

Commentary

Editor's notes

A little of this... ...a little of that

AH, LIKE MUSIC TO MY EARS, or a beautiful sight to my eyes, or wax to my skis. As I sit here in my office writing this column, I look out the front window and see snow. Maybe it is only flurries, but it is a start.

My skis are waxed, tuned and ready to go. And, believe me, I can't wait. I don't even mind shoveling the darn stuff once in a while - as long as there's always enough to ski on.

HOW DOES EVERYONE FEEL after making their way through



DOTTY MARTIN

Thanksgiving dinner? After my speech last week about how I was wondering how I was going to get through Thanksgiving dinner and stay on my diet, I want you to know I cheated on one of them - and it was not on my dinner.

My stepmother has this unique way of putting an absolutely delicious Thanksgiving meal on the table and any human being in their right mind wouldn't be able to pass it up - diet or no diet!

So, I pigged out. I ate everything - even the things the instructor at my "fat class" warned us about - stuffing, cranberry sauce, gravy, pecan pie, the works. But, do you want to know something? As if that wasn't bad enough, I succumbed to an invitation to join the family in leftovers Friday night and ate the whole darn meal all over again.

My goal was to remain at the same weight this week, but when I weighed in Monday night, guess what - I lost a half a pound. How 'bout that? -

A GREAT BIG HELLO to some faithful readers of The Dallas Post who have renewed their subscriptions with us for another year - Mr. and Mrs. Dave Pearn of Forty Fort, Mrs. Mildred Bachman of Forty Fort, Mrs. Cornelia B. Davis of Forty Fort, a former Dallas school teacher; and Mrs. Anna Kalna of Swoyersville, a very dear friend of mine.

Thanks to all of you for remaining true blue to us. We do appreciate it!

THE DRIVE TO OUR PRODUCTION OFFICE in Bloomsburg every Tuesday always bring a smile to my face when I pass through Plymouth. There, as big as life in the window of the Paramount Photo Studio on Route 11 in Plymouth is a beautiful, full-color photograph of none other than Cheryl Campbell.

Cheryl, the 1984 Homecoming Queen at Lake-Lehman, is the sister of Dallas Post photographer Ed Campbell. She is employed at Kasarda's Florist right next door to our office.

GET WELL WISHES go out to Mrs. Laura Samuels of Dallas who is a medical patient at Wilkes-Barre General Hospital. Laura's husband, Howard, is the distribution man for The Dallas Post, dropping off papers at various newstands throughout the area every Wednesday.

The staff wishes you well soon, Laura.

'TIS THE SEASON - for criminals, too. Having watched a good friend suffer the agony of having her purse stolen in Wilkes-Barre last week, I can't help but wonder where some people put their holiday spirit.

Anyway, a word to the wise - remember, criminals know that people are doing their Christmas shopping these days and they know we are all likely to carry more cash at this time of year than we do at other times. Be careful - guard your personal belongings at all times so that those who think they are entitled to what you have can't get their hands on it.

And, to my friend who got "ripped off" - hang in there. Whoever took your purse will get his (or her) day soon.

AGAIN THIS YEAR, The Dallas Post will be featuring its ever-popular imaginary Christmas gift lift and imaginary New Year's resolutions.

If any of our readers would like to see any of their friends or family members mentioned with an imaginary Christmas gift or imaginary New Year's resolutions, simply drop me a line or give me a call and we'll include them in our holiday wish lists.

A FRIEND OF MINE introduced me to her best friend the other - an absolutely beautiful three-month-old miniature collie named Mercedes.

My friend told me she always wanted a Mercedes, but she honestly believed her Mercedes would have four wheels and not four legs.

Good line, huh? -

SPEAKING OF DOGS - or not just dogs, but family members as some of us look upon them - my family is still having a hard time adjusting to the absence of our basset hound, Dusty, who passed away three weeks ago.

A friend of ours passed along this little story, in hopes of making all of us feel better. And, although it did the trick, the darn story is a real tear-jerker to dog lovers.

I'd like to pass it on to those of you who have a soft spot in your hearts for pets like I do. It's called "A Dog's Plea" and its author is a woman by the name of Beth Norman.

Treat me kindly, my beloved friend, for no heart in all the world is more grateful for kindness than the loving heart of me.

Do not break my spirit with a stick, for though I should lick your hand between blows, your patience and understanding will more quickly teach me the things you would have me learn.

Speak to me often, for your voice is the world's sweetest music, as you must know by the fierce wagging of my tail when your footsteps fall upon my waiting ear.

Please take me inside when it is cold and wet, for I am a domesticated animal, no longer accustomed to bitter elements, and I ask no greater glory than the privilege of sitting at your feet beside the hearth.

Keep my pan filled with fresh water, for I cannot tell you when I suffer thirst.

Feed me clean food, that I may stay well, to romp and play and do your bidding, to walk by your side, and stand ready, willing and able to protect you with my life, should your life be in danger.

And, my friend, when I am very old, if God sees fit to deprive me of my health and sight, do not turn me away from you. Rather, see that my trusting life is taken gently, only by our Lord, and I shall leave knowing with the last breath I draw that my fate was always safest in your hands.



REMEMBERING

Lonely fisherman

Although the weather is a little too chilly for even ice fishing at Harveys Lake, this photo, its dates unknown, shows a lonely fisherman in his quest for a catch at the area lake.

Only yesterday

Local player chosen for annual Shrine Game

50 YEARS AGO - DEC. 6, 1935

Ted Loveland, Kingston Township High School football star, was the only local player selected to be on the West side squad which played the team from the East Side in the annual Shrine game for crippled children.

Moving swiftly and decisively, Dallas Borough School Board put new policies into effect naming a new president, secretary and solicitor. Dr. G.K. Swartz, was elected president, Jack Roberts, secretary and Clyde Lapp, solicitor.

Married - Mary Louise Nafus to Wesley Lamoreaux; Helen Doran to Grover W. Anderson, Jr.

Deaths - John Sharpes, Tunkhannock; Charles Atkinson, Shavertown.

You could get - Turkeys 33c lb.; pork loins, rib end 25c lb.; rump roast 31c lb.; sugar 10 lb. 53c; milk 10 tall cans 55c; tomatoes 4 No. 2 cans 25c; Log Cabin Syrup 23c can; Minute Tapioca 2 pkg. 23c; bread 9c loaf; Post Bran Flakes 2 pkg. 19c.

40 YEARS AGO - DEC. 7, 1945

An epidemic of colds striking teachers and pupils caused the closing of classes at Lehman High School. More than 125 students were absent; all substitute teachers with the exception of one were reported to be ill.

Despite efforts by representatives of Trucksville and Shavertown Fire Companies to have a 35 miles per hour speed limit imposed on the highway, the idea was turned down by State Highway Department Engineer William J. Rolfe. Rolfe explained that enforcement of speeding was the responsibility of the local police force, and that they should enforce speed laws now in effect.

Married - Betty Guyler and Emory Kitchen.

Deaths - John R. Crispell, Shavertown; Stella Johnson, Beaumont.

You could get - Chuck roast 26c lb.; ground hamburger 28c lb.; skinless franks 37c lb.; broccoli 25c lg. bunch; Ivory soap 4 med. bars 23c; oranges 35c doz.; coffee 2 lb. bags 47c; Spic & Span 21c pkg.; Maxwell House Coffee 33c lb.

30 YEARS AGO - DEC. 9, 1955

Robert M. Turrell, Tunkhannock, purchased the Shavertown Lumber Co. from Ralph Garrahan and George Ruckno.

The first postal employee ever to retire on pension from Dallas Post Office, Fred Youngblood, turned over his bags to Postmaster Joseph Polack.

Joseph Zosh's dairy barn in Meeker neared completion as neighbors contributed their time and effort to this farmer in distress. The original barn was destroyed by fire. Neighbors banded together on holidays and weekends to get the bar rebuilt.

Married - Barbara Ann Brace to Henry J. Evans.

Anniversaries - Mr. and Mrs. Grover Anderson, Point Breeze, Harveys Lake 50 years.

Deaths - John Getz, Kunkle.

You could get - Sausage 49c lb.; pork loin 27c lb.; 39c lb.; haddock 29c lb.; veal steak 79c lb.; eggs 59c doz.; dog food 20 cans 99c; tomatoes 2 cello pkgs. 29c; mince meat 28 oz. jar 39c; electric corn popper \$2.98.

20 YEARS AGO - DEC. 9, 1965

Lake Township jail, the only one in the Back Mountain, was slated to close for reasons of health menace. Jail capacity was for two. It was located in the basement of the Daniel C. Roberts Fire Co., Harveys Lake.

Captain Robert C. Winters, son of Mr. and Mrs. C.C. Winters, of Claude St., Dallas was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross by the Air Force. An electrical warfare officer, Winters was cited for displaying outstanding courage and skill in accomplishing his missions under extraordinary flight conditions.

Engaged - Janet Claire Turner and Carl T. Williamson; JoAnne Marie Kennedy and Sheldon James Frantz; Judith Wright to H. Keight Jones.

Anniversaries - Mr. and Mrs. James McFarland, Shavertown, 50 years; Mr. and Mrs. Harley Misson, 22 years.

Deaths - Rose Tylenda, Vernon; Mrs. Roy J. Thomas, Mt. Zion; Margaret B. Corby, Delaware; Blanche Piper, Bloomingdale; Dorman Schooley, Harris Hill; Martha Barry, Dallas; Ethel Paden, Ceasetown.

You could get - Chickens 59c lb.; pork loins 43c lb.; veal roast 49c lb.; pecan meats 12 oz. pkg. 79c; apples 4 lb. bag 29c; tangelos 5 lb. bag 59c; 5 lb. bag Pillsbury Flour 57c; 2 lb. can Maxwell House coffee, \$1.63.

10 YEARS AGO - DEC. 11, 1975

Representatives of five locals of the Communications Workers of America AFL-CIO officials of Commonwealth Telephone Company and Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service Representative Charles McHugh held mediation sessions at the Treadway Inn, Wilkes-Barre. The five locals failed to ratify a one year contract.

Harveys Lake Borough Council voted the passage of an anti-photography ordinance for the municipality. Mark Connolly was borough mayor. Robert Winterteen was vice president.

Married - Desiree Lee Knorr and Alvise George Sutton.

Deaths - Robert Kemmerer, Shavertown; George Grouse, Harveys Lake; Donald Josuweit, Meeker Road.

You could get - Boneless round steak \$1.69 lb.; boneless round roast \$1.55 lb.; Bartlett pears 2-16 oz. cans 79c; 64 oz. bot. Downy fabric softener \$1.59; Kraft strawberry preserves 18 oz. jar 69c; Campbells vegetable or chicken noodle soup 5 cans \$1.

LIBRARY NEWS

By NANCY KOZEMCHAK
Library Correspondent

It is very hard to believe. However, it is true. Christmas is just around the corner. A beautiful season in our calendar year.

We have started to put some Christmas decorations up at our new library. The marquee in the entryway has been decorated with red ribbon, greens and bows to look like a drum and our traditional greens, lights and red bows grace the library name sign on the front lawn. 'Tis the season of peace and goodwill. We have a large collection of Christmas books, stories and craft ideas, available in the main library as well as the Children's Room. A reminder: Books make excellent Christmas presents!

We visited a quaint little restaurant on my last visit to Philadelphia called, 'A Slice of Heaven'. The lunch we had was delicious and I had my first cup of cappuccino, which is a drink made by adding foaming hot milk to espresso coffee. I must say, being a lover of coffee, I prefer regular coffee. When they present you with the check, they also give each diner a slice of chocolate candy which has an angel formed on top. This, of course, is in keeping with the name of the restaurant.

Some news about the 1986 library auction: It will be one day longer, running from Wednesday, July 10 through Sunday, July 14.

Ernest Ashbridge will head the antiques booth once again; the refreshments will be under the care of Joe Fry, who is hoping to add pizza to the menu; the Book Booth will be operated with Mrs. Crump and Priscilla Liput in command; Dot McCutcheon will control volunteer activities and there will be a nuts and berries booth and a baked goods and candy booth. We are looking for someone to take chairman of the children's activities. Anyone interested can contact the library. Another new booth in the planning stages is a clothing booth featuring tee shirts and sweat shirts.

New books at the library: Texas by James Michener is a historical novel which skillfully combines fact and fiction to present our richest, most expensive and most diversified state. It spans four and a half centuries beginning in the early 1500's and ending with its present eminence as one of our most powerful states, rich in natural wealth and human enterprise.

"The Immigrant's Daughter" by Howard Fast is the conclusion of the Lavette saga, bringing the story to the fourth generation. It is truly an unfolding historical saga.

"Dancing in the Light" by Shirley MacLaine is a biography and an extraordinary personal odyssey which she shares with us - with candor and intimacy that bares her innermost self.

"Prima Donna at Large" by Barbara Paul is a new mystery which starts when someone replaces throat spray with ammonia at the Metropolitan Opera House. This leads to a horrible crime.

STATE CAPITOL ROUNDUP

Here is a summary of important events that occurred on Capitol Hill last week from Rep. Frank Coslett, 120th Legislative District.

INDIVIDUALS CONFINED to their homes may be able to receive home dental care if a bill introduced by Rep. Frank Weston (R-Phila.) becomes law. The legislation requires the State Dental Council and Examining Board to establish the Dentistry for the Homebound Program. The council would be directed to attempt to develop homebound dentistry as "an important field in the practice of dentistry." The goal of the program is to provide individuals confined to their homes with competent dental care at a reasonable cost. Individuals who cannot afford the program but are in need of homebound dental care would receive it at state expense. Eligibility for state-subsidized dental work would be determined by the Department of Aging. "Many people for many reasons cannot leave their residences. A system of dental care must be set up for these individuals," said Weston.

CHILD ABUSE prevention was the focus of legislation which passed the House by a 187-6 margin. The bill would create a state fund to assist local agencies in their efforts to fight child abuse. The state money would come from a \$5 increase in marriage licensed fees and a \$10 hike in the cost of divorce decrees. The state Commission on Crime and Delinquency would distribute the money to local agencies. The federal government would match 25 percent of the total collected by the state if the bill becomes law. The measure's supporters said the fund would help local agencies develop innovative prevention and abuse detection programs. Opponents argued that creating a fund first and then planning programs risks a situation where agencies simply "grab" for the money. Rep. Lois Hagarty (R-Montgomery) voted for the bill but said she did not want public schools teaching children about child abuse.

OPINION

Government cracking down on day-care

By EDWIN FEULNER
Special to The Dallas Post

Although it was once considered an unfortunate necessity, day-care has become an American institution, used by people from all economic, cultural and educational backgrounds. The "why" is simple. Research shows that in 1984, both parents in 52 percent of U.S. families were holding down jobs. And someone has to take care of the kids when both Mom and Dad work.

Unfortunately, the simple matter of providing child care is itself

beginning to become too much of a burden - thanks to government regulation. The result is that while the need is on the rise, many people and institutions who would like to provide inexpensive child care aren't able to do so. Others are doing so illegally - as part of the day-care "underground."

According to a recent study by the Cato Institute, many of the laws designed to protect the health and safety of children and guarantee that they are cared for responsibly have, instead, limited the availability of child care or made it too

expensive for the people who need it most: the poor and middle class. After all, the wealthy still have their nannies.

The study found that although there are at least 14-million preschoolers whose parents work full time, there are only about 10-million day-care spaces available nationwide. Even without a Ph.D. in accounting one can figure out that millions of kids are being left alone for part of the day.

Certainly, it is important for children to be cared for by competent people in a safe environment. We are all aware of the horror stories about those operators of day-care centers who have been accused of sexually abusing children in their care, or who have been linked to the kiddie-porn racket. Invariably, the cretins involved in these cases have been operating licensed facilities which meet all state regulations. This is not to imply by any means that all the regulations in the world won't put a 100-percent stop to such things. But the excessive regulations will keep many women who would like to care for small children in their homes from doing so

legally.

Currently, all 50 states and the District of Columbia have day-care regulations. The most damaging restrictions are the often silly local zoning regulations which prohibit individuals from caring for neighborhood children in their homes or arbitrarily restrict the number of children they can care for.

For example, most city zoning commissions classify "day care" as a small business - and prohibit people from operating day-care programs in residential areas. Of course, this is absurd. And it leads to predictably absurd results, such as the woman in Washington, D.C., who was told by the Board of Zoning Adjustment that she couldn't operate a day-care facility in a residentially zoned, middle-class neighborhood with a large number of working class mothers, but was given the go-ahead to operate a center in a commercially zoned building location between two topless bars.

Many health, fire and safety statutes are similarly misapplied by local bureaucrats. For instance, one San Benito County, California,

woman had to withdraw her application for a license when she was told by the paper-pushers that if she wanted to increase enrollment in her six-child day-care home, she would have to install separate toilet facilities for boys and girls and make them accessible to wheelchairs. A Maryland woman decided she could not afford to care for more children in her home after she was told she would have to replace four smoke detectors with a five-detector, interconnecting system, which would cost her an estimated \$2,000. And the list goes on and on.

Regardless of how one feels about the number of working women and single-parent households in the U.S. today, one must recognize that a real need exists for quality, affordable day care. But instead of encouraging willing people in local communities to meet the growing need, the regulation-writers and enforcers are making it increasingly difficult for them.

(Edwin Feulner is president of The Heritage Foundation, a Washington-based public policy research institute.)

The DALLAS POST

A Publication of Pennaprint, Inc.

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