — As a public service, would you list the symptoms for red measles?

A. — These include fever, runny nose, cough, watery eyes and a rash which first appears on the head and face and eventually spreads over the body.

In Brief

Fatal jump

SHERIDAN, Ore. (AP) — A Frenchman who made a world-record 14,000 parachute jumps fell to his death when his chute didn't open properly, officials said.

Roch Pierre Charmet, making his seventh jump of the day Monday from Pacific Parachute Center, plunged into a stack of lumber at a lumberyard near the airport here, according to Yamhill County sheriff's Sgt. John Kowalik.

Dam protest

ALTAMIRA, Brazil (AP) — In their first joint political action, more than 500 Indians from 20 Amazon rain forest tribes have gathered in this jungle town to protest planned hydroelectric dams that would flood their lands.

Sporting green-and-yellow feathered head-dresses and red and black warpaint, about 100 warriors from the Kayapo tribe ran chanting into a brick community center Monday in Altamira.

Local

NAACP event

The state president of the NAACP will be in Snyder Friday to address the local chapter at a banquet which will culminate the local observance of Afro-American month.

Appearing here will be Frank Burns of Houston. The NAACP Banquet will begin at 7 p.m. at the Western Texas College Student Center.

All ticket sales will be in advance and must be purchased before 5 p.m. Thursday. There will be no ticket sales at the door.

Tickets are priced at \$7.50 for adults and \$5 for those age 12 and under.

Tickets are available by contacting Sedalia Malone at 573-2285 or Evelyn Malone at 573-3835.

On Saturday, the local NAACP Chapter will conduct a leadership training seminar from noon until 4 p.m. on the WTC campus. It will be open to all members.

Weather

Snyder Temperatures: High Monday, 63 degrees; low, 36 degrees; reading at 7 a.m. Tuesday, 36 degrees; no precipitation; total precipitation for 1989 to date, 2.48 inches.

Snyder Area Forecast: Tonight, clear and cold. Low near 30s, Northeast wind 5 to 10 mph. Wednesday, sunny. High in upper 50s. East wind 5 to 15 mph.

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Chamber plans...

Lawn-garden show slated with spring in local coliseum

A lawn and garden show in the Scurry County Coliseum is now planned by the Snyder Chamber of Commerce in April or May—an event designed to offer information about plants and grasses as well as the latest in yard and garden equipment.

Preliminary plans for the event were revealed Monday at the February meeting of the Snyder chamber.

Heading up the planning is chamber director Eddie Williams. He noted all Snyder merchants who deal in lawn and garden merchandise will be invited to have display booths at the event.

Reservations will be priced at \$30 per booth, he noted.

In addition to the displays, plans are to bring in speakers to discuss such topics as plant

diseases and the care and treatment of exotic grasses.

The lawn and garden show will be in addition to chamber plans for a Farm and Ranch Day here March 14 at the coliseum. It is being planned for by director and immediate past president David Kattes.

Agri-business will be the emphasis on Farm and Ranch Day. See CHAMBER, page 9



TDC-RELATED VISIT — These four visitors were at Cogdell Memorial Hospital Monday in connection with Cogdell's proposal to offer medical services to the Texas Department of Corrections Price Daniel unit. The group met with numerous local and area physicians, dentists and optometrists. Visiting here were, from left, Dr. Walter Dickenson, dean of the Texas Tech University Medical

School's Amarillo branch; Steve Walters Jr., director of prison health care for the Tech Medical School in Amarillo; Pia Habersung, administrative director for Tech in Amarillo; and Mark Woodruff, infirmary administrator for the TDC's Michael Unit at Palestine. (SDN Staff Photo)

Charter revisions sent on...

Taxi service plans profiled to council

City council members discussed Monday proposals by two different parties to begin offering taxi services here.

Johnny Gardner of 1908 Scott Ave. and Farris and Dessie Pollard of 805 24th St. both said they are interested in applying for city permits to operate one vehicle each.

A city ordinance related to such a service stipulates that a taxi operated in Snyder must be a model no more than four years old, and it requires operators to be residents of the city and to carry a surety bond and to charge "reasonable" rates, among other requirements.

Pollard said he drove a taxi here in the early 1950s, "in the boom years," and that taxis might be operated on the basis of zones within the city instead of by meters, which Gardner noted are expensive to purchase.

Both Gardner and the Pollards said they were in the preliminary stages of offering a service.

Toward the end of the discussion, council members suggested that the two might cooperate to provide 24-hour service.

Other business in the one-hour meeting included approval of the submission of 34 proposed amendments to the 1953 city charter to be voted on in the May

6 municipal election.

Former Mayor John Fagin, one of three former Snyder mayors who worked on the changes, presented the amendments, some of which were revised and refined in a work session at Snyder Country Club last Thursday night, and recommended their approval.

Fagin noted that most of the proposed changes are to bring the charter into compliance with changes in state and federal election laws, including the advent of single-member city council districts.

The proposed amendments

were unanimously approved, and Mayor Troy Williamson was authorized to call the May 6 election, in which Williamson and at-large Councilman Paul Zeck are seeking re-election.

At-large Councilman John Johnson had announced prior to the meeting that he will not seek a second two-year term.

A new city electrical code ordinance that had been scheduled to be considered for passage on first reading was tabled because the council had not been able to hold a work session on it. Williamson said such a work session will be held next Monday night.

1st round winners reported for 'bees'

Four campus spelling bees are scheduled Wednesday and the first round of competition involving four other campuses was completed Tuesday as entrants are determined for the county-wide competition due in March.

Winners from Tuesday morning contests were:

—Ira Elementary: Amanda Davis, sixth grader, won first and Suzanne Kimmel, fourth grader, won second. Amanda is the daughter of Donald and Cindy Davis and Suzanne is the daughter of Julie and Tommy Kimmel.

—East Elementary: Jason

York, sixth grader, won first and Jennifer Featherston, fifth grader, won second. Jason is the son of Larry and Keta York; and Jennifer is the daughter of Daylon Featherston.

—Northeast Elementary: Michelle Olivarez, sixth grader, won first and Angelica Suarez, sixth grader, won second. Michelle is the daughter of David and Arlene Olivarez; and Angelica is the daughter of Alejo and Silvina Suarez.

—Stanfield Elementary: Andrea Corkran, fifth grader, won first and Kasey Neil, fourth

See SPELLERS, page 9

The SDN Column

By Roy McQueen

The feller on Deep Creek says, "It's time to go on a diet if you get a shoe shine and have to take the shine man's word for it."

Some folks say the world is in a mess. The environment is a wreck, the oceans are filled with trash and everything is deemed hazardous to your health.

Water pollution, the green house theory, waste disposal and harmful chemicals have created a national panic. But despite efforts to eradicate the lowly cockroach—the pest is expected to thrive for years to come.

Scientists around the world are working to try and figure out why the cockroach thrives while most other animal life on this planet remains endangered.

The roach has followed man from cave to condominium largely unimpeded by fogs, powders, sprays and traps. Now researchers are using

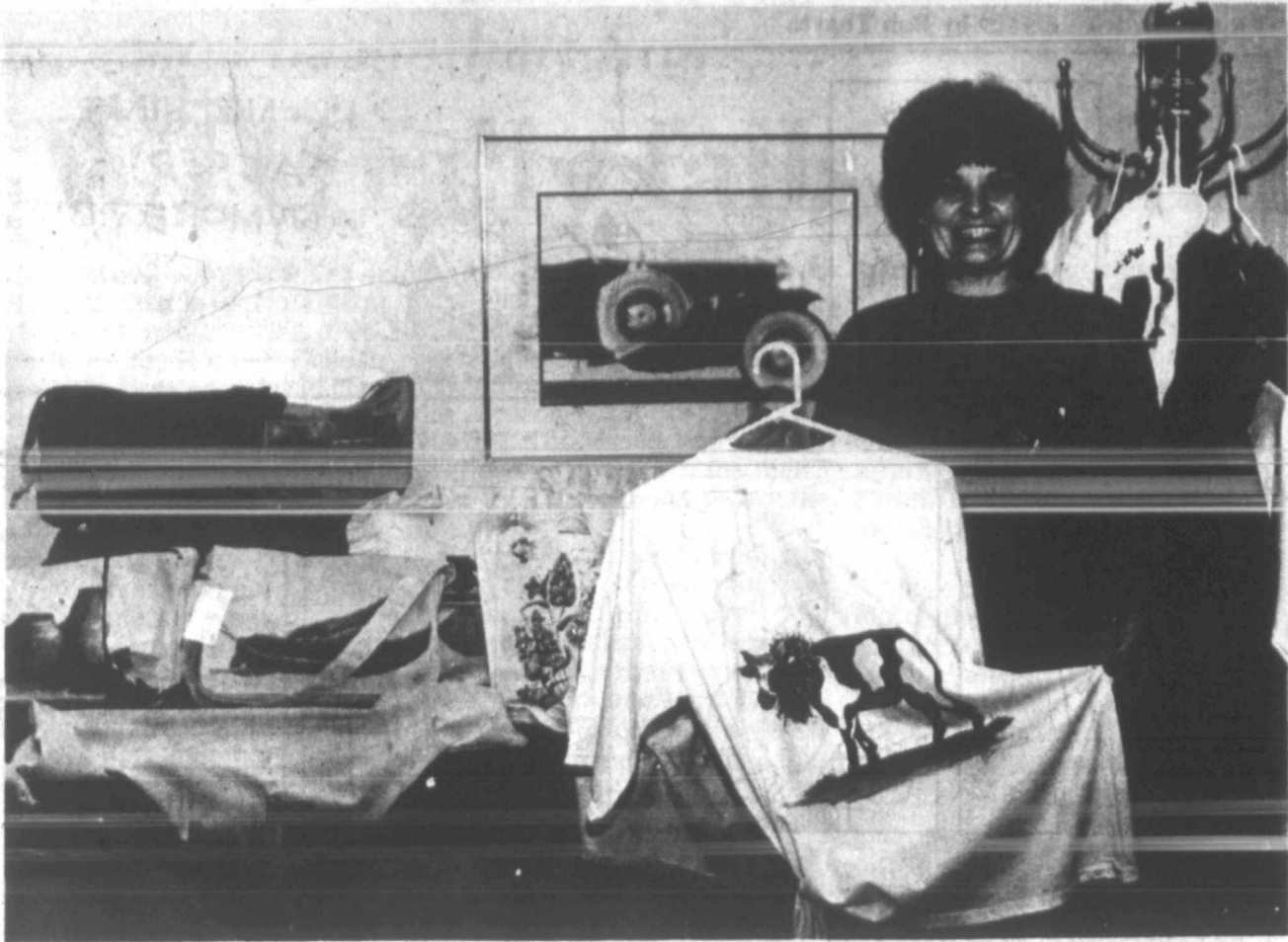
every chemical possible in an effort to find an effective birth control pill for the cockroach.

A hearty cockroach heart seems to be the key issue. One leading entomologist says they have been unable to stop the roach heart long enough to kill one.

In experiments, after the roach is decapitated and legs trimmed, the heart may beat for up to 30 hours. A headless female roach can still find a place to lay her eggs before dying.

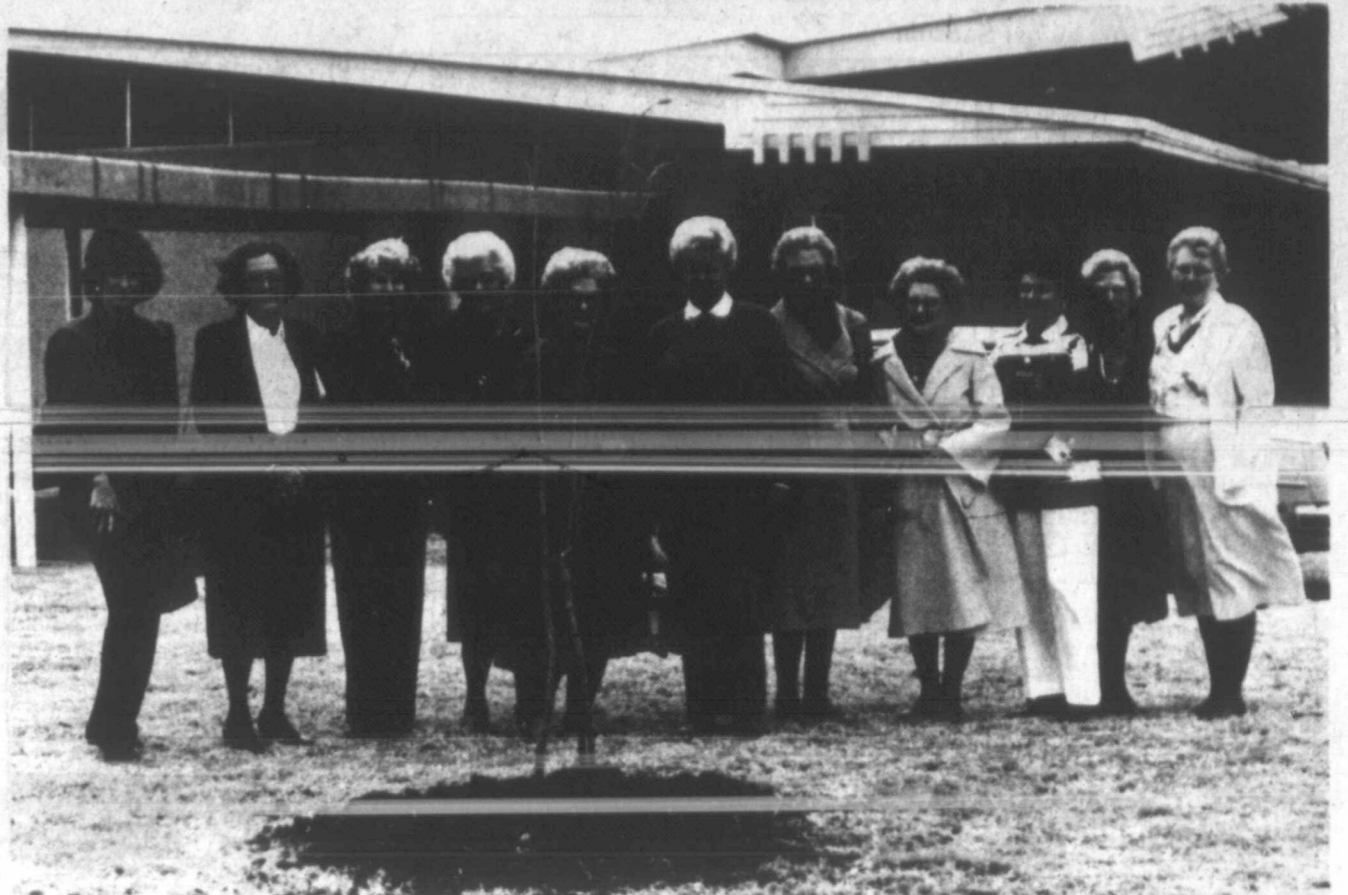
Roaches can detect poison with tiny taste hairs without ever ingesting the poison, then avoid the poison the rest of their lives. Some bug experts say roaches have been around far longer than man.

Despite all the shabby treatment by scientists—radiation, running them on treadmills, hacking off their limbs and heads, and grinding up their brains—the lowly cockroach continues to thrive—and will likely be here another 350 million years.



WEARABLE ART — Bette League was the featured guest at the Feb. 14 meeting of Amittie Study Club. She displayed country and Southwest themes on many items, telling the background of her art and giving tips and ideas for beginners to the medium. Lisa Williams and Julie Johnson

were hostesses for the meeting. Pete Haley, Maria Patterson, and Janet Spence were appointed to the nominating committee in preparation for the coming club year. A club dance is planned for April 1 at Snyder Country Club. (SDN Staff Photo)



ARBOR DAY TREE — Members of Snyder Garden Club commemorated Arbor Day by donating a pistachio tree to Martha Ann Woman's Club grounds. Shown from left are D'Ann Grim-

mett, Wyvonne Davis, Julia Fox, Polly Autry, LaVerne Hood, Jo Erwin, Dorothy Downing, Galeska Baze, Billie Jean Sterling, Pansy Ray, and Carla Beaird. (Club Photo)

Bridge

James Jacoby

NORTH 2-21-89			
♦ A 8			
♥ 10 6 2			
♦ K J 8 6 5 3			
♣ Q 4			
WEST		EAST	
♦ Q 9 7 5		♥ J 10 4 3 2	
♥ J		♦ K Q 9	
♦ Q 9 7		♣ 4	
♦ K 10 9 8 5		♠ A 6 3 2	
SOUTH			
♦ K 6			
♥ A 8 7 5 4 3			
♠ A 10 2			
♣ J 7			
Vulnerable: East-West			
Dealer: South			
West	North	East	South
Pass	2♦	Pass	1♥
Pass	3♥	Pass	2♣
Pass		Pass	Pass
Opening lead: ♦ 10			
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Getting out of the woods

Many players I know will automatically bid game when they have an opening bid with a six-card suit and their partner extends an invitation. That can be the winning approach on occasion, but whenever your partner has reason to assume that you have that six-card suit, you should definitely examine your total hand before going on. In today's deal, South's bidding showed a six-card heart suit. When North simply raised to three, South did well to make a conservative pass.

There was a reasonable play for 10 tricks. (If hearts split 2-2, declarer would simply play the A-K of spades, and then ace and a heart.) Nevertheless, South had to play with great care to give himself the best play for his contract. The defenders cashed the ace and king of clubs and then played a spade. Declarer took the A-K of spades and then played a low heart. Declarer did not care if that was won by a singleton heart honor, since the defender who won that trick would then have to either lead a diamond for a free finesse or play a black suit to give declarer a sluff and a ruff. If the defender who won the first heart trick exited with a heart, then hearts were probably 2-2, in which case nine tricks would always be safe.

What if declarer had played ace and a heart? East would cash out the K-Q and get off lead with a club or a spade. South would then have to guess how to play the diamond suit without a loser to make his contract.

Community Calendar

TUESDAY

Tiger Shark Swim Club; WTC; 6-18 years of age; 4-5:30 p.m. For more information, call Mike Harrison at 573-8511 ext. 283.
 Art Guild Study Club; MAWC; 6:30 p.m.
 ACBL Open Pairs Duplicate Bridge; Snyder Country Club; 7 p.m.
 TOPS TX56; weigh-in and meeting 7-8 p.m.; 2501 35th St.; for more information, call Jean Yearwood at 573-9444.
 Hermleigh Order of the Eastern Star; Masonic Lodge; 7:30 p.m.
 Beta Sigma Phi; Snyder Country Club; 7:30 p.m.
 Scurry Lodge 706; AF and AM degree classes; 7:30 p.m.
 New Horizon Alcoholics Anonymous; Park Club in Winston Park; 8 p.m. For more information, call 573-2101 or 573-8626.
 Al-Anon; Park Club in Winston Park; 8 p.m. For more information, call 573-2101 or 573-8626.

WEDNESDAY

MAWC Salad Luncheon and Game Day; 11:30 a.m.; \$4.50 per person; reservations by noon Monday, 573-3427.
 Free blood pressure clinic; Hermleigh Community Center; 1-2 p.m.
 Tiger Shark Swim Club; WTC; 6-18 years of age; 4-5:30 p.m. For more information, call Mike Harrison at 573-8511 ext. 283.
 Narcotics Anonymous; Park Club in Winston Park; 8 p.m. For more information, call 573-3956 or 573-0414.

THURSDAY

Snyder Palette Club; W. 37th St.; 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
 Honey Do's Extension Homemakers Club; Blanche's Bernina; "New Things"; visitors are welcome to attend.
 Free blood pressure clinic; Dunn Community Center; 1-2 p.m.
 Advanced Duplicate Bridge; Colorado City bridge room; 1:30 p.m.
 Duplicate Bridge; Snyder Country Club; 1:30 p.m.
 Tiger Shark Swim Club; WTC; 6-18 years of age; 4-5:30 p.m. For more information, call Mike Harrison at 573-8511 ext. 283.
 Weight Watchers of West Texas; basement of First Presbyterian Church; 6 p.m. New members welcome and should register at 5:30 p.m.
 Scurry Charter Chapter ABWA; MAWC; 7 p.m.
 Alateen; for the children of alcoholics; 8 p.m. For more information, call 573-2101 or 573-8626.
 Scurry County Alcoholics Anonymous; Park Club in Winston Park; 8 p.m. For more information, call 573-2101 or 573-8626.

FRIDAY

Story Time for Preschoolers; Scurry County Library; 10 a.m.
 Snyder Jaycees; noon luncheon; The Shack.
 Free blood pressure clinic; Cogdell Memorial Hospital emergency waiting room; 1-2:30 p.m.
 ACBL Open Pairs Duplicate Bridge; Snyder Country Club; 1:30 p.m.
 Cornelius Dodson House; open by appointment; 573-9742 or 573-2763.
 Tiger Shark Swim Club; WTC; 6-18 years of age; 4-5:30 p.m. For more information, call Mike Harrison at 573-8511 ext. 283.
 Al-Anon; Park Club in Winston Park; 8 p.m. For more information, call 573-2101 or 573-8626.
 New Horizon Alcoholics Anonymous; Park Club in Winston Park; 8 p.m. For more information, call 573-2101 or 573-8626.

Shelter for abused women and children is featured at sorority



NOAH PROJECT FEATURED — The Beta Sigma Phi Sorority featured Linda Scalf (right), Noah Project director, as guest speaker. Shown with her is Dena Ellis, sorority president. (Club Photo)

Linda Scalf, director of the Noah Project in Snyder, described activities of the center at the Feb. 7 meeting of Beta Sigma Phi Sorority held at the Snyder Country Club.

Scalf told the group the Noah Project has been active in Snyder since 1984 and is designed to be a safe place to go when family violence occurs to area women and children.

Not only does the shelter provide a safe place during an emergency, but has also become a center from which women can redirect their lives. There are 65 such shelters in Texas.

Services such as emergency transportation, volunteer crisis hotline, counseling, and advocacy are offered.

Scalf stated that family violence is a learned behavior and the most dangerous of crimes. She said ending family violence is difficult and quieting the present epidemic will take a long time by changing society and rehabilitating batterers.

Scalf emphasized that women who are abused can reclaim their sense of independence and self-worth by recognizing and accepting the symptoms and seeking help.

Dena Ellis, president, presided during the business session. Jacalyn Lowrance called the roll and read minutes. Loretta Dodson gave the treasurer's report and Lowrance gave the ways and means report.

The Tuesday night meeting will feature Carolyn House with Gay Idom and Brenda Hedges as hostesses.

The loss of a British fleet through the sinking of at least 50 ships off Yorktown, Va., in 1781 — some sunk by cannon fire, others intentionally scuttled to block a French landing or prevent capture — helped change the world and secure a new nation, the United States.



BABY SHOWER — Laurie Mayo was honored with a baby shower Feb. 13 at the TU Reddy Room. Pictured from left are Marla Peterson, sister-in-law of the honoree; Dorothy Peterson, her mother; Laurie; Beverly Mayo, her mother-in-law; and Sheri Mayo, her sister-in-law. (Private Photo)

Ted Bigham
 PHOTOGRAPHY
 573-3622

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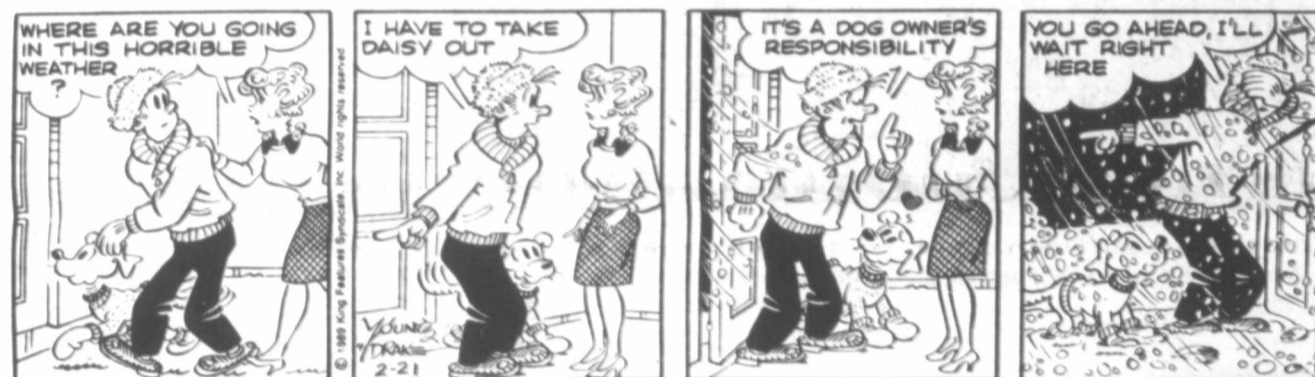
FLASH GORDON By Dan Barry



Barney Google and Snuffy Smith By Fred Lasswell



BLONDIE by Dean Young and Stan Drake



GRIZZWELLS by Bill Schorr



FRANK & ERNEST by Bob Thaves



ARLO & JANIS by Jimmy Johnson



WINTHROP by Dick Cavalli



BUGS BUNNY by Warner Bros.



ALLEY OOP by Dave Graue



L'I'L ABNER by Al Capp



SNAFU by Bruce Beattie



PUZZLES

- ACROSS**
- Brute
 - Aggregate
 - Miss Kett of the comics
 - Protection
 - As far as know
 - Cupid
 - Split
 - Fleur-de-
 - Fashionable beach resort
 - Work places
 - Make fun of
 - de plume
 - Paulo
 - Person of prominence
 - Be more vocal than
 - Tel
 - Small sword
 - Close relative
 - Francisco
 - War (1899-1902)
 - Alleviate
 - Loser
 - Mental slip
 - Crime
 - Rested in chair
 - Slow (mus.)
 - Geometrical figure
 - Pertaining to an age
 - Shinto temple
 - Skeleton part
 - Diminutive suffix
 - Actor Alastair
 - Oodles
 - Fortuneteller
 - Upper surface
 - Adam's grandson
- DOWN**
- Architect Saarinen
 - Weekend-welcoming abbr.

Answer to Previous Puzzle

X	M	A	S	S	T	I	R	T	S	E	
R	A	M	P	S	E	M	E	R	I	P	
A	R	I	L	E	L	A	N	E	T	O	
Y	E	S	E	S	A	G	E	L	E	S	
				E	A	T	E	G	O		
F	U	N	N	I	E	S	E	G	R	E	T
L	V	I	D	R	U	M	S	I	T	E	
A	E	R	O	I	D	E	M	G	A	L	
N	A	O	M	I	S	N	U	G	G	L	E
				I	C	H	D	R			
F	U	S	T	I	E	R	K	R	U	P	A
L	S	T	C	R	I	B	A	S	I	N	
E	E	E	L	O	S	E	T	I	N	T	
D	D	T	E	D	E	N	E	S	T	E	

37 Groom
38 Map abbreviation
40 Rogue
41 Dregs
42 Art deco illustrator
43 Short for Nathan
44 Buckeye State
45 Continue (2 wds.)
46 Aware of (2 wds.)
47 Loch monster
49 Swift aircraft (abbr.)

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FOR SALE: Extra Nice 81 Chevette, 56,000 miles, \$1,750. 573-6459.

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Texans said facing latest financial crisis: insurance

DALLAS (AP) — Just as Texans are hearing reports of an economic revival and new plans for reviving savings and loans, they're faced with yet another industry crisis: insolvencies in dozens of the state's insurance companies and the collapse of one of the largest.

The \$54 million failure of National County Mutual Fire Insurance Co., which had an estimated 100,000 policyholders, triggered a state inquiry into the State Board of Insurance and the industry itself.

With 42 Texas-based insurance companies and 98 that do business in the state being liquidated, fears are brewing that Texas insurers are following the same road as the S&Ls.

"The potential is there," said State Rep. Eddie Cavazos, D-Corpus Christi, House Insurance Committee chairman of budget and oversight. "I don't think we have gotten to the bottom of the pit (of insolvent insurance companies) and the closer we get to the bottom, the more horror stories I hear."

A state auditor's report issued last week estimated that the liabilities of insurance companies in receivership exceeded their assets by an estimated \$200 million to \$300 million as of Aug. 31.

In 1987, Texans paid an estimated \$26 billion for insurance premiums, the audit said.

The audit urged the Insurance Board to make identifying financially troubled insurance companies its highest priority.

State officials say the factors that bedevil the insurance industry are the same as those that endangered the thrifts: lax and inept regulators, depressed real estate and oil markets and freespending company officials.

In the case of National County — whose president, Robert H.

Walker, is believed to be in Switzerland — state regulators have suffered much of the fallout.

The Insurance Board staff knew about National County's problems as early as 1986 but did not move to place the Dallas-based casualty and property insurer in receivership until Oct. 24, 1988.

A legislative report showed the agency taking an average of more than one year between the time examiners knew a company was in deep financial trouble and when it was put into conservatorship.

In December, when Insurance Commissioner Doyce Lee resigned under pressure, he described the agency as "under seige," trying to keep up with the insurance industry after years of being understaffed and under-funded while the sour economy brought on record insolvencies.

During 1987 the agency was reorganized and its staff expanded from about 850 employees to 1,300. Board members said reorganization contributed to the agency's problems.

But state Sen. John Montford, D-Lubbock, blames an "inept" management. "They're running at a pace that would have worked in the 1930s," he said.

Montford, who chairs the state Senate Affairs Committee that conducted hearings on National County's failure, sponsored 11 bills aiming to restructure the Insurance Board. Also being drafted is a measure that would set up an oversight panel including Montford, Lt. Gov. Bill Hobby and key legislators.

"The state board isn't doing its job," said Montford, whose proposals have been supported by the insurance lobby and other lawmakers. "It's been kind of a political boneyard over there."

"What we need is a bill that says all the crooks are no longer allowed to do business," said

House Insurance Committee member Cavazos.

Cavazos has proposed legislation that would change the appointed insurance panel to an elected board. "One of the main problems is we are appointing people to head those commissions based not on expertise, but on political patronage," he said.

Regulatory and criminal investigations are under way to determine what led to National County's insolvency, the costliest in Texas history. The company's primary business was automobile insurance for high-risk drivers.

Insurance Board liquidator James T. Odiorne has filed a lawsuit against Walker and his sons alleging that Walker "and perhaps others" diverted premium money to affiliated companies. Also named in the suit are Texas National Insurance Co., Southern Life Investment Co., Bent Tree National Bank, Western Fire & Casualty Insurance Co. Ltd., Walker National General Agency Inc. and Superior Premium Finance Inc.

School district bans poem after protests

HOUSTON (AP) — A Houston area school district says a children's poem about a girl who died after her parents refused to buy her a pony will no longer be used by second graders after a mother protested that it exposed children to suicide.

"I think it's sick. It plants the seed. We're trying to keep suicide out of our schools, not in them," Barbara McGaugh said Monday of "Little Abigail and the Beautiful Pony," a poem by popular children's author Shel Silverstein.

The poem was distributed last week to second-graders in the Chapter 1 reading program at Bowen Elementary School in the Huffman Independent School District. The program is for pupils with reading problems.

The controversial poem was included in Silverstein's 1981 collection of poems and drawings titled "A Light in the Attic."

The poem tells of a girl who threatens to die if her parents don't buy her a "sad-eyed" pony she saw on a drive. The parents refuse and the girl dies after refusing to eat or sleep.

The poem was accompanied by Silverstein's drawings of the girl's parents grieving over her body.

Mrs. McGaugh, a Huffman hair stylist, particularly disliked the poem's ending:

"And Abigail felt so bad that when they got home she went to bed,

And she couldn't eat, and she couldn't sleep, and her heart was broken,

And she DID die — all because of a pony that her parents wouldn't buy."

In a note at the bottom of the page, the author said, "This is a good story to read to your folks when they won't buy you something you want."

Mrs. McGaugh, 29, said that after reading the book, her 8-year-old daughter, Misty, now attempts to bribe her when asked to perform chores.

"She says, 'If I get to talk with my girlfriend, maybe I'll do them,'" Mrs. McGaugh said.

But Mrs. McGaugh says the bribery attempts don't work. "I tell her I'm the boss," she said.

The woman said she was so angry that she wrote to President Bush, asking him to remove the book from the school. She also contacted Huffman school trustee Charles Port, an attorney, who agreed that the poem was appalling.

"I'm the broadest-minded of persons. I'm a firm believer that if it's part of society, people should know about it," Port said. "But if it's a poem like this, it could have a detrimental effect on kids."

Huffman schools Superintendent Douglass Shands said the poem no longer will be distributed to second-graders because of its potential to be "disturbing" to young minds.

"Certainly, some things shouldn't be used in the classroom. We've arrived at decisions both ways on whether things should be available in the classroom or the library," he said.



HONOR ROLL—These Hermleigh sixth through eighth graders were all named to the fall semester honor roll. From left are Stephanie Buchanan, sixth grader; Sheri Sandefur, seventh grader; and Stephane Gannaway and Mandy Olsen, both eighth graders. Not pictured are Chris Roemisch and Chris Lambaren. (SDN Staff Photo)



HONOR STUDENTS—These Hermleigh students were all named to the fall semester honor roll. Back row: Jason Bates, Shahala Ford, Josh Hudgins, Randell Price, Jason Presley, Jennifer Roemisch, all second graders, and Larry Lambaren and Ricky Luna, both third graders; Middle row: John McHaney, Miranda Terry and Sandra Velasco, all third graders; and Brandi Bates, April Cook, Waylon Jackson, Ellen Jenkins, all fourth graders; and Jack Hudgins, Jeffrey Levens, Billy Luna, Donnis McHaney and Heather Ward, all fifth graders. Not pictured are Brad Roemisch, Ester Martinez and Michelle Roemisch. (SDN Staff Photo)



MORE HONOR STUDENTS—These Hermleigh High School students were all named to the fall semester honor roll. Back row: Tina Bernal, Bobby Brown, LaRae Farr, B. J. Gannaway, Joe Mireles, Lucy Mireles, Daniel Ramey and Rex Anne Reynolds, all seniors. Front row: Renee Matthews and Rebecca Ramey, both 9th graders; Andrea Smith, 10th grader; Crystal Church and Tish Crumly, 11th graders. Not pictured are April Blair and Beverly Sandefur. (SDN Staff Photo)

Plan would combine holidays

AUSTIN (AP) — A state senator says he sees nothing ironic in combining a state holiday in honor of slain civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. and Confederate Heroes Day.

The State Affairs Committee on Monday voted 11-0 to recommend the proposal by Sen. Craig Washington, D-Houston, be approved by the full Senate.

"I honestly don't have any compunction at all," of merging the holiday honoring King's fight for civil rights with the South's struggle during the Civil War, Washington said.

Under the bill, the third Monday in January would be designated as both Confederate Heroes Day — a combination of Robert E. Lee's and Jefferson Davis' birthdays — and Martin Luther King Jr. Day, in observance of King's birthday.

Currently, King's birthday is a federal holiday, but an optional state holiday in Texas, meaning employees taking that day off must give up another optional state holiday.

Confederate Heroes Day is a state holiday, but state agencies remain open with a skeleton crew. Those people working receive compensation time toward taking off another day.

He said Confederate leaders were considered by some to be heroes, while King was also considered a hero to some Americans.

"Obviously the war wasn't fought over slavery," he said.

Washington said several southern states observe King's birthday and holidays associated with confederate leaders on the same day.

He said it would cost too much — from \$12 million to \$15 million — to designate a separate state holiday for King and close all state business. "In these times of austerity, I couldn't ask my colleagues to create another holiday that would cost the taxpayers," he said.

The bill was supported by the Young Democratic Clubs of Texas. Santos Trey Martinez of George West said the group passed a resolution last month calling for state recognition of King's birthday.

On Aug. 28, 1963, about 200,000 people joined in a peaceful civil rights rally in Washington, where they heard Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. deliver his "I have a dream" speech in front of the Lincoln Memorial.

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Plans and specifications including minimum wage rates as provided by Law are available for inspection at the office of Joe Higgins, Resident Engineer, Hamlin, Texas, and at the State Department of Highways and Public Transportation, Austin, Texas. Bidding proposals are to be requested from the Construction Division, D.C. Greer State Highway Building, 11th and Brazos Streets, Austin, Texas 78701. Plans are available through commercial printers in Austin, Texas, at the expense of the bidder.
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Mexico City's air pollution among worst in world

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Breathe deeply to greet the day? Not in Mexico City. It has some of the dirtiest air in the world. It burns the eyes and nose, hides the spectacular, snowcapped volcanoes outside the city, and leaves tourists with a smell more memorable than the sights seen dimly through the haze.

Doctors say the pall is a hazard for the metropolitan area's 19 million residents, and the public outcry has become loud enough to force at least some government action.

"For all of us who live here, it is shortening our lives," said Homero Aridjis, an writer of prose and poetry who speaks for the Group of 100 Artists and Intellectuals, an environmental protection group.

Studies indicate athletes who exercise outdoors suffer reduced lung capacity. Patients with respiratory illnesses recover slowly.

Embassies offer early retirement or weekends out of the smog. Schools closed in January, one of the worst months for pollution.

"Since the middle of 1986, the question has been who is going to take responsibility for the effect this has on children," said Humberto Bravo of the National University's Center for Atmospheric Studies, who has been studying air pollution since the 1950s.

"We're not only contaminating more but it is increasing faster and in a way that is more damaging to health," said Ramon Ojeda Mestre, director of pollution control.

Pollution is not a top priority, however, for peasants who continue to arrive from the countryside in large numbers seeking work.

"Do you think they are going to be very worried about the environment when they're at a subsistence level wondering 'What am I going to eat?'" said Margarita Castillejos of the Colegio de Mexico, a graduate school and think tank.

Ozone, the main contaminant, is caused largely by automobile exhaust and exceeded Mexico's acceptable level of .11 parts per million at least 323 days last year, according to government records.

In Los Angeles, synonymous with smog in the United States, the ozone standard of .12 parts per million was violated on 174 days in 1988.

Mountains ring the Valley of Mexico and what goes into its air has a hard time getting out. Winds carry pollution from the industrial north of the valley to the residential south.

Hernan Cortes, the Spanish conqueror, first saw Tenochtitlan, the city's Aztec ancestor, 35 miles away between the 17,000-foot peaks of Popocatepetl and Iztaccihuatl. That was in November 1519; it seldom can be seen from that distance now.

Officials and environmentalists blame the 3 million cars and other vehicles for 80 percent of the nearly 5 million tons of pollution expected this year.

Few Mexicans can afford new cars. Officials estimate 60 percent of those in the valley need repairs and 1 million more than nine years old.

The three chief polluters among the valley's 35,000 industries are owned by the government: an oil refinery in a densely populated neighborhood and two electric plants that burn heavy fuel oil.



VALENTINE CELEBRATION—The toddlers at Rainbow School and Day Care were all dressed in red ready to celebrate on Valentine's Day. Children pictured are front: Jason Cave and Kasey Krop; middle: Chelsie Curtis, Austin Lyle, Alysha Cooper, Curtis Mason and Lacey James; teachers, Darla Brooks and Jackie Baldwin. Lindsey Small is in bed. (Rainbow Photo)



VALENTINE PARTY—The three, four and five year olds at Rainbow School and Day Care were all smiles during their Valentine party. Children pictured are front row: Josh Alaniz, Erin Dunham, Amber Myers, Riki Dorsett and Anna Williams; middle row: Chas Stroud, Molly Mason, Paul Overhulser, Chance James, Ashley Stroud and Aubrey Mathis; back row: Joanna Burk, Christa Curtis, Crystal Garcia, Christopher Sorrells, Timmy Wallace and teacher Theresa Johnson. (Rainbow Photo)

HL&P rate increase could cost 8,000 jobs

AUSTIN (AP) — A group that opposes Houston Lighting & Power Co.'s proposed \$432 million rate increase wants the Public Utility Commission to conduct an in-depth analysis of the economic consequences of the proposal.

Texans United said Monday the increase could cost Houston 8,000 existing jobs by restricting the purchasing power of consumers

and businesses. "We think that it's very important that people understand the consequences to this state ... of HL&P getting this rate hike, said Rick Abraham, Texans United director. The group describes itself as a membership organization working to improve the economy, environment and living standards.

"People are opposed to this issue not just because it's going to raise their individual light bills ... but people are opposed to HL&P getting this rate hike because they don't deserve it," Abraham told a news conference.

The rate increase being sought by HL&P represents the first stage of its effort to recover costs of the South Texas Nuclear Project. The proposed increase also includes costs of a lignite plant and other electricity expenses.

HL&P spokesman Graham Painter called the claim of lost jobs "hogwash." He said the utility is assuring sufficient power for industry, thus encouraging economic development, and that it would invest a large amount of any rate increase in local service.

Michael Dennis, Texans United research director, said the PUC should "comprehensively examine and account for" the economic impact of the rate request, and it is asking the attorney general's office to provide legal guidance.

The PUC currently considers some economic aspects of proposed rate increases, said commission Executive Director Coyle Kelly.

"I think it does influence commission decisions in those cases where it is obvious rates are going to have a significant impact on, for example, large industrial users going off the system" and generating their own electricity, Kelly said.

Stolen show cow returned to youngster

HOUSTON (AP) — A young girl's pet heifer, whose theft just before a livestock show aroused the community, was returned to its owner after investigators tracked the cow down and arrested two suspected rustlers.

"I was jumping up, screaming and standing on my head," 9-year-old Ginny Sherman said Monday, describing her reaction when the white-faced, polled Hereford named T.C. was returned the night before.

"We're never going to sell her. We're going to raise her to show and keep her until she dies," said Ginny, who is showing T.C. at the Houston Livestock Show.

Change in Medicaid approved

AUSTIN (AP) — Senators have voted to repeal a law that both scared and angered the elderly in Texas, and may have cost an influential senator his job.

The law, which apparently slipped unnoticed through the 1987 Legislature but was never applied, would have allowed the Department of Human Services to recover the property and estates of nursing home patients and other Medicaid recipients after they died.

The bill to repeal that law was sent to the House on a 28-2 vote Monday.

The provision to recoup money for Medicaid was included in an 86-page bill whose main purpose was to extend the life of the human services agency.

After the DHS published rules in early 1988 to implement the law, concerns were raised by legislators and general public, as well as the elderly.

Some attribute Sen. Temple Dickson's victory over former Sen. Grant Jones in the Democratic primary to Dickson's effective campaign use of Jones' vote for the bill containing the Medicaid lien provision.

Dickson, D-Sweetwater, said Monday the law "created anxiety" among people that they would lose their homesteads.

"The first principle this bill illustrates is that we ought to read carefully lengthy bills and be sure we know everything that's in them," said Sen. Hugh Parmer, sponsor of the bill to repeal the law. "The second principle is, when we make a mistake ... we ought to be willing to stand up and say we made a mistake."

The bill, he said, "repeals the authority, which we should never have given the Department of Human Services, to place liens against the homes of Medicaid recipients."

Sen. Carl Parker, D-Port Arthur, said he was "confused by the logic" behind Parmer's bill and joined O.H. "Ike" Harris, R-Dallas, in voting against it.

"How does protecting an inheritance of young, healthy folks that don't care enough about their parents to take care of them help other old people?" Parker asked. "It just takes money out of the pot that would be available for other needy old people."

Parmer, D-Fort Worth, said, "I think what you will find most of the time is that not only are mom and dad poor, but the kids are poor too, and this old home is about the only thing left that mother and dad has to leave those children."

Honor roll students named at Ira Schools

The following Ira students have been named to either the "AB" or "A" honor rolls for the fall semester.

JUNIOR HIGH & HIGH SCHOOL

"A" Honor Roll: Justin Spradlin, Michelle Holmes, Kerri Carter, Lori Clark, Amy Shoults, Cindy Stewart, Roger Lindsey, Kory Clark, Kyle Martin, Misty Mathis, Amy Holmes and Lana Lindsey.

"AB" Honor Roll: Kyle Sorrells, Julie Sterling, Alan Martinez, Carolyn Elam, Dana Gunset, Gary Gunset, Kristi Carter, Stacy Davis, Laura Blagg, Julie Williams, Stephanie Weber, Brandy Robbins, Susan Johnson, Craig McMullen, Chris Espino, Shane Ballard, Angela Vineyard, Rodney White, John Stewart, Brad Robinson, Holly Scott, Shelly Klepper, Anson Luna, David Holmes, Lloyd Bennett, Amanda Sorrells, Brett Long, Travis Goswick, Chris Haynes, Michael Latham, Kent Smith, Amy Oppgaard, Mauricia Rosas, Billy Smith, Brian Miller, Neil Miller, Michael Hughes, Kala Gunset, Rebekah Williams, Wendy Wilson, Brandy Oliver, Michelle Gernandt, Lee Haddox, Kristi Sorrells, Cristy Scott, Susan Shoults, Jay Nettles, Crystal Oaks, Brian Garmer, Zane Neely, Amanda Davis, Justin Donelson and Jessica Clark.

ELEMENTARY

"A" Honor Roll: Jennifer Latham, Lindsay Josey, Amber Martinez, Perry Jamison, Terri Robinson, Carla Smith, Betty Rodriguez, Emily Hardy, Suzanne Kimmel, Sarah Lilly, Hayley Smith, Melissa Massingill, Paula Nettles, Olga Juarez, Billy Keith Box, Rebecca Daves, Jerek Brown, Korby Calley, Monika Chaney, Sonny Cumbie, Amber Graves, Monica Halfmann, Jose Juarez, Audra Lilly and Drew Wall.

"AB" Honor Roll: Misty Chance, Heath Mathis, Jody Rankin, Jennifer Rigby, Scott Strong, Adam Webster, Carlos Espinoza, Tiffany Orona, Joshua Williams, Jason Green, Leah Foster, Marcus Brown, Rosa Aguinaga, Kasey Calley, Machea Chaney, Patrick Cumbie, Adam Davis, Stacey Taylor, Jessica Williams, Amy Harless, Jeremy Blagg, Carrie Cox, Rylan Higgins, Linley Rinehart, Todd Colom, Logan Daves, Justin Hill, Terry Jamison and Thomas Rinehart.

Hermleigh 3rd six weeks honor roll announced

The following students have been named to the third six weeks honor roll at Hermleigh.

Tenth grade: April Blair and Andrea Smith.

Eleventh grade: Manuel Castillo, Crystal Church, Tisha Crumly, Rebecca Hermosillo, Allan Jones and Karen Olsen.

Twelfth grade: Tina Bernal, Bobby Brown, LaRae Farr, B. J. Gannaway, Joe Mireles, Lucy Mireles, Daniel Ramey, Rex-Anne Reynolds and Beverly Sandefur.

Second grade: Jason Bates, Shahala Ford, Josh Hudgins, Randall Price, Brad Roemisch and Jennifer Roemisch.

Third grade: Larry Lambaren, Ricky Luna, Ester Martinez, John McHaney, Miranda Terry and Sandra Velasco.

Fourth grade: Brandi Bates, April Cook, Waylon Jackson and Michelle Roemisch.

Fifth grade: Norma Alfaro, Jack Hudgins, Jeffrey Levens, Billy Luna, Donnis McHaney and Heather Ward.

Sixth grade: Chris Roemisch and Stephanie Buchanan.

Seventh grade: Chris Lambaren and Sheri Sandefur.

Eighth grade: Stephane Gannaway.

Ninth grade: Renee Matthews and Rebecca Ramey.

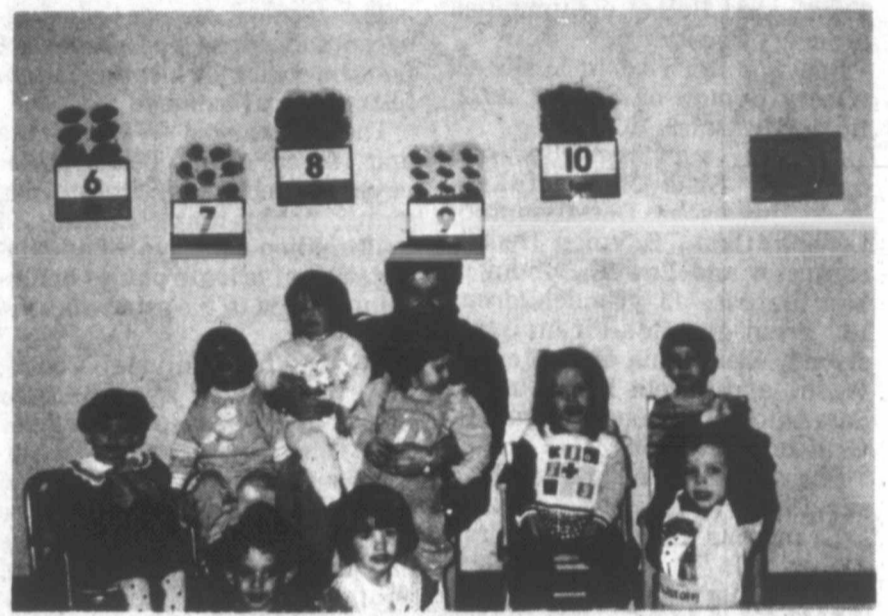
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EXCHANGE VALENTINES—The two year olds at Rainbow School and Day Care enjoyed exchanging Valentines. Pictured are front row: Michael Baldwin, Briana Burk and Matthew Hale; back row: Andra Dunham, Karen Taylor, Kim Cooper, Gay Kimmel, teacher, Rachel Hayes Laura Hall and Lee Scott. (Rainbow Photo)

Moose keeps vigil near four mares

NEWBURGH, Maine (AP) — A moose is keeping a vigil near four mares on a farm here, but the horses' owner says the animal is lonely, not lovestruck.

The yearling moose appeared in the area Thursday and moved close to John Calderwood's farm Sunday.

"He's not going to leave now," Calderwood said Monday.

Calderwood and a state game warden believe the moose is male, but they don't think it has

amorous intentions. "The game warden said he probably wandered off from his mother and is lonely," said Calderwood, who raises horses on his Burnt Swamp Farm.

The mares aren't fond of the onlooker and move to the far side of their enclosed pasture whenever the moose approaches the fence, he said.

"They're not letting him out of their sight," Calderwood added.

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