

Gorman Progress



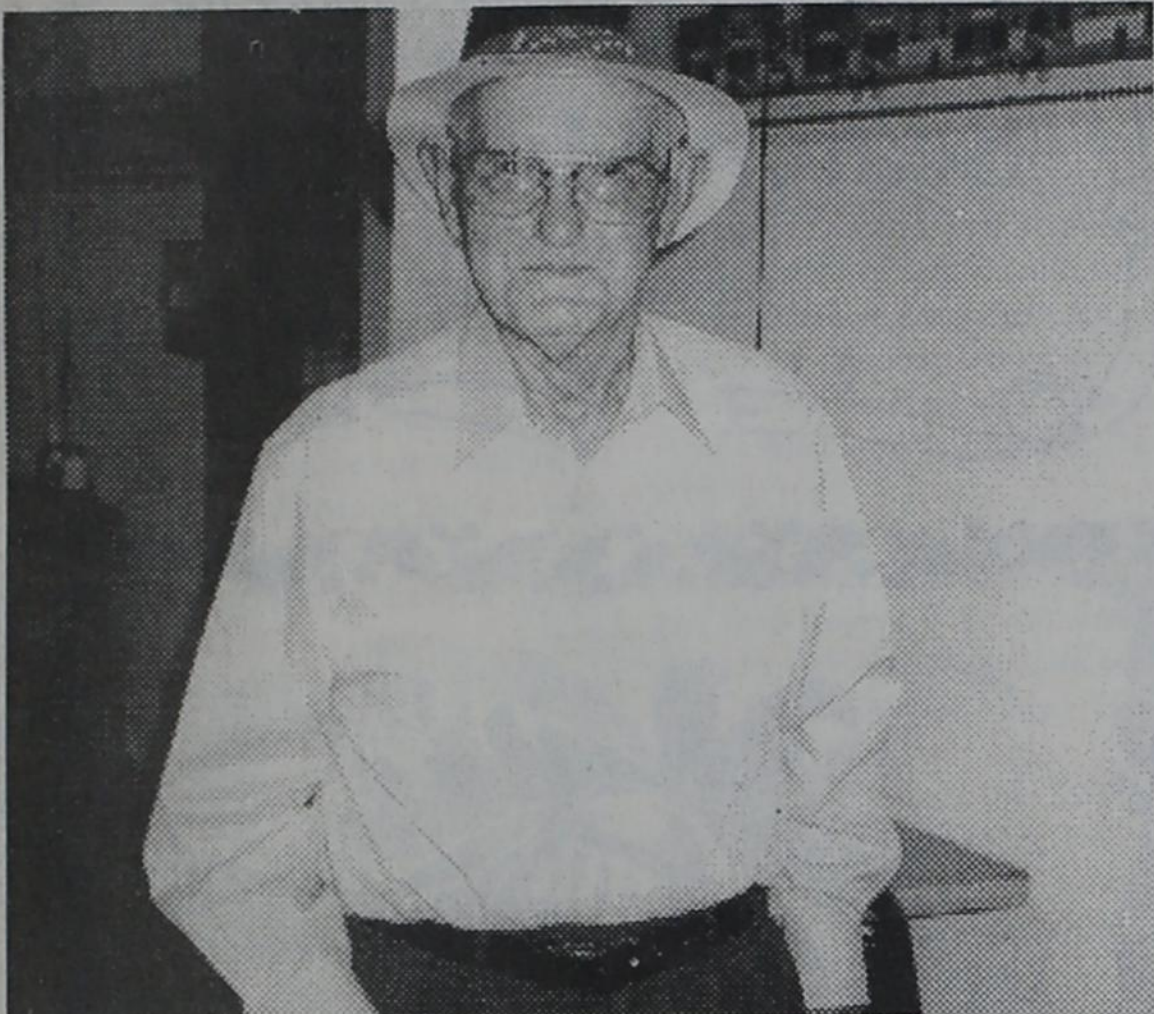
"Serving Gorman For Over 100 Years"
Gorman, Eastland County, Texas 76454

DECEMBER 21, 2000

NUMBER FORTY-NINE

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MIDLAND TX 79701
END
2000 Member
Texas Press Association

Odie Brightwell To Mark 100th Birthday



Odie Brightwell, born January 1, 1901, will celebrate a century of living a day early on December 31, 2000, in Gorman, Texas. His seven surviving children are hosting a birthday reception the Sunday before New Year's Day at ZJ's Restaurant in downtown Gorman from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Everyone is invited to help Odie begin his second century in style.

Born just after the turn of the last century, Odie has seen it all and, somehow, survived to tell the tale. And quite a tale it's been.

William McKinley was president when Odie was born. Since then he's seen 17 men hold that office and, as County Democratic Election Chairman for years, helped elect some of them. Right now, he's waiting, along with the rest of us, to see who will be his 18th president.

Odie was born to John Thomas and Minnie Blair Brightwell in what was then the Leon Community. Later, the family moved to the Grandview Community, where Odie was raised on the farm and attended the school his father helped build. Odie was the only boy in a family of seven children. Four of his sisters are still living: Emma of DeLeon, Zina of Gorman, and Johnny and Alice of Abilene.

In 1920, Odie began a 40-year career with Magnolia Petroleum at Desdemona. He married his childhood sweetheart Minnie Ola Jones at Ralls, Texas, on August 14, 1921. The two had been schoolmates in the Grandview Community school.

A favorite family story centers around the immediate aftermath of that wedding. On the way home to Desdemona, the open roadster Odie was driving was forced off the road by a bigger, faster automobile. The roadster overturned with Odie and Minnie, still in their wedding clothes, inside. They'd been splashed with battery acid and were covered with grasshoppers and sand, but otherwise were unharmed. Odie managed to drag himself and Minnie out, and, with the help of a farmer and his mules, got the roadster righted and back on the road.

It was only later, when they stopped at Stanford to spend their honeymoon night, that they realized their wedding clothes were in shreds and practically falling off of them, thanks to the battery acid bath they'd received.

The couple quickly settled down to the serious business of child-bearing and raising, and, by all accounts, were pretty good at it. They had nine children in all, beginning with twin boys, Gale and Dale. The twins are now deceased. The remaining children are Willa Dean Ormsby (Stephenville), Zella Mae Wright (Ballinger), Tommy Edwin Brightwell (Hurst), Betty Ann Hale (Brownwood), Minnie Beth Bryan (Arlington), Jimmy Lee Brightwell (Sweeny), and Myrna Sue Smith (Longview).

Somewhere in there, Odie moved his family to a new home in Gorman. He still lives on the same site, but in a newer home he and his bride helped design after all the fledglings had fled the nest.

No one's ever accused Odie of being lazy. At different times, he's served on the city commission, the school board, and has been a Steward in the Methodist Church. By the way, that's Odie's name there on the cornerstone of the new Methodist Church, which he helped build.

Odie retired from Magnolia (later Mobil and now Exxon-Mobil) in 1960 (after surviving both a deadly tornado and a raging fire at the plant) and began a new career as a peanut inspector for the Southwestern Peanut Grower's Association. Until 1986, he worked for Arlton Smith's Peanut Company every year during the peanut harvest.

Odie and Minnie celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary in 1991 before Minnie's death at age 88.

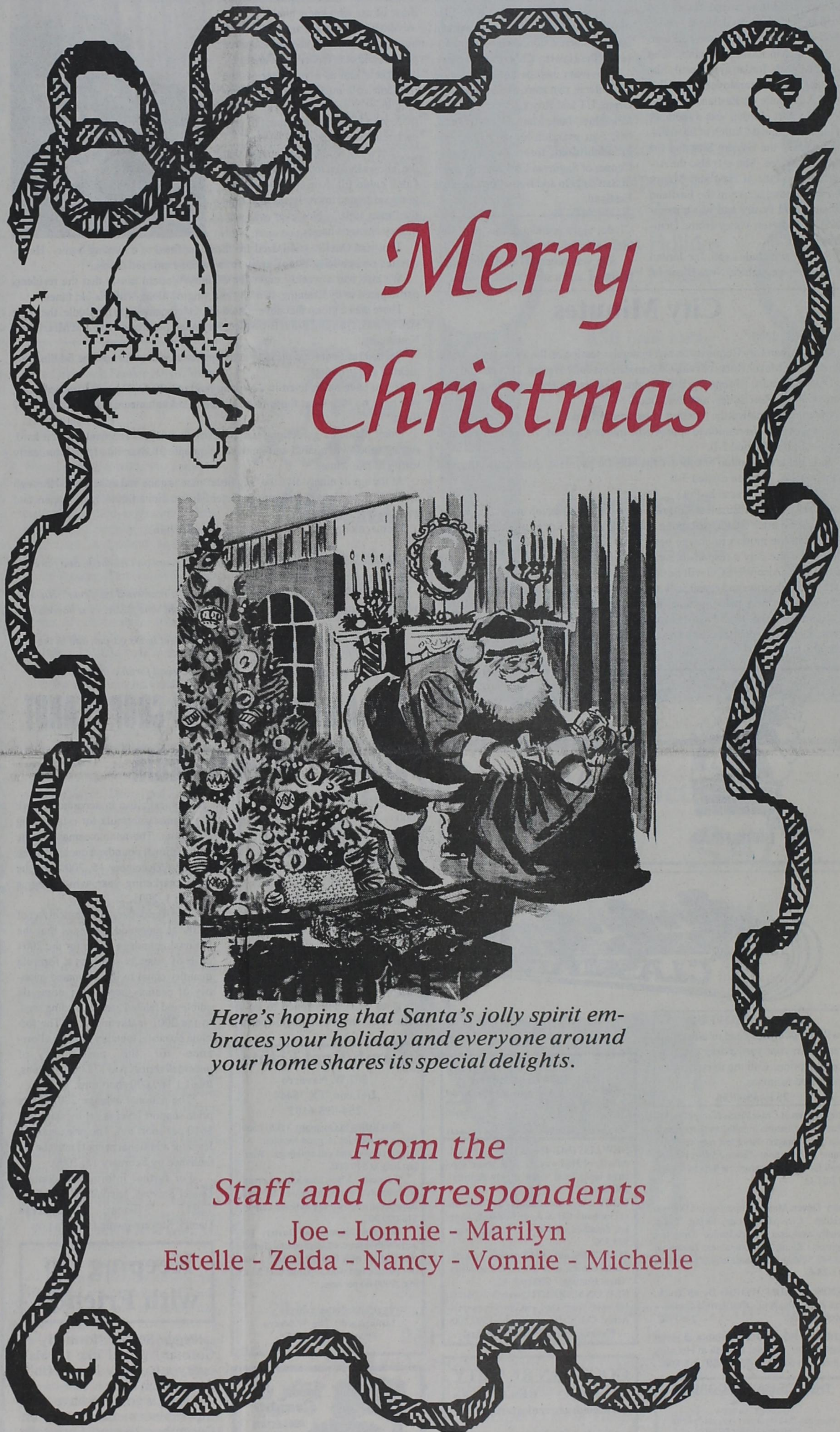
Odie still continues to be active in his newly adopted church, the Church of Christ, and still lives at home, still cultivates a sizable vegetable garden, still mows the grass, still does his own housework, and still drives to town daily for mail and shopping. He can be found most Sundays after church at ZJ's Restaurant, often accompanied by one or more of his seven children, 23 grandchildren, 46 great grandchildren or five great-great grandchildren.

Make Christmas Bright - Take An Ornament

Make Christmas Bright for a Resident of Heritage Manor Nursing Home. Come by American State Bank and please take an ornament from the Bank's Christmas tree and purchase a gift from a Heritage Manor Resident. Return the wrapped gift to American State Bank and the Gorman 4-H Club will deliver the gifts on Christmas Eve.

Gorman PD - Annual Project Give Deadline Friday Morning

The Gorman Police Department is getting ready for the 2nd Annual Project Give. They will be accepting gifts of new toys, clothes or money. These contributions will be distributed among those who are not able to purchase these extras for the holidays. If you would like to make a contribution or donation to this cause you may simply drop it off at the city office. If you know of someone, or if you are someone who would appreciate the assistance, please notify the City Office, or Police Department. Or feel free to mail in the information for the family in need with the ages and sizes. The office phone number is 254-734-2317 and the mailing address is P. O. Box 236, Gorman, Tx 76454.



Merry Christmas



Here's hoping that Santa's jolly spirit embraces your holiday and everyone around your home shares its special delights.

From the
Staff and Correspondents
Joe - Lonnie - Marilyn
Estelle - Zelda - Nancy - Vonnie - Michelle

ITEMS OF INTEREST TO AREA FOLKS

BLOOD PRESSURE CHECKS — Blood Pressure Checks by Heritage Manor of Gorman. Every other week at Senior Citizens at 11:00 a.m. Other week at Gorman Hotel at 10:30 a.m. Nov. 8 & 22 - Senior Citizens - 11:00 a.m. Nov. 15 & 29 - Gorman Hotel - 10:30 a.m.

Gorman Primitive Baptist Church has Services Every Sundays. Services begin at 10:30 a.m. Bro. Mark Waltenbarger - 1st Sunday; Elder Mike Webb, Pastor - All Other Sundays - Everyone Welcome To Attend.

FOOD PANTRY Second Thursday of Each Month

Gorman Masonic Lodge No. 716 A.F. & A.M. Regular stated meetings are 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. Members are urged to attend. Visitors are always welcome. Roy Lipson, Worshipful Master — Pat Moseley, Secretary.

Athletic Boosters to meet January 8th at 7:00 p.m. at the Dairy Queen. Come and support the Panthers and join the Boosters.

The Order of the Eastern Star holds its regular stated meetings on the first Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. - Nell Ragland, Worthy Matron and Elwood Ragland, Worthy Patron.

Gorman Oaklawn Cemetery Association is accepting donations for the Care of the Cemetery. If you would like to make a donation in memory of or In Honor of someone, please send to Rt. 3 Box 121A, or American State Bank, Gorman, Texas 76454.

SANDRA CAGLE WILL BE IN GORMAN THE THIRD WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH AT THE CITY OFFICE TO RENEW AUTO LICENSE PLATES. HER NEXT VISIT WILL BE JANUARY 17TH FROM 9 - 12 NOON.

Heritage Manor News

By Nancy Hendricks

Note from the Administrator
December 18, 2000

Hi folks,
Well Christmas is just one week away now and the New Year is just around the corner. We had our staff Christmas Party this past week on Thursday and we had a great time. I would like to take this opportunity to let my staff know how much I appreciate them and the jobs that they do. We have a great team here at Heritage Manor and I hope that all of our employees have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! We also have had the kids from school up to sing Christmas carols this past week. Thanks to the Gorman school, teachers, and the students for the time that they spend at the nursing home during the holiday season. It sure brightens the lives of our residents. Have a Merry Christmas and come see us at the nursing home.

Sincerely,
Brent

George Stewart New Resident

Heritage Manor is happy to report George Stewart, widower of Clover Stewart, has come to reside. Mr. Stewart is a retired carpenter and formerly lived in Stephenville and DeLeon.

He is a member of the First Baptist Church.

His two sons are Larry Stewart of Gorman and Redge Stewart of Flowermound, and six grandchildren. Recent guests were Gale Ruth Stewart of Santo, Redge Stewart of Flowermound, Larry and Ramona Stewart, Clarence and Leona Wilson of Stephenville, Judy Watson, Howard and Pat Hagood.

On Sunday morning James Tucker and Tootie Campbell of First Baptist Church for Clifton and Frankie Jarrett, Veno Hale, A.V. Seay, Velma Bennett, S.D. Gilmore, Irene Heathington, Ora Mae Atchison, Modess Self, Stella Files, Iola Johnson, and Inez Rogers.

Visiting S.D. Gilmore were Durwood Webb, Leona and Clarence Wilson of Stephenville, Howard and Pat Hagood, Alpha Mae Andry, Dixie Ryon, Violet Watson of Desdemona.

On Sunday afternoon, those coming from the Kokomo Baptist Church

were Rev. Clarence and Leona Wilson, Jimmy Little, Joe and Glynda Bond, Nancy Hendricks, and Ruth Bryant. Residents were Veno Hale, Velma Bennett, S.D. Gilmore, Ollie Halcomb, Modess Self, A.V. Seay, Frankie and Clifton Jarrett, Dorothy Beaty and Inez Rogers.

Happy to report Mildred Bellows has returned from Eastland Memorial Hospital.

Visiting Veno Hale and Iola Johnson were Jimmy and Verna Lee Little, Rev. and Mrs. Clarence Wilson of Stephenville, Eunice Love, Howard and Pat Hagood, Ina Reynolds of Carbon, Alpha Mae Andry, Ruth Bryant, Eunice Love.

Visiting Hallie Clark were Jo Ann Fraley, Stacey Fraley, Amy Fraley, Howard and Pat Hagood, Denzel and Fay Ables.

Some of Mary Williams guests were Ima Brown, Amy Fraley, Maxine Frasier of DeLeon, Bro. Clarence and Leona Wilson of Stephenville, Ina Reynolds of Carbon, Anna Rush, Icy Munn, Bro. Paul Denton, Durwood Webb, Howard and Pat Hagood, Eunice Love, Alpha Mae Andry, Fay and Denzel Ables.

On Monday morning Ina Smith had bingo for Patti Whitehorn, Sara Rodgers, Inez Rogers, S.D. Gilmore, Ava Rodgers, A.V. Seay, Veno Hale, Modess Self, Velma Bennett, Dean Pounds, Clifton Jarrett.

Visiting A.V. Seay and Sara Rodgers were George Rodgers, Bro. Clarence and Leona Wilson of Stephenville, Howard and Pat Hagood, Eunice Love, Denzel and Fay Ables.

Regret to report Hazel Wisdom is a patient in the DeLeon Hospital.

Those visiting Buddy Winn and Ed Johnson were Jerald McLearn, Fay Johnson, Dale Johnson, Howard and Pat Hagood, Buddy Winn of Carbon.

Visiting Ola Walker and Velma Bennett were Dixie Ryon and Violet Watson of Desdemona, Icy Munn, Nancy Hendricks, Ruth Bryant, Bro. Clarence and Leona Wilson of Stephenville, Howard and Pat Hagood, Denzel and Fay Ables.

On Monday those coming for the Sing-A-Long were Ernestine Campbell, Ethel Weaver, Alpha Mae Andry, Nancy

"SPEAKING THE TRUTH IN LOVE"

(Ephesians 4:15)

.....Biblical truths brought to you by the church of Christ in Gorman

The Bible shows us that many sincere souls, possibly like yourself, have begun their search for God only to become sidetracked and experience failure. Why is it that some people fail in their search for God? Some have failed because they began this task with false expectations (Matt. 13:20-21). Others have failed because they weren't prepared for the God that they found (Matt. 19:22). Some in the Bible were searching for God, but because of the religious people that they became involved with (trusted and listened to their advice), they actually ended up in a worse condition (Matt. 23:15). Sadly, many people who are searching for God will fail in their attempt according to Jesus, Himself. For in the end many will claim to have a relationship with Jesus, but in reality they will not have one (Matt. 7:21-23). It is my hope that you can avoid the pitfalls that are all along the road to finding favor with God. I write as one who has been along that road, who has seen "the narrow way that leads to eternal life" and "the broad way that leads to eternal destruction" (Matt. 7:12-13). One who has seen the counterfeit of the truth that the devil has set up (2 Cor. 11:13-15). I write as one who can give guidance (Acts 8:31) and a warning (Eze. 3:17-21). Next week we will continue with "Searching For God." But what about you the reader?

Are you searching for God? Are you a Christian? Have you obeyed God's Plan of Salvation? Have you obeyed the pure Gospel of Christ (2 Thess. 1:7-9)? Jesus said one must HEAR the word of God (John 5:24) and BELIEVE that Jesus is the Son of God (John 8:24). One must REPENT (Luke 13:3) and CONFESS that Jesus is the Son of God (Matt. 10:32-33). One must then submit to New Testament WATER IMMERSION for the washing of one's past sins by the blood of Christ (Mark 16:16; Acts 22:16; Rev. 1:5). One must then continue to LIVE FAITHFULLY and IN OBEDIENCE to God all of their life (Matt. 7:21-23; 10:22; Luke 6:46). If you haven't done these things you cannot go to Heaven according to Jesus. Have you obeyed the words of Jesus? Call or write us if we can help you in any way. We offer free Bible correspondence courses, free home Bible studies, or email us any Bible questions that you may have. Tune in to radio KYOX FM 94.3 from 9:30 to 10:00 or TV cable channel 4 at 8:00 and 8:30 Sunday mornings if you want to hear Bible based sermons. Of course all visitors are welcome for our Bible classes or worship services. We look forward to seeing or hearing from you.

P.O. Box 747 - Gorman, Tx. 76545 - (254) 734-2774 or 2435

Paul Denton: Gospel preacher -- Email: gormccoc@txol.net

Call or write today

Sunday Services ---- Bible Class.....10:00 a.m.

A.M. Worship.....10:45 a.m. -- P.M. Worship.....6:00 p.m.

Wednesday -- Bible Class.....7:00 p.m.

Hendricks and Ruth Bryant. Residents were Clifton and Frankie Jarrett, Velma Bennett, A.V. Seay, S.D. Gilmore, Veno Hale, Patti Whitehorn, Inez Rogers, Ollie Halcomb.

Visiting Dorothy Beaty and Ollie Halcomb were Clarence and Leona Wilson of Stephenville, Fay and Denzel Ables, Eunice Love, Howard and Pat Hagood, David and Denna Halcomb, Lisa and Doyle Brummitt, Christopher and Courtney of Bartlesville, OK, Lori McDonald and Devin McDonald of DeLeon.

On Tuesday afternoon, a cold dreary day, was a good time for Ina Smith to have roasted marshmallows with Kathy Torrez, hot chocolate for Inez Rogers, A.V. Seay, Ollie Halcomb, Patti Whitehorn, Clifton and Frankie Jarrett and Modess Self.

Some of Clifton and Frankie Jarrett visitors were Rev. Clarence and Leona Wilson of Stephenville, Kay Watson and Bill Johnson, mark Watson, Eunice Love, Pat and Howard Hagood, Fay and Denzel Ables.

Visiting Bea O'Neal were Howard and Pat Hagood, Denzel and Fay Ables, Eunice Love, Nancy Hendricks, Rev. Clarence and Leona Wilson of Stephenville.

The good magazines donated by Juanita Files were appreciated by the residents.

Visiting Ava Rodgers were Ima Brown, Jana Grice, Rev. Clarence and Leona Wilson of Stephenville, Joe and Glynda Bond, Jimmy and Verna Lee Little, Ruth Bryant, Nancy Hendricks, Howard and Pat Hagood, Eunice Love, Fay and Denzel Ables.

Visiting Irene Heathington were Dave and Laneta Freeman, Ken and Betty Sue Heathington, Eunice Love, Fay and Denzel Ables.

On Thursday Ina Smith had "concentration" for Modess Self, Mildred Bellows, Inez Rogers, A.V. Seay, Patti Whitehorn, Veno Hale and Ollie Halcomb.

Visiting Dean Pounds were Howard and Pat Hagood, Gladys Pounds, Winston Brown and Roger Pounds.

On Friday morning Ina Smith and Pat Graham had bingo for Sara Rodgers, Patti Whitehorn, Veno Hale, Velma Bennett, A.V. Seay, Frankie Jarrett, S.D. Gilmore and Ava Rodgers.

Visiting Inez Rogers and Ora Mae Atchison were Dorothy Roberts, Violet Watson, and Dixie Ryon of Desdemona, Chessley Atchison, Buddy Rogers of Ranger, Eunice Love, Fred Rogers, Fay and Denzel Ables, Alpha Mae Andry.

On Tuesday morning Betty Duke of Desdemona came played the electric organ and led singing for Inez Rogers, A.V. Seay, Veno Hale, Velma Bennett, Frankie and Clifton Jarrett, Richard Kinser, Modess Self, Ollie Halcomb, Patti Whitehorn.

Visiting Richard Kinser were James and Ruby Lee Kinser, Clarence and Leona Wilson, Howard and Pat Hagood.

On Friday afternoon Ina Smith had "crazy bingo" for Inez Rogers, Mildred Bellows, Velma Bennett, Patti Whitehorn, Ava Rodgers, Veno Hale, S.D. Gilmore, Clifton Jarrett, Frankie Jarrett, A.V. Seay, Modess Self and Sara Rodgers.

Some of Muriel Prewitt guests were Bro. Paul Denton, Durwood Webb, Clarence and Leona Wilson, Eunice Love, Amy Fraley, Denzel and Fay Ables.

Visiting Cynthia Earles and Modess Self were Christine Self, Bobby and Jean Burns, Alene Burns of Ft. Worth, Alpha Mae Andry, Dave and Laneta Freeman, V.O. Huff, Howard and Pat Hagood, Eunice Love, Fay and Denzel Ables, Ken and Betty Sue Heathington.

Please join
the Officers, Directors
and Employees of
American State Bank
for our Holiday
Open House.

ASB Bank Lobby
Thursday, December 21
Friday, December 22

Refreshments will be served.

**American
State Bank**
"Right Size To Be Friendly"

American State
Bank

to give away
X-Mas

Hams

Friday, December
22nd

Come by the
bank and sign
up

Dublin Livestock Auction SPECIAL COW SALE

Saturday, December 30, 2000
1:00 P.M.



These are some of the Quality Cattle already consigned:

- 20 Black white face cows; 2nd calf; heavy bred; extra fancy
- 25 Hereford cows; heavy bred
- 60 Mixed colored cross bred cows; heavy bred
- 30 Tiger stripe heifers; bred
- 40 Tiger stripe cows; heavy bred
- 200 Mixed Colored cows; heavy bred
- 10 Tiger stripe cows; heavy bred
- 50 Brangus cows; heavy bred
- 70 Brangus cows; medium bred; 2nd calf
- 20 Brangus heifers; heavy bred

More Consignments Welcome

For More Information Call:

Office - 254-445-1734

Home - 254-968-8565

Ya'll Come Join Us!!!



As you come together with family and friends during this season to rejoice at His birth may we offer our thanks.

CITY GROCERY

"We Appreciate You"

Store - 734-2316 Gorman, Tx



PIZZA PRO OF GORMAN
Located Inside City Grocery
#1 Service, Product and Pride!

734-3500

Merry
Christmas

May
your
tree
be
decorated
with
joy

A. O. Easley Trucks

Phone 254-734-2673 — Gorman, Texas

Kokomo News

By Zelda Jordan

I want to wish everyone who reads the column a very Merry Christmas and a healthy, prosperous and Happy New year. As we celebrate with family and friends may we all remember that Jesus

is the reason for the season, and thank God for loving us enough to send his Son to be our Savior. We just have to accept Him as the greatest gift that God has given us.

Merry Christmas

Comanche County Telephone Co.

Phone 254-893-2003
De Leon, Texas

Season's Greetings

May the joy of the holidays live in your home at Christmas bringing you true contentment. Thanks for your patronage.

Gorman Milling Co.
See Us For All Your Bag and Bulk Feed Needs
Phone 254-734-2252 — Gorman, Texas

The Christmas Program at the Kokomo Baptist Church will be on Wednesday night, December 20 at 6:00 p.m. Visitors are welcome to come and worship with us and enjoy the fellowship following the program.

There will be only one service on Sunday, December 24 beginning at 10:30 a.m. There will be no Sunday School that morning.

Bro. Dick Williams of Brownwood was the guest speaker at the Kokomo Baptist Church on Sunday, Dec. 17. Bro. Williams is the Director of Missions for the Cisco Baptist Association, but will be resigning that position at the end of the year to have more time to do his visitation ministry in Brownwood. Mrs. Williams accompanied her husband to Kokomo.

Bro. Williams, Bro. Clarence Wilson, Daryl Hirst, Woodrow Browning, Helen Browning, Leona Wilson, Kay Snider and Ruby Lee Kinser rendered the special music with Daryl at the piano.

Matt and Amy Hawkins and sons, mark Ethan and Macalister of Fort Worth were recent visitors with Delmon and Joyce Eaves.

Ora Mae Jordan of Abilene, and formerly of Carbon and Eastland, passed away on Dec. 13 in Abilene. Services for her were held at Eastland on Saturday with burial in the Murray Cemetery at Carbon. She was a relative of Donnie Rone, James and Mary Donham, Jimmy and Verna Little and Zelda Jordan of our community. Our sincere sympathy to the family.

Mrs. Hope Joiner enjoyed an early Christmas celebration at the home of a daughter, Billie Jeanne Grisham and her family on Saturday.

Those enjoying a family Christmas celebration in the home of Hazel and La Von Snider on Sunday, December 17, were Toby, Angie, Karina, Karle, and Klarissa Snider of Fredericksburg, Susan, Clay, Kinsey, Caitlin and Stephanie, Kael, Craig, Matthew, Anna and Andrew Snider of New Hope, Ted Snider of New Hope, Gene and Kay Snider, Mike and Crystal Snider of Gorman, Dewayne and Connie Snider of Stephenville, Lisa Snider of Arlington, Dan Snider of Gorman, Justin Snider of Tempe, AZ, and Belinda, Audri and Isaac Segura of Gorman. Dianne and Sandra Snider were unable to be there as Sandra is in the Cook's Children Hospital at Fort Worth. We send her our get well wishes and hope that she will be coming home soon. Charlotte Snider was also unable to be at Mrs. Snider's as she was with her mother, Mrs. Ileta Cavitt, who is a patient in the Brownwood Hospital. We send get well wishes to Mrs. Cavitt and hope that she is able to return to her

Desdemona News

By Vonnie Guthery

First Baptist Church of Desdemona had good attendance last Sunday for the morning service. Church choir presented the Christmas Cantata--the beautiful story of Jesus' birth with songs. Choir members were Helen Collum, Dorothy Roberts, Lane Shirley, Robert Cummings, Camron Cummings, Ashton Cummings, Mary Riggs, Wilma Iley, Patty Brawner, Joan Baker and led by Annette Cummings. Several visitors attended this service. Albert and Pat Holdman was in

home in DeLeon soon. Sheri Snider of Lubbock will be coming home for Christmas holidays on Thursday.

Our get well wishes to Oren Webb who has had some health problems. Those visiting with Oren and Norma the past few days were Delmon and Joyce Eaves, Bro. Clarence and Leona Wilson, Joe and Glynda Bond, Jimmy and Verna Little, Woodrow and Helen Browning, Zelda Jordan, Glenda and Leon Black, James Webb of Glen Rose, Stacy Webb of Comanche and Judy Porter of Spring.

Please remember the sick with your prayers.

Visitors with Nancy Hendricks were Ruth Bryant, Sylvia Buchanan, Laneta Freeman and Doris Bradshaw.

We welcome Sylvia Buchanan back to our community. She has recently moved here from Brazoria. Sylvia is the daughter of Nancy Hendricks and the late Albert Hendricks and grew up in the Kokomo Community. Welcome home, Sylvia.

Jimmy and Verna Little and James and Jill Little, Ashley and Breckley were in San Angelo during the weekend for an early Christmas celebration in the home of Jerry and Lavell Hallmark. Others enjoying the celebration were Greg and Becky Ethington, LeeVi, Shane and Sheyanne of Sterling City, Earl and Debby Braddock, Ashton and Haegan of San Angelo, Shane and Amy Shott, Taner and Rylee of San Angelo, Fred and Jimmie Joan Wilson and bobby of San Angelo and other friends.

Karen Patterson and grandson, Will Patterson of Benjamin visited during the weekend with Earl and Betty Little.

Jimmy and Verna Little were in Abilene on Friday for Jimmy's check-up with his cardiologist and he got a good report. Enroute home they visited in Clyde with Ima Boles, and report that Ima is feeling much better and was back in her office at work. **HAPPY HOLIDAYS!**

Abilene last Saturday to attend the graduation of their granddaughter, Kama Vardeman, from Hardin Simmons University.

Happy Birthday to our great granddaughter, Lorin Eaves, who will be seven years old on Friday, December 22 from Granny Coon and Granke Guthery. Lorin attends school in DeLeon Elementary first grade.

Bro. Dewayne and Patty Brawner and children Christina, Andrew and Abigail of Stephenville moved last Monday to Desdemona where they will live in the First Baptist Church parsonage. Bro. Dewayne is the new pastor.

They are anxious to get settled in this community, to visit and meet new friends.

Pug and Vonnie Guthery celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary last Sunday, December 17th with a reception hosted by their daughters, Karen Eaves and Belinda Webb at the First Baptist Church Annex. They were blessed with many friends and relatives who attended to wish them much happiness in the years ahead. It was a very enjoyable day for the Gutherys.

Merry Christmas

Merry Christmas

Like the freshly-fallen snow we wish you a holiday blanketed in harmony. Many thanks.

The Branding Iron Restaurant

Phone 254-734-3911
Hwy. 6 West Gorman, Tx

MERRY CHRISTMAS

We offer our deepest thanks, along with warm tidings of the season.

Gorman Pharmacy
117 S. Kent — Gorman, Tx
254-734-2859
"Fast and Friendly Service" George Simmons - Pharmacist

Gorman Video - 734-3810

MERRY CHRISTMAS

May the peaceful tranquility of this happy season enter your heart and home. We thank you.

City of Gorman
City Council and Employees

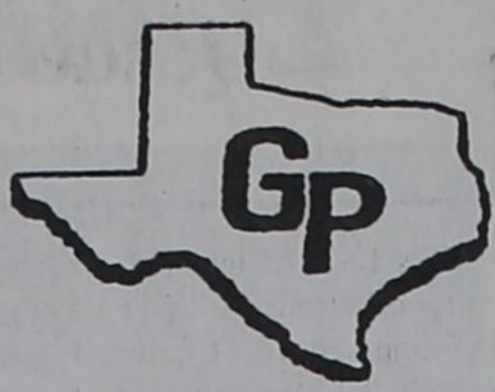
Season's Greetings

Wishing you the pleasures of a real old-fashioned, family Christmas of peace and harmony. Many thanks from all of us.

Birdsong Peanuts

Shellers and Crushers of Peanuts
254-734-2266 P. O. Box 698
Gorman, Texas 76454

Merry
Christmas To All
From Estelle Craddock



PRESS POINTS
JOE BENNETT - PUBLISHER

Christmas Parade and Night Out With Santa Well Attended

Thanks to everyone that helped with the Christmas parade and night out with Santa.

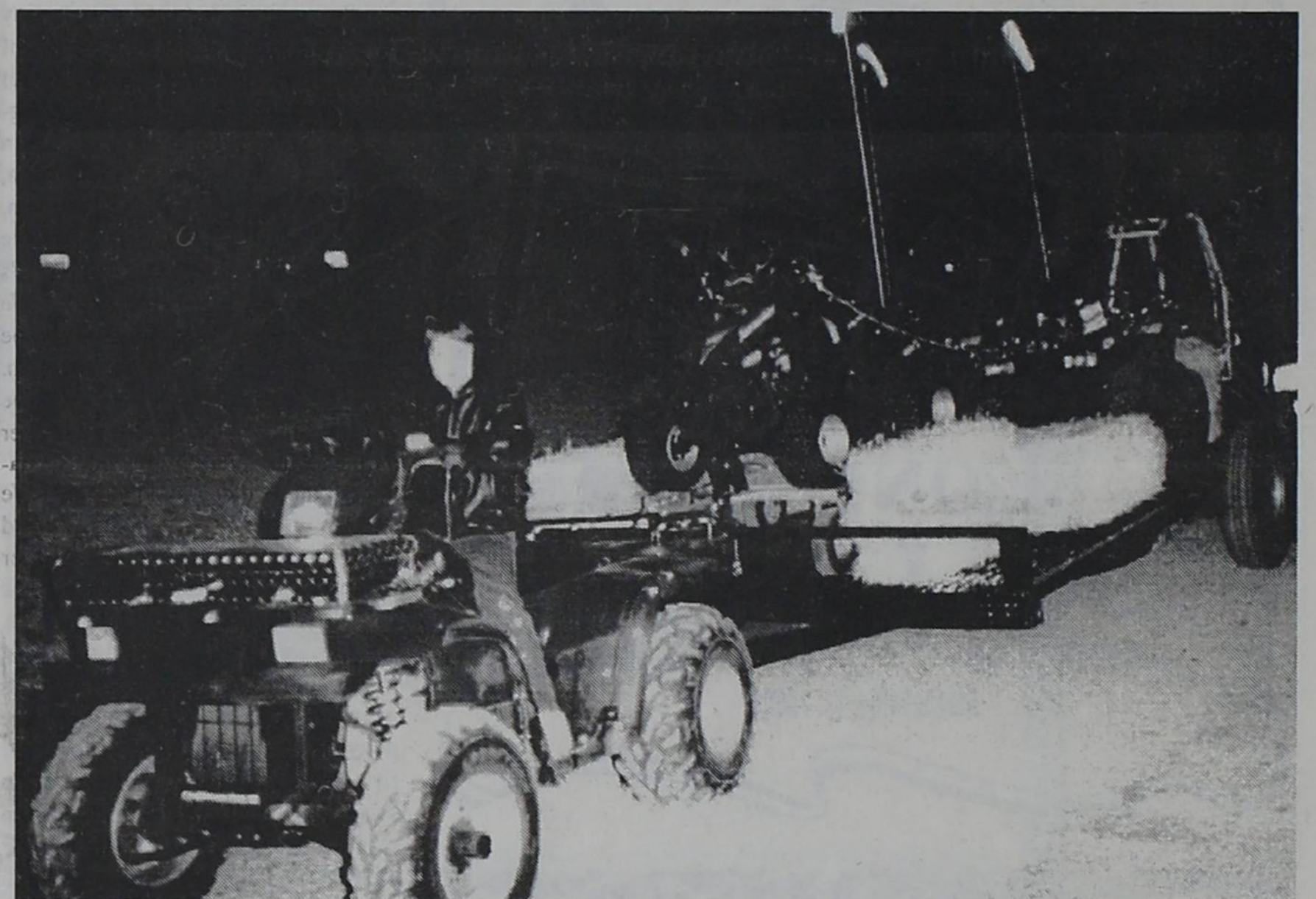
The Parade winners were: First Place--Gorman Peanut Queen Lana Howard, Second Place--Ken's Motorcycle Shop Eastland, Third Place--Miss Gorman Andrea Dodd.

A special thank you to Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus for coming and visiting with all the children that wanted to talk to them. Also entertaining was the wonderful singing of the Messengers with Tommy Clark, Jeff Seaton, Hershel Cordell, Glenn Clements, and Jeff Clark, The Upper Room with Joe Williams, Jeff Clark, John Moss and John Howard, The Continental 2 with Daryl Hirst and Glenda Black and the Howard Family with John, Charlotte, Lana, Lacy, and Kayann.

Also thanks to the Lions Club and Chamber of Commerce for financial support, to Bill and Cliffa Vaughn for the use of the Opry House and the Gorman FFA for setting up the chairs.



Gorman Peanut Queen - Lana Howard -- First Place



Ken's Motorcycle Shop - Eastland -- Second Place



Miss Gorman - Andrea Dodd -- Third Place

Season Greetings!!

De Leon Hospital
Kimmell Wellness Center
Phone 254-893-2011
De Leon, Texas

— J —
Well it has finally become necessary for the Progress to increase prices so that we can handle the increases in costs of publishing and mailing the paper. We will be increasing our advertising costs to \$3.00 per column inch. The price of classifieds will stay at \$3.00 minimum and will be \$.20 per words. Charged classifieds will be \$4.00 minimum and \$.20 per word over 20 words. An extra \$.50 will be added for tearsheets and billing. If you want a border around your classifieds, there will be an additional cost of \$.50.

Our subscription rates will also increase due to the increase for mailing the paper starting in January. We will be paying an increase of up to 17% on the larger portion of our mailings. Prices for in-county will be \$12.00 per year. In-state price will be \$16.50 and out-of-state will be \$18.50.

We are sorry that this increase is necessary, but we have to keep up with our increase in costs. We appreciate your understanding in this matter.

— J —
Santa will be coming on Monday and we wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year with your family. Spend all the time you can with your family because we never know how long we will have them. We appreciate the support of our advertisers in making our Christmas edition possible. Without the fine support it would be impossible to publish The Progress. Check the Christmas ads in this issue and when you contact these advertisers please let them know you appreciate them for making it possible to continue publishing The Progress.

God Bless you all and may you have the merriest Christmas and holiday season of all.

— J —
I attended the funeral of one of my "old friends" on Monday. Oscar Henry Lucke of Abilene was laid to rest on Monday. He was a longtime friend and he went into the Air Force with me in 1951. He retired after more than 20 years in the service and has been employed in Abilene since his retirement. He and his family lived in Gorman for many years and Oscar attended school here. We will miss him.

— J —
And remember to smile--because God Loves You!!

Letters to Santa

Dear Santa
Talking doll, kitchen, real car (Barbie) gas pump.
Lacey Wilson

Dear Santa,
Can I please bring me a trampoline.
Love, Katie

Dear Santa
I want Barbi, blue bike, puppy.



Merry Christmas!!!

Heritage Manor

A Proud Part of Pyramid Health Care
Phone 254-734-2202
Gorman, Texas 76454



JOY to the WORLD

May the peace of this Holy Season be yours throughout the holidays. Sincere thanks to all our friends.

G & H Feeds

254-734-2501
Gorman, Texas

Merry
Christmas

from
Ken's Motorcycle Shop

1304 E. Main - Eastland, Tx

See Us For All Your Quick
Kids ATV Needs!

Gorman GROW Held Their Monthly Meeting Dec. 18th

Gorman Grow held their monthly meeting on December 18, 2000. The Directors and Officers for 2001 were installed. There was good attendance at this meeting with great food and fellowship. The next meeting for the Gorman GROW will be on Monday, January 15, 2001 at 7:00 pm. Last week, it was reported that pictures of the Tour of Homes would be available this week. Unfortunately, due to technical difficulties, this will not be possible.

Snider Inducted into Alpha Chi

Lisa Snider from Stephenville, Texas was among those inducted into Alpha Chi National Honor Society, on November 21, 2000, in Arlington, Texas.

Snider is a 1997 graduate of Stephenville High School and she is majoring in Sociology at UTA. She plans to enter graduate school after she graduates from UTA with a Bachelor of Science Degree in May 2001.

Membership in Alpha Chi is limited to members of the junior and senior classes who excel academically. Grade Point averages must be 3.60 or better. The objectives of the honor society are to promote and to recognize superior scholarship and those elements of character that make for effective service.

Snider is the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Dwayne Snider of Stephenville, Texas, the granddaughter of Hazel Snider of Gorman, Texas, and Norman Park of DeLeon, Texas.

Gladys Pittman Laid to Rest

Gladys Pittman, 90, of DeLeon, died on Monday, December 18, 2000 at the DeLeon Hospital. Services were Tuesday, December 19, 2000 at the DeLeon First Baptist Church with Tom Satterwhite officiating. Burial was in the DeLeon Cemetery.

Mrs. Pittman was born on April 27, 1910 in Shackelford County, Texas to the late Wilburn Adams and Minnie Belle White Adams. She married Lowell Pittman on May 28, 1930 in Eastland, Texas. She was a homemaker and resident of DeLeon most of her life.

Survivors include one daughter, Greta Gardner of DeLeon; one brother, Vernon Adams of Hurst; 6 grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren; and 2 great-great grandchildren.

Preceded by her husband, Lowell Pittman, one daughter, Sue Ripley and one brother, Walt Adams.

Abundant Life Services To Be Held 9:30 a.m.

Abundant Life needs to announce that due to Sunday being Christmas Eve, our regularly scheduled service will be held at 9:30 AM instead of 2:00 PM this Sunday only.

Thank you, John Howard, Jr.

Pause To Think

The Christmas Story is the most beautiful story of all times, and the most phenomenal as well. Let's look in **Luke 1:26-31** And in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth, To a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. And the angel came in unto her, and said, Hail, thou that art highly favoured, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women. And when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be. And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God. And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS.

Let us also read in **Luke 2:4-14**. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:) To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn. And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

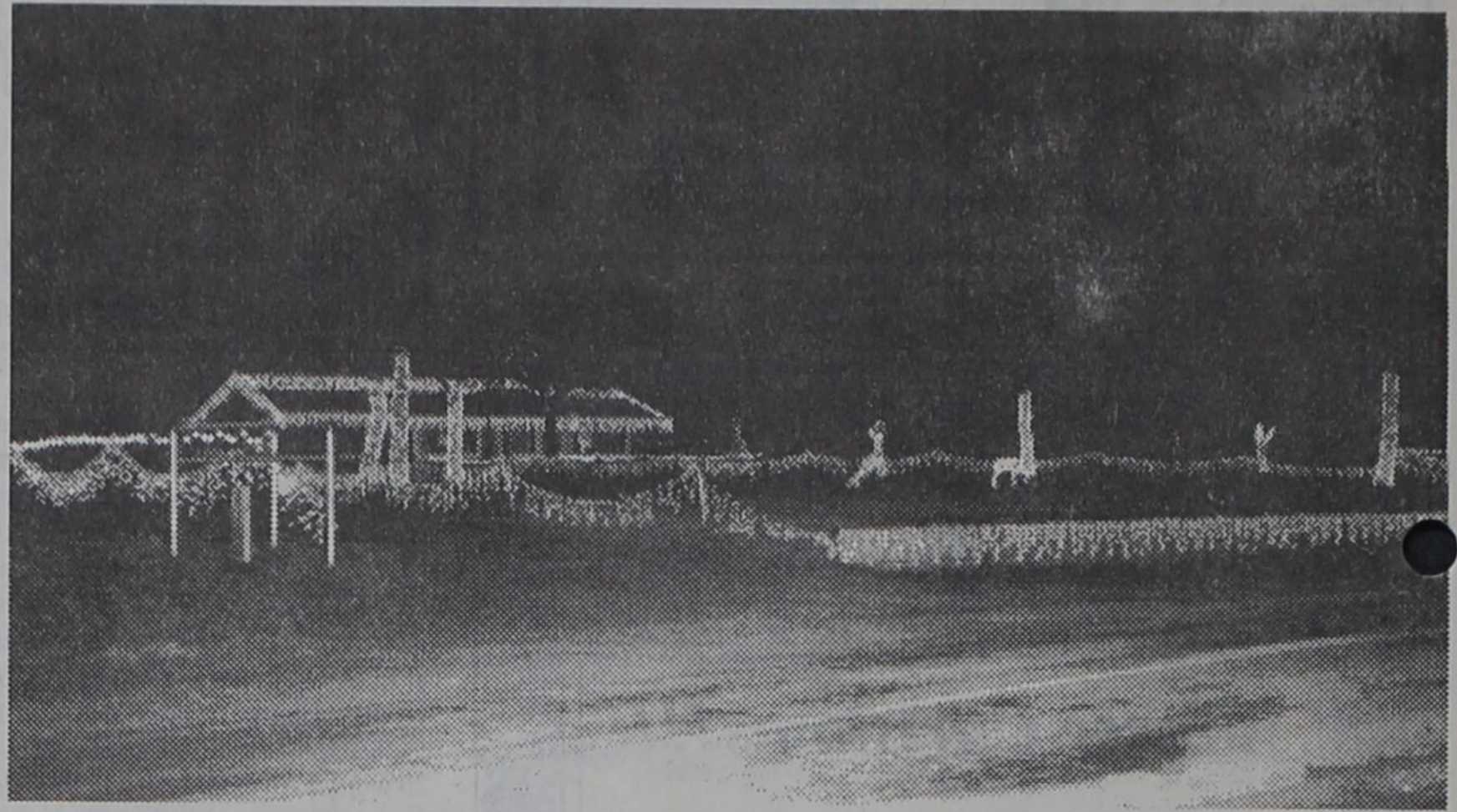
Let us also look in **Matthew 2:1-2**. Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem, Saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him.

And finally, **Matthew 2:8-11**, And he sent them to Bethlehem, and said, Go and search diligently for the young child; and when ye have found him, bring me word again, that I may come and worship him also. When they had heard the king, they departed; and, lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy. And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense, and myrrh.

There are several aspects of this story that make it a most intriguing story: a virgin birth, angels speaking and singing to shepherds, the wise men who followed a star, the gifts they brought, and the fact that the baby was Emmanuel, God with us.

Why did God come to earth in the flesh as a little baby? He came to bring

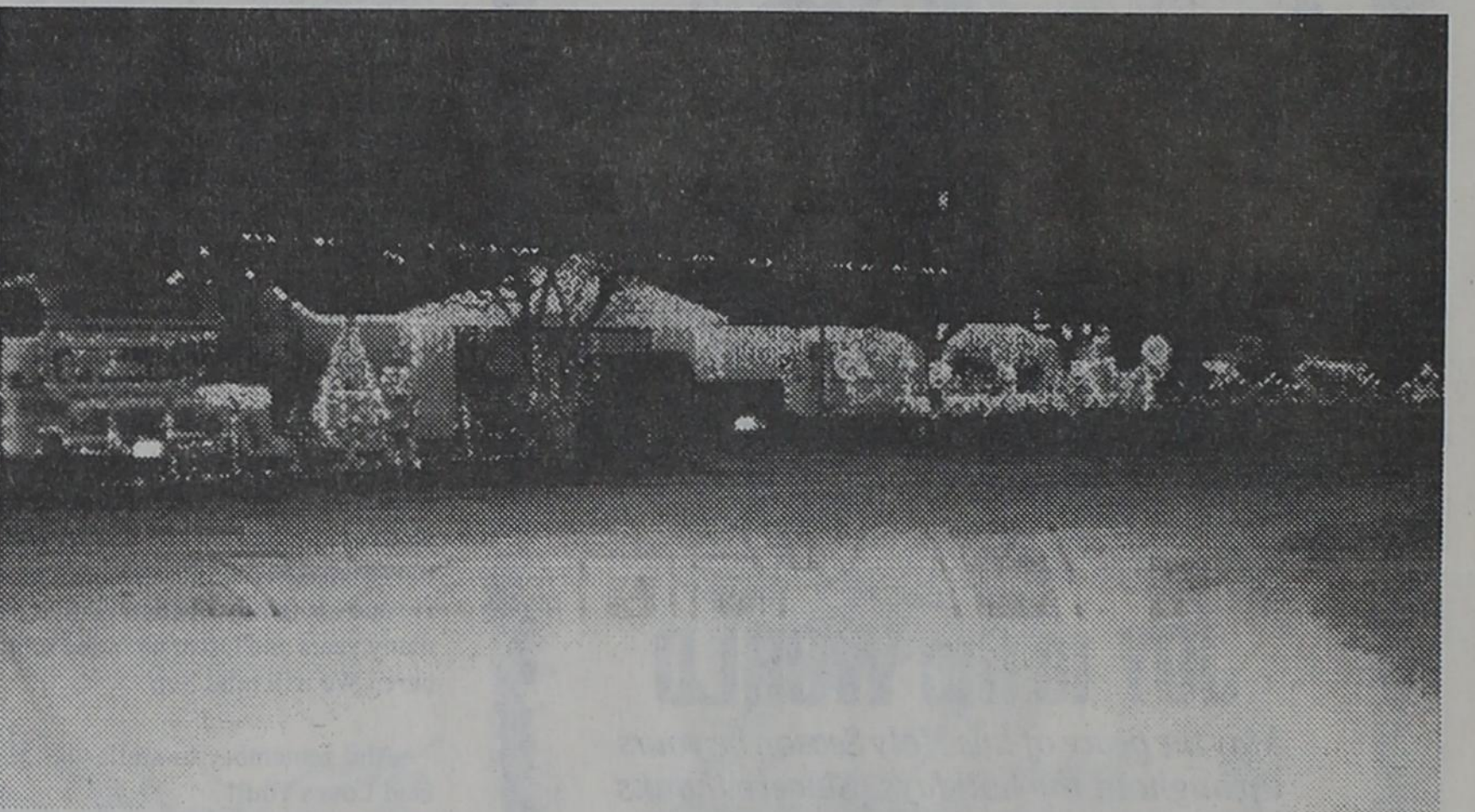
Lighting Contest Winners



First Place — Danny and Charla Burgess



Second Place — Cecilia Hirst



Third Place — Sue Spivey

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USDA Announces 2001 Crop Peanut National Poundage Quota

WASHINGTON, December 13, 2000 — The U.S. Department of Agriculture today announced a national poundage quota for peanuts for the 2001 marketing year of 1,180,000 short tons, (2,360 million pounds) unchanged from the 2000 level. The 2001-crop national poundage quota will be allocated to each State based on the State's share of the 2000-crop national poundage quota.

Keith Kelly, Administrator of USDA's Farm Service Agency, said this level has been determined to be the quota level which will provide peanuts for domestic use in accordance with the statutory formula for establishing the quota. The announcement of the final national poundage quota must be made by December 15, 2000, for the 2001 marketing year, which begins August 1, 2001.

The Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, as amended, provides that the national poundage quota for the 2001 crop of peanuts shall be a formula quantity equal to the estimated quantity

of peanuts needed for domestic edible and related uses, excluding seed, in the 2001 marketing year. The formula quantity, together with an allowance for the possibility of underdeliveries up to 17,000 short tons, totals 1,180,000 short tons.

The national average 2001 quota price support level is set by statute at \$610 per short ton. The price support level for additional peanuts must be established by February 15, 2000.

For further information contact Daniel Stevens, telephone (202) 720-5291, E-mail address Daniel_Stevens@wdc.fsa.usda.gov.

us the gift of eternal life. Some have never unwrapped the package. Inside the package, under all the wrapping is a gift far better than any God had given to mankind prior to his initial coming, (read Hebrews 11): the gift of the Holy Ghost / Holy Spirit. And, inside that gift a many more gifts to many to enumerate in this edition of Pause to Think. Why don't you receive His gift this Christmas?

More next week. Address comments or questions to:
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Mend The Electoral College, Don't End It

The people of America sent a message November 7, but it's taking a little time to figure out exactly what it is. As we learn about dangling chads, the drumbeat is also beginning about the reform of our election process. Should we change election day from Tuesday to Saturday? Should we open and close the polls at a uniform time nationwide? More fundamentally, should we scrap the Electoral College?

This final idea would require amending the Constitution. As we consider that, we should begin by examining the intent of its Framers. Their clear vision during the Constitutional Convention of 1787 was that we remain a collection of states united in their common interests. The delegates in Philadelphia never really considered any form of electing the President that did not involve a process by which the states themselves had the final say, with the particular concern of small states holding sway throughout. The Electoral College was established as the best means by which to ensure popular expression of will, weighted by the influence of individual states. Although many schemes were considered and rejected, Alexander Hamilton pronounced of the final effort, "If the manner of it be not perfect, it is at least excellent."

He was right. Consider how closely the fortunes of both Vice President Gore and Governor Bush were tied to the decisions of the people of smaller states such as West Virginia, New Mexico and Oregon. Each candidate spent considerable time in these states. The combined population of these three states is about 6.8 million. By comparison, the Los Angeles-Long Beach metropolitan area has 15.3 million inhabitants. Would another candidate for the highest office of the land ever step foot in tiny West Virginia were the fortunes of the election based solely on the popular vote? Presidential races in the future would instead be the pursuit of the vote in major urban centers of the country, characterized by frequent run-off elections as proliferating smaller party candidates siphoned off sufficient votes to prevent an absolute majority.

This is often the unfortunate result in many countries around the globe and one we've avoided for two centuries. In just three of 53 presidential elections has the process established in the Constitution failed to yield an electoral majority. That's not a bad record, considering the emergence of political parties, the establishment of universal suffrage and the rapid growth of our country. What has not changed is that we remain a confederation of states with common purpose and a system with enough checks and balances that those who lose do not feel threatened or disenfranchised. Scrapping the electoral system would gravely undermine that principle.

In fact, that's why attempts to change the process will fail. The approval of the legislatures of three-fourths of the states is needed to amend the Constitution. Just 14 states could sink the proposition. Twenty states have a population of fewer than three million and would see little interest in ratifying their loss of influence over the selection of the President.

This doesn't mean there is nothing we can do to improve the process. To reach a more expeditious conclusion in a close election, we might define a finite period for the casting of federal votes. Establishing a uniform voting period tied to a single time zone (9 to 9 CST, for example) would ensure that all Americans are voting in the same real-time period. Setting the election on a Saturday instead of Tuesday should be considered. We might also require absentee ballots to be post-marked on a specified date prior to the election. These simple changes may produce more open access and uniformity while confounding the ability of news organizations to affect the vote in one part of the country based upon early and erroneous calls from another region — as well may have happened regarding Florida on November 7.

We might consider one other modification. In two states now (Maine and Nebraska), electors are chosen in a bifurcated way. Of each state's total, two are chosen by the winner of the popular vote statewide, with the rest allocated to the winner of each congressional district. If this procedure were in place in every state, candidates would not only focus on individual states to cobble together a victory, but be able to spend time in potential strongholds within a state he or she might otherwise lose.

The Constitution is infused with the Framers' understanding that popular passion must be modulated to ensure true consensus in what they knew would be a country of diverse tendencies. There are many examples of this, but none more fundamental to our federal identity than the creation of the Electoral College. They knew that it may sometimes be difficult to select a chief executive through the sheer popular will, and developed a systematic process to handle those cases. Indeed, it was only after considerable deliberation and explicit rejection of every imaginable alternative that the delegates to the Constitutional Convention settled on the system.

In the heat of a closely contested election and its aftermath, we're unlikely to improve upon their work. This matter should be debated, and we should seek improvements to assure fairness and stability. However, I believe the current process is not some 18th Century anachronism ill-suited to modern times, but rather the practical expression of our essence as a nation.



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(front, left to right) Ed Moyers, Shannon Lancaster, Melenda Harbour, Johnny Reed, Maria Feist, Carol Freeman, Rita McNew, Danny McNutt, Gary Schoen, Ronald Wilkerson, Speedy Swift, Antonio Arreola, Brian Weaver; (back, left to right) Chas Bayer, Mitchell Bayer, Roger Lewis, Joe Casey, Phillip Levens, Clifford Babbitt, Dick Hawkins, Jason Grimshaw, Dwayne Snell, Harvey Suarez, Andy Villalba, Danny Lammons, Dean Holland, Mike Grelle, Lamont Freeman, Chris McNutt, and Marty Roberts. (Not pictured, Eric Garcia, Jr. Garcia, Mike Adcock, Gary Gillam, and Crystal Jones.)

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NATIONAL TRUST ANNOUNCES PRESERVATION WEEK 2001

"Restore, Renew, Rediscover Your Historic Neighborhood Schools!"
National Preservation Week Poster Contest To Award Thousands In Prizes

(Washington, D.C., Dec. 18, 2000) — Before the age of sprawl, before malls and mini-marts and express lanes, children walked to school. They passed friends, neighbors and familiar merchants on their way to a school built just for them in the heart of town, a school whose style and scale reflected the spirit of the neighborhood. Children grew up knowing they were cherished and integral parts of the community, just like the local schoolhouse.

Then the era of the mega-school began, and anonymous new campuses went up on the outskirts of town. Children were bused away from the center of town - and community life - and now, only one in eight children walks or bikes to school.

What are we saying to our children when we move the school out of town and let the lowest bidder decide how it will look? How can kids believe they are valued and unique when their schools resemble malls and prisons?

To reverse the trend, preservationists and children across the nation are making a stand for their historic neighborhood schools. The National Trust for Historic Preservation announced today that the theme of Preservation Week 2001 is, "Restore, Renew, Rediscover Your Historic Neighborhood Schools!" Preservation Week will be celebrated May 13-19, 2001.

"At the heart of every American community is the neighborhood school," said National Trust President Richard Moe. "In this age of sprawl, it's more important than ever to rediscover the role historic neighborhood schools play in towns and cities across the nation. If your school is endangered, fight to save it. If it's been saved, celebrate it. Preservation Week is a time for students, families and communities to come together and rally round these marvelous and irreplaceable neighborhood anchors."

Special this year, the National Trust is sponsoring a Preservation Week poster contest. It is open to non-profit groups, schools, school districts and state and local governments involved in promoting the continued use of older and historic neighborhood schools as educational facilities. The schools featured in the posters should be at least 50 years old, although exceptions can be made to the age guideline. They should have architectural merit, serve as community anchors and be currently in use as educational facilities. Cash awards of \$2,000, \$1,000 and \$500 will be awarded to the first-, second- and third-prize winners. For more information about the contest, contact Rob Nieweg at 202-588-6107. Deadline is March 31, 2001.

Older and historic schools, if properly renovated and adequately maintained, can provide a first-class, state-of-the-art learning environment for new generations of students. Historic neighborhood schools allow young people to walk to class, enjoy a smaller, more intimate facility with neighborhood friends, be surrounded by distinctive design, and be more closely connected with the community. Schools in random, isolated locations out of town afford little of this. They promote isolation, loss of identity and sprawl.

Last month, the National Trust released the report, "Historic Neighborhood Schools in the Age of Sprawl: Why Johnny Can't Walk to School," in which it contends that public policies, including excessive acreage requirements, funding formulas and planning code exemptions, are promoting the spread of mega-school sprawl on outlying, undeveloped land at the expense of small, walkable, community-centered schools in older neighborhoods. The National Trust calls on school administrators and public officials to establish policies that will preserve and upgrade historic neighborhood schools. Among its recommendations, the National Trust suggests eliminating arbitrary acreage standards, funding biases, and certain zoning exemptions that undermine the public's ability to maintain older and historic schools as centers of community life and learning.

In June 2000, the National Trust named historic neighborhood schools to its list of America's 11 Most Endangered Historic Places. In listing historic schools, the preservation organization was responding to requests for assistance from grassroots advocacy groups throughout the country.

Congressman Stenholm Announces Service Academy Nominees

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Congressman Charles W. Stenholm (D-TX) is pleased to announce that 24 young men and women from the 17th District of Texas have been selected as nominees to the United States Service Academies. Their names have been submitted for consideration as members of the academy classes entering in July 2001. "I am always so impressed by the high caliber of candidates that apply to my office each year," said Stenholm. "But it certainly makes a selection decision all the more difficult." Eighteen young men and women were nominated for two appointment slots at the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado, eleven for two slots at the Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland, and twelve for two slots at the Military Academy at West Point, NY.

The individuals, and the academies to which they have been nominated, are: Marcos Acosta of Abilene, Air Force; Travis Atwood of Hamlin, Military & Naval; Joshua Bashaw of Stephenville, Air Force; Walter Beard of Clyde, Air Force; Shane Beckley of Granbury, Air Force & Naval; Michelle Vanessa Brown of Early, Military & Air Force; Bowe Butler of Big Spring, Air Force & Naval; Aaron Byrd of Abilene, Air Force & Military; Dustin Clark of Breckenridge, Air Force; Alex Flores, Jr. of Big Spring, Naval & Air Force; Andrew Hacker of Tuscola, Air Force & Military; Jesse Haines of Snyder, Air Force & Naval; Austin Haire of Snyder, Naval & Military; Adam Hudson of Bridgeport, Naval & Military; Weston Killian of Abilene, Air Force & Military; Oscar Shane Larsen of Abilene, Naval & Air Force; Adam Chase Millsap of Granbury, Naval & Military; Marcus Morgan of Mineral Wells, Military; Joel Eben Nelson of Stephenville, Air Force & Naval; Robert Rogge of Glen Rose, Air Force; Brian Ross of Newark, Naval & Military; Mathew Swinney of San Angelo, Air Force & Military; Mark Taylor of Sweetwater, Air Force & Military; and Roger Zach Tinnin of Roscoe, Air Force.

The nominees will now be contacted by the academies with additional information and instructions, and will be scheduled for medical and physical examinations.

The academies will make appointment announcements by late spring.

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<p>2000 Astro Passenger Van Stk # 14175</p> <p>\$21,435 +TT&L</p> <p>Total Savings \$2,798 MSRP.....\$24,233 Factory Rebate.....1,000 Bayer Discount.....1,798 Sale Price.....\$21,435</p> <p>LS, Front & Rear Air, AM/FM stereo w/CD, power windows, locks, mirrors, keyless remote, deep tinted glass</p>	<p>2000 Silverado 1/2 Ton Ext. Cab Stk # 13695</p> <p>\$28,638 +TT&L</p> <p>Total Savings \$5,368 MSRP.....\$34,006 Factory Rebate.....1,500 Bayer Discount.....3,868</p> <p>Leather seating, 4wd LT pkg, locking differential, 245/75R 16WL tires, trailering pkg, power windows, locks and mirrors, 6-way power heated bucket seat, cruise and tilt (4,400)</p>
<p>2000 Chevy Blazer LS Stk # 14504</p> <p>\$25,465 +TT&L</p> <p>Total Savings \$3,622 MSRP.....\$29,087 Factory Rebate.....1,500 Bayer Discount.....2,122 Sale Price.....\$25,465</p> <p>2-door, 4WD, 4300 V-6, 4 spd auto trans, ZR2 suspension pkg, pwr windows, locks, heated mirrors, cruise & tilt, locking differential, deluxe overhead console, 2 spd active transfer case</p>	<p>Choose the Best for You</p> <p>5.9%.....36mos. 6.9%.....48mos. 7.9%.....60mos.</p> <p>2001 Buick Century Sedan Stk # 15652</p> <p>Sale Price \$18,945 MSRP.....\$21,525 Factory Rebate.....1,250 Bayer Discount.....1,330 Total Savings.....2,580</p> <p>Custom, Premium PKG, Driver side Power Seat, 205/70R15 whitewall Tires, Front & Rear Carpet Savers, cruise, tilt, AM/FM Stereo w/cassette. Heated Outside Rearview Mirrors</p>
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'97 Chevrolet 1/2 ton Ext. Cab., V-6, auto.....	\$10,500
'97 Chevrolet 1/2 ton Reg. Cab., V-6, auto, 52K.....	\$14,000
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