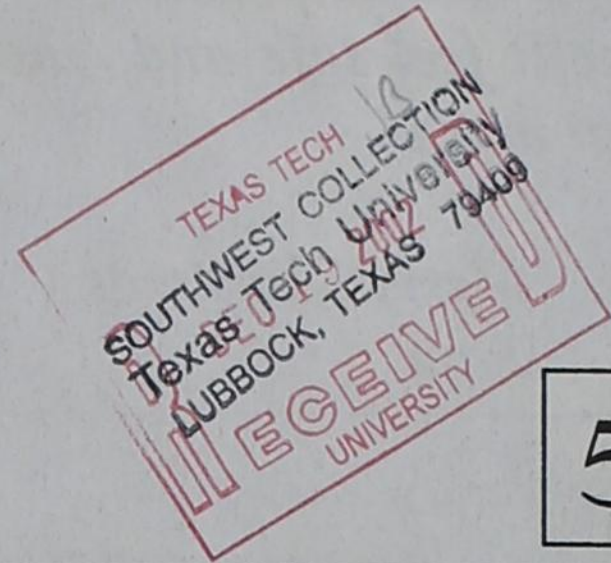


Texas Tech Univ. Library  
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Lubbock, TX 79409-0002

# Motley County Tribune

*"Voice of the Foothills"*



50¢

Established 1891

December 19, 2002

Issue No. 51



## Star of Wonder, Star of Night

As we rejoice in the miracle of Christmas, let us give thanks for the message of love, faith and hope that was discovered in a manger so long ago. May a feeling of peace stay with you throughout the year, and may you and yours revel in a joyous holiday season.



Dear Mr. President,

*If I could have one wish for our country, it would be to win the war on terrorism so we won't have to worry about them coming and bombing the U.S. If we win, the U.S. would be proud of our Military. Kids will feel safe and they won't know what war is.*

**Merry Christmas,  
Sam**

Dear Mr. President,

If I could have one wish for our country, I would wish that all kids would have clothes, food and shelter. I have heard that some kids do not have presents, toys, clothes, and no happiness at Christmas. Kids are our future and our hope for a better world.

Merry Christmas!  
Courtney M.

Dear Mr. President,

If I could have one wish for our country, it would be that all people would have food to eat. If they had food people would not die and they would be happier. They would thank you if you gave them food.

Merry Christmas!  
Melissa  
Ho-Ho-Ho-Ho!!

Dear Mr. President,

If I could have one wish for our country, it would be to protect our country from any terrorists that tried to sneak into it. I hope our armed forces will get the terrorists and nobody would have to worry about them anymore. All the borders, we would check everybody's criminal records, fingerprints, and bags. If this is accomplished, people in America would feel safer and not so worried. I hope my wish comes true.

Merry Christmas,  
Xavier

PS. We need to work harder and become stronger allies with other countries.

Dear Mr. President,

If I had one wish it would be to end the war. So no more of our country would be hurt. If we stay in war our Military men and women miss their families and might never see them again. All families need to be together for Christmas or it won't be a real Christmas.

Merry Christmas!  
Eric

Dear Mr. President,

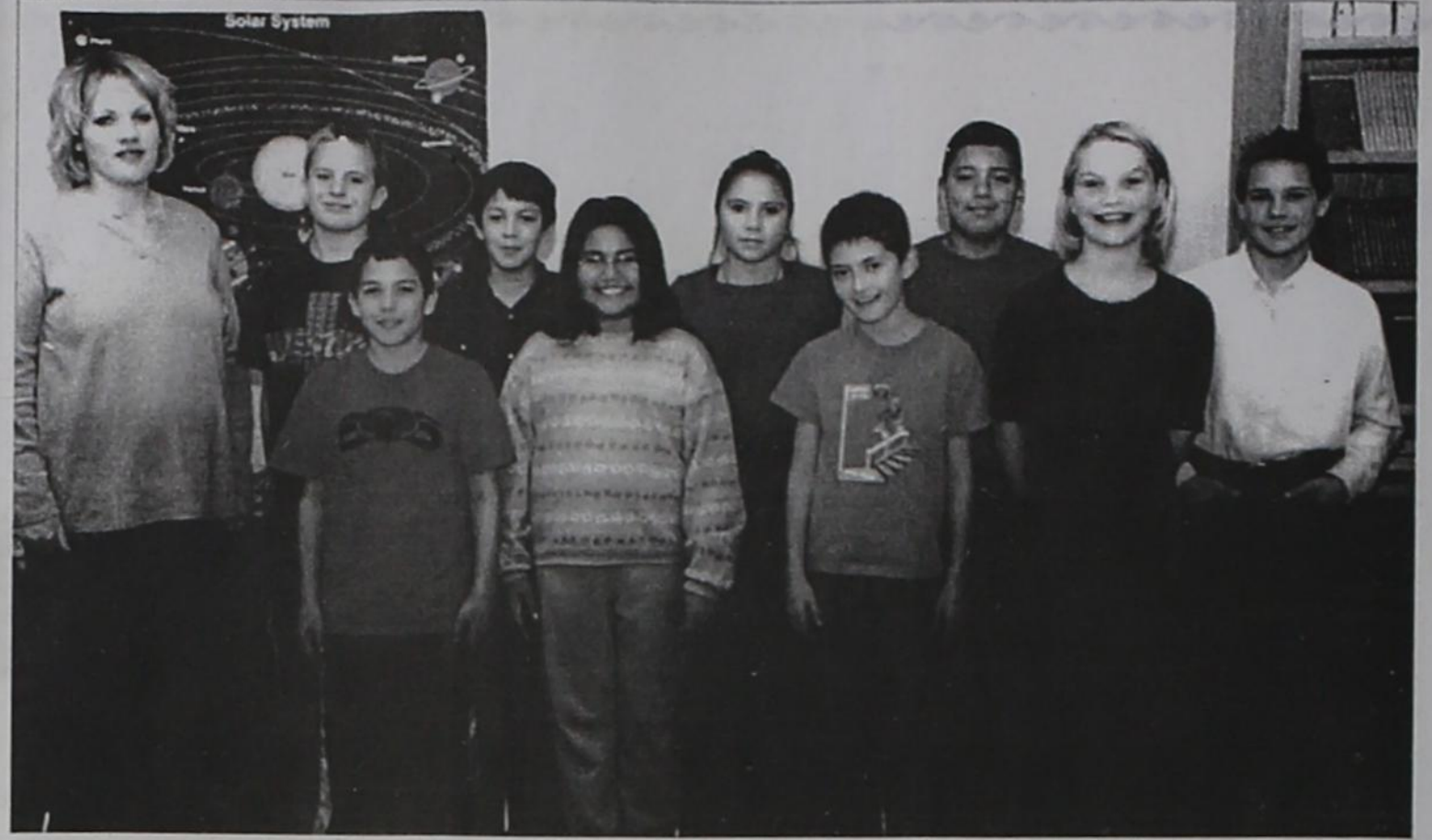
If I could have one wish for our nation it would be that all of the people would have food and people wouldn't go hungry. People could earn food vouchers and get better benefits in their jobs. I wish Saddam Hussain would stop his perilous ways. Finally I wish that the men and women all over the world would feel safe and amongst all the peace would prevail.

Merry Christmas,  
Cory

Dear Mr. President,

If I could have one wish for our country, it would be to feel safe and secure. For example, schools and homes would be safe places for kids if we lock all the bad people up. I also wish that all people would have homes, food, and everything they need.

Merry Christmas!  
Patrick



MOTLEY COUNTY 5TH GRADE CLASS — Pictured left to right, Mrs. Erin Jones, Cory Durham, Sam Fletcher, Andrew Martin, Courtney Motezuma, Melissa Flores, Patrick Ramsey, Xavier Elizondo, Kaleigh Kerns and Eric Simpson. Class members decided to write letters to the President instead of Santa Claus this year. Their letters are printed at left.

NOTE: The Motley County 5th grade class decided they were too old for Santa letters and chose to write letter to the President instead.

Dear Mr. President,

If I could have one wish for our country, I would wish that all people would have some things to eat and have shelter. I would give them some gift certificates for groceries from the store and ask the community to build them some shelter. Then they will be happy and be safe and have a nice Christmas.

Merry Christmas,  
Andy

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

Dear Mr. President,

If I could have one wish for our country, it would be that every person who is not going to have a gift for Christmas would receive one. The way we could do that is a group of people could buy some gifts or even find some things they don't use anymore and could give to people that are less fortunate.

Merry Christmas,  
Kaleigh



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**

☆☆

**GOODWILL  
TOWARD MEN**



Capture the Sparkle...  
Capture the Joy!

Happy holidays to all!  
**Kathy's**  
Flomot  
Clois & Kathy Shorter

**SEASON'S GREETINGS**  
We wish you all a great American Christmas.

**American Legion  
& Auxiliary**

peace and joy  
always

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

**New To You**  
downtown Matador

Our Best Wishes and Heartfelt  
Thanks to all our Customers

**Main Street  
Cafe**



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.

**South Plains Electric  
Cooperative, Inc.**  
Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

Lubbock • Lorenzo • Spur • Childress

Blessings  
of the  
Season

**PEACE  
AND  
JOY**

Wishing you the best of  
both worlds at Christmas.

Germania Insurance  
&  
Lee's Insurance  
Agency  
Turkey





# I have been very good



Dear Santa,  
This year I have been very good so would you please bring me a Barbie Keyhouse. Tucker has been good too so would you please bring him a big truck.

Thanks,  
Katie Barton

Dear Santa,  
I will give you cookies and milk. I want a real four wheeler and a game for game boy.

Love,  
Conner

Dear Santa,  
I want a remote control truck.

Love,  
Matthew Mount

Dear Santa,  
I want a army tank and a motor-cycle.

Love,  
James



Dear Santa,  
I want a play station. Dear Santa I want to have two real 4-wheeler.

Love,  
Jacob

Dear Santa,  
Watch out I don't have a chimney. I want some track for the Lionel train set, a 1 foot long remote control, a monster truck and a 2 and a half foot remote control plane.

From,  
Neal

Dear Santa,  
How is Rudolph? I want a hamster. I will take good care of her. I even want a stuffed animal. I also want a book.

From,  
Stormy

Dear Santa,  
Please come in my back door. Do you like cookies? This year I want a dirtbike, a bull dog, and football stuff. I have been good.

From,  
Britt

Dear Santa,  
I'm sorry but I don't know if I'm leaving milk and cookies. I know that you have been busy and working hard. All I want is a jump rope, a China doll, and a kitten.

Love,  
Christina

Dear Santa,  
How are you and the reindeer. This year I want Power Rangers, a Power Ranger yoyo and Power Ranger cards. I broke my arm.

From,  
Hance

PS. Come in through the door.

Dear Santa,  
I want a helicopter. I want a boat. I want a army tank.

Thank you,  
Andy

Dear Santa,  
I want a x box tv Krdons.

Love,  
Dillon

Best Wishes  
FOR CHANUKAH



Dear Santa and Mrs. Claus,  
How are you? We are fine. Our Pre-K Class here at Motley County knows that this is a really busy time of year for you. We have been studying about the North Pole and hope you and Mrs. Claus are not too cold there. Each of us has been trying to be extra good in school and at home with our families. Sometimes it can be really hard being good for a long time, but we'll keep trying if you'll come see us on Christmas Eve.

Each of us has made a list and if possible we'd like you to bring us the following gifts:

Macie Marshall would like a toy Jeep, 4-wheeler, and a toy bear.

Maegan Jameson would like a saddle, toy bear, Britney Spears CD, and the movie "Spirit" and a horse.

Thalia Quilimaco would like a Barbie, Radio, and clothes.

Matthew Faulk would like a Rocketship with Rocketman and some Power Rangers, Star Wars game.

Mickey Clary would like a Power Ranger game, Spiderman game, and a Scooby Doo Movie.

Marcus Ortiz would like a Game Boy Advance, Pokeman Ball, and Power Ranger Gloves.

Mattie Brooks would like a Bike, Barbie, CD Player with CD's, and the movie, "Snow Dogs."

Meagan Perryman would like a horse, 4-wheeler and a Winnie the Pooh Puzzle.

Joey Horton would like a Go-Cart, Race Car, and a CD Player, Power Ranger Gloves.

Kaylee Woolsey would like a Barbie, Bike, a movie, and a 4-wheeler.

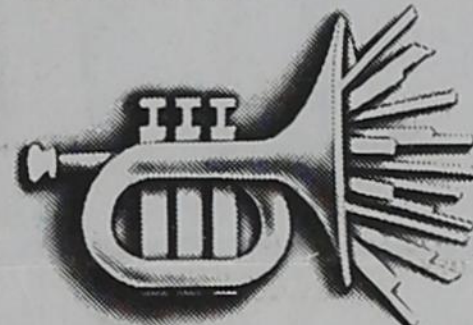
Caitlynn Wright would like a Bike, Barbie, and a Pet Duck.

Joshua Martin would like a GiGi Mon toy, Power Ranger Gun and pet Chicken.

Isaiah Olague would like a Rocketpack, Rocket hat, and a toy gun, Spiderman game.

We would also like for you to remember all the other boys and girls all over the world and give them a little happiness too. Be sure and fly carefully and say hello to Rudolph and all the other reindeer for us.

Mrs. Parks & Pre-K



WE WANT SOME COOL STUFF! Noah Guerrero and Aaryn Brandon told Santa of their Christmas lists when they visited with him when he made a stop in Matador. Noah is the son of Noel and Lisa Guerrero and Aaryn is the son of Amber Brandon.



NOW, BE SURE YOU GET ALL THIS ALL DOWN, SANTA — Kaylee Woolsey makes sure Santa knows all of her Christmas wishes. Kaylee is the daughter of Les and Kim Woolsey of Roaring Springs.

PEACE ON EARTH  
GOOD WILL TO ALL MANKIND



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

BANK

MERRY CHRISTMAS

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

All the bank you'll ever need

Member F.D.I.C.



# Share the Faith



*We join you in celebrating the birth of  
Jesus Christ, and pray that all  
mankind will find His great love and peace.*

OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE  
CATHOLIC CHURCH  
MATADOR

FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD  
MATADOR

FIRST UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH  
MATADOR

MACEDONIA BAPTIST CHURCH  
MATADOR

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
MATADOR

FIRST UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH  
ROARING SPRINGS

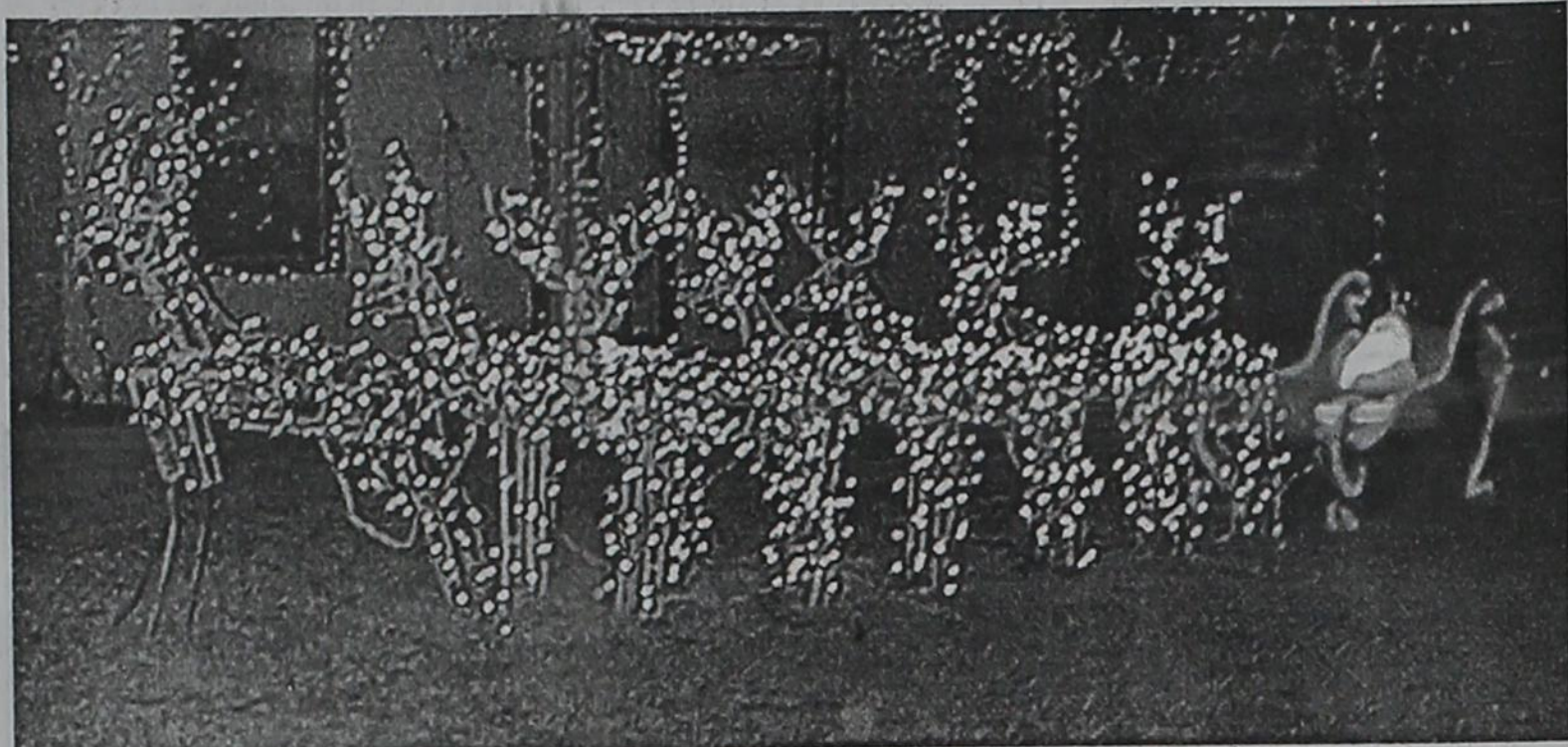
FULL GOSPEL CHURCH  
ROARING SPRINGS

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
ROARING SPRINGS

CHURCH OF CHRIST  
ROARING SPRINGS



# MERRY CHRISTMAS



Santa and his reindeer are all lit up in the front yard of Jim and Gale Belk of Matador.

## Commissioners meet in regular session

Motley County Commissioners met in regular session December 9. A full court was present. Minutes of the last session were read and approved. Outstanding bills were reviewed and approved for payment.

Reports were heard and approved from the County Treasurer, Tax Assessor, Justice-of-Peace, County Agent and Motley County Library.

DPS Trooper Mark Gumaer met with the Court to discuss the need for a lap-top computer and docketing station. Mr. Gumaer stated a government price and stated that a computer would be a big help when he gets his new partner to keep in touch. The lap-top can be carried in the car. The motion was made by Commissioner Turner to table this request for further study. This was seconded by

Commissioner Jameson and carried unanimously.

Court voted to advertise in the *Motley County Tribune* concerning the County lots that are for sale. The lots are in block no. 124, lots no. 6-7-8-9.

Eva Barkley, County Treasurer, requested to write and request a committee from the Comptrollers' Office to check the County Treasurer Office for an accounting policy. The request was granted.

Court voted to have County Judge Smith check into the cost of obtaining the computers that were obtained by the Community Grant Program. Judge Smith will check with Cap Rock Telephone for the actual cost.



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

The First United Methodist Church in Roaring Springs will hold Christmas Eve Candlelight services at 6:30 p.m.

Everyone is invited to attend this very special service.

## Motley County ISD receives Gold Performance acknowledgments

Motley County Superintendent Rick Copp announced during the public hearing for the 2001-2003 Academic Excellence Indicator System (AEIS), which was held before the scheduled board meeting, December 9, that the school district received a rating of Recognized from the Texas Education Agency. The district also received Gold Performance Acknowledgments for improvement in campus reading and as a "Recommended High School Program" for the third straight year. New programs are being implemented to help teachers, parents, and students as the new Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills Test (TAKS) is implemented this year. A copy of the Report Card will be mailed to all parents with student report cards in January. A copy may be obtained at the administration offices.

Board members met in regular

session at 7:30 p.m. All board members were present except Les Woolsey. Also in attendance other than Mr. Copp, were Principal Sonya Herrell and Denise Ford. Representing the staff was Cathey Turner and Erin Jones.

During Mr. Copp's report, he informed the board that bus repairs had been incurred on two of the small 16 passenger buses and that the clutch had to be replaced on the red activity bus. After consulting with the management at Bothwell's at Plainview, Mr. Copp decided it was worth the money to have Big Red repaired and ready to use as soon as possible.

Motley County ISD has three teachers, Jan Jones, Cathey Turner and Shelley Cox, that have been approved and trained to teach Statewide Articulated Courses. These courses are vocational and will allow students who take them at Motley

County to receive credit at any college or university in the state. Mrs. Turner has indicated that she is in communication with Mr. Cooper to see if he would become certified and offer a vocational course through his program.

Mr. Copp announced that All-District selections had been made for football. They are Clint Cooper, first team defense; Seagram Sims, 2nd team offense; Lorenzo Salazar, 2nd team defense; Chance Bingham, 2nd team punter. Honorable mention are Kevin Elder, Chantry Meyer and Brandon Martin, offense; Quinten Rose and Kenny Johannes, defense.

Mr. Copp has been appointed to the Equity Board and will be in contact with other members during the upcoming Legislation Session to help promote legislation that will be beneficial to schools. He informed the board that he had attended the TRSI Administrative workshop in Austin last week as well as the TASB Pre-legislative conference.

Motley County's current tax collections at the end of November are at 65.4% according to Elaine Hart, Tax Assessor/Collector.

Mr. Copp informed the board about grant writing opportunities that have been given to the staff be-

ing sponsored by the Four Winds RC&D. This workshop will be beneficial in helping teachers begin the grant writing process and locating types of grants available.

The current school enrollment is 175 and the current attendance is at 97.90%.

Items for board action:

— Approved the minutes of the previous meeting.

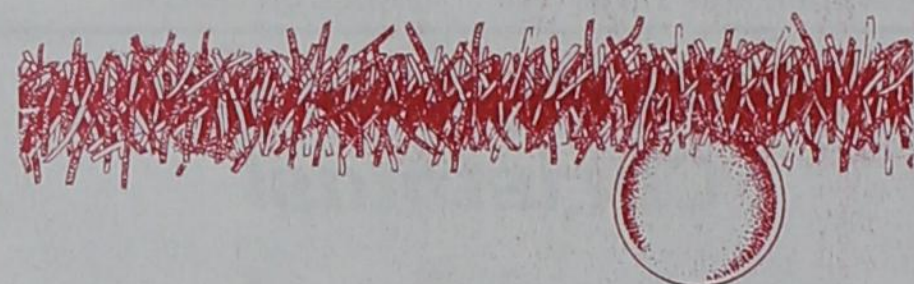
— Approved the expenditure report and reviewed the financial statements.

— Approved financial officer training of Denise Ford.

— Dianne Washington presented an audit update and informed the board of new requirements that are being made part of the audit this year. She will present the completed 2001-2002 audit at the January meeting.

The board entered executive session at 8:52 p.m. and exited at 9:20 p.m. No action was taken after executive session.

Mr. Copp informed the board he had accepted the resignation of Mrs. Ewing, effective December 31, 2002. Mrs. Ewing has been an asset to Motley County ISD for seventeen years and will be greatly missed.



## Christmas decorations back then and there

by Earlyne Jameson

When reading about old timers being interviewed about memories and traditions of Christmas long ago, it made me think of past Christmas holidays with my paternal grandparents. I remember stringing popcorn. Also getting the needle were cranberries.

Back then and there, folks couldn't run out to a discount store to buy decorations for their Christmas trees. They didn't have the time, money or the discount store in their small communities, so they made do with what they had in their kitchens or around outside.

One old timer remembered that her family dyed bread dough with food coloring, shaped the dough into cunning forms, baked them and hung them on the tree. In another family, the kids foraged in the woods for sycamore balls, which were dipped in

water, then flour and hung on the tree. Still another collected pine cones and wrapped them in foil from a parent's cigarette packages.

One year brought a new wrinkle to decorating activities, something picked up at a Homemaker's Club. Take a red or green candle and light it. Then let it drip droplets onto an oilcloth on your kitchen table. Try to wiggle it so that every droplet is about the same size. Let the droplets harden. Then get out your needle and thread. We're talking tedious here and almost half a century ago.

Nowadays, you see fancy and beautiful decorations on Christmas trees. Through the eyes of children trees glow with sparkling lights, candy treats and drams of toys come true. Through the eyes of seniors, Christmas joy comes shining through. They savor time of love and peace and laud Christ's birth anew.

### New Items on the Menu!

**Chicken Fajitas - \$6.95**

(includes Rice, Beans, Salad & 2 Tortillas)

**Beef Fajita Salad - \$5.50**

**Chicken Fajita Salad - \$4.95**

**SATURDAY SPECIAL**  
December 21, 5:00-9:00 p.m.  
**CHICKEN FAJITAS**  
**\$5.95**



**Anna's Mexican Restaurant**

Only  
**6**  
Days  
'til  
Christmas

### Early deadline for New Year's paper

The Motley County Tribune will be closed Christmas week, December 23-27, and will not publish a paper that week.

The next edition of the paper after the December 19th issue will be the January 2nd issue. Since New Year's Day falls on our regular print day, Wednesday, January 1, we will have an early print day of Tuesday. All news and ad copy for the January 2 edition must be submitted no later than 11:00 a.m. Monday, December 30.

We appreciate your cooperation and our best wishes for a blessed, happy and safe holiday season goes to all of our readers.

# NOEL

**25% off STOREWIDE**



**Now through Christmas!**

**New To You**

Downtown Matador ~ 347-2388

## FRIDAY NIGHT FISH FRY

ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT BUFFET

Check out our Convenience Store!  
Washeteria, Food Bar, Groceries

"A Little Bit of Everything!"

Lottery Tickets & Scratch Off Tickets Available!

**THE HITCHIN' POST**

Downtown Roaring Springs ★ 348-7205

broadway  festivals

**LIGHTS IN THE CANYON**

OFF BROADWAY AT MACKENZIE PARK

2-Mile Drive Through Lights Display  
NOVEMBER 26<sup>TH</sup> - DECEMBER 31<sup>ST</sup>

6 pm - 10 pm NIGHTLY  
Lubbock, TX

\$8 per car • \$50 per bus

For more info call: 806-749-2929





This issue of the paper is my final edition for 2002. I must admit I am counting the minutes until this week is over and I can have a week off.

I hope that everyone enjoys this special Christmas edition. Although it takes a lot of extra hours to put it together I really enjoy doing this paper. I wish I could have color in every edition.

My daughter-in-law, my grandbabies and myself attended the Nutcracker Ballet in Lubbock last Saturday. It was great fun. Morgan, who is now 5, and I have been attending since she was barely 3. She loves it. This was Jud's first time. He turned 3 in November. He seemed to enjoy it as much as we did. This holiday tradition is so special to me, and a wonderful event to share with my daughter-in-law and grandchildren. Of course they were the most beautiful children there.

We are so blessed in this country to be able to freely enjoy the things that are available to us. The last two

Christmases in our great country have been so different than most of us in my generation remember. With the threat of war hanging over us and the ongoing battle of the war on terrorism, life as we Americans have become accustomed to, has changed somewhat.

Although our thoughts and fears have changed since the September 11, 2001, attack on our country, we really don't know, and can't comprehend, the fear and anguish that people in some other countries have experienced. I pray we never have too.

My heart goes out to the parents and loved ones of the soldiers who won't be home for Christmas.

May we all remember the true meaning of this blessed season — the birth of our Saviour Jesus Christ. I pray that He will fill our hearts with love, replace our fearful thoughts with compassion and hope.

Jim and I truly hope that you all have a wonderful Christmas.  
PEACE ON EARTH!

# Lifestyles

## FAMILY & CONSUMER NEWS

By Jennifer Trufan,  
Extension Agent, Family & Consumer Sciences



No doubt about it, foodborne illnesses can ruin your holidays. In fact, foodborne illnesses are better avoided any time of year. During this time of year, we prepare and eat lots of food at Christmas parties and other holiday gatherings. We also give and receive lots of gifts filled with food items so please remember that it's important to enjoy these things but to practice food safety.

Dr. Peggy Fan Laanen, Texas Cooperative Extension nutrition specialist, offers 10 easy tips to help consumers do just that:

— Buy food from reputable sources. Foods for sale from trucks or street vendors might look good, but prove to be anything but. Check food items for "use by" and "sell by" dates. Don't buy food in packages or cans that are dented or rusty.

— Read labels. Check the ingredients, including additives. People who are sensitive to or concerned about certain additives should avoid them or at least limit consumption of them. Buying a variety of foods can help prevent consuming too much of one thing.

— Take newly-purchased foods straight home and store them properly. Don't allow foods to remain in the danger zone — 40 degrees F to 140 degrees F — for more than two hours.

— When preparing food, keep all work surfaces and utensils clean, sanitize these surfaces frequently with a solution of one teaspoon of bleach per quart of water.

— Throw away food that is suspect. Even if it doesn't look spoiled, the food could still contain harmful

bacteria if it has been temperature- and time - abused. A general rule of thumb is if in doubt, throw it out.

— Wash fresh fruits and vegetables under cold running tap water to rinse off any dirt and reduce bacteria levels. Produce with a firm surface, such as apples or potatoes, can be scrubbed with a clean vegetable brush. Peeling the produce can also reduce dirt and bacteria, but also eliminates any nutrients found in the peel.

— For safety, thaw foods in the refrigerator or in the microwave, not on the counter. Cook thawed foods immediately.

— Cook all foods to their safe internal temperatures; use a food thermometer to make sure. Safe internal temperature for whole poultry is 180 degrees F; poultry breasts, 170 degrees F; ground beef burgers, 160 degrees F; ground poultry burgers, 165 degrees F; beef, veal and lamb steaks, roasts and chops, 145 degrees F for medium rare, 160 degrees F for medium and 170 degrees F for well done; and all cuts of pork, 160 degrees F.

— Keep the temperature in the refrigerator at 40 degrees F or below and in the freezer at 0 degrees F or below.

— Refrigerate leftovers promptly. Use shallow covered containers to make cooling quicker. Reheat leftovers to 165 degrees F (hot and steaming); gravies and other "wet" leftovers should be heated to a rolling boil.

For more information contact the County Extension office.

## Library Notes

by Suzanne Abbott



Please note that the library will be closed the week of Christmas, December 23-27. Come in today or tomorrow and stock up on books to carry you through the holidays. We wish for all our patrons a Merry Christmas and a Happy 2003.

We thank Keith and Joan Patton for their donation to the library in memory of Charlie Keith. We appreciate all donations such as this, they help keep our collection up-to-date and help remember special people, as well.

I have had to be out of the library a few days and I really appreciate the people who have filled in for me, Jo Scott, D.A. McGuire and Marihelen Wason have been most helpful. We have a food supply of Christ-

mas books for kids, including *The Berenstain Bear Christmas Tree*, *Paddington Bear and the Christmas Surprise* and *Merry Christmas, Big Hungry Bear!* That does it for the bears, but we have other Christmas stories about other animals.

We have *If You Take A Mouse to the Movies*, the original *Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer and the Christmas Cat*. In addition, we have a new book called *Jingle Bells, Homework Smells* - a very interesting Christmas story.

The library has many animated Christmas figures that kids of all ages will enjoy. Come to see them and to check out some books for the holidays.

**JB's Barbecue**  
Flomot, Texas  
at the Intersection of Hwy. 599 & 97

**Custom Smoking & Catering**

There's still time to order your  
**Smoked or Fried Turkey,  
Smoked Brisket & Sausage**  
for all your Holiday get-togethers!  
**469-5050**

*We are extending late hours!*  
Open 'til 8:00 p.m. Dec. 12, 13, 14  
& 19, 20, 21, 23 & 24

*Save 10% - 20% & 50%*

*Come in and register for our drawing to be held on Christmas Eve*  
(Do not have to be present to win!)

*Come find a treasure at  
Calico Treasures  
Decorator's Studio.*  
Downtown Matador ~ 347-2003

## Just in time for Christmas!

New Subscriptions  
**\$15.00**



Even Santa reads the Motley County Tribune

## Merry Christmas to my Grandparents! I LOVE YOU!



THOMAS ADAM TILSON

Son of Lamar and Brenda Tilson of Boyd, Texas  
Grandson of June Tilson of Matador,  
Dan Tilson of Lexington, Oklahoma,  
and Jean and Frankie Adams of Fort Worth

## Christmas



is almost here!

**OPEN LATE**  
Friday & Saturday  
**OPEN SUNDAY**  
10:00 - 5:00  
**OPEN CHRISTMAS EVE**  
til 5:30 p.m.

Watch for Special Sales now til' Christmas!

**Matador Variety**

Thank you for reading the Motley County Tribune

Remember Jesus is the reason for the season!

# Call Home for the Holidays

with a Motorola 120T Digital Phone

**\$29.<sup>95</sup>**

\* Free Accessory Kit  
\* Sunglass Visor Clip

New Activations entered in drawing for -  
**3000 Home/Expanded Home minutes**



The Clear Choice

See your local agent:  
Gillespie Communications  
(806) 347-2208

\* Some restrictions apply. Two year commitment required on a plan with a cost of \$24.95 or higher. Offer good on applicable contract period, subject to approved credit. No service with Caprock within the previous 36 months; phone must be locked on scan B. Toll-Free USA and 6 second billing apply to calls placed within the Caprock Cellular Home Area Only. See your Caprock Cellular Agent for Details.

## "UNCONDITIONAL"



That is what love is all about. No conditions. No unreal expectations. Love sometimes is difficult to define. But love is never hard to see. We see the actions that love prompts. Love is an intangible. There are times when the word is used too freely. It is said, "I love my new car, I love my clothes or I love the movies." These expressions use the word love in a manner that robs it of its rightful meaning. Love is something we do. It is an action.

The Bible gives us good examples of the definition of Love. For example the ancient Israelites experienced a miraculous rescue from Egyptian bondage. In fact they were given one miracle after another that demonstrated love's actions. These all were from God yet these actions by God were unappreciated and often ignored by those people of old. They had a very shallow understanding of love. Things went very badly for them because of their lack of response to love's actions.

Then the Messiah came. He came to the world to show us a love that would be unconditional and would include everyone and exclude no one. Here is the definition for love. It is through Jesus Christ that we find God's full expression of His love toward us. When this love is recognized and we respond to it wonderful things happen. God's love will bless everyone and will bring peace, strength, healing and happiness beyond our expectations. Why? God's love is unconditional!

**Roaring Springs Church of Christ**  
Michael G. Crowley, Sr.

RADIO PROGRAMS, K-96 FM

BIBLE STUDY, 10:00 A.M. WORSHIP, 9:00 A.M.



# I've been good, Santa...

Dear Santa,  
I don't know if I have been good or not, but if I have hirs some ideas. I want a fuzz flower maker, another shelf for my glass doll collection, another glass doll for my collection, and most of all see all my family doing well.

Sincerely,  
Sarah Ferguson  
\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I have been a very good boy this year and I think I should get a harly davison, a toy train, a remote control munster truck. A big C.D. player and books.

Sincerely,  
Colby  
\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I want to see my whole family for Christmas.

Sincerely,  
Dillon Walker  
\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I have been a good boy. I think I deserve a specil present. I want a shot gun and a pistell. I want a thirty, thirty and a tewnty two and a dear rifle. I also want a 20 gate shot gun. I also want a dart gun.

Your friend,  
Jacob  
\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I want a CD player and a NBA basketball game, a basketball goal and for TJ to mare Tresua.

Your friend,  
Ky  
\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I have been a good boy. For Christmas I want a hot rod and a DVD player and a VCR. And Dragon Ball Z Cards and videos, a dog and a jeep, and a football.

Sincerely,  
Chris  
\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I have been a good girl and I think I should get a specil present. For Christmas I want the Power Puff Girls Movie on DVD and I want my mom to be happy on Christmas. I want a baby dalmation. I want a baby cat where I can keep it in our house. I want shoes that are very warm and that make me very tall. Well I guess some more things and I really don't care what they are and that's all I want for Christmas and the present I want the most is for my Mom to be happy.

Your friend,  
Mercedes  
\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
My name is Kyla Simpson and I am 9 years old. I have been good this year. This year for Christmas I would like you to bring me a bunk bed with a desk on the bottom.

Merry Christmas,  
Kyla  
\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Santa Claus,  
I am going to tell you what I want for Christmas. I don't know if I have been a good girl to you or to the family and friends.

This is what I want for Christmas. I want a computer, a desk for the computer, the chair, a new puppy, some cool clothes, shoes, jackets, some pants, a TV, a Christmas tree, stockings, books, flashing lights, VCR, bracelets, ring, necklace, and my last thing is a cheerleader suit.

I hope that you can give me all of those things for Christmas. My whole family will be happy to see all the presents that you sent me from the North Pole. I hope that I'm not asking to much because I would mind if I asked to much. Well this is the list that I would like you to read so that you can get me all of the presents in the big list.

From your best friend,  
Leslie Alvarado  
\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I have been good this year! Can I please have a real paint horse? Some clothes and a new gymnastics suit? I am making some shugar cookies that have you and a reindeer on them. Hope you like them with milk!

Sincerely,  
Leanne J.  
\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
What I like for Christmas is the magazine of dragon ball Z and Gt, twenty sacks of dragon ball Z and Gt, and of cards and kid Bull sogs mauls, pokeman folders, a video game called dragon Gt, final heart, and a new gold dragon ball Z and a Gt ultry rare card, a game boy color and a game boy advance, a gold version and silver and pokeman stadium game and pokeman stadium 21, a autograph gold card a japanese stud Z and Gt cards, a sticker card, a starter set, and more the best of dragon ball z magazine, and new pokeman panel. That's all, see you next Christmas Eve.

From,  
Anthony  
age 10  
\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
For Christmas I want a easy back oven, E cara that you can sing into. I want bunk bed with a desk underneath it, and a twister braid with a free nail kit, Nintendo 64 with some Nintendo games.

Sincerely,  
Anna Moctezuma  
\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
What I want for Christsm is a Air Attack 2, a Toy Dragster, new Lionel Track, Remote-controlled gas powered airplane, a Play Station 2, a remote controled pickup truck, and a game boy.

Sincirely,  
Jay Polts  
\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I want a horse like Spirit and a baby doll and diaper bag. I want a toy camera to take pictures of my sister.

Thank you,  
Ruby Klebahn  
\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I want some Power Rangers, an Army Tank, a black cowboy hat, some bull riding stuff and some rescue hereos and robots.

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

Dear Santa,  
How are you and Mrs. Claus? I am writing you a letter to tell you what I would like for Christmas. All I really want for Christmas is a Big Tractor and a Big Plow. I would also like for all of my family to be well and together for Christmas. Hope you have a safe flight and I will leave cookies and milk for you on Christmas Eve.

Love,  
Brody McCade Rankin  
\*\*\*\*\*



HI FROM SANTA! This big balloon Santa is displayed in the front yard of David and Cynthia Stafford of Matador.



Mrs. Erin Jones, Motley County Fifth Grade teacher, puts the finishing touches on her classes' tumbleweed Christmas tree.

## Jr. Class will sponsor Donkey basketball game

America's craziest and most unpredictable sport-Donkey Basketball- will be featured at the MC gym at 7:00 P.M., Thursday January 16. The teams will be made up of faculty/staff and ex-students. Circle A Donkey Ball will bring a combination of circus atmosphere and rodeo thrills to town for the benefit of the Motley County Jr. Class of '04 as a fund raiser.

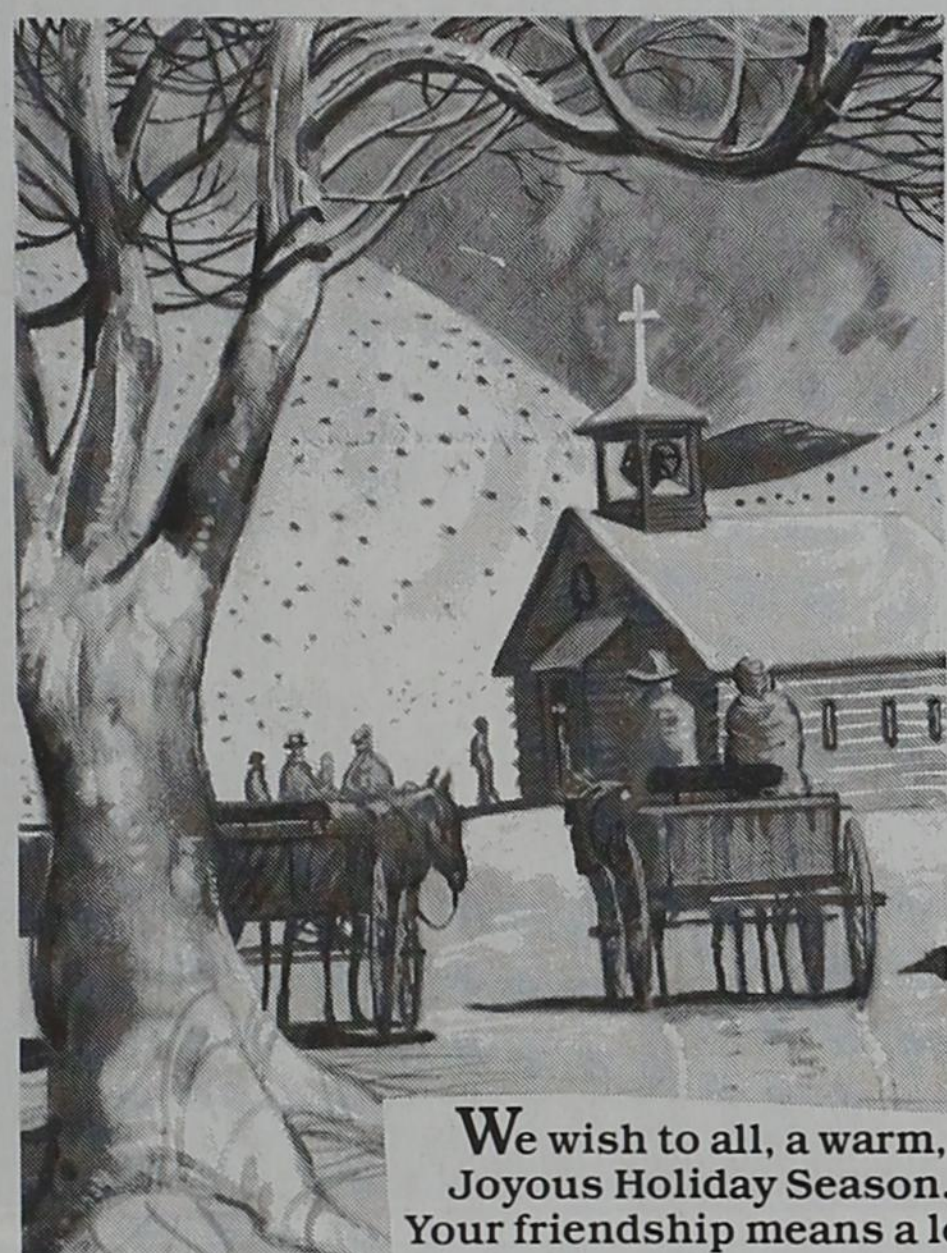
The old saying, "stubborn as a mule," will be exemplified when the local riders match wits with the donkeys. The odds are that most cases the donkeys will win. The old rodeo days will be brought to mind when the local Matt Dillons and Hop-Along Cassidy's take their spills and bounces.

There will be plenty of laughs for the entire family during this fun-filled evening. You haven't witnessed basketball until you have seen it played on donkeys. It is really a little different than regular basketball. Taking a shot at the basket when the donkey decides to go the other way, or

decides you have been on his back too long, can be difficult. Every shot at the basket must be taken while sitting on the donkey. If you are looking for a fun-filled evening for the entire family, come out and watch the local "cowboys" challenge the Funny Long Eared Donkey Stars that will be in the game.

Donkey Ball is not a laugh-a-minute sport, but rather a laugh-a-second sport. You won't want to miss this fun-filled evening. Get your advance tickets early and see your local people become Rodeo Stars. You'll be glad that you did.

To purchase advance tickets, please contact a Junior class member (Stachia Baxter, Susana Mendoza, Quinten Rose, Shea Rose, Lorenzo Salazar, Brandon Martin, Charli Ream, Mandi Ream, Amanda Hurt, Angie Marvel), the class sponsors (Shelley Cox and Cathey Turner) or the school at 347-2676. Tickets are \$5.00 each if purchased early and \$6.00 at the door. Come join us in a fun evening.



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

Panhandle Plains  
Federal Land Bank

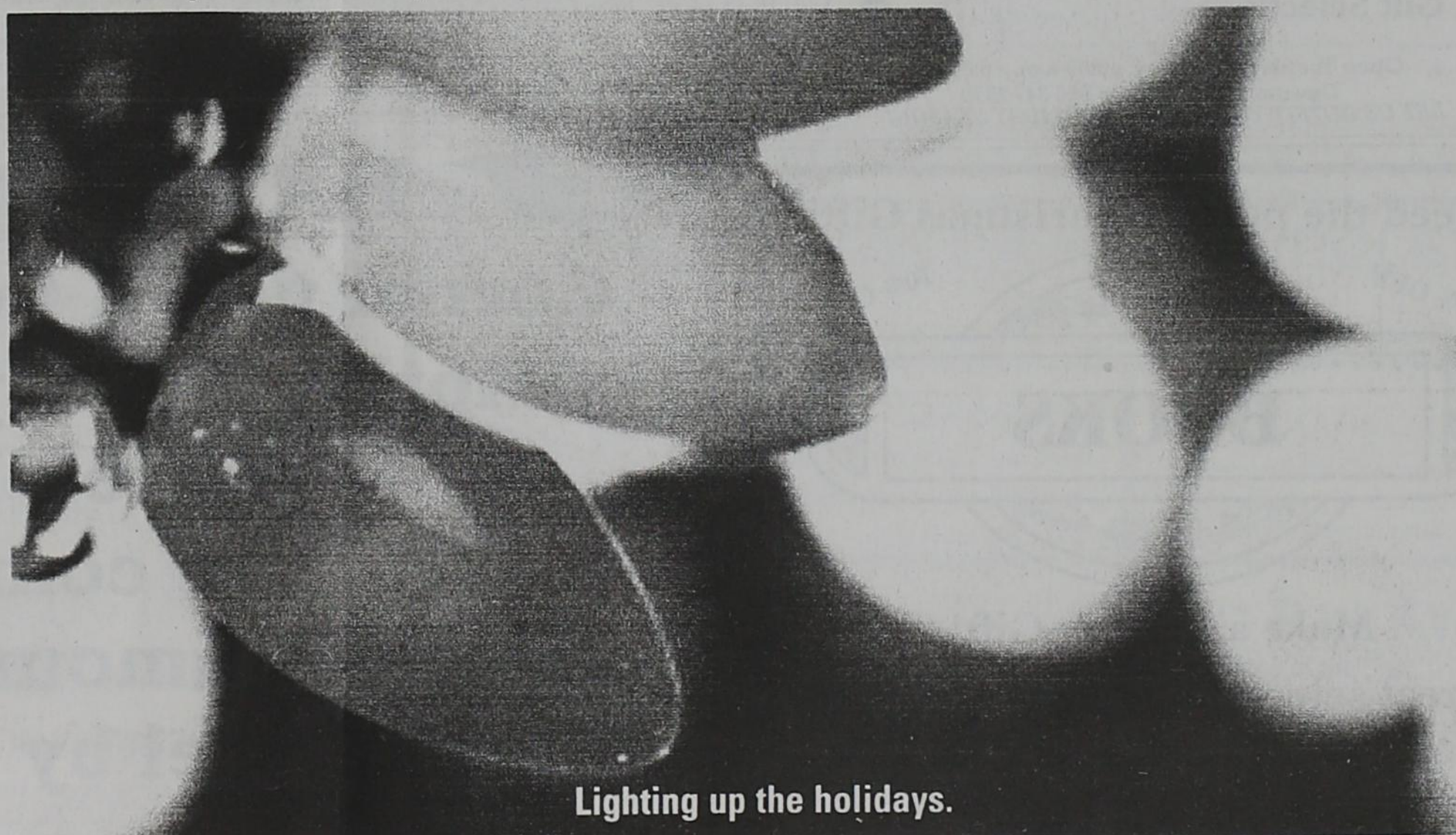
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Holiday gatherings

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Devonne Dillard  
Downtown Roaring Springs ~ 806-348-7056

5:35 p.m. Thursday



Lighting up the holidays.

The holidays traditionally bring family and friends together. As the season approaches and you begin using decorative lighting in and around your home, AEP reminds you to keep safety in mind. It's important to check light strings for frayed cords and to use only UL-approved lights and extension cords. Remember not to overload circuits and remind excited children not to touch lights or outlets. Celebrating safely will ensure that you, your family and friends enjoy a bright holiday season.

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# News Around the County

## Roaring Springs News

By Odessa Mullins

**WESLEYAN SERVICE GUILD ENJOYS CHRISTMAS PARTY**  
The Roaring Springs Wesleyan Service Guild held their annual Christmas party in the home of Mrs. Callie Giesecke on Wednesday night, December 11, with Mrs. Pearl Patten in charge. Rev. Paul

Stearns gave the blessing for the food. After a delicious meal, a short business meeting was held, after which the pledge service was held. Mrs. Chelsea Read read a Christmas story, *The Cripple Lamb* by Max Lucado. Gifts were exchanged.

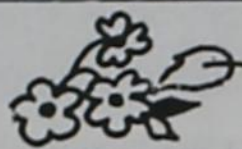
## Matador News

Mrs. Juanita Cooper visited Saturday and Sunday in Amarillo with her daughter and family, Ken, Kay and Kourtney Dunnam. On Saturday night the family enjoyed a hayride through parts of Amarillo to view the beautiful Christmas decorations. On Sunday afternoon they at-

tended the Randall High School Choir Concert in which Kourtney sang. Sunday night they attended the St. Stephens Church Choir Concert in which Kourtney sang. Mrs. Cooper returned home on Monday.

## Senior Notes ...

by Tommie Keith, Director



Christmas is sure on its way now. Hope everyone has a really good holiday. The Center will be closed December 24 and 25.

The Center had its Christmas party on Friday the 13th. We had good eats and a good time.

The Center received a memorial donation in memory of Frances Finch from Vann & Sandra Francis.

Georgia, Rose, Kay and myself wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

*Thank you for your friendship. I treasure it.*

*Merry Christmas!*

*Rita Groves*

## A NOTE OF THANKS

Bundy and his family would like to say thank you to all who assisted him when he fell. To those who came when called and to the great, caring ambulance crew who took him to Lockney.

Thanks to the special ones who brought us clothes and stayed with us during this time in Lubbock.

We are very fortunate in Motley County to have so many dedicated people who do the ambulance runs.

Lucretia, Kenny, Liv, Bundy H. & Dixie

**Shopping at home keeps home alive!**

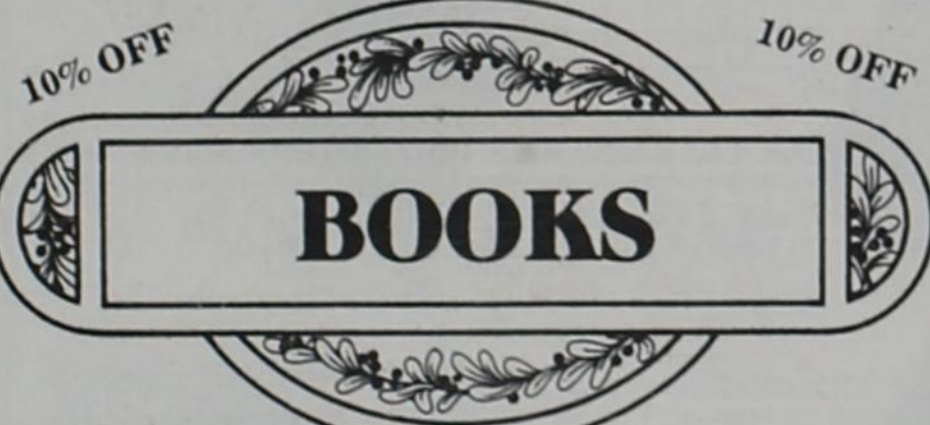
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Matador - 806-347-2400

## Flomot News

By Earlyne Jameson

### CHRISTMAS CANDLELIGHT CHURCH SERVICES

The First Baptist Church of Flomot held an impressive Christmas Candlelight service Sunday night, December 15 with pastor, the Rev. Nathan Mulder presenting the Christmas Story. As he related the scripture of the birth of Christ, his wife, Kathy lit different colored candles depicting the characters in the story. At the closing, a candle representing the baby Jesus 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 the birth of Jesus Christ illuminated a world of darkness.

### HAS SURGERY

Mrs. Angelia Clay had surgery, Tuesday, December 17 at the Covenant Medical Center in Lubbock. Her husband, Larry was with her.

Carol Ann and Johny Turner and granddaughter, Skylar Blount of Lubbock visited the weekend at their rural home in Flomot. Carol Ann and Skylar attended the Methodist church services in Matador Sunday morning.

Visiting the past week with Erma and Bill D. Washington were her sister and daughter, Mrs. Jimmie Ballinger and Mrs. Judy Baird of Fortuna, California. They also visited Mrs. Edith Washington.

Johnie Starkey accompanied his mother, Mrs. C.W. Starkey to Lockney, Sunday to visit his sister and her daughter, Mrs. Margie Cypert and husband, Homer. Margie returned home recently from the Covenant Medical Center in Lubbock following surgery.

Jere Banewski of Houston is visiting this week with friend, Tim Kendall and

family, wife, Melissa and children, Jere and Jacob. He is also visiting Mr. and Mrs. Travis Kendall.

Weekend guests of Mr. and Mrs. Coy Franks were Cary Franks and Sorrel Schmidt of Lubbock and Barry Pickett of Garland. Visiting them Sunday was Cara Franks of Canyon.

Jerry Barclay visited Wednesday in Lockney with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. S.D. Barclay.

Mrs. Waydette Clay and Wilburn Martin attended the Texas Tech graduation ceremony of Ky Merritt of Lamesa held at the Spirit Arena in Lubbock, Saturday.

Darrell Cruse, his mother, Mrs. Tommie Jo Cruse of Flomot and mother in law, Mrs. Marhelen Wason of Matador were in Spur Saturday night to attend the basketball game of Derrick Cruse and Valley teammates who defeated the Spur Bulldogs.

Derrick's mother, Brenda Cruse is on the sick list and received medical treatment in Lockney.

Mrs. Christi Milam, Emily and Haley of Petersburg visited Thursday and Friday with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Clois Shorter.

Members of the First Baptist Church of Flomot engaged in their Christmas tradition of delivering fruit baskets to residents of Flomot following the Sunday morning church services and a church luncheon.

Mark Clay of Terrell visited from Wednesday until Friday with brothers and wives, Joe Ike and Anna Beth Clay and Ronald and Waydette Clay.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Ross were in Lubbock Monday and visited Mrs. Ruth Williams and their daughter and husband Elisa and Star Wigley who returned home recently from a vacation trip to Jamaica.

## Whiteflat News

By Earlyne Jameson

### AWARDED COLLEGE DEGREE

Ryan Martin was awarded his Bachelor of General Agriculture degree at the Tarleton University graduation ceremony Saturday, December 14, 2002. It was held at 4:00 p.m. at the Wisdom Gym in Stephenville.

Attending his graduation was his wife, Jamie of Matador; his parents, Kelli and Hal Martin of Whiteflat, Joanie, Erica and Madison Pigg of Turkey.

Ryan and Jamie visited his ex-room-

mates, Jay Burns and Trevor Powe of Paducah, students at Tarleton University. They all returned to their respective homes Sunday night.

Mrs. Tim (Gina) Shannon and daughter, Nellie visited from Wednesday until Sunday in Carrollton with her sister, Mrs. Rhonda Cowgill and daughter, Kasey.

Larry Dozier and son, Matt of Turkey visited Friday with Mr. and Mrs. James Gwinn, Fannin and Danielle.

## OBITUARIES

### Frances L. Finch

Funeral Services for Frances L. Finch, 62, of Matador, were held at 1:00 PM, Wednesday, December 18, at the First Baptist Church in Matador. Officiating was Rev. Jack Boggs, pastor of the First Baptist Church in Matador and Harold Abney, Chaplin with Hospice Hands of West Texas. Interment was at 3:30 p.m. Wednesday in the CeeVee Cemetery in CeeVee under the direction of Seigler Funeral Home of Matador.

Mrs. Finch died Sunday, December 15, 2002, at her residence. Frances was born July 12, 1940, in Motley County, Texas to Luther B. and Lorene Lawrence Lancaster.

She married J. Don Finch in Hollis, OK on December 1, 1957 and graduated from Matador High School in 1958. Mrs. Finch was a resident of Roaring Springs prior to moving to Matador about 3 years ago. She worked at Lowes Pay-N-Save for a number of years and was a member of the First Baptist Church.

She is survived by her husband, J. Don Finch; one son, Kenneth Finch of Paducah; one daughter, Rebeca Smith of Paducah; her mother: Lorene Lancaster of Matador; one brother, Gary Lancaster of Matador; 5 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren.



Joe Garrett, owner of JB's Barbecue, now open for business at the intersection in Flomot.

## New business now open in Flomot

By: Earlyne Jameson

If you have driven through Flomot this week, chances are you noticed the sweet smell of Texas BBQ mingled in along with the sweet smell of cotton being ginned.

Joe Garrett of Plainview has set up his BBQ Wagon at the intersection in Flomot. He will be open Sundays through Thursdays during ginning season for lunch. Joe will be serving BBQ plates and sandwiches. He will also be smoking whole briskets for folks to purchase.

Joe has been the cook for the "Racing Boys From Flomot", Coy Franks, Roger Lee, Dale Ramsey, Shannon Jackson and the rest of the crew at various team racing events around the state for quite some years.

Joe and his wife Gayleen currently live in Plainview but are considering moving "down below the cap", at a future date. Gayleen is the owner of Gayleen's Creations in Plainview, an interior design studio. They also have two grown sons.

Next time you're in Flomot stop by and say hi to Joe!

**The Motley County Courthouse Staff and Commissioners would like to invite you to a RETIREMENT RECEPTION honoring LUCRETIA E. CAMPBELL for her many years of service as MOTLEY COUNTY DISTRICT & COUNTY CLERK**

LUCRETIA WILL RETIRE ON DECEMBER 31, 2002

The Reception will be held on FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20 2:00 - 5:00 p.m.

in the Lobby of the Courthouse Refreshments will be served and you may come and go as you please.

Please make plans to stop by and thank Lucretia for her 27 years of dedicated service to Motley County and wish her a long and happy retirement!

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**By Ace Reid**

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# FARM AND RANCH NEWS

**Cotton** **News**  
from Plains Cotton Growers, Inc.

**FARM SERVICE AGENCY NEWS**  
by Debbie Shaw, CED

**COTTON INDUSTRY WEIGHS IN ON CHINESE WTO SITUATION**

National Cotton Council representatives are once again requesting additional action by the U.S. government to bring about the promised opening of Chinese markets to cotton fiber.

NCC representatives have voiced a steady stream of concern and had numerous meetings with USDA, USTR and Chinese government officials in an effort to bring the Chinese tariff rate quota system in line with WTO trading rules.

Under the terms of the bi-lateral agreement reached between the U.S. and the People's Republic of China cotton fiber markets in China would be opened through the adoption of Chinese import rules that conformed with international trading rules, specifically those rules that provide for the equal treatment of imported and domestic commodities.

Unfortunately, the TRQ rules China developed in 2001 and implemented in 2002 have failed to meet the requirements of the trade agreement they signed. While the Chinese marketplace has remained essentially out of reach in 2002, Chinese exports of cotton textile products to the U.S. are more than twice as large as they were in 2001.

The recent announcement by the Chinese that they would not charge their TRQ rules for the 2003 year. The repeated refusal of the Chinese to modify their TRQ system to be in compliance with WTO obligations has prompted the U.S. cotton industry

to ask that the USTR's office make one last effort to meet with the Chinese to work toward an agreement that would bring China in compliance with the requirements of their current trade agreement.

Should the request once again be refused the NCC has requested the U.S. seek a settlement dispute panel to force the Chinese to comply and to also consider additional action under the authority of the Trade Act of 1974 upon China's failure to comply with the U.S.-China bilateral agreement on China's accession to the WTO.

**AVERAGE PRICE RECEIVED BY GROWERS**

Another up tick in the average price received by growers is being projected for the month of November at the preliminary average price received is projected at 41.40 cents per pound, up from the October average price of 39.00 cents per pound.

The weighted average price received by growers for the 2002 crop marketing year (August, 2002 through July, 2003) will be used to calculate the final counter-cyclical payment rate on the 2002 crop.

The upward movement of prices is a welcome sight to many growers and should have little, if any, effect on the final counter-cyclical payment rate.

Due to the nature of the cotton marketing year and the time frame that the majority of the crop is marketed it is unlikely that prices would rise fast enough to significantly increase the marketing year average.

**2002 Marketing Year Average Price Received By Growers**

	Marketings (1,000 bales)		Price Received	
	Month	Cumulative	Month	Ave. (Weighted)
August	354	354	33.00	33.00
September	412	766	35.20	34.18
October	749	1,515	39.00	36.56
November	na	na	41.40	na

**Western High Plains growers affirm commitment**

Cotton producers in the Western High Plains eradication zone voted overwhelmingly to continue boll weevil eradication efforts in the zone, passing a retention election by a 6-1 margin.

Don Parrish reelected to be the zone's representative, said the vote shows that area's growers know they have benefited from the eradication program.

"If we didn't have the program, growers wouldn't have seen the

yields they have. They wouldn't have made that crop or had the yields with the weevil pressure we had two or three years ago."

Parrish expressed his appreciation to state legislators, especially local legislators such as Sen. Robert Duncan and representatives Gary Walker, Delwin Jones and Carl Issett, for providing cost-share funding for eradication.

"The program is mostly funded by farmers," he said, "but state cost-share funds have been tremendously important in getting us to this point."

The zone has seen reduction of 99.9 percent in the number of weevils trapped in the zone since it began, said Charles Allen, program director for the Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation.

"This is a proven program," Allen said. "We've had two zones that have reached functional eradication, as we're seeing the same kind of results in other zones as we've seen in the Western High Plains."

State law requires each active eradication zone to vote on continuing its efforts every four years. Voters in the Western High Plains originally approved beginning eradication in 1998, and activities began in the zone in the fall of 1999.

Three other zones in the state previously passed retention elections, all by similar margins. The Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation is a nonprofit, grower-initiated and funded organization dedicated to eliminating the cotton boll weevil from the state in the most cost effective and environmentally responsible manner possible.



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The 2002 Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (the Act) provides that an individual or entity will not be eligible to receive certain payments and benefits as specified in the Act if the average Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) of the individual or entity exceeds \$2.5 million. However, an individual or entity whose average AGI exceeds \$2.5 million may be considered in compliance with this limitation if at least 75 percent of the average AGI was derived from farming, ranching, or forestry operations, as defined by the Secretary.

The average AGI is based on AGI as reported on the final income tax filings for the 3 years previous to the year for which benefits are requested. For 2003 payment eligibility purposes, the AGI amounts reported for the years 2002, 2001 and 2000 will be used. Income tax returns for entities do not have an entry for AGI, a comparable measure will be determined as set forth in the proposed rule.

We have recently received these provisions and the form for producers to complete (CCC-526). Each individual, each entity and EACH MEMBER OF EACH ENTITY, prior to any 2003 payments being issued must sign this particular form.

The FSA Office is trying to get this form out to producers who requested 2003 advance payments in calendar year 2002. Remember, your new pay limitation form, HEL compliance form and the new Adjusted Gross income form must be completed and approved before any 2003 payments can be made. You may come by the office any time and complete this form.

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**Martin and Ortiz's driving skills earn TxDOT Truck Roadeo honors**

Randy Martin and Frank Ortiz, of the Texas Department of Transportation's (TxDOT) Childress District Motley County Maintenance Section were the top finalists in their section at the district Truck Roadeo held at the Childress Airport.

Texas Department of Transportation sponsors the Truck Roadeo as part of the fleet safety training. Drivers are scored on two different lev-

els. First, they drive through on obstacle course designed to simulate truck maneuvers encountered during a normal workday. Then, they identify safety defects on equipment within specific time limits.

Martin and Ortiz recently received a special award at the Childress District Safety Awards Banquet in Childress.

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D.D. McBride, Allen  
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Shanna Glover, Lazbuddie  
Amos Mize, Amarillo  
David Rattan, Amarillo  
Brenda Watson, Dickens  
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**Motley County Tribune**

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1tc-51

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1tp-51  
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1tc-51  
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1tc-51

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**LOTS FOR SALE**

Motley County is offering for sale, Lots 6, 7, 8 and 9, Blk. 124, Original Town, Matador. The lots are located on Bailey Ave. between Louise and Willow Street. Submit sealed bids to the Motley County Judge by end of business, January 10, 2003. The bids will be opened at Commissioners' Court on January 13, 2003. The successful bidder will pay all costs of sale and legal fees. Motley County reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

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# Happy Holidays!



**Our best wishes for an  
old fashion, hometown Christmas!**

\*\*\*\*\*  
**CapRock Telephone**

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# I will leave milk & cookies

Dear Santa,  
I have been good this year and I hope you come see me. I want a Rapunzel Barbie and a Prince for her with the castle. I also want a new bear for Susie and a backpack for her too. Say hi to the reindeer for me.

Love,  
Morgan Anne Jones

Dear Santa,  
I want presents. I want a big bull. I want the reindeer to be happy.

Love,  
Judson Jones

Dear Santa,  
Hi, my name is Hannah. How are you doing? Is it cold at the North Pole? All I want for Christmas is a Care Bear, Barbie that cooks, Spectra Light, Cotton Candy machine and Lilo and Stitch DVD movie, plus I need some clothes. I'll leave cookies and milk for you.

Love,  
Hannah Mason

Dear Santa Claus,  
You know how good I have been. I want 2 new tires for my bike, a remote control car and 2 front tires for my go-cart. I want a Santa Claus suit and beard. I am going to leave you some cookies on the table. My brother has been bad, don't get him any presents.

Love,  
Patrick

Dear Santa,  
What I want for Christmas this year is games for my Game Cube that I can play and I want a four wheeler that I can drive in the mud and I can ride over hills and race tracks. Some Lincoln logs that I can play with.

Sincerely,  
Chase Buckner

Dear Santa,  
I want a blow pen, crayon maker, the CD Now 4, hip clip and a dog bone for Daxson.

Sincerely,  
Alexis Osborn

Dear Santa,  
I want football gear, and a football. I want Texas Tech or Dallas Cowboys gear. I want number 14, and a KTM Watch, and a 2250.

Sincerely,  
Jonathon Osborn

Dear Santa,  
I really do want a stereo with some CD's and a jukebox that sings, I love Rock and Roll. But what I really want is to see my family.

Sincerely,  
Marti Walker

Dear Santa,  
For Christmas I want a Bionical, Hot Wheels, Lap Top to customize my own car, Nintendo 64 games, Game Boy Color games, a rock polisher kit and a telescope.

Sincerely,  
Garrett Jenschke

Dear Santa,  
I want a Play Station 2 and a game boy Advan, KTM Motorcycle for Christmas. That's all.

Sincerely,  
Cody Martin

Dear Santa,  
I want a remote control monster truck, Walky Talky, new bike, deer rifle, CD player, CD's, lap top computer, computer games and Nintendo 64 games.

Sincerely,  
Reagan Elliott

Dear Santa,  
This year for Christmas I want a chew toy for Bandit (one he can't tear up) and for Chico, a sweater and a new house. For my mom, a new car. For my dad, a new rifle, and one of them for Eric. For me, I want Game Boy Advance games and more legos.

Sincerely,  
Keyan Kautz

Dear Santa,  
Will you bring me a Play Station 2 and a Nintendo 64, Game Cube with the game Mario Sunshine and a tool box for my dad? For my mom, a cooking pan set, a doll for my sister and for my baby sister the movie Ice Age.

Sincerely,  
Nayo Santos

Dear Santa,  
I want a Skateboard, Gameboy Advance, Kingdom Hearts, grand theft auto 3, vice city, hit clips, and a pellet gun. My brother wants a game called Agressive Irline and Hot Wheels Velocity. My mom wants a day off from school and my dad wants whatever we give him.

Sincerely,  
Braden Mason

Dear Santa,  
What I want for Christmas is a Bratz Doll, Texas Tech ring, stereo, puppy, Spirit on DVD, Aron Carter CD, Kitten, Betty Boop DVD, Scooby Doo DVD, Britny Spers CD, Dixy Chick CD, Basketball, Betty Boop Doll and a Ragaddy Ann.

Sincerely,  
Brett Fletcher

Dear Santa,  
I would like a shot gun for Christmas. My sister wants real football stuff for Christmas. I would also like a football jersey. I want to be with my family.

Sincerely,  
Christian Brooks

Dear Santa,  
I want Chinese Pug. I also want long sleeve shirts and pants. I want CDs for my stereo. I also want my cat, Gary to be nice on Christmas Eve and Christmas. I want a small chalkboard with chalk. Last, but not least, I want to visit my family.

Sincerely,  
Clarissa Elizondo

Dear Santa,  
I want a stereo and some clothes and some boots. I want CDs for my stereo and I want a chalkboard for Christmas that goes with it.

Sincerely,  
Mari Simmons

Dear Santa,  
How are you and Rudolph? I want you to go toward the door, get in the house. I want a space toy.

From,  
Juan

Dear Santa,  
How are you and the elves? This year I want 2 boxes of Pokemon cards and 2 boxes of Yu-Gi-on cards and 3 books to put my pokemon cards and my Yu-gi-on cards in and a bird to be my pet.

From,  
Dominique

Dear Santa,  
How are you and Mrs. Claus doing? Is Blitzen ok? I would like a R/C gocart with a remote control, a pickup like Walker Texas Ranger, a bow and arrow with camouflage on it, and a hunting suit.

Love always,  
Austin

Dear Santa,  
I want a game boy advance.

Michael

Dear Santa,  
I want a remote control moster truc.

Love,  
Seth

Dear Santa,  
I want a Barbie and a Rapunsel Movie. I love Santa.

Love,  
Cassidy

Dear Santa,  
I want a motor cycle.

Love,  
Korbyn

Dear Santa,  
I want a play motorcycle.

Love,  
Shelby

Dear Santa,  
I want a ras car.

Love,  
Logan

Dear Santa,  
I want a video game.

Love,  
Jake

Dear Santa,  
I want a game boy.

Love,  
Caleb

Dear Santa,  
I want a toy.

Love,  
Luis

Dear Santa,  
I want a Barbie.

Love,  
Leigha

Dear Santa,  
I want a gam boy. I love Santa.

Love,  
(no name listed)

Dear Santa,  
I want a Spidr Man web master.

Love,  
Sam

Dear Santa,  
I want a Bell's Castle and Rupunsel.

Love,  
Allison McCoy

Dear Santa,  
I want a Barbie Key House. I love Santa.

Love,  
Katie

Dear Santa,  
I want suthing for mi teprete set.

Love,  
Meagan

Dear Santa,  
I want a racit and I will leev you cookiees and milc.

Love,  
Jamie

Dear Santa,  
I want a game man.

Love,  
Duncan

Dear Santa,  
I want a pink barbie car and a t.v.

Love,  
Gabby

Dear Santa,  
I want a remot control car.

Love,  
Allen

Dear Santa,  
I want a spitr man where his face glows.

Hayden Davey

Dear Santa,  
I want a Barbie.

Love,  
Victoria

Dear Santa,  
I want a Barbie Nut crackr.

Love,  
Hannah

Dear Santa,  
I have been a really good girl. So I diserve some really good presents. What I want for Christmas is a Purple Phone and my one phone line. A brand new X Box Game, a TV to go in my room, a (Big) CD Player, new CD's like P'diddy, Nelly, Dream Street, and Aaron Carter. Some new clothes, a new jacket, a tunie B tones book, a poster of Aaron Carter to go in my room. I hope you get here ok and back ok. Plus I live on UBank Street.

Sincerely,  
Alyx  
PS. Don't forget to stuff my stocking.

Dear Santa,  
I have been a very good girl. I want a baby bed, baby clothes, a cash register, Barbies and a Barbie Car. I will leave milk and cookies.

Love,  
Addie

Dear Santa,  
I wanta toy and a Barbie car. I wanta purse weth mackup and a pupeey.


Love,  
Gaby Santos

Dear Santa,  
I wanta toy and a Barbee Car. I wanta purse weth mackup and a pupey.

Love,  
Virginia

Dear Santa,  
I want a puppy and a cat, Game Boy Advance. I want a remote control army tank.


Love,  
Aaryn



**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



**The Holiday's Abloom!**

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

*Matador Floral Designs by Vickie*




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*

**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



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

**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





I'VE BEEN REAL GOOD SANTA — Little Hannah Mason couldn't have been anything but good this year and she told Santa of her desires when it came her turn to sit in the jolly, old man's lap. Hannah is the daughter of Wes and Elizabeth Mason of Matador.

## One Crazy Cool Yule

by Grandpa Tucker

'Twas the Night before Christmas has lots of nice rhymes  
But I fear that the tale doesn't fit modern times.  
What is a kerchief? My dad wears no cap.  
He snores the whole night, no way it's a nap.

They tell me that Santa is coming tonight.  
He'll be flying in here on a sleigh. Yeah. Right!  
When I was much younger I believed all that stuff.  
I know since I'm older that it's all a bluff.

As this Christmas eve is going so slow  
I sneak down the stairs to watch HBO.  
I listen for sounds throughout our big house.  
My mom would go crazy if we had a mouse.

All of a sudden I hear the floor squeak  
Someone is coming, sneaky, sneak.  
And then as my heart leaps up to my throat  
I see a fat man in a funny red coat.

He stands by the table and looks through the house  
And from his pocket takes a tiny gray mouse.  
He says, "Ho, Ho, Ho, I truly believe,  
There must be a mouse in each Christmas eve."

His belt buckle shakes as he laughs, look at that.  
My gosh this jolly old guy sure is fat.  
He looks up. He sees me and gives a big smile.  
Says, "I came to see you. Let's talk for a while."

"You're one grown up girl that doesn't believe  
That Santa Claus comes on each Christmas eve.  
You're a big girl. Your mind's filled with doubt.  
It's simple, without me the joy is left out.

I remember the time you sat on my knee  
A smile on your face, eyes sparkling with glee.  
Don't you remember the thrill you felt then?  
With a little belief you can feel it again.

"Santa Claus comes for each child at the start.  
The rest of their lives I live in their heart.  
If you are a youngster or wrinkled old guy  
You still can hear sleigh bells ring across the sky."

Then he says, "Dear, will you please come out here?"  
And there on the driveway stand eight cool reindeer.  
They all nod to me and then snort in chorus.  
"Who's this pretty girl now standing before us?"

I wave as I tell them, "I'm Anna May."  
As the big burley guy crawls into his sleigh.  
He said, "It's my new team, a real with-it crew.  
I'll let Captain Cosmos give their names to you."

"Here's E-mail and Hat Rack, Cool Dude and Charley,  
I'm Cosmos, there's Awesome, Bruce and Narley.  
Head Cat is Santa, the North Pole's his home.  
We see him all year cause we hang out in Nome."

Then they take off and fly to the roof  
Tap a short rap and give a "high hoof."  
All turn and shout, "Tonight reindeers rule.  
The eight of us wish you a crazy cool Yule."

Then Santa shouts, "It's true some things change.  
But believe in the basics." As he speeds out of range.  
Then I hear repeated, as my willing ears strain,  
The words I now love, my favorite refrain.

"'Twas the Night before Christmas" has some things outdated  
But the Story, dear folks is not overrated.  
Throw open the window, and rejoice in the sight!  
"Happy Christmas to all and to all a good night."



Santa is climbing the chimney at the home of Roy and Frances Hobbs of Matador. The Hobbs' grandchildren, Meagan, Corbin, Holden and Hayden must have been good this year.

Jesus is the  
Reason for the  
Season



Blessed & Prosperous Holidays

**Anna's Mexican  
Restaurant**

Frank & Anna Ortiz



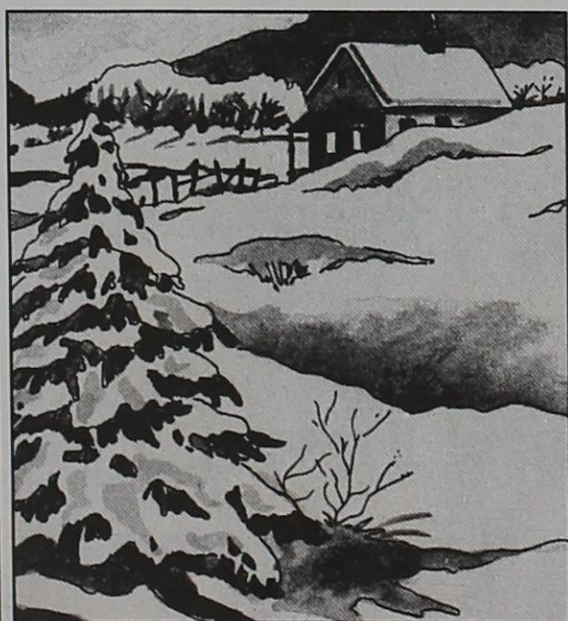
"Honor All Men.  
Love the brotherhood.  
Fear God. Honor the King."

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



**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**

**MERRY  
CHRISTMAS**



To all,  
we wish health,  
happiness and good cheer,  
now and throughout  
the coming year.

**MEREDITH  
GAS & SUPPLY**

**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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**O HOLY NIGHT**

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

**Lighthouse Electric  
Cooperative, Inc.**



# Merry Christmas!



N96C3360-2-●

The Stockings were hung by the chimney with care... with hopes that St. Nicholas soon would be there,

May all your holiday wishes come true!

**Graham Supply**  
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**AEP** AMERICAN ELECTRIC  
POWER



# Santa, please bring me something special



Leon, Samantha, Thalia and Dominique Quilimaco told Santa of their Christmas wishes when the jolly old man visited in Matador recently. Little Thalia seems especially thrilled at seeing Santa.



Okay, now that my little sisters and brother are out of the way, I want some real cool stuff. Dominique Quilimaco grabbed a chance to talk to Santa alone. The youngsters are the children of Daniel and Adrianna Quilimaco of Matador.



## Greetings!

In the joyous Christmas spirit, we extend our greetings to those whose friendship we value so much.

### 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 - Eva Barkley  
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 Witche, 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



# 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



Let us all give thanks for the many blessings we enjoy.



First United Methodist Church in Matador displays this Nativity Scene on their front lawn. The display is a church tradition and residents look forward to seeing it each year.

Peace  
Be With  
You

May harmony follow  
wherever you go.  
Motley County  
Justice of the  
Peace

Cora Smallwood



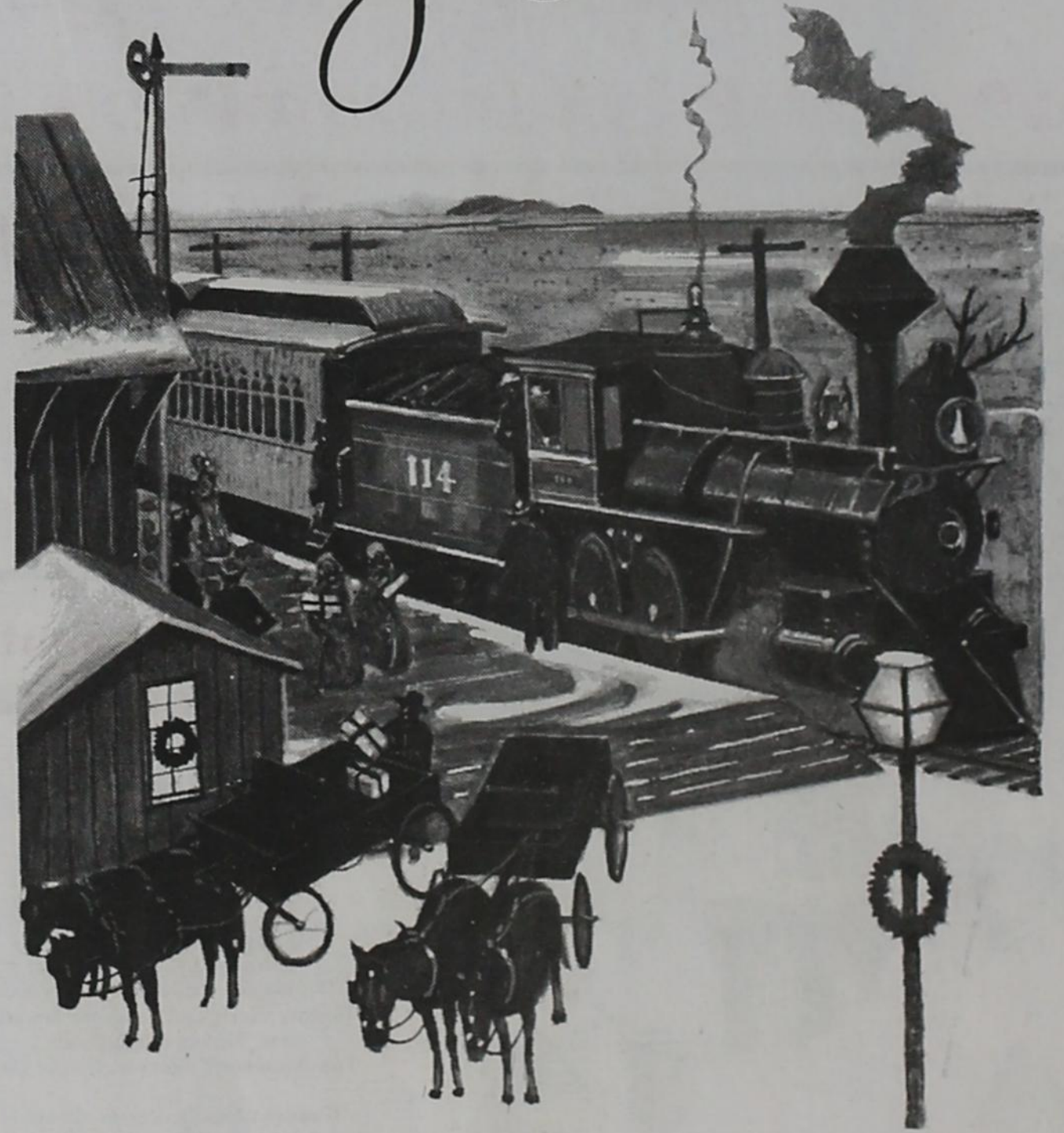
Christ, the Savior, is born

Glad tidings and heartfelt thanks to all our friends. May your holidays—and all days—be filled with His blessings.

Cornelius Oil

Floydada

Merry Christmas



Thoughts of Christmas kindness go out to all our friends along with our thanks for the good will and support you've shown us!

FIRST STATE BANK

Each depositor insured by FDIC

Matador

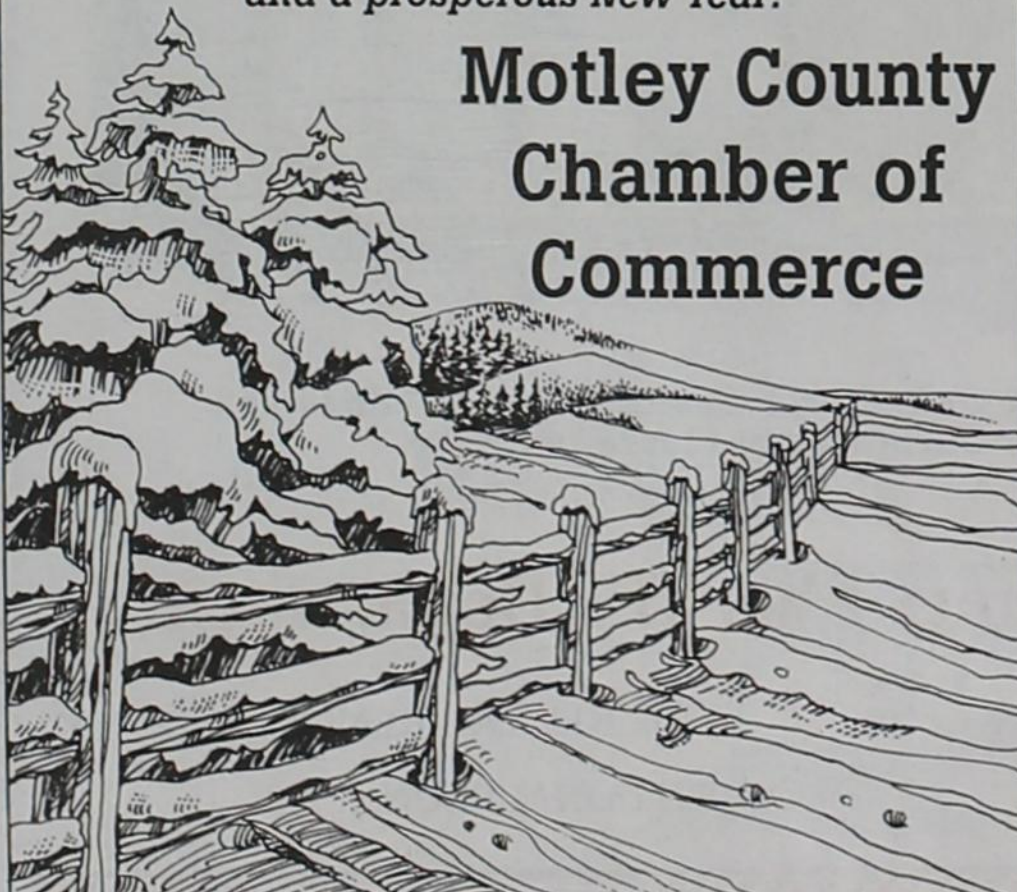
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EQUAL HOUSING LENDER

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



HOLIDAY GREETINGS

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

Long Insurance Roaring Springs



# The Noel Candle

BY: CLEMENT C. MOORE

It was Christmas Eve in Rheims, France nearly five hundred years ago. The spires of the great cathedral towered high in the sky over a throng of people who had gathered in a square before the church, celebrating the joyous Noel. Laughing children darted through the crowd as groups of youths and maidens sang carols and danced to the music of a lute and tambourine. Everywhere faces shone with such happiness, it did not seem possible there could be, in all Rheims, one sad and lonely heart.

Yet there were four. Three of them lived in a squalid old shed by the river. Though its outward appearance was dismal, the inside was neat and clean. Its one room served as living room, dining room, bedroom and kitchen for three people, but the wrought stone floor was carefully swept, and the patched covers on the straw mattresses in the corner were spotlessly clean. A rough table, broken chair, stool and rickety bench were the only furniture in the room. In a far corner stood a small charcoal brazier whose weak flame served not only to cook the meals but to warm the hut.

The one touch of beauty in the little room was supplied by a tiny shrine, built on a shelf at the rear wall. A few field flowers in a bowl stood in front of it, and from the shelf hung a heavily embroidered scarlet sash which had once held a knight's shield.

A young woman was bending over a small spinning wheel, a boy of seven was setting the table with their few cracked dishes, and a girl of a year or so old was stirring a kettle over the brazier. The lady, whose beauty shone through in spite of her ragged clothing, was Madame la Countess Marie de Malincourt, and the boy and girl, her son and daughter, Louis and Jeanne.

As she worked, the lady was thinking sadly of Christmas only a year before, when everything had been so different. Then she had lived in a great castle, and as on every Christmas Eve, she and her husband and children had gone down to the castle gates to greet the crowd assembled. The old, the ailing, and the poor would gather there, and the Malincouts would go into the crowd giving each villager gifts of warm clothing, healing herbs and food. Even Louis and Jeanne would give something from their own toys to the village children.

Then war had swept over the happy valley; the castle had been attacked and robbed. Lady Marie's husband had been led away in chains while she and the children had fled

down a secret passageway out in the night and away from the village. She found it deserted, the villagers frightened away by the attackers.

During the months that followed, the three had wandered along the highway trading away their belongings bit by bit in return for food and lodging. Even Lady Marie's coat had gone to the wife of a rich merchant, and the pretty clothing of Louis and Jeanne had been replaced by coarse peasant wear. Only one thing remained of their belongings—the cover of her husband's shield, which little Louis had brought from the castle that dreadful night. "Father gave it to me to keep until he comes back," he said and through all the terrors of their flight he had clung to it. It was dear to all of them, for it was their only reminder of their father and the life they had shared together.

"Mother," said Jeanne suddenly, interrupting her mother's thoughts, "it is Christmas tonight." "Yes, sighed Lady Marie, "but there will be no toys or sweets for you and little Louis the Noel." "We don't need them," the children answered. "We have you, Mother, and we can keep Christmas in our heart. Their mother looked up at them and smiled. "Yes, though life is hard," she said, "we still have each other and even though we miss your father, I'm sure there are others in Rheims tonight that miss their loved ones also. I wish we had something to give the poor as we once did..." A thoughtful silence filled the room.

"Mother," Jeanne said excitedly, "I know something we can give." As she talked she picked up a small tallow candle from the table and hurried to one window of the hut. "See," she went on, "I will put it on the sill and perhaps someone who passes, someone like ourselves, will be happier because of this little gift of light. There—see how it shines out on the snow," and she stood back to survey her work.

"You are a good child, Jeanne," said Lady Marie, then smiling gently, she resumed her work. Down in the great square, among all the lights and gaiety, was another sad heart. It beat in the breast of a little lad of nine, a boy in ragged clothes whose bare feet were thrust into clumsy wooden clogs. He was utterly alone in the world, without money or friends, cold hungry and miserable. When he tried to tell his story to some of the milling people around him, no one took any interest in him, other than to frown at him or elbow him out of the way.

At last, in utter despair, he began to tramp the sheets, stopping now and then to gaze at the splendid houses and to seek help. But there

was no welcome in any of them for the poor lonely child.

It was dark in the streets of Rheims now, and the air was growing colder, but the little child tramped on, trying to desperately to find shelter before the night closed in. At last, far off down by the river, he saw a tiny gleam of light appear suddenly at a window and he hurried toward it. As he neared it, the boy saw it was only a small tallow candle at the window of a hovel, the poorest hut in all Rheims, but the steady light brought a sudden glow to his heart and he ran forward and knocked at the door.

It was quickly opened by a little girl, and at once two other people had risen to greet him. In another moment he found himself seated on a stool beside the charcoal brazier. The little girl was warming one of his cold hands in her palms, while her brother was holding the other, and a beautiful woman, kneeling at his feet, drew off the wooden shoes and rubbed his icy feet. When he was thoroughly warmed, the little girl dished up into three bowls and a cracked cup the stew which had been simmering on the fire. There was only a little of it, but she passed the fullest bowl to the stranger.

After a word of blessing, they ate their stew, and never had the thick soup tasted so rich and so satisfying.



**Jesus is the Reason for the Season!**

# The Story of Silent Night (Stille Nacht)

by Dr. Ralph F. Wilson

The young priest was worried. Within 24 hours he was supposed to lead a Christmas Eve service, but he had no music. The Salzach River that flowed near the village church of Oberndorf, Austria, caused chronic moisture which had rusted the pipe organ. Without the organ there would be no music. And what was Christmas Eve without music?

Father Josef Mohr had but recently come to this tiny village. The night of December 23 he had attended the town Christmas play. But instead of going home afterwards, he had climbed the small mountain overlooking the town and soaked in the beauty and quiet of the darkness. It was nearly midnight before he reached his room. And so in the wee hours of December 24, 1818, he sat down to pen a new song, one which could be played on a guitar—at least that wasn't broken.

"Stille Nacht! Heilige Nacht!" he wrote. "Silent night, holy night." The nighttime peacefulness of Oberndorf was fresh in his mind; beyond it he could imagine Bethlehem, bathed in moonlight.

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

The words were flowing now. He could visualize shepherds quaking, shaken from the quietness of their vigil by the glories streaming from heaven. He could see the child's countenance:

Son of God, love's pure light, Radiant beams from Thy holy face, With the dawn of redeeming grace, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.

It wasn't long til the simple poem was finished. Now, perhaps he could sleep.

The next morning he brought the poem to his organist, Franz Grüber. "I know it's the last minute," he must have said, "but could you put a tune

to this song for the service tonight? Something simple that I could accompany on the guitar?" Father Mohr was new to the parish, and to the church's chief musician. But then, Grüber was being paid, and at that moment his beloved organ wouldn't work. Grüber set about the task quickly and in a couple of hours he was done, just in time to rehearse with the choir before the service. Mohr sang tenor, Grüber sang bass, and the service went off beautifully with the new song. "Stille Nacht! Heilige Nacht!"

A master organ builder eventually came to Oberndorf to repair the rusted organ, and there learned of the carol. He copied the song and doubtless sang it as he worked on organs in the neighboring villages. From him, two families of traveling folk singers, similar to the Trapp Family Singers of

Germany, learned of the song and sang it in concerts all over Europe. In 1834 the Strasser family performed it for the king of Prussia, who ordered it sung every Christmas Eve by his cathedral choir. The Rainer family singers brought it to America in 1839. By mid-century it had become popular around the world, but no one could recall its composer. The story of its fame was long to reach the tiny villages of Austria. But in 1854, Franz Grüber sent a letter to the leading musical authorities with his claim to have written the tune. In 1848 Father Mohr had died of pneumonia, but Grüber still had the original manuscript to show, and gradually he was recognized as composer. Sometimes the smallest churches make the biggest contributions. In this case, God presented a most wonderful carol to the world from a tiny congregation, one that just happened to be called St. Nicholas' Church of Oberndorf.

**JOY TO THE WORLD**

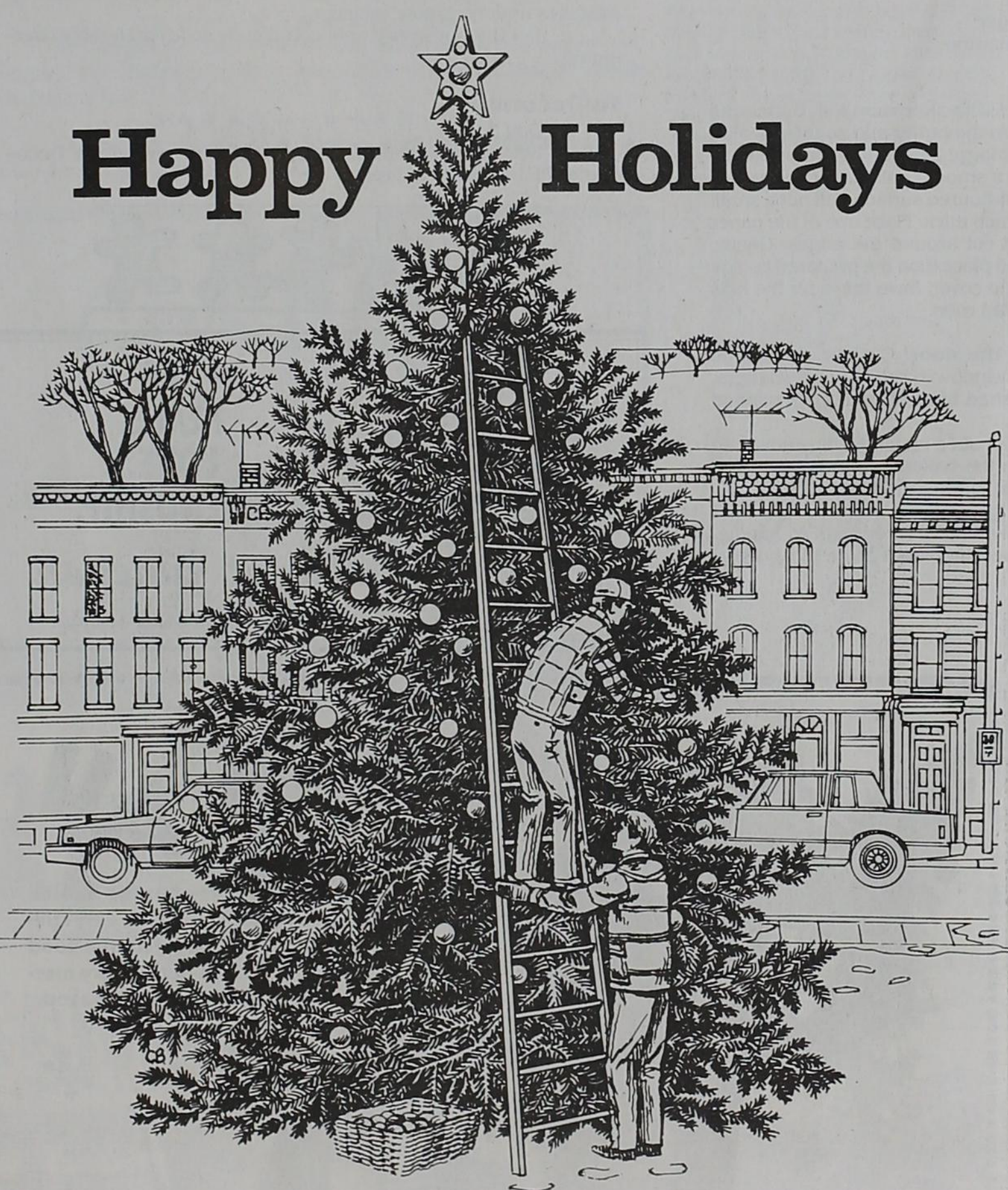
We'd like to join with all of you in praying for worldwide peace and harmony this holiday season.

*Traveler's Inn*  
Roaring Springs



Remember the Christmas parade in Matador? This photo, from the Tribune files, is a children's angel float from one of those parades. The year or identities of the children is unknown.

# Happy Holidays



One of the nicest parts of Christmas is expressing our thanks for your business in the past.



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CHILDRESS, TEXAS

2806 AVE. F NW

# HAPPY YULETIDE



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

# Higginbotham-Bartlett

Matador - 806-347-2445





I PROMISE I'VE BEEN GOOD! Tanner Bearden tells Santa of his Christmas wishes. He is the son of Brandt and Amy Bearden of Roaring Springs.



SANTA, BRING ME A LOT OF STUFF — Logan Ferguson was sure to let Santa know what he wants for Christmas. Logan is the son of Marty and Brenda Ferguson of Matador.

# How to make a Gingerbread House

We've all been intimidated by the photos. Page after colorful page of the most amazing gingerbread houses you've ever seen. Gables and verandahs ... Santa's workshop or Buckingham Palace. And you say "Forget it." Too bad, because it's not that hard and it's a lot of fun. This recipe proves it, as long as you remember the following points: (1) it will take all weekend; (2) don't panic; (3) have everything ready before you start.

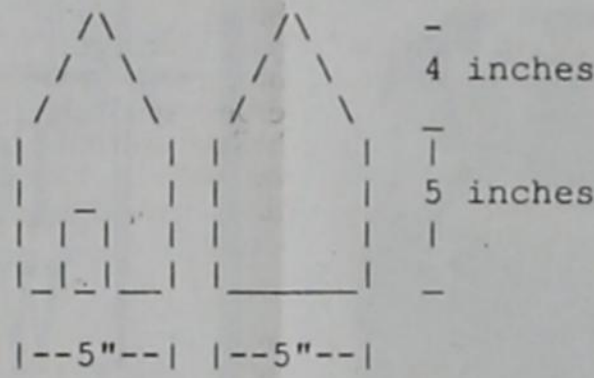
**You will need:**

- a pattern
- one batch of gingerbread dough
- four to five batches icing glue
- cookie sheets
- aluminum foil
- room temperature butter
- flour
- rolling pin
- knives
- spatula
- cooling racks
- a plywood base on which to put the house
- six unopened pop cans (to hold up the roof while icing dries)
- pastry bags and tips (if you don't have them, use a knife and spread the icing)
- lots of candies (lifesavers make good stained glass windows; ginger snaps make great shingles)

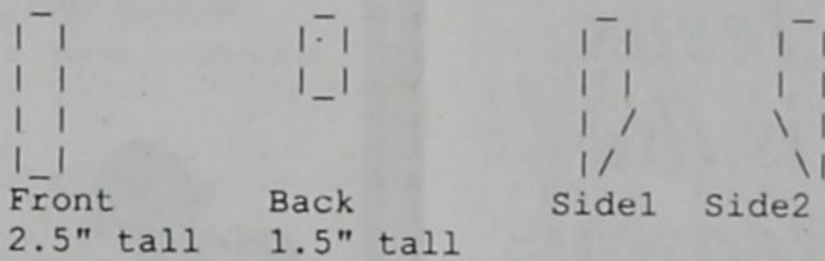
**The Pattern:**

Cut from paper the following:

- Roof:** 2 rectangles, 7 inches by 11 inches
- Side walls:** 2 rectangles, 5"x8"
- Front and Back:** base 5", total height 9". Cut door from front.



**Chimney: (optional) 1" wide.**



**Dough:**

- Day 1**
- 1 cup butter at room temperature
  - 1 3/4 cups brown sugar
  - 1 1/4 cups white sugar
  - 2 tablespoons molasses
  - 6 eggs
  - 6 cups all-purpose flour
  - 2 teaspoons baking soda
  - 1 tablespoon ground ginger
  - 1 tablespoon ground cinnamon
  - 1 tablespoon allspice

Line several cookie sheets with aluminum foil. Butter and flour the foil. In a large bowl, cream the butter and sugars. Beat in the molasses and eggs. In another large bowl, sift dry ingredients. Combine mixtures and knead into a smooth ball. Cover and refrigerate at least 30 minutes. On a well-floured surface, roll out a small amount of the dough until it's 1/4 inch thick. Place one of the paper pattern pieces on the dough and cut around the edges. Gently, using the spatula, lift the dough and place it on the prepared cookie sheet. Put all scraps into a bowl and cover. Save these for the kids to play with, or to make gingerbread men.

**To make windows and the door:** Cut out a rectangle from the appropriate side. Cut the window in half to make shutters. Fill empty window holes with crushed life-savers to form stained glass windows.

**To make the chimney:** Cut out a rectangle big enough to hold pieces of the chimney. When the baked dough is still warm and soft, lay the pattern on top and cut out the pieces.

Preheat the oven to 325 degrees F. Bake 15-20 minutes or until slightly firm. Let cool on racks until firm enough to handle. Peel the foil off the sections and set the pieces aside to dry thoroughly overnight.



**Icing Glue:**

**Day 2**

This recipe is for a single batch. You will probably need several, but if you make them all at once, keep them in separate bowls; it dries very quickly and is like cement. Keep it well covered; one piece of saran wrap touching the icing itself and another on the bowl.

- 3 Egg Whites
- 1 1/2 teaspoon cream of tartar
- 3 - 3 1/3 cups icing sugar

In a large bowl, beat the egg whites until they begin to foam. Add the cream of tartar and beat until the whites are stiff but not dry. Gradually beat in the icing sugar, beating for about 5 minutes until it reaches spreading consistency. Keep it covered and refrigerated until needed.

**To Assemble:**

**Day 2**

Cover the plywood base with aluminum foil. Pipe (or spread with a knife) two straight lines of glue at a 90 degree angle from each other; one for a side wall and another for an end wall. Pipe glue on the side wall where it will meet the end wall. Place walls on base, touching each other. Hold them in place until they are dry enough to stand on their own (about 15 minutes, and you can use those pop cans as support).

Repeat with the remaining two walls, running a line of icing glue along the corners so that all the walls are glued together. Again hold walls in place until the glue is dry. Let the roof-less house dry at least 30 minutes until the icing is firmly set.

**Banish small children from the kitchen; find an extra pair of hands.** Pipe a lot of icing along the tops of all the walls. Run a thick line along one long side of a roof. Stick the two roof sections together at an angle and sit the two pieces on top of the house. Make sure that the roof overhang is the same at both ends of the house. Hold the roof gently in place until it dries (the pop cans should be the right height to support them). Let dry half an hour. While the roof is drying, attach the door to the doorway by running a line of icing glue down one side and along the base. Make sure the door is open wide enough to slide a small flashlight inside later (so you can appreciate the stained glass windows). To attach the chimney: on one side of the roof near the peak, glue one angled piece to the roof, glue the largest rectangle to the angled piece, then glue the second angled piece in place. Lastly, if there's room, glue the smallest rectangle to the other sections. Hide any mistakes under a "snow" of icing.

Let the house dry until completely solid, preferably overnight.

**To Decorate**

**Day 3**

Remove the soda cans. Attach shutters to windows. Decorate by gluing candy to house.



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

*Petticoat Junction*

*Devonne Dillard ~ Roaring Springs*

## 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.

**Joy to All**

We're hoping Santa's got you on his very special list for all the good things of this very merry Christmas Season.

**Preferred Choice**

Preferred Choice Convenience Store #1  
1201 Bailey, Matador, Texas 79244  
806-347-2223



**CHRISTMAS AT COWCAMP**

BY SUSAN GAHR  
ORIGINAL POEMS & STORIES

Twass nite fore Christmas  
all thru camp  
Cowboys a snorin & takin long naps.  
Cookie a clanging the pots and the pans  
tryin to get finished to read by his lamp.  
Bunkhouse all quiet  
all in fer the nite.  
Fire box glowed with a warm fire lite.

Remembered .....days gone of old -  
All the stories his Mama had told  
Of a Christ child born in the dark of the nite.  
Away in a manger by coal oil lite.  
The critters all gathered  
Few men understood.  
A Baby ... A King .... In a manger of wood.

The boys need a lift, Lord.  
Some got no homes.  
Some got no kin.  
All got no gifts.

He twinkled and giggled under his breath.  
Went to his bedroll and dug out a vest.  
A vest for ole Roy is just what he needs.  
Tommy needs breeches without holes in the knees.  
Pete the horse wrangler needs socks to keep warm  
And mittens to keep his hands b'fore dawn.  
Old "Half Hitch" with a kimp in his limp could not  
recollect how long it had been .... never got one letter,  
he had no kin.

Each special gift hung in a sock on a string.  
A little cowdog who would work and could sing.  
Cookie had bought him - on wages ...  
a month of hard grind.  
He had all the go - would switch ends on a dime.  
He tied him to the bed post for "Half-Hitch" - a friend  
someone to partner clear to the end.

By mornin he knew he'd save the best for the last.  
He'd tell 'em the story Mama told from the past.

**TRAIL DUST**  
BY DOUGLAS MEADOR

*When the world has the spirit of Christmas in its heart, no room will remain for hatred and fear. Life reaches its fullness when the warmth of love directs the course of thoughts and deeds when the soul is at peace.*

*Christmas is a drift fence across prairies of the past to keep friends from wandering too far from our range.*

*If some of the spirit of Christmas did not linger throughout the year, the compassion in human hearts would vanish and love would become a meaningless world.*

*True compassion began with the first Christmas and its magnificence has inspired mankind to seek glory in humility. At its knee the great learned the simple truth of love.*

*Christmas is the miracle of laughter when friends meet and feel the absolute freedom from jealousies and hate.*



A snowy ranch scene from years past.  
(Tribune file photo)

**How Christmas was spent in the Eighties**

by Mrs. L.B. Campbell

NOTE: This article is reprinted from the December 19, 1927 issue of the *Motley County News*.

The first Christmas ever celebrated in Motley County was in 1880. I was so inspired over getting lumber to strip the cracks of our room box house in November 1880 that I at once set about to celebrate Christmas. I ordered from Fort Worth the makings of a Christmas tree, but owing to the slowness of an ox team, our only mode of transportation, the supplies failed to arrive until the first of March. We, therefore, had to content ourselves with the eats which were mostly native products.

I prepared for the Christmas dinner two wild turkeys which, as usual at that time of the year, are very lean and dark, but larded liberally with strips of bacon (the bacon coming from wild hogs killed on the range) with excellent dressing, they were voted a great success. Antelope stew with sinkers (cowboy name for dumplings) anison steak, boiled hams of the aforesaid wild hogs, rice and can corn (the only cereal and vegetable on the ranch. Apple pies, made of dried apples, a wash tub full of doughnuts. I had put up liberal amount of wild plumb jelly in the summer, and this was served for cranberries. I had brought with me from the east some popcorn, which I popped and made into balls. I think the cowboys really enjoyed these more than anything. This dinner was partaken by all of the cowboys on the ranch and a lunch fixed for each to carry back to his line

camp. One of the cowboys had brought me some pecans which he packed on a pack horse, from some of the lower counties. The whole crowd spent the evening playing hullgull with these pecans. Each boy keeping his winnings. So ended the first Christmas celebration in Motley County.

The next two Christmases I was not on the ranch but the Christmas of '83 was celebrated by a big supper and dance which we gave the cowboys each succeeding year. These dances were looked forward to by the surrounding country for a hundred miles. These later celebrations were more elaborate than the first as we were able to get supplies from Colorado City, for the first two or three, then from Childress which was only a days drive with a light vehicle.

The musicians for the first dance was one of the cowboys with a very small selection of tuner. He was generally accompanied by some other of the boys, who had a musical ear, with a pair of small wires beating on the strings of the fiddle. These old timers would beat repeating all night seemingly as much enjoyed after the sun was up the next morning as when they begin at sundown.

The first Christmas tree in the town of Matador was in the year of 1893 and those were very unique in arrangements. As one party said he had seen more than a million Christmas trees, and had never seen one managed that way before.

These Christmas trees of the early nineties would be a novelty now. As I remember them the bulk of the presents were California pants and

Stetson hats. The louder the plaid of the pants the more prominent position they were given on the tree.

**Christmas time at Matador**

NOTE: This article is reprinted from the December 19, 1927 issue of the *Motley County News*.

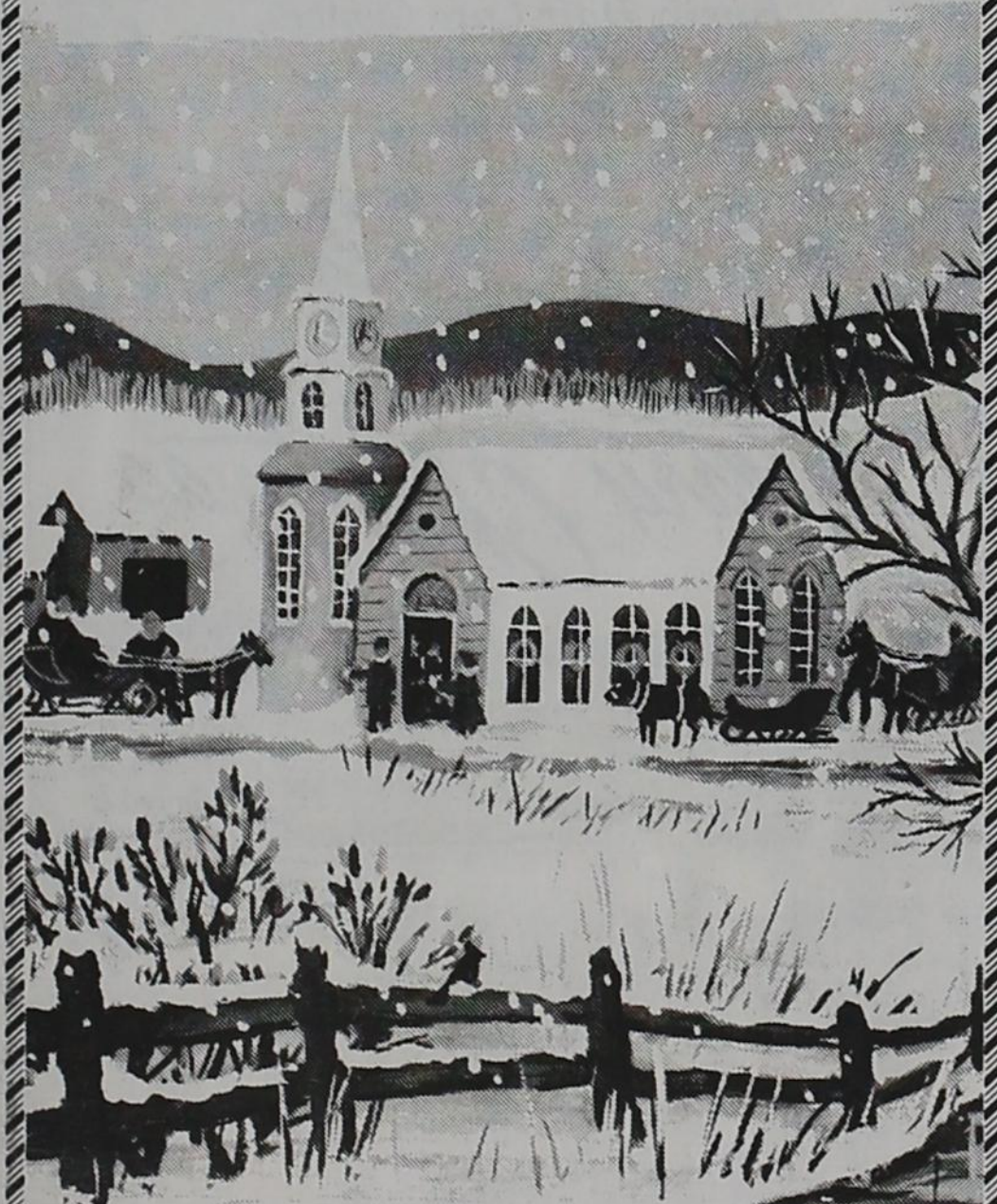
Christmas is a joyful time. It is a season for merry making all over the world. "Criste Masse," the mass or church festival, so called, is the English name for the season in which the birth of Christ is commemorated. Whether pagan, heathen or Christian, it is today an universal practice throughout the world to send greetings to friends and pass a good word, wishes and joy to those we fondly remember. A real Christmas spirit is the spirit of love, helpfulness, co-operation with other people in Matador for success, happiness and progress. This special edition of the *News* is gotten out with that idea in view. We want to materially help and benefit our advertisers and friends, and are using this method in helping them advertise their business, attract attention to the town of Matador and at the same time furnish a souvenir in the way of print to serve as a remembrance for the Christmas at

Matador in the year of 1927. We are all dependent upon one another for what we are, for what the town is, and for what the community is. Christmas therefore, brings us all closer together with greetings and a sense of joy for our fellowmen. It makes us benevolent, hospitable, generous and feel for the welfare of others. The grown-ups like the child, at Christmas time are more joyful than other times during the year. Why? It is because there exist a good feeling toward all men.

There will be several Christmas trees in Matador at the churches, and a number of parents will entertain their children in their homes. Special programs have been arranged and no doubt much pleasure will be shown in the children when Santa Claus appears to distribute his usually big load of toys and trinkets which makes the child's heart glad.

The *News* extends a Merry Christmas and wishes all its friends and patrons a very Happy and Prosperous 1928.

**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.



**DeBruce**  
Ag Service, Inc.  
Lockney, TX 806-652-3326



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

**Seigler**  
**Funeral Home**

Matador & Paducah



**NOEL!**

It's customers like you who have been the foundation of our success.

**Payne Pharmacy**



May Peace & Good Fortune  
Grace Your Doorstep  
In This & Every Season

Thank you for being such wonderful patrons!

**Motley County Tribune**

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



# Christmas Cooking

## Bourbon and Chocolate Pecan Pie

- 1 cup sugar
- 1/4 cup butter - melted
- 3 eggs - slightly beaten
- 3/4 cup light corn syrup
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 2 tablespoons bourbon
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1/2 cup chopped pecans
- 1/2 cup chocolate chips
- 1 (9-inch) pie shell

Cream sugar and butter. Add eggs, syrup, salt, bourbon, and vanilla. Mix until blended. Spread pecans and chocolate chips in bottom of pie shell. Pour filling into shell. Bake in a 375 degree oven for 40 to 50 minutes. Yield: 6 - 8 servings.

## Divinity

- 4 cups granulated sugar
- 1 cup light (not dark) corn syrup
- 1 cup water
- 1/4 tsp. salt
- 3 egg white (room temperatures)
- 1 cup walnuts, chopped
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- food coloring

Combine sugar, corn syrup, water, and salt in heavy saucepan. Cook and stir over medium heat until mixture starts to boil. Continue cooking until mixture forms soft ball when tested in cold water (or use a thermometer). In the mean time, beat egg whites until stiff. Then pour 1/2 cup of syrup over whites, beating fast all the time. Continue to cook remaining syrup, leaving egg whites to continue beating all the time, until syrup reaches the light crack stage when dropped in cold water (this will happen quickly). Pour remaining syrup over egg white mixture, beating all the while. Continue beating until candy begins to hold its shape. Stir in vanilla and nuts and food coloring. Drop by teaspoonsful onto waxed paper.

Note: Recipe will not work if it is damp/humid weather. Test the hardness of the syrup in a small bowl filled with water that has been chilled with ice cube. When you drizzle some of the syrup into the bowl it is ready when it stays "floating" in the air and does not sink to the bottom. Work real fast. Test a spoonful on waxed paper, if it keeps its shape after just a second you can start to spoon. If you wait until it is too firm, the last 1/2 of the batch will be too difficult to spoon out. You can pour this into a foil lined pan that has been Pam sprayed, then cut into squares if you are not comfortable spooning it out.

## Ambrosia Cheesecake

- 1 1/2 cups flaked coconut
- 1/4 cup chopped almonds
- 2 tablespoons Butter - melted
- 24 ounces Cream Cheese - softened
- 1/2 cup Sugar
- 1/4 cup all-purpose flour
- 2 teaspoons grated orange peel
- 1 teaspoon Vanilla Extract
- 1/2 cup Apricot Nectar
- 1/2 cup Cream of Coconut
- 4 large eggs
- 8 ounces Crushed Pineapple - drained
- Sliced assorted fruits
- 2 teaspoons Shortening - melted
- 1/4 cup Semisweet-chocolate pieces, melted
- 1/4 cup White-chocolate pieces, melted

Suggested fruits: Bananas, seedless green and red grapes, kiwi-fruit, canned mandarin-orange slices, strawberries, etc.)

Day before serving: Preheat oven to 350 degrees. In medium bowl, combine coconut, almonds and butter, mix well. Press mixture into bottom of 9-inch springform pan. Bake until golden, about 15 minutes. Cool.

In large bowl of electric mixer, at high speed, beat cream cheese, sugar, flour, orange peel and vanilla until fluffy. Beat in apricot nectar and cream of coconut. Beat in eggs, one at a time, until blended. Stir in pineapple; pour into prepared crust. Bake 1 hour and 10 minutes, or until set. Cool in pan on wire rack; refrigerate overnight. Just before serving, arrange fruit over top of cake. Stir in one teaspoon melted shortening into each of melted semisweet and white chocolates until blended. Place each mixture in a separate small pastry bag fitted with small plain tip; pipe over fruit.

## Eggnog

- Ingredients:**
- 1 teaspoon sugar
  - 1 whole egg
  - 5 ounces milk
  - 1/2 to 2 ounces rum

Shake with cracked ice and strain. Sprinkle grated nutmeg on surface.

## 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.

## Chocolate-Peppermint Slices

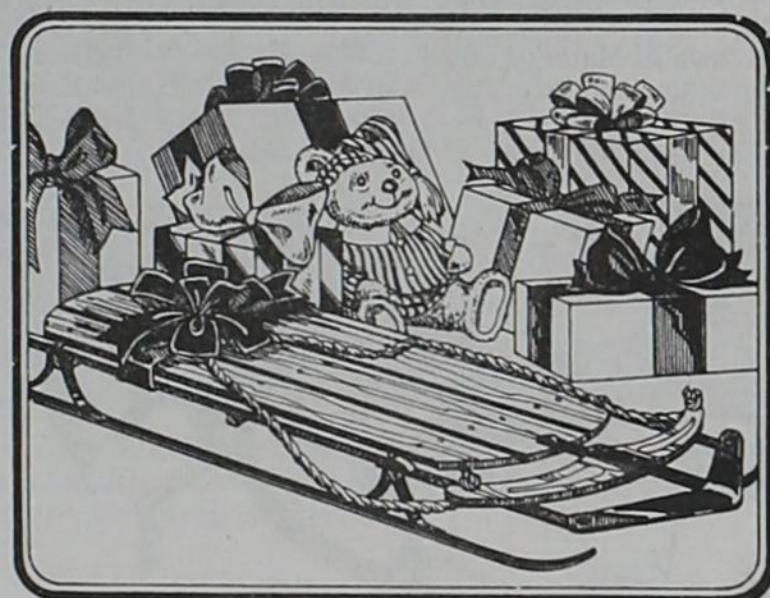
- Ingredients:**
- 1/2 cup butter or margarine
  - 1/3 cup granulated sugar
  - 1/4 teaspoon baking powder
  - 1 cup all-purpose flour
  - 1 ounce semisweet chocolate, melted and cooled
  - 1/4 teaspoon peppermint extract
  - Several drops food coloring (optional)

In a medium mixing bowl beat the butter or margarine with an electric mixer on medium to high speed for 30 seconds. Add the sugar and baking powder; beat till combined. Beat in as much of the flour as you can with the mixer. Stir in any remaining flour with a wooden spoon. Divide dough in half. Place half of the dough in a small bowl. Stir in melted chocolate, then knead dough till chocolate is evenly distributed. Knead peppermint extract and, if desired, food coloring into remaining dough. Shape each half of dough into a ball. Wrap in waxed paper or plastic wrap. Chill for 2 hours, or till firm. On a lightly floured surface, shape each half of dough into a log about 4 inches long. Roll and/or pat each log to a 6x3 inch rectangle. Cut each rectangle in half lengthwise, forming two 6x1 1/2 inch rectangles. Stack all 4 rectangles on top of each other, alternating chocolate and peppermint dough. Cut the stacked layers into 1/4-inch thick slices. Place about 1 inch apart on ungreased cookie sheets. Bake in a preheated 375 degree F oven for 8-10 minutes, or until bottoms are a light golden brown. Remove cookies and cool on a rack.

## Christmas Tree Spice Cookies

- Ingredients:**
- 1 cup (2 sticks) unsalted butter
  - 1 cup granulated sugar
  - 1 large egg
  - 1/2 cup honey
  - 4 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
  - 3/4 teaspoon double-acting baking powder
  - 1/2 teaspoon salt
  - 2 teaspoons ground ginger
  - 1 teaspoon cinnamon
  - Multicolored sugar for garnishing (optional)

In a bowl, cream the butter and granulated sugar together until very light in color. Add the egg and honey and continue beating until the mixture is light and fluffy. Sift the flour, baking powder, salt, ginger, and cinnamon together and stir into the butter-sugar mixture. Wrap the cookie dough in wax paper and chill in the refrigerator for one hour. Preheat the oven to 375 degrees F. Roll out the chilled dough until it is about 1/4-inch thick and cut it with a 3 to 3 1/2 inch cookie cutter. Place the cookies on a lightly greased baking sheet and sprinkle them with multicolored sugar. Bake for about 12 minutes, or until the cookies are golden. Makes about 2 dozen cookies.



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## CHRISTMAS, A Time To Cherish

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

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## PEACE ON EARTH.

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



## Season's Greetings

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

### First Ag Credit of Texas, PCA



## 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