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VOL. 18 ISSUE 929, December 21, 2017

(In The Shade of The Courthouse)

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# MERRY CHRISTMAS y'all

*Merry Christmas!*



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printing

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Sul. Spgs., Tex.

JOEL B. SHEFFIELD

RAMEY & SHEFFIELD ATTORNEYS

I am officially announcing my retirement and the closing of the Ramey & Sheffield law practice effective December 29th, 2017.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide legal services to this community for the past 43 years. It has been both an honor and a pleasure.

My staff and I would like to invite our clients, friends and family to join us for a farewell retirement reception.

Sincerely,  
Joel B. Sheffield

Thursday, December 21, 2017  
3:00 to 6:00 (Come and Go)  
Lyndsay's Plates + Provisions  
313 Main St.  
Sulphur Springs, Texas



Sheri Looney, Nikki Carpenter  
and Joel Sheffield

*Merry Christmas*

from

*The Millennium Shopper*





Ho, Ho, Ho!!!

Christmas Countdown

IT'S HERE

3 Days Til Christmas

Merry Christmas

**WORD SEARCH**

D A S P I N O S A U R U S S R E L W A R C  
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 G R P S H T N G P O E U L U C Y R T O I T  
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 G C I O E I R E D O E U O A S O R E R E R  
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 L A U S G E A O I S N N I E P E O H P O D  
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 E C N D U S I G O S O E R R T Y R G I V C  
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 M Z O C S T R O R A E K V S L P C I C O L  
 D O N S L U N E N R R O U I C A I R C T G  
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 S D A L P M O T S E R O V I N R A C T E H  
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- |               |           |             |               |
|---------------|-----------|-------------|---------------|
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| BRACHIOSAURUS | GIANT     | PTERANODON  | TEETH         |
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| DIG           | HORN      | ROCK        | REX           |
| DISCOVERY     | HUNT      | SAUROPODS   | VELOCIRAPTOR  |
| DOME HEAD     | IGUANODON | SCALES      | VOLCANO       |
| EGG           | JURASSIC  | SCARY       | WING          |
| ERUPTION      | LIZARD    | SKELETON    |               |
| EXTINCT       |           | SKULL       |               |

Answers on pg. 7



**Local Dairywoman Passes Away Just Short Of Her 100th Birthday**

Wilma White, matriarch of one of the oldest dairying families in Hopkins County, passed away peacefully at her home on December 15, 2017. Wilma was 99 years old, and just one month short of her 100th birthday. Her late husband Eldon White established White's Dairy in 1935 right after they married, just as the new industry was starting to take hold in the county. According to Wilma in a 2015 interview, her father gave them their first cows and the herd began to grow, as did their family.



Wilma White in 2015

White's Dairy was one of the first to modernize with milking machines. Their milk is shipped out mainly to the eastern United States. They haven't been limited to just dairy cattle. The family also produced pigs, ponies and a prosperous garden. Today, the Whites still raise award-winning horses in their equine operation.

During the last years of her life, Wilma served as a consultant for her son Gerald who does the daily milking chores at the barn along I-30, now located inside the city limits. Her daughter Theresa manages the horse business which was honored in 2014 as a Legacy Breeder by AQHA for fifty continuous years of raising foals. Wilma regularly rode along in the pickup to check the cows and the horses, including twice during the final week of her life.

Five daughters and a son survive; she was preceded in death by her husband and two sons.

Services will be held on Sulphur Springs on Thursday December 21, 2017 at 11 am at Murray Orwosky Funeral Home with burial at Restlawn Memorial Park.

**Ladies Night Out Coming Thursday, December 21 In Downtown Sulphur Springs**

EDITORS NOTE: JOURNALIST CINDY ROLLER CONTRIBUTED TO THIS ARTICLE



Marlene Deyong of Marlene's Sass and Class Boutique Gay Bailey of Merle Norman Studio and Maci Fowler of Sister Babyz Boutique.

These three merchant members of the Sulphur Springs Downtown Business Alliance are excited about Ladies Night Out on Thursday, December 21! Why don't you plan to come out, too? Starting at 6pm, get around to as many of the three dozen participating merchants within the shopping district and register for door prizes. Then, when the shops close at 8pm, hurry over to The Venue at 219 Main Street for more refreshments, door prize drawings and the Tacky Christmas Sweater Contest!! Wear your ugliest or tackiest and you could be the winner of the \$50 Visa gift card, donated by DBA. What a fabulous idea, beckoning a little bit like our Statue of Liberty, "give me your weary, your down-trodden..." and by that, I mean all the women who do so much to make Christmas special for others, who have been getting up early to bake before work, and staying up late to wrap gifts so the little ones don't see. Well, this is your fun night! And before 2017 has aged out, how about a hand of applause for the many fabulous public events that the DBA has put on all this year!!



Meanwhile at the corral gate, thankfully not much is going on. The mare I have here will foal in February, most likely. My new gelding is serving time this winter at the Flying W Guest Ranch in western Oklahoma, so that relieves me of the daily feeding and care duties for him for now. Speaking of the beasts of the field, let's remember the birth of the infant and God's supreme gift to mankind happened in a barn in the country. Well, maybe not this country but in an agricultural setting under primitive yet blessed conditions. So let us not be haughty or judgmental, but be found tolerant, humble and willing to recognize good where we find it. There is much of it yet in the world. Til next week, let's celebrate the holiday with true joy.

I'll watch for you at the corral gate.



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## Miscellaneous

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Editor's note: My dear friend Justin Ervin hand delivered this to me this week and I wanted to share.



## A Christmas Letter to God

In a few weeks we will be celebrating Christmas and then New Years. Christmas is a time for us to be thankful for all the gifts our Father has given us. Then New Years is a time to ask GOD to be with us and guide us in everything

we do during this New Year ,2018. I know many of us have already made plans to be with family and friends and to share in a wonderful holiday meal and the exchange of gifts. In this busy time of the year we sometimes

forget who has given us all we have. Let me encourage you to take a little time to tell your Father how much you love Him for allowing you to have this blessed time. Maybe we could even write A Christmas Letter to our Father thanking Him for all the blessing He has given you and your family and this year. We could send a copy of this letter to everyone

on our Christmas List. This year the readers can't complain that we are bragging about all our accomplishments! Instead we are bragging about the accomplishments of our Lord.

"My soul, praise the LORD, and all that is within me, praise His Holy name. My soul, praise the LORD and do not forget all His benefits. Psalm 102:1-2

Never forget that we are all blessed that we live in this country, that allows us to practice our faith. We can share our GOD with each other without fear of reprisals against us, how awesome is that? If that changes in the future He will always make a way out for us. That is a firm promise from our Heavenly Father. Thank your Father for such a wonderful gift for us, Your children.

Included is an article from a newspaper which is true story to show the remarkable faith of a child who wrote a letter to God.

'Dear God, will you please take care of my dog': Heartwarming story of girl who mailed letter to heaven... and post office worker who wrote back to her.

When Abbey, the beloved 14-year-old dog of the Scrivener family died, one little girl's grief was eased in the most touching of fashions.

Telling her parents that she wanted to write a letter to God, four-year-old Meredith dictated a note to her mother and together they traveled down to their post office in Brook Hollow, Texas to post it.

Dear God, Will you please take care of my dog? She died yesterday and is with you in heaven. I miss her very much. I am happy that you let me have her as my dog even though she got sick.

I hope you will play with her. She likes to play with balls and to swim. I am sending a picture of her so when you see her, you will know that she is my dog. I really miss her.

Two weeks later to their amazement, the family returned home to find a package wrapped in gold on their front porch addressed to 'Mer' and signed 'God, and one of his special angels.'

Special delivery: Wrapped in gold paper, a small package was found addressed to Meredith outside her San Antonio home containing this book:

Inside the mysterious package was a book titled 'When a Pet Dies' by Fred Rogers and note, clearly sent in reply to the little girl's plea to God to 'please take care of my dog'

'Dear Meredith,' read the attached letter. 'Abbey arrived safely in heaven. Having the picture was a big help. I recognized Abbey right away. Abbey isn't sick anymore. Her spirit is here with me just like it stays in your heart. Abbey loved being your dog. Since we don't need our bodies in heaven, I don't have any pockets to keep your picture in, so I am sending it back to you in this little book for you to keep and have something to remember Abbey by. Abbey isn't sick anymore. Her spirit is here with me just like it stays in your heart. Abbey loved being your dog.

'Thank you for the beautiful letter and thank your mother for helping you write it and sending it to me. What a wonderful mother you have. I picked her especially for you.

'I send my blessings every day and remember that I love you very much. By the way, I'm easy to find, I am wherever there is love.

'Love, God.'

Parents Joy and Greg were stunned as well as touched that someone at their post office would go through so much trouble to help their little girl. Meredith, however, was less than surprised by the special delivery, according to her mom. 'When she received the package, she was happy, but she wasn't surprised,' she said. 'There was no doubt in Meredith's mind that her letter was going to heaven.'

Since that day in the summer of 2006, word of the Scrivener's story has circulated widely online, with the story spinning into what many believed to have been a sugar-coated fable. Check on Snopes, it is completely true.

"GOD blesses those whose hearts are pure, for they will see GOD." Matthew 5:8

Let us all remember to keep Christ in Christmas. He is the reason for the season.



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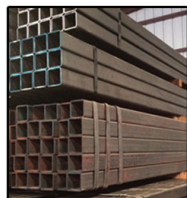
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# Merry Christmas!



Christmas, as we know it today, is the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ, which happened over 2000 years ago. Many of the traditions that we observe during the Christmas holiday season began way before the birth of Christ. Exchanging gifts, decorating trees, and the burning of the Yule log were all winter traditions that began before Christ was born, but were incorporated into the holiday that became known as Christmas and became part of Christmas history.

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MERRY CHRISTMAS!

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Ho! Ho! Ho!



# Obits



## Tyrese Oneal Pryor

Funeral services for Tyrese Oneal Pryor, age 18, of Sulphur Springs will be conducted at 1:00 p.m., Saturday, December 23, 2017 at League Street Church of Christ with Bro. Danar J. Barnes officiating and Alva Adams Jr. assisting. Interment will follow at Pleasant Hill Cemetery with Calvin Eckert, Gage Pogue, Ivyn Clayton, Kyle Alexander, K.J. Abron, D.J. Abron, Iverson Wade, Braylon Adams, Peyton Vickery, and Sebastian Adams serving as pallbearers. Visitation will be from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., Friday, December 22, 2017 at West Oaks Funeral Home. Tyrese passed away on Sunday, December 17, 2017 at Christus Mother Frances Hospital in Sulphur Springs.

Tyrese was born on December 14, 1999 in Hopkins County, the son of Patrick Orange Hall and Joy Lorraine Pryor Harrison. Tyrese was a Senior at Sulphur Springs High School.

In addition to his parents, Tyrese is survived by sisters, Delandria Ariel Pryor of Sulphur Springs, Tameka Latriece Clayton of Sulphur Springs, Jameka Sharae Bacy of Denton, and Jessica Knicole Arnold of Sulphur Springs, grandparents, W. C. and Shirley Pryor, along with numerous nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his sister, Cyerra Sherelle Pryor and grandparents, Bill and Roberta Wright Hall.

Arrangements are under the direction of West Oaks Funeral Home.



## James Calvin Wheatley

James Calvin Wheatley answered God's call to return home on December 12, 2017. Born June 16, 1927 to Willie James (Bill) and Edna Simmons Wheatley. James was the eldest child in the family that eventually included brother Marvin and sisters, Dorothy, Pat, Wilma, and Frances. After graduating as a member of the Kermit High School (Texas) Class of 1943. James completed his college education, earning a Master's degree in physics and preparing for a career as a teacher. Prior to starting his teaching career in the fall of 1954, James obtained a "summer" job in the West Texas oil field...one that lasted into the 1980s as an employee of the Western Company of North America and later, Crutcher Resources Corporation. After retirement from the oilfield, James did make use of the Texas, lifetime teaching certificate earned so many years before as he taught for several years in the Dallas area Wilmer-Hutchins ISD.

James married Katrene Pickett Coats in 1956 and the union endured until Kate's death in 1990. James' subsequent marriage to Billie McElroy ended with Miss Billie's death in 2000.

James is preceded in death by his father and mother; brother Marvin; sisters, Dorothy, Pat, and Wilma; wives, Kate and Billie; Stepson Rick; and daughter-in-law, Paula Mefford Wheatley. He is survived by his sister Frances and husband George; stepson Rod and wife Bonnie; son Russell and wife Margaret; several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.



## Barbara Kay Fish

Funeral services for Barbara Kay Fish, age 73, of Yantis will be conducted at 11:00 a.m., Thursday, December 21, 2017 at West Oaks Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Perry Crisp officiating. Interment will follow at Posey Cemetery with Rob Selvesen, Troy Kelley, Kelley Sanford, Caelan Cherney, Jarin Cabacungan and Jason Cunningham serving as pallbearers. Visitation will be at 10:00 a.m., one hour prior to the service time. Barbara passed away on Monday, December 18, 2017 in Wood County. Barbara was born on June 17, 1944 in Brook Haven, MI, the daughter of Robert DeVillier and Katie McKissik DeVillier. She worked for Yantis Times Newspaper in the billing department and was a member of Lake Fork Baptist Church. She is survived by her children, Jisette Webster of Alba, Tonya Kelley and husband Troy of New Braunfels, Danny Cherney and wife Carrie of Birthright, brothers, Nelson Howard and wife Martha of Yantis, Richard Michael Howard and wife Maureen of Oregon, sister, Vickey DeVillier of Commerce, grandchildren, Taylor Cherney, Caelan Cherney, Hanna Cherney, Braden Lennon, Shawnda Sanford and husband Kelley, Natashia Davis, Tabetha Davis and Kyla Davis, great-grandchildren, Jayden Perry, Jordyn Estrada, Javon Benson, Kalanee Benson, JaNyan Miles, Konnor Cherney and Tiffany Sanford. She was preceded in death by her parents. Arrangements are under the direction of West Oaks Funeral Home. [www.westoaksfuneralhome.com](http://www.westoaksfuneralhome.com)

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## Wayne Wafford

Graveside service for Wayne Wafford, age 77, of Como, TX will be held at 2:00 P.M. on Thursday, December 21, 2017 at Black Oak Cemetery with David Meeks officiating and Ray Eauclair, Corey Freeman, William Hopkins, Wesley Walker, Ricky Wayne Meeks and Steven Ray Meeks serving as pallbearers. There will be no formal visitation. Mr. Wafford passed away on Sunday, December 17, 2017 in Sulphur Springs, TX

Wayne Ray Wafford was born on September 10, 1940 in Tishomingo, OK to Lestel Edgar and Sarah Irene Wafford. He married Jean Clark in Sulphur Springs in 1984. Wayne served in the US Army, and was a carpenter.

He is survived by his wife, Jean Wafford; daughters, Pamela Hopkins and husband, Frank, Camela Walker and husband, Arthur, Roxanne Phillips and husband, Steve; grandchildren, William, Wesley, Faith, Charmin, Beth, Corey, Benjamin and Ray; great grandchildren, Raven, Jessie; sisters, Ceretha Meeks, Brenda Ramirez, Sandra Penny.

Wayne was preceded in death by his parents, two sisters and one brother.

Funeral arrangements are under the direction of Murray-Orwosky Funeral Home.

## Derrell Hollingsworth

Derrell Hollingsworth, age 84 of Winnsboro, passed away Monday, December 18th, 2017 in Winnsboro. He was born September 13th, 1933 in Winnsboro to Joe T. Hollingsworth and Ina Emily Reid Hollingsworth. Derrell and Patricia married at Walnut Street Baptist Church in Winnsboro on August 20, 1979. He worked as a Tool Pusher in the Oil Fields, retiring after 48 years and affiliations with O.E. Vick, Brooks, Hunt Oil, and Keys Energies and Well Service. Derrell was a member of Sharon Baptist Church, Winnsboro Odd Fellow Lodge #19 for 51 years, Winnsboro Rebekah Lodge #71 and Mt. Pleasant Rebekah Lodge #127 for a total of 50 years.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brother Felton Ray and sister-in-law Bobbie Hollingsworth. He is survived by, Wife, Pat Hollingsworth; step-sons, Clifford Alan Plant of Victoria, TX; Donald and Helen Plant of Gilmer, TX; daughter and son-in-law, Sandra and James Tucker of Lone Oak, TX; treasured friend, Brenda and her husband Dwayne Perkins, Grandchildren and spouses, Sharon and Matt Petty, Clint Gilchrest, and Carrie Jo and Steven Crutchfield, six great grandchildren, eight step grandchildren, and seventeen step great grandchildren.

Visitation will be held Thursday, December 21st, 2017, from 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm at Beaty Funeral Home-Winnsboro, 816 W. Broadway Winnsboro, TX 75494. Funeral Services will follow at 2:00 pm, Rev. Willie Beasley officiating. There will be an Odd Fellow ceremony at the funeral after the service. A private interment will follow at Shady Grove Cemetery in Winnsboro.



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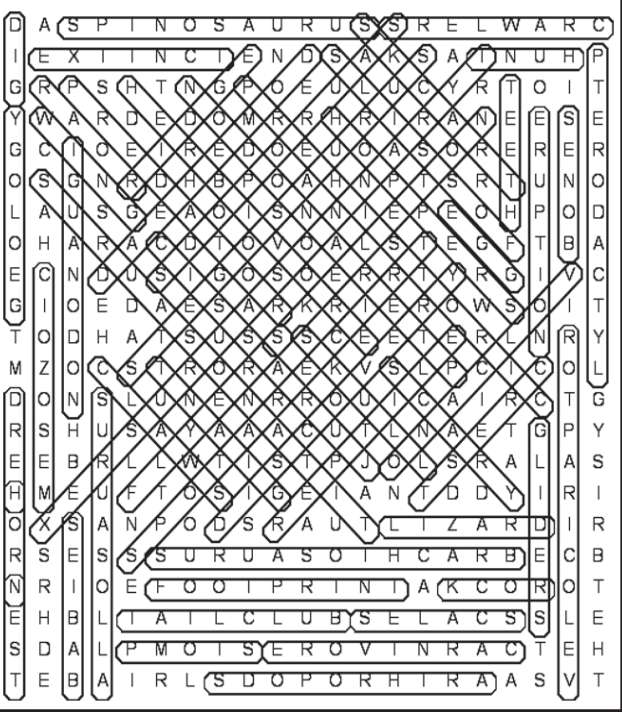
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## Answers



## THE IDLE AMERICAN

# The Way We Were...

Commentary by Dr. Don Newbury

At a time not so long ago--when smiling was a frequent response to something said or done-- we were more relaxed, feeling that much was right with the world. Sadly, smiles have pretty much abandoned faces around our shrinking world.

Today, if Abbott and Costello somehow reappeared on earth with their best verbal exchanges about "who's on first," there'd be quick searches for strait jackets instead of readings on laugh meters.

Most comments from "quotable" people, whether in the world of politics, business, sports or entertainment, are sharp-edged. Gentle souls seeking restorative humor from yesterday are in short supply....

\*\*\*\*\*

A single quote, forwarded via email by a friend from college days, affected me warmly. He's long been known for his quick wit, as well as occasional acerbic tendencies. In the autumn of his life, he's digging through historic files of humorous quotes that once caused the world to rock with laughter.

The one he sent is timely, since Americans whose interest in baseball shot upward in all time zones due to the intensity and excitement provided by the 2017 World Series.

A part of me is hesitant to share my friend's "find", since there's clearly an envy factor to admit. Not only is he extremely sharp, he resides in swanky digs across the pond, unless he's sailing the high seas.

Whichever, his "location du jour" is such that he thumbs through files in utmost comfort. A drumroll, please, for this denizen of NBA basketball king LeBron James is cheap. My buddy agrees, figuring James would climb over a gate to save the hinges. Never mind he's paid 32 million in US dollars annually, not counting

Series....

\*\*\*\*\*

He was behind the plate when a rookie pitcher complained about a strike he thought to be a strike. Klem thought otherwise. The batter was one Rogers Hornsby, thought by many baseball experts to be the best hitter of all time.

The "judge and jury" calling balls and strikes responded in classic fashion-- his few words carefully chosen and rolling off his tongue into a vault of classic quotes worthy of "smile consideration" in 2017. He countered, "Son, when you throw a strike, Mr. Hornsby will let you know." (Hornsby was a native of Winters, TX.)...

\*\*\*\*\*

My friend's collection also includes current quotes.

An example is a response to recent allegations that NBA basketball king LeBron James is cheap.

My buddy agrees, figuring James would climb over a gate to save the hinges. Never mind he's paid 32 million in US dollars annually, not counting

millions more for endorsements. Still, he chooses a phone app with advertisements to save money....

\*\*\*\*\*

I have long believed that the more eccentric people are, the more likely they are to be quotable. Near the top of the list of eccentric coaches was the late Rick Majerus, best known when he coached the Utah Utes to the 1996 NCAA tournament's "final four" for a losing effort against powerful Indiana University coached by the fiery Bobby Knight.

Portly, bald and a hotel resident throughout his adult life, the bachelor's wit was keen, sharp and usually self-effacing. When he had open-heart surgery, it required seven bypasses. He claimed "one for each food group." He thought maybe his burial should be at the finish line of Churchill Downs, so he could be "run over one more time." Pointing out that Indiana had four McDonald's All-Americans, Majerus said four of his players were from towns so small, they didn't even have a McDonald's.

## BARU FORELL: HORSE WOMAN

Tumbleweed Smith



Tumbleweed Smith

Baru Forell lives near Wingate southwest of Abilene. She has a unique brand for her horses. "It's my name. It's a barUfourL connected (-U4L)." She has been competing on horseback since the age of 9. The horses she rides are the ones that she has bred, raised and trained in ranch versatility, working cow horse and stock horse competitions. She has won championships in those events and is a board member of several horse and cattle associations.

Baru is also a silversmith. Her work has been exhibited in western events from Texas to California. She has written articles for western publications and her award winning photography has been on display at the Hubbard Museum of the American West in Ruidoso, New Mexico and the Museum of the Big Bend in Alpine.

Baru was a linguist in the US Army and speaks seven languages, some of them unusual like Serbo-Croatian, Bulgarian and Ukrainian. She joined the Army at the age of 33 and was on active duty 5 years. "I was overseas most of that time in military intelligence."

Baru grew up on family land in Kansas. Her Irish mother named her to honor an Irish King. When Fort Worth decided to have a herd of longhorns in the stockyards, Baru helped get them there. Ranchers donated the longhorns. "I got hired before they started driving them, so we had some older longhorns and some of them hadn't been handled very much. We'd go out there and kind of get them to where we could push them around, drive them on our horses. We did that for a couple of months, then we brought them to Sundance Square downtown and put them in pens. Then we drove them from Sundance Square across the Trinity Bridge to the stockyards. That was a thrilling experience for me to be a part of that."

The stockyards have a cattle drive with the longhorns on Exchange Avenue twice a day, at 11:30 AM and 4 PM. Baru was a drover two years. "The people who are everyday working cowboys on ranches kind of snicker at the job, saying it's not a real cowboy job. That may be true, but I was so proud to represent our way of life to the world. That's sometimes the only time those people on the street in Fort Worth are going to see somebody horseback and be able to pet the horse. That was foremost in my mind and I wanted to portray a good image to the world that represents what I love. For the people out there working on ranches, raising beef, feeding the world, I wanted to be the best representation I could be for the industry." She is mindful of first impressions and seldom goes out in public without a hat, boots and western clothes.

People from all over the world go the stockyards area. Some from Eastern Europe are surprised when they are conversing in Bulgarian and this cowgirl overhears them and starts speaking to them in their language. "I did use my language skills quite a lot at that job. I met the ambassador to the United States from China and got my picture made with him. Those are the type of people that I got to visit with and felt honored to do so."



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