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It's turkey time... fight off foodborne illness

Holidays are a time for family, friends, fun and... food poisoning. Thanksgiving chefs need to be careful when handling and cooking the holiday meal. There are as many as 80 million cases of foodborne illnesses annually in the United States, resulting in 500,000 deaths each year.

There are many types of bacteria that can invade your Thanksgiving dinner, especially if you leave food out while waiting for guests to arrive throughout the day, said Gulchin Ergun, M.D., a gastroenterologist at The Methodist Hospital and director of the Reflux Center.

"The turkey is a wonderful place for bacteria to grow," she said. "It's warm and full of nutrients."

How do you know if you have food poisoning? Some bacteria can strike fast, causing symptoms in two hours. Others can attack the next day. Most cases are mild, but in extreme cases, death can occur from food poisoning, Ergun said. Typical symptoms include watery diarrhea, abdominal cramping, vomiting and nausea.

If these symptoms do occur, Ergun said to wait them out and they will likely go away. But drink plenty of fluids and avoid heavy and spicy foods. If the symptoms persist more than a few days, however, contact a physician.

Here are some tips from the Methodist Health Care System's Institute for Preventive Medicine to help make your holiday bacteria free:

- Wash your hands**
 - Use warm, soapy water.
 - Wash front and back, up to your wrist, washing between fingers, and under fingernails.
 - Wash long enough that you are able to sing your favorite team's fight song.
 - Wash hands after handling any raw meat.
- Wash all preparation surfaces** like appliances, countertops, cutting boards and utensils.
- Dry with clean cloth towels or disposable paper towels.
- Handling raw meat**
 - Keep raw meats separate from other foods.
 - Store turkey on bottom shelf of

the refrigerator to prevent juices from dripping on other foods.

- Use two different cutting boards.
- Wash those hands again using hot & soapy water.

Temperatures and refrigeration

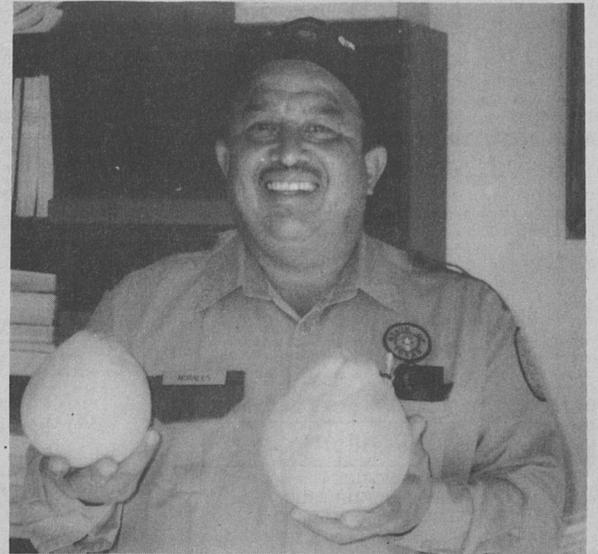
- Buy a meat thermometer and insert it into the inner thigh area near breast of the turkey, avoiding the bone.
- Whole turkeys should be cooked to 180°F.
- Refrigerate leftovers at 40°F

immediately after serving.

- Do not keep turkey longer than three to four days.

Thawing
•If planning to thaw by refrigerating, it will take at least a day for every four to five pounds. It can remain in the refrigerator one to two days.

•To thaw in cold water, the turkey must be in a leak proof package, completely submerged in water and will take 30 minutes per pound. Make sure to change the water every 30 minutes.



No, not grapefruit

Clyde Roy Morales stopped by to show us these lemons... that's right, lemons! The little one weighed 1.86 pounds; the large was over two pounds. He said they were grown in Pecan Grove in Richmond. *Headlight Photo*

COLORADO COUNTY SHERIFF'S REPORT

Monday, Oct. 16, at 10:31 p.m., Sgt. Zermeno went to a residence on FM 102 south for a follow up investigation. After further investigation, J.T. Black, 65, of Eagle Lake was arrested for felon in possession of a firearm and theft.

Kimberly Lujan, 23, of Eagle Lake was arrested for possession of controlled substance and possession of drug paraphernalia. Sheriff R.H. "Curly" Wied is pursuing federal charges against Black under the Texas Exile program in insure Black, who is a repeat offender will spend more time behind bars.

On Tuesday, Oct. 17, at 1:40 a.m., Deputy Basco initiated a traffic stop on Hwy. 90. After further investigation, Randy Giles, 18, of Columbus, was arrested for possession of marijuana.

At 3:25 a.m., Deputies Toppel and Basco initiated a traffic stop on Hwy. 90. After further investigation, Jesus Cruz, 27, of Columbus, was arrested for possession of marijuana and driving while license suspended and Jeremy Escamilla, 18, of New Ulm, was arrested for possession of marijuana.

At 8 a.m., Deputy Benavides arrested Billy Joe Clark, 34, of Columbus, on a warrant for aggravated sexual assault of a child, from a previously reported case.

At 8:55 a.m., Deputies Schmidt and Benavides arrived in Sheridan to execute an arrest warrant on an individual for burglary. The suspect, Julio Cesar Perez, 17, of Sheridan, was located and arrested for burglary and also charged with failure to attend school.

At 10:18 a.m., Deputies Atkinson and Schmidt initiated a traffic stop on County Road 118. During the traffic stop the passenger admitted to throwing some drug paraphernalia out of the passenger window. The roadway was searched and a plastic bag containing a small amount of marijuana and rolling papers was located. Todd Allen Reznicek, 18, of Rock Island was charged with Class B possession of marijuana.

On Wednesday, Oct. 18, at 6:03 p.m., Deputy Pardo responded to a call concerning a in Sheridan. The complainant reported that his Murray Riding law mower had been stolen from his residence. After further investigation, Keith Edds, 38, of Sheridan, was arrested by Sgt. Neisner for Class A theft in connection with the case.

On Thursday, Oct. 19, at 8:53 p.m., Deputy Pardo arrested Preston Jenkins, 41, of Eagle Lake on a warrant for third degree felony theft from a previously reported case.

SUMMARY FOR OCT. 2000

- \$20,411.75 was billed to Gonzales County for the housing of inmates for the month of Oct.
- Jail population as of Oct. 31: 83 inmates.
- 148 civil papers processed.
- 147 civil papers served.
- 44 traffic citations issued.
- 164 traffic warning citations issued.
- One mental patient transported to Austin State Hospital.
- Four inmates transported to TDC.
- One prisoner picked up on a bench warrant.
- One prisoner picked up from other counties on outstanding Colorado County warrants.
- 52 arrests made by Colorado County Sheriff's Deputies.
- 91 criminal and civil complaints answered by Sheriff's Deputies.
- 23,244 miles driven by Colorado County Sheriff's Deputies while transporting, patrolling, and civil process.

Continued from Page 1

FM 102 west of the city limits. A Texas Department of Public Safety Trooper was dispatched to the scene. The investigation was turned over to the trooper. Lt. Johnson advised that James Lockett Jr. was the driver of the vehicle.

At 10:32 a.m., Officer Wendy Alley was dispatched to a burglary of a vehicle at 511 Eighth St. A report was taken and the case is being investigated.

At 3:50 p.m., Chief Keith Webb, Officer Alley and Sgt. Lattimore were advised that funnel clouds were sighted in the 600 block of FM 3013 west. The officers arrived, but did not locate any signs of tornado activities.

At 10:25 p.m., Sgt. Lattimore located an active car alarm at 323 S. McCarty. The vehicle was checked and the owner was contacted. There were no signs of damage.

At 11:30 p.m., Sgt. Lattimore and Officer Stephen Nelson were dispatched to an assault family violence call at 701 S. Austin. The investigation is underway, but no arrests have been made at this time.

On Nov. 11, at 12:40 a.m., Officer Lasley was dispatched to 400 E. Prairie in reference to a criminal trespass. The suspects have been identified and criminal trespass warnings will be issued.

At 9:30 a.m., Officer Krenek responded to a run-a-way call at 400 S. Austin #43. Officer Krenek took a report and the child returned home later.

At 10:25 a.m., Officer Krenek was dispatched to a neighbor dispute at 510 Eighth St. Officer Krenek spoke with both parties involved and it was handled at the scene.

At 3:15 p.m., Officer Krenek took a burglary of a vehicle report at 501 Stevenson St. The case is under investigation.

On Nov. 12, at 2 a.m., Lt. Johnson responded to a one-vehicle rollover on

Police

contacted some family members. They advised that the alarm was set off accidentally.

At 6:40 p.m., Lt. Johnson and Officer Lasley were dispatched to the My Place Bar in reference to a report of a fight. The officers arrived and no fight had occurred.

On Nov. 10, at 9:17 a.m., Officer Krenek arrested Jason Robert Torres at 202 E. Post Office for a warrant for motion to adjudicate guilt. Torres was processed at the ELPD and transported to the CCDC for confinement.

At 9:34 a.m., Sgt. Crume was dispatched to 702 S. McCarty in reference to an unwanted person on the property. Sgt. Crume issued the subject a criminal trespass warning.

At 12:35 p.m., Officer Krenek was dispatched to an alarm at 1501 E. Main. Two employees had set off the

alarm.
At 3:30 p.m., Officer Krenek arrested Horace Hodges Jr. for an outstanding traffic warrant. Hodges was processed at the ELPD and transported to the CCDC for confinement.

At 7:07 p.m., Officer Lasley was dispatched to 704 S. Austin in reference to a juvenile disturbance. Officer Lasley arrived and calmed the situation down. Apparently the juveniles had a discrepancy over some missing property. Officer Lasley located the property and returned it to the rightful owner.

At 10:50 p.m., Lt. Johnson and Officer Lasley were advised of a fight in the 500 block of East B Street. After a brief investigation, Oracio Belman was issued a citation for public intoxication and criminal mischief. Belman was released to a sober person.

CLASSIFIED ADS

Continued from Page 9

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Market Report for Nov. 9, 2000
Animals on hand: cattle, 2035.
Number of sellers: 261.

Packer cows: higher dressing utility and cutter cows, 38445 per lb.; lower dressing utility & cutter cows, 32-37¢ per lb.; thin cows, 28-31¢.

Packer bulls: heavy weight bulls, 46-49¢; utility cutter bulls, 40-45¢.

Stocker/Feeder- Calves/Yearlings
Steers #1: 200-300 lbs., \$1.37-1.54; 300-400 lbs., \$1.30-1.41; 400-500 lbs., \$1.13-1.20; 500-600 lbs., 99¢-1.09; 600-700 lbs., 84-92¢; 700-800 lbs., 76-85¢.
Steers #2: 200-300 lbs., \$1.28-1.36;

300-400 lbs., \$1.15-1.29; 400-500 lbs., \$1.02-1.12; 500-600 lbs., 88-98¢; 600-700 lbs., 78-83¢; 700-800 lbs., 70-75¢.
Heifers #1: 200-300 lbs., \$1.20-1.29; 300-400 lbs., \$1.15-1.28; 400-500 lbs., \$1.01-1.15; 500-600 lbs., 89-98¢; 600-700 lbs., 85-88¢; 700-800 lbs., 76-83¢.
Heifers #2: 200-300 lbs., \$1.12-1.19; 300-400 lbs., \$1.08-1.14; 400-500 lbs., 89¢-51.00; 500-600 lbs., 80-88¢; 600-700, 77-84¢; 700-800 lbs., 68-75¢.
Good stocker cow/calf pairs, \$650-750 by the head; med. cow/calf pairs, \$550-650 by the head; common cow/calf pairs, \$500-545; good stocker cows & heifers, \$500-640; medium stocker cows & heifers, \$425-500.

Newsbriefs

Continued from Page 1

Nov. 18, from 8:30 a.m. until sold out at B&B Foods and Eagle Lake Supermarket. All the proceeds go towards the Special Olympics activity fund.

Buffalo soldiers to be in Egypt Saturday

The Buffalo soldiers, black members of the U.S. Army started more than a century ago, will be visiting and demonstrating their activities Saturday, Nov. 18, at the famous Rodeo arena in Egypt starting at 11 a.m. The Buffalo Soldiers were tall robust soldiers who did a great service protecting America. The public is invited to come, see and learn more about these brave soldiers!

Dulany to be sworn in as JP on Dec. 11

Larry Dulany, newly-elected Justice of the Peace for Colorado County Pct. 4, will be sworn in Monday, Dec. 11, at the Colorado County Courthouse during the Commissioners' Court meeting. He will be attending an orientation school for new JPs Nov. 28 through Dec. 1 and will receive additional mandated schooling during the coming year.