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God Bless America!



# Motley County Tribune

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LUBBOCK, TEXAS 79409



*"Voice of the Foothills"*

50¢

Established 1891

December 20, 2001

Issue No. 51

## REJOICE



*As we commemorate the birth of the Infant Jesus  
we are filled with hope that men will learn to dwell  
together in peace and harmony.*



## "THE MEANING OF PEACE"

There once was a King who offered a prize to the artist who would paint the best picture of peace. Many artists tried. The King looked at all the pictures, but there were only two he really liked, and he had to choose between them.

One picture was of a calm lake. The lake was a perfect mirror for the peaceful towering mountains all around it. Overhead was a blue sky with fluffy white clouds. All who saw this picture thought that it was a perfect picture of peace.

The second picture had mountains, too. But these were rugged and bare. Above was an angry sky from which rain fell, and in which lightning played. Down the side of the mountain tumbled a foaming waterfall. This did not look peaceful at all. But when the King looked, he saw behind the waterfall a tiny bush growing in a crack in the rock. In the bush a mother bird had built her nest. There, in the midst of the rush of angry water, sat the mother bird on her nest.... a picture of a perfect peace.

Which of the pictures won the prize? The King chose the second picture. Do you know why?

"Because," explained the King, "peace does not mean to be in a place where there is no noise, trouble or hard work. Peace means to be in the midst of all those things and still be calm in your heart. That is the real meaning of peace."



**THE YEAR END BRINGS  
NO GREATER PLEASURE THAN THE  
OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS TO YOU  
SEASON'S GREETINGS AND GOOD WISHES.**

May your holidays  
and New Year  
be filled with happiness

From all of us at  
**RED BALL GIN**

## Bum Deal at Christmas

by Dr. Ralph F. Wilson

Once in a while at Christmastime I catch myself complaining- about little things, inconveniences, mainly. "I don't need this now," I mutter, and wonder, "Why does this have to happen to me? Is God mad at me?" Then my thoughts turn to Mary and Joseph. Face it. Their story doesn't center on sugar cookies and egg nog.

Joseph was off work for weeks because the government made him travel to a distant town to fill out some stupid registration papers.

You can bet the Nazareth biddies hounded Mary about her pregnancy. Have you ever been called "slut"?

Can you imagine taking a four-day donkey ride to Bethlehem at full term? Of course, if Mary didn't want to ride, she could always walk ... or waddle.

Think about a camping trip with winter winds whistling through your tent. Or do you

have a tent?

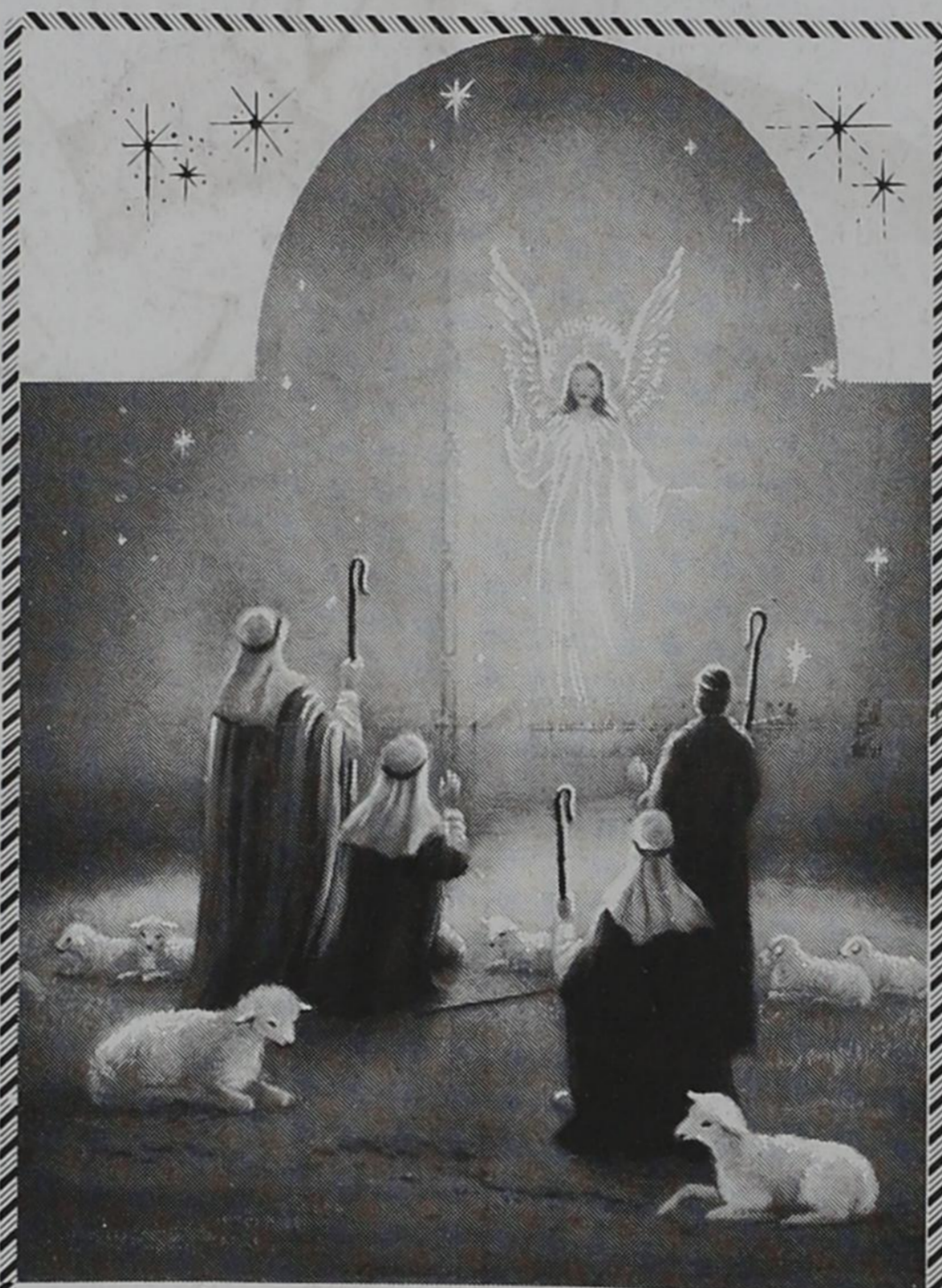
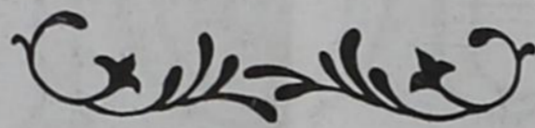
How about being in labor in a dirty cattle barn? One whiff was all Mary needed.

And then, in the middle of the night after a grueling labor, there's a herdsman banging on the door.

Why, of all things, did God let His own Son to be born under those conditions? Was God mad at Mary and Joseph? Of course not. Maybe God allowed the stable so we could see His glory backlit amidst life's humbling experiences.

Life does have its downside, its reversals, its annoyances. And where is God when we despair? He was with Mary and Joseph every moment, working out His plan, just as He is with you and me right now.

I guess Christmas reminds us look to beyond our aggravations. God is doing something. You know, if we'll lift our eyes above Bethlehem's hovels for a moment, we might even catch a glimpse of the Christmas star.



## O HOLY NIGHT

May God bless you and keep you in the circle of His precious love now and forever. Have a wonderful Christmas season.

**Lighthouse Electric  
Cooperative, Inc.**

R

HOLIDAY  
GREETINGS

Our prescription for a perfect holiday season: Lots of fun and laughter. We are always on call to serve you and your family.

Payne Pharmacy

Floydada



We wish to all, a warm,  
Joyous Holiday Season.  
Your friendship means a lot.

Panhandle Plains  
Federal Land Bank

## A SOLDIER'S CHRISTMAS

Written by unknown U.S. Marine stationed in Okinawa, Japan in 1999.

TWAS THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS,  
HE LIVED ALL ALONE,  
IN A ONE BEDROOM HOUSE MADE OF  
PLASTER AND STONE.

I HAD COME DOWN THE CHIMNEY  
WITH PRESENTS TO GIVE,  
AND TO SEE JUST WHO  
IN THIS HOME DID LIVE.

I LOOKED ALL ABOUT,  
A STRANGE SIGHT I DID SEE,  
NO TINSEL, NO PRESENTS,  
NOT EVEN A TREE.

NO STOCKING BY MANTLE,  
JUST BOOTS FILLED WITH SAND,  
ON THE WALL HUNG PICTURES  
OF FAR DISTANT LANDS.

WITH MEDALS AND BADGES,  
AWARDS OF ALL KINDS,  
A SOBER THOUGHT  
CAME THROUGH MY MIND.

FOR THIS HOUSE WAS DIFFERENT,  
IT WAS DARK AND DREARY,  
I FOUND THE HOME OF A SOLDIER,  
ONCE I COULD SEE CLEARLY.

THE SOLDIER LAY SLEEPING,  
SILENT, ALONE,  
CURLED UP ON THE FLOOR  
IN THIS ONE BEDROOM HOME.

THE FACE WAS SO GENTLE,  
THE ROOM IN SUCH DISORDER,  
NOT HOW I PICTURED  
A UNITED STATES SOLDIER.

WAS THIS THE HERO  
OF WHOM I'D JUST READ?  
CURLED UP ON A PONCHO,  
THE FLOOR FOR A BED?

I REALIZED THE FAMILIES  
THAT I SAW THIS NIGHT,  
OWED THEIR LIVES TO THESE SOLDIERS  
WHO WERE WILLING TO FIGHT.

SOON ROUND THE WORLD,  
THE CHILDREN WOULD PLAY,  
AND GROWNUPS WOULD CELEBRATE  
A BRIGHT CHRISTMAS DAY.

THEY ALL ENJOYED FREEDOM  
EACH MONTH OF THE YEAR,  
BECAUSE OF THE SOLDIERS,  
LIKE THE ONE LYING HERE.

I COULDN'T HELP WONDER  
HOW MANY LAY ALONE,  
ON A COLD CHRISTMAS EVE  
IN A LAND FAR FROM HOME.

THE VERY THOUGHT  
BROUGHT A TEAR TO MY EYE,  
I DROPPED TO MY KNEES  
AND STARTED TO CRY.

THE SOLDIER AWAKENED  
AND I HEARD A ROUGH VOICE,  
"SANTA DON'T CRY,  
THIS LIFE IS MY CHOICE;

I FIGHT FOR FREEDOM,  
I DON'T ASK FOR MORE,  
MY LIFE IS MY GOD,  
MY COUNTRY, MY CORPS."

THE SOLDIER ROLLED OVER  
AND DRIFTED TO SLEEP,  
I COULDN'T CONTROL IT,  
I CONTINUED TO WEEP.

I KEPT WATCH FOR HOURS,  
SO SILENT AND STILL  
AND WE BOTH SHIVERED  
FROM THE COLD NIGHT'S CHILL.

I DIDN'T WANT TO LEAVE  
ON THAT COLD, DARK, NIGHT,  
THIS GUARDIAN OF HONOR  
SO WILLING TO FIGHT.

THEN THE SOLDIER ROLLED OVER,  
WITH A VOICE SOFT AND PURE,  
WHISPERED, "CARRY ON SANTA,  
IT'S CHRISTMAS DAY, ALL IS SECURE."

ONE LOOK AT MY WATCH,  
AND I KNEW HE WAS RIGHT.  
"MERRY CHRISTMAS MY FRIEND,  
AND TO ALL A GOOD NIGHT."

CHRISTMAS,  
A Time To Cherish

...And a time to say "thank you" to all the  
cherished friends we've made this year.  
Happy Holidays!

Mane Place  
Family Hair Care Center  
347-2350  
"We aim to please"



## CHILD OF PROMISE: A PRAYER FOR CHRISTMAS MORNING

by Dr. Ralph F. Wilson

*Who are you little baby? Who are you little Christchild, lying so quietly in manger straw? Who are you that angels should herald your presence and stars announce your birth? That wisemen and shepherds — the high and the low — should bow before you? Who are you, child of Bethlehem, son of David? What is your future? What is your promise?*

*Seven centuries before your birth the ancient Scriptures speak of you....*

*For to us a child is born,  
To us a son is given,  
And the government will be on his shoulders,  
And his name will be called  
Wonderful Counselor,  
Mighty God  
Everlasting Father,  
Prince of Peace.  
Of the increase of his government and of peace  
There will be no end.\**

*What is this government? What is this peace, O Christmas baby? Are you a warrior-to-be? Are you a king? What promise do you hold?*

*How can you be the Mighty God while flecks of straw, blown from the stable floor, dot your fine hair? How is this?*

*How can you be the Everlasting Father while not yet an hour old? How is it?*

*How can you be a Wonderful Counselor before you've learned? A teacher before you've been taught? What is the wellspring of your wisdom?*

*What is this mystery set before us, enigmatic newborn lying in a stable manger, born of parents poor, yet destined for this greatness? You must be the One we've hoped for, longed for all our lives. The One who will set us free from our depressions and oppressions, within and without.*

*Little wonder angels cannot contain their Good News of Great Joy. Little wonder heavenly host sing in chorus,*

*Glory, to God in the highest,  
and on earth peace to men....\*\**

*Be my peace, O Prince of Peace. Let its gentle, joyful blanket comfort my nervous soul, and still the warring of your earth.*

*Be my government, O Christ. Govern not my own heart only, but also this desperate world in which I live.*

*Be my Everlasting Father and my Counselor. By your counsel guide me out of confusion and turmoil into the sunlight that always shines above my low-lying clouds.*

*Welcome, Christchild. All my life I have needed you. O Child of Promise, this Christmas morning I give to you my heart. Amen.*

\* Isaiah 9:6-7a  
\*\* Luke 2:14

**PEACE ON EARTH**  
GOOD WILL TO ALL MANKIND

peace and joy  
always

Our three wishes for you:  
love, health and happiness.

**New To You**

owntown Matador



by Hans Christian Andersen  
(1872)

It was terribly cold and nearly dark on the last evening of the old year, and the snow was falling fast. In the cold and the darkness, a poor little girl, with bare head and naked feet, roamed through the streets. It is true she had on a pair of slippers when she left home, but they were not of much use. They were very large, so large, indeed, that they had belonged to her mother, and the poor little creature had lost them in running across the street to avoid two carriages that were rolling along at a terrible rate. One of the slippers she could not find, and a boy seized upon the other and ran away with it, saying that he could use it as a cradle, when he had children of his own. So the little girl went on with her little naked feet, which were quite red and blue with the cold. In an old apron she carried a number of matches, and had a bundle of them in her hands. No one had bought anything of her the whole day, nor had any one given her even a penny. Shivering with cold and hunger, she crept along; poor little child, she looked the picture of misery. The snowflakes fell on her long, fair hair, which hung in curls on her shoulders, but she regarded them not.

Lights were shining from every window, and there was a savory smell of roast goose, for it was New-year's eve; yes, she remembered that. In a corner, between two houses, one of which projected beyond the other, she sank down and huddled herself together. She had drawn her little feet under her, but she could not keep off the cold; and she dared not go home, for she had sold no matches, and could not take home even a penny of money. Her father would certainly beat her; besides, it was almost as cold at home as here,

for they had only the roof to cover them, through which the wind howled, although the largest holes had been stopped up with straw and rags. Her little hands were almost frozen with the cold. Ah! Perhaps a burning match might be some good, if she could draw it from the bundle and strike it against the wall, just to warm her fingers. She drew one out—"scratch!" How it sputtered as it burnt! It gave a warm, bright light, like a little candle, as she held her hand over it. It was really a wonderful light. It seemed to the little girl that she was sitting by a large iron stove, with polished brass feet and a brass ornament. How the fire burned! And seemed so beautifully warm that the child stretched out her feet as if to warm them, when, lo! The flame of the match went out, the stove vanished, and she had only the remains of the half-burnt match in her hand.

She rubbed another match on the wall. It burst into a flame, and where its light fell upon the wall it became as transparent as a veil, and she could see into the room. The table was covered with a snowy white table-cloth, on which stood a splendid dinner service, and a steaming roast goose, stuffed with apples and dried plums. And what was still more wonderful, the goose jumped down from the dish and waddled across the floor, with a knife and fork in its breast, to the little girl. Then the match went out, and there remained nothing but the thick, damp, cold wall before her.

She lighted another match, and then she found herself sitting under a beautiful Christmas-tree. It was larger and more beautifully decorated than the one which she had seen through

the glass door at the rich merchant's. Thousands of tapers were burning upon the green branches, and colored pictures, like those she had seen in the show-windows, looked down upon it all. The little one stretched out her hand towards them, and the match went out.

The Christmas lights rose higher and higher, till they looked to her like the stars in the sky. Then she saw a star fall, leaving behind it a bright streak of fire. "Some one is dying," thought the little girl, for her old grandmother, the only one who had ever loved her, and who was now dead, had told her that when a star falls, a soul was going up to God.

She again rubbed a match on the wall, and the light shone round her; in the brightness stood her old grandmother, clear and shining, yet mild and loving in her appearance. "Grandmother," cried the little one, "O take me with you; I know you will go away when the match burns out; you will vanish like the warm stove, the roast goose, and the large, glorious

Christmas-tree." And she made haste to light the whole bundle of matches, for she wished to keep her grandmother there. And the matches glowed with a light that was brighter than the noon-day, and her grandmother had never appeared so large or so beautiful. She took the little girl in her arms, and they both flew upwards in brightness and joy far above the earth, where there was neither cold nor hunger nor pain, for they were with God.

In the dawn of morning there lay the poor little one, with pale cheeks and smiling mouth, leaning against the wall; she had been frozen to death on the last evening of the year; and the New-year's sun rose and shone upon a little corpse! The child still sat, in the stiffness of death,

holding the matches in her hand, one bundle of which was burnt. "She tried to warm herself," said some. No one imagined what beautiful things she had seen, nor into what glory she had entered with her grandmother, on New-year's day.

# The Little Match Seller

**Share The Spirit!**

*Hoping you experience  
all the love and joy  
that is Christmas*



**QUALITY DISCOUNT**

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**HAPPY HOLIDAY**



May your holidays be merry  
and filled with the good  
things in life. Our sincere  
thanks for your patronage.

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Each deposit insured to \$100,000  
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**EQUAL HOUSING  
LENDER**

**MERRY  
CHRISTMAS**



To all,  
we wish health,  
happiness and good cheer,  
now and throughout  
the coming year.  
**MEREDITH  
GAS & SUPPLY**



*Capture the Sparkle...  
Capture the Joy!*



*Happy holidays to all!*

**Kathy's**

Flomot

Clois & Kathy Shorter



We remember everything Christmas has meant to us over the years,  
and hope that you find the joy that this season brings.

**Our many thanks to each and all.**



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Cooperative, Inc.**

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# YULETIDE GREETINGS

May the Holiday Season inspire Peace and Love within all of our hearts...and the hope for Peace within the years to come. May we truly enjoy a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

---

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**LAW ENFORCEMENT RECOGNIZED** — Motley County Sheriff Jim Meador receives a certificate from Matt Schaefer, regional director for Senator Phil Gramm. Senator Gramm's office honored local law enforcement officials for their efforts in reducing drunk driving in the community and area. Also pictured are Mark Gumaer, DPS trooper, left, and Motley County Deputy, Rickey Lawrence, right.

## New programs to be implemented for Motley County ISD teachers, students

During the public hearing for the 2000-2001 Academic Excellence Indicator Systems (AEIS), Mr. Copp explained to the board that the district had received a rating of "Academically Acceptable" from the Texas Education Agency and that the high school program was a "Recommended Program" for the second straight year. New programs are being implemented to help teachers, parents, and students increase our rating for the 2001-2002 year.

The Motley County ISD met on December 10, 2001, at 7:30 p.m. in a regular meeting. All board members were present, except Les Woolsey. Also present were Rick Copp and Bettye Stevens. Representing the Motley County Staff was Carolyn Ewing and Marci Bateman.

No one was present for open forum.

During Mr. Copp's Superintendent report, he informed the board members that the district did not receive one of the renovation grants. The manner in which the grants were awarded was disturbing because so many of them were awarded to Charter Schools. Mr. Copp has drafted and sent a letter to Senator Teel Bivins and Speaker of the House Pete Laney, expressing concerns about the grants and also about the

Accelerated Reading Initiative funding that was reduced last month. The enrollment at the present is 181 and the average daily attendance is 95.45%. An athletic report was given about the participation of students now involved with the basketball program. Students who received All District honors in football were also recognized. These students are: Ysef Alvarado, Clint Cooper, Brad Baxter, T.J. Christopher, Tony Salazar, and Shawn Marvel. This year, instead of having PIPs basketball program for the elementary students, Lacy Rankin will be working with those who are interested in doing a similar program. The program will be called "Gym Rockers."

Items for board action:

A. Approved the minutes of the previous meeting.

B. Approved the expenditure report and reviewed the financial statements. Vote 6/0.

C. Due to Clarendon College requiring that the teacher teaching the college English class have a Masters Degree, Mrs. Stafford will not be having the senior English class this year. Mr. Gleghorn is checking into having college credit courses offered over the Distance Learning Lab for interested seniors this spring.

D. Approved the Option 4 Agreement with Klondike ISD. Vote 6/0.

E. Open bids for the small section of land, 1.4 acres, on the west end of the lot on the north end of the football field. Three bids were received: Brad and Mindy Jameson, Seab Washington, and Gene Chapman. The bid was awarded to Bradley and Mindy Jameson. Vote 6/0.

F. Approved tax resolution to be sent to TEA to continue to tax up to the rollback level for at least the next three years. Vote 6/0.

The board entered executive session at 8:20 p.m. to discuss the Cost Reduction Plan to be sent to TEA and personnel. The board exited at 9:07 p.m.

G. Approved the Cost Reduction Plan to be sent to TEA and following conditions: Vote 6/0.

1. A projected cash flow for the 2001-2002 school year.

2. A projected fund balance for the next three years.

3. A cost reduction plan; detailing areas to be reduced and respective amounts of reduction.

4. A statement of tax efforts that the district will tax up to the rollback level for at least the next three years.

H. Adjourned. Vote 6/0.

## State can allow speed limit increases in rural areas

(Austin) -- Rural areas of Texas could soon see higher speed limits on portions of the state highway system.

New rules allowing for a maximum speed limit of 75 mph in rural, less populated areas were approved last week by the Texas Transportation Commission during its monthly meeting.

The rules implement House 299, which allows speed limit increases in counties with populations of less than 10 persons per square mile. The bill was passed during the 77th Legislative session.

"The reality is that in rural areas, people usually drive a few miles over the speed limit because of the dis-

stances involved in getting from point A to point B," said Rep. Pete P. Gallego, who authored the legislation. "The increase in the speed limit will allow people more room to gauge a comfortable yet safe driving speed when traveling."

Before an increase in the speed limit can be considered, traffic and engineering studies must be conducted by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) to ensure that a higher speed limit is safe and reasonable for a particular roadway.

The factors evaluated during speed limit engineering studies may include: prevailing speeds, roadway width, crash history, horizontal or

vertical curves and shoulder conditions. The amount and location of driveways for residential and commercial developments are also considered in the engineering studies.

The 75-mph speed limit will not apply to commercial trucks, truck tractors, trailers and semitrailers. But it will apply to light trucks and light trucks pulling a trailer. The nighttime speed limit will remain 65 mph.

Motley County is among eighty-six of Texas' 254 counties, predominantly in West Texas, that are eligible to request a 75-mph limit.

### Tribune to be closed next week

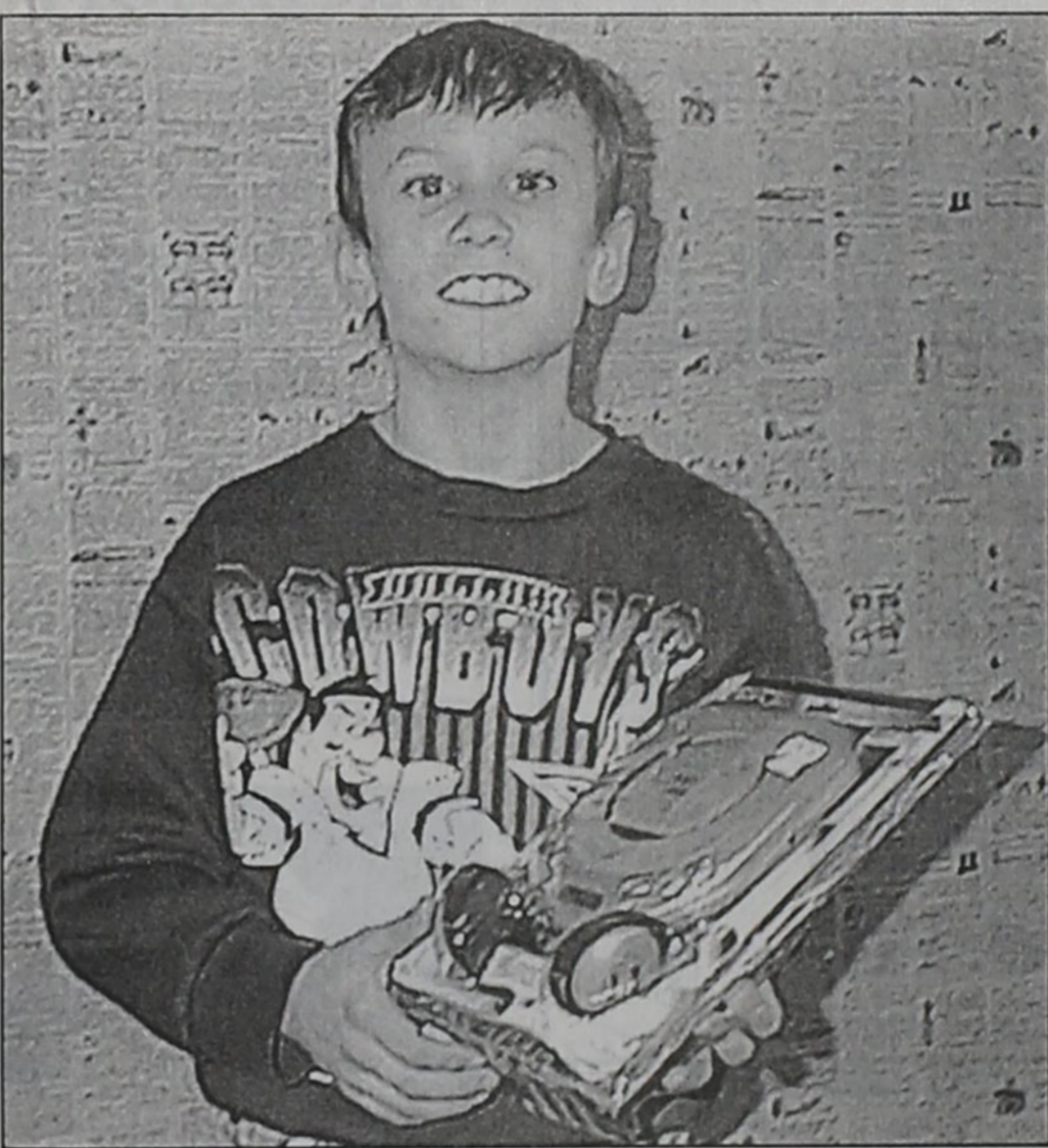
The Motley County Tribune will be closed next week, December 24-28. There will not be a paper for that week. The next issue of the paper will be the January 3, 2002 issue. The deadline for that issue will be Monday, December 31 at 10:00 a.m.

The Tribune staff would like to extend a very joyous and blessed holiday season to everyone.

### Roaring Springs Methodist Church to hold Christmas Eve Service

The Roaring Springs First United Methodist Church will hold a special Candlelight Service, Christmas Eve, December 24, beginning at 6:00 p.m.

Everyone from all denominations is welcome to attend.



### Coloring Contest Winners

Megan Ford was first place winner in the 3-4 age division in the Christmas Coloring Contest, sponsored by the Motley County Tribune. Reagan Elliott, received the first place award in the 5-7 age division, (pictured above). Megan is the 4-year-old daughter of Gary and Denise Ford of Roaring Springs. Reagan is the 7-year-old son of Shawn and Shonda Elliott of Matador.

Patrick Harvey received the first place prize for winning in the 8-9 age division. Patrick is the 8-year-old son of Foy and Linda Nipp of Roaring Springs.

The contest was judged by longtime interior decorator, Shirley Smith, of Calico Treasures - Decorator's Studio.

Second place winners were Katie Barton, 4-year-old daughter of Bobby and Brooke Barton of Matador, and McAllister Moore, 5-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. David Moore of Plainview.

All of the entries were great and Mrs. Smith stated that the decision was very hard to make. Congratulations winners!

**Christmas Open House**  
Thursday, December 20  
all day  
**First State Bank**

## PUT A LITTLE ELEGANCE UNDER THE TREE JEWELRY

For that "special" Christmas gift, you need to see Thacker Jewelry's large selection of fine Jewelry.

Also available is Jewelry Cleaner, Jewelry Cleaning Cloths, or One Troy Ounce Silver "Twin Tower" Commemorative Coins, great for Stocking Stuffers.

Many Discounts throughout the Store!

When you come to the Roaring Springs Store, register for a Turquoise & Pearl Necklace to be given away Saturday afternoon, December 22

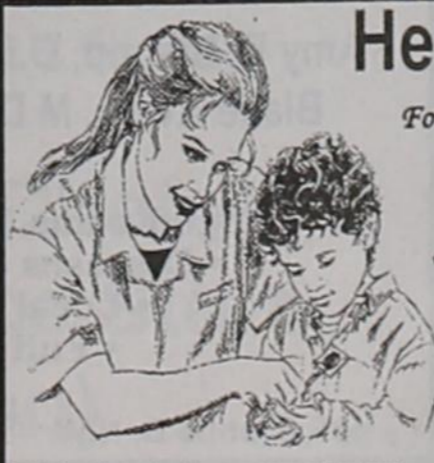


**Thacker Jewelry**  
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**Kate Hurt**  
Candidate for  
Motley County  
and District Clerk

Democratic Primary  
March 12, 2002

Political ad paid for by Kate Hurt



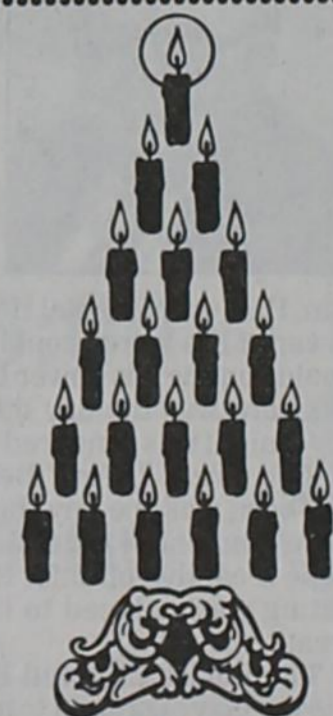
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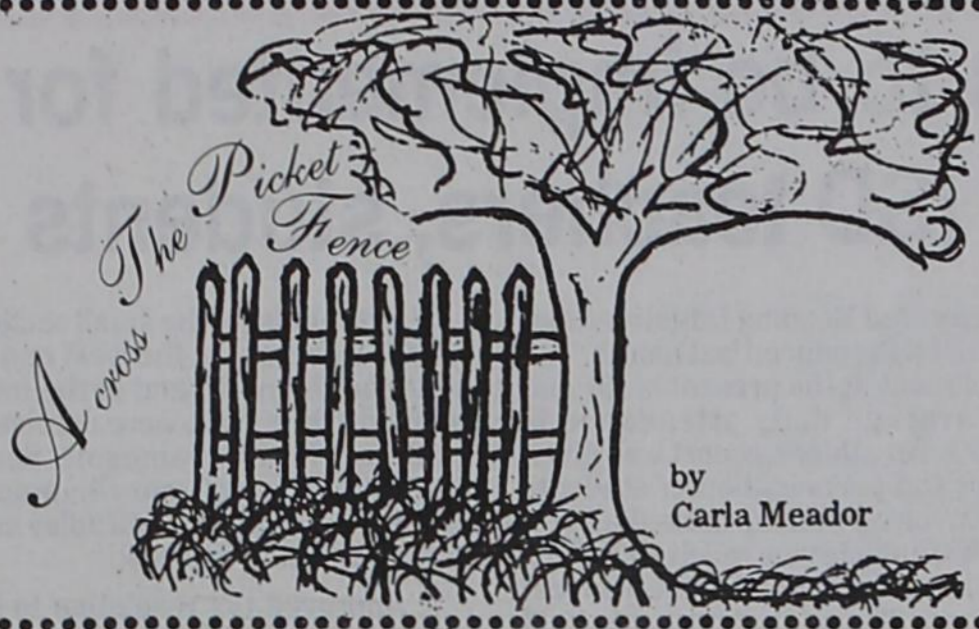
\* This is a discount card program and not insurance



**MERRY CHRISTMAS**  
Motley County  
Justice of the Peace

Cora Smallwood





Have you noticed the window display at Matador Variety? It's beautiful. The decorations are about 50 years old. They were some that Mrs. Vivian Jacobs used when she owned Matador Variety. Mrs. Jacobs owned the store for 52 years. Shane Jones and Sondra Francis, owners, are dedicating the window display to the memory of Mrs. Jacobs.

My column this week comes from the December 25, 1941 issue of the *Matador Tribune*. Mrs. Lila Meador printed the following poem in her column, "Pied Pinions".

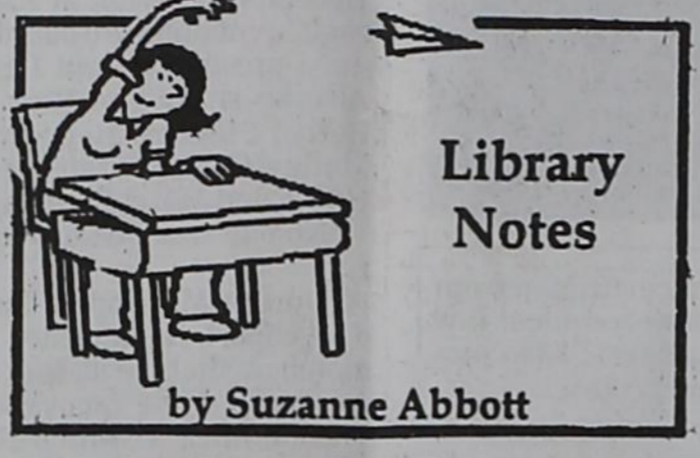
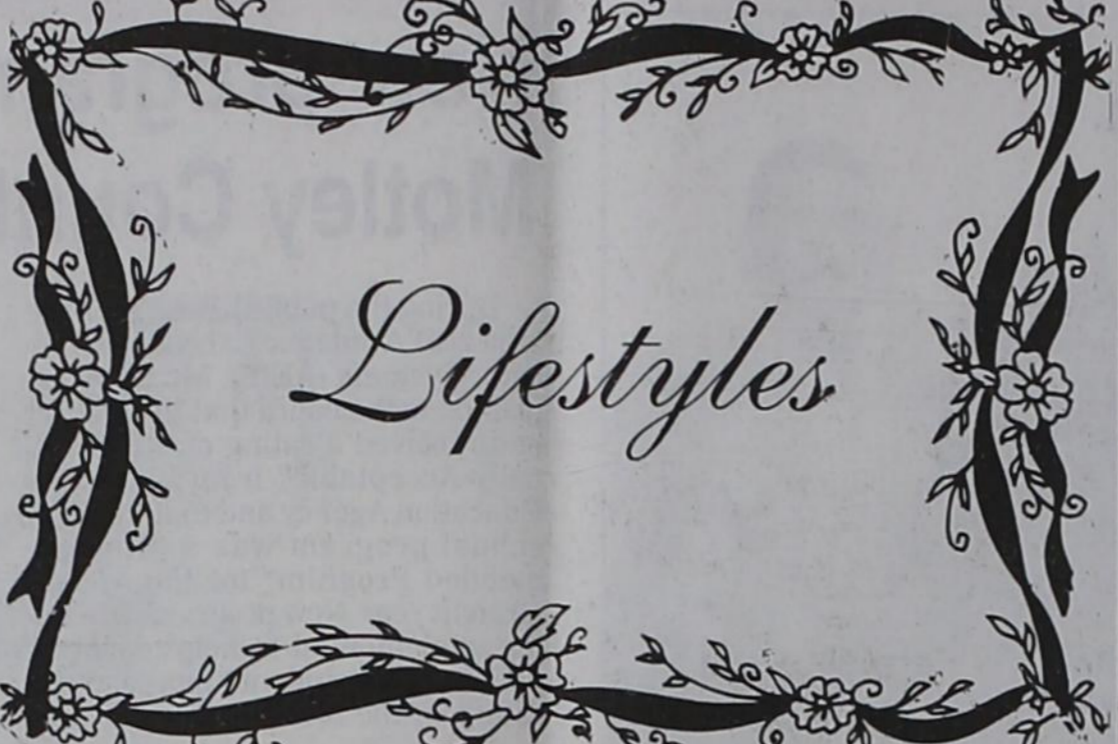
**Always Christmas**  
by Wilbur D. Nesbit

Used to think that Christmas was nothin' but a day  
To get a lot o' presents an' to give a lot away.  
Shout "Merry Christmas!" an' helped to trim the tree —  
Just a day o' Christmas was all that I could see.  
Since I found that Christmas is more than any day,  
Christmas came to our house — an' never went away.  
Struck me all of a sudden that friendliness an' cheer  
Was meant to be on duty more than one day in the year!  
If we're happy at Christmas, why not the day before,  
An' the day that follows, an' so on, evermore?  
Got to thinkin' of it — an' that is

why I say  
Christmas came to our house — an' never went away.  
Lots of us go ploddin' along the road o' life  
An' think one day o' gladness will make up for all the trife  
But the Christmas spirit can show you how you need  
To make each a day a Christmas in thought an' word an' deed —  
Used to pack the kindness in camphor balls next day  
Till Christmas came to our house — an' never went away.  
We just keep on givin' to strangers an' to kin  
An' find that what is goin' out is always comin' in;

Makes the sun shine brighter where we've got to live  
To learn that givin' is keepin' what you keep you give,  
Holly is December, an' violets in May —

An' Christmas came to our house — an' never went away.  
Used to think that Christmas was nothin' but a date  
Till I learned that truly you would never have to wait,  
But that it's the spirit that never stays apart,  
If you let it find you, keep it in your heart.  
Since I found that Christmas is more than just a day,  
Christmas came to our house an' never went away!"



We appreciate the gift to the library of a year's subscription to *Guideposts* by Mr. and Mrs. Jim Cooper. We also appreciate the donation to the library by Mr. and Mrs. Ed D. Smith. We thank Palma Smiley for her donation to the library.  
Our holiday closing days at the library will be Monday and Tuesday, December 24 and 25, and Monday and Tuesday, December 31 and January 1.  
New books in the library include several new paperbacks, romance

and western. In hardback, the library just received a very intriguing non-fiction book called *How the Scots Invented the Modern World*. Also, we have Elmer Kelton's newest, *Way of the Coyote*.  
Other new books in the library include *Natural Suspect* by William Bernhardt, *Jackdaws* by Ken Follett, and *Jacaranda Vines* by Tamara McKinley.  
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all Readers Everywhere!



**Conel Jacob Murphy**  
Rene and Gary Laughlin of Midland, former Motley County residents, announce the birth of their first great grandchild, Conel Jacob Murphy. He was born December 6, 2001, and weighed six pounds, one ounce and was 18 and a half inches long.  
Welcoming the new arrival are parents, Tracy and George Murphy of Princeville, New Jersey, maternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Jay Laughlin of Alloway, New Jersey and paternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. George Murphy of Salem, New Jersey.



*Jesus is the reason for the season!*

**Open Christmas Eve**  
10:00 am - ?  
~ Storewide ~  
**An extra 25% off!**  
**10% off all AVON New to You**  
Downtown Matador ~ 347-2388

**"A Significant Day"**

Sometime in the fall over 2000 years ago this world witnessed an event that will never be fully understood this side of Heaven. Ed Rehbein points out four major points in his study of this incredible day.

**The Boundless Became Helpless.**  
The day Christ was born was the day that the Voice that thundered worlds into existence whimpered for his mother's bosom. How unthinkable! How outrageous, that God, who with the mere power of His words could voice the universe into being (Ps. 33: 6-9), would confine His power to the cry of a helpless child. The day Christ was born was the day the boundless, limitless power of God's creative might was rendered as helpless and defenseless as a little child.

**The Great "I Am" Became the Here and Now.** The day Christ was born was the day the vastness of eternity was squeezed into a mere moment of time. God, the great "I Am", the Eternal One, became a captive of time. He who had lived from everlasting to everlasting was reduced to living moment-by-moment and breath-by-breath.

**The Potter Climbed Inside His Clay.** God took the dust of earth and the clay of ground to make mankind. And as a potter would shape a lump of clay, God set His great Hands upon His clay and fashioned man and woman. Yet on the day Christ was born, God left His spiritual body and took on flesh and blood. The Potter did the inconceivable. He left His wheel and climbed inside His own clay.

Yes, it is certainly the day, not the date, Christ was born that is so significant. But why did God take such extreme measures that day? He did it all for you and me. The day Christ was born was the day hope was born in the hearts of all men.

**Roaring Springs Church of Christ**  
Michael G. Crowley, Sr.  
Radio Programs, K-96FM  
Bible Study - 10 am      Worship - 9 am

**Erin Jones receives Bachelors Degree**

Erin Jones of Matador received a Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Studies degree from Wayland Baptist University during commencement ceremonies held December 8.

**20% - 40% off all clothing!** Beautiful selections to choose from

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**Motley County Tribune**

**Family Eye Care**

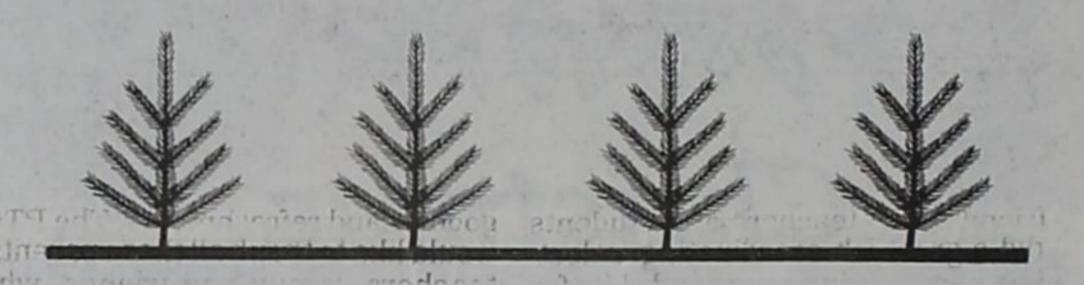
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*Jalie Mashell Robnett and Matthew John Crawford together with their parents Mr. Buddie Robnett and Ms. Carla Robnett and Rev. and Mrs. Johnny Crawford invite you to share in this special day on Saturday, the fifth of January Two thousand and two at three o'clock in the afternoon First Baptist Church Matador, Texas*



**Friends of Dora Watson are invited to an open house to celebrate her 90th Birthday**

Thursday, December 27, 2001  
2 pm to 5 pm

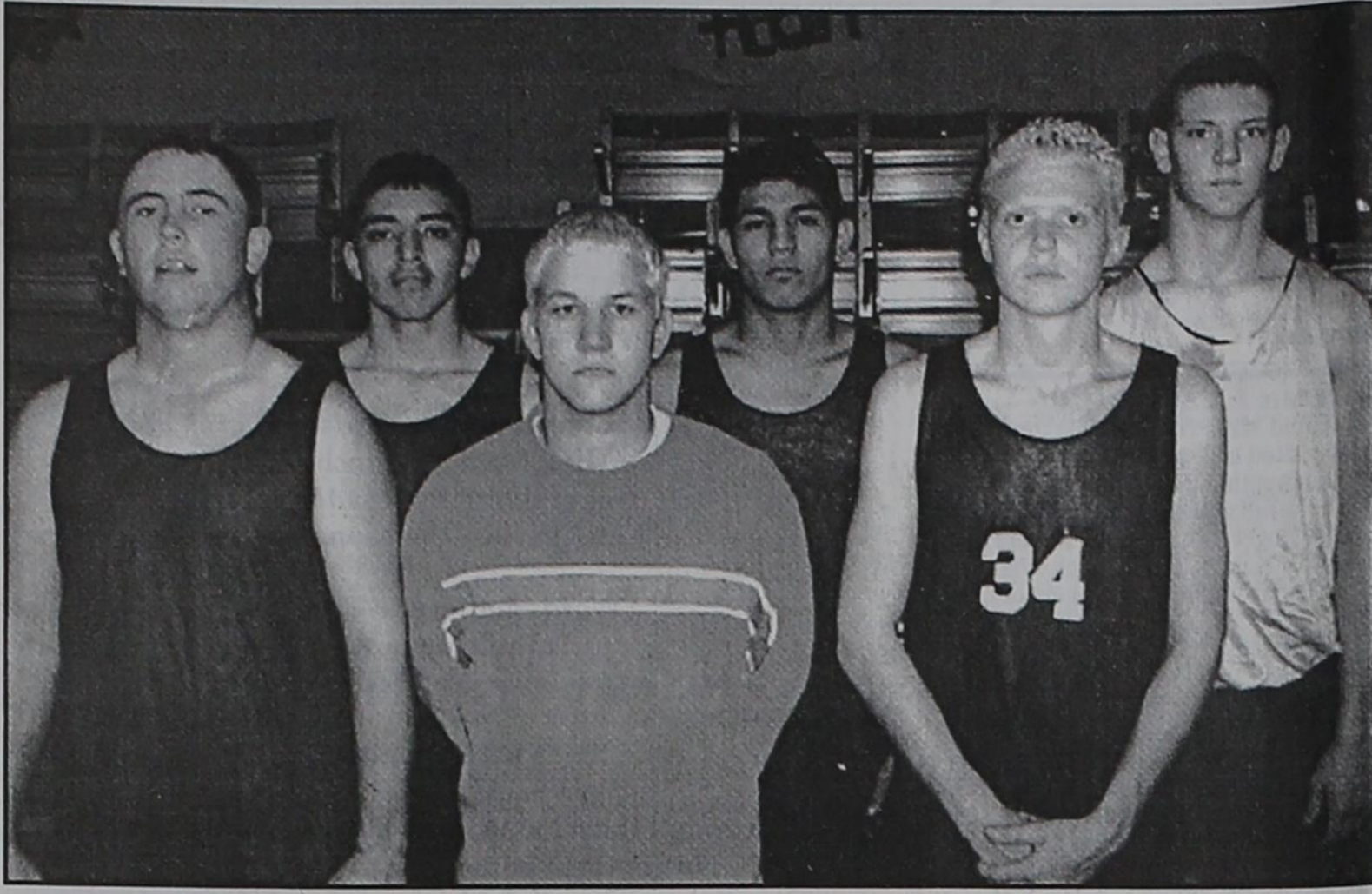
in the home of  
**Jim & Jerry Watson**  
1701 South Main St.

No Gifts Please

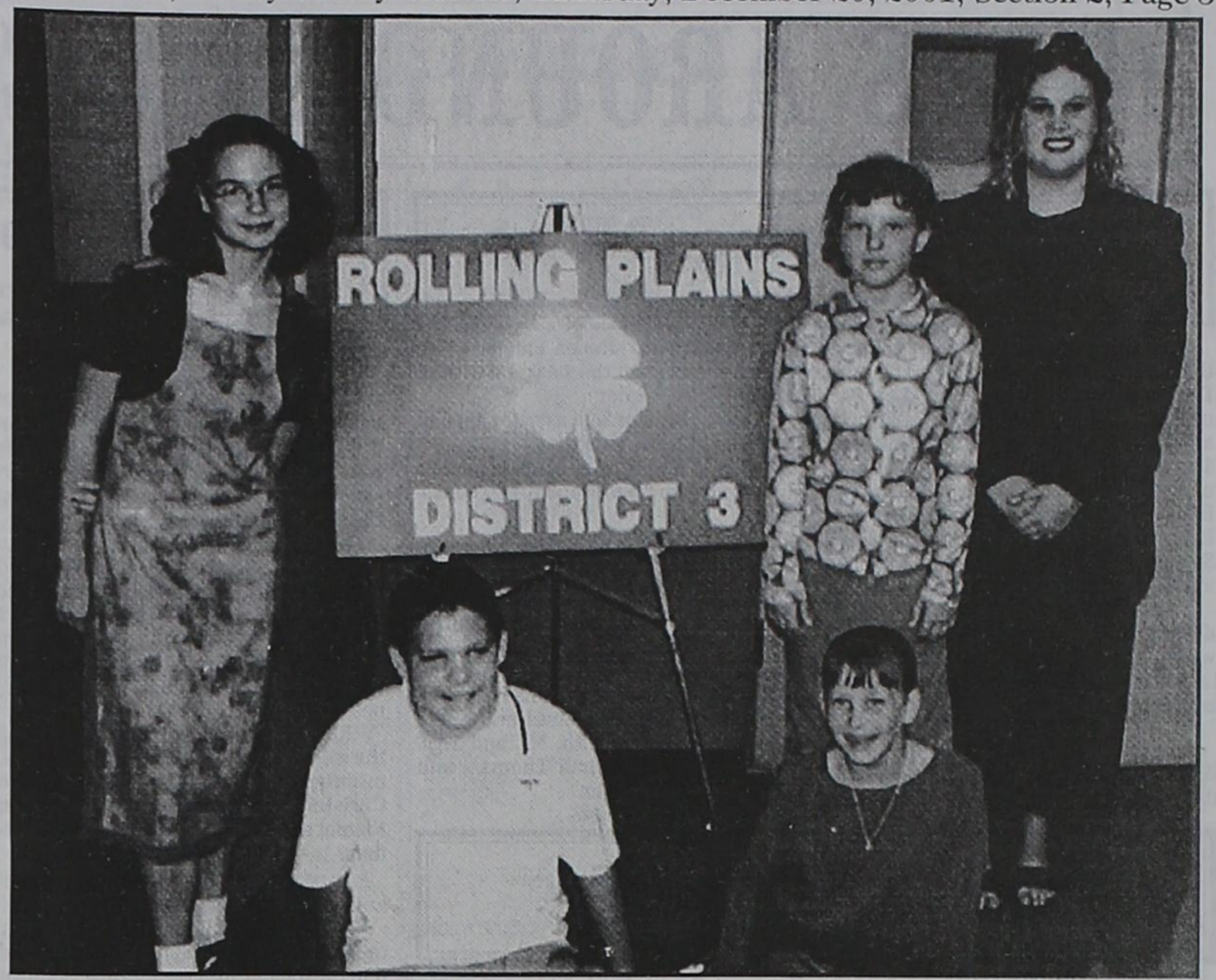
*This brings a wish at Christmas time that you always will be blessed, with the Peace and Hope this season brings and with lasting happiness.*

**Script Printing**  
Floydada





2001 DISTRICT 6-A ALL-DISTRICT FOOTBALL SELECTIONS — Receiving All-District honors from Motley County are, (left to right), Brad Baxter, Senior, First Team Lineman, Second Team, LB; Tony Salazar, Senior, Second Team QB; T.J. Christopher, Junior, Second Team Lineman; Ysef Alvarado, Senior, First Team RB, First Team, Secondary; Shawn Marvel, Senior, Second Team Secondary; Clint Cooper, Junior, First Team TE, First Team, DE.



Mylissa Gilmore, Casey Fletcher, Shane'a Russell, Kayla Hollinsworth and Sherri Thomas, pictured left to right.

# SPORTS

## Lady Matadors get big win over Spade

The Lady Matadors had a big win over Spade, December 11, defeating them, 57-13.

Chasity Holman led in scoring with 19 points, followed by Courtney Hays with 14; Brittany Moore (Fr.) put in 11; Brittany Donaldson, 4; Brittany Moore (Jr.), and Kelsi Wallace, each added 2 to the score.

Chasity also led in rebounding with 6. Brittany Donaldson and Kelsi Wallace, each had 4.

The JV Ladies lost to Valley that same night, with the final outcome, 24-34. Stachia Baxter led in scoring with 7 points, followed by Annie Green, with 6. Sierra Atherton added

4; Charlie Ream and Sabrina Osborn each put in 3 and Susana Mendoza added 1.

Sabrina Osborn led in rebounding with 4. Susana Mendoza grabbed 3 and Annie Green, 2.

The Lady Matadors outscored the Silverton Lady Owls, here, December 14, for two wins.

The J.V. girls came out on top, 41-32, for the first game of the night. Sierra Atherton led in scoring with 14 points. Stachia Baxter added 11; Sabrina Osborn, 9; Annie Green, 4; Charlie Ream, 2; and Amanda Ashby, 1.

The Varsity girls were the win-

ners with the final score of 49-41. Brittany Moore (Fr.) led in scoring with 15 points. Courtney Hays added 11; Lisa Perryman, 8; Brittany Moore (Jr.), and Chasity Holman, each added 5 to the score; Brittany Donaldson, 3; and Kelsi Wallace, 2.

Coach Bowles stated, "The girls showed tremendous effort both defensively and offensively."

## Local 4-H members compete in District Food Show

Five Motley County 4-H members attended the Rolling Plains District 4-H Food Show, November 17, at the Wilbarger Auditorium in Vernon.

4-H members competing were Shane'a Russell, Fruits and Vegetables; Kayla Hollinsworth, Breads and Cereals; Mylissa Gilmore, Nutritious Snacks; Casey Fletcher, Desserts; Sherry Thomas, Main Dish.

Top honors went to Mylissa Gilmore, Yogurt - Cereal Sundaes, Second Place, and Shane'a Russell, Crunchy Broccoli Salad, Third Place.

In the Food & Nutrition Project these 4-H'ers learned the importance of including foods from each of the basic food groups of the Food Guide Pyramid in the daily diet. They also

learned the principles of nutrition as they relate to health, physical fitness, and appearance as well as acquiring and demonstrating skills in planning, purchasing, preparing, and serving tasty, attractive, and nutritious meals and snacks.

Congratulations is extended to these 4-Hers.

## Dear Santa, I want a doggie

Dear Santa,

I want a doggie. I was being a good girl. My baby sister, Mercy, wasn't being good, but please get her a present.

Thank you, Santa,  
Ruby Renee Klebahn

Dear Santa,

I like your white beard. I have been a good boy to my cousins, Ruby and Mercy.

I want a Fire Ball Hot Wheels and a Computer. I will leave you some candy on the roof. Thank you for my toys.

Thank you again, Santa,  
Marcus Ortiz

Dear Santa,

I don't really want anything for Christmas because I think I have everything that I need right now. I guess you could really say that all I want is to be with my family and spend Christmas together. I don't know if I'll be working Christmas Eve or Christmas Day.

Love,  
Tony Salazar

Dear Santa,

For Christmas I want a brand new Ford F-350 supercab, 4x4 standard, long bed. I also want a 2001 YZ250 or a CR 250. I would like to get a new rifle, shotgun, and new camouflage.

Thank you,  
Brandon Moore  
PS. I would also like to receive at least two million dollars, but if you can't, one million will be okay.

Love,  
Courtney Hays

Dear Santa,

How are ya? For Christmas I would like to get my car, a new stereo, and a phone with my own line.

Love,  
Mylinda

Dear Santa,

For Christmas I want one thing, I want Osama Bin Laden. If I had Osama Bin Laden I would turn him over to the FBI. I would collect the reward for him and become famous. With the reward I would pay off all my debts and buy myself a '67 Mustang Shelby GT 500 so that I could look cool and show off.

Next I would buy the Texas part of the Matador Ranch, S Lazy S Ranch, and Tongue River Ranch. With my fame I would be able to get a super model girlfriend who is nice and won't try to steal my fortune.

Sincerely,  
Justin Jameson

Dear Santa,

To start off with, I want a brand new silver Firebird Trans Am. With dual exhaust and a nice system, leather interior is my preference, with T-tops. While you are at it, go ahead and fill it up with gas, wash and wax it for me. Next I want a full scholarship to any college I choose. I also want a huge beach house in Hawaii and my own private limousine and driver. I would also like a 747 for my family and myself. Have a safe trip and pick me up a pizza on your way.

Dear Santa,

For Christmas I would like a 1994 Ford F-150 metallic blue, with wide tires and chrome rims. It has to be standard and positive traction, rear wheel drive. Better make it a 4x4 just in case I get stuck. Better put a 426 hemi in it while you are at it, and the rear suspension raised up a little.

Thank you,  
Frank Martinez

Dear Santa,

Since my mom has clearly stated that she will not grant me with a 2001 BMW hard top convertible (midnight blue). I hope you can grant my wish by Christmas. I would be eternally grateful.

Love,  
Kelsi Wallace

### MOTLEY COUNTY PTO NEWS

Last Thursday, Motley County School students presented a wonderful Christmas Program for family and friends. The teachers and students did a great job coordinating, selecting, and learning songs and skits for the Christmas Program. An A+ in our book!

After the evening presentation of

Christmas skits and songs, the Motley County PTO served a bountiful and delicious assortment of holiday goodies and refreshments. The PTO would like to thank all those parents, teachers, family and friends, who made this evening a wonderful and memorable event. Your efforts are greatly appreciated!

### Cooking With Kids

#### Edible Ornaments

Baking Time: 8-10 minutes  
Makes about 3 dozen

- 1 box (16 ounces) confectioners' sugar
- 2 tablespoons powdered egg white
- 6 tablespoons water
- assorted food colorings
- 1 package (18 ounces) refrigerated sugar cookie dough
- 1/4 cup all-purpose flour
- 1/4 teaspoon almond extract
- assorted color sugars

1. In a large bowl, using an electric mixer set on medium speed, beat sugar, powdered egg white and water until blended. Divide the icing among several small bowls; leave one bowl plain. Add food coloring to remaining bowls for desired colors. Cover bowls of icing until ready to use.

2. Preheat oven to 350°F. In a large bowl, mix refrigerated dough, flour and almond extract; stir until combined.

3. On a lightly floured surface, using a lightly floured rolling pin, roll dough to a 1/4-inch thickness. Using the ornament templates, cut out shapes. Reroll scraps and continue cutting shapes, as needed.

4. Bake cookies until golden, 8-10 minutes. Transfer pan to a wire rack; cool about 10 minutes. Transfer cookies to wire racks; cool completely.

5. Scoop half of colored icings into pastry bags fitted with fine tips. Pipe icing outlines onto cookies, as desired; let icing dry, about 10 minutes.

6. Using a paintbrush and remaining icing in bowls, fill in piped outlines.

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### Great Last Minute Gifts!

Pennzoil Auto Emergency Kits - \$19.99  
(includes fix a flat, booster cables, tools, first aid kit, etc.)

Good Selection of Moore Maker  
and Old Timer Knives

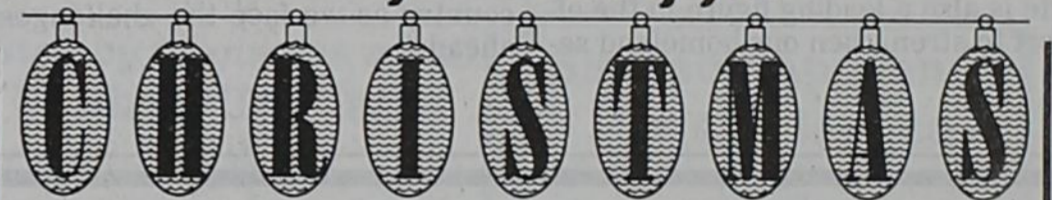
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### LAST MINUTE SHOPPER'S SPECIALS

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&  
Christmas  
Eve  
9:00 - 5:30

Matador Variety

347-2820



# NEWS AROUND THE COUNTY

## Roaring Springs News

By Odessa Mullins

The coffee drinkers enjoyed coffee at the Methodist Fellowship hall on Monday, December 17. LaVoe Thacker, Lea Peacock, Ruby Hipp, Cleo Watson, Lula Swim and Joyce Smith furnished the eats. Those attending, other than those already mentioned, were Barbara Peacock of Biloxi, Miss., Buzz Thacker, Bill Peacock, Larry Watson, Rev. Paul Stearns, Reba Sweeney, Corky Marshall, J.N. Fletcher and Dean McInroe.

Celebrating an early Christmas Sunday, were Mary Lumsden, her sons and wives, Mr. and Mrs. Tommy Largent of Lubbock, and Mr. and Mrs. Don Largent, local residents.

Pearl Patten met her daughter, Jo Ann Reagan of Quitaque in Matador Sunday afternoon for coffee.

Mr. and Mrs. James Palmer of Eureka, Kansas spent the weekend with his mother, Zella Palmer.

Odessa Mullins kept a doctor appointment in Lubbock, Thursday.

Mr. and Mrs. Lester Mullins made a business trip to Waco Monday to Wednesday.

Tom and Lorine Jordan hosted a Christmas party last Friday at their home. Games and snacks were enjoyed by those attending: Mr. and Mrs. Billy Ray Martin and Margie Payne, local residents; Jewel Hooper, Lena Penick, R.D. Wright and Adelle Conway of Dickens; Sis Harrison, Vida Elkins, Earl and Louise Lindsey and Mr. and Mrs. Ted Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Ronnie Russell, Thelma Thomas, and Wallace Day, all of Spur.

## Whiteflat News

By Earlyne Jameson

### OVERHEARD

This Christmas season will be different from any other we have known. Yet one thing will not change. We will see miracles, the miracle of a loving God in the midst of so much pain, the miracle of people who spare nothing to help others, the miracle of the human spirit rising above tragedy.

May family and friends, laughter and love, the observance of the birth of the Christ Child prevail in your home this Christmas season. May the light of this holiday season bring brightness to all. God bless our nation and families.

### ATTENDS BIRTHDAY LUNCHEON

Mrs. Juanita Cooper joined Postal and Ex-Postal employees at LaNita's Restaurant in Roaring Springs, Wednesday, December 12th at a luncheon with all the trimmings honoring Lula Swim on her 80th birthday. Ms. Swim is a retired postmaster of the Roaring Springs Post Office.

Others attending the happy occasion were William and Mary Jo Brown of Dickens, Mrs. Doris Neff of McAdoo, R.C. and Callie Giesecke, Harold and Vee Gordon and Jack Samford of Matador and

Ray and Grace Zabielski of Roaring Springs.

Mrs. LaRue Whitefield of Spearman visited overnight Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. A.M. Whitefield in Matador. En route home, Monday she visited Wilda and Spencer Dixon.

Mr. and Mrs. Lonnie Harmon of Hedley visited his sister, Mrs. Juanita Cooper, Tuesday. They also visited in Matador with Harold and Vee Harmon.

Sonny and Brenda Carson of Tyler visited Wednesday and Thursday with Mr. and Mrs. Hal Martin. They were en route to Nagezzi, N.M. where they are missionaries at the Indian Reservations.

Wilda and Spencer Dixon met her mother, Mrs. Ted Hester of Lovington, N.M. in Lubbock Tuesday to visit and attend to business.

Jack Samford of Matador accompanied Mrs. Juanita Cooper to Amarillo, Monday to visit Mr. and Mrs. Ken Dunnam and Kourtney. She had a medical appointment Tuesday. Mr. Samford visited in Canyon with Mr. and Mrs. Ray King and had a medical appointment in Amarillo, Tuesday.

## Flomot News

By Earlyne Jameson

### CHRISTMAS CANDLELIGHT CHURCH SERVICES

The First Baptist Church in Flomot held Christmas Candlelight Services Sunday night, December 16 with pastor, the Rev. Nathan Mulder conducting the services. The congregation joined in singing Christmas hymns.

In the darken sanctuary, a large candle in the center of the altar reflected God's guiding light for those attending to light a candle. When returning to the pews with the candles glowing, it was shown and related how God's light and birth of Jesus Christ illuminated a world of darkness.

Refreshments were served following the services. Preceding the services, members of the church distributed Christmas fruit baskets to residents in Flomot and wished them a Merry Christmas.

### NEW RESIDENTS

We welcome Julie and Dusty Whitaker to the Flomot community. They moved into the former Leon and Annie B. Cloyd home. Dusty is a bulldozer operator and is engaged in agricultural operations. Julie is employed at the First State Bank in Matador.

They were in Ruidoso, NM from Wednesday through Friday and enjoyed snow skiing on the slopes that had received 24 inches of snow before they arrived.

Johnie Starkey and his mother, Mrs. C.W. Starkey visited in Ralls, Sunday with

Mr. and Mrs. L.T. Starkey. Mr. and Mrs. Tim Kendall, Jere and Jacob visited last weekend in Clyde with her grandmother, Mrs. Otilie Gray.

Weekend guests of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Rogers were Randy Rogers and daughter, Kaylyn of Lubbock. Visiting them Sunday was Ronnie Rogers of Lubbock.

Keane Cruse, student at Texas Tech University in Lubbock, is visiting during the holidays with his family, Mr. and Mrs. Darrell Cruse and Derrick.

Mrs. Dena Washington of Roaring Springs, Mrs. Erma Washington and Mrs. Connie Franks attended the funeral services of family member, Mrs. Linda Ray Henry, 51, held at 3:00 p.m., Saturday at the Wheeler Chapel in Portales, N.M.

Mrs. Rita Guest and Mrs. Kayla Guest of Turkey and Mrs. Carolyn Johnson enjoyed entertainment and shopping in Plainview, Saturday.

Mary Ellen Barton visited in Floydada, Thursday with sister, Mrs. Mollie Burleson.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Ross enjoyed the Senior Citizen's Christmas party held Tuesday night at the Bob Wills Center in Turkey.

Wilburn Martin attended the graduation ceremonies of Emily Merritt at Texas Tech University in Lubbock Saturday morning. Joining him there were her parents, Steve and Susan Merritt and her grandparents, Nita and Ervin Merritt of Granbury.

Don Carson of Olton and Joe Edd Carson of Hale Center visited Mr. and Mrs. Tom Ross, Wednesday.

## Christmas takes on western twist

by Marisue Potts

Christmas took a decidedly Western twist on Sunday evening, December 16, when the youth of the First Baptist Church of Guthrie braved the icy rain to deliver Christmas baskets to shut-ins and special people in the community.

Around thirty carolers mounted their horses or climbed into a mule-drawn school wagon at the church to sing their way through the small ranch town. Sheriff Junior Daniel halted traffic momentarily on Highway 114 while the troop crossed at the 6666 Supply House.

Neither mud holes nor slick pavements, balky trucks or barking dogs, spooky horses or light-shy mules deterred the hardy kids and their parents from their mission. Mott Creek Ranch near Matador provided the wagon and mules, Nell and Bell, for the evening's excursion.

A reason for the unusual mode of caroling can be found in the membership of the little rock church. Many

families, like those of Phil Fox, Ronald Lewis, and Clay Timmons, live and work at isolated camps of ranches around Guthrie, including the 6666 Ranch and the Pitchfork Ranch. Their lay minister, Joe Leathers, can understand the problems they have getting to church on a feed day or during an ice storm when the stock needs attention, because he too is a full-time ranch employee with all the attendant responsibilities.

The chill of the evening was replaced by a heart-warming candle light ceremony and communion service. A fellowship followed, featuring hot chocolate, coffee, Christmas cookies, and crackers laced with strawberry-jalapeno jelly and cream cheese.

## Twas the Night Before Christmas

by Susan Gahr

Twas the night fore Christmas... that Matador bunch was grabbin' their saddles and packin' their lunch.

Words gotten out, boys. Trouble up north Santa's broke down - can't finish the course!

Hit a high lope Boys Yer Santa's sole hope Throw out them loops boys - tie hard an' tie fast. Nudge them ponies higher than grass Gruntin' and Snortin' - throw yer heads to the sky. Urge them old ponies higher and higher!

Santa and Reindeer all strung out in the sky, all hooked up to cowboys loggin' on high! With precision timing they head towards town - they land their cargo on Matador ground.

Tired and hungry all froze to the bone - with a nod and a twinkle turn them ponies toward home -

Why - everybody knows the truth of course All Santa needed was a good ole Cow Horse!

## Need the perfect gift?

A subscription to the **MOTLEY COUNTY TRIBUNE** keeps on giving every week, all year long!

## DECEMBER SPECIAL 20% OFF ALL BOOKS

Here are just a few ....

All The Roads of Texas - West Texas - Texas Country Reporter Cookbook - Dakota Cowboy - Wyman Meinzer books, Mary Engelbreit books, Bibles, and many, many more.

Give a book for Christmas - a gift to be long remembered! **MOTLEY COUNTY TRIBUNE**

## Thornberry files for re-election to U.S. House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. - U.S. Rep. Mac Thornberry (Tx-13) filed on December 7 for re-election to the United States House of Representatives.

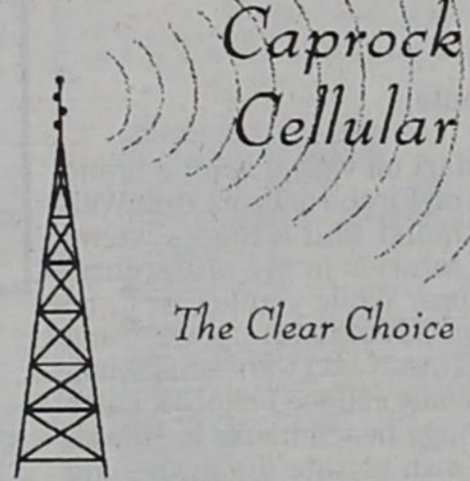
Born and raised in Clarendon, Thornberry was first elected in 1994. He is a member of the Resources Committee, the Budget Committee, and the Armed Services Committee. He is also a leading figure in the effort to strengthen our homeland security.

"It has been a great honor and privilege for me to represent the people of the 13th District in Congress," Thornberry stated. "These are extraordinary times, to say the least. I hope to have the opportunity to continue to serve our area and our country as we face the challenges ahead."

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Ralls:  
Norman Grant  
PO Box 576  
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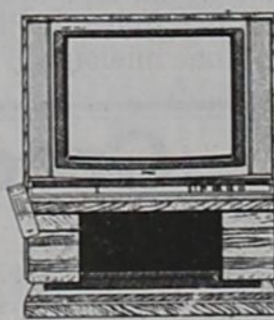
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# FARM AND RANCH NEWS

## Farm Service Agency News

by Debbie Shaw, CED



We have received authorization to be closed all day December 24th. The Farm Service Agency Office will be closed December 24th and 25th for Christmas and January 1st, 2002, New Year's Day.

The recent County Committee Election for LAA-1 is completed. Seab Washington was elected to serve a 3-year term. Bert R. Whitaker was elected First Alternate, Donnie R. Rogers, Second Alternate and Lee

J. Browning, Third Alternate. We would like to thank the voters that participated in the election this year and the producers who agreed to run for this position. The County Committee is a critical component of the operations of FSA. The County Committee's responsibilities are great. It is the County Committee's duty to implement programs needed for the county, as well as enforce Farm Service Agency regulations.

## County Agent's Report

by Lonnie Jensechke - Motley County Extension Agent



### 4 HOUR CEU VIDEO TRAINING

Attention to all Private, Commercial and Noncommercial License holders - this will be the last CEU meeting this year. Make sure that you license expires in February that you have 15 hours within the last five years. You must have certificates for these meetings. CEU's for the training will include Laws and Regs, IPM and General. The Meeting will be December 27, from 1:00-5:00 p.m. in the Motley County Courthouse. If you have any questions, please contact the Texas Cooperative Extension Office at 347-2733.

### NEW PEANUT PLANTING SYSTEM

Higher yields could be in store for peanut farmers. Agricultural Research Service says staggering the seeds in an offset or diamond-shaped pattern promotes higher yields than planting in single or twin row patterns. Plants don't have to compete for sunlight, water, and nutrients. This method also promotes thicker, faster spreading canopies that help keep the soil bed cool, moist and better protected from erosion. Beds in field plots planted with diamond rows had 34 percent fewer weeds than beds with twin rows. Planter and peanut digger equipment has just been designed for diamond rows. The new equipment creates multiple diamond rows as readily as single and twin rows. The new peanut digger was invented to unearth pods across a 72 inch bed. On the way is a new method designed to allow the diamond planter to accommodate other large seeded crops.

### ECONOMY IN RECESSION

The terrorist attacks of Septem-

ber eleven left most Americans wondering about the economy and how it will affect them. The word "recession" is being used to describe our current economy. On November 26, the National Bureau of Economic Research said the economy peaked in March 2001. A peak marks the end of an expansion and the beginning of a recession. A recession is two consecutive quarters of decline in the Gross Domestic Product. The recession began in March 2001 following a ten year period of expansion that started in March 1991, but there is nothing to be afraid of. Recession is part of the normal business cycle with expansion and contraction, peak and trough. The normal state of the economy is expansion. Most recessions are fairly brief. However, experts agree that the event of September eleven may have deepened the economic contraction. And if consumers cut back on spending, the economy will falter.

### INSTITUTE TO COUNTER AGRICULTURAL TERRORISM

Agricultural production and the United States food supply are highly vulnerable to acts of terrorism. With that in mind, the Texas A & M University's Board of Regents approved the establishment of an Institute Against Agricultural Bioterrorism. Even though scientists with the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station have been researching how to counter terrorism for decades, the regents felt it was necessary to organize current activities, foster interdisciplinary relationships, and make use of total resources. The institute would use surveillance networking, satellite imaging, field and laboratory diagnostics using biotechnology, and computerized information systems.

## COW POKES®

http://www.cowpokes.com

By Ace Reid



"Oooh, I bet this is fixin' to hurt!"

This feature sponsored by the **First State Bank**

Matador  
Your "Hometown" Bank Member FDIC

## Be alert to avoid Hantavirus Pulmonary Syndrome

The death last month of an Oklahoma girl due to hantavirus pulmonary syndrome (HPS) serves as a reminder to residents of the Texas Panhandle and South Plains region to take precautions when dealing with rodent droppings and nests.

At this time of year, people may become at risk for exposure as they remove decorations from storage or when the items are returned to storage after the holidays. Supplemental feeding of livestock during the winter may also increase the risk of exposure for livestock owners who have to load hay or feed that has been stored where rodents can have access.

Humans are usually infected when they inhale dust contaminated by saliva, urine, or feces of infected rodents. Humans may also be infected by rodent bites and when material contaminated with rodent urine and feces is introduced into broken skin. Anytime evidence of rodent droppings is seen, or rodent nests are encountered, critical steps should be taken before any clean up is attempted or the area is disturbed.

Self-protection is critical, so the use of rubber gloves, eye protection and a good quality mask are recommended. Prior to initiating the cleaning process, open any windows and doors in the room to allow the air to circulate through the room. Spray

the area with a solution of one part bleach in nine parts of water, or another disinfectant that will kill viruses. If rodent carcasses or nest materials are found, spray them down with the disinfectant, too. Allow the disinfectant to remain on the surfaces for at least 30 minutes.

To keep the amount of dust at a minimum, spray the disinfectant a second time just prior to beginning the cleaning process and before removing any nesting materials or carcasses. If a person develops flu-like symptoms after cleaning a rodent-infested area, a physician should be contacted that the possibility of HPS should be evaluated.

Preventing HPS also involves controlling rodent activity in and outside of the home or storage buildings by implementing the following procedures: keep kitchen and food preparation areas clean and store food and trash in containers with tight lids; plug potential entry points in the exterior of the structure with steel wool or caulk; eliminate possible nesting areas and materials by clearing brush from around the yard and foundation; keep garbage cans and wood piles off the ground and away from buildings; elevate hay and feed sacks in barns; and store pet food in closed containers and avoid leaving pet food out overnight.

## Caprock Cotton Conference set for January 22, 2002

The Caprock Cotton Conference is scheduled for January 22, 2002, at the Plains Baptist Assembly between Ralls and Floydada. Registration begins at 8:00 am. The cost of the conference is \$25.00 (pre-registration will be accepted until January 15). After this date a \$10 late fee will be collected. This will include lunch, conference cap and program materials.

The program will start at 8:30 a.m. with topics on Views Concerning Cotton Market, Update from Plains Cotton Growers, Insight on New Farm Bill, High Plains Boll Weevil Eradication Update, TDA Regulations, Area Test Plot Results, Sec-

ondary Pest, Weed Control and Conservation Tillage for Dryland Production. The conference will be over approximately 3:30 p.m.

Registration information can be received through the Floyd or Crosby County Extension offices.

Extension programs serve people of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, religion, disability or national origin. The Extension Office will seek to accommodate all persons with disabilities for the meeting. If you need assistance or have questions please call the Crosby County Extension Office (675-2347) or the Floyd County Office (983-4912) as soon as possible to advise of auxiliary and/or service needed.

**BOOKS - BOOKS - BOOKS**  
Many selections to choose from!  
**Motley County Tribune**

## Glad Tidings



As we gather together with friends and family, let us remember the true meaning of Christmas, God's love for us! Best of the Season to all.



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The class of 1939 will celebrate the

HOUSE FOR SALE: 3 bedroom, 2 bath.

1 and 2 car garage. Must see to appreciate.

**DECEMBER**

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**Motley County Tribune**

Carla M. Meador - Publisher & Editor

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**REAL ESTATE**

HOME FOR SALE on Main Street, one block from School: 2 bedroom, 2 bath, large kitchen, dining room, and large den with knotty-pine paneling; central heat and air; double car garage with large storage room; fenced back yard with storage room. Contact Larry Hoyle at 347-2422 or 347-2839.

**Public Notice**

**MOTLEY COUNTY 4-H HAS EXTRA FUND-RAISING ITEMS FOR SALE**

The Motley County 4-H has extra meat from their fund raiser sales. Some of the items available are Smoked Turkeys, Turkey Breast, Hams, Beef Jerky, Summer Sausage, Breakfast Sausage, Bacon, Brisket Kits, Pork Loin, Tamales, Chicken Strips, Candied Nut Assortments and Pecan Halves.

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FOR SALE: 14' Stock Trailer, 11 mi. NW of Matador. 806-296-5320.

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**BID NOTICE**

MOTLEY COUNTY ISD is accepting bids on a two-wheel surplus trailer, located on the north end of the football field. Bids must be submitted to the Administration office by 4:00 p.m., January 11, 2002. Motley County ISD reserves the right to refuse any and all bids.

**HELP WANTED**

CROSBYTON NURSING & REHAB is accepting applications for DON, LVN & CNA positions. Please come by 222 N. Farmer or call 675-2342.

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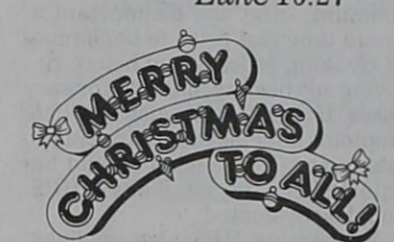
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**Motley County Tribune**

**WORD of GOD**

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Luke 10:27



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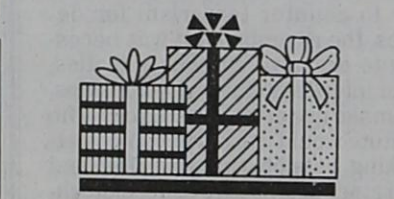
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Motley County Tribune





"I'm not impressed." — Little Rivers Marshall doesn't seem to be very impressed with Santa. This was Rivers' first visit with Santa. She is the 5-month-old daughter of Brian and Nancy Marshall of Matador.

# Dear Santa

Dear Santa,  
Hello, I am so glad it is time for you to be here again. Yes, I have been a very good boy this whole year. Can you please bring me a power ranger game, the new one and for my whole family a DVD player. Please bring Logan a new movie of blues clues, he really tries to be good, and TJ a BIG SACK OF ROCKS cause he just likes to be bad. I will save you some hot sauce and chips and sprite on Christmas eve.  
Love,  
Ky Dallas Christopher

Dear Santa,  
I am trying really hard to be a good boy. This year I would like a tricycle to ride, some trucks, and I love cows. Thank you.  
Love,  
Judson Jones

Dear Santa,  
I have been a good girl all of the time. I would like a Sugarplum Princess Barbie and a rocking horse for my Susie. I would also like a TV and a table. Mommy and I will leave you cookies and milk. Thank you.  
Love,  
Morgan Jones

Dear Santa,  
What I want from Santa is a CD player, Rainbow Art, and wheeled skate shoes. I got a lot of stuff last year from you and I only asked for a little bit of stuff and that's what I want to happen this year.  
Love,  
Hanna

Dear Santa,  
My name is Shelby Elliott. I have been pretty good this year. For Christmas I would like to have a Scooby-Doo Tent, Mickey Mouse fishing pole, blue boxing gloves, and a puppy. I will leave you milk and cookies.  
Love,  
Shelby

Dear Santa,  
My name is Bryson Elliott. For Christmas I need a new tractor, a new "Woody" character doll, and a puppy. I have been a very good boy this year. Me, my sister, and brother will leave you milk and cookies.  
Love,  
Bryson

Dear Santa,  
This year for Christmas I would like a Tonka game for our computer, red boxing gloves, football equipment and a football, a wrestling game for my nintendo and a puppy. I have been very good and will leave you milk and cookies.  
Love,  
Reagan

Dear Santa,  
I want golf clubs, leap frog books, some computer games, clothes, golf balls, a trampoline and new movies. I have been a very good boy.  
Caleb Clary

Dear Santa,  
I want some army airplanes and helicopters, leap frog books, a toy batman, a trampoline, clothes, and new boots and new movies. I have tried to be a good boy.  
Mickey Clary

Dear Santa,  
I want some barbies, babies, an ABC game and book, clothes, shoes, clothes for my babies and a Big Nutcracker Barbie. I have been a good girl - I promise.  
Love,  
Tristan Perryman

Dear Santa,  
I have been very nice to Tucker. So would you please bring me a cabbage patch doll and the Hungry Hippo game.  
Katie Ann Barton

Dear Santa,  
I want a connects roller coaster. I want a game boy advance. I want a hamster I love you Santa.  
Neal Potts

Dear Santa,  
I want a game board and a ash and a centiaull and Pokemon cards and Pet baby chicken. I want it to be a girl. And I would like a computer and a please be careful.  
Dominique Quilimaco

Dear Santa,  
I want a bull rider and Lane Frost's autograph.  
Hayden Scott

Dear Santa,  
Can I please have a bull riding vest and a face mask and a nintendo 64? How are the reindeer?  
Austin Taylor

Dear Santa,  
I want a think in ash and a centill or a gameboy and its needs to be red and I want a muw two.  
Hance Davey

Dear Santa,  
I want a cool game boy. I will leave cookies and milk. How is Mrs. Santa?  
Juan Flores

Dear Santa,  
I have been good. I want a toy truck. I am going to leave cookies and milk.  
Britt Simpson

## Please bring a ...

Dear Santa,  
I want a doll with pig tails and a doll that looks like me and two dolls that are boy and girl twins, a doll that is three feet tall. I will be good.  
Christina Moehringer

Dear Santa,  
This is what I want for Christmas: some Twisted Metal three or black and some clothes. That is all I want for Christmas. If you can get me a remote controlled car and a go cart that would be nice. Thank you for reading my list.  
Thanks,  
Aaron

Dear Santa,  
I want to tell you what I want for Christmas. I want a nintendo game cube and a Ray Lewis jersey number 52. I also want a TV and a remote control motor cycle. I want a rdioj with a CD player and I want a computer, a bike, and an 80 mini bike. I want a go cart, a four wheeler, a three wheeler, and some new shoes. What I also want is a X box, a new jacket, a Raven jacket and new clothes. That is all I want.  
Sincerely,  
Isiah Lee Archer

Dear Santa,  
How are you Santa? Please will you come to my house and go through the door. We might be at my Grandmas house. I want a Britney Spears CD and a doll.  
From,  
Mari Simmons

Dear Saint Nick,  
How are the reindeer and you? I will give you cookies and milk.  
From,  
Cody Martin

Dear Santa,  
My name is Barrett. I want a rope, roping dummy, and a play gun. I will be staying at Big Daddy and Citas and at Grand and papas. I hope you find me.  
Thanks,  
Barrett

Dear Santa Claus,  
I want to say Hi. For Christmas I want a puppy, a mouse and a bear. Please bring my puppy and mouse a present.  
Merry Christmas,  
Mattie Brooks

Dear Santa,  
I want a gameboy color. But not just any gameboy, a gameboy color advanced with a Zelda game and Spongebob squarepants. I would probably like toy guns, a little one and a big one please. How is Rudolph? I want a soldier sword. Sign here how rudolph is. Thank you for the bicycle last year.  
Your Friend,  
Parker Meredith

Dear Santa,  
I want a game boy color and i want a nsync cd- bye bye bye. Scooby Doo Shaggy doll and I want a Nsync watch or a plain watch. I want a Scooby Doo book. I want a Mary Kate and Ashley Game boy color game.  
Your Friend,  
Angelica Meredith  
p.s. I want a Harry Potter game to fit in my game boy color, please.

Dear Santa,  
For Christmas I want Scooby Doo's cyber chase, Scooby doo's watch, game boy collar, a power ranger, scooby doo game boy games and a power ranger game boy game.  
Your Friend,  
Jonah Meredith



### Glad Tidings

season, wishing  
all of you a joy-filled  
Merry Christmas!

### Motley County Courthouse staff:

Judge, Ed D. Smith  
County Commissioners:  
Ronnie Davis, Prec. I  
Donnie Turner, Prec. II  
Franklin Jameson, Prec. III  
J.N. Fletcher, Prec. IV

Motley County Sheriff:  
James B. "Jim" Meador  
Deputy Sheriff, Rickey Lawrence  
Deputy Clerk/Tax Assessor Deputy,  
Terree Donaldson  
Tax Assessor/Collector, Elaine Hart

County Clerk: Lucretia Campbell  
Deputy Clerk, Kate Hurt

Justice of the Peace, Cora Smallwood  
County Treasurer, Joe Campbell  
County Attorney, Temple Francis  
County Agent/Judge Secretary:  
Greta Smallwood  
County Agent, Lonnie Jenschke

Road Maintenance:  
David Taylor, Prec. I  
Tommy Beck, Prec. II  
Richard Thomas, Prec. III  
Bobby Witcher, Prec. IV

County Appraiser, Brenda Osborn  
DPS Trooper, Mark Gumaer  
Game Warden, Ted Davey  
Courthouse Maintenance, Larry Markham



Hoping your efforts are rewarding and that  
your Christmas be blessed with joy.

### Motley County Sheriff's Department

JIM MEADOR - SHERIFF

RICKEY LAWRENCE - DEPUTY

ELAINE HART & TERREE DONALDSON

Ad paid for by Sheriff Jim Meador





# I have been very good



Dear Santa,  
Here are some things I want for Christmas. I want a dirt bike, a remote controlled car, and I want madden 2002, NBA live 2002, and the Internet. I want my mom to come for Christmas and I want a lot of clothes, and a stereo. I want a game cube and a horse. Well, that is all I want for Christmas.

Sincerely,  
Bradley

Dear Santa,  
I am writing this letter to tell you what I want. First, I want a laptop computer. Second, I want a CD player. Third, I want a new stereo. How is it going up there in the North Pole? It is probably going good. How is your reindeers? Is Rudolf's nose still glowing? Is Mrs. Claus okay? I better go.

Your Friend,  
Karrie Valdez

Dear Santa,  
How are you doing? I am just fine. I am going to tell you what I want for Christmas. I want a playstation, mystery date, a real car, a stereo, hair accessories, a basketball, a DVD player, games for the playstation, computer games, a Mary Kate and Ashley game called crush course, some CD's, a portable CD player with head phones and batteries, and some presents for the rest of my family. It is been a long time since the last time I wrote you. Tell Mrs. Claus Hi. Tell all your little elfs Hi. I don't want to be greedy but if you could get me a real car I want a new Beetle or a Maroon chevy pick-up truck.

From,  
Savannah Rose

Dear Santa,  
How is everything in the toy department this year? Well this is what I want for Christmas. A myster date game with batteries, THE Aaron Carter CD. I want the N'sync Hotline computer game and a hair crimper. I hope I get it all. Here is some advise Dont get stuck in any chimneys this year. So how is your elves doing? Well I won't have cookies out this year, but my cousin might. Well, have a good flight.

Your Friend,  
Myliissa Gilmore

Dear Santa Claus,  
For Christmas I want a basketball goal and a Wheel for my go-cart.

Love,  
Dillon

Dear Santa,  
I am writing you a list of things I would like for Christmas. Here it is: x box, playstation, bike, couple fo kittens, puppy, tv, 4 wheeler, the game mystery date, a corvet and a 2001 beetle. These are some of the many things I would love to have for Christmas. I am looking forward to writing you next year.

With love,  
Christina Lee Smith

Dear Santa,  
Last Christmas you scared me. I thought you were a burglar. You were on the roof and I thought you would go down the chimney so I lit it and I guess you got burned because I heard you say ow. Well I am really sorry please forgive me. Now I am going to write my Christmas list to you. I want a remote control car, a scooter, a new bb gun, a cd player, cd's, a dirt bike, a playstation 2 and games, a basketball, a football, a new TV, the movie How the Grich Stole Christmas, The Mummy Returns, and some money to give to the Red Cross and a remote control plane. This is my Christmas list.

Sincerely,  
Casey

Dear Santa,  
Hi how are you? May I have a football helmet and football pants. And a football. Will you bring a doll for my little sister Mattie and please bring me a pair of football pads.

From,  
Christian Lane Brooks

Dear Santa,  
My name is Jasmine and I am 10 years old. I would like a computer for Christmas. Don't forget Stormy, Addie, Hope, and Noah. Addie wants a baby doll and Noah wants a BB gun. I am not sure what Stormy and Hope want, but I am sure they told you when they saw you. We were all good this year. I will leave you a surprise in my stocking.

Your Friend,  
Jasmine Porter

Dear Santa Claus,  
This year for Christmas I would like a stereo, a big stuffed dolphin pillow, rainbow bracelet, an uno attack game, babydoll clothes and some cd's.

Sincerely,  
Kyla Simpson

Dear Santa Claus,  
I would like an easy Bake Oven, horse, barn, Gateway Computer, Collectible doll, big stereo, lava lamp, big swimming pool, dry wall easel, bike, makeup, puppy, ruler, glitter, e. karra, TV, VCR, CD player, CD, brats, and divas.

Sincerely,  
Anna

Dear Santa Claus,  
On Christmas day I want a bike, game boy, grinch movie, basketball, computer, cheerleader costume, Chalkboard, stockings, big swimming pool, little dog, make-up, shoes, pants, shirts, vcr, candies, pencils, eraser, glitter, nail polish, teddy bear, and a Christmas tree. Merry Christmas Santa Claus.

Sincerely,  
Leslie Alvarado

Dear Santa Claus,  
On Christmas I want a Divatar, clothes, lip gloss, jewelry box, puppy, pencils, erasers, and one big present.

Sincerely,  
Leanne Jameson

Dear Santa,  
For Christmas I would like a for wheeler, a 3 wheeler, a horse and a pellet gun. I want a laptop. I want a paintball gun. I want a computer and a dog. I want a cd player. I want CD's. I want a football tee. I want a bow and arrow. I want a watch. I want a movie. I want a go-cart and shoulder pads. I want a drum set and a phystration. I want a basketball. I want a swimming pool. I want a pair of spurs. I want a 100 dollars. I want a new bed.

Sincerely,  
Jacob Dilworth

Dear Santa Claus,  
For Christmas I want a Diva Star named summer, vcr, brats, collectible doll and green flower mat.

Sincerely,  
Sarah

P.S. and a big surprise!

Dear Santa,  
It is good to talk to you again. I am writing to show you my Christmas list. I would like a dodge viper, motorcycle, 3 go carts, 4 monster trucks, a mansion, remote controlled monster truck, my own McDonalds, my own Taco Bell, a fighter jet, and a whole bunch of And 1 and nike clothes. Please consider my list into your other lists.

Sincerely,  
Stacy

Dear Santa,  
I would like for you to give me an X box with 10 games. Second, a huge house that's 10 stories high with swimming pools in each room. Third, I would like is a go cart that has a thousand horse power. Fourth, I would like a 2002 Dodge Viper. Fifth, I would like a remote controlled car. Sixth, I would like to always get what I want in the world.

Sincerely,  
Magdiel

Dear Santa,  
I really want a 22 with shells. I think that is all I want. I have been good this year, but when I ran over my step brother's foot. I could use somebodies help to fix my bike. My sister need help diving, too.

From,  
Malcomb

Dear Santa,  
Am I on the good list? May I have a pretty horse please? And I want to see my sister and my brother for Christmas. Merry Christmas.

From,  
Marti Walker

Dear Santa,  
For Christmas I want a MP3 player, CD player, e. karra, paint ball gun, the cd I am a slave, Christian cd's, Green paint, a cat, a lava lamp, fore wheeler, some pencils and erasers.

Sincerely,  
Alyx

Dear Santa Claus,  
I would like a G I Joe tan jeep and jet. G I Joe Green tank and helicopter. The other thinks are this. A santa fe trainset, Air Attack 2- play station, Army train set and school supplies.

Sincerely,  
Jay Potts

Dear Santa,  
My name is Patrick and I am 8 years old. I would like a BB gun for Christmas. I will leve you some cookies and milk. I have been good this year.

Your Friend,  
Patrick

Dear Santa,  
I want a big car like last year and a little car or any toy I want some shoes and one shirt and some games for my game I have so I can play them.

From,  
Gabriel

Dear Santa,  
Hi how are you! May I have a doll for my little sister Mattie? May I have a pair of football pads and some football pants and a football helmet.

Love,  
Christian Brooks

Dear Santa,  
Hello, what's new? For Christmas I want the whole Calvin and Hobbes collection by Bill Waterson. What are the elves up to? This time I'll make you a sandwich and chips.

Sincerely,  
Keyan

Dear Santa,  
How are your elves? Please may I have a motorcycle and some motorcycle pants and football pads. I will leave you some cookies.

From,  
Jonathon Osborn

Dear Santa,  
How are you? I hope you don't get sick. How are the reindeer? Please can I have a new bike and a cordless CD player? I am going to be at my house.

From,  
Alexis Noel Osborn

Dear Claus,  
I want a dog.

Love,  
Chris



WE LIKE SANTA! Austin, Bryant and Jacie Taylor enjoyed visiting with Santa. Jacie was glad that her big brothers were there. They are the children of Shane and Wendi Taylor of Matador.

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

Dear Santa,  
How are you doing? Thank you for the stuff last year. Please get me a Palm Pilot, a horse, a computer, CD's a CD player, dogs, and DVD movies.

Love your Friend,  
Clarissa Syvonne Elizondo

Dear Santa,  
How are you and your elves. I think you are doing great. May I please have a wrestling game for nintendo 64 and a new bike.

From,  
Reagan Elliot

Dear Santa,  
I am going to leave you a candy cane and milk. How is Miss Claus doing? I hope you don't get a cold as you come down here. Guess what? My brother is coming down to my house for Christmas. We've been singing Christmas songs for you.

From,  
Brett Fletcher

Dear St. Nicholas,  
How are your reindeer and Rudolph? I just hope that he guides your sleigh on Christmas day. I want a pokemon game boy color games.

From,  
Garrett Jenschke

Dear Santa Claus,  
How are you and your elves? Please may I have a computer and a scooter.

Love,  
Pablo Martinez

Dear Santa Claus,  
How are your elves? I hope you have a nice flight and I hope you don't catch a cold. I wish I could have a remote control motorcycle.

Love,  
Navo Santos

Dear Santa,  
I love you. Merry Christmas! I want a game boy and a Nintendo game cube. Please bring Leanne a big horse.

Love,  
Jamie Jameson

Dear Santa,  
I wish I could have a Barbie Shop Cash Register and some barbies. I also want hush little baby. I wish you a Merry Christmas.

Love,  
Hannah Hulsey

Dear Santa,  
I want a CD player. I want the cd called simple man. A dog. A bicycle, a gun and a horse.

Love,  
Colby McClesky



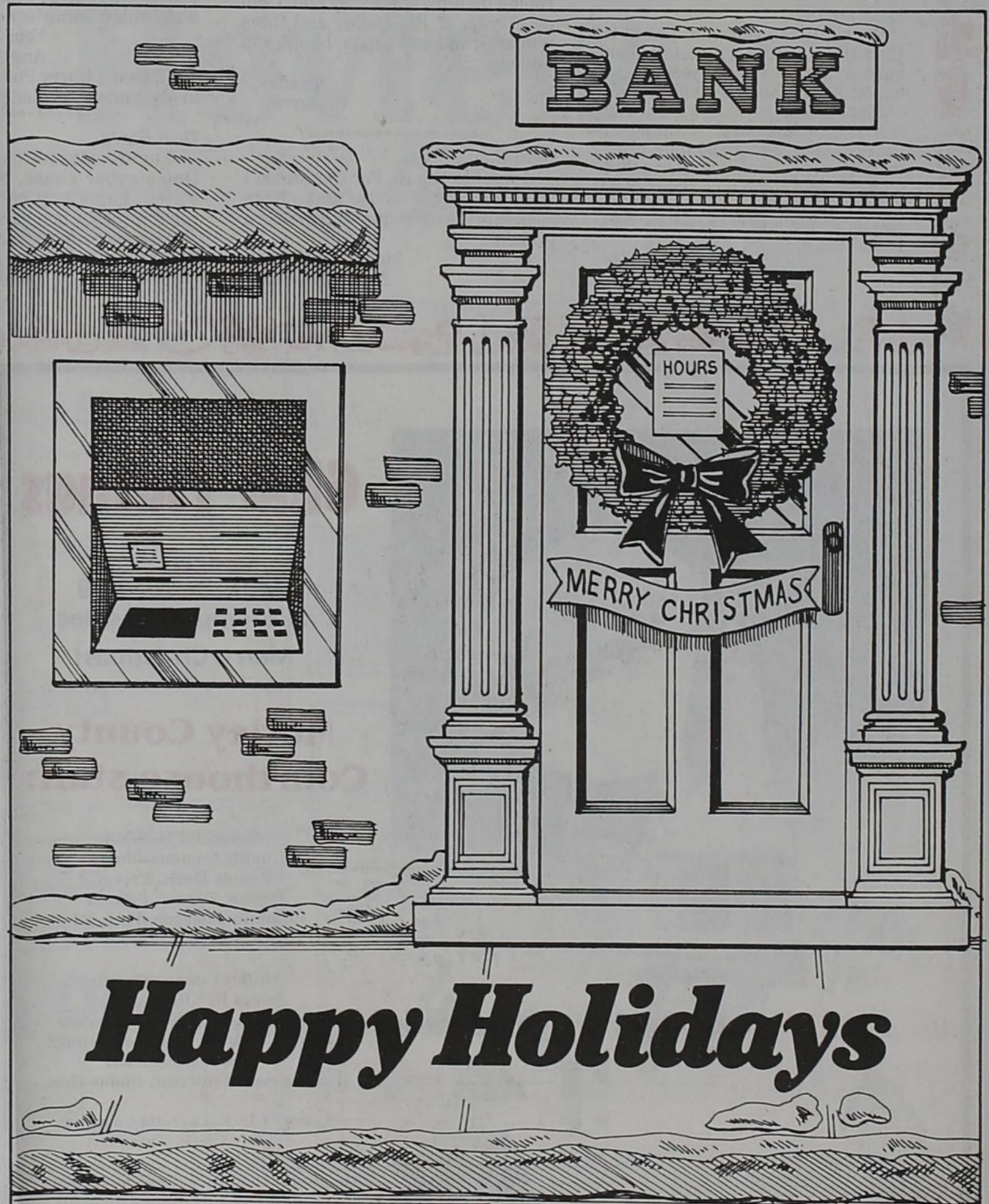
Motley County Museum



## There's Nothing In The World Like Christmas In The Country

And we couldn't be happier than to share it with such wonderful people. To all of you we wish a season filled with warm fires, good friends, and dreams come true.

### FLOMOT GIN



# Happy Holidays

Here's hoping your Christmas yields big returns! We value your business and your friendship.



The First National Bank of Floydada

124 South Main • Floydada, TX 79235

Member F.D.I.C.

All the bank you'll ever need







"I Promise I've been good!" Parker Meredith of Roaring Springs joined other children in making their wishes known to Santa when he stopped in Matador December 1. Parker is the son of Yancey and Daphne Meredith.

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆



THUMBS UP — Santa gave Garrett Jenschke a thumbs up sign. Garrett is the son of Lonnie and Kim Jenschke of Matador.

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆



# I will leave milk & cookies



Dear Santa and Mrs. Claus,

How are you? We are fine and learning a lot at Motley Co. Pre K. We have located your home at the North Pole and what animals live around you. We want everyone to have a safe and Merry Christmas. Each one of us are trying to be good where you might visit us with special presents.

Hannah Mason would like a Kitty Cat Magic and an Amazing Ally and a Barbie and the Nutcracker.

Allen Martin would like a Pokemon Game and a Remote Control Snake.

Logan Ferguson would like a Fire Truck, Remote Control Snake and a game.

Wesley Bishop would like a Lion's tent, TV, Pokemon and movies.

Gabby Silva would like a Marry Barbie, clothes and games.

Shelby Elliot would like a Scooby Doo tent, Mickey Mouse fishing pole, clothes and a movie.

Luis Mendoza would like new boots, tractor and equipment and a game.

Seth Baxter would like a tractor, gun, football, Scooby Doo kite, clothes, boots, and a belt.

Hayden Davey would like fishing equipment, Pokemon video game and maybe a horse if possible.

Sam Hulsey would like a BB gun, fishing game and a white horse.

Tanner Bearden would like shoulder pads, Sherk movie, football tent and a Greenbay Packer helmet.

Korbyn Simpson would like a Power Wheel Loader, Boots, Jeans, Rope, Hat, Belt and a new brown horse named Buster.

Caleb Clary would like a Elmo tent, golf clubs and balls.

Michael Martin would like a G I Joe and equipment. He would like for his little brother Joshua a Marching Soldier, G I Joe. Together they would like a crocodile tent and Spider Man Video Game.

All the children agreed they needed to leave cookies and milk for Santa and special feed for the reindeer. Mrs. Parks and the Pre K would like to Wish Each and Everyone a Very Merry Christmas an A Happy New Year.

Mrs. Parks & Pre K  
\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
Gaby Santos and Matthew Mount were absent when we wrote Santa letters in Kindergarten. We don't want you to forget them. Please bring them some nice things for Christmas.

Love,  
The Kindergarten Class  
at Motley County  
\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
Would you please bring me a barbie car and a fashion kitty. We do not have a chimney, but mommy said she could leave the door unlocked for you. I will leave you some cookies and milk.

Love,  
Kaylee Woolsey

Dear Santa,

I have been a very good girl this year. I would like for you to bring me a wagon, barbie, a new kitten and a play kitchen.

Sincerely,  
Autumn Woolsey  
\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Santa Claus,

For Christmas I want a game boy color, VCR, TV and a puppy, new tire for my bike, a big present.

Mercedes  
\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Santa,

For Christmas I want a camera and a gameboy color. Next, I want a portable cd player, clothes, books, a movie, and a cd.

Love,  
Adriann Walker  
\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Santa,

I am going to leave you some chocolate chip cookies on Christmas Eve. I want to sing a song for Rudolph. I want a Polly Pocket Set and a computer like Celeste's that is a barbie computer. I would also like a big doll that talks. Please bring my mom some jewelry.

Love,  
Stormy Darnell  
\*\*\*\*\*

PS. I love you Santa!

Dear Santa,

I like you Santa. You are a good friend. I want a boat that saves people and a little motorcycle. I would also like a play helicopter and a real computer. Please bring a doll angel for my little sister and a barbie doll for my big sister. Merry Christmas!

Love,  
Andy Arocha  
\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Santa,

Merry Christmas Santa! I want a green power ranger and a walki talki. I would also like skating blades. Please bring my mom a new lamp and my dad some peanuts. Bring my sister some skating blades too. We are learning to sing Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer at school.

Love,  
Kolby Williams  
\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Santa,

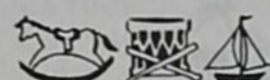
Merry Christmas! I want wireless speakers and a Clifford radio. I also want a jack-knife car that is remote control. Also to everyone else Merry Christmas.

Love,  
Aaryn Brandon  
\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Santa,

I love you Santa. I want a bicycle and a saddle. I would also like a play gun. Please bring my brother a play gun and a saddle too. Bring my mother a ring. Bye!

Love,  
Dillon McCleskey  
\*\*\*\*\*



Dear Santa,

I would like to ride in your sleigh and sit in your lap. I want a play station 2. Please bring my baby brother a bear. Thank-you Santa Claus.

Love,  
Conner Mason  
\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Santa,

I love you Santa. I want a play station 2 and play station 1 in case the batteries run down on one of them. I also want a scooter. I want a baby doll for my little sister. My daddy needs a new knife. My mommy wants a big diamond ring. Please bring some cheerleader stuff for Stormy. I could use a football suit and helmet and pants.

Love,  
Noah Guerrero

Dear Santa,

Hi, Santa! I haven't seen you in a long time. I want a working set and a football. I would also like a base ball bat. Please bring my little sister a barbie car. Bring my dad a tool set and my mom a little angel that has a bell. Merry Christmas Santa!

Love,  
Jacob Woolsey  
\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Santa,

I want to hug you Santa. I want a Pokemon toy and a book. I also want a computer. Merry Christmas!

Love,  
James Horton  
\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Santa,

I would like some new boots and a skating barbie. I would also like a tea holder and a TV. Please bring my mother and daddy something.

Love,  
Celeste Sims



"Are you sure this is the guy with the presents?" Little Sidney Locke wasn't afraid of Santa, but kept her eye on Mom. She is the daughter of Manon Locke and Denise Hamilton of Matador.

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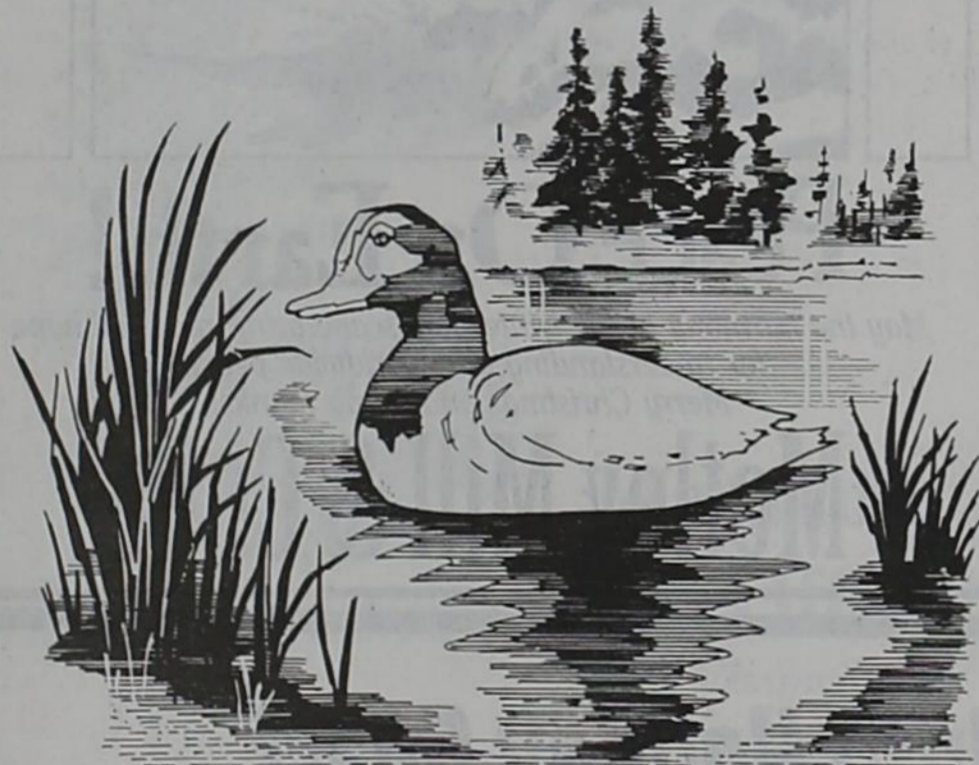
Even the big kids like Santa! These fifth and grade girls visited Santa as a group. They are (from top, l-r) Mylissa Gilmore, Savannah Rose, Kerri Valdez, Christi Smith, and Michelle Williams.

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

## GLAD TIDINGS

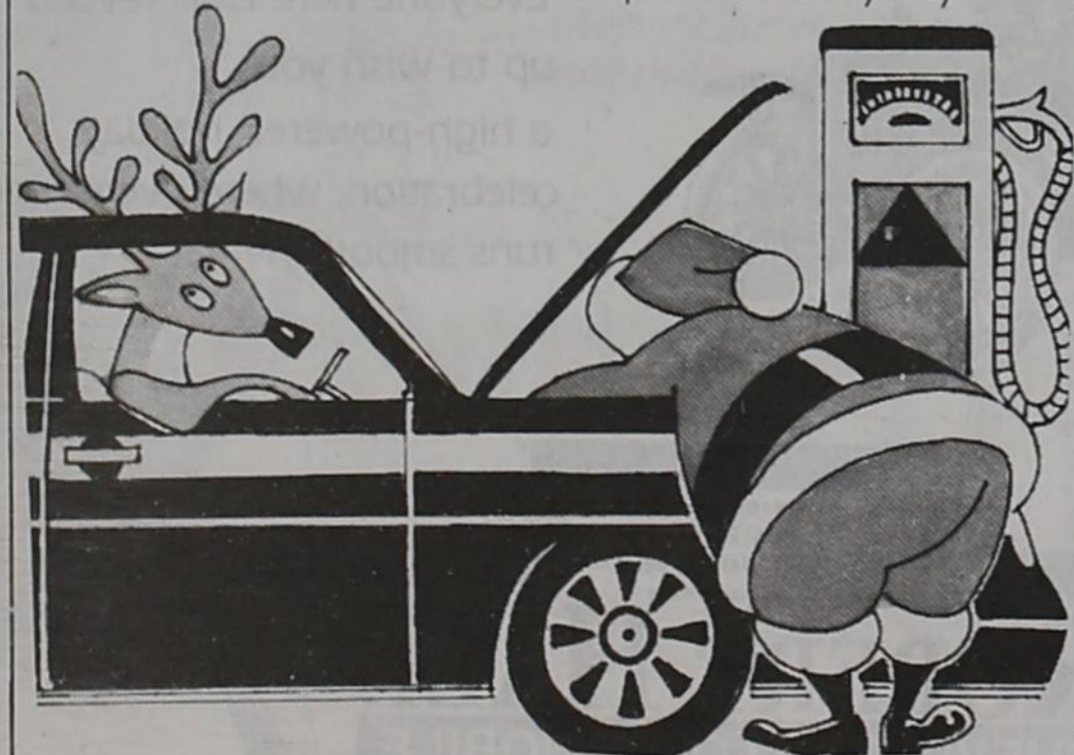
We wish you Merry Christmas only once a year, but the opportunity to know and serve you is something we give thanks for every day.

ADM Paymaster Gin



## Merry Christmas

We're tuning up to wish all our many customers and friends a Christmas that's perfect in every way!



Alexander Fuel  
Roaring Springs

The Holiday's Abloom!  
Matador Floral Designs by Vickie

With joy and peace. May all your holiday "arrangements" blossom and flourish. Many thanks for your continuing friendship and patronage.

We wish you happiness and serenity this holiday season and always.

Merry Christmas

Matador Implement

BEST WISHES

In joyous appreciation of your friendship and good will, we offer our deepest thanks, along with glad tidings of the season.

Lowe's Pay & Save  
Matador



## Christmas Around the World

### Canada *Merry Christmas, Joyeux Noel*

Canada's Christmas celebrations are drawn from a mixed cultural background - French, English, German, Ukrainian, and First Nations. This mixture brings about much diversity in the customs and traditions of Canada's Christmas festivities.

French explorer, Samuel de Champlain, founded the city of Quebec in 1608. In these early days the French Canadians began their Christmas celebration at the end of November, on the first Sunday of Advent. A great focus was placed on the food served at Christmas Eve meal, during the whole week of parties following Christmas, for the many visitors received and finally, the New Year's Day celebrations.

Social gatherings featured fun events including a taffy pull. It was held on November 25 in honor of the patron saint of single women, Saint Catherine. While taffy was indeed pulled, single women were afforded time to meet the eligible bachelors before the Christmas parties that would soon follow.

### Nicaragua *Feliz Navidad*

Like many Latin American countries, Nicaragua retains many of the customs of old Spain. In the weeks leading up to Christmas people stroll the streets where there are many things to buy: candles, Nativity pictures, toys and foods.

Children carry colorful bouquets of tropical flowers to the altar of the Virgin where they sing carols. In the Central American climate there is a profusion of flowers growing everywhere at this time of year. Churches and homes are decorated in bright colors to match the flowers. On Christmas Eve, church bells beckon the people to Midnight Mass.

On January 6, the feast of the Epiphany, it is the Three Kings who bring gifts for the children. Often the holiday season concludes with a brilliant display of fireworks.

### Australia *Happy Christmas*

Christmas in Australia takes place in the heat of summer since the country is located in the Southern Hemisphere.

Many Australians still look to their British roots at this special time of year and a traditional Christmas meal usually includes a turkey dinner, sometimes with ham. Often a flaming Christmas plum pudding is added for dessert or else a special Australian meringue confection, Pavlova -- adorned with kiwi fruit and passion fruit.

Some Australians and particularly tourists enjoy a midday Christmas dinner on a local beach. If they are at home, the day may be punctuated by swimming in the pool, playing Cricket in the backyard, and other outdoor activities.

Christmas shopping is often done in shorts and t-shirts and the days following Christmas are filled with neighborhood backyard parties and barbecues.

### Finland *Hauskaa Joulua*

In Finland, families gather together on Christmas Eve, the most important day of the year. Most children who have grown up and moved away from home plan to return to their parents home for the holiday. The shops across the nation close at noon so everyone has to have their shopping done by that time.

At the stroke of noon the "Peace of Christmas" is proclaimed in Turku, the former capital of Finland. This marks the "official" beginning of the Christmas celebrations and most families begin to enjoy the first part of their Christmas meal.

On Christmas Eve, children await the arrival of Father Christmas. He differs from his counterparts in other nations in that he actually enters the house for a visit at this time instead of during the night when the children are asleep. Father Christmas always asks the same question upon his arrival: "Are there any good children here?" The answer is always an enthusiastic "Yes". Father Christmas has a basket filled with gifts and as his helpers distribute them, he tells about his journey from his home in Lapland. After the children sing a final Christmas song, he moves on his way to visit other homes in the area.



### NATIVITY SONG

The beautiful Mother is bending  
Low where her baby lies  
Helpless and frail, for her tending:  
But she knows the glorious eyes.

The Mother smiles and rejoices  
While the Baby laughs in the hay,  
She listens to heavenly voices:  
"This Child shall be King some day."

O dear little Child in the manger,  
Let me make merry with Thee,  
O King, in my hour of danger,  
Wilt Thou be strong for me?



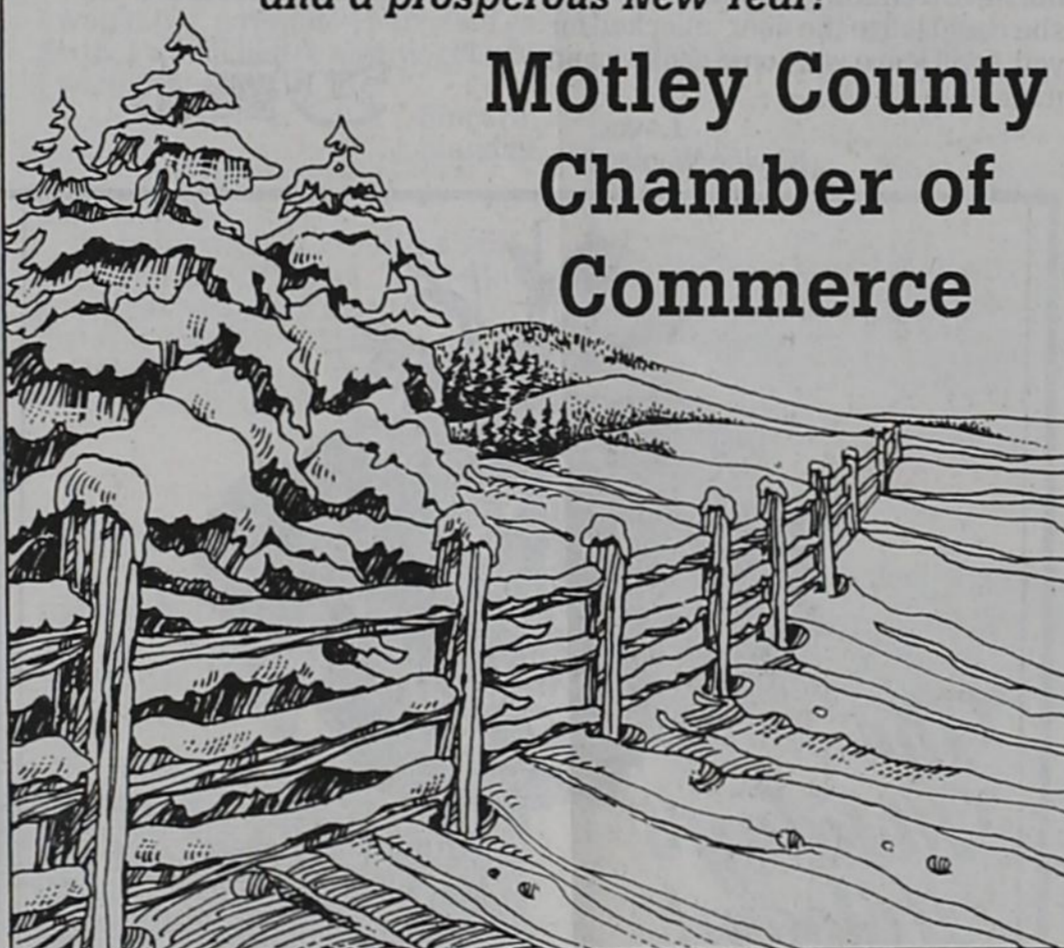
### REASONS FOR THE SEASONS

Isa 9:6 For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. KJV

## Peace On Earth

Thank you for your support the past year.  
Best wishes for a very Merry Christmas  
and a prosperous New Year!

### Motley County Chamber of Commerce



## Peace On Earth!

May the harmony of the winter landscape bring renewed hope  
for understanding and worldwide peace.  
Merry Christmas and many thanks.

### Motley Mill & Cube

"Honor All Men.  
Love the brotherhood.  
Fear God. Honor the King."

James 2:17

May the true message of Christmas be heard  
by all in this and every season.  
God bless you all.

Calico Treasures

Decorator's Studio

## AWAY IN A MANGER



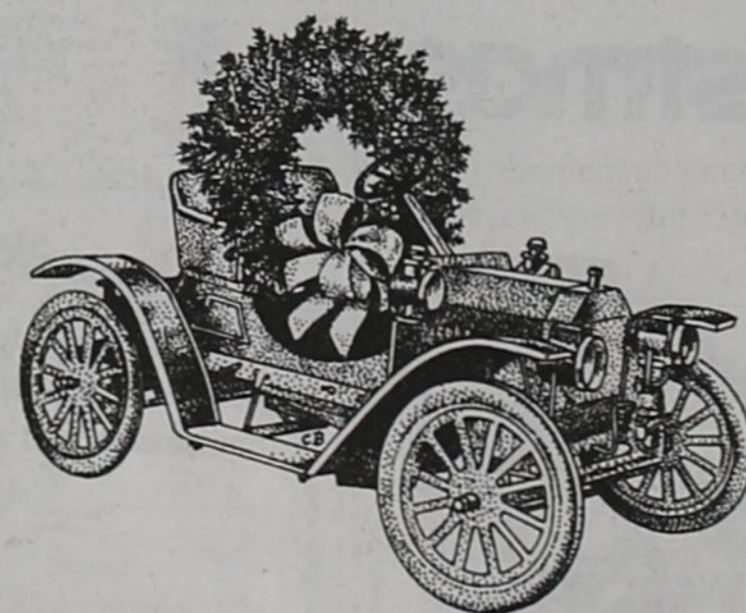
May your home be blessed by the glory of His love this holy season, and may  
His good graces follow you wherever you go.  
Merry Christmas and many thanks.

## American State Bank

Floydada, Texas

MEMBER F.D.I.C.

## Shift Into Holiday Gear!



Everyone here is all revved  
up to wish you  
a high-powered holiday  
celebration, where everything  
runs smoothly!



www.roberthall.com  
(806) 237-2182  
501 Main Street  
Jayton, Texas



# Finding the Spirit of Christmas: A gift of dreams

Condensed from Gannett Westchesster Newspapers, George H. Brooks From December 1990 Reader's Digest, pg. 63

Christmas Eve, 1944. I was a sailor in the U.S. Navy, on a one-day leave in San Francisco. I had

won \$300 at poker that ordinarily would have burned a hole in my pocket, but I couldn't shake an overwhelming sadness. Scuttlebutt had it we'd be pulling out before the New Year for the South Pacific. I'd just received word that another friend had been killed in Europe. And

here I was, an 18-year-old alone in a strange city. Nothing seemed to make any kind of sense. What was I going to be fighting for, anyway?

I spent most of the day in a mental fog, wandering aimlessly through crowds of laughing, happy people. Then, late in the afternoon, my vision suddenly focused, and for the first time a scene registered.

There in a department-store window were two electric trains chugging through a miniature, snow-covered town. In front of the window a skinny boy around nine years old, his nose pressed against the glass. He just stood there, fixed on those trains.

Suddenly the boy was me nine short years before, and the store was Macy's in New York City, my hometown. I could see, could feel the same longing, the same desperate hoping. I could hear the sigh of resignation - the frail attempt to hide the disappointment that Dad could not afford those trains. And I saw the reluctant turning away and then the one last look.

Not this time! I don't know what came over me, but I grabbed the boy by the arm, scaring him half to death.

"My name is George," I told him.

"Jeffery Hollis Jr.," he managed to reply.

"Well, Jeff Hollis Jr.," I said in my best grown-up voice, "we are going to get us those trains." His eyes grew wide, and he let me lead him into the store. I knew it was crazy, but I didn't care. Suddenly I wanted to be nine again and have a kid's dream come true. The salesclerk looked at us suspiciously, a scruffy black boy and a black sailor in ill-fitting dress blues.

"Those trains in the window," I blurted before he could speak. "The whole setup. How much is it?"

His snorting response was interrupted by the arrival of a much older man wearing a warm Christmas smile. "One hundred and sixty-five dollars and sixty-three cents," the elder man replied, "delivery included."

"We'll take it," I said. "Right now, if we can."

"Sailor," he said, "we can! What about the rest of the family?"

I leaned down, and Jeff Jr. whispered that he had two little sisters as well as his mom and pop. I gave him \$50.

"I'll have someone help him out," the elder man told me. And he called over a cheerful woman who took Jeff Jr. by the hand. While the trains and other purchases were being wrapped, the man told me he had two sons of his own in the service. After a lot of "Merry Christmases," a delivery truck was assigned to take us to the boy's home. Jeff Hollis Sr.'s reaction reminded me of what my own father's would have been if I had shown up with a stranger and a whole lot of gifts. I could see he was a hard-working man, breaking his back to make ends meet and knowing he couldn't give his family all he wanted.

"I'm just a sailor a long way from home, Mr. Hollis," I said respectfully, explaining how I had seen myself in his son's longing gaze at the store display. "You couldn't have spent the money any other way?" he asked gruffly.

"No sir," I replied. His face softened, and he welcomed me to share their table. After supper, I read to Jeff Jr. and his sisters until they went off to bed.

"I guess you know we've got



AN OLD FASHIONED WINDOW — This window at Calico Treasures in downtown Matador, is all dressed up in holiday style with an old silver foil Christmas tree.

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a lot to do before morning," Jeff Sr. said. His words startled me for a moment. Then I understood. I was no longer a child; I was a man now, with adult responsibilities. So I joined him at what turned out to be nearly an all-night job of getting the trains put together and set up. His wife, Marge, made sandwiches and coffee and kept me talking about growing up in New York. At midnight we paused to wish each other a Merry Christmas, then went back to the task of making a boy's dream come true.

When we finished, I was bone-tired. Jeff Hollis Sr. looked for a long time at what we had done, then sighed and sat back in a worn easy chair.

"Mine was a bike," he said quietly. "A big two-wheeler with shiny spokes and bright-yellow handlebars. The seat was real leather. I loved that bike. I dreamed about it and wished for it."

"Mine was a Christmas dress I'd seen in a dressmaker's window," Marge said. "I wanted everyone to say, 'What a pretty little girl in that fine dress.'"

Dreams, I thought sleepily. Kid dreams. I guess I dozed because the next thing I knew it was five o'clock, and Jeff Jr. was shaking me. He had remembered I had to be back by eight.

"Is it time yet?" one of the little girls inquired.

"It's time," Jeff Sr. said. "Merry Christmas."

"Wow!" Joy mixed with disbelief. We hadn't done as spectacular a job as the window dressers, but we got the trains laid out all right.

"Dad?" Jeff Jr. asked. "George?"

I exchanged glances with his father and nodded my agreement. This was the honored, official first outing. With Jeff Sr. at one control and me at the other, we set the trains on their way. On the second circuit I eased Jeff Jr. into my place. For about five minutes he ran his train. Then abruptly, he stopped and, without a word, left the room. He returned with the presents he had bought, a look of pride on his face. He'd had some help, but he'd made the choices himself.

I thought he was finished when he turned to me with a package in his hand. "Merry Christmas, George," he said quietly.

I was totally surprised. The

gift was a comb-and-brush set, along with a case for other toilet articles. He held out his hand, then changed his mind and hugged me warmly. The moment of parting was bittersweet, for I knew I would probably never see the Hollises again. Jeff Sr. and Marge thanked me, but I was the grateful one.

As I made my way to the station to catch the bus back to the base, I realized I had no more nagging doubts. I had found

more in this experience than I had received from all the pep talks and patriotic speeches I had ever heard.

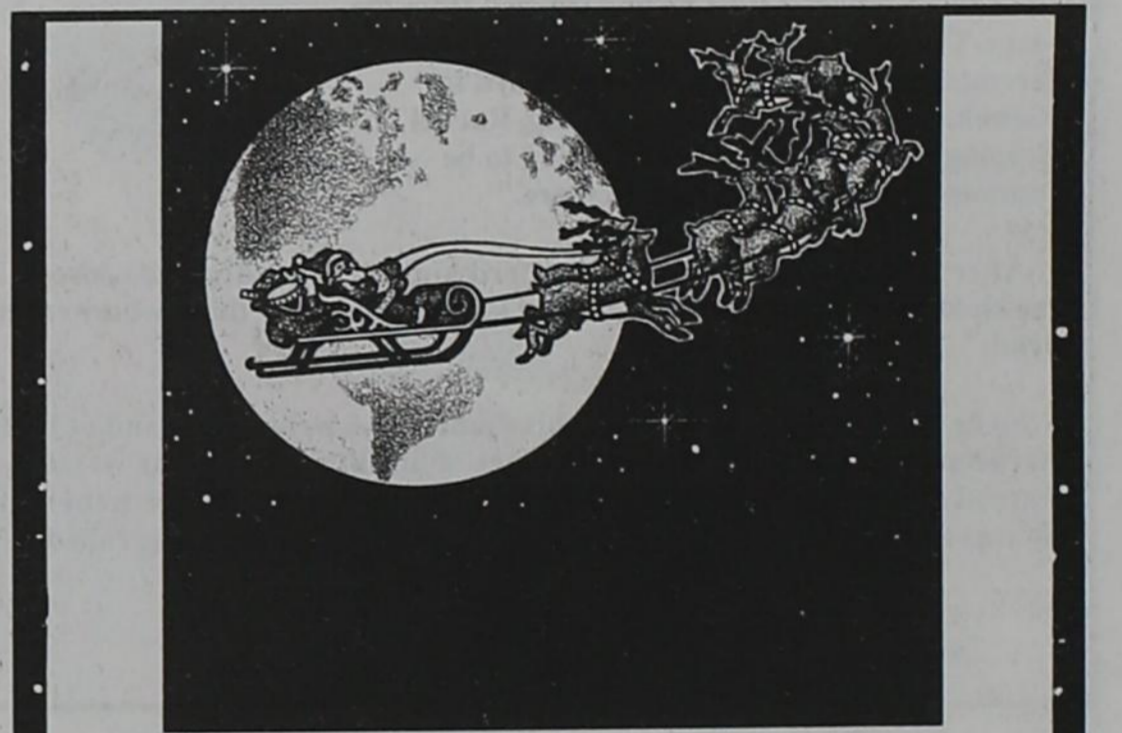
For me, it was a revelation. I knew now what this war and the fighting was about. It was something at once wonderful and

simple. This country, my country, was a place of dreams... and of dreamers who had the faith and the will to make dreams come true.



"I will hold Christmas in my heart, and try to keep it all the year."

- Charles Dickens.



## Santa Claus Is Coming To Town!

*Santa knows the greatest gifts are peace and love. May your heart be blessed with both.*

**Rinker Materials PolyPipe**

Roaring Springs



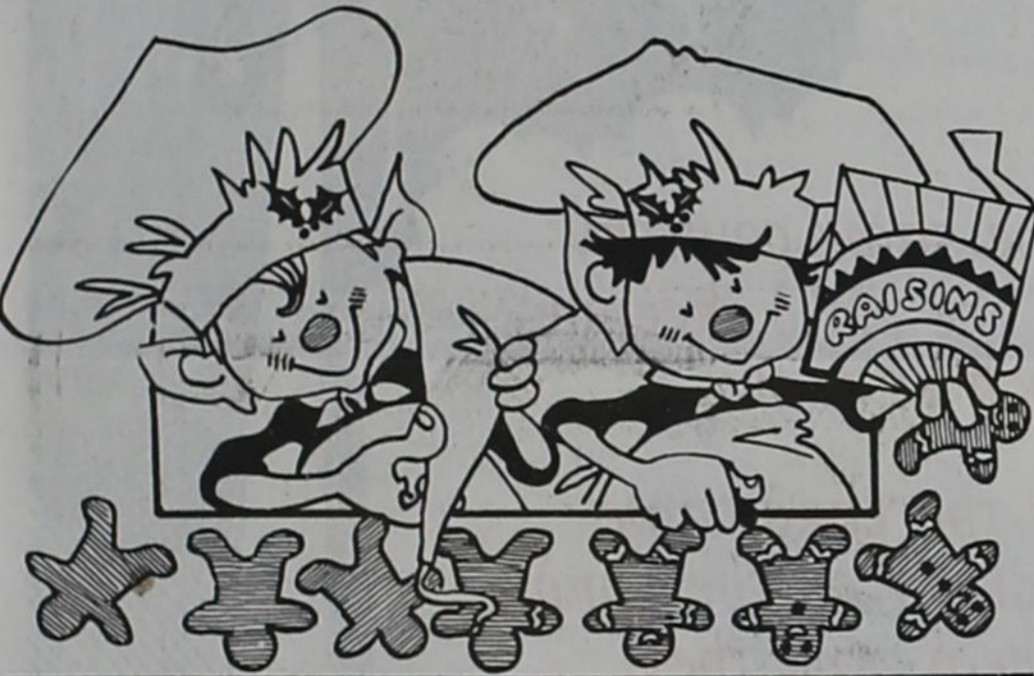
## Gingerbread Men

- Ingredients:
- 3 and 1/4 cups flour
  - 1.2 tsp baking soda
  - 1/4 tsp salt
  - 1 tsp ground cinnamon
  - 2 tsp ground cloves
  - 1 cup salted butter, softened
  - 3/4 cup dark brown sugar, firmly packed
  - 1 large egg
  - 1/2 cup unsulfured molasses
  - 2/3 cup confectioners sugar
  - 1 - 2 tsp milk



- Directions:
1. Preheat oven to 325°
  2. Whisk together flour, salt, cinnamon, baking soda, ginger, and cloves
  3. Cream butter and sugar. Scrape down sides of bowl. Add egg and molasses and beat on medium speed until smooth.
  4. Scrape down bowl and add flour mixture, blend on low speed until just combined — do not over mix!
  5. Separate dough into 2 balls and flatten into disks. Wrap each disk tightly in plastic wrap and refrigerate 1 hour.
  6. On floured surface with floured rolling pin, roll dough out to 1/4" thickness. With floured cookie cutters cut into shapes. Gather scraps and re-roll dough until all is used. Place on ungreased baking sheets about 1/2" apart.
  7. Bake 9-11 minutes — do not brown. Transfer to cool, flat surface and cool.

- Preparing Icing:
1. Whisk sugar and milk until smooth but still liquid.
  2. Add extra milk if seems dry.
  3. Spoon icing into a pastry bag with small piping tip, or other icing dispenser.
  4. Decorate as desired.



It's the perfect opportunity for us to send you all our holiday best... along with our thanks.

**Matador Post Office**  
Sara Chapman  
Postmaster

*Merry Christmas, Friends*

Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plain.  
Merry Christmas and many thanks.

**Seigler Funeral Home**  
Matador & Paducah

\*\*\*\*\*

**We've Pulled Over...**

To wish you the happiest holidays ever. Drive safely, and thanks for steering in our direction.

**Arvis Davis Chevrolet**  
Paducah

\*\*\*\*\*

**PEACE ON EARTH.**

May the spirit of goodwill and brotherhood echo throughout the land as we celebrate this most magical of seasons.

**Parson Transportation**



# The Christmas Story

As told by Matthew



This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. Because Joseph her husband was a righteous man and did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: "The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel"—which means, "God with us."

When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. But he had no union with her until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.



After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him."

When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Christ was to be born. "In Bethlehem in Judea," they replied, "for this is what the prophet has written: "'But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will be the shepherd of my people Israel.'" Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and make a careful search for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him."

After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen in the east went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were overjoyed.



On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold and of incense and of myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

When they had gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. "Get up," he said, "take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the child to kill him."

So he got up, took the child and his mother during the night and left for Egypt, where he stayed until the death of Herod. And so was fulfilled what the Lord had said through the prophet: "Out of Egypt I called my son."



When Herod realized that he had been outwitted by the Magi, he was furious, and he gave orders to kill all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity who were two years old and under, in accordance with the time he had learned from the Magi. Then what was said through the prophet Jeremiah was fulfilled: "A voice is heard in Ramah, weeping and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children and refusing to be comforted, because they are no more."

After Herod died, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who were trying to take the child's life are dead."

So he got up, took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning in Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. Having been warned in a dream, he withdrew to the district of Galilee, and he went and lived in a town called Nazareth. So was fulfilled what was said through the prophets: "He will be called a Nazarene."

—Matthew 1:18 - 2:23 New International Version

Silent Night, Holy Night  
From Austria

(This carol was first sung in a little church in Austria almost 150 years ago. It was composed by the organist one Christmas Eve. And it was sung the next day to the strumming of a guitar because the organ had broken down!)

Silent night! Holy night  
All is calm, all is bright!  
Round yon Virgin Mother and Child,  
Holy Infant so tender and mild,  
Sleep in heavenly peace,  
Sleep in heavenly peace.

## GLAD TIDINGS

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

And lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them, and they were sore afraid.

And the angel said unto them, Fear not for behold I bring you good tidings of great joy which shall be to all people.

For unto you is born this day in the city of David, a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

Luke 2: 8-11

May the Lord bless and keep you and yours this Christmas!

Our Best Wishes and Heartfelt Thanks to all our Customers

Main Street Cafe



SEASON'S GREETINGS

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# Sing His Praises



*With a song in our hearts, we'd like to join you and your family in giving thanks unto our Lord for the many blessings we are fortunate to share. A very joyous Noel to one and all.*

OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE  
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MATADOR

FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD  
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FIRST UNITED  
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MACEDONIA BAPTIST CHURCH  
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FIRST UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH  
ROARING SPRINGS

FULL GOSPEL CHURCH  
ROARING SPRINGS

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
ROARING SPRINGS

CHURCH OF CHRIST  
ROARING SPRINGS





# THE SNOWDROP



by Hans Christian Andersen (1872)

It was wintertime; the air was cold, the wind was sharp, but within the closed doors it was warm and comfortable, and within the closed door lay the flower; it lay in the bulb under the snow-covered earth. One day rain fell. The drops penetrated through the snowy covering down into the earth, and touched the flower-bulb, and talked of the bright world above. Soon the Sunbeam pierced its way through the snow to the root, and within the root there was a stirring.

"Come in," said the flower. "I cannot," said the Sunbeam. "I am not strong enough to unlock the door! When the summer comes I shall be strong!"

"When will it be summer?" asked the Flower, and she repeated this question each time a new sunbeam made its way down to her. But the summer was yet far distant. The snow still lay upon the ground, and there was a coat of ice on the water every night.

"What a long time it takes! what a long time it takes!" said the Flower. "I feel a stirring and striving within me; I must stretch myself, I must unlock the door, I must get out, and must nod a good morning to the summer, and what a happy time that will be!"

And the Flower stirred and stretched itself within the thin rind which the water had softened from without, and the snow and the earth had warmed, and the Sunbeam had knocked at; and it shot forth under the snow with a greenish-white blossom on a green stalk, with narrow thick leaves, which seemed to want to protect it. The snow was cold, but was pierced by the Sunbeam, therefore it was easy to get through it, and now the Sunbeam came with greater strength than before.

"Welcome, welcome!" sang and sounded every ray, and the Flower lifted itself up over the snow into the brighter world. The Sunbeams caressed and kissed it, so that it opened altogether, white as snow, and ornamented with green stripes. It bent its head in joy and humility.

"Beautiful Flower!" said the Sunbeams, "how graceful and delicate you are! You are the first, you are the only one! You are our love! You are the bell that rings out for summer, beautiful summer, over country and town. All the snow will melt; the cold winds will be driven away; we shall rule; all will become green, and then you will have companions, syringas, laburnums, and roses; but you are the first, so graceful, so delicate!"

That was a great pleasure. It seemed as if the air were singing and sounding, as if rays of light were piercing through the leaves and the stalks of the Flower. There it stood, so delicate and so easily broken, and yet so strong in its young beauty; it stood there in its white dress with the green stripes, and made a summer. But there was a long time yet to the summertime. Clouds hid the sun, and bleak winds were blowing.

"You have come too early," said Wind and Weather. "We

have still the power, and you shall feel it, and give it up to us. You should have stayed quietly at home and not have run out to make a display of yourself. Your time is not come yet!"

It was a cutting cold! The days which now come brought not a single sunbeam. It was weather that might break such a little Flower in two with cold. But the Flower had more strength than she herself knew of. She was strong in joy and in faith in the summer, which would be sure to come, which had been announced by her deep longing and confirmed by the warm sunlight; and so she remained standing in confidence in the snow in her white garment, bending her head even while the snow-flakes fell thick and heavy, and the icy winds swept over her.

"You'll break!" they said, "and fade, and fade! What did you want out here? Why did you let yourself be tempted? The Sunbeam only made game of you. Now you have what you deserve, you summer gauk."

"Summer gauk!" she repeated in the cold morning hour. "O summer gauk!" cried some children rejoicingly; "yonder stands one—how beautiful, how beautiful! The first one, the only one!"

These words did the Flower so much good, they seemed to her like warm sunbeams. In her joy the Flower did not even feel when it was broken off. It lay in a child's hand, and was kissed by a child's mouth, and carried into a warm room, and looked on by gentle eyes, and put into water. How strengthening, how invigorating! The Flower thought she had suddenly come upon the summer.

The daughter of the house, a beautiful little girl, was confirmed, and she had a friend who was confirmed, too. He was studying for an examination for an appointment. "He shall be my summer gauk," she said; and she took the delicate Flower and laid it in a piece of scented paper, on which verses were written, beginning with summer gauk and ending with summer gauk. "My friend, be a winter gauk." She had twitted him with the summer. Yes, all this was in the verses, and the paper was folded up like a letter, and the Flower was folded in the letter, too. It was dark around her, dark as in those days when she lay hidden in the bulb. The Flower went forth on her journey, and lay in the post-bag, and was pressed and crushed, which was not at all pleasant; but that soon came to an end.

The journey was over; the letter was opened, and read by the dear friend. How pleased he was! He kissed the letter, and it was laid, with its enclosure of verses, in a box, in which there were many beautiful verses, but all of them without flowers; she was the first, the only one, as the Sunbeams had called her; and it was a pleasant thing to think of that.

She had time enough, moreover, to think about it; she thought of it while the summer passed away, and the long winter went by, and the summer came again, before she appeared once more. But now the young man was not pleased at all. He

took hold of the letter very roughly, and threw the verses away, so that the Flower fell on the ground. Flat and faded she certainly was, but why should she be thrown on the ground? Still, it was better to be here than in the fire, where the verses and the paper were being burnt to ashes. What had happened? What happens so often: the Flower had made a gauk of him, that was a jest; the girl had made a fool of him, that was no jest, she had, during the summer, chosen another friend.

Next morning the sun shone in upon the little flattened Snowdrop, that looked as if it had been painted upon the floor. The servant girl, who was sweeping out the room, picked it up, and laid it in one of the books which were upon the table, in the belief that it must have fallen out while the room was being arranged. Again the flower lay among verses—printed verses—and they are better than written ones—at least, more money has been spent upon them.

And after this years went by. The book stood upon the book-shelf, and then it was taken up and somebody read out of it. It was a good book; verses and songs by the old Danish poet, Ambrosius Stub, which are well worth reading. The man who was now reading the book turned over a page.

"Why, there's a flower!" he said; "a snowdrop, a summer gauk, a poet gauk! That flower must have been put in there with a meaning! Poor Ambrosius Stub! he was a summer fool too, a poet fool; he came too early, before his time, and therefore he had to taste the sharp winds, and wander about as a guest from one noble landed proprietor to another, like a flower in a glass of water, a flower in rhymed verses! Summer fool, winter fool, fun and folly— but the first, the only, the fresh young Danish poet of those days. Yes, thou shalt remain as a token in the book, thou little snowdrop; thou hast been put there with a meaning."

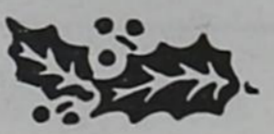
And so the Snowdrop was put back into the book, and felt equally honored and pleased to know that it was a token in the glorious book of songs, and that he who was the first to sing and to write had been also a snowdrop, had been a summer gauk, and had been looked upon in the winter-time as a fool. The Flower understood this, in her way, as we interpret everything in our way.

That is the story of the Snowdrop.



*Merry Christmas!*  
Anonymous

Merry Christmas to friends!  
Merry Christmas to foes!  
The world's bright with joy, so  
Forget all your woes.  
The earth's full of beauty, of  
Love and good cheer.  
Merry Christmas to all and a  
Happy New Year!



**HOLIDAY GREETINGS**

Wishing you a season filled with great joy!  
Many thanks for your friendship!

Long Insurance  
Roaring Springs

# Why Rudolph's Nose is Red

The Great North Wind is usually quite peaceful. He'll go his way and let you go yours. But very once in a while he gets totally fed up with the human race. He gets tired of sharing the air with airplanes and balloons and rockets and kites. "I'm going to get rid of them," he roars. "And I'm going to get rid of all the people who make them, too!"

When the Great North Wind gets like that, watch out! He'll blow and blow until he blows your brains out, if he can!

One year Santa and the elves were working hurriedly, trying to get ready for Christmas. It seemed that everything was going wrong and Christmas Eve was getting closer and closer.

Then the bad got worse for them. One by one, they all got the flu—Santa, then the elves, then the reindeer. For a while Mrs. Santa treated them with her powerful home remedies. But the remedies weren't strong enough. And then she got the flu, too!

It was a sorry state of affairs. Here everything was behind schedule, and no one had the strength to work.

Then the worse got even more worse! Because about that time the Great North Wind decided to throw a tantrum. "I'm sick of it!" he bellowed. (The Great North Wind finds it impossible to talk nicely, even when he's in a good mood.) "I'm going to get them all!" he shouted. And he began to get ready to attack all of the men and women and children on earth.

The reindeer were in their stables when the Great North Wind roared out his threat, and they shivered with the power of it. "We must warn Santa," they whispered. "He must know about this!"

So they went in to see Santa, and told him in sign language what they'd heard. "This is serious," Santa said, sitting feebly in his bed, "very serious indeed!" He stroked his beard, his hand pale. "We must warn the people of the world. Who can we send? I'm too sick. All the elves are sick. Are any of the reindeer will enough to fly?" "Only one," was the answer. "Young Rudolph."

That night Rudolph took off

on his solitary flight. He had barely begun when the Great North Wind saw him flying through the air. "Arrgh," the Great North Wind growled. "An enemy! I'll destroy him!" And he sent a bolt of lightning down onto Rudolph.

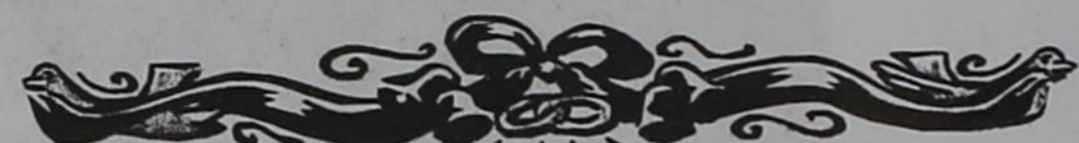
It was too much for the tiny deer to withstand. The electricity of the lightning passed through his body, causing his heart to stop. His body shuddered, then died, and he fell, down, down toward the earth.

"Arrgh!" the Great North Wind shouted. "I got him!" And he sent another lightning bolt after Rudolph's limp form.

Again the electrical current passed through his body and it started his heart again! Rudolph came back to life, and quickly

resumed his flight. But a strange thing happened. The electrical charge remained in him, and his nose began to glow, brighter and brighter, until even the Great North Wind couldn't bear to look at its brilliance. With his nose shining the way before him, Rudolph safely made his way through the Great North Wind's terrible storm and warned the people of the world to stay indoors until the wind was gone.

When Rudolph returned the North Pole, some of the younger reindeer mocked him. "Hah, hah!" they said. "Red nose, red nose!" But Santa proclaimed Rudolph a hero, and let him retire from sleigh duty for life—except when the Great North Wind arises!



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*Merry Christmas*

At this time of year, we extend our warmest wishes and express our deep appreciation for your loyal support.

**Motley County Farm Bureau**



# Christmas Cooking

## Mint Snowballs

1/2 Cup Icing Sugar  
1/2 Cup Shortening  
1/2 Cup Butter  
1/2 Tsp Peppermint Flavoring  
2 Cups All Purpose Flour  
1/2 Tsp Salt

Cream sugar, shortening, butter, and extract thoroughly. Measure flour WITHOUT sifting into wax paper, add salt and blend well. Now add dry ingredients to creamed mixture. Mix well. Form into one inch balls, place on cookie sheet and cook in 400F oven 8-10 minutes. Cool on rack. Dip tops in icing, pink and green, then in coconut. Yield 4-4 1/2 dozen.

## Pecan Dreams

1/2 lb. Butter, Creamed  
4 T 10X Sugar  
4 T Vanilla  
2 C Flour  
1 C Chopped Pecans

Mix and Roll then press with a fork. Bake 15 Min - @ 375F. While hot roll in cinnamon and sugar.

## Snickerdoodles

Mix together thoroughly:  
1 cup soft margarine  
1 1/2 cups sugar  
2 eggs

Sift together and stir in:  
2 3/4 cups flour  
2 tsp. cream of tartar  
1 tsp. baking soda  
1/2 tsp. salt

Chill dough for 1 hour. Roll into balls the size of small walnuts. Roll in mixture of 2 tablespoons of sugar and 2 teaspoons of cinnamon.

Place about 2 inches apart on ungreased baking sheet. Bake until lightly browned, but still soft. These cookies pull up at first, then flatten out with crinkled tops.

Temperature: 400 degrees. Time: Bake 8 - 10 minutes. About 5 dozen 2 inch cookies.

## Christmas Float

1 can coke or Dr. Pepper  
3 scoops of ice cream - chocolate or vanilla  
4 cherries  
2 red and green gum drops  
red and green M&M's  
whipped cream topping

Put ice cream in cup. Pour soda on it. Then add the whipped cream, cherries and candy.

## Cinnamon Crinkles

Ingredients:  
2 and 2/3 cup of sifted flour  
2 tsp cream of tartar  
2 tsp baking soda  
1/2 tsp salt  
1 cup butter or margarine  
1 and 1/2 cup of sugar  
2 eggs  
2 T ground cinnamon  
3 T sugar  
halved pecans or walnuts (optional)

### Directions:

1. Sift together flour, cream of tartar, baking soda, and salt — set aside
2. Cream butter and sugar. Add eggs one at a time; beat well after adding each.
3. Add dry ingredients. Refrigerate 1 hour.
4. Drop by teaspoonfuls onto lightly greased cookie sheet
5. Press half a nut into center — sprinkle with cinnamon and sugar mixture
5. Bake at 350° for 12-15 minutes.

## Eggnog Cookies

Ingredients:  
2 and 1/4 cups flour  
1 tsp baking powder  
1/2 tsp ground cinnamon  
1/2 tsp ground nutmeg  
1 and 1/4 cups white sugar  
3/4 cups salted butter, softened  
1/2 cup eggnog  
1 tsp pure vanilla extract  
2 large egg yolks  
1 Tbsp ground nutmeg

### Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 300°
2. Combine flour, baking powder, cinnamon, and nutmeg
3. Mix well with wire whisk and set aside
4. Cream sugar and butter with electric mixer until forms a grainy paste
5. Add eggnog, vanilla, and egg yolks and beat at medium speed until smooth
6. Add flour mixture and beat at low speed just until combined — do not over mix!
7. Drop by rounded teaspoonfuls onto ungreased baking sheets — 1" apart. Sprinkle lightly with nutmeg.
8. Bake for 23-25 minutes or until bottoms turn light brown — transfer to cool, flat surface immediately.

## Chocolate Coffee

### Ingredients:

4 heaping teaspoons of cocoa mix  
1 scant teaspoon of instant coffee mix  
cinnamon

Makes one serving.

## Hot Spiced Christmas Punch

3 cups Pineapple juice  
4 cups cranberry juice  
2 cups apple cider  
1 cup water  
1/2 cup brown sugar  
6 cinnamon sticks  
1 orange, studded with cloves  
1 apple, cored and sliced Mix all ingredients in a large saucepan. Add cinnamon sticks, orange studded with cloves, and one cored, sliced apple. Simmer mixture for 4 hours. Serve hot.  
Serves 12. (Recipe may be doubled)



## Season's Greetings

Wishing you peace and joy at this most magical time of year.

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**JOY.  
PEACE.  
LOVE.  
FRIENDSHIP.**

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## HAPPY YULETIDE



May the spirit of this joyous season touch all His creatures, bringing peace and serenity across the land.  
*Merry Christmas!*

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# Merry Christmas



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# Christmas Joy



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