

The Mondy Morning
CHRONICLE

Family Poop Sheet since 1990
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Howdy. The wedding is over and Brecken and Matt are somewhere in Italy on their honeymoon, and Margaret and I are once again sleeping in our bed. Margaret has agreed to write something about the wedding which you will find elsewhere in this paper.

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Doings at the WHITE HOUSE as reported by Ercil White.

"The last of May I received a call saying that my oldest friend, Evelyn Roberts, a nonagenarian had passed away in Kenton, OK. I had known her more than 71 years. She was the person who introduced me to Lester. I was in a real quandary as to what to do – I wanted to go to the funeral but felt constrained by Lester's condition. There was also the problem of transportation. My two sons and their wives solved the problem. Keith and Lou Ann offered to take me and Jinks and Vicki Ann agreed to look after Lester. Jinks agreed to stay with him.

"We went to Amarillo where we picked up Lester's niece, Doris, and our daughter, Martha from Arkansas and took them to the funeral. We stayed with Vicki Jean, our daughter and Evelyn's daughter-in-law. The only two people at the funeral who had known Evelyn longer than I, was her two brothers who were 8 and 6 when I became her room-mate.

"We returned home the day after the funeral and arrived at 11:38 PM. Needless to say, I was exhausted. Martha had driven from Arkansas to Amarillo and left her car

there. She picked it up and came on the Lubbock where she stayed a week – tried to get her to stay forever but she declined. She accomplished SO much while here, –sewing, ironing, cooking, baking, etc., in the home-making part, then joined Keith, Lou Ann, Jinks, and Vicki Ann in tying up the loose ends about our 70th wedding anniversary reception to be held the 31st o August.

"Martha worked a miracle with her dad, and that was a tremendous help to me. He is feeling much better.

"This morning (6/12) Vicki Ann opened our door with breakfast in hand. I was already up and making coffee, so that was a complete and most welcome surprise. (But it is typical of her.)

"Thanks, Harrison, for your work on the Chronicle and we appreciate what you do.

"Love and God Bless" – Ercil

* * *

Update from the HILLS, Reported by Elizabeth. (Mike Hill is the son of Linda (Jinks) Phelps, and grandson of Cecil Jinks.)

"I will start with Mike. Last Friday (5/31) the hard drive of his station computer decided to take a vacation without permission and they had to go live on the air. It failed about 7:am when he and his partner were on the air and they had to call in back-up help for 24/7 until last Tuesday (6/4). Now they are busy reprogramming the hard-

drive. He is in a play here at the community theatre, playing the ghost of John Barrymore and this breakdown affects his rehearsals from Sunday to Thursday evenings. Opening night is 14th of June; our anniversary. If his days and night were not already full, the station just signed a contract with Pepsi calling for remotes all summer long.

"I, Suzy, still work at Russell Stovers Candies and we had some fun last Wednesday afternoon (6/5). I was three hours into my shift when the power went out all over the plant. Our lead told us to go up to the break-room and take our break. We waited up there until she came and told us the power plant in Abilene, that supplies us our power, was on fire. We waited until 5 PM when the plant manager told us they had not been able to get the fire under control and they would have to try to reroute our power source to Herrington and then our power would be limited to just enough for lights only, so he excused us for the rest of the day and we went home, after we had cleaned up. Power was not restored until 3AM Thursday morning.

"Amanda has been working at McDonalds for about a month and likes it. She has her own checking account with checks and debit card. That's scary, but it teaches her financial responsibility. She and several others have to take a course over this summer. It seems that lots of students are having to take the course over. Physical Science must be a hard course. She had better pass it this time for I am having to pay half of the fee which is not cheap - \$100 per course. (She is paying the other half.)

"News about Allie begins on a sad note. Her friend that had cancer (see my last report) died. Allie went with her teacher, who had been her friend's teacher also. A DJ from the station attended the funeral and

reported that there was standing room only. The experience of having a person so young die before her parents is traumatic but Allie is moving on. She is scheduled to go to DARE camp at the end of June and can hardly wait.

"One bit of general news - we are trading in our '99 Contour for a '91 ('01) station wagon with cruise control, tape deck, tinted windows, and a third seat in the rear where one can sit and watch the people to our rear, and the best part is it is all mine. I can hardly wait.

Love to all from the Hill Clan, Suzy

* * *

Frank McElroy (Jacksonville, AR) is step kin to the JC Mondy grandchildren but you will have to figure out what kin. Prior Mondy's first wife was Martha Brooks. James Campbell Mondy was one of their four children. When Martha died. Prior married Rebecca Sammons in 1865 and they had at least five children, one of whom was Mary Ellen Mondy (Mundy) who married James Ivey in 1889. Among their seven children was a girl names Jenny Bell who married Robert McElroy. Frank is their son. Just thought I'd see if you can figure out our kinship. I think we are second step-cousins once removed.

None of that is relative to an e-mail I received from Frank, bringing us up to date on his family.

"This has been a busy year. Jessie (wife) had a TIA (light stroke) in October. She spent 5 days in the hospital having a test run. They found nothing. She lost some hand control and had slurred speech. She was in physical speech therapy for 12 weeks and still has a long way to go.

My son-in-law who is (was) a pilot

still has trouble with a foot and with the pelvic repairs. He is going through a change in his life-style. He was a jogger, loved tennis, and loved hunting with bow and arrow. Tennis and jogging are out and he can't handle the pull required of an archer. He and his wife have just returned from a trip to New York and Niagara Falls. Yep, he drove; don't believe you could get him on a plane.

My motor-cyclist son-in-law is still having therapy. His machine is still in the shop for repairs. Don't know whether he will ever ride it again or not.

My son's heart surgery has made him feel much better but without medication, it tries to run away with itself.

Now, as for me – I have problems but refuse to admit them. Had a bit of luck last week while adding onto our deck. Went out just before dark to put away some tools, stepped on a loose board, went through the deck. Could have broken a leg but didn't. Now some dude had put a 4x4 post right where my head wanted to go while falling. The meeting of the two resulted in me being knocked COCK-EYED for a few minutes but no permanent damage – I hope.

Hope you come to see us next time you are in Arkansas, — Frank

* * *

For the first time in the life of the Chronicle, I have letters from both of my sisters-in-law in the same issue. Judy (Washburn) says:

“There was no point in writing about my three-week coughing jag or my 6 months of being out of circulation because of other ailments; no one cares to read about them. But I am now over whatever I had, the doctor said it was a virus, and have recently been able to go to church and go out to eat occasionally.

When Larry (Rhodes) had to go on a trip and take Linda with him, I used to baby-sit their children. Last week, Dottie (McDonald) invited me to go with her to Katy to attend a bridal shower for the bride-elect of Gregory Rhodes, Larry's oldest son, whom I hadn't seen since he graduated from high school. (He's been out of College several years.)

“Saw several people I had not seen for a long time. One lady came up and asked if I remembered her. I did, for I had baby-sat for her children a long time ago. She informed me that she is now a grandmother. Saw Linda, of whom I am very fond, also her sister, Susan, whom I had not seen since the death of their mother some fifteen years ago. Enjoyed Sheila, Larry's present wife, and her daughter, Jennifer.

“But the best part was seeing Gregory again. One never forgets a child for whom one acquires an attachment doing baby-sitting – nor ceases to love it. He came over and sat down beside me and we reminisced for a long time.

Susan, Gregory's aunt, lives not far from me as does his maternal grandfather and his wife. Susan said she was driving her father and step-mother to the wedding and invited me to go with them. I was very happy to accept the invitation for that will give me an opportunity to see Ashley (who goes to Texas U.) and Michael (a graduate of Texas U.) who now works in Austin. They are Larry's other two for which I baby-sat. Sheila's other daughter, Shelly, is in England so I will not be able to see her.

My son, “Bud” has reached the ripe old age of 60 and his birthday party was a huge success. It was a Bar-B-Q affair at the home of a man who was Chief of Police when Bud became disabled and retired from the police force years ago. The man is a

good cook and we had lots of fun and good food. Bud has been having unexplained headaches and had scheduled a MRI for today (10th) but they called from the hospital to say that the machine was down and they would have to reschedule his test.

“Dottie and Mack (McDonald) and daughter Denise are leaving today to visit Wilma (Jinks) in Piggott, AR. I’m sure they will have a lot of fun. One always does at Wilma’s .

“Til next time,” Love, Judy.

* * *

Hey! For Father’s day I got a new watch. I have wanted one for a long time. It is controlled by WWVB in Boulder Colorado and is accurate to a billionth of a second I have no control over it. Inside the house it could not pick up the station in Boulder so I took it outside and taped it to one of the posts and left it there for a while and when I went back for it, it had picked up the month, day of the week, date and time, so now ask me the time and I’ll tell you. What will they think of next?

* * *

Here is an excerpt from Linda’s (Phelps) email to Margaret.

“We had a terrible storm Monday night (in Lyons, KS). I slept through most of it. I lost one whole tree and a lot of big limbs off several others. Roger and I have been busy sawing off as many limbs as we can. Now I will have to find a man with a chain-saw to cut up the big stuff and haul it off. Fortunately the tree did not fall on my house or on my hedgerow I planted two years ago. It was a locust, more than fifty years old, so I’m not surprised. I wish it had been that big one in the front yard but with my luck it

would have fallen on the house.

“Talked to “Sis” (Saundra Wood). She says that Kelly (Saundra’s daughter) is as big as a barn with her twins. They are both boys and due in September but she may not go that long. Per her doctor’s instructions, she is quitting work next month” Love, Linda & family

* * *

Dena Houston has a niece, Lindsey Bailey, who will be a senior at Pocahontas High next fall. She belongs to a youth group called YET (Youth Evangelistic Team). The team, made up of singers, musicians, and actors, are going on a tour of North and South Carolina, Virginia, and Delaware to present a program which they put together from the top 12 from last year’s National Youth Competition. Dena will go with her as far as Nashville, TN where Lindsey will join others. We wish Lindsey a good time and the group an enjoyable and profitable trip. Such opportunities were not available to us old “foggies” when we were that age. Thanks for the input, Dena.

* * *

The Roman Catholic Church came into being at the beginning of the Piscean age (which lasts about 2000 years). It reached its zenith at the same time the Piscean age did and now at the end of the Piscean age it appears the Church is about to fall apart. Is this just a coincidence? I’m amazed at the amount of pedophilia, ephebophilia, and cover-up that has been going on for years. The fact that pedophiles cannot be cured has been borne out by the evidence presented. Would marriage have helped? Or giving women a larger say about how things are run?

Bessie and Bertha make their annual pilgrimage to the cemeteries between Springfield and Pocahontas. I want to say thanks to them for their attention to our loved ones buried in those cemeteries. Grandmother, Rhoda Alice Mondy is buried in the Walnut Grove cemetery and Grandfather James Campbell Mondy is buried in the cemetery at Pocahontas.

Bessie's letter says:

Dear Chronicle cousins and friends;

On May 30th, Bertha and I and our driver, Daughter Sue, made our annual trip to Pocahontas, visiting the cemeteries, Thayer, Myrtle, Walnut Grove, Clearview, Shiloh, and the Masonic cemetery at Pocahontas. All of the cemeteries were in good shape but only a few graves were decorated. We managed to put a spray of flowers on each grave of our loved ones and Sue, who belongs to the Veteran's Auxiliary here in Springfield, planted flags on the graves of service men where they were missing. The flags were furnished by the Auxiliary.

Elevenpoint River, which had been out of it's banks was still running full. The Black was still out of it's banks and flood water was everywhere.

After a foggy start, it was a nice day for traveling, sunny all day until on the way back we ran into a shower of rain between West Plains and Willow Springs, but we arrived home before sundown. (-)

My Grandson [*which one?*] was married on the 8th of June and we had an all-day affair. We went to Branson for an eleven-fifteen tea and brunch. The wedding was at 6:30 in a huge Baptist Church and the reception was at Clairon Motel where we were provided with a room to spend the night. It was a beautiful wedding and the bride [*what's her name*] is a very lovable

girl. We arrived back in Springfield about 11:00 AM Sunday. My grandchildren from New Mexico came two days before the wedding so Bertha and I spent a couple of days spoiling the great grandkids. The little boy [*L.J. I think*] will soon be 4 years old and the little girl is six months old and cute as a button. Our little grand-girl here is fifteen months old and she and L.J. really got along beautifully. She is a cutie, too.(-)(-)
We love to spoil them.

[No kid ever goes to bed with too much love, but millions go to bed each night with too little. Hcm]

We have heard that Bea Taylor fell and broke her hip and has been, and may still be, in rehab. Bea, we wish you a speedy recovery. We are sure Jack will take good care of you. Are you bothered by the smoke from the Colorado fires?

Bertha had a good talk on the telephone with R.A. and Russell at their new home. Both seem to be doing fine.

We haven't talked to Cona for quite a while; hope she is okay

Bertha and I are plugging along.

Harrison, if you are having trouble reading this, blame it on my new glasses with which I am still trying to get adjusted.

Hope all of you are doing okay.

Love to all, Bertha and Bessie.

* * *

I don't know Terry Lynn Barton but I hope they put her so far under the jail she never sees a tree again. She is the woman who was so mad at her estranged husband she burnt his letter and set the great Colorado fire that destroyed 130,000 acres of forest, cost the government \$52,000,000 to fight and destroyed all those homes. Some people don't deserve to live.

Following is a clipping from my diary about Brecken's wedding.

June 13, 2002 We arrived home from Brecken's wedding on Tuesday, June 11, having left Altadena about 2:07 PM on Monday and driving the 300 miles to Kingman, AZ to spend the night.

The wedding on June 8, was a real blowout. Everything went off like clockwork. It was held at the Firestone Estate close to Buelton, CA. J&J had arranged a B&B for her & John, Margaret & me, Jim and Geri, and I think, for Mary McKenzie, Megan ???, and Brecken, a few miles away. I believe Judy said there were 156 people who RSVPed that attended the wedding. John and Brecken arrived in a carriage pulled by one pony and Matt and Brecken left by the same carriage. Wedding was held under the trees on an expansive lawn about 5:30 and solemnized by Rev Dr. George Abdo who had known Brecken since she was three years old. Mrs Abdo is one of Judy's closest friends. Brecken once worked for Sara Abdo in the Norton Simon Museum two summers while in high school. The wedding ceremony was followed by a catered, sit-down dinner, with plenty to eat and drink. Festivities continued until midnight.

Gabe Miller was the junior usher and he escorted Margaret down the aisle. He, like me and Jim wore a tux. Brecken's best buddy from Yale was her other usher and he pushed Anne's wheelchair down the aisle. Jim was too old for an usher but they wanted him to play a part in the ceremony, so he escorted Judy, the Mother of the Bride to her seat.

Brecken's best friend during her four years at Yale was her Maid of Honor, and came from New York .Mary McKenzie. who lives a block from her house and grew up with her, was one of her Bridesmaids and her best friend from Oxford came from England to be another. Matt's two sisters, neither of whom is married, completed her coterie of Bridesmaids. Five of her Yale friends came on their own, though they were not in the wedding.

Brecken and Matt left the next day for Italy. Judy and John went to England for a rest-up.

Margaret and I met many of our old acquaintances and enjoyed the visits.

When Brecken was asked whom she wanted at her third birthday party she named several of her friends and then said she wanted Cheng, who lived about a block away, to come. Cheng must have been in his 40's or 50's at that time but he came. He is an excellent photographer and took pictures. He has never missed one of her birthdays or any occasion since that time. At her wedding I said, "Well Cheng, she's just about run out of things for you to photograph." He said, "Oh no she hasn't, she has to graduate from Med School and then she will be having a baby, so there will still be things to photograph." We love him and his wife – they are dear people.