

*The Mondy Morning*

# CHRONICLE

Family Poop Sheet since 1990

Volume XIII, Issue 8, April 22, 2002

Published by Harrison and Margaret Mondy

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Talked to **Jerry Thornton** on Saturday, April 5<sup>th</sup> and he brought me up to date on Lois. He reports that Lois is better, and though nearly blind, can talk quite well and jokes a lot. Eldest son, Bob, runs the Motel. Lois has two devoted women who take care of her. One is there in the daytime, the other comes at night. Her daughter, Connie's youngest daughter, Caroline was married on the Fifth of April.

Steve Mondy (son of Huston and Doris) lives in League City, TX. They have a little girl about three years old and now his wife, Melissa, has given birth to triplets, all girls, two are identical. Jerry told Steve that with that many women around he would have to learn to say "Yes Ma'am" in a hurry. Thanks Jerry

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I have an email from **Nell**, dated 4/13 reiterating Jerry's report and adding the following: "I'm glad you liked my bird story. We are looking forward to the new tenants. Since I shall be recovering from surgery at home it will be fun watching them. I'm having hip surgery the last of the month. My right hip needs to be replaced because of the damage it received from the broken right leg. I hope I recover as rapidly as Margaret.

I shall be in the Robert Packer Hospital, Guthrie Square, Sayre, PA 18840. My friend, Charm Fields is the contact

person in Ithaca, (607) 273-1259. She is so good to me. Best Wishes, Nell

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Un-important News You may have Missed

In the city of Tainan, Taiwan, the people are urged to learn to read and speak English so the City Fathers are trying to help. The garbage trucks run every day and warn the people they are coming by playing music. Now instead of playing music, they are repeating sentences in English. They have 300 sentences like, "How much does a pound of cabbage cost?" I bet even little kids learn to speak those sentences, even if they don't learn what they mean.

When the Ivory Coast soccer team won the African Nations Cup about ten years ago, the government paid the witch doctors who claimed they were responsible for the win. The government then hired a bunch of witch doctors from Akradio to help them win against Ghana, but lost every game. The witch doctors claim they didn't get paid, so they jinxed the team. Last week the government paid them \$2000. to jinx the other team. Maybe they will do better. Maybe some of our teams should look into this -- they could use a little help.

Hey, all you guys out there, get yourself a harem!! For the past week I had a great one. Margaret and I went to see Wilma (Jinks) and Judy (Washburn) met us in Little Rock to go with us. There I was, in the nice office Wilma has fixed up for me and I only saw the "women of the harem" when it was time to eat. Boy! Can those women prepare a meal! Ham, B-B-Q spare ribs, pies, – they really knew their stuff. I tried to get them to come home with me, but I don't think they liked their Lord and Master that well. I didn't have to apply the whip a single time.

\* \* \*

If you know Mary Jean Jinks, you know she has a real sense of humor which she has never lost, even though she will be 103 years old this autumn. Last week she had a light heart attack and then pneumonia. After recovering from it she asked Jeanie what happened and when Jeanie told her, she said, "Wow, I almost made it into the Promised Land, didn't I?" What a woman!

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As you would suspect, the I'net is making the most of the Catholic Church scandal as demo'ed by the following:

#### NEW LAW PROPOSED

Police must notify residents when a Catholic Church moves into a Neighborhood.

Controversial "Egan's Law", named for Cardinal Edward Egan of New York and Cardinal Bernard Law of Boston, both of whom are accused of covering up sexual abuse by priests under their authority. Trenton, NJ Under a new law designed to protect minors, local police departments will now be required to inform residents any time a known Catholic church moves into their

neighborhood.

New Jersey state Senate debating Egan's Law. The law mandates that Catholic Churches register with authorities and be prohibited from moving within half a mile radius of a school.

Egan's Law is expected to spread to other states.

Quotes from concerned Citizens:

RH from Redbrook, NJ says, "Last year we discovered that a Catholic Church had been in our neighborhood for thirty years and nobody told us. My sons used to walk by that church every day on their way to school. Even now I shudder to think of what might have happened to them."

SC says, "I always told my kids to steer clear of that place because there were a lot of strange people going in and out at odd hours, even at midnight on Saturday night. I was worried it might be a "Druggie" hangout and to think the whole time it was a Catholic Church. Now I know why they had all those stained-glass windows, – so no one could look in."

Some critics are saying that Egan's Law is unconstitutional, specifically because it relies on religious profiling and is intended to safeguard only one segment of the population, – young males. Sen. CT, A Catholic who co-sponsored the bill, used church doctrine itself to prove only one segment needed protection. She says, "In the Catholic Church, after 2000 years, Mary is still a virgin, so clearly, they are not interested in girls". This angered the Vatican whose spokesman Edgar P. issued a statement saying, ". . . It's a known fact that our priests abuse just as many girls as boys".

*(I don't expect any of you to believe this, but the Internet is spreading a lot of propaganda on both sides. hcm)*

Lois' daughter, **Connie Ewing**, sent me an email on April 23, updating us on Lois' health. She says:

Momma continues to be very positive and happy. She starts her day with a big yawn and by looking around. If she hears or sees any movement she asks, "Who is there?" The care-giver tells her her name and that she is there to care for her

She has a morning routine and knows it well. She is served her breakfast and when she has finished it, she is ready for her bath. She never lets them forget to put her undershirt on under her gown or dress, and always reminds them to handle her teeth with care for she doesn't want them to be broken. She is placed in her wheelchair or in a rocker while they make her bed and when back in bed, she takes a nap.

When she awakens from her nap, she wants to know what they have prepared for lunch. She likes yellow squash and sweet potatoes with a few bites of chicken and dumplings. She continues to love her sweets and never refuses cookies, pies or cakes, banana pudding, sweet potato pie, and banana nut bread.

Momma doesn't eat much after lunch but when I come, she continually asks me if I have had anything to eat; telling me repeatedly that I'm welcome to anything in the refrigerator. If I do get something to eat, she asks me over and over if it is good and then wants to taste it to see for herself. Sometimes I bring her a dessert.

When I'm there, I often give her a manicure or trim her hair. She likes me to make over her and give her that girly attention. We sometime sing and often talk about the family. She asks about Myk and Pam Hutsell and their twin boys. Myk is my sister Delois' son. Sometimes she asks about

her brother, Huston's son Steve. *[Steve was born to Huston and Doris after Huston died of cancer. See opening paragraph above]* She wants to know about Steve and his triplets. They are still in the hospital and I am not sure when they are coming home, though the triplets are doing quite well.

I read her portions of the Chronicle. Nell, she is particularly interested in anything pertaining to you. She says she remembers you and asks if you are doing well. I read her about the cardinals outside your window. Sometimes she sits in the backroom to watch the peacock strut. She doesn't see well anymore, most things are just shadows. When I asked if she remembers Bea and Jack Taylor and Bessie and Bertha, she seems to remember and wants me to tell her about each one.

Her favorite is her brother-in-law, Jerry Thornton, (Sister Jessie's husband). She enjoys his visits and loves talking to him.

She loves to talk on the phone but it is difficult for her to carry on a conversation because she cannot hear very well. She would like everyone to know how much you have all meant to her. She loves all of you; she just loves talking to people. She appreciates your notes and your prayers.

Connie (Ewing)

*[Connie, I'm sure all the cousins join me in thanking you for this update. Any contribution you can make in the future will be appreciated. hcm]*

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This is Tuesday night and I had decided not to put out a Chronicle at this time until I received the email from Connie. If I hurry, I can get this published in time to mail before we head for Texas and then to California..

You know how I hate to spend stamp money on blank spaces. Well the only filler I have immediately available is the words to the Arkansas State Anthem which were printed in the Pocahontas Star Herald a week or so ago. When I was a kid, we would sing it some mornings at the beginning of the school day. The only part I could remember was the chorus plus a few phrases. I remember Mom explaining the first line of the chorus, — that “name dear” was not some kind of deer like a reindeer. Well what do you expect? I never claimed to be bright!

The State Anthem *Arkansas* was written by Eva Ware Barnett

I am thinking tonight of the southland,  
Of the home of my childhood days,  
Where I roamed through the woods and the meadows,  
By the mill and the brook that plays.  
Where the roses are in bloom  
And the sweet magnolia too,  
Where the jasmine is white  
And the fields are violet blue.  
There a welcome awaits all her children  
Who have wandered afar from home.

Chorus:

Arkansas, Arkansas, 'tis a name dear.  
'Tis a place I call “Home, Sweet Home”  
Arkansas, Arkansas, I salute thee,  
From thy shelter no more ill roam.

“Tis a land full of joy and of sunshine  
Rich in pearls and diamonds rare.  
Full of hope, faith and love for the stranger,  
Who may pass 'neath her portals fair.  
There the rice fields are full,  
And the cotton, corn, and hay,  
There the fruits of the field

Bloom in winter months and May.  
'Tis a land I love first of all dear  
And to her let us all give cheer.

Other notes of interest.

On the State Flag: The diamond indicates the diamonds found there, the only state in the union where diamonds are found. It was the 25<sup>th</sup> state admitted to the union so that is why there are 25 stars in the diamond. The three blue stars indicates the three flags under which Arkansas was ruled: Spain, France, and the US. (It was also the third state carved out of the Louisiana Purchase.) The large star commemorates the Confederacy. The state motto is *Regnat Populus = The People Rule*. The state flag was adopted in 1913.

There now! Who said a family newspaper could not be educational.

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On our way to visit Wilma in Piggot last week we took the Pocahontas bypass that runs along the river. Black river was out of its banks just as it used to do this time of year, and sometimes **Aunt Erva** would come to live around the Five-mile Spring area while the flood abated and many are the days **Bessie** and I would climb trees and ride them over to the ground. Sometimes it would take both of us to ride one to the ground. We knew that only persimmon trees were flexible enough for a good ride.

See you when we get back from Los Angeles where several showers have been arranged for Brecken.

Love to all of you, Harrison