



1 Section Tuesday, November 25, 2025 Volume 66, Number 51

Raising The Turkey From Hades

By Christine Smallman

Turkey Lurkey

Two years ago I wrote a story about my grandson Hayden's turkey . . . Turkey Lurkey.

He raised the turkey from a week old chick and played with him whenever he came to our house.

He taught it to play soccer and took it to school for show and tell when he was nine years old and the turkey was just 9 months old.

Hayden's little sister Harper and her cousin Evelyn wanted to have the same experience so after a great deal of pleading I agreed to let them hatch turkeys and learn about the process from start to finish.

Incubating

We ordered the turkey eggs after looking through a poultry catalog and what they wanted the turkey to look like when it was full grown.

Of course the males are just beautiful so in their prayers every night they begged God to send a male egg.

Once the eggs were ordered we pulled out the incubator we had stored in the barn, sterilized and prepared it for the eggs.

The incubator has to be a certain temperature before you place the eggs inside it along with water to keep the eggs moist.

Ten days later the eggs arrived encased in foam to protect them from breaking.

Ready, Set, Go

I called the girls and they came over that weekend to place the eggs in the incubator.

Before the girls arrived we left the eggs in the box at room temperature as the directions stated.



Full Grown Male Turkey



One of two female turkeys



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(Continued on Page 6)

Poor Will's Farmland News Almanack

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November 26- December 2

**Poor Will's Almanack
For The Fourth Week Of Late Fall
The Week Of November 23**

If you are afflicted with melancholy at this season, go to the swamp and see the brave spears of skunk cabbage buds already advanced toward a new year.... See those green cabbage buds lifting the dry leaves in that watery and muddy place.... They see over the brown of winter's hill. They see another summer ahead.

Record & Average Temperatures For The Farmland News Area (Toledo Station)

November 26: Record High: 68 - 1896 Record Low: 10 - 1974 Average High: 43 Average Low: 27

November 27: Record High: 68 - 1896 Record Low: 7 - 1930 Average High: 42 Average Low: 27

November 28: Record High: 67 - 1905 Record Low: 6 - 1955 Average High: 42 Average Low: 26

November 29: Record High: 65 - 1933 Record Low: 3 - 1958 Average High: 41 Average Low: 26

November 30: Record High: 68 - 1934 Record Low: 2 - 1958 Average High: 41 Average Low: 26

December 1: Record High: 65 - 1970 Record Low: 3 - 1964 Average High: 41 Average Low: 25

December 2: Record High: 68 - 1982 Record Low: - 11 - 1976 Average High: 40 Average Low: 25

The Moon in November

November 7: The moon is full

November 13: The moon enters its final quarter

November 20-21: The moon is new

November 28: The moon enters its second quarter

The Weekly Weather

The fourth week of November, the third week of late fall, is the stark and windy week that marks the decline of average highs below 50 degrees and the end to any reasonable chance of a day above 70 throughout the lower Midwest and Mid-Atlantic states.

Nights below zero even become possible. The sixth cold front of the month, arriving around the 24th, often brings rain on the 23rd (there is a 50 percent chance of that).

The seventh high-pressure system generally arrives on November 28th, preceded by rain 70 percent of the time on the 27th – the wettest day in the month's weather history. November 28th, 29th, and 30th have the best odds of the month

for snow.

After the 25th, the percentage of cloudy days almost doubles over the average for the rest of November

Autumn Linger

All but a few shriveled staghorns have fallen from the sumac at the end of late fall.

Thistles are bedraggled, foliage curled and shriveled.

Fields of dry goldenrod heads glow in the sun, more exotic than when they were in flower. Box elder seeds shimmer in the frost.

Sharp burdock burrs are poised, waiting for you to brush against them.

Fed by honeysuckle berries, robins linger in town and in the woods.

Starlings cluck and whistle at sunrise, and cardinals and pileated woodpeckers and bobwhites sing off and on throughout the day.

Finches work the sweet gum tree fruits, digging out the seeds from their hollows.

Sparrow hawks appear on the fences, watching for mice in the bare fields.

In spite of all the cold, pansies still bloom, and scattered mums still keep their color.

Mulched parsley, carrots, beets, potatoes, chard, broccoli, kale, chives can still be brought in from the vegetable garden.

Once in a while, dandelions blossom, appear out of season like overwintering robins, stragglers showing up through the fall and winter.

Wild onions and the garden garlic grow a bit when the weather is mild.

Motherwort is still strong.

Crickets still sing in the warmest evenings, and the last daddy longlegs huddle together in the woodpile, waiting for their corners to warm.

Mosquitoes still wait for prey near backwaters and puddles.

Late woolly bear caterpillars, most of them dark orange and black, still emerge on backroads when the asphalt is hot from the sun.

Cabbage moths still look for cabbage.

Yellow jackets sometimes come out to look for fallen fruit.

Squirrels chatter.

Opossums and raccoons increase their activity in the warmer evenings.

Deer are mating.

Sparrows fight for seeds.

Crows congregate for winter.

Journal

Among the first observations

I remember making about nature as a child was that the wind seemed to be caused by the trees moving and that green leaves brought on summer.

It soon became apparent to me, of course, that the reverse was true.

Events in nature were the result of causes quite distant from their effects.

The wind was the product of planetary and even cosmic forces, and the green leaves of summer grew from a cycle that began in deep winter or even millennia before, offspring of the evolu-

tion and migration of plants.

As I get older and watch myself in nature, I have started to see that my first notes about the world were not so far off as I assumed.

I find that distant energies are less relevant and less useful than my scientific understanding once led me to believe.

In fact, my emotional and spiritual life is more closely tied to appearances than to physical events.

Late Fall in my thoughts and in my feelings is the clear reflection of the things I see.

The changes in the landscape produce changes in my mind.

The Earth's fluctuating relationship to the sun may technically cause the advent of winter, but it is the bare trees and the frost that make the season in my head.

Very literally, the green trees bring June to my brain.

The Osage fruits, full size, fallen in the rain, bring the middle of August, and the sudden collapse of the sugar maple canopy is the messenger of November.

ALMANACK LITERATURE

Chickens!

by Jack Thomas, Milan, IN

Back in 1943 when World War II was raging, meat, rubber and gas were rationed, along with a few other things.

To offset some of the things you couldn't get, you raised things like chickens.

My uncle raised chickens, about 300 of them, and then he sold them to the people around him.

One dark night with no Moon out, he heard the dogs barking.

He got up and looked out the window but didn't see anything except that the door to the chicken house was open.

He grabbed his shotgun and went out to see what was going on.

All he had on was his long johns with the trapdoor down.

He proceeded to the chicken house with his shotgun.

When he got to the door, he looked in. In the meantime, his old hound dog was following him.

When my uncle stopped at the door, the old hound dog stuck his cold nose in that open trapdoor.

As you can imagine, that shotgun went off, and killed half of his chickens. He got us all up and we picked chicken the rest of the night. FN

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A Thanksgiving Thought Words of Inspiration By Pastor Stan Harmon

If there is one characteristic of the Christian life I've tried to grow in, over the years, it has to be having an attitude of thankfulness.

I live in a wonderful country and community.

Yes, there are problems and challenges that need to be solved, but in spite of all these difficulties there is no better place to live and raise a family.

In good times or bad, in abundance or scarcity, from mountain-top joy to dark valley experiences, I have much to be thankful for from my Lord and Savior.

I draw strength and encouragement from the apostle Paul's words to the believers in Thessalonica, "Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus" (1 Thess. 5:18).

Paul didn't say we should be thankful for the difficulties and trials we face, but rather we can be thankful "in" these challenges because our Lord is with us.

Jesus himself said that, "He would be with us, His followers, and not leave us as orphans" (John 14:18).

So, regardless of the circumstances we may find ourselves in on any given day, Christians can be thankful that Jesus resides with His followers in the presence of His Holy Spirit.

This year I am thankful to God

in three ways—for the past, the present and finally, for the future.

This may seem strange, but let me explain.

When the Israelites were freed by God through Moses, God commanded them to remember the Passover from generation to generation: So Moses said to the people, "This is a day to remember forever—the day you left Egypt, the place of your slavery" (Exodus 13:3).

This passage of scripture reminds me to look back over my life.

When I do so, I can see how God has worked in my life. He has always been active with His leading, guiding, protecting, revealing nature.

Even though I couldn't understand what He was doing at the time, the evidence is now clear to me.

This fact makes me very thankful. I think the psalmist said it best,

"... I recall all you have done, O LORD; I remember your wonderful deeds of long ago" (Psalm 77:11).

When I made poor choices and bad decisions in the past the Lord worked through those situations for my good.

I even wonder how many times He may have spared my life?

Maybe some day I will receive an answer to that question.

One of apostle Paul's major themes in his letters is thankfulness.

When writing to the Colossians he said, "Let your roots grow down into him (Christ), and let your lives be built on him.

Then your faith will grow strong in the truth you were taught, and you will overflow with thankfulness" (Col. 2:7).

Paul revealed to them that as Christians mature in their relation-

ship with Jesus Christ, thankfulness will grow and grow.

I have certainly found that to be true in my life.

This is my current joy and experience with Jesus.

That is past and present, but what about the future?

All believers have a hope of eternal life that has been promised by Jesus Christ Himself and attested to by Peter: "You love him even though you have never seen him.

Though you do not see him now, you trust him; and you rejoice with a glorious, inexpressible joy.

The reward for trusting him will be the salvation of your souls" (1 Peter 1:8 & 9).

Jesus holds my past, my present and even my future in His hands.

This makes me a very thankful person!

Each day He comes to me with fresh assurance that all He has declared in His Word is true.

I have renewed confidence from the abiding presence of His Holy Spirit that no matter what comes my way, He is already there to guide me in my journey, today and tomorrow.

My prayer for you this Thanksgiving season is that you will grow in the grace of thankfulness for all your days.

Blessings to you and your family!

FN



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Hero/Heroine Of The Plot

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Life... sometimes I wonder what kind of tale I've fallen into.

Life seems to be just an unfolding story about a man or a woman where no ending has yet to be written.

Little direction is given from the time that first page (breath) has been written.

Circumstances just seem to appear to give some sort of direction to the goings-on... then other lives push their way in... and intrigue ensues.

What will happen next? We aren't as in control as we think we are.

We're allowed to participate in this journey... as our own special volume takes life... planning, readjusting, accepting, correcting, laughing, crying, mourning, celebrating... and along the way we fall in love, we get a new job and we are playing the game of life.

Sometimes nothing physical seems to be happening,

but the mind is busy taking in all those happenings that surround us... cataloging them until we need that specific idea to expand our own plot.

We readjust, then our next exploit begins to develop.

As our own specific volume develops, the characters change, places move... but always, ALWAYS new participants enter the plot.

As the plot takes on a life of its own... mostly because all the characters in our book have their own adventures to discover, we work at the next leg of our own journey.

You're on your own way to success... you're going to celebrate, you're excited... then, THEN you back into a car because you're not concentrating on driving but thinking about the wonder-

ful adventure you are about to undertake.

A chapter you hadn't plotted has taken on a life of its own.

Someone else has entered your story.

Ever wonder what your birth has gotten you into?

How will your own personal 'book' end?

No wonder novels are a million dollar business.

Tragedies happen.

Comedies appear seemingly on their own.

Screw-ups visit us at the most inopportune times.

You fall in love.

Your own soap opera brings yet another participant into your 'novel.'

However, our own 'novel' is like all other novels.

Every difficulty is eventually resolved.

We authors are here at this specific time and in this specific place for a specific reason.

No one else could write our life story.

The comedy and error, the boredom and the intrigue, the good and the bad... written from our point of view.

Our own special book was reserved for us to author.

None of us know when that last page will be 'The End.'

Imagine that.

After our book has been pushed to the back of the world's library... other books will continue to be produced.

New authors will appear to experience things similar to what we did.

Other authors will always

appear... to pick up the 'pen.'

Isn't it wonderful that each of us was chosen specifically to experience what only we have experienced in the way things have fallen into place for us?

We have authored and edited our own life.

How fortunate can a person be?

Having written for newspapers since I was in school in the 50's, in my retirement I am now writing for posterity... and enjoy getting and sharing news about the "olden days."

FN



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The Amish Cook

by Gloria Yoder



Remembering Grandma Mast

All 39 of us cousins were there as we stood to sing.

It was special, but also teary—our dear grandma had passed on to her eternal home.

How we rejoiced, despite our grief.

Grandma Mast was a singing individual as she and Grandpa raised their five children.

In family gatherings it is evident that the trait was passed on down the generations.

I am touched when I see her great-grandchildren singing together as they play.

Now in heaven, I can only imagine how she must be singing before the very throne of God.

We had arrived at the visitation while the Mast family was eating.

My parents offered to go with the children and I, as we would then have ample time “with Grandma.”

My children listened soberly as I told them that this is now much more like Grandma looked when I was their age and would spend time with her at their house.

Grandma was one of those people that left deep prints in my life.

In my early childhood years I loved going with Mom to spend the day at Grandma’s, and on occasions I even got to spend the night with her and Grandpa.

On one such opportunity she had made a nightgown for me as a surprise.

Looking back I marvel how she always had time for me.

She would sit down and play a game of memory with me and when I was ready to wash the dishes after a meal, she would say, “No, you are on vacation!”

Never did I feel belittled or less than ideal by the way she treated me; her words of life brought many a smile to my face, and most of all, she believed in me.

Now as I wept over her it

just didn’t feel right to think of not having her anymore.

The thought of a graveside seemed cruel.

That is when the words were softly spoken to my heart, “She is not there, she is here.”

I was comforted, the reality went deep; she is with her Maker, all I need to do is to continue to serve Him.

Not only will I see her one day in heaven, but in the meanwhile I can pass on the genuine love that Grandma had for me that gave me another picture of God’s love for me.

A week prior, when my mother received a message that her mom was about to come to the close of her days, she immediately left for Ohio where she joined her two sisters by Grandma’s bedside.

They took it as a privilege to care for their mother through these intense times.

At all times someone was next to Grandma as they talked, sang, and prayed.

I knew it would not be possible for me to go to be with her, so I gave Mom a message to pass on to her.

At this point she was unresponsive.

A monitor to track her heart rate was the only way they could tell when she heard what was being said.

I was delighted when Aunt Rhoda told me that Grandma’s heart rate went up when they gave the message that I loved her and she was special to me.

Grandma knew that already, but somehow it was precious to know she heard.

She doted over me as her oldest granddaughter, and yes, in her final lap of her earthly journey, it felt good to know that I could give her a message of my love in return.

When the time came to gather at the graveyard our hearts were at rest, a number of us grandchildren took turns gently covering the grave.

We sang several songs which Grandma had asked to be sung at her graveside, including her old time fa-

Recipe Of The Week

Mandarin Orange Cheesecake

1/2 cup crushed chocolate wafers (about 8 wafers)

2 tablespoons melted butter

4-1/2 teaspoons sugar

4-oz. cream cheese softened

1 tablespoon orange marmalade

1 cup whipped topping

11-oz. mandarin oranges, drained

In a small bowl, combine the crushed wafers, butter and sugar.

Press into the bottom and 1/2 inch up the sides of an ungreased 6" springform pan.

Place on a baking sheet.

Bake at 375 degrees for 5 minutes; remove from oven and cool on a wire rack.

In a small mixing bowl, beat softened cream cheese and marmalade until blended.

Fold in whipped topping.

Arrange 2/3 of the mandarin oranges over crust.

Spread over top with the cream cheese mixture.

Decorate with the remaining mandarin oranges.

Cover and refrigerate for 2 hours before serving.

This Recipe of the Week is from Barb Shiner, Defiance, Ohio

vorite, “*There Is a Happy Land.*”

I traveled home with my six children that night.

In a way it didn’t seem right to go on in life without her.

Then I kept thinking of the Lord’s love that He pours into our lives.

In turn we get to pass it on to others—like Grandma, drop our work, to look someone in the eye and show the value they have.

Even the apparently unlovable are waiting for someone to accept them just the way they are.

The week of the funeral I got to spend a few days with my family including 23 nieces and nephews.

The memories of my girlhood days with Grandma were so fresh, it motivated me to love on other little ones I was surrounded with.

No, I’m not Grandma, and I could never take the place of my dear mother who dotes over her grandchildren, I’ll just love with my Auntie love.

And once I’m caught up on my sleep I’ll be filling you in on the events of our family gathering in an Airbnb large enough to comfortably host all of us.

For tonight we’ll be wrapping up with a recipe Grandma was known for in the years she was her energetic, confident self before

dementia set in.

With apples in season, if you can, be sure to give it a try!

Danish Apple Bars

Dough:

3 cups flour
1 teaspoon salt
1 cup Crisco
1 egg yolk
2/3 cups milk

Filling:

7 cups shredded apples
1 cup crushed cornflakes
1 teaspoon cinnamon
1 cup sugar
1 egg white, beaten stiff

Glaze:

1 cup powdered sugar
1 teaspoon vanilla
3 tablespoons water

Mix together flour and salt.

Cut in shortening. Beat egg yolk and milk together, mix and add to flour mixture.

Divide dough in half.

Roll thin.

Put in 10" x 15" pan.

Sprinkle with cornflakes and apples mixed with cinnamon and sugar.

Roll out other half of dough and cover apples.

Brush egg white over crust.

Sprinkle sugar and cinnamon on top.

Bake at 375 degrees until golden brown.

Spread with glaze while still warm.

Cut into squares and enjoy.

Readers may write Gloria with culinary or cultural questions at: Gloria Yoder, 10510 E. 350th Avenue, Flat Rock, IL 62427. FN

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Turkey Eggs from the two females we hatched.

THE TURKEY

(Continued From Page 1)

Of course the girls spent the weekend at my (Gram-cracker's) house because someone had to watch their babies!

To incubate, they carefully placed them in a pre-warmed incubator set to 99.5 degrees and 55% humidity.

It also required turning the eggs 3-5 times daily.

Fortunately our incubator turned automatically every 5 hours thus that was one thing we didn't need to worry about.

Throughout the 28 days it takes for the eggs to be hatched, we only needed to check the humidity twice a day and put water in the vessel if it needed it.

I purchased a thermometer that measures humidity so we could monitor the

levels regularly.

Every couple of day each of the girls would call and ask, "Has anything happened?"

I would gently remind them that it takes 28 days to hatch them and they should plan on spending the weekend they were supposed to hatch.

Candling

Candling turkey eggs involves shining a bright light through them in a dark room to check for development, with the first check usually around day 7-10.

A fertile egg will show a network of veins and a dark spot, while infertile eggs appear clear with a freely moving yolk.

Later, you can observe the embryo moving, and by day 24-25, a large air sac will be visible as the turkey grows.



Incubator used to hatch turkey eggs. This is where they stayed for 28 days.

Harper and Evelyn candled each of the six eggs and five were fertile.

We removed that egg and left the remaining five in the incubator.

The girls and I candled two more times until the 18th day and all five were still living.

Hatching Timeline

The process of hatching comes in stages and creates a lot of excitement as well as impatience for little ones.

- **Pipping:** This is the first stage, where the poult creates a crack in the eggshell using its egg tooth.

- **"Zipping":** After the initial pip, the poult gradually breaks the shell into two halves in a "zipper" fashion.

- **Hatching:** The entire hatching process can take a long time, sometimes even 12 to 48 hours after the first pip. (The poult will rest for long periods before continuing.)

- **Post-hatch:** The newly hatched poults remain in the incubator for 24 to 48 hours to dry and absorb the yolk sac, which provides their initial nourishment.

Things to Remember

- 1) **Do not disturb the Process:** Avoid helping the poult unless there's a clear indication that it is truly stuck and cannot get out on its own.

- 2) **Keep constant humidity:**



Female poult working its way out of its 28 day home.

Keep the humidity at a consistent level, around 64% for the final stage of hatching, as it is important for the poultry to be able to break through the shell.

- 3) **Be patient:** The process is slow and requires patience as the poult knows what it is doing and will be born when ready.

Their Here!

Right on schedule the first turkey started to pip with the other two quickly following.

The first three eggs to hatch were all females and Harper and Evelyn were

growing anxious for at least one male turkey.

They named the hens Sweetie, Honey and Sugar.

Finally the two remaining eggs hatched and both eggs were boys.

The girls were so excited until I explained that we would have to give one of the males away because they would fight.

They weren't too happy with that but agreed that is what they would do it.

We named the first male He-Man and the second

(Continued on Page 7)



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Happy Thanksgiving

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Newborn turkey fresh out of the incubator, drying and will soon be ready to put under a heat lamp.



Two and Half week old poults growing at a steady pace.

THE TURKEY

(Continued From Page 6)

male Sparky.

Sparky was born with a neck issue that forced his head down!

A turkey with a bent neck is often a sign of a neurological or nutritional issue.

The condition, known as wry neck or crook neck, is frequently caused by a deficiency in vitamins E and selenium, or it can be a symptom of diseases such as Marek's Disease which

is due to exposure to toxins, or a head injury.

All Sparky needed was Vitamin E due to lack of nutrition.

The treatment involved separating the bird, supplementing its diet with vitamins, and helping it eat and drink.

We did what the vet recommended and within 10 days the turkey was back to normal.

Baked Turkey

Soon after we moved the

poults to a large box with a heat lamp for warmth.

Unfortunately, the lamp slipped lower in the box and cooked Sparky the tom turkey we had just nursed back to health!

I don't know who was more devastated the girls or Gramcracker.

Needless to say we were down to one male and three females and buried Sparky where our other pets were . . . under the big walnut tree we planted a week after my mom passed away.

Growing and Growing

A hen turkey will typically start laying eggs when she is between 7 and 10 months old.

The exact age can vary slightly by breed and other factors like the amount of daylight, and some hens may not begin until they are closer to a year old.

Laying is also seasonal, with most turkey hens starting in late winter or early spring and laying until early summer.

Some breeds may start a little earlier or later, with some not laying until they are almost a year old.

He-Man

As the hens became closer to where they would start laying the male turkey's personality begins to change.

He-Man wasn't one to play with the girls, however he was never aggressive and when he was little he would let them hold him.

When we asked the vet-



1 Day old turkey poult under the brooder light

erinarian he informed us of the following:

- Male turkeys are aggressive due to a natural drive to establish dominance and protect their territory, especially during the breeding season.

- This aggression is often a result of their hierarchical social structure, where they may try to assert control over other turkeys or animals, including humans, that they perceive as lower in status.

- Their behavior can include: puffing out feathers, fanning tails, gobbling, and even pecking at shiny objects or their own reflection, which they could mistake for a rival turkey.

Male turkeys (toms) will gobble, strut, and display intimidating behaviors to establish and maintain a pecking order within the flock.

- *Territorial protection:* They can become aggressive to defend their space from perceived intruders, which can include people, pets, or even their own reflection in a window or car.

- *Breeding season:* The spring breeding season is when this aggressive behavior is most common, as males are more actively competing for mates.

- *Socialization:* Wild turkeys that have become too comfortable around humans, often due to being fed, may lose their natural

Reasons for Aggression

- *Establishing dominance:* (Continued on Page 8)



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Friday, Nov. 28

After a busy day of shopping or watching football bring the family to the Archbold Parade of Lights!!

The parade starts at 6:30 p.m.

The parade route starts at ConAgra, goes east on Stryker St. to Defiance St. Turns north on Defiance St. to Walnut St. Goes west on Walnut to LaChoy Drive and back to the ConAgra parking lot.

The main Streets will be blocked off at 6:00 pm.

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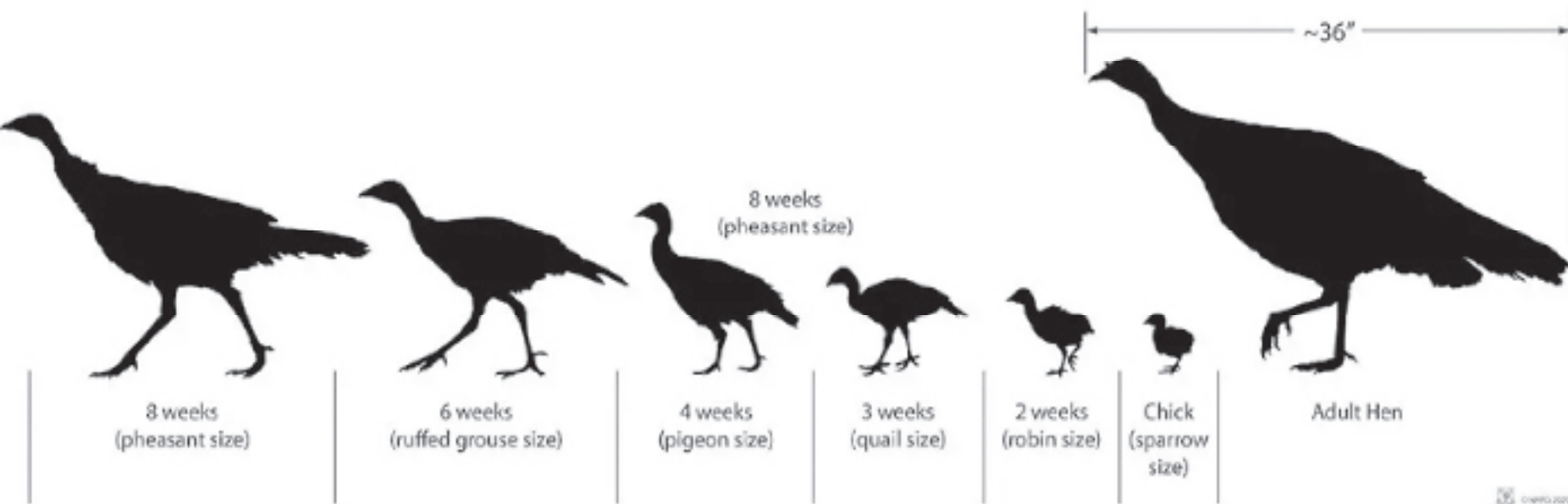
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This chart is a solid reference for aging turkey poults. (Courtesy of the New Hampshire Fish & Game Dept.)

Growth chart of a turkey hen from newborn to one years old.



A one month old male born with another male and two females

THE TURKEY (Continued From Page 7)

fear and see people as part of their territory to dominate.

What To Do If You Encounter An Aggressive Turkey

- *Do Not feed them:* This is crucial because it can lead to a lack of fear and an expectation of human interaction.

- *Haze them:* If a turkey is in your yard or driveway, establish dominance by hazing them to show you are not a threat and they should leave.

- *Don't run:* Running can trigger a chase response, as the turkey may view it as a challenge or invitation to play.

- *Avoid direct eye contact:* This can be interpreted as a sign of aggression and may provoke a confrontation.

He-Man vs. Husband

This turkey raising didn't end up being what the girls dreamed it would be and soon forgot about He-Man being a pet.

Meanwhile someone had to feed and water him everyday or he would starve!

The hens continued to be docile and looked forward every day to seeing my husband Terry come out with the feed bucket, but He-Man was ready for battle no matter what time of the day or night he would be fed.

The first time He-Man

attacked Terry he came in with a large cut on the back of his leg that bled for almost 30 minutes.

Terry said and I quote, "I'm going to shoot that turkey if he doesn't stop attacking me every time I go out there to feed him."

As time went on the attacks got progressively worse and no one wanted to deal with this rampaging turkey.

When going out to feed him Terry would carry a large stick and swing it back and forth in order to get He-Man to back up until he could get to the feeder that held his food.

Several times when I was out on our deck I could hear colorful language coming

from the coop as he fed the turkeys.

It pains me to think Terry may go to hades for swearing at a turkey!

Extending the Olive Branch

Needless to say we extended an invitation to He-Man to join us for Thanksgiving Dinner this year.

The turkey will sitting in the middle of our table on a beautiful engraved turkey platter that I bought when our son was born on Thanksgiving.

He-Man will be accompanied by dressing, mashed potatoes, sweet potatoes, cranberries, biscuits, corn,

(Continued on Page 9)



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Three month old male turkey.

THE TURKEY

(Continued From Page 8)

green bean casserole, gravy and plenty of desserts.

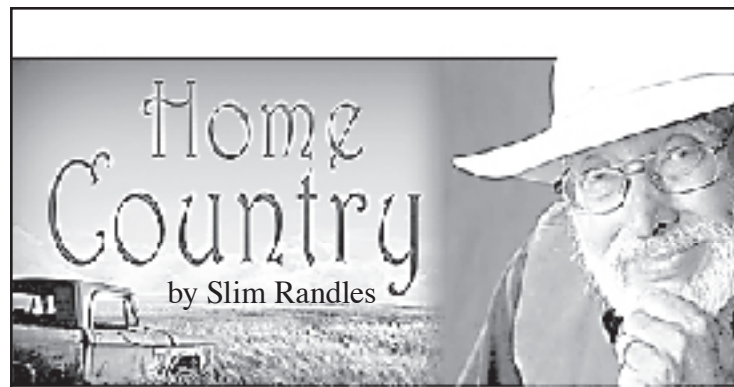
If you happen to see Harper and Evelyn please don't let on who you know joined us for Thanksgiving this year.

It will be our little secret.

Meanwhile, I am quite sure while He-Man is at our table my husband Terry will be grinning ear-to-ear.

Christine M. Smallman and her husband, Terry, live on a small hobby farm outside of Delta, Ohio. She has enjoyed a rich and diverse career in the field of education.

She enjoys gardening, reading, painting, writing, and camping. She is a firm believer in the teachings of Khalil Gabri: *Do what you love and love what you do - and you will never work a day in your life.* FN



You folks get them flu shots ever' fall?

I try not to, but Doc has this y'r nurse that's not only stouter'n a streetsweeper, but fleet of foot as well.

This y'r's Windy, a-course. So, yeah, I prit-nearly allus get one a-them shots each fall.

But I been workin' on a way to either speed me up or slow her down.

Ever seen on them summer Olympicals the relay race?

You know, when one guy's runnin' and he sticks out a stick and the next guy takes it for a while?

Thass what that there nurse looks like in hot pursuit 'cept it's a hypothermic

needle and not a stick in her hand.

Now you know ol' Doc makes fun a-me ever' dang time she catches up.

A-course, she could stand to run off a few calories here and there, mostly there.

Truth be told, wouldn't hurt me none, neither.

When Doc stops laughin' he usually says, "Windy, I don't think you're any faster'n you was last year."

"Nope," I admitted, "but I think she is."

Oh, I tried to talk Doc out of it.

Honest. I told him I been particler good this last year and took my vitermins and minerales and drank my fruity juice and all that

stuff.

See, I figgered if he got impressionated enough with my diet, I might could slip away from Vampira for one year.

But it seems like some-thin' always happens to that there plan a-mine.

For example, Doc looked at me while Nurse Sprint was in the corner, sharpenin' her needle and lookin' funny at my fanny.

"So Windy," Doc said, "you been drinkin' your fruit juices?"

"Yessir!" I replied.

"Let me guess ... was this juice mixed up with gin or vodka?"

"Well"

Doc nodded to the nurse.

I didn't even git to the restroom door.

Have a healthy autumn now,

Windy

If you think hearing from Windy's something you can tolerate, tune in to "Home Country with Slim Randles" on your country classics radio station. FN

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ONLINE ONLY CONSIGNMENT AUCTION

****START TO CLOSE 6:00 P.M.****

Thursday, December 11, 2025

Yoder Equipment, 14551 State Rt. 109, Lyons, OH
(Approx. 20 Miles West of Toledo, Just North of Rt. 20 on Rt. 109 OR Approx. 17 Miles South of Adrian, MI)
*** VIEW EQUIPMENT: Saturday, December 6, 2025 ~ 11:00 am to 1:00 pm. ***

FARMER I

2000 Volvo, Day Cab, Tenders, Cummins eng.; 1998 Cat Challenger 75E, PTO, 4800 hrs., Allis; 1998 GH 7140 MFWD, 480042 Duels SHDS Front BOLD hrs., Good; JD 750 No-tilt Drill 15-ft., Daily, Allis, Quick Fat; JD 714 10x Soil Saver; Int. 480 25-ft. Disc; GH 4300 25-ft F.G.; LM 226 27-ft Rolling Harrow; JLM 1000-gal. Sprayer 80-ft Booms; GT Side Dump; Hill brass 350 Gravity Board Auger;

FARMER RETIREMENT, DELTA, OHIO

II CONCRETE CONTRACTOR

2012 Bobcat S185 C>A> Side Ldr, only 2150 hrs., SHARP; 2000 Haulmark 28-ft Enclosed Trailer; 1997 Haulmark 24-ft Enclosed Trailer; 2016 Quality 18-ft Steel Pump Trailer; 2004 Loadmax 25-ft Tenders Trailer; M&W billescoed 32-ft.; Diamond Table Top Electric Rod Bender; Elico 24" Floor Saw; 2" Gas water Pump; (2) Whitman 48" Power Trowel; Clipper Floor Saw; Partner Concrete Chain Saw; 7500 & 4000 Watt Generators; M&W Compactor; (45) Concrete Blocks; Electric Road Cutter; (5) Steelplates 1'x8'x18", 7'-4'x8", 2'-8'x8", 2'-8'x10"; Wood Concrete Forms; Steel Nail Sinks; Milwaukee Core Drill.

CONCRETE RETIREMENT, LYONS, OHIO

TRACTORS - SPRAYER

2003 JD 4710 4WD, 80-ft. Booms, 1000-gal. 6000-hrs, AGC; 1983 AC 8010 MFWD 18x38 Duels, 7600 hrs.; 1987 Int 7080 W.F.; Kubota B2320 4WD mldr., 202 hrs.; 1948 JD A p.u., AGC; (2) 1951 JD B; 1957 JD B Unstyled Restored; 1941 JD H; Int. Cab mldr.; Kubota RTV X900 CL, Side by Side; JD 440 Snowmobile; JD 110 LM.

COMBINES - HEADS

2008 GH 7010, Pro 800, 62042 Duels, 1800 sep. hrs. SHARP; 1992 JD 8600 F&A, 18x30 Duels, Field Ready; 1997 JD 8600 SHDS, 4000 Sep Hrs.; 1976 JD 8800, 4700 hrs; JD 8800 chopping G.H.; JD 843 & 443 G.H.; JD 826, 222, 218 G.H.; LM HT 25 Header Cart.

TRUCKS - TRAILERS - CAR

2018 Chev Traverse 150K, very clean; (2) 2007-2008 Sterling A 9500 Single Axle; 1998 Volvo Tenders Dump Truck; 2007 Ford F250 4x4 Powerstroke mldr.; 2006 Jet 23-ft Hopper Bottom, SHARP; Salt Spreader; 2007 Freightliner Van M2108 20-ft.

EQUIPMENT

JD 1770 18x30 No-Till, Lq. Fat; JD 7200 Conservell 12x30 Lq. Fat; Great Plains 1006 No-tilt Drill 10-ft w/Great Seed; Int 8200 15-ft Drill; Brent CPC Ex Disc Ripper; (2) Glencon 11x Soil Saver; JD 810 7x V-Ripper w/Counter; Kongskilde 3500 34-ft F.G. SHARP; Kongskilde Tipli K 28-ft. F.G.; GH 4800 25-ft F.G.; Int. 45 12-ft F.G.; Glencon 10-ft F.G.; LM 1226 35-ft Rolling Harrow; LM 220 27-ft Rolling Harrow; (2) J&M TF 212 SS & 32-ft Rolling Harrow; LM 30-ft Rolling Harrow; JD 724 18-ft Soil Finisher; Krauss 27-ft Disc; Int. 480 22-ft Disc; Oliver 12-ft Disc; Ballou 30-ft & 18-ft Camfoot Packer; Haybuster Rock Picker; Yeller 15-ft Rotary Hog; Arisany 15-ft Chopper; JD 884 Reck; Century 600-gal. Tenders Sprayer 45-ft Booms; (3) 1000-gal. Numa Tanks; (2) Anhydrous Bars Dr & Ex; Killbuck 600 Gravity Box 16T. gear; (2) Killbuck 300 Gravity Booms; Cardinal 65-ft 8-in. Auger; Flatbed Wagons; (40) 3-in. Irrigation Pipe 30-ft; Hemagator 14-ft; Filco PTO Irrigation Pump; Brock 3000-bu Wet Bin; Garbel 30-ft 250-lb. Overhead Crane;

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TERMS: \$10,000 non-refundable deposit due sale day with
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EQUIPMENT PREVIEW:

SUNDAY * NOVEMBER 30, 2025 * 2:00 P.M.- 4:00 P.M.

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Norm Wehri & Tim Wehri ~ Equipment Questions Call Norm @ (567) 204-9940

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EQUIPMENT PREVIEW:

Monday * December 8, 2025 * 12:00 P.M.- 3:00 P.M.

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