

Features

Dallas anachronistic feedstore about to vanish

United Press International
DALLAS — The Vickery Feed Store was unique on Greenville Avenue because it was for real.

The Railroad, directly across the street, has train car motif but it is a steakhouse. Just down the block is The Filling Station, an

actual, old-fashioned filling station building that Bonnie and Clyde supposedly once frequented, but it serves hamburgers. A few blocks to the north used to be the Chicken Ranch, a relocated section of the infamous LaGrange brothel, but it too was converted to a restaurant.

But the Vickery Feed Store sold food for chickens and heifers, not people. There was no funky nostalgic decor, just sacks of feed.

In the midst of the burdensome traffic, supercharged social scene and escalating property values of "Boogie Boulevard," the Vickery Feed Store was Dallas' foremost anachronism. It obviously was endangered because of the site's real estate value. When a suitable tenant for the spot comes along, the store will become history.

"Our objective is to save the building, if possible," said Lou Reese of Shuler-Reese and Com-

pany Real Estate, which bought the land two months ago. "But we recognize that it will have to be put to an alternate use. The time for it to be a rural feed store is over."

"I knew when they began talking about widening Greenville that this place couldn't last forever," said Mack Mosier, 18, manager of the store. "I knew someone would come along eventually and buy this place and that would be the end. And that's a shame."

Vickery was once a self-contained community that offered a rural alternative to growing Dallas. In its heyday of the 1940s and 1950s, the feed store served hundreds of farmers in the area, but in 1960 Dallas' northward sprawl swallowed Vickery.

Apartments, restaurants and stores went up nearby but the feed store continued selling hen scratch and feed. But when Shul-

er-Reese purchased the store and raised the rent, it was no longer affordable.

Even in recent years the store was almost a rallying point for those not caught up with urban Dallas.

"It's almost like a community center for our regular customers," Mosier said. "I know every one of my customers. Everybody's real friendly. The community needs it. Besides, it's the last stand of Vickery."

Some customers have suggested a petition to have the building declared an historical landmark. The store, however, is at least two years short of being 50 years old — the cutoff for historical buildings.

"Because Vickery has practically disappeared from the face of the earth, it will be difficult to find the documentation needed," said Catherine Slick, former president of the Dallas Historical Preservation League.

2 girls fail Valentine deliveries

United Press International
HOUSTON — Prosecutors led two teen-agers who got by delivering holiday flowers "grinches who stole Valentine's Day" and charged them each with felony theft.

Cathi Diane Ferguson, 17, and Connie Lynette Schell, 16, said Tuesday they had been finding addresses for flower deliveries and got bored so they at least \$280 worth of flowers, said Assistant District Attorney Mary Milloy.

The teens were hired by Hughes Florist and Green to help with busy holiday deliveries, said Shirley Taylor, owner of the store.

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WHEN THE WINE RUNS OUT

The enjoyment at that wedding was high; everyone was excited and happy and there seemed to be plenty of wine. Actually nothing on earth is a more joyful occasion than a wedding. Everyone celebrates; no one is unhappy—it is the beginning of a new life, it is the continuation of human existence.

Traditionally a marriage feast always has wine, lots of wine—even the feast itself largely depends on wine. And so it was in Cana of Galilee at the wedding which Jesus of Nazareth was invited to attend. They were enjoying the wine; the future looked bright; everyone was excited and full of joy. It seemed as though it would never end—when all of a sudden, the wine ran out (John 2:1-3).

Today our human life is just like that wedding feast at Cana of Galilee. There is, no doubt, some real joy in human living—we have material things, our family and friends, and other types of pleasure. Sometimes there is real excitement, the future may look bright and there seems to be plenty of "wine" to drink. (In the Bible wine always signifies life, because unlike water which comes from a source without life, wine is the very life essence of the grape.) However, just as at the wedding at Cana of Galilee the "wine" of human enjoyment always runs out. Human enjoyment is fleeting—it is real, but it is running out. Sooner or later in every situation, in every relationship, in every type of human pleasure—"the wine runs out." Our family, though so dear to us, one day is gone. Our husband or wife, maybe the perfect match, one day is no longer with us. Our friends, with whom we have shared so much joy, one day are separated from us. Our college days, so exciting are soon ended. Our profession, though enjoyable, one day comes to an end. In every human achievement, pleasure and joy—the "wine" is slowly running out. And eventually our own life, regardless of how successful or joyful, is over. In this "wedding feast" in which we all live today—"the wine" is running out.

But Jesus was invited to this wedding. This shows us that the Lord came into the world, into a situation where human enjoyment existed, but was not lasting. The changing of water into wine was more than just a miracle. It was a sign to show us why Jesus came into the world.

There were six empty water pots at the wedding (Jn. 2:6-7) signifying man, created on the sixth day (Gen. 1:27, 31) as a vessel (II Cor. 4:7). The

Lord commanded the waterpots to be filled with water. Water here signifies death (Ex. 14:21; Rom. 6:3), showing that all men, though in a situation where there is some enjoyment, are actually just vessels filled with death. The Lord then commanded that some of the water be drawn out and brought to the ruler of the feast (Jn. 2:8). When the ruler tasted the water made wine, not knowing it had been water, he exclaimed, "Every man serves the good wine first, and when they have drunk freely, then that which is poorer; you have kept the good wine until now" (Jn. 2:10).

Actually, our human life is just the poor wine, greatly inferior and quickly exhausted. The best wine is the Lord's life, the divine and eternal life we receive in Jesus. In this life our pleasures and enjoyment will never end. Even as the ruler of the feast discovered that the new wine was better than the former wine, so we too shall find that the life we receive in Jesus is much better than our natural life. This life is best because it is the life of God Himself. When we receive this life a marriage feast begins that will never end.

There is a way that your death can be changed into life. Today Jesus is present. He is in this world, a place where human joy is quickly fading, and He is here waiting to change your death into life. Regardless of what our life may be like now, in God's eyes it is full of death and running out. The Lord Jesus is here to change your death into life—and not just a continuation of your poor life, but new life, the best life—the life of God Himself in Christ Jesus.

You can receive Jesus right now. He is waiting to fill you with the life of God. Open to Him now by praying this simple prayer: "Lord Jesus, thank you for coming into this world to change death into life. Lord Jesus, I realize that my human life is not lasting and I want You to fill me with Yourself as life divine. O Lord Jesus, come into me."

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MSC BASEMENT

Biological clocks set by rhythms

NEW YORK — If you hear an odd ticking in the middle of the night, it may be your biological clock.

Biological clocks actually don't tick — in the usual sense. But they exist. In the biological sense, they are "wound" by the rhythms of moon, sun and Earth.

There is evidence that nature's timepieces can affect health, disease patterns and even tinker with emotional and mental states.

Some of the evidence was listed in a recent National Institutes of Health roundup of the subject by Dr. Margie F. Taylor.

"Records kept by surgeons in Florida," she said, "showed that hemorrhages in throat operations were 82 percent higher when the moon was in the second quarter."

"Other doctors have found periodic variations in the onset of hepatitis and epilepsy."

And researchers at the University of California, Berkeley, have declared that rhythmic phenomena may be associated with cancer.

Also of interest is a report from the General Clinical Research Center at Masonic Memorial Hospital in St. Paul, Minn.

Researchers lessened the sometimes fatal side effects of two potent anti-cancer drugs by giving the drugs at what has been declared "the right time of day."

When one drug was given early in the morning, it reduced kidney function by an average of 30 percent. The same dose, given in the afternoon or evening, resulted in kidney function remaining normal.

It has long been known that blood pressure, hormone levels, temperature, and other measurements of the body's state have been found to vary with time of day.

The daily rhythms are called "circadian" — Latin for "about a day." That is because the time during which a cycle occurs is close to, but usually the same as the 24-hour cycle.

Studies of many kinds show cycles of light and dark also can affect growth patterns or cycles. Consider deer. They are expected to shed their antlers every spring and grow a new pair.

Research at Brown University, Providence, R. I., however, has shown powerful effects of changing these annual dark-light rhythms.

"At first we thought that antler replacement might be caused by innate biological clock set to time passage of a year," said Dr. Richard Goss of Brown. "Now we've found that the time does not have to be normal 12-month cycle."

Pilot studies, funded by the NIH, have shown speeding up the cycle dramatically affects growth.

When deer were kept on 16-hour days with equal 8-hour light and dark periods, they completed their "yearly" cycle of antler replacement in only eight months.

According to Goss, when deer were exposed to days that were two-thirds of normal, their yearly cycles were shortened by one-third. And, believe it or not, further studies demonstrated that deer can grow up to four sets of antlers per year when exposed to correspondingly shortened "years."

"For the first time in the long history of research on biological cycles we have compelling evidence of how daily and annual cycles are related," Goss says.

"The findings have implications for all animals, as to how the relative lengths of alternating light and dark can affect growth and maturity."

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