



### News of Interest

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### Bible Verses of the Month

“Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting. And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season, we shall reap, if we faint not. As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith.”

-Galatians 6: 7-10

### The President's Little Speech

#### Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving Day in the United States became a national holiday when Abraham Lincoln, our fourteenth President during the Civil War, set aside the last Thursday of the month of November as a day to remember what God has done and the blessings He has given us.

In the proclamation, it said:

“We have been recipients of the choicest bounties of heaven; we have grown in numbers, wealth, and power as no other nation has ever grown. But we have forgotten God.

“We have forgotten the gracious hand which preserved us in peace, and we have vainly imagined, in the deceitfulness of our hearts, that all these blessings were produced by some superior wisdom and virtue of our own.

“We have become too self-sufficient to feel the necessity and preserving grace, too proud to pray to the God that made us ( Albus, 157).”

As Americans, have we forgotten God? Do we remember that it is not we who have made this nation high and great, but that it is God? “He increaseth the nations, and destroyeth them: he enlargeth the nations and straiteneth them again (Job 1:23).” Thanksgiving is a day

that was set aside for us to spend time and be thankful for how good God has been to us (though we should be thankful every day).

No other nation has had the freedoms we as Americans are able to enjoy! No other nation on the face of the earth has a Constitution like ours! We Christians who live in America are not persecuted like many other Christians in other nations. In American, we have many things for which we can be thankful.

Thanksgiving is not about the turkey or the food or the eating; it is about being thankful to God. It is a special time to reflect on how good God has been to us, our family, and our nation, the greatest nation on the face of the earth.

Works Cited:

Albus, Harry J. “Honest Abe.” In *Of People*, Baker, Karmen; Palaguta, Julie, 156-161. Pensacola: A Beka Book, 2010.



Written by Vice President Thomas Rose (Courtney Riojas)

# Town News

## Thanksgiving Feast

We are having this year's Thanksgiving Feast at the Rose's House. Last year, it was held at the Firs. The Roses are having it potluck style, so everyone *must* bring their own dish to share.

There will be plenty of food, games, singing as well as a time where we reflect on how good God has been to us. The food is to be served on the Roses' lawn and the singing is to be in the barn (the Rose children have been seen laughing and lugging large things into the barn with mischievous smiles. The last time the feast was done at their house, they had made an orchestra out of a tin pail, a glass bottle which they would blow over creating a deep noise – rather unpleasant –, a board with strings stretched over it which they plucked like a guitar, and finally their own voices which sounded much better than the racket they made). This year, everyone is wondering what prank will be up their sleeves next. So far it looks very interesting.

The preaching will be done in the barn, and the games will be on the lawn and in the barn. Please come with a dish of food (dessert, meal, or drinks) and yourselves! Thank you!

-Miss Sarah Trotter

## Mysterious Disappearance

In August, the crew which had been sent to the planet Tropicalla discovered the remains of an attack, but there were no signs of blood or any bodies anywhere.

The crew, after they had searched the area for the third time, discovered a large track of the strange animal footprints which dived deep into the jungle. For many miles, it ran twisting over “river” beds and weaving its way through thick undergrowth and thickets. The crew followed it until it came suddenly upon a flat “savanna”-like plain.

“For a moment,” said Kevin Hallberry, the leader of the search party, “as we looked out

upon the savanna, we gave up hope of finding the trail because it had vanished among the tall grasses. We were about to turn back when all of a sudden James Knot cried, 'Look! There is smoke curling up over to the northwest of us.' Sure enough, northwest of us there was a tiny stream of blue smoke rising in the sky. We plunged into the grasses, making our way towards it, but as we neared it, we grew more wary. As we went, we came across a metallic bracelet, one of the wrist bracelets which an A.S.S.E. Space Exploration crew wears. Evidently, one of them was alive, we thought.

“As we drew nearer, we realized that the smoke came from round, mud-clay huts with arched entrances. It seemed to be one of the strange cat-like creatures' villages for we saw a few of them entering the largest one.

“After some discussion, we thought that the best thing for us to do would be to enter the village openly because an alien race is not something one wants to mess with (especially if it more technologically advanced than you). So we stepped out and the few cat-like creatures that were out in the open scampered into the largest hut.

“We stood silently for a while until one of them left the largest hut. We were amazed when it welcomed us: 'We have been expecting your arrival for many days. The crew you have been missing is alive and well. But we will only give them up to you if you promise to never land on our world again.'”

“This was a hard decision to make, but I judged that it would be better to never land on the planet again than to leave my fellow Animals to die at the hands of aliens and be buried – or whatever those creatures did – on a strange planet.”

The crew took the missing crew back to the ship, and they were escorted by the cat-like creatures until they reached the ship. They left the planet on the twenty-first and are returning. They should be back in December.

A.S.S.E. and the King of Animalzania are satisfied with the agreement which the search crew made and will never land on Tropicalla again. The families of the missing crew

members have been notified that the missing men and women have been found and that they are returning. Praise God!

-Miss Elyzabeth McDunn

### **Winner of The Election**

Mr. Elwood is now the fourth president of Pearl County. He will be taking his office on January first.

-Miss Sarah Trotter

### **Christmas Program**

There is a Christmas Program coming up in December. Those who enjoy singing, acting, reading, and decorating please come. We will be practicing every week on Tuesday evenings starting on the eighteenth. Please come and celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ by performing in the Christmas Program.

-N.R.

### **Ballet**

Mrs. Eva is now taking over the Ballet dancing team and they will be meeting every Saturday in the morning for practice at Rose Theater in Room 21. If you were in ballet or are interested in it, please come.

-Mrs. Eva White

### **Weddings**

We had two weddings. On the fifth, James White, director of the Rose Theater and Eva Moore have gotten married. On the eighteenth, Hansel Stone and Jennifer Adams got married. May God give these two couples a fulfilling life together.

-N.R.

### **Bird Shop**

Mr. John Fir is happy to announce that he will be selling tractors and machine-plows this winter as well as seed for next year's crops. If you are interested in preparing early for spring or need to break up a new field this winter, stop by the Bird Shop for all your farming needs!

-Mrs. John Fir

## **National and World News**

### **Robbery in North Cross**

There was a robbery on November nineteenth in North Cross, Fall County. It devastated a small business owner.

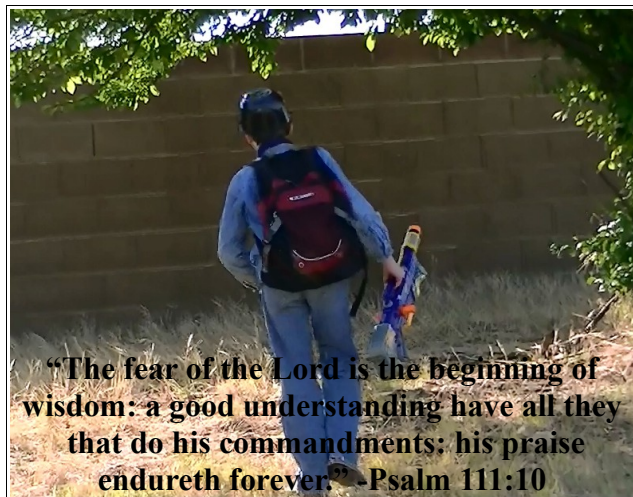
The robber took the man's identity and sold the man's business, house, and goods to several large companies making an estimated 1million dollars.

The true business man when he realized what had happened was shocked and became wroth. He called the police, demanded that the companies give him back his business and house and give compensation for the goods which had been deceitfully sold. The companies returned to him his possessions and paid him back. They too called the police to help find the robber who had deceived them.

Searches are being made for the man. He is a stout chinchilla with spectacles. He carries himself like a gentleman, and has a eastern drawl (accent).

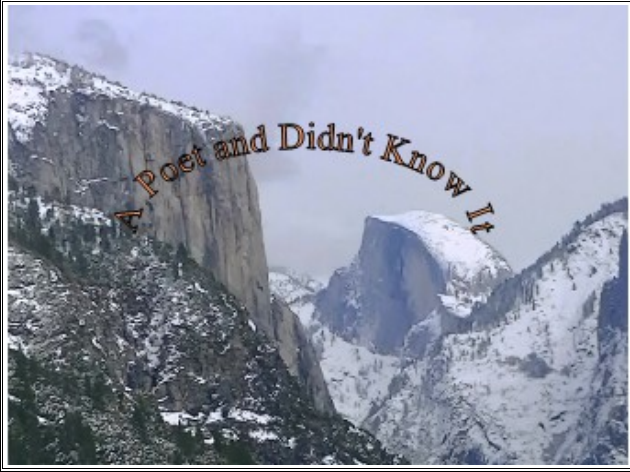
If this man is recognized, do not hesitate to seize him and hand him over to the police. He is wanted for high crime.

-The Police Station of Greenland County



**“The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom: a good understanding have all they that do his commandments: his praise endureth forever.” -Psalm 111:10**

# The Writers' Nook



“Was It Grace, Or Something Else?”

I stood unwanted amidst the throng  
Of slaves. None wanted or even saw me.  
I was too far back among them –  
The crippled, blind, and sick – for I was dumb.

Unbefriended, I stood, vainly hoping  
For some kind eye to see, but I was  
Ugly, unwashed, and stinking.  
Who would want a wretch like me?

Suddenly, You came among us,  
Looked at each with merciful eyes.  
You had so many better to see,  
But You from among them drew out me.

In my surprise, I blinked away some tears.  
Why did He choose a filthy slave like me?  
Weren't there better ones who could serve Him?  
Was it grace, or something else?

You took out Your purse  
And gave the trader, no not coins,  
But drops of blood! Then You led me  
Aside and loosed the chains with which I was  
tied.

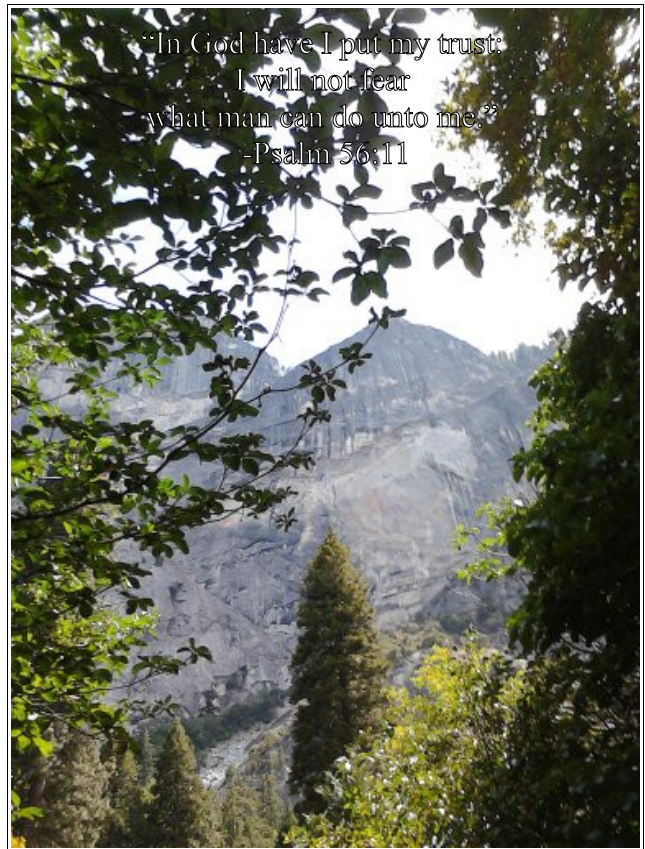
You took Your blood and sprinkled it upon me,  
Washed me in it and cleaned me within.  
Then you opened my mouth and loosed  
My tongue from its prison cell.

You garbed me in white and led me to  
Your table and let me eat by Your side.

You told me I was Yours and free.  
I was surprised: how could this be?

Was it grace, or something else  
That made You look at me?  
Oh, it must be grace, for how  
Else could Thou have chosen me!

Me, the ugly sinner, slave,  
The wretch that knew no love.  
Yet Thou, my God, didst give me love.  
What else can it be but grace!





**Title: “Two Thanksgivings”**

**Author: Miss Elyzabeth McDunn**

**Moral: The meaning of Thanksgiving**

Thanksgiving was drawing near, and the little children in the Hill house became hungry when the delicious smells of edible delights wafted through their home. They loved Thanksgiving. It was a time when they could eat tons of delicious food. It was a time when they could have pumpkin pies and turkey and eat as much as their tiny stomachs could hold. That was the meaning of Thanksgiving in the Hill household.

Just next door, the Smith family was celebrating the same holiday. They knew that turkeys and pumpkin pies were nice to eat, but they also knew that the Person who had given them the good things to eat was also responsible for all of the blessings and gifts they had received. The children drew around the table and thanked God for His care and benevolence. They knew that food was good, but they knew more importantly that it was God who had given them everything and that this holiday was about more than just eating: it was about thanking God!

The two families celebrated the same holiday, but which one had a more fulfilling celebration is for you to decide. I personally think that the Smith family who realized that Thanksgiving was about thanking God had a happier, jollier, and more joyful celebration than the Hill family who thought that Thanksgiving was a holiday for eating. Which do you think had the happier celebration: the Hills or the Smiths?

## The Opinion Cubbyhole

This is a section of the newspaper which is to be devoted to letters sent to the *Animalzanian Times*, and it is for those who enjoy writing fictional, funny, comical letters full of nonsense or facts. Please send us some real letters and we will put them in here, and the Editor will reply to them. Make sure they are appropriate and funny.

Dear Editor:

I would like to tell you that I love your stories. They make me cry and laugh. I wish you could do more than one story in each edition. Please do.

From a Story Corner Fan

Dear Story Corner Fan,

We are glad that you love our stories. But I am afraid it is utterly impossible to add two or more stories into each edition because we only have one writer for the Story Corner column.

From the Editor





Thank you for reading our newspaper!  
We hope that it has been a blessing!

**Reporters:** Miss Sarah Trotter, Miss Elyzabeth McDunn, and William Burghs  
**Illustrator:** Miss Courtney Riojas  
**Editor:** Miss Courtney Riojas  
**Printers:** Mr. Shannon Riojas and Miss Courtney Riojas

If you would like to become a member, have a question or comment, or want to send in a fiction article, story (one with morals), or poem to the newspaper, please email:

courtney.riojas@riverleaves.org.

[www.riverleaves.org/AT](http://www.riverleaves.org/AT)

*\*Removed address and phone number; removed two extraneous pictures.*



## Psalm 103

“Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me,  
bless His holy name.  
Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his  
benefits:  
Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy  
diseases;  
Who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who  
crowneth thee with loving kindness and tender  
mercies;  
Who satisfieth thy mouth with good things; so that  
thy youth is renewed like the eagle's.  
The Lord executeth righteousness and judgement for  
all that are oppressed.  
He made known his ways unto Moses, his acts unto  
the children of Israel.  
The lord is merciful and gracious slow to anger, and  
plenteous in mercy.  
He will not always chide: neither will he keep his  
anger for ever.  
He hath not dealt with us after our sins; nor rewarded  
us according to our iniquities.  
For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great  
is his mercy toward them that fear him.  
As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he  
removed our transgressions from us.  
Like as a father pitieth his children, so the Lord  
pitieth them that fear him.  
For he knoweth our frame; he remembereth that we  
are dust.  
As for man, his days are as grass: as a flower of the  
field, so he flourisheth.  
For the wind passeth over it, and it is gone; and the  
place thereof shall know it no more.  
But the mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to  
everlasting upon them that fear him, and his  
righteousness unto children's children;  
To such as keep his covenant, and to those who  
remember his commandments to do them.  
The Lord hath prepared his throne in the heavens; and  
his kingdom ruleth over all.  
Bless the Lord, ye his angels, that excel in strength,  
that do his commandments, hearkening unto the voice  
of his word.  
Bless ye the Lord, all ye his hosts; ye ministers of his,  
that do his pleasure.  
Bless the Lord, all his works in all places of his  
dominion: bless the Lord, O my soul.”