

November Birthdays  
& Anniversaries

Sun. Nov. 1- Larry Reed's Birthday- 1947  
 Mon. Nov. 2- Roger Watson's Birthday- 1953  
 Wed. Nov. 4- Daniel Wietzki's Birthday- 1944  
 Wed. Nov. 4- Joanna King's Birthday- 1964  
 Fri. Nov. 6- Patterson Jones' Birthday- 1962  
 Sat. Nov. 7- Ora Pearl Nance's Birthday- 1923  
 Mon. Nov. 9- Curtis Jones' Birthday- 1963  
 Mon. Nov. 9- Jay Russell's Birthday- 1985  
 Tues. Nov. 10- George Audd's Birthday- ?  
 Tues. Nov. 10- Kaylie Williams' Birthday- 2003  
 Wed. Nov. 11- Shirley Robinson's Birthday- ?  
 Wed. Nov. 11- Kelley Harrison's Birthday- ?  
 Wed. Nov. 11- Cleo "Aunt T." Crostwait's Birthday- ?  
 Thurs. Nov. 12- Presley Jo Hunter's Birthday- 1997  
 Thurs. Nov. 12- Thornton Thanksgiving Dinner at School House  
 Thurs. Nov. 12- Chad Sullivan's Birthday- 1977  
 Fri. Nov. 13- Lauren Roberts' Birthday- 1986  
 Fri. Nov. 13- Ellen Jones' Birthday- 1999  
 Sat. Nov. 14- Brandon Harlan's Birthday- 1979  
 Sun. Nov. 15- Bessie Jones' Birthday- 1962  
 Mon. Nov. 16- Jackie Ancelet's Birthday- 1958  
 Tues. Nov. 17- Paul & Jackie Ancelet's Anniversary- 2007  
 Sat. Nov. 21- Crystal Harlan's Birthday- 1985  
 Mon. Nov. 23- Traci Hughes' Birthday- 1980  
 Sat. Nov. 28- Keith Vest's Birthday- 1971  
 Mon. Nov. 30- Pete Lee's Birthday- ?

Thornton OES 46  
to have HB supper  
before Mexia game

The Thornton OES No. 46 will have a hamburger supper in the Groesbeck High School cafeteria before the Groesbeck-Mexia football game on Friday, November 6.

Serving will begin at 4:30 p.m. and will continue until game time.

The menu will include hamburgers, chips, drinks and dessert for \$5.00 each.

Proceeds will go to the Thornton OES No. 46 and Thornton Masonic Lodge No. 486 scholarship fund.

Everyone is cordially invited to come out and enjoy some good hamburgers.

## Notice

## Thornton O.E.S. #46

A Stated Meeting of Thornton Order of the Eastern Star held on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. Meal served at 6:30 p.m. Members urged to attend.

Ann Brown, W.M.  
John Brown, W.P.

## NOTICE MASONS

Thornton Lodge No. 486, A.F. & A.M. of Thornton, meets the first Tuesday of each month. Meal is at 6 p.m. and meeting at 7 p.m. Visiting brethren are welcome.  
Jack Hodges, W.M.  
Eddie Graham, Sec.

## CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH

Tracy Sims, Pastor  
THORNTON, TEXAS  
SUNDAY

Sunday School.....9:45 A.M.  
Morning Worship.....11:00 A.M.  
Youth Services.....6:00 P.M.  
Evening Worship.....6:00 P.M.

## WEDNESDAY

Prayer Meeting.....6:00 P.M.  
Children's Program.....6:00 P.M.  
Youth Program.....6:00 P.M.

NURSERY AND TRANSPORTATION PROVIDED  
-EVERYONE WELCOME-

## Thornton Man's Story from World War II

The Philippines 1945: Background Information

During World War II there were more than 102,000 Japanese in the southern Philippines, including 53,000 Army troops, nearly 20,000 members of the Army air forces, 15,000 naval personnel, and 14,800 non-combatant civilians. Despite this imposing figure, there were only about 30,000 combat troops. Moreover, the enemy garrisons were spread over numerous islands. Even though they were aware of the existence of guerrilla units, the Japanese felt that they were firmly in control of the situation. There was a sense of optimism -- quite unfounded as it turned out -- that the Americans might bypass the southern Philippines as they left Japanese garrisons unmolested on other islands in the Pacific. The sentiment among the Japanese was one of general unconcern; even if the Americans decided to venture into the Southern Philippines, they would probably be content to seize only the principal ports.

The island of Luzon was the largest and most economically and politically important island in the Philippines. One of the major battles was the Battle of Luzon, a land battle fought as part of the Pacific Theater of Operations of World War II by the Allied forces of the United States and The Philippines. It was headed by General Douglas MacArthur and Major General Jens A. Doe

Barely a month after the campaign on Luzon had begun General MacArthur decided that the time had come to move into the southern Philippines. The general deemed the recapture of Palawan, Mindanao, and other islands in the Sulu Archipelago essential for two reasons. First, bypassing the southern Philippines would leave their inhabitants at the mercy of Japanese garrisons for an undetermined period of time, a situation clearly inconsistent with United States interests in the area. Secondly, theater strategy required early seizure

of the islands for ultimate use as air and naval bases, as well as serving as a steppingstone in the projected conquest of Borneo and other Japanese-held islands in the Dutch East Indies, the area presently part of Indonesia. The beginning of March 1945 saw American forces firmly entrenched in the Philippines. The plans developed for the recapture of the Southern Philippines were known as the VICTOR operations

Zamboanga, Mindanao

The second week in March 1945, Zamboanga, on the Japanese occupied island of Mindanao in the Philippines, was the target of the 41st division's four-engined B-24 Liberator Boise Brown.

Aboard the Boise Bronc, which flew over Zamboanga in support of the 41st division landing on the island, was crew member, 20 year old Sgt. James Lamar Rasco of Thornton, Texas. He was a radio operator on the Bronc, one of the planes dropping bombs on Japanese gun positions in the hills behind Zamboanga in support of the invading US military ground and navy forces.

Captain Everett Wood, of Trinidad, Colorado, was the operations officer. Captain Paul G. Glanville, pilot, and Lt. Lynn V. McClellan, co-pilot, both from California, manned the aircraft. The Boise Bronc crew, one of the famous flying outfits of the Pacific, was of lofty of morale and sensitive to and jealous of its reputation, according to Fred Hampson, AP correspondent, who also flew with the crew. The plan carried several tons of bombs and 2,000 gallons of gasoline in her belly.

On the day of the attack, in the dim light of the briefing tent, the flight crew faced a big map. It was still an hour and a half before dawn, and the air was nippy. There was always a hushed expectancy at a briefing, an under layer of suppressed excitement, Hampton remembered. Capt. Wood concluded, "Well

there's the target. We'll go over at 9,000 feet at 165 miles an hour indicated. The Japs only have medium guns, so you shouldn't have too much trouble. We have the Associated Press riding with us, so let's make it a real Jolly Rogers mission!"

At the first streak of dawn, Captain Glanville coaxed the Bronc to the line. When it was her turn for takeoff, all four throttles tipped forward. She began to roll, and the crew to "sweat" it out. The boys dreaded the take-off worse than the target. With four tons of high explosives and 2,000 gallons of high test gasoline, there was practically no margin for error.

The Bronc pulled herself loose 1,000 feet from the end of the runway, tucked her wheels into her wings, and climbed. She swung out to sea and turned. An hour later they were over Mindanao. The weather closed in, and they were over a thick flat cloud formation at 9,000 feet. Then in one breathtaking moment they slid off the cloud and over the town; the target was open. It was time.

A terrific draft swept through the plane as the bomb bay doors rattled open, and one thousand pounders fell away and nosed down. A few seconds later the bombs burst in a rolling, snarling whirl of orange flame and smoke. Below them was an awesome sight. The dispatch described it this way, "The bombs burst in rolling orange explosions blanketing many acres." The harbor was choked with sunken Japanese ships.

As the Liberator Boise Bronc rocketed away, fires and delayed explosion marked important hits. The blasts on the belly of the Bronc could be felt by the crew, but in seconds they were back out to sea.

Mission accomplished. To give the pilot a break, radioman, Sgt. Lamar Rasco, traded places with him and flew the ship for awhile. Three hours later the Bronc was home from her 87th mission.



Standing: Capt. Paul G. Glanville, Pilot; Lt. L. V. McClellan, Co-Pilot; Lt. Edwin Kielar, Navigator; Lt. E. B. Dawson, Jr., Bombardier; TSgt. C. L. Profrock, Engineer; Kneeling, SSgt. G. D. Suckling, Gunner; TSgt. J. L. Rasco, Radio Operator; Sgt. J. L. Brewer, Gunner; SSgt. C. W. Peterson, Gunner; SSgt. R. A. Hagen, Gunner. (Courtesy photo)

Taken from the March 12, 1945 issue of the Waco-Tribune Herald, jollyrogersweb.com, and Internet history Battle of Luzon. Thanks to Lamar and Dennis Rasco for sharing this interesting story.

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James Lamar Rasco, son of the late Willie Pickens and Minnie Harris Rasco of Thornton, and his wife, the former Betty Bates, live in Corpus Christi. They are the parents of three children, Dennis Lamar Rasco, Dr. Dale Warren Rasco, and Rhonda Diane Rohe. Lamar and Betty also have five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren, with another one due soon.

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This article was submitted by Gordan Ann Smith-Tilley

## Did You Know?

According to the National Fire Protection Association, each year plays witness to millions of fires, thousands of deaths and injuries, and billions of dollars in losses. Between the years of 1999 and 2008, there was an average of more than 1.6 million fires that resulted in roughly \$11.6 billion in direct dollar losses. Figures do not reflect the events of September 11, 2001, but each year saw approximately 3,625 Americans lose their lives and nearly 19,000 more Americans suffer injuries resulting from fires. Those figures have remained relatively steady over the years, with only the events of September 11, 2001, and the Southern California wildfires of 2003 causing a significant spike in the number of lives and dollars lost. Of the civilian fatalities during this period, 83 percent occurred in the home.

## TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

NOTICE OF APPLICATION AND PRELIMINARY DECISION  
FOR TPDES PERMIT  
FOR MUNICIPAL  
WASTEWATER RENEWAL

PERMIT NO. WQ0010824001

APPLICATION AND PRELIMINARY DECISION. The City of Thornton, P.O. Box 396, Thornton, TX 76687, has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for a renewal of TPDES Permit No. WQ0010824001, which authorizes the discharge of treated domestic wastewater at a daily average flow not to exceed 41,000 gallons per day. TCEQ received this application on March 9, 2009.

The facility is located approximately 0.5 mile south of the intersection of State Highway 14 and Farm-to-Market Road 1246, on the southwest side of the city limits of the City of Thornton in Limestone County, Texas 76687.

The treated effluent is discharged to an unnamed tributary of Steele Creek; thence to Steele Creek; thence to the Navasota River Below Lake Limestone in Segment No. 1209 of the Brazos River Basin. The unclassified receiving water uses are no significant aquatic life use for the unnamed tributary. The designated uses for Segment No. 1209 are high aquatic life use, public water supply and contact recreation. All determinations are preliminary and subject to additional review and/or revisions.

The TCEQ Executive Director has completed the technical review of the application and prepared a draft permit. The draft permit, if approved, would establish the conditions under which the facility must operate.

The Executive Director has made a preliminary decision that this permit, if issued, meets all statutory and regulatory requirements. The permit application, Executive Director's preliminary decision, and draft permit are available for viewing and copying at Thornton City Hall, 205 South Eleventh, Thornton, Texas.

**PUBLIC COMMENT / PUBLIC MEETING.** You may submit public comments or request a public meeting about this application. The purpose of a public meeting is to provide the opportunity to submit comments or to ask questions about the application. TCEQ holds a public meeting if the Executive Director determines that there is a significant degree of public interest in the application or if requested by a local legislator. A public meeting is not a contested case hearing.

**OPPORTUNITY FOR A CONTESTED CASE HEARING.** After the deadline for submitting public comments, the Executive Director will consider the comments and prepare a response to all relevant and material, or significant public comments. Unless the application is directly referred for a contested case hearing, the response to comments will be mailed to everyone who submitted public comments and to those persons who are on the mailing list for this application. If comments are received, the mailing will also provide instructions for requesting a contested case hearing or reconsideration of the Executive Director's decision. A contested case hearing is a legal proceeding similar to a civil trial in a state district court.

**TO REQUEST A CONTESTED CASE HEARING, YOU MUST INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING ITEMS IN YOUR REQUEST:** your name; address; phone; applicant's name and permit number; the location and distance of your property/activities relative to the facility; a specific description of how you would be adversely affected by the facility in a way not common to the general public; and the statement "[I/we] request a contested case hearing." If the request for contested case hearing is filed on behalf of a group or association, the request must designate the group's representative for receiving future correspondence; identify an individual member of the group who would be adversely affected by the proposed facility or activity; provide the information discussed above regarding the affected member's location and distance from the facility or activity; explain how and why the member would be affected; and explain how the interests the group seeks to protect are germane to the group's purpose.

Following the close of all applicable comment and request periods, the Executive Director will forward the application and any requests for reconsideration or for a contested case hearing to the TCEQ Commissioners for their consideration at a scheduled Commission meeting.

The Commission will only grant a contested case hearing on disputed issues of fact that are relevant and material to the Commission's decision on the application. Further, the Commission will only grant a hearing on issues that were raised in timely filed comments that were not subsequently withdrawn. TCEQ may act on an application to renew a permit for discharge of wastewater without providing an opportunity for a contested case hearing if certain criteria are met.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ACTION.** The Executive Director may issue final approval of the application unless a timely contested case hearing request or request for reconsideration is filed. If a timely hearing request or request for reconsideration is filed, the Executive Director will not issue final approval of the permit and will forward the application and request to the TCEQ Commissioners for their consideration at a scheduled Commission meeting.

**MAILING LIST.** If you submit public comments, a request for a contested case hearing or a reconsideration of the Executive Director's decision, you will be added to the mailing list for this specific application to receive future public notices mailed by the Office of the Chief Clerk. In addition, you may request to be placed on: (1) the permanent mailing list for a specific applicant name and permit number; and/or (2) the mailing list for a specific county. If you wish to be placed on the permanent and/or the county mailing list, clearly specify which list(s) and send your request to TCEQ Office of the Chief Clerk at the address below. All written public comments and public meeting requests must be submitted to the Office of the Chief Clerk, MC 105, TCEQ, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, TX 78711-3087 or electronically at [www.tceq.state.tx.us/about/comments.html](http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/about/comments.html) within 30 days from the date of newspaper publication of this notice.

**AGENCY CONTACTS AND INFORMATION.** If you need more information about this permit application or the permitting process, please call the TCEQ Office of Public Assistance, Toll Free, at 1-800-687-4040. Si desea informacion en Espanol, puede llamar al 1-800-687-4040. General information about the TCEQ can be found at our web site at [www.TCEQ.state.tx.us](http://www.TCEQ.state.tx.us).

Further information may also be obtained from the City of Thornton at the address stated above or by calling Mr. James Hall, City of Thornton at 254-385-6438

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