

Minister paid last time; wife remains in coma

DALLAS (AP) — The Rev. Walker Railey will draw his last paycheck from the church from which he is on leave, and acquaintances say he has not yet found a job or sold his house.

Railey has been on leave of absence from the First United Methodist Church since May and has not preached since Easter Sunday, three days before his wife, Margaret "Peggy" Railey, was choked nearly to death.

As Railey's last semimonthly paycheck of \$2,521 arrives, Mrs. Railey remains in a coma in a nursing home at Tyler, where her parents live.

Railey has refused to talk to police about the attack and in late July was subpoenaed to a Dallas County grand jury, where unidentified sources have said he declined to answer questions, citing the Fifth Amendment.

Dallas psychologist Lucy Papillon was reported, also by unidentified sources, to have told grand jurors she and Railey had been dating for about a year, had taken trips together and had discussed marriage.

In addition to costs not covered by

insurance for Mrs. Railey's medical care, Railey incurred bills from a medical hospital and a psychiatric hospital when he attempted suicide.

He did so by taking a drug overdose 10 days after the April 22 attack on his wife.

Church sources say little more than \$5,000 has been contributed to four trust funds set up for Railey, his wife and their two children.

"I've talked to him a few times in the last few weeks, but he hasn't said what he might do," said Ralph Shannon, chairman of the church's pastor-parish relations committee.

"He's still in Dallas, and he hasn't told me about any plans he has to move."

Spurgeon Dunnam, editor of the *United Methodist Reporter*, said, "My understanding is he is in search of some sort of position where he can apply his talents and earn a livelihood, but so far nothing has come through."

Dunnam said Railey "has legitimate concern with substantial debts for medical care and for legal fees in

addition to the normal costs of trying to make house payments."

Railey's home is up for sale and listed at \$279,000.

A group of 18 ministers asked Bishop John Russell in the middle of August to conduct a morals investigation of Railey, but Russell rejected the request, citing insufficient evidence.

He said he and the leaders of seven other North Texas church districts are exploring options to resolve the matter, but would not elaborate.

Meanwhile, a church committee continues to sift through candidates for the head ministry of the 6,000-member congregation at First United Methodist Church in downtown Dallas.

"We had more than 30 people we were considering," Shannon said. "It's been narrowed down, but we're still working on it and checking on people."

"My guess is it will be several weeks yet before a minister is selected, but that will be up to Bishop Russell."

Entrepreneur hopes to see mesquite jelly recipe sell

PORT LAVACA (AP) — Jim Chatelle hopes to become the king of mesquite, the thorny trees that dominate portions of the Texas landscape.

But unlike the popularity of mesquite wood for barbecue flavoring, Chatelle is appealing to the sweet tooth of Texans with his mesquite bean jelly.

"Mesquite wood is the hottest thing in barbecue," he says. "We're just jumping on the bandwagon," he says.

Two years ago, Chatelle, laid off with the closing of the Port Lavaca chemical plant where he worked, took his mother's old mesquite jelly recipe and made a few dozen jars to give away as gifts for friends and relatives.

So many people liked the sweet mesquite-flavored jelly and asked for more that last August he made 75 dozen half-pint jars with the idea of selling them around Christmas time.

He set up a taste booth in a San Antonio department store where about a thousand people tried a sample.

By Thanksgiving, he was sold out of his supply.

"It surprised the heck out of me," says Chatelle, 58.

"I was out of business," he says. "I didn't have any product to sell. But I figured I had a pretty good product."

"If I could have had more going into the Christmas season..."

So this year Miriam's Texas Original Mesquite Jelly is going big-time. The product is named after his mother, Miriam, who made the jelly

when he was growing up in the Rio Grande Valley.

Chatelle has moved the operation out of his house and into a shop on Port Lavaca's Main Street, where he's starting to fill up a room-size cooler with mesquite bean juice and frozen beans so he can prepare 3,000 to 5,000 dozen jars.

"My customers are beginning to get a bit antsy," he says.

"I don't think anyone else does this commercially. I may not make it but I'm going to try my best. I think I've got a good product as long as I can get the beans."

— Jim Chatelle, mesquite bean jelly maker

Mesquite bean jelly — a clear orange-colored jelly that tastes similar to flavored honey — has become a trendy item in gourmet food shops.

Keith Raatz, assistant manager at Butterfield's, an Austin shop that carries the product, says, "It sells really well. It doesn't stay on the shelf long at all."

Chatelle even has trouble keeping a supply in his shop where customers come in off the street to gobble up the sweet spread.

Rebels from Mexico will receive honors for creating first revolution

HOUSTON (AP) — Two horsemen who once rode with the legendary Mexican hero Francisco "Pancho" Villa were feted Sunday as men of action who helped create the first revolution of the 20th century.

Jesus M. Gonzalez, 87, who served as a captain to Villa between 1912 and 1915 said, "General Villa was a man, as all other men are, with a simple heart but high ideals."

Villa was a "hardworking, very honest man, and he knew when to

become angry when the situation called for it," he said, speaking through an interpreter.

Gonzalez and Leo Reynoso, also 87, were presented commemorative awards by the Urbina Foundation, a charitable group dedicated to, among other things, preserving Texas and Mexican history.

Reynoso rode with Villa's forces between 1914-1916.

A third rider with Villa's revolutionaries — Rafael Lorenzana Reyna,

88, who served with Villa between 1915 and 1917 — was unable to travel from his home in Brownsville for the occasion. His grandson, Jose Munoz, accepted the award on his behalf.

According to Dr. Manuel Urbina II, chairman of the Urbina Foundation, the three are the only known survivors of the group that helped wage the Mexican revolution between 1910 and 1917.

"When you finally realize that there are only three or four survivors, then you realize that is the time to bring them together," said Urbina, who has conducted extensive videotaped interviews with the men for posterity.

"When we become aware that this episode in history is about to pass before us, it becomes time to honor them," he said.

During the presentation, a videotape on Villa's life and times was shown, followed by interviews with his widow, Gonzalez and Reynoso.

In addition to the commemorative awards, both men were given specimens of currency for the Mexican state of Chihuahua bearing Villa's name issued in 1913.

The Mexican Revolution began in 1910, when opposition grew to the 30-year rule of President Porfirio Diaz. Francisco Madero, supported by revolutionaries in northern Mexico headed by Villa and in southern Mexico by Emilio Zapata, assumed the presidency in 1911, exiling Diaz to Paris.

Instability and fighting wracked the country until 1917, when the present-day constitution was written.

Hermilo Lopez Bassols, Mexican consul general in Houston, said the Mexican revolution was the first of the 20th century and the country's current government is striving to continue the work of the first revolutionaries.

Forest service burns trees to stop infestation by insects

HUNTSVILLE (AP) — About 100 acres of insect-devastated forest were burned by the U.S. Forest Service on Sunday as part of reforestation efforts, officials said.

The burn, which took place in the Four Notch area of Sam Houston National Forest, was expected to continue over several more days until about 2,500 acres in all is burned, U.S. Forest Service spokesman Hal Glassman said.

Wet, overcast weather helped the operation, he said.

"We needed the wet," he said. "The long dry spell for the last three to four weeks made it too dry. Conditions for prescribed burning are very scientific — we need the rain, we need the ground moisture. If you burn and it's too dry, it could get out of hand."

The forest was devastated in the early 1980s by southern pine beetles.

The first step of the reforestation program, chopping away damaged trees, began in April 1986 amid protests by environmentalists and the Texas attorney general's office.

The burn is intended to rid the

area of underbrush and dead and dying vegetation. The third step is planting healthy new trees, Glassman said.

Two activists turned out to protest the burning, speaking with reporters outside where a news conference was held with reporters in New Waverly, south of Huntsville.

One of the two, George Russell, 43, of Huntsville, was issued a citation for obstructing traffic.

Glassman said great care was taken to be sure the fire remained within limits.

Burning operations Monday probably will cover a bigger area since workers had become more familiar with the operation.

"We had over 50 men there in case it broke away," Glassman said. "The first day is always a little slow."

The ground was ignited using flammable material dropped by helicopter. He estimated Monday's burn may take place over between 800 and 1,000 acres.

Following the burn, the area will be replanted, mostly likely next January or later, Glassman said.



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