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Hotley County Tribune

50¢



God Bless
America!

"Voice of the Foothills"



Section 1, December 16, 2004

ESTABLISHED 1891

Issue No. 51



*"The whole earth is full
of His glory."*

Isaiah 6:1

Glory to God in the highest

In those days Ceasar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria. And everyone went to his own town to register.

So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to men
on whom his favor rests."

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about."

So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

Luke 2: 1-20

Jesus is the Reason for the Season



IN THE
SPIRIT OF
FRIENDSHIP

...we offer our very best
wishes to you and yours
this holiday season.

Rinker Materials
PolyPipe
Roaring Springs

It's Christmas Everywhere!



Celebrate with those you love.

Knowles-Taylor
Cotton Company, Inc.



May yours be
blessed this holiday
season.

**HOME IS
WHERE THE
HEART IS!**



Matador
Implement



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

Motley County Sheriff's Department

JIM MEADOR - SHERIFF

RICKEY LAWRENCE - DEPUTY

BRIAN SMITH - DEPUTY

ELAINE HART & MISTY JONES

Ad paid for by Sheriff Jim Meador



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
Russell Alexander, Prec. IV

MOTLEY COUNTY SHERIFF
James B. "Jim" Meador
DEPUTY - Rickey Lawrence
DEPUTY - Brian Smith
DEPUTY CLERK/TAX ASSESSOR DEPUTY
Misty Jones
TAX ASSESSOR/COLLECTOR: Elaine Hart

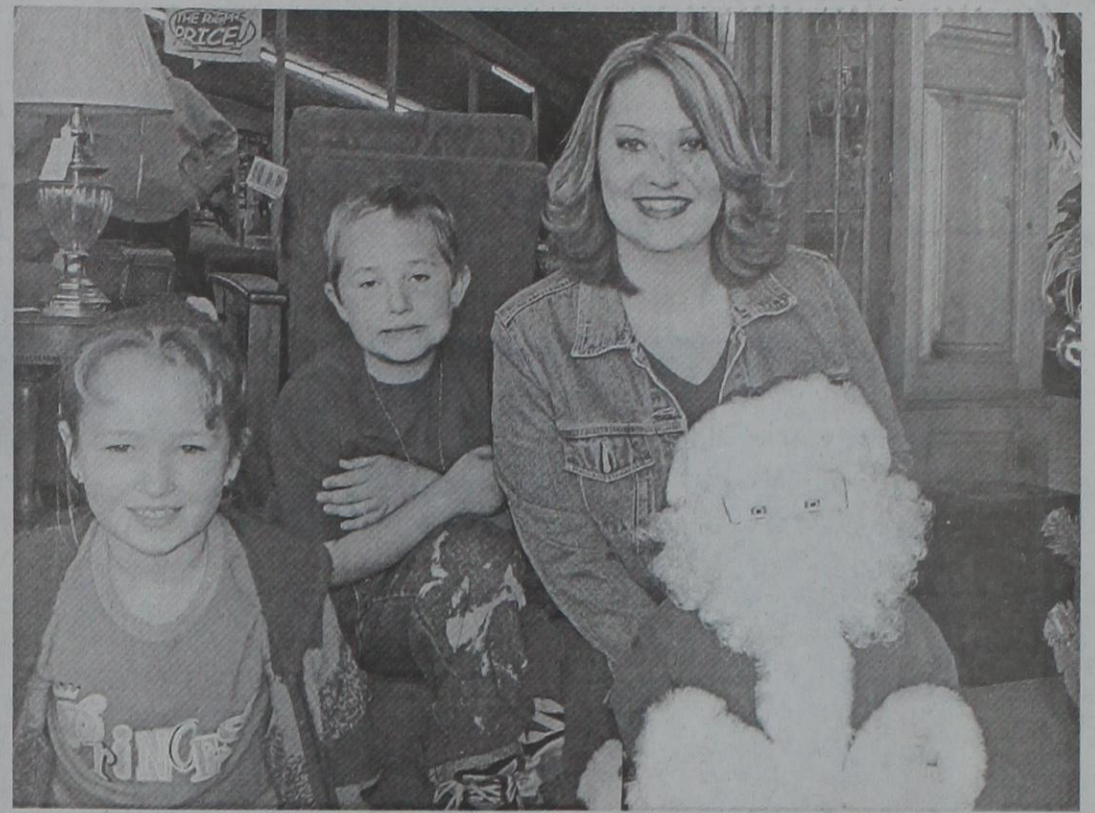
COUNTY CLERK: Kate Hurt
DEPUTY CLERK: D'anna Russell
JUSTICE OF THE PEACE
Cora Smallwood
COUNTY TREASURER
Eva Barkley
COUNTY ATTORNEY
Tempie Francis
COUNTY AGENT
Eric Lewis

ROAD MAINTENANCE:
David Taylor, Prec. I
Tommy Beck, Prec. II
Richard Thomas, Prec. III
Dean Osborn, Prec. IV

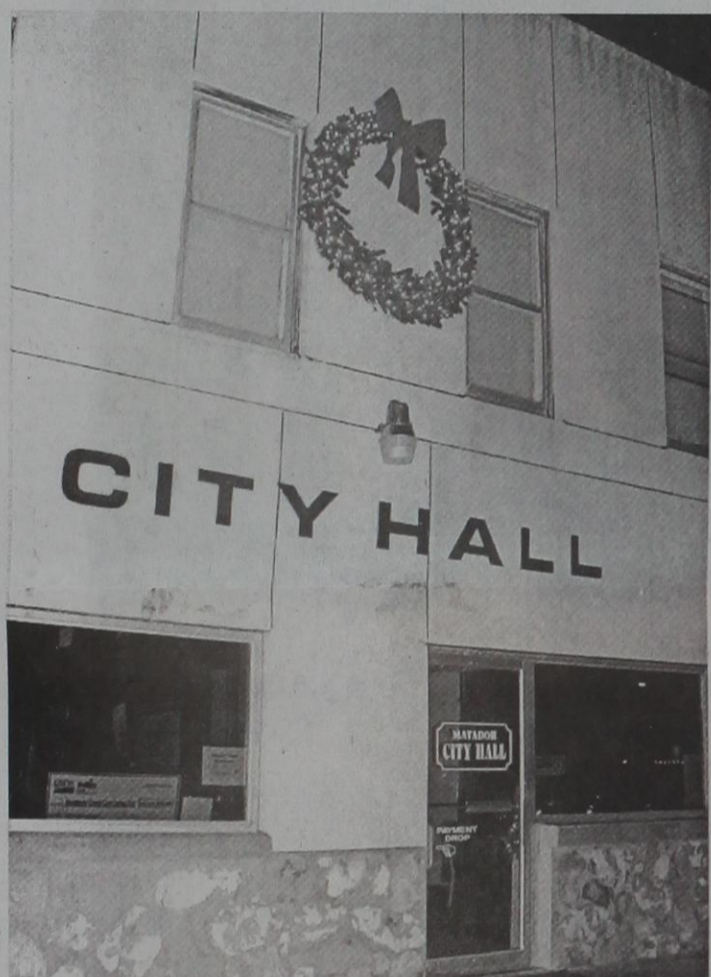
COUNTY APPRAISER:
Brenda Osborn
DPS TROOPERS
Chad Overton & Jason McMillan
GAME WARDEN: Ted Davey
COURTHOUSE MAINTENANCE
Larry Markham



HERE COMES SANTA CLAUS! These three boys waved to Santa as he drove through downtown Matador, Thursday, December 2, during Late Night shopping. Pictured left to right are Matthew Faulks, Joshua Martin and Michael Martin.



Late Night Shopping Fun in Roaring Springs — A big crowd enjoyed a fun night of late night shopping in downtown Roaring Springs, Friday, November 26. Joining in the fun were (left to right) Katie Barton, Logan Bearden and Amy Bearden.



This wreath, hanging on the front of the City Hall building in Matador, is only one of the beautiful, big, lighted wreaths dressing up downtown Matador.

Wishing you a
very happy
Christmas
& a Prosperous
New Year!



LONG
INSURANCE
Roaring Springs



Dressed in Holiday Style - Festive decorations for the Holiday dress up the outside of Dianne Washington's CPA office in Matador.



MERRY CHRISTMAS

We would be just
plain flaky if we
didn't let you know
how much we value
your loyal patronage.



New to You

downtown Matador



MEREDITH GAS & SUPPLY
MEREDITH CONSTRUCTION
Roaring Springs

Wishing you an old fashioned
Country Christmas!



Our best wishes for a wonderful holiday season,
with much thanks for your friendship.

Motley Mill & Cube
Roaring Springs



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.**



May Your
Home Be Blessed
This Holiday
Season

Here's to a future that
knows no ill,
A world filled with
brotherhood, peace and
good will.
Where every child has
a place to call home,
And a person is judged
on his merit alone.

While this may seem like a
pipe dream to some,
We admit there's a lot of
hard work to be done,
And the best place to start
is where we are living,
By sharing the spirit of this
season of giving.

**Motley County
Chamber of Commerce**



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.

FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD
MATADOR

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
MATADOR

CHURCH OF CHRIST
ROARING SPRINGS

MACEDONIA BAPTIST
CHURCH
MATADOR

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
ROARING SPRINGS

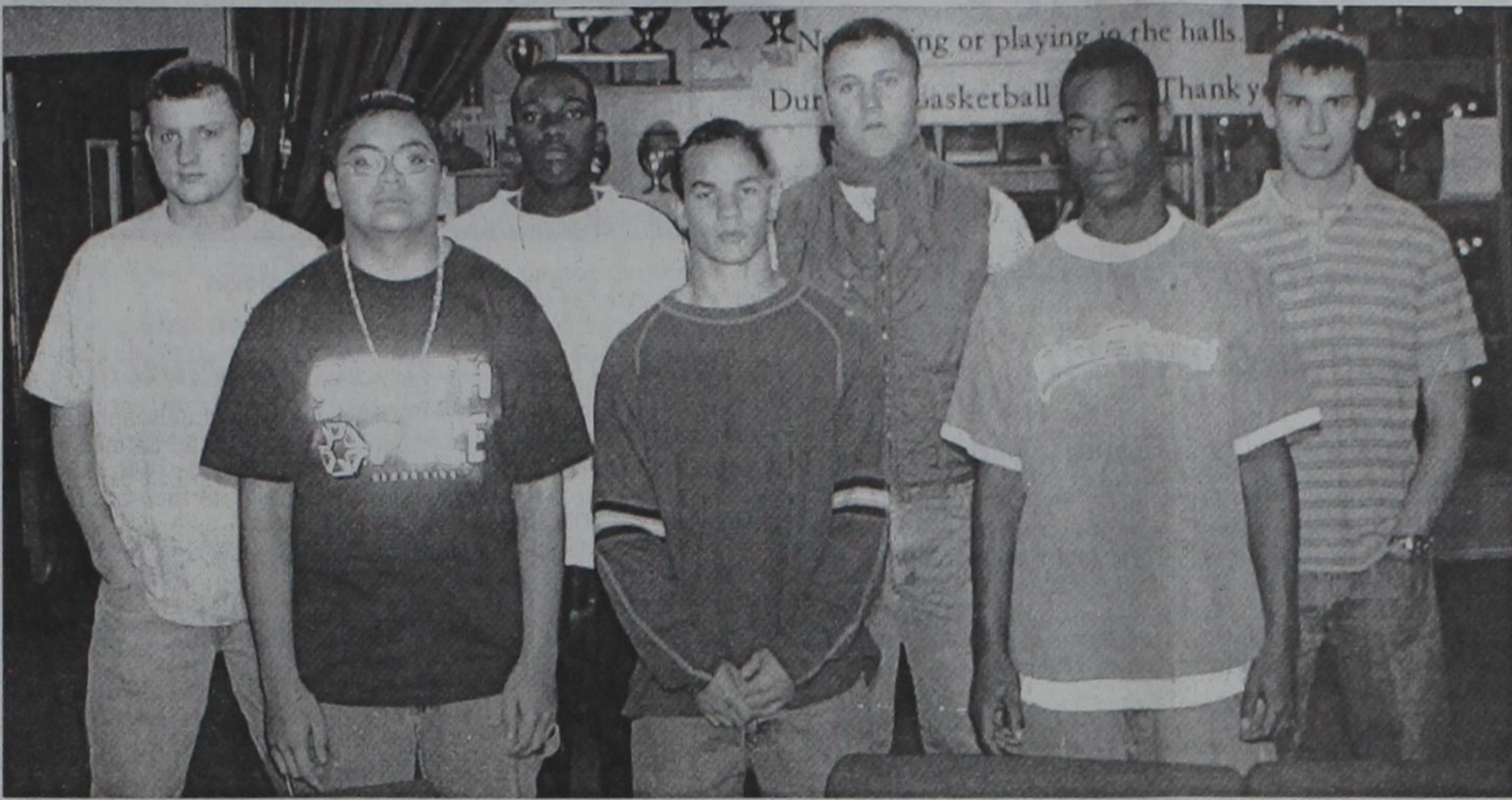
FULL GOSPEL CHURCH
ROARING SPRINGS

FIRST UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH
ROARING SPRINGS

FIRST UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH
MATADOR

OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE
CATHOLIC CHURCH
MATADOR

Countdown to Christmas



MOTLEY COUNTY MATADORS NAMED TO ALL-DISTRICT FOOTBALL TEAM — Recently named to the Six-man District 4 All-District Team are pictured left to right, Kenny Johannes, First Team Offense, Split End; Gene Salazar, Honorable Mention; Bradley Brown, Second Team Offense, Runningback; Isaiah Archer, Second Team Defense, Cornerback; Colton Russell, Honorable Mention; Seagram Sims, Second Team Offense, Spreadback; and Chance Bingham, Honorable Mention.



Motley County Commissioners meet

Motley County Commissioners Court met for their regular meeting, Monday, December 13. Members of the court present were Judge Ed D. Smith; Commissioners, Ronnie Davis, Prec. 1, Donnie Turner, Prec. 2, Franklin Jameson, Prec. 3, and Russell Alexander, Prec. 4; and County Clerk, Kate Hurt. Also in attendance was Sheriff Jim Meador. Commissioner Alexander gave the invocation and Judge Smith called the meeting to order.

Mrs. Hurt read the minutes from the previous meeting. The outstanding bills were reviewed by the Commissioners as well as reports by the Treasurer, Tax-Collector, Justice of the Peace and Library. All were approved.

Judge Smith informed the court that the elevator repair in the courthouse was completed in November at the cost of \$500.30. This information was left out of the November minutes.

Judge Smith and Ben Kautz, representing TxDOT, informed the court that Motley County will receive \$8066.00 in surplus road materials for 2005. Commissioner Turner asked for 30 road reflectors for Precinct 2. Judge Smith will request the reflectors and the remainder in RAP materials for Motley County.

County Treasurer Eva Barkley met with the court to request combining the four Road and Bridge checking accounts into one bank account. Mrs.

Bakley explained to the court that the bookkeeping on each precinct will remain the same. After discussion on the request, there was no action taken due to lack of consensus.

Judge Smith informed the court that the 911 Coordinator for the County, Douglas Campbell, has resigned since taking his new position with TxDOT in Floyd County. Fred Parson will accept this position. Commissioner Davis made the motion to appoint Fred Parson as the new 911 Coordinator, seconded by Commissioner Alexander. Motion passed by full approval of the court.

The death of Joe Campbell left the office of Motley County Veterans Service Officer vacant. Judge Smith will contact sev-

eral people in regard to this position. Any Veteran interested should contact Judge Smith.

Judge Smith presented the 2005 holiday schedule for the court's approval. The schedule was approved.

Dianne Washington, CPA, of Thayer and Washington, presented the audit of the county to the court for FY 1999/2000 and FY 2000/2001.

January 1, 2005, at 10:00 a.m. was set by the court for a Special Session to appoint a new County Attorney. The Swearing-in Ceremony of newly appointed and elected officials will follow at 10:45 a.m.

Matador City Council meets for December session

The Matador City Council met in regular session Thursday, December 9 with the following present: Mayor Paul Westbrook, Council members Shane Jones, Chuck Ream, Jim Watson, Pat Seigler; Water Superintendent Steve Barton; and City Secretary, Lara Davey.

The meeting was called to order and invocation was given by Mayor Paul Westbrook.

No one was present for open forum. Dianne Washington of Thayer & Washington, CPA, presented the 2003-2004 annual audit. The audit was approved.

Minutes from the November 11 meeting were read and approved.

A list of expenditures were presented for payment and approved.

Mayor Westbrook addressed Council about a Mutual Aid Agreement that had been passed in February of 2004, but never signed and submitted. Council agreed to allow Mayor Westbrook to sign the agreement and submit it to SPAG (South Plains Association of

Governments), however, no vote was given due to the prior approval.

The Matador Housing Board of Directors for the year of 2005 will be approved as follows: Ronda Miller, Chuck Ream, Jessie Mae Brown, Brenda Osborn, and Pete Gonzales. Motion passed.

A resolution setting two public hearings on a proposed annexation of the land for the Hackberry Creek Care Center was presented to Council. These public meetings will provide an opportunity for the public to voice any concerns about the annexation of the property. The meetings are set for December 27 and December 30 at 5:00 p.m. at City Hall. Motion to pass the resolution was approved.

Employee bonuses for full time employees at \$125.00 and \$50.00 for part time employees was approved.

The Water Superintendent report was presented and a financial review was given.

Holiday revelers warned to drive sober

TxDOT launches annual holiday 'Don't Drink and Drive' campaign

Law enforcement throughout Texas will be providing free rides this month for Texas drivers who've had too much to drink - a free ride to jail that is.

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) and the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) announced this week that all available state troopers and local law enforcement officers will be on Texas streets and highways during the long Christmas and New Years holiday weekends watching for drunk drivers.

TxDOT officials are expecting their Jingle All The Way annual holiday public education campaign to reach millions of Texans this month with messages that while intoxicated can lead to jail time.

"We want everyone to have a safe and happy holiday," said Carlos Lopez, TxDOT's traffic operations director. "If alcohol is involved in their holiday celebrations, we're reminding people not to get behind the wheel if they've been drinking. Safe alternatives are to designate a sober driver before drinking begins, call a taxi or just stay

where you are until you can drive home safely."

Though Texas continues to lead the nation in alcohol-related traffic fatalities, safety advocates credit stepped-up enforcement of the states DWI laws and ongoing advertising about the penalties of drunk driving with the recent decline in impaired driving fatalities. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration reports 100 fewer people died in 2003 in alcohol-related crashes than the previous year.

Besides DPS and hundreds of police departments and sheriffs offices statewide, the Texas Petroleum Marketers and Convenience Store Association, the Texas Restaurant Association and Diamond Shamrock are also participating in the holiday anti-DWI campaign.

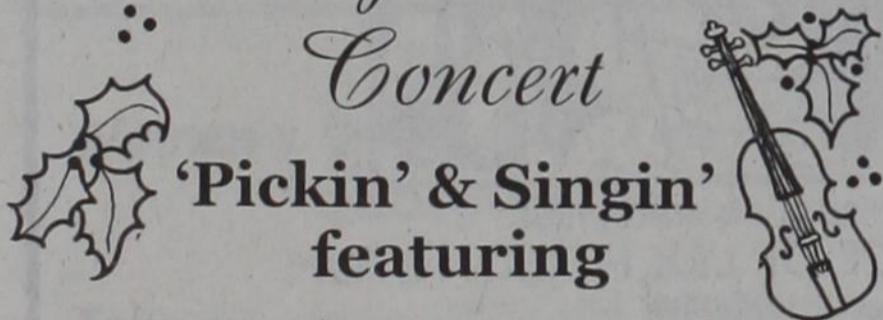
Penalties for the first DWI offense include drivers license suspension for up to one year, a fine of up to \$2,000 and up to six months in jail.

The enforcement dates for this WAVE period is December 23 through January 2nd.

Happy Holidays!

Come join the family of
**First Baptist Church
Matador**
for an Old Fashioned

*Country Christmas
Concert*



'Pickin' & Singin'
featuring

Paul & Christy Newberry



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19
11:00 a.m.
in the Worship Center
of
**First Baptist Church
Matador**

Something for the whole family!

Tribune will be closed next week

As in years past, *The Motley County Tribune* will be closed Christmas week, December 22-26. We will not publish a paper that week. The next issue of the *Tribune* will be the December 30 issue and the regular deadline, Monday by 5:00 p.m., will be observed.

We appreciate your cooperation and wish all our readers a very Merry Christmas!



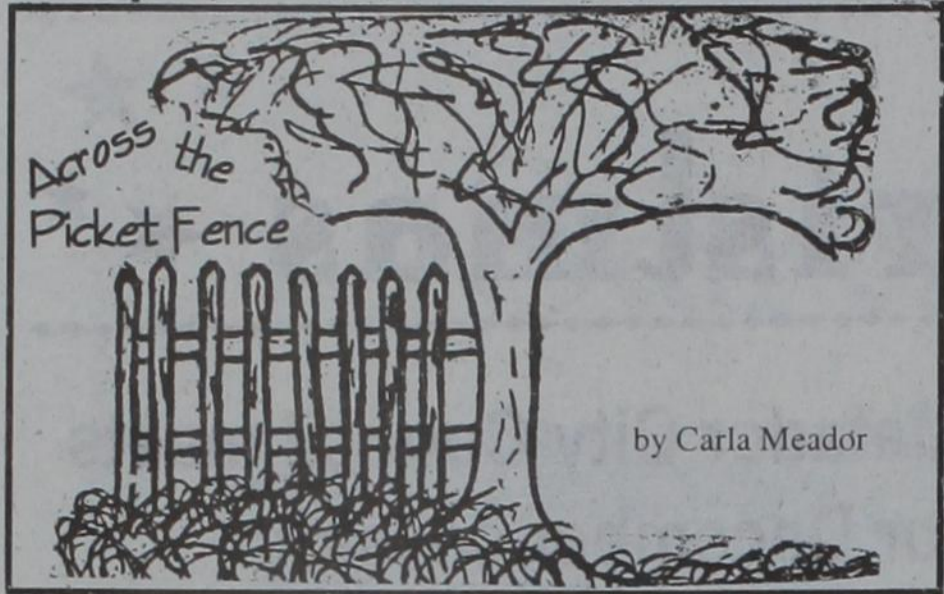
COURTHOUSE EMPLOYEES ENJOY CHRISTMAS PARTY — Motley County employees and elected officials enjoyed a Christmas party at the Courthouse, Monday, December 13. Pictured left to right are Misty Jones, Elaine Hart, Ted Davey, Eva Barkley, Jim Meador, Brenda Osborn, Rickey Lawrence, D'anna Russell, Chad Overton, Mark Gumaer, Cora Smallwood, Jason McMillan, Russell Alexander, Donnie Turner, Eric Lewis, Franklin Jameson, Kate Hurt and Ed D. Smith.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Candlelight Services will be held Christmas Eve, December 24, at the First United Methodist Church in Roaring Springs.

This special service will begin at 6:00 p.m. and everyone is invited to attend.





Motley County Lifestyles



Salina Shorter & Joseph Marks

Do Gooders meet for Christmas party

MERRY CHRISTMAS! I could make this column long with memories of holidays past this week, but my space is limited and I just couldn't resist printing this beautiful picture of my Christmas angels. Morgan and Judson, my-daughter-in-law, Whitney, and I attended the Nutcracker Ballet Sunday. The kids just love it and so do I! Jud's a little frightened by the Mouse King and he wanted me to make sure he wasn't going to come out of the side curtains on the stage, but they never take their eyes off the performance and they sit still for three hours. And after the performance Judson visited with the Mouse King in person! The performance was beautiful, the music was wonderful, and the best thing of all was that I was with my grandkids. What more could you want for Christmas?

Okay, I know I sometimes go on and on about my grandbabies, but I'm sure all you grandparents out there understand. Jim and I truly hope that you and yours have a very blessed and happy holiday. May you feel the presence of the perfect peace from God and remember the true reason for this holy holiday, the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ.



All Dressed Up for Christmas — Morgan and Judson Jones are all dressed up and ready to attend the Nutcracker Ballet. Morgan, 7 and Judson, 5, are the children of Jeremy and Whitney Jones of Lubbock and the grandchildren of Jim and Carla Meador and Travis and Lou Anne Jameson of Matador, and Jon Jones of Fremont, Calif.

Engagement Announced

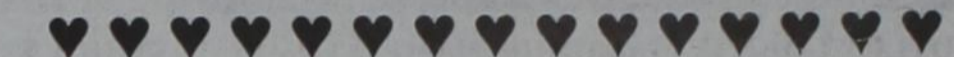
Lee and Connie Hurt of Floydada and Louis Shorter of Mansfield announce the engagement of their daughter Salina Marie to Joseph Carlton Marks, son of Ed and Joyce Marks of Lockney.

The couple to marry February 26, 2005, at the Brown Memorial Chapel in Plainview.

The bride-elect is a graduate of Floydada High School and a 2004 graduate of Wayland Baptist University. She is a second grade teacher at Edgemere Elementary in Plainview. She is the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. L.E. Shorter of Flomot, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Hurt of Matador and Mrs. Dortha Grundy of Matador.

The groom is a graduate of Lockney High School and is currently employed with Ed Marks Construction in Lockney. He is the grandson of Ana Davis of Spiro, Oklahoma.

The couple will reside in Lockney.



Christmas Dinner will be served at Roaring Springs Methodist Church

A group of individuals are planning to serve Christmas dinner at the Roaring Springs First United Methodist Church fellowship hall on Christmas Day. Turkey and Dressing with all the trimmings will be served.

The get-together is for everyone - singles, couples or small families who will have to spend the holidays alone. Those who would like to partake of the meal are asked to call Alex Crowder at 806-348-7336.

NOTE OF THANKS

I want to say a big thank you to Donald and Dennis Letkeman for being so good to come to my rescue when I came home from the hospital. I also have a big thank you for all the prayers, calls, food, cards and visits while I was in the hospital and after I came home. God Bless all.

Lula Swim

Words seem inadequate to express my appreciation to everyone for the prayers, phone calls, cards, flowers, food and other expressions of friendship during the death of Joe, my stay in the hospital when I had my stroke and while I have been recuperating. May God richly bless you for your acts of kindness.

Loys Campbell



Santa says...
"Shop at Home!"

Library Notes

By Suzanne Abbott, Librarian

We appreciate the memorials that the library has received this past week. We thank Chelsea and Truit Read for their donation in memory of Carolyn Rose. We also thank Lindy Stafford for her donations in memory of Joe Campbell, Carolyn Rose and Jack Davis. We thank Callie and R.C. Giesecke for their donation in memory of Jack Davis.

Joyce Campbell's Granny's Tea Party was a great success. We appreciate Joyce and her helpers Janie Campbell, Marisue Potts, Mary Ann Potts and Shane'a Russell for all their work. Look for some new children's books soon.

We also thank all who participated at the library during Late-Night Shopping. We had several helpers and we really needed them because of all the

people who visited the library that night. We thank June and Bill Moss, Joan Patton, Betty Henry, Deanie Edwards, Ruby McGuire and Patricia Green for their help.

Susan Jameson won the painting by Betty Henry with the frame by Dude Barton. We thank all those who participated in this fundraiser. We thank Dude and Betty for donating their time and talents to make it possible. Also, Steve Smith of Calico Treasures donated his time and talent to place the painting in the frame correctly and professionally and we appreciate his work, also.

We also have some new books at the library and they are too numerous to mention at this time. Come in and see our new books and our many, good oldies.

Look Who's New



Beverly Elise Vinson

Allison Leann Vinson, along with her parents, Dana and Crystal Vinson of Lubbock announce the arrival of Beverly Elise Vinson.

She was born December 1, 2004. She weighed 7 pounds 2 ounces and was 20 inches long.

She is the granddaughter of Roger and Doris Vinson and Mildred Cantrell and Jim Cantrell of Lubbock.

Great-grandparents are Furman and Beverly Vinson.

SHOP MOTLEY COUNTY FIRST!

REJOICE!



CHRISTMAS IS ALMOST HERE.
LAW OFFICE OF LEX HERRINGTON
Floydada

Bricks for Bob's

\$50 for one engraved line, \$100 for three lines
Names, Classes, Anniversaries, Memorials
Perfect gift for those who have everything!

Bob's Oil Well Restoration
Attn: Roy Hobbs, Box 60, Matador 79244

"Away in a Manger"

In the New Testament accounts of our Lord's entering into this world we see our heavenly Father's unique plan began to unfold. The Bible tells us that the child that was laid in a manger had a purpose. The purpose of His coming was determined before He arrived. Later we read that Jesus understood His purpose even at a young age. Which was to be about His Father's business. That business was redemption and its price.

In all of the scriptures there is never a hint of a lack of harmony in the will of the Godhead for the redemption of mankind. It would have taken only one cry from the suffering Son and the response of heaven would have been terrible indeed. But no cry came, only "not my will but thine be done." Then following that dreadful night, the Cross became history and the child of the manger achieved the eternal purpose.

For the apostle Paul tells us, "the word of the cross is to those who are perishing foolishness, but unto us who are being saved it is the power of God." Calvin Miller, in his book, "Once Upon a Tree," explains the cross as "...the tangible, historical evidence that God loves us. It does not say why God loves us, but it does answer 'How much?' It all began for us with a new born child laid in a manger.

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

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

THE NEWSPAPER:
A Family Affair

No other source of information gives your family more. News, views, entertainment, special features...there's something for everyone in the

Motley County Tribune
347-2400

Have a joyous holiday!

If we don't have something made up that fits your budget, we will do our best to make something that will!

Choose from Sterling Silver, White or Yellow Gold, Platinum, Pearls or a Custom Designed piece.

Thacker Jewelry

can help you choose the Perfect Gift that's not only special when it's opened, but everytime it's worn, and stay within your budget, too!

Shop our store in downtown Roaring Springs or 82nd & Quaker in Lubbock

Remember...Lay-away plans are available at both locations.

OPEN SATURDAY, 10-2 THROUGH CHRISTMAS!

Check our **75% off Case!**

**MOTLEY COUNTY
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
NEWS & VIEWS**

By: Mary Louise Liebe-Harkort



Consider:
There is only one fruitcake in the world. It just keeps getting sent from one person who doesn't want it to the next.
—Johnny Carson

Yes, the Christmas season is in full swing, and packages are being packed and sent to loved ones far and wide. Not all contain fruitcakes.....

And here a voice proclaims: "Christmas has become to commercial."

Indeed, the newspapers are filled with advertisements, and the airwaves shower us with gift suggestions and ideas. They tell us what the children want, what young people need, and what everyone else cannot be without.

But at home we think about our loved ones, friends and neighbors, recall their homes and their hobbies, their likes and dislikes. We think about them, concentrate on them, mull over what we might give them that would make them happy.

And that might be the key--we are thinking first and foremost about others. We make plans to do things that will please others.

But here another voice says: "Christmas is the birth of Christ; we should be thinking about Him."

Well, yes it is about His birth, but there is more to Christ than only His birth. He said some things that serve as good guid-

ance for us after 2000 years, things like "Love thy neighbor as thyself."

For 11 months of the year, we seem to focus on ourselves, keeping up with our needs and desires. But then comes one month when we focus on others.

Two beautiful pillows that grace my sofas were given to me for Christmas, and every day when I walk through my front room and see them, I think of my neighbor, who gave them to me. Would that all my gifts I give were as thoughtful and enjoyed as these have been. My calendar, a gift from a loved friend. A special necklace, a teddy bear, even my mixing bowl. Each item brings constant memories of the giver.

The jar of plum jelly in the fridge is now almost empty--a neighbor gave it to me, and it wasn't Christmas. We should all do more to show our love for our friends and neighbors throughout the year, not waiting for a special day or season.

But we should also be glad that there is a special time when His birth reminds us all to do more for others, to spend more time thinking about them, recalling them back into our lives, and then sharing time with them when we can, and sharing memories with them even over long distances.

Too commercial? Only if we make it so, if we forget why we are doing what we are doing, if we look only at the things and neglect the people.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Carla,

Preservation Texas board members met in Austin on December 10 to select the Most Endangered Historic sites of 2005. As your readers might recall, Bob's Oil Well was on the 2004 list, and its inclusion brought media attention from all over the state about the historic corner at Texas Highway 70 and U.S. Highway 70.

Because preservation Texas considers Bob's restoration project an example of what can be accomplished all over Texas, I, as a representative from the steering committee and the county historical commission, was invited to attend their meeting and provide insight from the grass roots level. Not only was I privileged to help select next year's list, I was able to share with the director and board members photographs of different stages of some 900 hours of work performed by twenty-one community-minded volunteers. These professional preservationists were very impressed with our progress.

Some of us have been at this restoration a very long time from many different angles, and still we have a vision to fulfill. It's easy to become discouraged because we are moving slower than we had hoped, but when our progress is related to outsiders, they are astounded that we have accomplished so much on so little. The reason, of course, is the generosity of our volunteers with their time, tools, and effort.

Seeing Bob's tower illuminated this Christmas season may be its own reward, but likely those you have seen working out there would appreciate recognition for their efforts. Each hour they spend working on Bob's costs them double in the revenue they could be earning on a paying job or helping out at home. Maybe your encouragement will spur them on to completion of the framing in preparation for stuccoing.

With the recent approval of the historical marker, we can now look forward to planning the layout for it and the almost 70 bricks engraved with individual names, employee's at Bob's, businesses, classes, anniversaries, memorials and even initials. Can you think of a better Christmas or birthday gift for someone who has everything?? (See the ad in this edition.)

Carla, we who live around here are surprised at the excitement this project has created among people who drive by on their way to somewhere else. Some have stopped to say that they've noted the progress, others to tell what impact Bob's Oil Well had on them, many to say how nice it will be for the town's image when painted and completed, and even a few have sent a donation.

It is but a small project in the large state of Texas, but it is one that is impressive because it has come straight from the heart. Thanks to all who have helped in any way.

Sincerely,
Marisue Potts

Texas named top state in the Nation to do business

Site Selection Magazine ranks Texas business climate best in Nation

Austin -- Site Selection Magazine, the world's foremost publication for business expansion and relocation, has named Texas the top state in the nation to do business. In its annual ranking of state business climates, Site Selection Magazine ranked Texas first, surging ahead of three-year leader North Carolina, as the top business climate in the country.

"Creating an environment for job growth, opportunity and prosperity for the people of Texas is among my chief priorities as governor, and I am proud that our state is on the leading edge of economic development," Perry said. "Economic growth is about more than paychecks. By creating jobs, we create the education, health care and transportation."

Site Selection Magazine said in creating jobs "Texas' not-so-secret weapon is the Texas Enterprise Fund (TEF), a \$295 million fund established in 2003 to help lure projects to the state." Thus far, Texas has committed \$181 million from the TEF that will create more than 14,000 new jobs and almost \$6 billion in capital investment in the Texas economy.

"But there is more to Texas' business climate than TEF

money, Corporate America has taken note of the state's recent passage of a constitution amendment mandating tort reform," said Site Selection Magazine. "By one estimate, the state's lawsuit reform measures will lead to the creation of more than 240,000 permanent jobs and add \$36 billion to the Texas economy."

The magazine also noted that Texas "is also investing heavily in education despite a recent \$10 billion budget shortfall which has been eradicated without raising taxes."

Earlier this year, Southern Business & Development magazine named Perry the top individual nationally making a difference in job creation.

The rankings are based on pro-business measures taken by the state, actual capital investment, recent business expansion activity and a survey of corporate executives who were asked to rank the top 10 states based on ease of doing business, overall business costs, and related factors (Texas was ranked #1 by corporate executives across the country).

In the past year, Texas has created more than 123,000 net new jobs for Texas families.

PROOF OF THE TRUTH

BY TOM EDWARDS

Isn't chance sufficient to explain the origin of the universe, life and evolution?

Absolutely not. Chance is only an abstract tool of mathematical probability prediction. It has no power, force or being (existence), so it is no thing (nothing). The professor's blackboard teaching of "space + time + chance = everything" is absurd (ridiculous). Nothing + nothing + nothing = nothing. Chance, being nothing, cannot cause or affect anything!

PS. This is not criticism, and besides, my handwriting in-

creasingly resembles a typical M.D.'s, but there was a very major typo in last week's list of self-evident truths, which must be corrected, but it is instructive. The Law of Noncontradiction is "A is not non-A," not "A is now non-A." The latter is how relativist and most liberals reason, e.g., "black is white," or "it's all gray," or "marriage includes two people of the same sex." They are logically incoherent, i.e. don't make good sense!

(Next week: A huge news flash).

Girl Scouts Cookie Celebration kicks off annual cookie sale

Girl Scouts from eighteen surrounding communities will gather at JC Penny's in the South Plains Mall from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m., January 7, 2005, to kick off the annual cookie program. Girl Scouts participate in activities that will teach them marketing and selling techniques; goal planning, and customer service that will assist them in their cookie sales. Girl Scouts and community members will prepare themselves to "set out on their mission,"

through the store by participating in a number of activities, games, and crafts. Samples will be available and attendees will be able to meet their favorite cookie.

The Girl Scouts are offering everyone's favorites, **Thin Mints** (mint chocolate cookie coated in chocolate), **Somoas** (caramel and toasted coconut), **All Abouts** (chocolate bottom coated shortbread), **Do-Si-Dos** (Oatmeal cookies with peanut butter filling), and **Trefoils** (shortbread). As well as our newest cookie additions, **Lemon Coolers** (reduced fat vanilla cookie with lemon chips), and the **Double Dutch** (crispy chocolate cookie).

Over 4,000 Girl Scouts of the Caprock Council, which spreads over an eighteen county area, will sell cookies from January 3rd through March 6th. All cookies are priced at \$3.00 a box with all

proceeds benefiting the local Girl Scout troops.

For 68 years, The Girl Scouts have been raising money to fund troop activities through the annual cookie sale. Girl Scouts have fun while building strong skills, values and friendships.

The cookie program is fun for everyone; girls enjoy the experience and customers anticipate the sale of the mouth-watering cookies each year. But like most things in the Girl Scout program, it benefits the girls by teaching them skill building. Girls learn money management, decision making and goal setting. For several girls, it's a first time experience with such disciplines.

If you would like to contact a participating Girl Scout troop or want more information on the Cookie Celebration please contact the Caprock Council office at 745-2855.



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Holiday eating tips to 'maintain not gain'

It's the holiday season, and however you choose to celebrate, food is probably involved. The average American will gain five pounds between Thanksgiving and the new year. For many people, losing weight is not a realistic goal during this time of seasonal high-calorie foods. However, it is realistic for people to stay at their current weight. "Maintain, don't gain" is the goal.

The basics of effective weight loss comes down to this: eat fewer calories than your body burns. The average eats far more than his or her body needs, which means that your body burns extra calories to fat. It doesn't mean that you have to turn down all the holiday foods, but it does mean that you will need a strategy to help keep you on track.

Some holiday tips for you:
***Be aware of portion sizes.** Endless buffet choices can be a nightmare for someone trying to maintain his or her weight. By carefully watching your portion sizes, you can keep yourself on track. Instead of saying "never" to a food, say "only a small bite"

and stick to that. Take a small plate, take small portions and choose only foods that you really want.

***Don't spend all your time by the food table.** Move away from the table and keep yourself occupied with conversation. If you stay close to the food, you are more likely to keep dipping into the chip bowl. Make it easy on yourself and walk away from the food table. You can always go back for seconds, but it takes an effort and you will be more aware of how much you are eating if you do this.

***Know your own particular vices in terms of tempting food.** Everyone has a weakness for one particular food item—chocolate, chips, pecan pie ... Aim for not eating them "most of the time." It's not realistic to say you're not going to eat them at all, but if you save them for a special treat, and then only take a small helping, you will help yourself reach for your goal of maintaining your weight.

***Be careful on the clean-up.** Many people snack on the left-overs when they are cleaning up a meal. However, eating

a piece of pie because "it's too small to save" doesn't mean the calories don't count. It helps to chew some sugar-free mint gum or brush your teeth because then the left-overs will be less tempting.

***Make sure you drink enough water.** Most people do not drink enough water. Additionally, it can be hard to distinguish between thirst and hunger. If you are not sure which you are, drink a glass of water. If that satisfies you, then you were thirsty. If you're still not satisfied, you might be hungry so find a piece of fruit or a healthy snack to keep you going until your next meal.

***Don't forget to move your muscles.** When you're waiting for the turkey to cook, take the family out for a walk. It will help rid children of their excess energy and help you burn calories. What a great present to give yourself and a great way to spend time with your family.

***Don't starve yourself so you can eat more.** It's common for people to not eat breakfast or lunch because they want to "save" the calories for the big

holiday meal. This is not effective most of the time because by the time you get to your big meal, you are so ravenous that you eat everything in sight far too quickly. A better strategy is to eat a healthy breakfast (oatmeal, fruit etc.), a small lunch (bowl of soup with some crackers). Then, when the big meal comes around, you can make nutritional choices that do not sabotage your goals of maintaining a healthy weight.

***Slow down your eating.** It takes approximately 20 minutes for your body to register it's full from your meal. However, by that time, many people have already had seconds. If you want to maintain (or lose) your weight, eat slowly. Chew your food and put your knife and fork between bites. Give your stomach a chance to register how full it is, and you'll be surprised at how fast you feel satisfied.

Maintaining a healthy weight is accompanied by making healthy choices every day, one choice at a time, and it is one of the best gifts that you can give yourself. It's something that will last much longer than the holiday season, and it's free.

Capitol Comments

By Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison

Christmas holidays are a time to give of ourselves

There is probably no other season which means as much to me and my family as Christmas. I look forward to sharing its festive traditions with my family and children.

While the joy of the season is infectious, we can make it more meaningful. Amidst all the celebration, I encourage you to try to make a difference for someone in need in your community. There are many charities deserving your support; here are just a few suggestions:

The Angel Tree program was established to provide gifts to children whose parents are incarcerated. The name of the child, along with relevant information to help the donor purchase an appropriate gift, is inscribed on a paper angel. Businesses, organizations, and individuals "adopt" the angels and buy gifts for the recipients. If there is not a drive underway in your area consider starting one yourself. More information is available on the Prison Fellowship's website: www.pffm.org/AM/Template.cfm.

Another popular charity is the Marine Toys for Tots Foundation. It provides happiness and hope to disadvantaged children who might otherwise be overlooked this holiday season. Donors provide unwrapped toys which the Marines deliver to needy children. These toys can give a child joy and a positive memory for years to come.

The Marine Toys for Tots Foundation is a 57-year tradition of the U.S. Marine Corps Reserves which last year delivered more than 15 million toys to over 6.5 million children. With 13 million children living in poverty, the Toys for Tots Foundation needs donations more than ever. They are also happy to take cash donations, which help the Marines buy toys in bulk at deeply discounted prices and ensure children receive toys appropriate for their age and gender. For more information on the Toys for Tots Foundation and how you might help the

their website is www.usafreedomcorps.gov, matches you with charitable organizations based upon your interests and locations.

www.toysfortots2004.com.

The colder winter weather also highlights the need for warmer clothing. Goodwill Industries is engaged in the Samantha's Coat and Clothing Drive to collect coats and other garments for needy children. For more information, or to locate a Goodwill facility in your community, you can visit the Goodwill website at www.goodwill.org.

It would not be the holiday season if I did not take time to mention the traditional kettle program of the Salvation Army. The money raised during this effort funds the year-round activities of one of the most cost-effective and respected charities in our country. So, please, make them a priority when you see one of the kettles in your community. For more information about the Salvation Army's activities, you can visit their website at: www.salvationarmyusa.org.

Though I have singled out four organizations, there are a host of other charities we can help through gifts of cash, food, toys, or time. The Junior League, local churches and many others are working to spread Christmas cheer. If you want to participate in the great American tradition of volunteering and need help finding an appropriate activity, consult the

USA Freedom Corps, which was established by President George W. Bush to encourage Americans to continue donating their time to worthy causes. Their website, www.usafreedomcorps.gov, matches you with charitable organizations based upon your interests and locations.

Sometimes the best gift we can provide is a simple helping hand, a greeting, or even a smile to a friend, neighbor or stranger. That kind gesture may seem unimportant, but we should remember that sometimes the greatest gifts only appear to be insignificant, just like that child born to poverty in a horse's stall so long ago in Bethlehem.

I want to wish all Texans, of all faiths, a joyous holiday season.

Ford Trucks to award scholarships

Childress Ford of Childress, TX is sponsoring 3 \$1,000 scholarship(s) to be awarded to local FFA members in the spring of 2005. Childress Ford has been a participating dealer in the Ford Trucks/FFA Scholarship program for the past 5 years. This Ford Trucks/FFA

scholarship is one of approximately 700 that will be awarded by local Ford dealers nationwide to FFA members in their trade area who are high school seniors or college freshmen planning to attend college during the 2005-2006 school year. In addition, Ford Trucks sponsors five

national scholarships, affording those applicants who do not fall within a participating Ford dealer trade area an opportunity to receive a scholarship.

This is the eighth year of the Ford Trucks/FFA Scholarship Program, which has awarded over \$2,000,000 to FFA members since 1997. Ford Trucks is the largest sponsor in the FFA scholarship program.

Ford Trucks scholarship program is a collaborative effort between Ford Division, Ford Motor Company Fund and local Ford dealers. Dealers contribute \$500 toward each \$1,000 scholarship and Ford Division and Motor Company Fund match an additional \$500. FFA members may apply for one of the 705 Ford Truck scholarships through a special Ford Trucks scholarship application available from Childress Ford. Students may also download the applications or view a list of participating dealers at www.ffa.org/programs/scholarships

The Ford Trucks/FFA Scholarship Program is designed to recognize the academic achievement, accomplishments and talents of FFA members throughout the U.S. Ford Trucks and its dealers sponsor these scholarships as a special

project of the National FFA Foundation.

As a special incentive for FFA chapters and members, Ford Trucks once again has chosen to award a new F150 to the FFA chapter with the three most high-scoring applications. For details on this exciting program, contact the FFA Foundation at (800) 769-3105.

For 56 years Ford has supported the FFA, and for more than 60 years, people all over America have been putting Ford Trucks to work. Ford Trucks know the value of hard work, and believe that hard work should be rewarded. That's why Ford has increased the Ford Trucks Scholarship Fund each year since its inception. Educating aspiring people to become the leaders of tomorrow is just another way of ensuring a successful future.

FFA is a national youth organization of over 475,000 student members preparing for leadership and careers in the science, business, and technology of agriculture with approximately 7,200 local chapters in all 50 states, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. FFA strives to make a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education. Visit www.ffa.org for more information.

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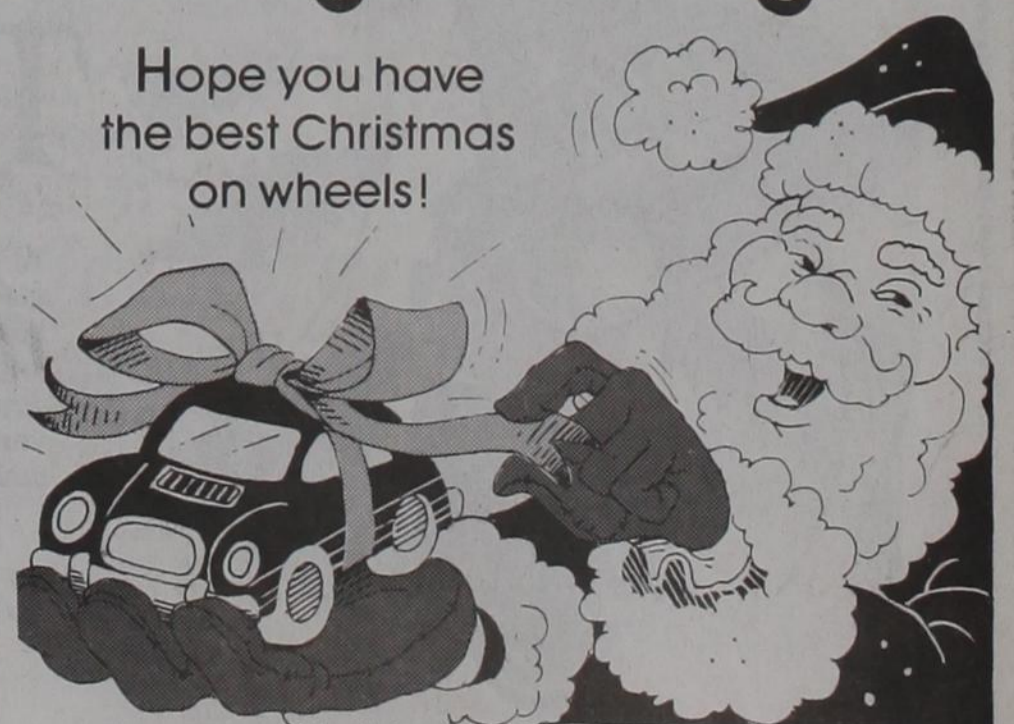


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THE MATADOR

— SCHOOL NEWS & HAPPENINGS —



Motley County 4-H members compete in food show

The Motley County Food and Nutrition project was led by Adult Leader Cathey Turner, with the help of several other leaders including Rhonda McCleskey, Kim Fletcher, D'anna Russell and Tina Brooks.

Nineteen kids signed up to participate in the project. They were taught on the subject of food safety, comparison shopping, meal planning and garnishing just to name a few. They made appetizers for a teachers' workshop and food baskets for several shut-ins in the county.

The county contest was held November 6 with 12 kids participating. Jacob Woolsey and Jaci Zingerman in Jr. Main Dish, Brett Fletcher and Jamie Jameson in the Jr. Dessert, Taylor Tomlinson in Jr. Breads and Cereal, Christian Brooks and Leanne Jameson in Fruit and Vegetable and Kyla Simpson and Alexis Osborn in Nutritious Snacks. Shane'a Russell in Intermediate Main Dish, Courtney Alexander in Intermediate Dessert, and Cory Durham in Intermediate Breads and Cereal.

Judges for the day were Lesa Browning and her daughters, Amanda and Emily of Childress County 4-H. Both Amanda and Emily have been competing in the 4-H Food Show for numerous years and both competed at the State Level. They did a great job and the local club appreciated their help in preparing Motley County members for the District Food Show.

Advancing to District were Jaci Zingerman, Jr. Main Dish; Brett Fletcher, Jr. Dessert;



4-H Food Show participants are pictured left to right, beginning at back, Courtney Alexander, Shane'a Russell and Cory Durham; (middle) Leanne Jameson, Kyla Simpson, Brett Fletcher, Christian Brooks; (front) Alexis Osborn, Jamie Jameson, Taylor Tomlinson, Jaci Zingerman and Jacob Woolsey.

Christian Brooks, Jr. Fruit and Vegetable; Taylor Tomlinson, Jr. Breads and Cereal; Kyla Simpson, Jr. Nutritious Snacks; Shane'a Russell, Intermediate Main Dish; Courtney Alexander, Intermediate Dessert; and Cory Durham, Intermediate Breads and Cereal.

The District Contest was held Saturday, Dec. 11 in the Wilbarger Memorial Auditorium. There were 195 boys and girls from 24 counties in District

3 at the Food Show. Contestants were quizzed on nutritional values, preparation methods, and costs of preparation. After each child was judged and the tallies were done, Motley County came home with five awards.

Christian Brooks, 2nd - Fruits and Vegetables; Jaci Zingerman, 2nd - Main Dish, both in the Jr. age division. In the Intermediate age division, Shane'a Russell was fifth in Main Dish; Courtney Alexander,

4th Desserts; and Cory Durham, 5th, Breads and Cereal. The kids were accompanied by Adult leaders Tina Brooks, D'anna Russell, Lori Alexander and Carrie Tomlinson.

All the kids have done a great job this year and the adult leaders are very proud of them.



Motley County Mavericks suffer loss to Patton Springs Rangers

by Annie Green

On December 6, 2004, the Motley County Mavericks competed against the Patton Springs Rangers. The Rangers came out victorious with a final score of 17-32.

Leading scorer for the game was Sam Fletcher with a total of 8 points. Also adding to the game's score were Ky Christopher with 7 points and Cory Durham with 8.

Jr. High games are every Monday night so come out and support these young athletes.

★ SPORTS



Matadors get win over Guthrie

by Annie Green

On December 7, 2004, the Motley County Varsity boys basketball team challenged Guthrie, there. With a score of 51-36, the Matadors brought home an impressive victory.

Bradley Brown was the leading scorer for the game with his astounding 26 points. Also adding to the total score were Seagram Sims - 8, Isaiah Archer-6, Chance Bingham-5, Clay Cooper-3 and Kenny Johannes rounded it out with 3 points.

The Mighty Matadors competed in the Vernon tournament, December 9. They battled Vernon Northside for their first game. The battle proved fierce when the Matadors fell short, 34-49.

Bradley Brown led in scoring with 12 points. Also contributing throughout the game were; Isaiah Archer - 6, Matt Henzler-5, Clay Cooper - 4, Chance Bingham - 2, Stacy Perryman - 2, Seagram Sims-2 and Kenny Johannes with one point.

On December 10, the Matadors faced the Knox City Greyhounds for their second game of the tournament. The Mighty Matadors won with a final score of 52-30.

Leading scorer for the game was Bradley Brown with a very impressive 24 points. Isaiah Archer followed close behind with 18 points. Other scorers for the game were as follows; Seagram Sims-4, Clay Cooper, Matt Henzler and Chance Bingham each had 2 points.

For their final game of the tournament, the Matadors took on the Vernon J.V. Lions. Ultimately, Vernon came out on top with a score of 61-47.

Leading scorer was Bradley Brown with 18 points. Also adding to the total score were; Seagram Sims - 9, Isaiah Archer-6, Clay Cooper-5, Chance Bingham-5, and Matt Henzler with 4 points.

The Matadors are showing a great deal of teamwork and persistence this year. We wish them the best of luck throughout the season!

"You, O Lord, reign forever; your throne endures from generation to generation."

Lamentations 5: 19

Life Lessons

By Annie Green



It is quite evident that Christmas is rapidly approaching. Last minute shoppers can be seen purchasing gifts and beau-

tiful lights are beginning to illuminate houses throughout the night. What a joyous time of year.

Christmas has always been my favorite time of the year. I have many memories that I will always carry with me regarding Christmas. Often the most special moments are the most simple ones. I can still recall visiting my Nana and Papa's house and exchanging presents, stories, and laughter. I remember the discussions about the Christmas Day Parade's with my Grandpa and the Christmas card he sent us every year.

I remember getting an ornament in my stocking every single year, so that one day when I have a family of my own, I will have my own ornament collection already started.

And throughout the years I have discovered that it is these moments that make Christmas so much more special. One thing I have always remembered was the moment I once heard a family member say, "Since I can remember, every Christmas I wake up and tell Jesus...Happy Birthday!"

So while Christmas may be filled with tons of laughter, delicious foods, and wonderful memories, don't forget to tell Jesus Happy Birthday....it is such a simple thing to say...but it means more than you can imagine!



Horse Club members receiving awards are pictured above left to right (front) Cameron Stafford, Brody Rankin, Cade Drum, Sage Guerrero, Chloe Gleghorn, Carley Turner; (back) Cassidy Turner, Shane'a Russell, Colton Russell, Kyla Simpson, Leanne Jameson and Jamie Jameson. Not pictured are Andrew Martin, Mickey Clary, Caleb Clary, Catherine Ward, Blayne Young, Savannah Young and Kelby Williams.

4-H Horse Club members receive awards

The Motley County Horse Club had their year-end award party Saturday night, December 11, at the Motley County Courthouse. A great spread of finger foods brought by the families was enjoyed before awards were passed out.

Those receiving the Green Hand award, which was a chore bucket and show animal brush (coming to one play-day) were as follows:

Sage Guerrero, Matador; Caleb Clary, Matador; Mickey Clary, Matador; Jamie Jameson, Matador; Andrew Martin, Matador; Catherine Ward, Matador.

Receiving Little Wrangler awards which consisted of a chore bucket, show animal brush and grooming comb (two play-days) were as follows:

Chloe Gleghorn, Matador; Leanne Jameson, Matador; Brody Rankin, Roaring Springs; Cameron Stafford, Roaring Springs; Kyla Simpson, Matador.

Receiving Top-Hand awards, which consisted of a chore bucket, show animal brush, grooming comb and halter (3 or 4 play-days) were as follows:

Carley Turner, Matador; Cassidy Turner, Matador; Blayne Young, Flomot; Savannah Young, Flomot; Kelby Williams, Flomot; Shane'a Russell, Matador; Cade Drum, Roaring Springs.

Colton Russell also received the Top-Hand award for coming to every play-day and helping the kids.

The awards were partially sponsored by Gebos. These events were held at the old Peck Thompson arena, 4 miles east of town, which is now owned by Dean and Nova Dale Turner. This location is the future site of the Motley County Youth Ag Facility.

Thanks to all the adults who came out and helped and all those who brought their kids. Appreciation was also expressed to the adults who came out and helped and all those who brought their kids. We also appreciate all the spectators who braved the hot temperatures and came out and watched. Play-days are planned to be held again this summer so look for information about dates and times to be coming your way in late spring.

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★ Congratulations Kristi on your upcoming Graduation ★

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News Around the County

Senior Notes



By Tommie Keith, Director

The Center has received memorials in memory of Joe Campbell from Butch and Judy Renfro, Lucretia Campbell, Winsome Sunday School Class and Bill and June Moss. Memorials received in memory of Carolyn Rose have been from Lucretia Campbell, Doris Moore, Kyle and Jeannie Moore, Neal and Jeanette Rosen, Floyd and Janey Hardin, Larry and Donna Hoyle and Harold and Grace Campbell. Lucretia Campbell gave a memorial in memory of Lucretia Campbell. Grace and Harold and Lucretia requested their memorials go toward the building fund. We thank all of you very much.

Carla Meador gave the Center a subscription to the Motley County Tribune. Thank you, Carla.

I know that a lot of you have donated to the Senior Center building fund and have been wondering when will the expansion of the building ever happen. We are finally there. The contract has been awarded and the contractor is scheduled to begin work on or before Jan. 3. Some work has already started. Joel Spray leveled the area which has been filled by the Highway Dept. for the building extension. His efforts are sincerely appreciated. Jim Watson was running the shovel and his efforts are sincerely appreciated also. The electrician and the air conditioning subcontractors will be doing some work in the next week which has to precede the building construction. The projected completion date for the building extension is May 5. We hope that it will be even sooner.

Roaring Springs News

By Lula Swim

HOUSE OF FAITH CHRISTMAS PARTY

Thirty-six children attended the House of Faith Christmas Party held Monday afternoon, December 6. A nice Bible was presented to each child attending. The bibles were purchased from money that the Church of Christ, the Baptist Church, the Full Gospel and the Methodist Churches donated. There were several adults there to help with the party.

WESLEYAN GUILD MEETS

The Guild held their Christmas party at the Methodist Fellowship Hall, Wednesday afternoon, December 8.

Chelsea Read read three selections from the book, "The Perfect Gift on Christmas." She also was the installing officer for newly elected officers for next year.

Mrs. Read gave the blessing for the food.

Those attending were JoElta Bumgardner, Pearl Patten, Callie Giesecke, Robena King, Billie Stuckey, Joy Beason, Lea Peacock, Lula Swim, Debbie Martin, Donalda Letkeman, Chelsea Read, and Donna Kennedy.

Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Letkeman and Lula Swim were in Plainview Tuesday where Lula saw her doctor.

They were met at Furr's by Rev. and Mrs. Donnie Howell for lunch. Donalda bought lunch in honor of Lula's birthday.

Mrs. Jane King filled the pulpit at the Roaring Springs and Matador Methodist Churches Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Ken Abbott were in Lubbock, Friday.

Mrs. Cleo Watson and Monty and Miss Sherry Harris were in Lubbock on Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Alex Crowder, Mrs. Jeanne Adams and Lula Swim enjoyed the Christmas party at the Matador Methodist Church Sunday night.

Mr. and Mrs. Alex Crowder were in Childress, Monday.

Out of town guests visiting the Buzz Thackers and enjoying the Christmas Coffee Saturday, were daughter-in-law, Anne Thacker, granddaughter Emmalea from Lubbock; granddaughters, Amy Thacker and Melanie Paul and great-granddaughter, Berkley, all from Abilene; grandson and wife, Brad and Weslyn Thacker of Amarillo; granddaughter Blair Thacker, Lubbock; and Janell Turner of Idalou; and Frances Moss of Lubbock.

Visiting Jeff and Pam Thacker for the weekend were their children, Brad and Weslyn of Amarillo and daughter, Blair, Lubbock.

Flomot News

By Earlyne Jameson

OVERHEARD

Feeling gratitude and not expressing it is like wrapping a gift and not giving it. May family and friends, laughter and love, the observance of the birth of the Christ child prevail in your home this Christmas season.

Mr. and Mrs. James Gwinn and Danielle, Mr. and Mrs. Darrell Cruse, son and wife, Mr. and Mrs. Keane Cruse of Turkey joined Mr. and Mrs. Larry Clifton of Cisco, Skyley Clifton of Midland and Mrs. Monica Smith and son, Cutter of Floydada in Abilene Saturday night for dinner. They attended the Valley vs Richland Springs six man state championship football game held at the Shotwell Stadium. It was a heartbreaking loss for the Valley team.

Mrs. Janice Hughes visited in Lubbock, Saturday with her sister, Mrs. Marsha Blake and enjoyed shopping. Marsha is recovering just fine following recent back surgery.

Visiting the weekend with Mr. and Mrs. Coy Franks and Cary Franks were Mr. and Mrs. Cory Franks, Madison and Hudson.

Mr. and Mrs. Travis Kendall, Mr. and Mrs. Tim Kendall, Jere and Jacob attended the Valley vs Richland Springs state championship football game in Abilene Saturday. En route, they visited in Clyde with Mrs. Otilie Gray.

Mrs. B. Rogers was in

Plainview, Tuesday for a medical check up on her recent hand surgery. She received a good report.

A sandwich lunch was held at the Flomot Baptist Church following the Sunday morning church services. Sunday afternoon, members delivered gift baskets of fruit, cookies and candy to residents in Flomot.

Nada and Jack Starkey were in Amarillo, Thursday for her a medical check up following eye surgery. They visited daughter, Mrs. Bessie Reid in Amarillo and son, Michael Starkey in Canyon.

Joey Lee of Clarendon visited his parents, Ruth and Orville Lee, Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Will Sperry, Blayne, Savannah and Gage attended the Valley vs Richland Springs state championship football game in Abilene, Saturday.

Cotton strippers are going "full-force" in snow white fields. A bale to two bales per acre has been reported. Farmers are pleased with the dry weather forecast.

Mrs. Tom Ross visited in Lubbock from Tuesday until Thursday with daughter and husband, Elisa and Stan Wigley. She also visited Mrs. Ruth Williams, Mrs. Elizabeth Anestad and daughter, Lori Anestad of Canada.

Matador News

Mrs. Nora Bell Dunning of Plainview, former Motley County resident, was honored on her 90th birthday Saturday afternoon at the Westbridge Manor in Plainview. Hosting the courtesies were her children, Kenneth and Virginia Dunning of Plainview and C.H. and Raynita Murphy of Conroe. Decorated cake and punch were served. Special guest was her sister,

Mrs. Minnie K. Dennis of Lubbock. Local residents attending were Mrs. Myrna Stephens, Rhonda and Mike Norrell, Taelor and Tanner, Mrs. Frances Dixon and Mrs. Dan Barton of Matador and Mrs. Ruthie Stephens, Jared and Kenesaw of Roaring Springs.

Gary Laughlin of Midland visited Mr. and Mrs. H.R. "Skeet" Jameson on Tuesday.

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COMBO NO. 9	CHIMICHANGA & 32 OZ. TALLSUP	\$2.19
COMBO NO. 10	2 BEEF & BEAN BURRITOS & 32 OZ. TALLSUP	\$2.19

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FARM & RANCH NEWS



FARM SERVICE AGENCY NEWS

By John Bird, Motley County CED

Seab Washington Retires after Eighteen Years

After eighteen years of dedicated service to the Motley County farmers and ranchers, Seab Washington retired from the FSA committee. The December 8th meeting was Mr. Washington's last serve as Vice Chairman of the COC. During his many years or service he has seen numerous changes in agriculture and in the FSA. Mr. Washington will take with him a lot of valuable experience and wisdom. The office staff and committee members would like to thank both Mr. and Mrs. Washington for all that they have done for the FSA and Motley County agriculture.

After the meeting, Bill Luckett presented Mr. Washington with a certificate of appreciation from John Fuston, the State Executive Director of the FSA. Mr. Fuston also gave Mr. Washington a personal phone

call to thank him and wish him well. Edwin Campbell, the FSA District 3 Director, drove down to thank Mr. Washington for all his service. Also, an engraved Moore-Maker knife from the employees and committee members was presented to Seab. All of this was followed by a dinner.

Committee Election Results

During the December 8th meeting ballots for the committee election were counted. The results were as follows:

Craig Turner	COC member
Darla Gwinn	First Alternate
Wilda Dixon	Second Alternate

We would like to express our appreciation for those that were willing to serve Motley County Agriculture by running for the county committee. Thank you also goes to everyone who voted.

County Agent News

By Eric Lewis
Motley County Extension Agent

Mandatory Animal Identification

Animal disease and lack of animal traceability can play mayhem with consumer confidence and market prices. This was demonstrated in 2003, with the discovery of two cases of Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE), one in Canada and one in the United States. The United States meat industry stood to lose \$5.3 billion in beef exports. Thankfully, this was averted and the market recovered.

World markets have become increasingly important to the U.S. beef industry and therefore we need to be able to insure the world that our products are in high quality and safe for their consumption. Control of a disease outbreak, such as FMD (foot and mouth) or anthrax, in its early stages is crucial if we want to safeguard our products and markets.

In order to detect and stop diseases in the early stages an animal identification system has been developed and adopted by the USDA. The development of this system was created in response to the growing concern of terrorist attacks, bio-terrorism and in an effort to save as many animals as possible if and when a disease outbreak occurs. As it stands there are two steps or procedures that are encompassed in this new identification program. The first being premise identification, and the second animal identification.

The unique numbering system will assign each producer or livestock facility a premise ID that identifies the physical location of the animal. Each premise

location will contain producer contact information. All states were required to have a plan in place by July 2004 and maintain the collected data for 20 years.

The specific animal identification plan includes steps to identify each individual animal along with group or lot identification. Individual animal ID is intended to be used on those animals that may be eventually sold individually such as cattle, goats, sheep, and pigs. This identification will more than likely be in the form of a radio frequency identification ear tag (RFID). The ear tag will be placed in the middle of the ear, is button shaped, about the size of the quarter, and three eighths of an inch thick. The location and size makes the tag less susceptible to loss.

The information gathered will be maintained in a computer data base. The information will be considered confidential, tightly controlled, and not subject to the Freedom of Information Act. All of the information contained in the data base, will be collected from producers, animal health officials, service providers, and slaughter facilities.

In the end, this program will also benefit the producer. Data gained from slaughter facilities will be readily available to the producer. Records on weaning weight, rate of gain, feedlot performance, and carcass information will all be available at the touch of the button. This information will allow each producer to do a better job when it comes time to cull cows and retain heifers and it will enable each producer to more effectively market their cattle.

COW POKES

By Ace Reid

http://www.cowpokes.com



"Jake, if your saw is such a time saver, how come I've cut 47 trees while you were tryin' to get it started?"

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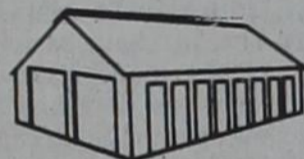
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LOCAL WEATHER FORECAST

Motley County Tribune Weather Dec. 16, 2004

7-Day Forecast

	Thursday Mostly Cloudy High: 49 Low: 29
	Friday Partly Cloudy High: 51 Low: 32
	Saturday Partly Cloudy High: 57 Low: 32
	Sunday Partly Cloudy High: 59 Low: 35
	Monday Partly Cloudy High: 60 Low: 33
	Tuesday Partly Cloudy High: 61 Low: 31
	Wednesday Partly Cloudy High: 58 Low: 32

In-Depth Forecast

Today we will see mostly cloudy skies with a high temperature of 49°. The record high temperature for today is 79° set in 1977. Friday, skies will be partly cloudy in the morning and afternoon with mostly clear skies in the evening, high temperature of 51°.

Moon Phases

First 12/18	Full 12/26	Last 1/3	New 1/10

Last Week's Local Almanac

Day	High	Low	Normals	Precip	Precipitation
Saturday	65	25	56/32	0.00"	0.42"
Sunday	67	43	56/31	0.05"	0.21"
Monday	52	40	55/31	0.37"	+0.21"
Tuesday	59	34	55/31	0.00"	49.9°
Wednesday	66	39	55/31	0.00"	43.2°
Thursday	73	36	55/30	0.00"	+6.7°
Friday	63	37	54/30	0.00"	

Data as reported from Childress, Texas

Weather History

Dec. 16, 1835 - New England experienced one of their coldest days of record. At noon on that bitterly cold Wednesday the mercury stood at four degrees below at Boston, 15 degrees below at Norfolk, Conn. and 17 degrees below at Hanover, N.H.

Sun & Moon Times

Sunrise today 7:42 a.m.
Sunset tonight 5:36 p.m.
Moonrise today 12:00 p.m.
Moonset today 11:03 p.m.

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MOTLEY COUNTY

Motley County Tribune

Carla M. Meador ~ Publisher & Editor



The Motley County Tribune, (ISSN: 0897-4322), purchased on September 3, 1996, is published weekly each Thursday, except Christmas week, at Matador, Texas. The office is located at 724 Dundee, telephone number, 806/347-2400. Periodical-class postage paid at Matador, Texas. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Motley County Tribune, P.O. Box 490, Matador, Texas 79244.

NOTICE: Any erroneous reflection upon the character, firm, or corporation, which may appear in the columns of the Motley County Tribune will gladly be corrected upon being brought to the attention of the Publisher. Only signed Letters to the Editor will be considered for publication.

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NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE
Motley County ISD will pursue a school start date waiver for the 2005-2006 school year. A public hearing will be held Monday, January 10, and Monday, February 14, in the Motley County ISD Cafeteria to discuss the issues leading to an August 15 start date proposal. Recent legislation requires a waiver for school districts wishing to start earlier than the week of August 21.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
The City of Matador, Texas proposes to institute annexation proceedings to enlarge and extend the boundary limits of said city for the purpose of the Hackberry Creek Care Center to include the following described territory, to-wit:

A 5.00 acre tract of land out of Survey 249, Abstract No. 18, and Survey 250, Abstract No. 691, Beaty, Seale, and Forwood, Original Grantee, Motley County, Texas.

BEGINNING at a 1/2" iron rod set with a cap in the north right-of-way line of Spur No. 94 which bears S. 88°58'29" E. a distance of 1585.77 feet and S. 1°08'36" W. a distance of 106.50 feet from an iron pin found at the southwest corner of said Survey 249 for the southwest corner of this tract.

THENCE N. 1°08'36" E. a distance of 546.42 feet to a 1/2" iron rod set with a cap for the northwest corner of this tract.

THENCE S. 88°51'24" E. a distance of 412.67 feet to a 1/2" iron rod set with a cap in the northwest corner of this tract.

THENCE S. 1°08'36" W. a distance of 520.57 feet to a 1/2" iron rod set with a cap in the north right of way line of FM. Highway No. 94 for the southeast corner of this tract.

THENCE N. 88°58'29" W. along said FM. 94 right of way line, a distance of 300.66 feet to a 1/2" iron rod set with a cap for the corner of this tract.

THENCE S. 1°01'31" W. continuing along said FM. 94 right of way line, a distance of 25.00 feet to a 1/2" iron rod set with a cap in said Spur 94 right of way line for a corner of this tract.

THENCE N. 88°58'29" W. along said Spur 94 right of way line, a distance of 112.06 feet to the place of **BEGINNING** and containing 5.00 acres of land.

A public hearing will be held by and before the City Council of the City of Matador, Texas on the 27th day and 30th day of December, 2004, at 5:00 p.m. in the City Council Chamber of the City Hall of the City of Matador, Texas, for all persons interested in the above proposed annexation. At said time and place all such persons shall have the right to appear and be heard. Of all said matters and things, all persons interested in the things and matters herein mentioned, will take notice.

By order of the City Council of the City of Matador, Texas this the 9th day of December, 2004.

Mayor
Paul Westbrook
Attest:
Lara B. Davey
City Secretary

BID NOTICE

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS OF PROPOSED TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (TXDOT) CONTRACTS

Sealed proposals for contracts listed below will be received by TxDOT until the date(s) shown below, and then publicly read.

CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE/BUILDING FACILITIES CONTRACT(S)

Dist/Div: Childress
Contract 0925-00-052 for STRIPING IN CHILDRESS COUNTY, etc. will be opened on January 11, 2005, at 1:00 p.m. at the State Office.

Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Pre-qualified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or Dist/Div Offices listed below. If applicable, bidders must submit pre-qualification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Pre-qualification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available from TxDOT's website at www.dot.state.tx.us and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor.

State Office
Constr./Maint. Division
200 E. Riverside Dr.
Austin, Texas 78704
Phone: 512-416-2540

Dist/Div Office(s)
Childress District
District Engineer
7599 U.S. 287
Childress, Texas 79201-9705
Phone: 940-937-2571

Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the rates will be part of the contract. TxDOT ensures that bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin.

FOR SALE

FOR SALE: Sofa and Love Seat (Floral). Needs cleaning but in good condition. 348-7516.

HAY FOR SALE: Good round bales of wheat hay, \$35.00 each. Dumont, Texas. 806-596-4641.

Services

WANTED: Swathing and Baling and Hauling. Round or Square Bales. Quality work. Will do at competitive rates or on shares. Good market for wheat hay now. Call Crawford W. Wesley, 806-668-4448 or 995-5053; or David Wesley, 995-3687 or 296-3255.

DOG GROOMING: Lisa Fuston, 806-423-1024, 364 County Rd. 3, Turkey, TX.

4tr-53

REAL ESTATE

BUILDING FOR SALE, 2500 sq. ft. Central Heat & Air, New Roof, next to Library in Matador. \$15,500.00 Call 806-348-7948.

OWNERS - WE NEED YOUR LISTINGS on ranches and farms of any size in Texas, Oklahoma and New Mexico (especially ranches off the caprock in Texas or Oklahoma and large or small ranches in New Mexico). Please call us to set up a time to visit about or see your property.

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FOR SALE: House in Afton near Patton Springs School. 2/3 bdrm., 1 1/2 bath, large Pantry and Utility, approximately 3,000 sq. ft., attached garage on 4 acres with out building. Call (806) 294-5285.

GERALD/PENNY PIPKIN RESIDENCE, 1610 Main St., Matador. 1 1/2 story, 4 br., 3 1/2 bath, basement, central AC, fireplace, hardwood floors, ceiling fans, detached 1 car garage, new exterior paint, close to school. 1-806-269-1342.

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Stuart Dixon
Methodist Parsonage
Mary Jones
Kyle Moore
Miriam Bell
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Mary Ann Guerrero

Roaring Springs:
Mitzi Christopher
Robert Cooper
Ray Zabielski
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Ruthie & James Stephens
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John Cornett, Afton
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State Rep. Rick Hardcastle
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Contact selected households to conduct a computer-assisted AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY in the Roaring Springs - Matador area. Selected person will work approximately 40 to 60 hours each Month during the survey period.

TO QUALIFY YOU MUST:

- Be available to work days, evenings and weekends during the survey period.
- Be a U.S. citizen
- Be at least 18 years old, or 16 years old with a high school diploma or GED.
- Pass a 30-minute written test
- Have a valid driver's license and the full-time use of an automobile.
- Have a non-cordless private line home telephone.
- Be able to attend a paid 4 to 5 day training session.
- Be a resident of Motley County.

Bring two forms of identification to the test session to verify employment eligibility. Please allow 3 hours for the testing session. Veterans must bring documentation for preference. Seating is limited - no one will be admitted once testing begins. If you have special needs due to a handicap, please call the Bureau of the Census at least 24 hours in advance of the testing at 1-800-835-9752, extension 34406. If you qualify and are interested in being tested and interviewed you must register in advance, as soon as possible, but no later than December 20, 2004, to be given a test date, time and location with the Bureau of the Census at 1-800-835-9752, extension 34406.

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Merry Christmas!

Christmas projects for kids

There is no need to run out and buy Christmas decorations this year! Cynthia MacGregor, author of "Mommy's Little Helper Christmas Crafts" (Meadowbrook Press), offers some fun and inexpensive ways to spend time with your children and decorate your home. MacGregor suggests two quick and easy projects you can do with your child that will transform regular pine cones into dazzling holiday decorations.

The materials you will need are pine cones, paint, glue, a small jar lid, aluminum foil, and glitter.

The first project only takes thirty minutes. Start by having your child lay newspaper over the work space. Spray-paint two pine cones silver, two gold, and leave two unpainted. After the paint has dried, your child can do the rest of the work with your supervision. Have your child put glue on the silver pine cones, and then sprinkle gold glitter over them. In the same manner, sprinkle silver glitter over the gold ones.

Next, have your child apply glue to the unpainted pine cones. Sprinkle the gold and silver glitter that has fallen on the newspaper over the two cones.

When all the pine cones have dried, shake off the excess glitter. Now you can use your glittery cones to decorate your house. Place them in a wreath, on top of a mantle, or in a wicker basket with a red ribbon.

The second project is a miniature Christmas tree. You will need one pine cone and a jar lid that is slightly bigger than the base of a pine cone.

Start by covering the lid with aluminum foil. Your child can

put glue on the foil-covered lid, and place the base of the pine cone onto the glue. When it has dried, let your child decorate the miniature Christmas tree with glitter, tinsel, or sequins.



First Visit with Santa ...

Journey Salazar didn't mind sitting in Santa's lap for her first visit with the jolly old man during Matador's Late Night Shopping event, December 2. Journey is the daughter of Alex and Crystal Salazar of Roaring Springs.



Birthday Invitation

You are cordially invited to a BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

Guest of Honor: Jesus Christ

DATE: Every Day. Traditionally December 25th, but He's always around, so the date is flexible.

TIME: Whenever you're ready. (Please don't be too late, though; or you'll miss out on all the fun).

PLACE: In your heart ... He'll meet you there (you'll hear Him knock).

ATTIRE: Come as you are ... grubbies are okay. He'll be washing our clothes anyway. He said something about new white robes and crowns for everyone who stays till the last ...

TICKETS: Admission is free. He's already paid for everyone. (He says we would not have been able to afford it ... it's cost Him everything He had!)

REFRESHMENTS: New wine, bread and a far-out drink He calls "living water," followed by a dinner that promises to be out of this world!

GIFT SELECTIONS: Your heart. He's one of those people who already has everything else. (He's very generous in return though, just wait until you see what He has for you.)

ENTERTAINMENT: Joy, Peace, Truth, Light, Life, Love, Real Happiness, Communion with God, Forgiveness, Miracles, Healing, Power, Eternity in Paradise, and much more! (All-rated "G" so bring your family and friends).

R.S.V.P. Very important! He must know ahead so He can reserve a spot for you at the table. Also, He's keeping a list of His friends for future reference. (He calls it the "Lamb's Book of Life"). Let us rejoice and be glad and give Him glory. For the wedding of the Lamb has come, and his bride has made herself ready. Fine linen bright and clean, was given her to wear." (Fine linen stands for the righteous acts of the saints).

Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding supper of the Lamb! ... Revelation 19: 7-9

Greetings of the Season!

With warm appreciation of our association during the past year, we extend our very best wishes for a Happy Holiday Season!



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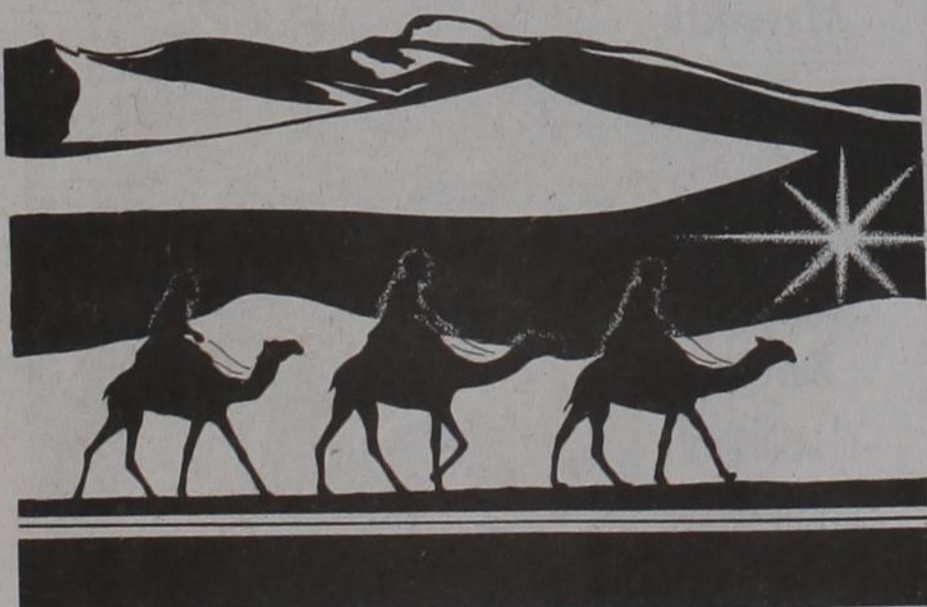
Matador 347-2702



Away In A Manger

Rejoice! God's most precious blessing to us all.

Love to - Alan, Susie, Brett, Hillary, Austin, Hunter, & Stephanie Nana-Jo & PaPa



MAY UNIVERSAL JOY BE YOURS THIS CHRISTMAS

Love to - Cecil, DeNisa, Janice, Amber, Brandon, & Cullie Nana-Jo & PaPa

BLESSINGS TO ALL



May your Christmas be filled with good will, abundance, and the tranquility of faith. Happy Holidays to all!

Billie Beth Moore

Merry Christmas



May the heavenly bells of Christmas chime out with good cheer & warm greetings

The Groves Family

Rita, Pat & Kathy, James Truman, Kelly & Matt Rollefson, & Cortney



Cooking for Christmas

SPINACH BALLS

- 10 oz pkg. frozen chopped spinach - cooked and drained
- 1 cup herb dressing
- 2 Tablespoons flour
- 1 small onion chopped finely
- 3 eggs, beaten
- 1/4 cup melted butter
- 1 teaspoon minced garlic
- 1 teaspoon thyme
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 to 1 teaspoon cayenne pepper

Mix all ingredients together. Form into balls (approx. 1 heaping teaspoon). Place on ungreased cookie sheet and freeze. Thaw 1 hour before cooking. Cook at 350 degrees for 15-20 minutes. (check at 15 minutes to make sure bottoms are not burning).

FESTIVE EGG SQUARES

(Great New Year's eve breakfast)

- 1 pound bulk pork sausage, cooked and drained
- 4 ounces mushrooms, sliced
- 1/2 cup sliced green onions
- 2 medium tomatoes, chopped
- 2 cups shredded Mozzarella cheese

- 1-1/4 cups buttermilk baking mix (like Bisquick)
- 12 eggs
- 1 cup milk
- 1-1/2 teaspoons salt
- 1/2 teaspoon pepper
- 1/2 teaspoon oregano

Layer the sausage, mushrooms, green onions, tomatoes, and cheese in a greased 13x9x2-inch baking dish. Beat together the remaining ingredients; Pour over sausage mixture. Cook uncovered in a 350 degree oven until golden brown and set, about 30 minutes. Cut into 12 3-inch squares. Serves 12.

Hint: Recipe can easily be halved.

SAUSAGE EGG BRUNCH

(A one dish meal that can be mixed up the night before)

- Makes 4-6 servings
- 2 cups unseasoned croutons
- 1 lb. sausage meat, cooked and drained
- 1 cup sharp cheese, grated
- 6 eggs
- 2 cups milk
- 1 Tbsp. dry mustard

1. Layer croutons, sausage and cheese in a greased 9" by 13" dish.
2. Beat eggs well. Add milk and mustard and mix well. Pour over sausage. Cover and refrigerate overnight.
3. Bake at 375 degrees for 45 minutes. Let stand 10 minutes before serving.

Variations:

Bacon, chipped ham or chipped dried beef may be used instead of sausage. When using bacon, fry and drain.

Mini-Chocolate Chip Cheesecakes

- Bowl 1:
1. 1.2 lb of cream cheese
 2. 1 egg
 3. 1/3 cup of sugar
 4. Mix
 5. Add 1 and 1/4 cups of mini choc. chips.

- Bowl 2:
1. 1 and 1/2 cup of flour
 2. 1 cup of sugar
 3. 1/4 cup of cocoa
 4. 1 tsp. vanilla
 5. 1 tsp. baking soda
 6. 1 cup of water
 7. 1/3 cup of oil
 8. Mix

Directions:

1. Put chocolate mixture into mini-muffin cups.
2. Add 1 tsp. of cream cheese mixture per mini muffin cup
3. Fill each cup 2/3 full
4. Bake at 350' for about 20 minutes
5. makes about 4 dozen.



Potato Filling

Directions:

1. About 3lbs whole potatoes, peeled, boiled, and mashed with milk
2. Melt one stick margarine in frying pan
3. Sauté — 2 stalks celery (chopped) and one small onion (chopped) until soft and onion is golden. Do Not Brown
4. Add 3 slices of firm bread cut into cubes — mix in well (add more margarine if needed)
5. continue sauteing until bread is golden
6. Beat 2 large eggs into mashed potatoes
7. Mix in onions, celery, bread — blend well.
8. Place in casserole dish — dot with margarine and bake in 350' oven until top is puffy and golden (about 1/2 hour if mixture is warm when goes into oven, about 1 hour if taken from fridge).

Hard Sauce

Ingredients:

- 1 stick of butter, softened
- 1 egg
- 2 boxes of powdered (confectionery) sugar

Directions: Mix butter and egg. Add sugar slowly, mixing as you add. As it gets thicker, add a little sherry at a time until it is desired consistency (generally like icing for a cake). Refrigerate

Apple Pie

Ingredients:

- A. Graham cracker crust (you can make your own or use a pre-made one)
- 1 large egg white (slightly beaten)

- B. 5 Cups fresh peeled apples
- 1/2 cup powdered sugar
- 1/4 cup brown sugar
- 3 Tablespoons whole wheat flour
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon (we generally add a bit more)

- C. 3/4 cups whole wheat flour
- 1/4 cup powdered sugar
- 1/4 cup brown sugar
- 1 stick melted butter (a bit over 1/3 cup)

Directions:

1. Brush egg white on crust, bake until light brown — about 6 minutes (if store bought)
2. Combine B — mix well, spoon into crust
3. Mix C — put on as the top of the pie in thin sheets
4. Bake at 375 for about 50 minutes
5. Cool for about 4 hours.

CHERRY DELIGHT

- 2 Sticks margarine or butter
- 2 cups flour
- 2 Tablespoons sugar
- 2 teaspoons baking powder

Mix above together and press on a cookie sheet (9 by 13-in). Bake at 375 degrees for 10 minutes.

- 8 oz. cream cheese, softened
- 2 cups 10x sugar
- 1 package of prepared Dream Whip, or Cool Whip

Combine above ingredients and set aside. Spread on cooled baked crust. Top with 2 cans of pie filling.

Mix the 2 cans of pie filling together beforehand to avoid having two shades of filling on top. You may use any type of fruit filling you wish.

Cranberry Bread Recipe

Sift: 2 cups flour (sifted), 1 cup sugar, 1 and 1/2 tsp baking powder, 1 tsp salt, and 1/2 tsp baking soda.

Cut in 1/4 cup butter (I use Promise Extra Light margarine sticks-it makes the bread really moist) until mixture is crumbly.

Add 1 beaten egg, 1 tsp grated orange peel (Use a grater and grate an entire orange for every two loaves.), and 3/4 cup orange juice. (If you can get your Elves to do the grating, it will help) mix until mixture is evenly moist.

Fold in as many light raisins as you think looks good (the recipe calls for 1 and 1/2 cups) and about a half bag of chopped cranberries per loaf. Spoon into a greased 9 x 5 x 3 loaf pan bake at 350' for 1 hour and 10 mins. or until toothpick in center comes out clean.

Cool out of pan on a wire rack. Keep stored in aluminum foil, unless you eat it all before it cools.

If it doesn't come out well the first time, that is OK, it took Mrs. Claus 3 or 4 attempts before she learned to make it consistently excellent

Spiced Tea

Ingredients:

- 36 tsps loose tea
- 1 T orange peel
- 1/2 T lemon peel
- 1/2 tsp. nutmeg
- 1/2 tsp cloves
- 1 tsp. cinnamon

Mix together and store in a tightly closed container.

American Indian Cold Christmas Cake Recipe

- 1 lb. pecans or walnuts, chopped
- 1 lb. shredded moist coconut
- 1 lb. raisins
- 1 lb. vanilla wafers
- 1 regular can sweetened condensed milk

Combine dry ingredients well. Pour in sweetened condensed milk and work through with hands so that dry ingredients are thoroughly saturated. Press into spring foam pan. Refrigerate for 2 days. My Cherokee ancestors used hazelnuts, dates and thick goats milk, then wrapped the cake in watertight leaves bound with vine and placed in cold running stream for several days. This is delicious and easy.

Mint Bars

Directions:

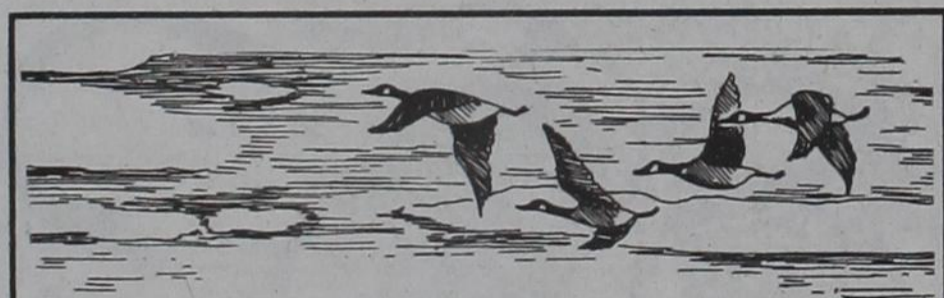
1. Mix 1/2 cup margarine, 4 eggs, 1 cup sugar, 1 cup flour, and 16 oz Hershey's syrup
2. grease a 9 x 13" jelly roll pan
3. Bake at 350' for 25-30 minutes
4. Cool
5. Melt 1 and 1/2 sticks of margarine and mix with 3 cups powdered sugar and 1 teas. mint extract.
6. Spread on first layer
7. Cool
8. Melt 1 and 1/2 cup semi-sweet chocolate chips, 3 squares of bakers chocolate, and 1 stick margarine.
9. Mix
10. Spread on top

Buckeyes

1. 1 and 1/2 cups graham cracker crumbs
2. 2 sticks of butter or margarine (1/2 lb) softened
3. 1 lb of confectioners sugar
4. 1 small can or 1/2 bag of Angel Flake coconut
5. 1 and 1/2 cups peanut butter
6. 2 tsp. vanilla

Directions:

1. Mix all ingredients thoroughly and chill several hours.
2. Roll into small balls and dip into: 1 x 12 oz package of semi-sweet choc. chips, melted w/ 1 small cake paraffin wax over a double boiler.
3. Drop onto wax paper and cool
4. Store in cool place



Season's Greetings

Thank you for putting your trust in us.



Panhandle Plains Federal Land Bank

Plainview, Texas

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

Matador Post Office
Merry Christmas, Friends
Sara Chapman Postmaster

Here's hoping this holy season will bring blessings to you and your loved ones, and peace to everyone!

We will be closed Christmas Eve & Day

Rejoice
MAIN STREET CAFE

"I Will Give Thee A Crown Of Life."
Revelation 2:10

As we contemplate the glory of this holiday season, we extend our best wishes for a blessing-filled celebration for you and yours.

Thank you for all your Prayers!

Yancy, Daphne & Parker Meredith

Holiday Roundup

Have an 'ol fashioned Christmas and a grand 'ol time!

God Bless You!
Harold & Grace Campbell

Child of Promise
A Prayer for Christmas Morning

by Dr. Ralph F. Wilson

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

Seven centuries before your birth the ancient scriptures speak of you....

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

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

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

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

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

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

Little wonder angels cannot contain their Good News of Great Joy. Little wonder heavenly host sing in chorus,
Glory to God in the highest
and on earth peace to men....**

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

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

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

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

*Isaiah 9: 6-7a

**Luke 2:14



This beautiful Nativity scene is displayed in the window of Main Street Cafe in Matador.

Why Christmas Trees are not perfect



by Dick Schneider

They say that if you creep into an evergreen forest late at night you can hear the trees talking. In the whisper of the wind you'll catch the older pines explaining to the younger ones why they'll never be perfectly shaped.

There will always be a bent branch here, a gap there....

Long, long ago evergreens were perfect, with each taking pride in branches sloping evenly from crown to symmetrical skirt.

This was particularly true in a small kingdom deep in Europe beyond the Carpathian mountains.

On the first Saturday of Advent the Queen's woodsmen would search the royal evergreen forest for the most perfect tree. It would then reign in honor in a great castle hall, shimmering with silver balls and gold angels that sparkled in the light of thousands of candles. While a huge Yule log chuckled and crackled, the royal family and villagers together would dance and sing around the tree in celebration.

Out in the hushed forest every evergreen vied for this honor, each endeavoring to grow its branches and needles to perfection. All strained at the task, fully concentrating on their form and appearance.

One cold night when a bright white moon glittered on the crusty snow as if it were strewn with mil-

lions of diamonds, a small rabbit limped into a grove of evergreens its sides heaving in panic. Beyond the hill rose the yelping of village dogs in the thrill of the hunt.

The rabbit, eyes wide with fright, frantically searched for cover but found nothing among the dark trunks extending upward into branches that were artfully lifted from the snow.

Faster and faster the cottontail circled as the excited yelping sounded louder and louder. The trees looked askance at this interruption of their evening (when growing was at its best).

And then a small pine shuddered. Of all the young trees, it had the promise of being the finest of the forest. Everything about it from its deep sea-green color to the curl of its branches was perfect.

But now...its lower branches began to dip, down, down to the ground. And in that instant before the slaving dogs broke into the clearing, the rabbit found safety within the evergreen screen. In the morning the bunny found its burrow. But the little pine could not quite lift its branches. But no matter, perhaps a little irregularity in a tree so beautiful would not be noticed.

Then a powerful blizzard lashed the land. The villagers slammed shutters closed while the birds and animals huddled in nests and dens. A small wren, flown astray, desper-

ately sought sanctuary in the evergreens. But each she approached clenched its branches tight like a fist.

Finally, in exhaustion, she fell into the little pine. The pine's heart opened and so did its branches, and the wren slept within them, warm and secure. But the pine had difficulty rearranging its branches. There would be a gap evermore.

Weeks passed and winter deepened, bringing a gale such as never before experienced in the mountains.

It caught a small fawn who had wandered from its mother. Head down, blinded by snow, it inched into the evergreen seeking a windbreak. But the trees held their branches open so the wind could whistle through them without dangerously bending or breaking their limbs.

Again the little pine took pity and now tightly closed its branches, forming an impenetrable wall behind which the fawn huddled out of the gale. But alas, when the wind ceased, the small pine had been severely and permanently bent out of shape.

A tear of pine gum oozed from a branch tip. Now it could never hope for the honor it had longed for since a seedling.

Lost in despair, the little pine did not see the good Queen come into the forest. She had come to choose the finest tree herself.

As her royal sleigh slowly passed through the forest her practiced eye

scanned the evergreens now preening themselves. When she saw the little pine, a flush of anger filled her. What right had a tree with such defects to be in the royal forest? Reminding herself to have a woodsman dispose of it, she drove on, but then

stopped and glanced back at it. As she gazed on it, she noticed the tracks of small animals that had found shelter under it and a downy feather within its branches where a bird had nested. And as she studied the gaping hole in its side and its wind-whipped trunk, understanding filled her heart.

"This one, she said. Her attendants gasped. And to the astonishment of the forest, the little pine was born to the great hall. And everyone who danced and sang around it said it was the finest Christmas yet. For in looking at its gnarled and worn branches many saw the protecting arm of their father, others the comforting bosom of a mother, and some, as did the Queen, saw the love of Christ expressed on earth.

So if you walk among evergreens today, you will find, along with rabbits, birds and other happy living things, drooped branches providing cover, gaps offering nesting places, forms bent from wrestling winter winds.

For as have many of us, the trees have learned that the scars suffered for the sake of others make one most beautiful in the eyes of God.

Peace & Brotherhood
347-2116 Turner Outfitters 983-0262

Merry Christmas!

Best Wishes for a Healthy, Happy Holiday

The Staff at Motley County Clinic
Matador • 806-347-2641

NOEL!

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

PAYNE PHARMACY
Floydada

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 Memories

As we experience the warmth and wonder of this festive season, may all that is Christmas embrace you and yours.

First Ag Credit, FCS

Here's hoping your holiday is trimmed with love, joy and other good things!

Billie Dean's Restaurant

Santa's Coming!

And along with a sleigh full of goodies, he's bringing you our warmest holiday wishes and thanks for your support.

Matador Variety

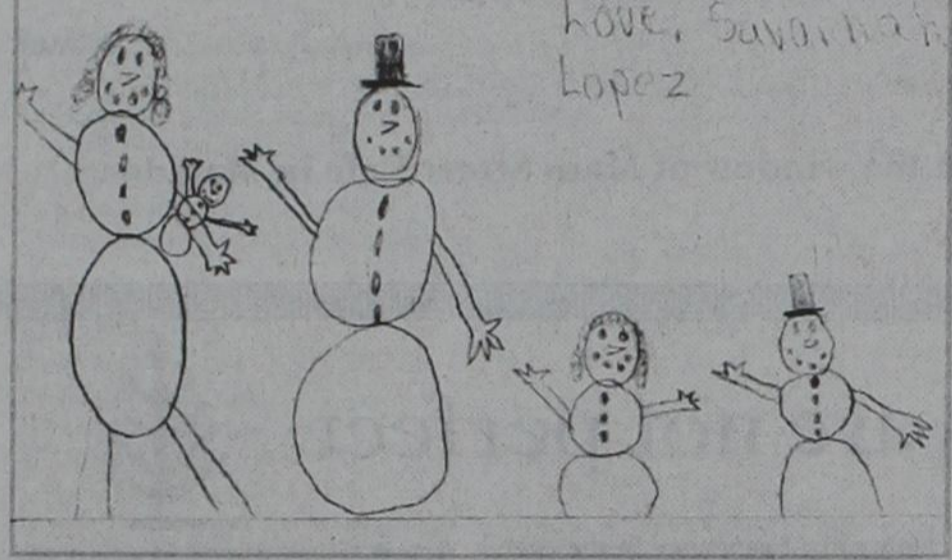
Dear Santa ...



I'm not afraid of this guy ...
Jace Martin looks rather amused with Santa and certainly not afraid of the fat old elf. Jace is the grandson of Clay and Christine Martin of Matador.

Dear, Santa & Mrs. Clause
I have been a good girl. I have a list of what I want for Christmas. I want a barbie doll, Barbie house, baby doll, baby cat that is real, molly barbie, Barbie baby, Barbie doggy, Barbie jeep, a plant, another Barbie jeep, Barbie car, Barbie daddy, Barbie mommy, Barbie baby sister, Barbie for my mother to be, a girl, another brother and sister, and baby dog.

I Love You
Love, Savannah Lopez



Dear Santa,
I wonder what you are making. I have been good all year. I want a bull rigen for Christmas.

Love,
Tristan

Dear Santa,
What's been happening at the North Pole? I've been asking about an Xbox. Are you and the elves macking it? I will leave a lot of cookies for you and some milk.

Love,
Tanner

Dear Santa,
Who is at the North Pole? I want a xbox and a game for the xbox. And a charging race track and Video now and a t.v.

Love,
Logan

Dear Santa,
I wonder what is happening at the North Pole? This is what I want: a strawberry short cake toy and a rudolph toy and a lap top and a rocking horse. I will leave cookies and milk out for you.

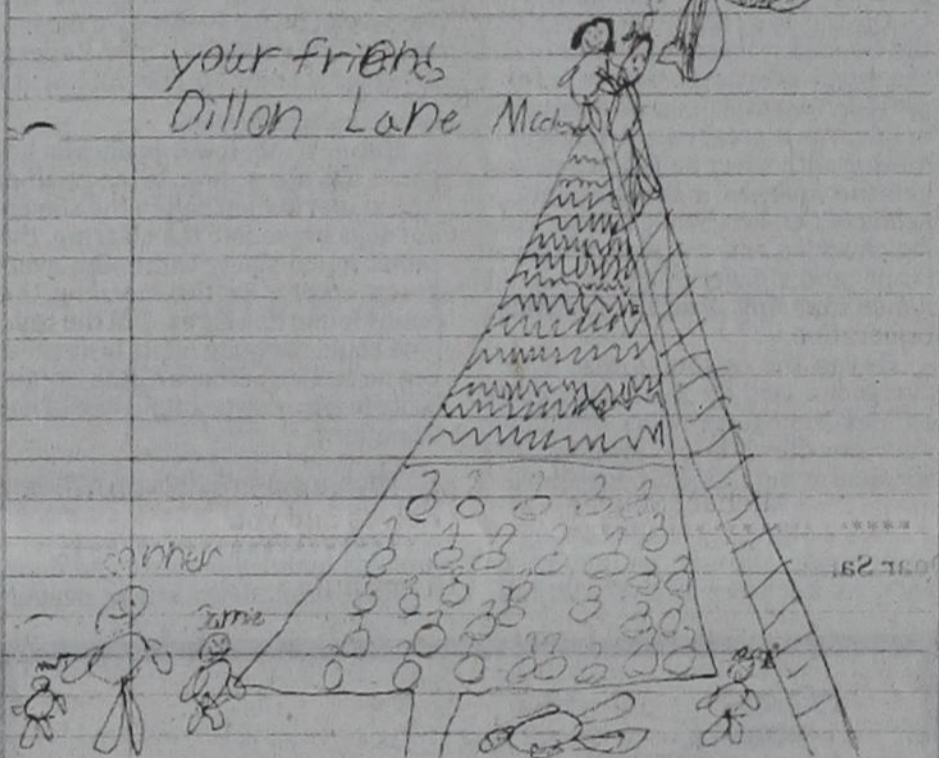
Love,
Shelby



Looking for Santa
Tanner Bearden appeared to be looking for Santa when this picture was snapped during Roaring Springs' Late Night Shopping, November 26.

Dear Santa,
This year for Christmas I want a Drumb set, guitar, dirtbike, pool table, phone, basketball and a 22 gun. That's all I want this year.

your friend
Dillon Lane Math



Dear Santa,
I want a motorcycle and a four wheeler.

Love, Trey

Dear Santa,
I want a bike.

Love, Jojo

Dear Santa,
I want a bike.

Love, Adrian

Dear Santa,
I want a BB gun.

Love, Sage

Dear Santa,
I want a motorcycle.

Love, Michael

Dear Santa,
I want a remote control aircraft carrier.

Love, Grant

Dear Santa,
I want a puppy.

Love, Ruby

Dear Santa,
I want some CD's and a TV snowboard.

Love, Tristan

Dear Santa,
I want a go-cart and a rocket.

Love, Chris

Dear Santa,
I want some cards.

Love, Thalia

Dear Santa,
I want a Barbie Boat.

Love, Chloe

Dear Santa,
Thank you for last years presents. Could you bring some presents for my Papa? I would like a Texas uniform, A x box with a football game, a basketball game, a dirt bike game, and anything else.

Love, Seth Baxter

PS. I will leave cookies and milk.

Dear Santa,
I wonder what's happening in the North Pole. I've been very good. I'll leave you milk and cookies. I want a video game.

Love,
Caleb

Dear Santa,
I wonder what you are doing? Santa, I want a Spiderman (the video game). I will leave milk and cookies.

From,
Michael

Dear Santa,
How are you this year? I have been a good girl, for a day. I want a puppy and a baby doll and a play car!

Thank You,
Ruby Klebahn

Dear Santa,
I want a baby doll that makes noise. And a toy for Pepper my cat.

Thank You,
Mercy Klebahn

Dear Santa,
How are you doing at the North Pole. I want a race car and a race car track.

From,
Allen

Dear Santa,
How are you doing? I want a bell from your sleigh. We are going to leave you milk and cookies. Don't forget my house.

Love,
Victoria

Dear Santa,
I wonder what are you doing? Can I have a Football helmet? Can I have a 4 wheeler? Can I have an Xbox?

Love,
Luis

"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
Downtown Matador

Hope Your Season Is Indescribably Great!

Seigler Funeral Home
Matador & Paducah

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

SEASON'S GREETINGS

Share the glory of this very special season!

Dr. Pat & Mary Lou Williams

Jesus is the Reason for the Season

Peace and Blessings to all!

Anna's Mexican Restaurant
Frank & Anna Ortiz

I have been very good



We're good kids, Santa ...
These two youngsters enjoyed visiting with Santa Claus when he was in Matador during Late Night Shopping.

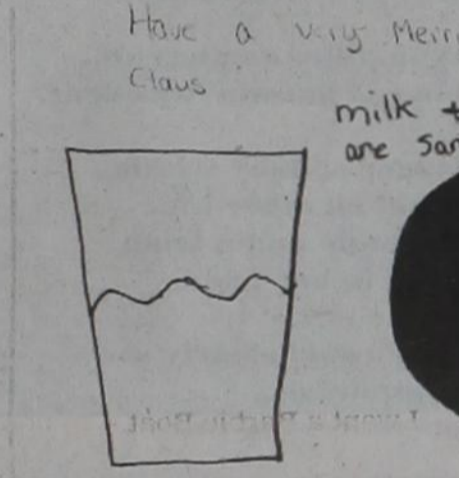
Dear Santa,
I have been a good girl this year and here is a list of what I want for Christmas, I would like a pink sweater and a new barbie doll. I would like a red bike and a new coat. I would like a Hello Kitty, Dora, and Barbie games to share with Chloe. I would like a puzzle also.
from,
Dode Gleghorn

Dear Santa,
I have been a good girl. I want a barbie, barbie bed and a barbie computer. I also want some more markers and a real baby kitten.
Your good girl,
Samantha Quilimaco

Dear Santa,
I want a BeBe gun and a drum set. Most of all I want a Xbox and a cell phone.
Your Friend,
Matthew Mount

Dear Santa,
I have been a good girl this year and here is a list of what I want for Christmas, I would like a pink sweater and a new barbie doll. I would like a red bike and a new coat. I would like a Hello Kitty, Dora, and Barbie games to share with Chloe. I would like a puzzle also.
Love,
Dode Gleghorn

TO: SANTA CLAUS
FROM: Dode Gleghorn



Dear Santa,
I have been a good little girl. This is what I want for Christmas. A crawling baby, a teddy bear and a pig. The mommy, baby and sister pig. A big baby doll that cries and a barbie doll, a barbie car and barbie hair. Stuff, new clothes, baby toy food and big people toy food and a cook oven, baby bottles and baby clothes, toy school stuff, grocery cart and fake grocery's, a baby jacket, toy ponys, new crayons and pencils for school and candy in my stocking, toy pets and toy t.v. and a washcloth and baby toy shoes and a ball that is bouncy. Santa I hope I get these things.
Love,
Chealsey Gee

PS. a new pink bike
Dear Santa,
Wil you are waring I was riting this stuf and I want ocing.
Love,
Joshua

Dear Santa,
I want a x box and a puppy and frefe Fiday. Chress box and water botll and a pinsl shrpnr.
frum,
Natalie Jameson

Dear Santa,
I want a momu horeses and a bay hores.
frum,
Macie Marshall

Dear Santa,
Santa will yu bring a horse and a pig to me please. Santa I left some cookies out for you. Will you bring a ringing bell from one of your rainedear.
frum,
Mattie Brooks

Dear Santa,
How are you? How are your eradier? I want a now boaer jeep.
From,
Katrina Lopez

Dear Santa,
I want some markers for Christmas. I also want a shotgun. I would also like a four wheeler. If I get these presents I will be the happiest man on Earth. Merry Christmas to all!
From,
Eli Marshall

Dear Santa,
I want a choo choo train would be nice.
Dear Santa,
Can I get a barbie computer if I beee good and a hermit crab for a pet.
frum,
Thalia Quilimaco

Dear Santa,
I want some andl and a humen hd and a t.v.
frum,
Marcus Ortiz

Dear Santa,
I want a pupp and a pisol and a bisikl and a fubob gam.
Mickey Clary

Dear Santa,
Haer aer you dooing. Aer you dooing . I hope you dooing a creme gam and plastashin two and pinsl share inler.
Thank You,
Michael Seigler

Dear Santa,
How are you dooing. Will you ples give me a Koovet. Santa I left some cookies for you. Santa I like your ran dil. Santa I lik you.
From,
Bryant Taylor

Dr. Santa,
I wunt a lot of YuGine cards, and a Xbox, pool, a bo and aro, and a new bebe gun and some bebes.
Your friend,
Jamie Jameson

Dear Santa,
I wonder what is happening at the North Pole. I hope you put me on the good list. Are your elves making me a video now for Christmas?
From,
Catherine

Dear Santa,
I have been really good. I want a motorcycle, dog, a robot, horse and a Power Ranger game and a Spiderman game.
From your buddy,
Logan Salazar

Dear Santa,
I am starting to be a good boy. I want one of thows little moter cycle. Some clothes, a play staytion 2, and a computer.
Your Friend,
James Horton

Please send a letter back.
Dear Santa and Mrs. Clause,
I want a Xbox with all games. A bow narrow, bike and Nintindo with Mario and Sims in the City and Spider man 2 game. Some drum sticks and drum set to. So Santa tell your elves what I want pretty please. I love Jesus so don't worry. I've been good all year. See ya'll in the North Pole.
To: Santa Claus
From: Conner Mason

Dear Santa,
I've been a very good girl. I really want a hole bunch of family bears. Like mom, a dad, a brother, a sister, and baby bear. May I also have a hello pony. A new baby doll would be nice to have. I would also like three care bears. I want a mom, dad, and baby care bears. A stuff pig to. Oh, I want a play jeep.
Thanks,
Tristan Perryman

Dear Santa,
I love you. I want a ese backr uvin and I want a hors and a gamble and a se de player.
From,
Kaylee Woolsey

Dear Santa,
My name is Matthew. I wut a pig. My femulae luv's you. All ov yr elves and you.
Dear Santa,
Cum tu tan. I will give you xetbox.
Joey

Dear Santa,
I been a good girl this year. I allways wanted a big barbie doll. You could give me a large barbie doll and Xbox and all games. And fancy clothes and shoes like the princess elf.
Love,
Your friend,
Virginia Gutierrez

Dear Santa,
I wonder what you are doing. Can I have soft clothes and a laptop and some games and can I have a rolling chair? Don't forget to come to my house.
Love,
Megan

Dear Santa,
PS. I would also like a Red Bike, I love you! Merry Christmas to all, to all a good night!
Dear Santa,
How is Rudolph and Blixen? I want a leapster and Viseo Now and clothes and Barbies. My house is yellow and green.
Love,
Hannah

Dear Santa,
This year for Christmas I want a Drum set, Goodtar, Durtbike, Pool tabble, phone, gocart, and a 22 gun. That's all I want this year.
Your friend,
Dillon Lane McCleskey

Dear Santa,
I want a Xbox with all games. A bow narrow, bike and Nintindo with Mario and Sims in the City and Spider man 2 game. Some drum sticks and drum set to. So Santa tell your elves what I want pretty please. I love Jesus so don't worry. I've been good all year. See ya'll in the North Pole.
To: Santa Claus
From: Conner Mason

Dear Santa,
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Thanks,
Tristan Perryman

Dear Santa,
I am trying to be good. I would like a toy motorcycle and a new pair of tennis shoes, clothes, Batman shirt, play shotgun, play BB gun. I will try to leave food for you and the reindeer.
See you soon!
Bryson Elliot

Dear Santa and Mrs. Claus,
I have been a pretty good boy. I want a football helmet, shoulder pads, a road grader, and football pants. I want a football. I want a wissel and a basketball.
From,
Your friend
Brody Rankin

Dear Santa,
PS. I would also like a Red Bike, I love you! Merry Christmas to all, to all a good night!
Dear Santa,
How is Rudolph and Blixen? I want a leapster and Viseo Now and clothes and Barbies. My house is yellow and green.
Love,
Hannah

Dear Santa and Mrs. Clause,
I have been a good girl. I have a list of what I want for Christmas. I want a Barbie doll, Barbie house, baby doll, baby cat that is real, another Barbie, Barbie baby, Babir doggy, Babir jeep, a plant, another Barbir jeep, Barbie car, Barbie daddy, Barbie mommy, Barbie baby sister, Barbie for my brother t be a girl, and her brother and sister and baby dog.
I love you!
Love,
Savannah Lopez

Dear Santa,
How are your elves doing? I hope their doing ok. Please bring me a Princess and the Pauper deluxe pack and the Princess and the Pauper DVD movie.
Love,
Katie

Dear Santa,
How are your reindeer? For Christmas I want a golf cart and a nike basketball and football too. But the most thing of all is a bell of the harness.
From,
Hayden

Dear Santa,
I wonder if you have been letting Rudolp guide your sleigh at night. I want a bell from your sleigh. Can you bring me a present cause I've been good? How are the reindeer doing?
Love,
Korbyn

Dear Santa,
I wonder what you are doing at the North Pole. Santa, I want a computer that has a lot of games. I want some makeup. I want some CD's and DVD's and necklaces.
From,
Gabty

Dear Santa,
I wonder what you're making for me. I just want a Polly club house. I hope you make that. Thank you
Love,
Allison

Dear Santa,
I want a 22, and a spoting scop, and 2 game boy games foe Christmas.
From,
Jacob

Happy Holidays

Need a great gift idea?
Gift Certificates for
Massage Therapy
make great Stocking Stuffers!

Dinah Elliott-Young
348-7330

SANTA'S SHOPPING WISH LIST

Freedom, joy, a jar of harmony.
Would you believe
Santa found them all in aisle three?
Eggnog, Yule logs,
There are plenty in store,
Goodwill, understanding,
Good thing we ordered more!

Best wishes to you, our friends,
May your good times never end!

Pay & Save Grocery
Matador

HAPPY HOLIDAY

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

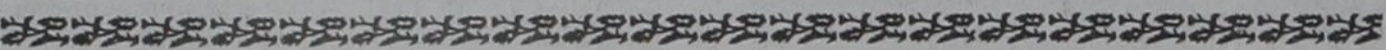
Spur Security Bank
SPUR, TEXAS

Equal Housing Lender



Singing for the Lord ...

These kids from the Children's Sunday School classes of the First Baptist Church of Matador performed a special Christmas song for Church services Sunday, Dec. 12.



The Snowman

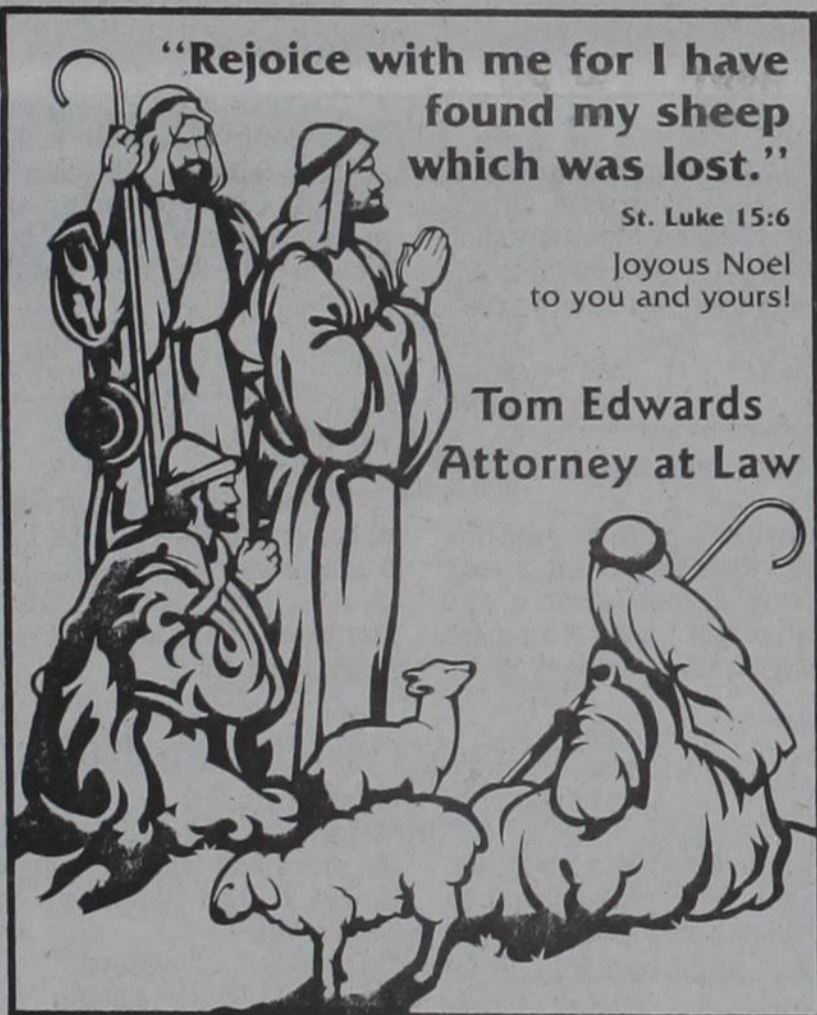
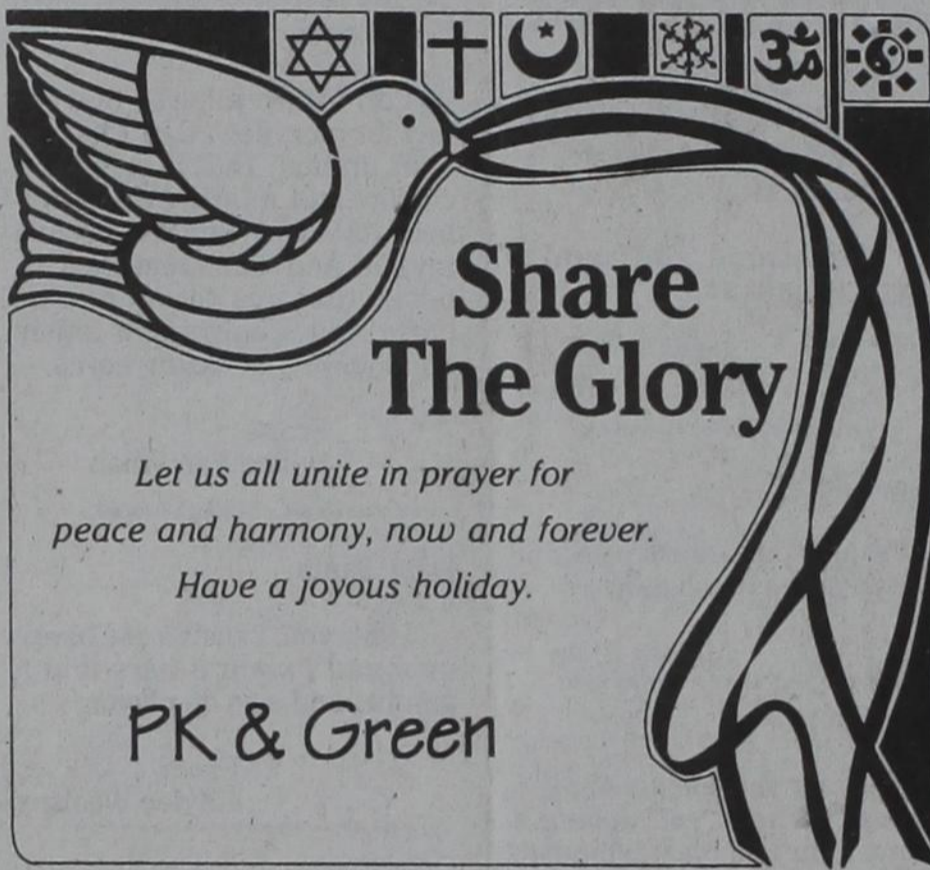
by Jacob Woolsey

I am going to build a snowman.
He is going to look as big as a 50 gallon can.

I roll him down a hill,
And he hits Farmer Bill.

Farmer Bill is so mad.
He is going to get my dad.

And now I can't sit down,
Because my dad left me a big, red crown.



Let there
be
Peace
on Earth!



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



Matador

347-2661



Here's hoping your holiday is one-of-a-kind!
We appreciate your continued loyal support.

Merry Christmas!

Arvis & Joanne Davis, Tracy Prater, Jimmy Fields, Gary Whitley, Creg Mayberry,
Rita Hughes, Thomas Turner, Roman Canales, Jim Bo Harrison, Pres Canon,
Weldon and Juanita Whitaker, Alvie and Joy Nelson, Don Hurt, Johnny Ray Minor

ARVIS DAVIS CHEVROLET

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ARVIS DAVIS USED CARS

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**At the Holiday Season our thoughts
turn gratefully to those who
have made our progress possible**

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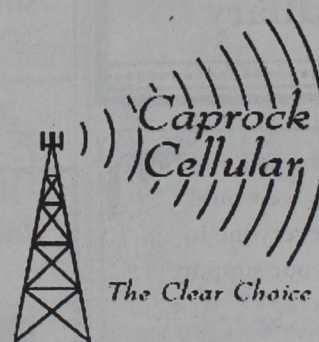
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&
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**Cellular
Service**

**Digital
Television**

Thank you from...



CapRock Tv



God's Shepherd - A Christmas Story

by Dr. Ralph F. Wilson

The frost of forty winters had etched deep lines into the shepherd's face. Having spent his entire life outdoors on Bethlehems hills, he was old at forty--and cold. The hillside where he sat this day was cold, too, and he pulled his mantle close about him to block the wind.

Every so often he would shift position, not out of discomfort so much, but from a sense of unease, anxiety, crowdedness. Instead of hundreds of sheep with whom he felt quite at home, this hillside was flocked with people--thousands of them--listening attentively to the Teacher. They could hear him fairly well, except when the wind whisked away his words.

Tobias be David (pronounced da-VEED) was the shepherd's name, though people called him Toby. His flocks were in good hands this week, cared for by his grown sons, but Toby had left them to

listen to Jesus of Nazareth. Today the Teacher was talking about salvation, how God came to save his people from their waywardness and sins, to rescue them and gather them close.

Now Jesus' illustration turned to sheep. Toby felt better. He knew a lot more about sheep than people.

"The good shepherd," Jesus was saying, "lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand who doesn't own the flock runs away when he sees the wolf coming, but not the good shepherd...." One night, years ago, the men Toby had hired to watch the flock with him fled when they saw a mountain lion roaming the hills. But Toby had stayed. Shepherding was his livelihood. He knew the sacrifices that good Shepherding required. He knew about defending defenseless lambs. He knew about putting his life on the line for the sheep. That's what good shepherds did.

Jesus continued, "Suppose you have 100 sheep and when night comes one is missing. What do you do? You leave the 99 sheep all safe together and the climb the hills, looking, searching until you find the lost sheep. Then you pick him up, put him on your shoulders, bring him down the hill to the camp, and ask your fellow shepherds to rejoice with you."

"Your heavenly Father is like that," Jesus said. "When you have lost your way, he will rescue you and save you and never give up on you until he finds you--and you find him."

Toby's heart was racing. He felt a lump in his throat. He understood. Toby had combed the hills for lost sheep, not stopping, not quitting. He knew the joy of discovery, of rescuing the sheep from a thicket, of bringing it back and celebrating with his friends. He had been that kind of shepherd.

But he also knew how it felt to wander off, feeling lost, aimless, trapped. Clueless about

where he was and where he was going. Flailing about, struggling to climb out of what seemed to be a deep ravine. That's why he came today to hear the Teacher, hoping to regain the faith he felt as a child, a ten-year old child.

His mind spun back to the evening of his tenth birthday. Like nearly every night, he was out on the hills with his dad or his uncles, caring for the sheep. The stars were brilliant, dancing in the black sky. But suddenly an overpowering bright light flooded the hillside. A voice boomed out, "Behold, I bring good news of great joy which shall be for all people. For to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord!"

A savior, a rescuer--shepherd's work. He had often wondered about the boy-like child they discovered that night, lying in a manger, just as the angel had said. Toby had knelt down and worshipped the baby who bore the world's destiny upon his tiny shoulders. What had become of him, this baby? By now he must be thirty-something. Had this savior saved anyone yet? Rescued anyone? Could he rescue me from my aimless existence? Toby wondered.

Just then the wind caught Jesus' words and blew them Toby's direction. "I am the Good Shepherd," Jesus was saying, "who lays down his life for the

sheep. Come to me, all you who are weary and heavy laden and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me," he said with warmth and joy full on his face, "for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls."

I wonder? thought Toby as he felt big tears begin to roll down his cheeks and into his beard. I wonder? thought Toby as joy and the certainty of God's love began to fill his heart until it seemed like he would explode. I wonder? thought Toby, if this Jesus is the little baby I saw that night, the Savior of the world? Yes, thought Toby, he must be. His words found me and, frankly, he sounds like he's...God's shepherd.

It Came Upon a Midnight Clear
From the United States

(Edmund Sears, an American minister, wrote this word as a poem in 1855. The poem was so lovely that a friend suggested the words be set to music. Dr. Sears sent his poem to Richard Willis in Boston who composed the beautiful melody.)

*It came upon a midnight clear,
That glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth,
To touch their harps of gold;
"Peace on the earth, good will to men,
From heav'n's all gracious King":
The world in solemn stillness lay
To hear the angels sing.*



Christmas Begins.

When the song of angels is stilled,
When the star in the sky is gone,
When the kings and princes are departed,
When the shepherds are back with their flocks,
The work of Christmas begins:
To find the lost
To heal the broken
To feed the hungry
To release the prisoner
To rebuild peace among brothers
To make music for all to hear.




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

**American Legion
& Auxiliary**

Happy Holidays



Cora Smallwood
Motley County
Justice of the Peace



MERRY CHRISTMAS

Happy Trails to you
& yours

MATADOR RANCH
50 Years of Excellence

Matador Cattle Company
a subsidiary of Kim Industries, Inc. **50**




Merry Christmas

The simplest things in life are still the most wonderful, and we'd simply like to say, thanks!

FLOMOT GIN

On behalf of myself and Dean Osborn, we would like to thank everyone in Precinct 4 for your support

Best Wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



**Russell Alexander
Commissioner Precinct 4**

Pol. ad paid for by Russell Alexander

Happy Holidays!



Lee's Insurance
Flomot & Turkey

THE CRADLE

by Dr. Ralph F. Wilson
They left their home, the new cradle still swinging from the rafters. Night after night the aroma of fresh-cut wood had filled the room as Joseph had patiently fashioned the tiny cradle, using the same chisel and saw he usually put down at dusk.

Now Joseph wiped the tears from Mary's cheeks and shut the door behind them. "It'll be okay," he told her, as he cinched up their belongings on the donkey.

"Joseph, can't we wait a few days? The baby could come any time." She didn't want to leave home. Not now.

"We've waited for the baby as long as we dare." He was ready to get on the road. "We have to leave today or I'll be arrested for not appearing in Bethlehem for the census."

"At least bring the cradle, Joseph," she pleaded. "I want the baby to have something nice."

"No, it'll have to stay behind. The baby will be rocking in it soon enough."

Joseph tugged hard at the donkey's halter. No luck. "Come on, animal," he shouted, whacking it on the rear end to get it moving. Grudgingly the donkey responded. With one hand Joseph led the donkey, with the

other he steadied Mary on the steep incline, slowly enough to accommodate her ungainly progress down the winding road which led from Nazareth's height. In the house above, the cradle hung still.

Five days and ninety bone-weary miles later, Joseph searched the small stable where they were staying on the outskirts of crowded Bethlehem. Mary's time would be soon now. He was careful to keep his lamp from igniting the old straw. He finally settled on an ancient stone manger for the baby's bed, cut from the wall of the limestone cave which housed the animals. He reached in to scoop the last gritty bits of straw from the manger's dank bottom. That'll have to do," he muttered. He filled the trough with an armful of fresh fodder, which he covered with a folded blanket to keep the animals away.

It was well past midnight by the time Mary finished washing and wrapping her new baby. Now she lifted him gently into his new bed. Joseph put his arm around her shoulders as they gazed at the sleeping infant.

Mary touched the tiny fingers. "That cradle you spent so much time on would be real nice

right now, Joseph." She looked up at the cave's low ceiling. "You could hang it somewhere. No baby I know has a cradle like that. It's fit for a king."

Joseph grinned. "Not every boy has a carpenter for a dad," he said. But he wondered. Why couldn't little Jesus be home in that cradle? Why does this special child the angel told Mary and him about have to be born in this smelly stable? A hill-country carpenter's home is bad enough. Why here? Why Bethlehem?

The answer wasn't long in coming. An older boy poked his head in the door, startling the couple from their quiet moment. "Is there a baby in here?" he mumbled apologetically. Then he saw the tiny child. Mary picked her baby up to shield the infant from his eyes. The face disappeared.

Mary's eyes mirrored Joseph's concern. He strode to the cave's opening. He could hear a distant call, "Over here, Jake found him!" In the darkness, Joseph could make out a handful of forms coming toward him. He gripped his stout wooden staff and stood resolutely at the door.

As they approached the stable he could see they were shepherds. Joseph's grip on the staff tightened. The oldest one spoke hesitantly. "Can we come in? We have...ah...come to see the Christ-child."

Joseph glanced at Mary. He could feel a tingle move down his spine. This was more than an accident. The whole fantastic course of events was far more than an accident. He nodded and stepped back to the stable. "Yes, come in. You are welcome."

The shepherds shuffled into the cramped cave. The youngest pushed in alongside the donkey to get a better view. They knelt. "God be praised!" The old shepherd spoke with deepest reverence.

"It's just like the angel told us," another whispered in awe. "Behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people, the angel said."

"Imagine! An Angel...talking to us!" the old man interjected with rising excitement. "None of the uppity-ups in this town would lower themselves to talk to us shepherds," he added. "But an angel did...and the child is right here in the stable so we can come and see him." Rivulets of tears were inching down the shepherd's weathered face.

Joseph stared at the old man. "How did you find us?" he finally asked.

The boy who had first peeked in answered. "The angel said unto you is born..."

"Yes, to us!" The beaming old man couldn't contain himself.

The boy spoke deliberately, as if to remember the exact words: "Unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior..."

"That's here--Bethlehem--David's birthplace," the littlest boy interrupted. He thrust out his chest proudly. "King David was a shepherd, too, you know."

The older boy continued "...a Savior, which is Christ the Lord."

"The Christ, the Messiah ... He's the one!" The old man pointed to the baby.

"The angel was very specific," the young man went on. "And this shall be a sign unto you. You shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger." He grinned.

"How could we miss? We just ran into town and checked every stable until we found you...found him." The boy paused. "How many newborns in Bethlehem do you know with a cattle manger for a cradle?"

Joseph chuckled. So that was it. The Heavenly Father Himself had provided a bed for His child. A special cradle. A sign to these crude shepherds that God cared for them too.

Joseph squeezed Mary's hand very tightly.



LET US GO OVER TO BETHLEHEM

What thoughts, O tender Mother, filled
Your heart that Christmas night?
Of that high moment when you heard
From God's own acolyte.

"The Lord is with thee. Blessed, thou..."
That you might souls unbind
That all of heaven looked to you
And all of humankind;

Did you relive exultant joys,
And days of joumeying
That led to your aged cousin's home
Through valley's bright with Spring,

Or gazing on your new-born Son

See Cana; Calvary--
Beyond the lantern's dimming rays
A million altars see

Whose light would spell eternal Love,

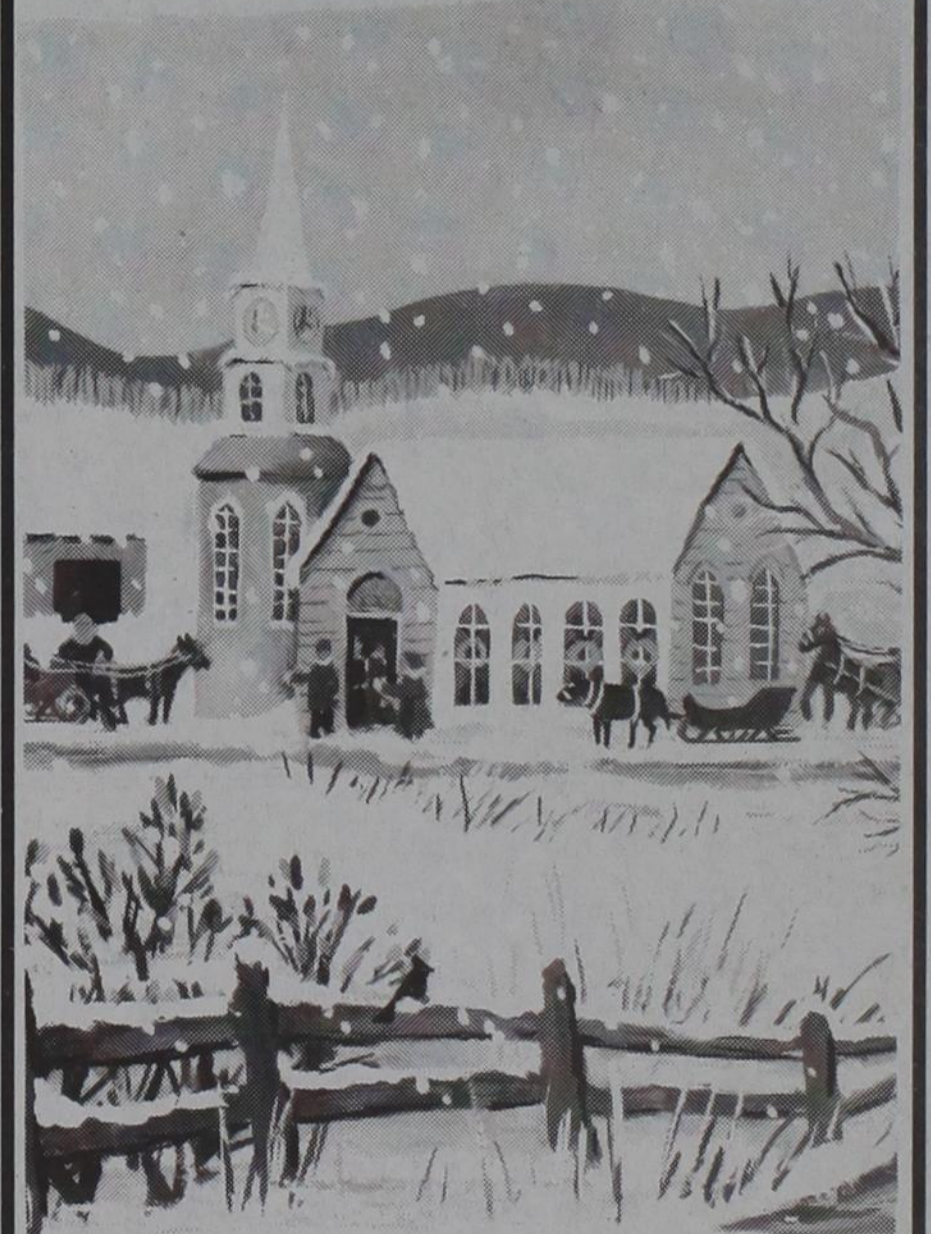
With solace, strength for men;
And songs that echoed Bethlehem
Bring holy peace

If we draw near the hallowed cave

As shepherds did that morn,
You'll whisper all that filled your heart
That night our Christ was born.

Mary Catherine Brennan
Robert, Cyril. Mary Immaculate: God's Mother and Mine. New York: Marist Press, 1946.

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

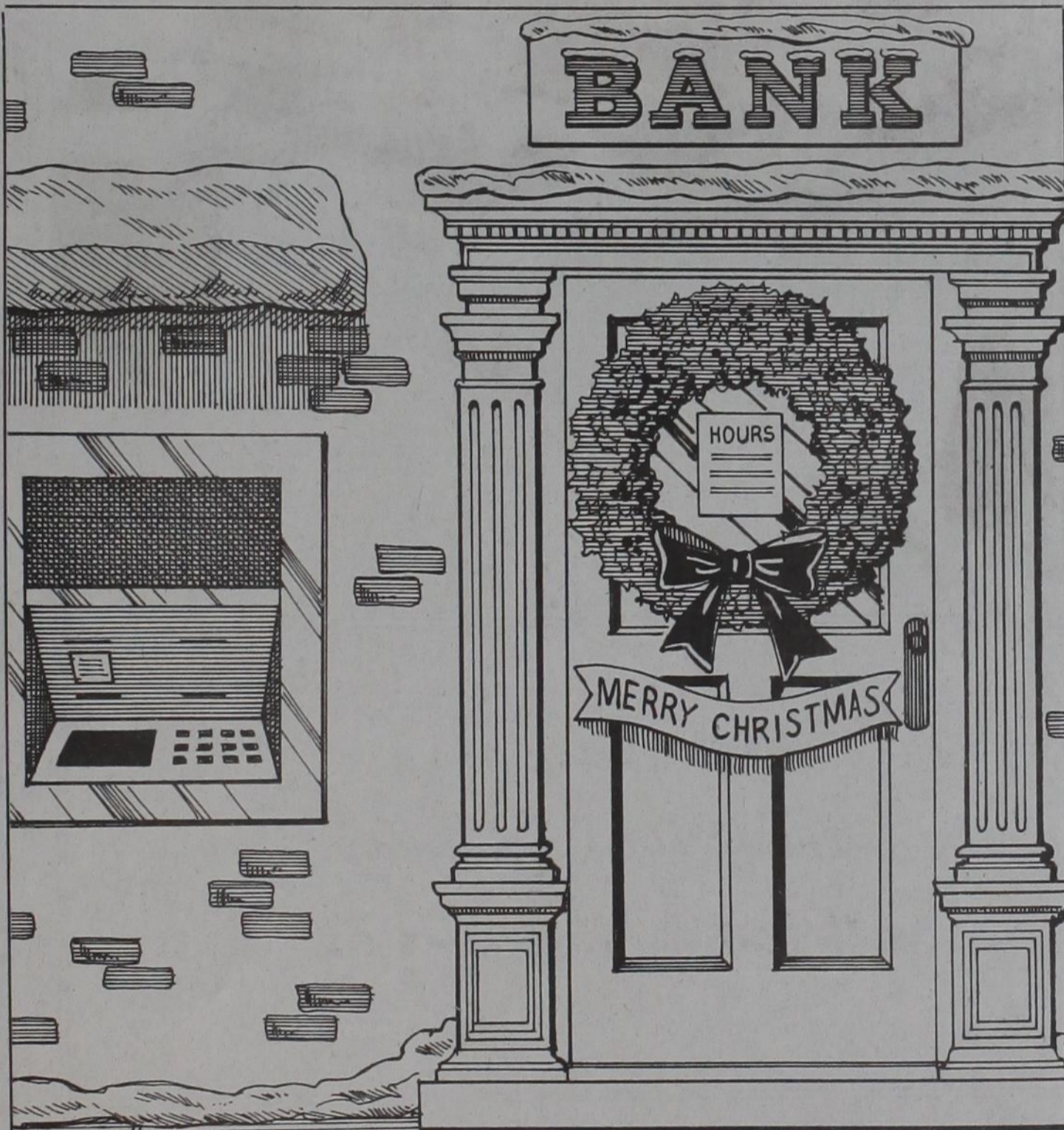
It's Always Nice To See You!

Won't you drop in again soon? We'd love to wish you a Merry Christmas in person.

Meanwhile, happy, happy to you and yours!



**Motley County
Museum**



Happy Holidays

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

**TeleBank
and TelePC**
Banking at your fingertips.



**First
National Bank
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Equal Housing
LENDER

Member F.D.I.C.

**HAPPY
HOLIDAYS**

May the season deliver
daily cheer to your
doorstep!



**Motley County
Farm Bureau**

**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



*Have A
Picture Perfect
Christmas*

*Best wishes for a
wonderful Christmas
with family and friends.*

City of Matador

Mayor - Paul Westbrook
Council - Jim Watson, Shane Jones,
Bert Darsey, Pat Seigler & Chuck Ream

City Secretary - Lara Davey
Water Superintendent - Steve Barton
Water Assistants - Casey Lawrence & Roy Moreno

City of Roaring Springs

Mayor - Corky Marshall
Mayor Pro-tem - Alex Crowder
Council - Kelly Keltz, PK Green, Gary Simpson & Timmy Brooks

City Secretary - Zella Palmer
Water Superintendent - Robert Osborn