

HOUSTON DEAF SENIOR CITIZENS NEWSLETTER

Volume 5

December, 2004

Issue 12

Merry Christmas

We have planned the field trips next six months for Houston Deaf Senior Citizens.
(Attention: these places or dates may be changed if unable to reserve or time permits)



2005

January 14, 2005 (Fri) ~~ Houston Area

February 2, 2005 (Wed) ~~ Baytown & Anahuac

March 11, 2005 (Fri) ~~ Victoria

April 6, 2005 (Wed) ~~ Bayou Wildlife Park
in Alvin & Kemah Boardwalk

May 4, 2005 (Wed) ~~ Bastrop

June 10, 2005 (Fri) ~~ Mexia

THE BEST OF HEALTH

The Editors of consumer Reports on Health

275 Questions You've Always Wanted to Ask Your Doctor

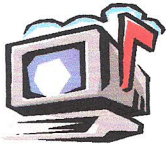
FLU SHOTS

Q. *I've heard so many opinions, pro and con, about flu shots. Who should get a flu shot? How effective is it? When is the best time to get one?*

A. Anyone who can tolerate a flu shot should consider getting one before the influenza season begins. That's especially important for these high-risk groups:

- People age 50 or over.
- People with chronic lung or heart disorders, including children with asthma.
- Adults and children who, during the preceding year, needed regular medical care or hospitalization for a chronic disease: diabetes, kidney disorders, sickle-cell disease, or suppressed immune systems (including HIV/AIDS).
- Children and teenagers 6 months to 18 years who are on long-term aspirin therapy.
- People who live with or care for a person at high risk. A flu shot takes about two weeks to provide protection and lasts about 6 months. But the injection does not provide full immunity in all cases. It's about 90 percent effective in young, healthy people, and 70 percent effective in elderly, high-risk people—for the strains of influenza included in the vaccine. If an unexpected strain of flu pops up during the flu season, the vaccine may not work at all.

Generally, October is the best time for a flu shot, but any time between September and February is better than not at all. Travelers abroad, however, should consider flu shot whatever the month. They may risk exposure to the virus at any time of year.



From the Editor:

Dear Houston Senior Citizens and Friends:

Christmas is around the corner and some of you may take a trip to join your families, relatives or friends. I wish you all have a safe trip and wonderful time.

Also we, the SC Newsletter Staff, wish you

Happy Holidays!

Audrey

**Houston
Deaf Senior
Citizens
Newsletter**

Editor

*Audrey
Leger*

The Staff

*Zelma
Curbello*

*Thelma
Jo Hays*

*Pedro
Solis*

*Roger
Spivey*

*Mary Jo
Stevens*

Please send any news, information, jokes, pictures, recipes, sports or anything that you want to share with Senior Citizens. **Please keep articles to less than 250 words, due to limited space on the newsletter.** Please note that the editor may, at her discretion, edit articles or news items for brevity and to correct errors. **The deadline is on the 15th of each month.** Items received after the 15th will be held until next issue.^s

NOTE: Unpaid subscriptions are discontinued after three months. In order to serve you better, a reminder will be sent during the second month.

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact us at 281-437-6224 TTY / FAX or E-mail us at hdsnews@yahoo.com.



***Flash News for next Field Trip
River Oaks in Houston***

Houston Deaf Senior Citizens will meet at Woodhaven Baptist Church, 9920 Long Point Rd, Houston, TX on Wednesday, December 15th at 12 PM. The bus will depart no later than 12:30 PM. Anyone who will go only for dinner can use their own vehicles and meet us there at 1 PM, otherwise ride in a bus for touring and sightseeing.

1 PM – Christmas dinner at Steak Kountry Buffet Restaurant,
1010 Antonio, Houston, TX 77055

3 PM – Museum in Houston area

4 PM – Ride in a bus, sightseeing homes and Christmas decorations in
River Oaks area and Houston area if time permits

If you are interested in going on the field trip, please contact Zelma Curbello at 713-941-3247 or Audrey Leger at 281-437-6224 before the 13th. Come and let's have fun together. See you on the 15th.

NEWS

THREE STORIES, Submitting by Tennie Sessions of San Marco

George & Sue Farek's Trip:

On September 14th George and Sue flew over to Czechoslovakia from Dallas with their cousins for the visits. They looked for George's great-grandparents' cemetery, but could not find it. Somebody told them that they should have bring their great-grandparents' certification to Czechoslovakia to locate the place.

George and Sue enjoyed walking around and sightseeing the old historical buildings and castles. The streets are paved neatly with bricks. The Czech people love to put down beautiful flowers such as yellow tulips on the graves, which shows their great appreciation and respect for their families for many years.

George said it was so cold at night, so he drinks some wine to warm himself. They had a great time and returned home Sept 29th.

George and his cousin, John are planning to go back there again in two years to search for their great-grandparents' cemetery.

Charm & Mario Montalvo's Trip:

Last Summer Charm and Mario went out to eat at the café, and then left there. Charm found a \$100 bill on the floor. Her husband, Mario was stunned, and they decided to save it for their cruise plan in September 2004.

On September 24th they flew over to San Juan with Charlene Aaron from San Antonio. They met 33 deaf people from different states. On 26th of Sept, they rode on the cruise and traveled to St. Thomas, Dominic, Barbados, and Aruba. They enjoyed sightseeing many different places.

Charm won twice with the slot machines on the cruise. She said it is the best trip for both of them, they ever had. They arrived back home on October 3rd. They had much fun and would like to go back again.

Farewell Party for Charlotte Strunk:

Charlotte was given a farewell party on November 12th by Miriam Thumann, Juanita Basham and Lottie Marks. People at the community center of La Vista were waiting for her to show up. When she got in, she was very surprised! Then Dale Hovinga gave a short funny story. He also gave her cute gifts. She got some cards and money from her dear friends. She enjoyed the goodbye party very much.

She will be moved to Olathe, Kansas because her family wants her to be with them. She is very excited to move to a new apartment, and will be able to go swim during summertime. She has been lived in La Vista since April 1, 2000. She will be greatly missed by dear friends of La Vista.

DEAFWEEKLY OF NOVEMBER 17, 2004

LONGTIME ASL INSTRUCTOR CALLS IT QUILTS

Friends and colleagues of Frankie Widner gathered for a reception last week (second week of November) to mark her retirement as American Sign Language instructor at Tyler Junior college. For 30 years she "taught attorneys, policemen, doctors and even dentists," Widner told the Tyler Morning Telegraph. A graduate of the Texas School for the Deaf, Widner said plans to travel and enjoy her new hobby of photography, but will continue to work as a pharmacy medicine coordinator at Mother Frances Hospital.

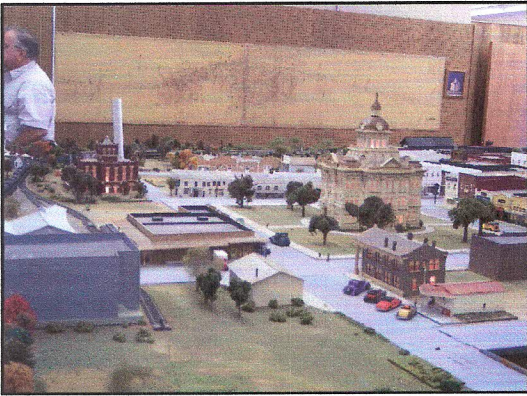
FIELD TRIP TO CAMERON, TX

On Wednesday, November 3, 2004 Houston Deaf Senior Citizens went on a field trip to Cameron, TX. Cameron in a tranquil and lovely agricultural setting, with an abundance of rivers, lakes, trees, and wildlife.

Points of interest include an 1890's jail and museum, Old Town Cameron Model (City in a Miniature), two city parks with a 100-year-old gazebo and a preserved iron bridge, fun restaurants and shops, historic homes and inns.

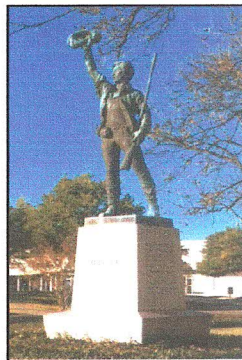
A renovated courthouse and another 1891 building converted into the new city hall, plus the jail museum, anchor the downtown, giving a feeling of history and the future coming together in harmony.

That is amazing to sightsee and Senior Citizens really enjoyed their trip.



← "Old Town Cameron"

City in Miniature-Long time Cameron resident John Johnson has created a model of Cameron that recalls the town as it looked during the 1940s. For the more than 25 years, Mr. Johnson has created buildings from his research from photographs of that era and from his childhood memories. The model includes the downtown area, neighborhoods, water towers, bridges and a working miniature railroad (see picture on left beyond city).



Statue of Ben Milam, Leader in fight for Texas Independence, is on the courthouse grounds in historic downtown.



Milam County Courthouse

Downtown Cameron has experienced a face-lift with the renovation of historic courthouse



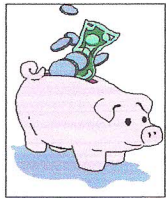
Milam County Historical Museum –housed in restored county jail, c. 1895, complete with cells, shackles, and gallows tower. The downstairs portion of the jail is a stroll through the past as you can see how previous jailers lived and worked in this establishment for many years.



← Magnolia Inn

A fully restored Victorian home of astonishing beauty has been the home of prominent citizens in Cameron for over a century. Built in 1895, every piece of lumber has been hand picked for rarity and beauty of grain. It has won the Great American Home Award from the national Trust for Historic Preservation.

3. Security Thread Genuine FRNs have a clear polyester thread embedded vertically in the paper. The thread is inscribed with the denomination of the note, and is visible only when held up to light. Each denomination has a unique thread position and will glow a unique color in ultraviolet (UV) light.
4. Serial Numbers The first letter of the Serial number on 1996, 1999, 2001, 2003 & 2004 series FRNs matches the series year. All 1996 series notes begin with the letter A; 1999 series, the letter B; 2001 series, the letter C; 2003 series, the letter D; 2004 series, the letter E.
5. Federal Reserve Indicators The 1996, 1999, 2001, 2003 & 2004 series FRNs have a letter-number combination, which identifies one of the 12 issuing Federal Reserve Banks. This letter-number combination appears beneath the serial number on the left. The number corresponds to the position of the letter in the alphabet, e.g.: A1, B2, C3, etc. The second letter of the serial number is the same as the letter in the letter-number combination.
6. Check Letter/Quadrant Number
7. Face Plate Number
8. Series year
9. Back Plate Number (*Not shown*) Found on the reverse right hand side of the note.



From Zelma Curbello of LOVE FUND:

We wish to thank you for your generous donations to LOVE FUND:
Cathy & Fred Simerka and Betty Tefler

Mary Jo Stevens, thank you for your thoughtful donation to LOVE FUND:
IN MEMORY OF ROBERT WALKER

Christine McKinnon and Janice Caraway, thank you for your hearty donation to LOVE FUND: **IN MEMORY OF AVIE ALANIZ AND ESTELLE CAMERON**, also to Thelma Jo Hays and Judy & William Lorenz **IN MEMORY OF AVIE ALANIZ**

William Hebert, thanks for your donation to LOVE FUND: **IN MEMORY OF ESTELLE CAMERON**

Gene & Opal Piercy, thank you for your thoughtful donation to LOVE FUND: **IN MEMORY OF ALL FRIENDS, WHO HAVE RECENTLY PASSED**

Anyone who wishes to donate \$\$\$ to LOVE FUND should please make a check or money order payable to
Houston Deaf Senior Citizens - Love Fund.

And mail to:

**Mrs. Zelma Curbello
9623 Tiltree
Houston, TX 77075-4042**

NEW SENIOR CITIZEN MEMBERS:

Welcome to SC Members: Early W. Day, Ocie Dorey, and Marilyn Johnson.

NEW SUBSCRIBERS:

Welcome new subscribers: Vera Christal, a gift from Patsy Walker, Lee & Laura Colvin, M/M. George Farek Jr, and M/M. Jerry Smith, a gift from Shirley Dye.

Holidays are here, subscription is great gift for any of your family and friends.

RE-SUBSCRIBER:

Welcome back subscriber: Thomas & Martha Pruitt.

RENEWALS:

Thank you for your renewal: M/M. Andrew B. Beckham, Rita DeVries, Judith G. Griffin, Garcia Lorello, Reuben McGill, Jerrell & Betty Jo Quinn, Tennie Sessions, Ellen M. Sias, Steven J. Sirois, and Edgar & Phyllis Smith.

REAL FACT

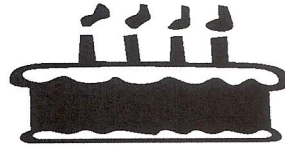
1. The only bird who can see the color blue is the owl.
2. Caterpillars have over 2,000 muscles.

Monthly Birthdays



Dorothy Curry, Elnora Morgan, Jenice Wells, and (sitting) Sue Williamson

We apologize, but currently, we do not have photos for the birthdays in February, June and November.



I. D. Wicker, Betty Tefler, Maurice Ford, Zelma Curbello and Gertrude Sessions



Floyd Wicker And Robert Small



Hazel Richard And Homer West



Audrey Leger, Thelma Jo Hays, Arlene Benham, Z. X. Curry, Early McVey and William Lambert



Christine McKinnon and James Fair



Lynwood Davis and Roger Spivey



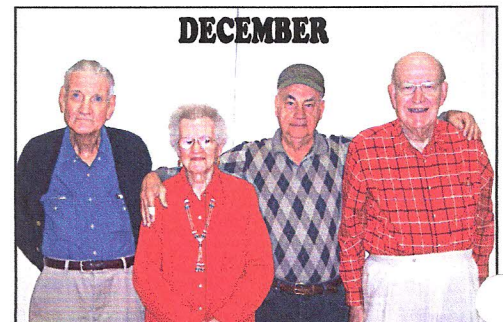
Lanier Page & Nellie Bishop



Daril Williamson, Tommy Wells, Walter Richardson, Mary Redman And Lennie Morton



Joe Morton, Pernella Smith and William Hebert



Jack Richard, Marie Hays, Billy Buza and Eugene Piercy

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

December 3, 2004 (Friday)



FRAT will have a meeting and luncheon at 11 AM Friday, December 3rd at Golden Corral Restaurant (get off Hollister exit from North 290, and make a U-turn. Restaurant is on your right).

December 3, 2004 (Friday)



ASL Social will be at Going's Barbeque Co, 330 E. Southmore St, Pasadena, TX 77502 from 4 to 9 PM. Come to meet your old and new friends. Any questions please e-mail to Earl Johnson at ejohnson127@houston.rr.com.

December 7, 2004 (Tuesday)



Positive Interaction Program (PIP) will be held meeting at Woodhaven Deaf Baptist Church at 9920 Long Point Rd. Houston at 7 PM. The presentation will be: 2004 Christmas Party. Come and enjoy this party. Interpreter & captioning will be provided.

December 8, 2004, 2004 (Wednesday)



Houston Senior Citizens will have a general meeting at Metropolitan Multi-Service Center at 1475 West Gray, Houston from 9 AM to 1 PM. Come and enjoy chatting with friends!

December 12, 2004 (Sunday)



Illuminations Arts will have Hand Held Tales, stories in ASL and English, at 2:30 PM Sunday, December 12th at Borders Books, 570 Meyerland Plaza, Houston, TX 77096. The presentation will be "Festivals of Light". Hand Held Tales is for everyone regardless of hearing or signing ability. Bring your family and friends to join and enjoyable. Any questions or information contact Jill Beebout at 713-529-6909 TTY/VP or 713-529-6910 Voice.

December 14, 2004 (Tuesday)



NO meeting at Chief's CityWide PIP this time. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, January 11, 2005, and will be 21st Anniversary Awards Ceremony. Be sure to come and enjoy the festivities.

December 15, 2004 (Wednesday)



Houston Deaf Senior Citizens have a reservation at 1 PM for a pleasurable Christmas dinner at Steak Kountry Buffet Restaurant, 1010 Antonio, Houston, TX 77055 on Wednesday, December 15th, then touring the museum and sightseeing Christmas Decorations in River Oak area & Houston area if time permits. Meet at Woodhaven Baptist Church, 9920 Long Point Dr, Houston, TX by 12 PM. Hope you can join us. It's sure to be enjoyable. (See editor page 2, for more information).

December 16, 2004 (Thursday)



ATTENTION: There will be no fellowship and potluck on Thursday, December 16th at Woodhaven Deaf Baptist Church, 9920 Long Point Rd, Houston, TX.

December 22, 2004 (Wednesday)



ATTENTION: There will be no Houston Senior Citizens meeting at Metropolitan Multi-Service Center at 1475 West Gray, Houston.

Continued



December 25, 2004 (Saturday)

Merry Christmas



December 26, 2004 (Sunday)



Illuminations Arts and Theatrical Interpreting brings you an interpreted performance of "A Christmas Carol" Sunday 2:30 PM, December 26th at Alley Theatre, 615 Travis, Houston, TX 77002. \$20.00 discount tickets are available for this performance through Illuminations Arts 713-529-6909 TTY/VP or 713-529-6910 Voice – Jill Beebout or Susan Jackson.

~~~~~  
**THANK YOU NOTE**

*Dear Houston Senior Citizens –*

*"Thank You for Your Expression of Sympathy. It is appreciated"*

*Thank you so much for the gift of money it will be used towards Mom. I am sure she will be in all of your thoughts and memories for a long time.*

*Ronnie, Judy & Alaniz Family*

~~~~~  
Many thanks to my lovely friends and families pray for my recovery.

I am doing pretty good and take easy. Hope to see you real soon.

Yours in Christ, James Fair

To All –

Thank you so much for your gift to the Benevolence Fund in Estelle's name. It is much appreciated by all... God bless....

The family of Estelle Myrtle Cameron

~~~~~  
*With grateful appreciation*

*Memorial Baptist Church  
Baytown, Texas*

*Acknowledges your contribution to our Benevolence Fund  
In memory of Estelle Cameron*

*The family has been informed of this gift.*

~~~~~  
DEAFDIGEST GOLD - NOVEMBER 14, 2004
















DeafSportsHistory –

Year 1943 - the Philadelphia/Pittsburgh combined team, a member of the National Football League, had a deaf player by the name of Eddie Michaels, an offensive guard. Because of wartime manpower problems, both teams merged for one year only and they were called the Stegales.

DeafHistory - Looking Back:

Year 1983 - The Smurfs became the first cartoon to use sign language on a TV program.

December 2004

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2 Jack Richard 	3 ASL SOCIAL Going's BBQ Co. 	4
5	6	7 PIP Meeting  Rubin Sims 	8 S.C.M.M.S.C. 	9	10	11 Billy Buza Earl W. Day 
12	13	14	15 Field Trip Houston (River Oak)  Marie Hays 	16 NO S C SOCIAL OR POTLUCK AT WOODHAVEN	17	18
19	20	21	22 NO S.C. Meeting at MIMSC Joan West ZX & Dorothy Curry-1940  	23	24 Raymond & Ann Edgley-1977 	25 Merry Christmas  Tom & Billie Holloway -1963 
26	27	28 Eugene Piercy 	29	30	31 Carl & Delia Long—1998 	

KNOW YOUR MONEY

A SMOOTH TRANSITION

While the look of the currency will undergo subtle changes, all notes – new or old – will be honored at their full face value. There will be no recall or devaluation of any U.S. notes. The United States has never devalued its currency and will not do so now. As the new currency is phased in, old notes will be retired by the Federal Reserve System. This means there is no time limit or requirement for exchanging a previous series for a new series. For more information about new currency designs visit www.moneyfactory.com/newmoney.

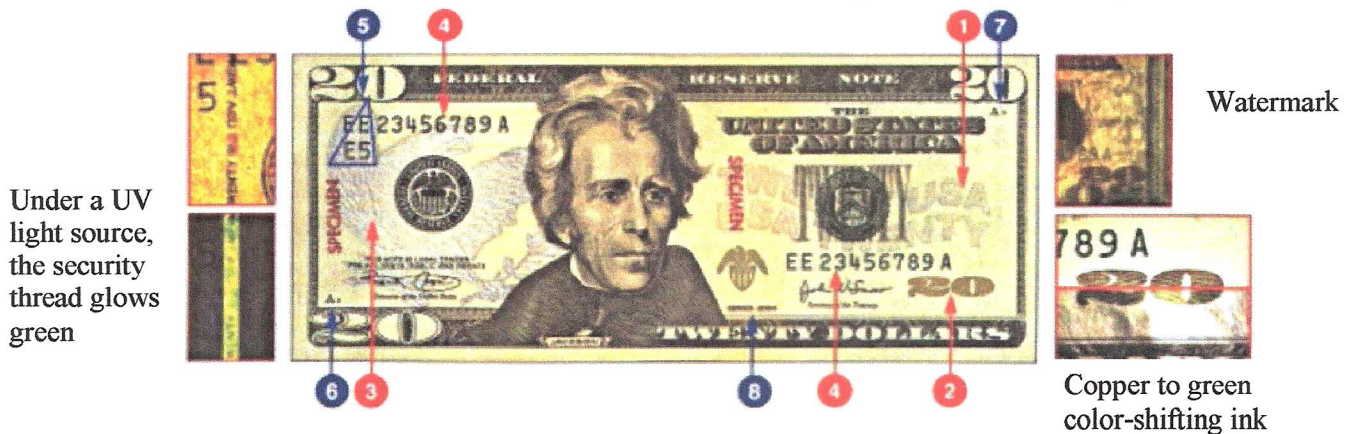
If You Suspect a Counterfeit Bill....

Cash Handlers:

- **Keep** the bill from the passer.
- **Delay** the passer by some excuse, if possible, without putting yourself in danger.
- **Contact** the police.
- **Observe** the passer's description and that of any companion or vehicle used.
- **Handle** the bill as little as possible, to preserve fingerprint evidence.
- **Write** your initials and the date on an unprinted edge on the front of the bill, place it in an envelope, and surrender it only to the police or the U.S. Secret Service.

Consumers: If you receive a bill that you suspect may be counterfeit or if you question a note that is already in your possession, turn it over to your local police or U.S. Secret Service office. If the note is genuine, it will be returned to you as soon as possible. If the note is counterfeit, you will not be reimbursed, but knowingly passing a counterfeit note is against the law.

Series 2004 \$20 note issued in October, 2003



Paper Currency paper consists of 25% linen and 75% cotton and contains small randomly dispersed red and blue fibers embedded throughout the paper.

Portrait The 1996, 1999, 2001 & 2003 series Federal Reserve Notes (FRNs) have an enlarged and off-center portrait enclosed in an oval frame of concentric lines. The 2004 series FRNs have an enlarged and off-center portrait without a frame.

1. **Watermark** the 1996, 1999, 2001, 2003 & 2004 series FRNs have a watermark (a faint image similar to the portrait), that is visible from either side when held up to a light source.
2. **Color-Shifting Ink** The 1996, 1999, 2001 & 2003 series FRNs have color-shifting ink in the lower right-hand corner, that shifts from green to black as the note is tilted 45 degrees. The 2004 series \$20 & \$50 FRNs have color-shifting ink that shifts from copper to green as the note is tilted 45 degrees. The \$5 FRN does not have color-shifting ink.

REST IN PEACE

OBITUARIES



Bobby Frank Dodd, Sr., died October 20, 2004 at the age of 67. He was preceded in death by his wife, Florence Dodd in 1996. His loving family: his son, Bobby Dodd, Jr. and wife Yvonne, daughter, Flora Dodd; brother, Wayne Dodd; sisters, Martha Parks, Lorene Fulton, Ruth Dodd and Linda Dodd, and 7 grandchildren.

A graveside service was held Saturday, October 23, 2004 at Grand View Memorial Park under the direction of Pasadena Funeral Chapel.



Betty J. Thornton, 77, passed away Monday, Nov. 8, 2004.

Memorial Service: 1:30 p.m. Wednesday in Mount Olivet Chapel.

Betty was born Jan. 24, 1927, in Whitewright. She worked as a seamstress for 50 years, retiring in 1995. She was an avid bowler and a former member of the Fort Worth and Dallas Association of the Deaf.

Survivors: Husband of 29 years, L.V. Thornton; daughters, Debbie White, Marcie Watson And Cathy Thornton; seven grandchildren and three great-grandchildren; brothers, James and C.B. Ashley; sister, Ann Kelley and a host of other loving family members and friends.

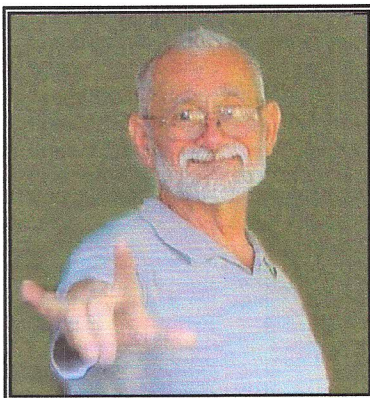
Published in the Star-Telegram on 11/9/2004.



Donald Gene Adkins, Sr.

Born in Whitesburg, Kentucky on Feb. 1, 1943

Departed on Nov. 12, 2004 and resided in Bastrop, TX



Donald Gene Adkins, Sr., age 61, of Bastrop, passed away Friday, November 12, 2004.

He is survived by his wife, Luinda (Lulu) Adkins; daughter, Lisa Zanot and husband Mark; son, Donald Adkins, Jr. and wife Melissa; grandchildren, Tylane Adkins and Molly Peña; three brothers and three sisters; and mother, Elizabeth Adkins.

Funeral Services will be at 10:00 A.M. on Monday, November 15, 2004 at Wilke-Clay-Fish Funeral Home. The Graveside Service will be at 1:00 P.M. on Tuesday, November 16, 2004 at Cedarlawn Memorial Park Mausoleum in Sherman, TX.

Arrangements by Wilke-Clay-Fish Funeral Home, 2620 S. Congress, Austin, TX 78704 (512) 442-1446.



LAUGHTER, THE BEST MEDICINE

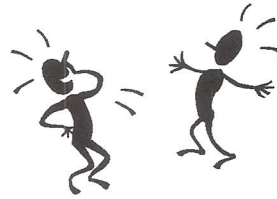
On a cross-country road trip, a group of guys decided to tour the brewery where their favorite beer was made. As they marveled at the process, one of them slipped and fell into a huge vat of beer. Brewery workers tried to save him while his friends waited outside.

A half-hour later, the supervisor came out to tell the guys the bad news—their friend had drowned.

“Do you think he suffered much?” one of them asked.

“I don’t think so,” said the supervisor. “In fact, before he drowned, he climbed out three times to go to the bathroom.”

Submitting by EDWARD W. STRICKLER
Reader’s Digest of October 2004



CLOSE TO HOME →

By John McPherson

A busy mother of twins, Michelle was thankful for her new kid-cargo pants.

3/18/2004 John McPherson Dist.
By Universal Press Syndicate



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Mary Redman
(713) 981-1543 Voice/TTY

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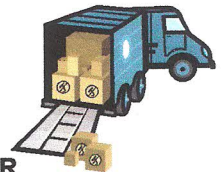
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STATE _____ ZIP _____

TTY or FAX #: _____
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EMAIL: _____

MOVING?



Please make sure your

NEWSLETTER

moves with you!

(Print, Please)

OLD ADDRESS:

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CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____

NEW ADDRESS:

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CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____