

# Merry Christmas

# BIG SPRING HERALD

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50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

## CHRISTMAS EVE

December 24, 2000

## WEATHER

Today:



TODAY 62°-64° TONIGHT 32°-34°

## Most entities will be closed Monday, Tuesday

Federal, city and county offices will be closed for the next several days to observe the Christmas holidays.

Both city of Big Spring offices and the Howard County Courthouse will be closed Monday and Tuesday. Emergency services will be available.

No mail will be delivered on Monday as the post office will be closed. Regular delivery service will resume on Tuesday.

The VA hospital administration offices will be closed on Monday and will be open for regular hours on Tuesday.

## WHAT'S UP...

### TUESDAY

□ Intermediate Line Dance Class, 9 a.m., Senior Citizens Center. Call 267-1628.

□ Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room.

### WEDNESDAY

□ Line dancing, 1 p.m., Senior Citizens Center, Industrial Park, call 398-5522 or 267-1628.

□ Optimist Club, 7 a.m., Howard College Cactus Room.

□ Big Spring Downtown Lions Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room. For more information call Terry Hansen 264-5175.

## INSIDE TODAY...

Abby	8B
Business	4-5B
Classified	6-8B
Features	6A
Horoscope	9B
Life	1-4B
Nation	5A
Obituaries	2A
Opinion	4A
Sports	7-8A
Texas	3A



1 shopping day 'til Christmas

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To reach us, please call 263-7331. Office hours are 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you miss your paper, please call 263-7335 before 7 p.m. on weekdays and 11 a.m. on Sunday.

## No paper Monday

So that *Herald* employees might have the opportunity to spend as much time as possible with family and friends this Christmas, today's paper was printed with an earlier deadline.

There will be no newspaper on Christmas Day. Our business office will also be closed that day. Normal publication will resume Tuesday.

From the *Herald* family to your family, may the joys of the season fill your hearts.

Merry Christmas.



Members of Baker's Chapel AME, Mount Bethel Baptist, Northside Baptist and other individuals went caroling throughout Big Spring on Friday night. Boarding a flatbed trailer, the carolers visited several nursing homes and business locations.

HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody

## A warm home, just in time for Christmas

By BILL MCCLELLAN  
News Editor

It wasn't always this way. Cirida Mata's North Goliad Street home has central heat and air. Dishes are stacked neatly in the cabinets. The electric oven is on, but only because food is being prepared for the holidays.



ALLISON

"Ahh," she says, holding out her hands to feel the warm air flow from a vent.

The rest of what she says is in Spanish. Mrs. Mata doesn't speak English. The exact words don't matter. The smile on her face says it all.

Just a few short weeks ago, the situation seemed hopeless. What protection she had from the cold came from a small heater and the kitchen's gas stove, its four burners kept brightly burning much of the time.

Parts of the old home's ceiling were hanging down in several rooms and the

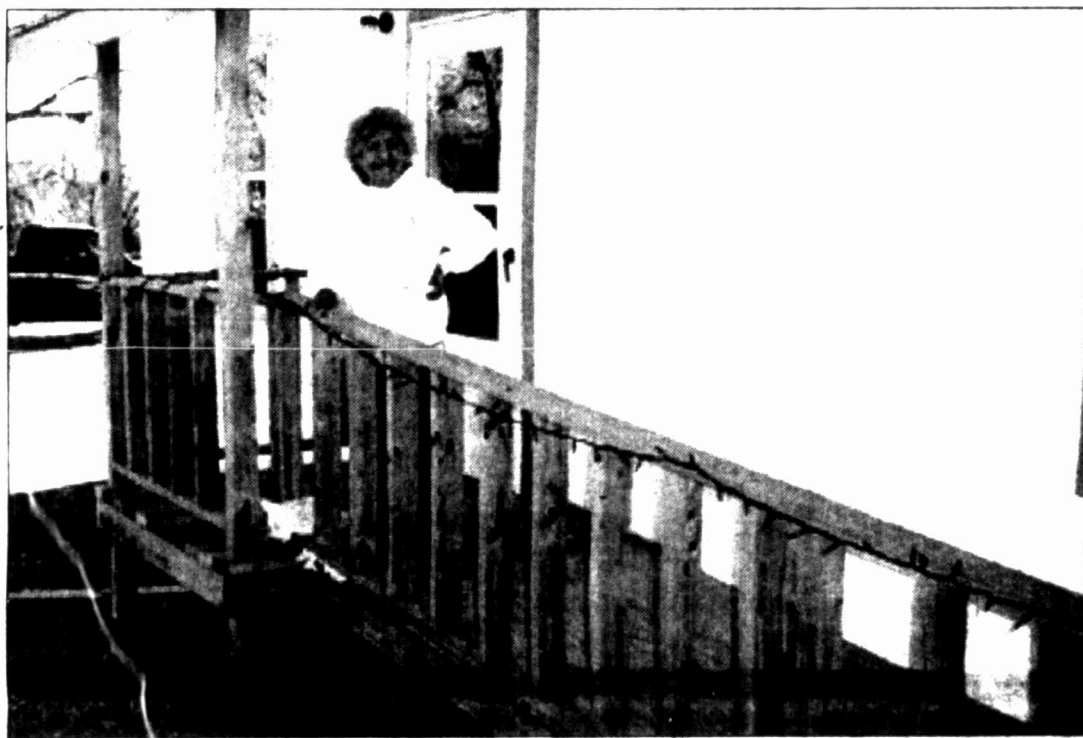
cabinets above the kitchen sink were pulling away from the wall. A knife or a wooden stick stuck between the cabinet's metal handles kept them from opening and spilling their contents on the sagging floor.

"It's a shame she has to live like this," said GrantWorks consultant Karen Allison, one coolish day in early December. "It's gratifying she won't have to live here much longer."

Through a grant sought by the Big Spring Housing Authority with the blessing of the Big Spring City Council, Mrs. Mata has a new home. It's built next door to the old house, which will soon be razed.

Construction of the small but efficient home was made possible through a \$235,000 Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs Owner-Occupied Rehabilitation Grant. With it, five other homes in Big Spring received extensive renovations, ranging from \$20,000 to \$35,000.

To be eligible to apply for assistance once the grant was approved, families had to own their own home and have an income 30 percent



HERALD photo/Carl Graham

Cirida Mata stands at the door of her new home on North Goliad Street in Big Spring. Construction of the home, made possible through a grant applied for by the Big Spring Housing Authority and city council, was completed just before the holidays.

under the annual median for Howard County. Special consideration was given to senior citizens with a disability who lacked financial means to repair their homes.

"Not only does this work improve the quality of life of the residing family and improve the neighborhood, but it ensures keeping the selected homes on the tax rolls," said Mark Gentry,

housing authority director. "This is HUD (Housing and Urban Development) money given to the state. Cities under 50,000 in popu-

See HOME, Page 3A



HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody

A Texan at heart, Santa likes to tinker with his truck on his days off. Santa performs his yearly flight tonight to deliver toys to children world wide. Currently he can be seen at the residence of Carl Durrett located at 3912 Parkway working on his truck.

## Neighbors' quick response may have averted tragedy

By LYNDEL MOODY

Staff Writer

Photo, Page 3A

Quick response may have saved an area residence from disaster Friday after neighbors spotted smoke coming from the garage.

Big Spring Fire Department responded with three engines to a 911 call reporting smoke coming from 1404 Mt. Vernon.

"We got the call at 2:30 and were at the scene at 2:33," said Lt. Farley Hayworth.

Fifteen-year-old Valerie



GARCIA

Garcia spotted smoke coming from her neighbor's house.

"I has just gotten out of the shower and sat down on the couch," Garcia said. "I locked out the window and saw smoke."

Turning to her husband, she asked him if he saw smoke and then attempted to warn her neighbors about the problem, she said.

"I ran over to the house but no one was home," she said. "I went next door because we do not have a phone."

"One of the neighbors spotted the fire," said Mary Lunsford, who was next

See RESPONSE, Page 3A

## Local merchants report better than average sales

By CARL GRAHAM  
Staff Writer

Though Christmas sales have been reported to be down nationally, it's not the case here in Big Spring.

According to Kathy Lusk, Big Spring Mall manager, businesses in the mall have been having record-breaking Christmas sales.



LUSK

"It's just been great at the mall," said Lusk. "We have had the place packed almost everyday and all the businesses have reported great sales. Even our two newest businesses said sales have been remarkable."

Lusk said when business is good in the stores, it tends to help the other vendors at the mall such as the movies, restaurant, barbers and beauty shops as well.

"The manager of Cinema II and the Santa Fe Cafe say they have been doing a very

See SALES, Page 2A



Cody Pennington looks for a western shirt that will fit him at C-G Western Wear store at 1600 Gregg. Owner Connie Newell said that she has been kept busy her first Christmas in business with good sales.

HERALD photo/Carl Graham



**OBITUARIES**

**Billy Joe Minchew Jr.**

Billy Joe Minchew Jr., 39, of Big Spring, died on Friday, Dec. 22, 2000, in a Midland hospital. Graveside funeral services were held at noon, Saturday, Dec. 23, 2000, at Trinity Memorial Park with Chaplain Allen Williams, officiating.



He was born on Feb. 20, 1961, in Big Spring and married Robin Rivers on June 14, 1985, in Big Spring.

Mr. Minchew grew up in Big Spring. He graduated from Big Spring High School in 1979 and attended Howard College. He received his law enforcement degree from Odessa College and had worked as a security guard.

He was a Baptist. Survivors include: his wife, Robin Minchew of Big Spring; his parents, Bill and June Minchew of Big Spring; one sister and brother-in-law, Sherri and Joe Spurny of Midland; his father-in-law, Clarence Rivers of Big Spring; one sister-in-law, Toya Rivers of Big Spring; his grandmothers, Bobbie Sealy of Crane and Ozella Rivers of Rotan; and a special relative, Jimmie Burks of Big Spring.

The family suggests memorials to Allison Cancer Center, 301 North N. Midland 79701.

Arrangements are under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home.

**SALES**

Continued from Page 1A  
good business," said Lusk. "Our folks have stayed at home and shopped locally more this year and this helps us all by keeping the money here at home."

Daryl Holley, Wal-Mart manager, echoed the words of Lusk.

"It appears that the local community has stayed at home and shopped more this year," said Holley. "Our sales are up compared to last year and we have had great Christmas sale receipts. We definitely appreciate the community for that."

Zac Phinney, son of Karat Patch owners Jay and Phinney, said business has been brisk.

"We are well pleased with the volume of business," said Phinney. "It is always good to finish out the year on a positive note."

Tommye Crain, owner of Tommye's Treasures at 223 S. Main, said that although it hasn't been a record-setting season, sales have

**NALLEY-PICKLE & WELCH Funeral Home**  
Trinity Memorial Park and Crematory  
906 Gregg St.  
(915) 267-6331

Billy Joe Minchew, Jr., 39, died Friday, December 22, 2000. Graveside funeral services were held at 12:00 noon, Saturday at Trinity Memorial Park.

Latha Hill, 89, died Thursday, December 21, 2000. Graveside funeral services were held at 2:00 PM, Saturday at Trinity Memorial Park.

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been good. "We have had better years and sales haven't been as good as we had hoped but it has been fairly well overall," said Crain.

Connie Newell, owner/manager of the brand new C-G's Western Wear, reported a great Christmas run.

"We have been kept quite busy," said Newell who just opened shop a couple of months ago. "Though I don't have anything to compare it to, I am well pleased with our Christmas sales this year."

Keith Chaney, owner of Chaney's Jewelry at 1706 Gregg, said he was a little worried early on but things have picked up lately.

"We had some concerns early on," said Chaney. "But things began to really pick up lately, mostly in the last 10 days or so. Thank goodness for last minute shoppers."

**Christmas tree fire causes severe damage to a local residence**

Herald Staff Report

Big Spring Fire Department personnel responded to a structural fire at 4117 Muir Street after receiving a 911 call approximately 6:17 p.m. Friday.

Upon arrival, firefighters found the living room of the home engulfed in flames. The blaze was extinguished, but not before severe damage had occurred.

According to Larry Ringer, deputy fire chief of the 11th & Birdwell fire station, preliminary investigation indicates the fire started in the family's Christmas tree.

According to a neighbor, the home belonged to Manuel and Lisa Castanuela.

The neighbor told authorities Manuel was at work, but Lisa and her two children were at home when the fire started. The Castanuelas lost most of their possessions in the fire that left the home uninhabitable.

**Newspapers threaten legal action if senators proceed with secret vote**

DALLAS (AP) — Editors of some of Texas' largest newspapers on Friday urged state senators to reconsider plans to cast secret ballots for the new presiding officer of the Senate, saying Texans have a right to know how their representatives vote.

Letters were faxed to the 31 senators' offices by an Austin law firm on behalf of the Bryan-College Station Eagle, San Antonio Express-News, Houston Chronicle, Waco Tribune-Herald and Austin-American Statesman as well as Texas Monthly magazine.

"We are concerned about the precedent that secrecy sets," American Statesman Editor Rich Opel said. "While an individual citizen has the right to a secret ballot, when the Senate of Texas pulls a curtain around its chamber, it conceals a public official's vote and eliminates accountability to the public."

Rick Perry left his post as lieutenant governor to become governor this week, replacing President-elect

Bush. The Senate plans to convene Thursday and choose a new presiding officer from within its ranks. That person will have the duties but not the title of lieutenant governor, and will continue to be a senator.

In a private caucus Tuesday, the senators agreed informally that a non-record, or secret, vote would be used to elect Perry's replacement. When the senators meet Thursday, they must approve the rule formally before casting ballots.

Senators who favor a secret ballot say that if their own members do not know who voted for whom, it lessens the ill will and wards off possible retaliation.

Express-News Editor Bob Rivard said the vote for the senator who arguably wields the most political power in Texas "should not be done behind closed doors."

"It creates a perception, if not a reality, of elected officials wheeling and dealing in secrecy for no good reason," Rivard said.

Said Donnis Baggett, publisher and editor of the Eagle: "The idea of our elected representatives choosing that person in a smoke-filled room is repulsive."

Spokeswoman Heather Browne said Attorney General John Cornyn participated in a conference call Friday with several senators regarding procedures for selecting the presiding officer.

"Because litigation is anticipated, it is not appropriate to comment further," Browne said.

Cornyn has said that selecting the officer by secret ballot is legal, but not preferred.

Attorney Joe Larson, who represents the Houston Chronicle, said that if three senators state publicly that they want an open vote, it cannot be conducted privately. And the newspapers may take legal action to prevent the vote from occurring, Larson said.

State Sen. Steve Ogden, R-Bryan, has urged the senators to make the vote public. "I've never, ever cast a secret vote in the Legislature since I have been over here since 1991. And I don't intend to start that now and I am trying to talk my colleagues into agreeing with me," Ogden has said.

Earlier this week, the Freedom of Information Foundation of Texas passed a resolution urging the senators to conduct the vote publicly.

Among the leading candidates to succeed Perry are Republicans J.E. "Buster" Brown of Lake Jackson, Teel Bivins of Amarillo, Bill Ratliff of Mount Pleasant, David Sibley of Waco and Jeff Wentworth of San Antonio.

Democrat Ken Armbrister of Victoria, a Bush ally during the presidential campaign, is another hopeful.

**Gun Barrel City mayor to go before jury**

ATHENS (AP) — Gun Barrel City's youngest-ever mayor, who is under investigation after allegations of election fraud and misuse of

Happy Holidays!  
From Big Spring Driver Education at The B.S. Mall  
C-1200

**BIG SPRING AROUND THE TOWN**

city property, is set to go before a grand jury next week.

"I'd rather not talk about it," Tye Thomas, 22, told the Athens Daily Review. "I'm just going to let the courts take their turn and do whatever they're going to do."

Thomas, who is scheduled to make the appearance on Dec. 28, is accused of falsifying his residence to be eligible to run for office. He is also accused of using city labor and equipment to make improvements on a parking lot in front of his Gun Barrel City business.

Thomas, who has been under fire since shortly after he took office in May, has told the newspaper, "I have not committed a crime."

Thomas has been questioned by officials with the Texas Rangers and the Henderson County Attorney's Office. The probe has reportedly been completed and is awaiting review by the grand jury.

In June, Thomas was voted to serve as a member of the Electoral College. He made history, becoming the state's youngest elector.

**Man facing death penalty for 3 murders gets retrial**

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — A man facing execution for a triple murder at a Houston bowling alley had his conviction reversed by a federal appeals court.

In a 2-1 decision late Friday, the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in New Orleans sent the case of Max Alexander Soffar, 45, back to district court. Justices said police had violated his rights during questioning and lawyers had rendered him inadequate representation. Texas must free Soffar unless a retrial begins within 120 days.

Soffar had confessed to a 1980 Houston bowling alley robbery and the fatal shooting of Alane Felsler, 17; Tommy Lee Temple, 17; and Stephen Allen Sims, 25. A fourth shooting victim, Gregory Garner, 18, survived with permanent brain damage and lost his left eye.

The appeals court determined Texas had violated the Fifth Amendment by questioning Soffar despite his request for a lawyer. Justices also found the Sixth Amendment had been violated because Soffar, after obtaining a lawyer, was questioned while being held on a different offense.

The court's decision was also based on Soffar's claim he was represented inadequately by his lawyer, who the court said failed to present ballistics evidence and police statements by Garner, the surviving shooting victim.

Garner's memory was discredited, and he did not testify at trial.

Justice Emilio Garza issued a dissenting opinion, saying that, over the course of three hours, Soffar had

waived his right to a lawyer after being told four times that he was entitled to one. Garza said nothing was on record to show Soffar misunderstood the offer.

Soffar has said he was a drug addict who confessed in order to be executed because he wasn't brave enough to kill himself.

"I built this whole case so I could go to the Walls Unit and get a needle stuck and end this," Soffar said in a 1988 death row interview. "There's not one piece of evidence to link me except my mouth."

**California facing major rate increases in electricity**

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Regulators have voted for rate increases that would affect millions of customers across the state starting next month in an effort to rescue two shaky electric companies tangled in a deepening power crisis.

The unanimous action by the Public Utilities Commission on Thursday means that hikes likely would take effect beginning Jan. 4, affecting 10 million customers of Pacific Gas and Electric Co. and Southern California Edison Co. The level of increase has yet to be determined.

"Retail rates in California must begin to rise," the Public Utilities Commission ordered Thursday. "This is crucial in light of the extraordinarily serious financial difficulties the dysfunctional wholesale markets have imposed on the utilities."

However, the commission promised an independent audit of the utilities' books before ratifying its decision on Jan. 4.

The two privately held utilities have said they were squeezed by deregulation in the state. PG&E and SoCal Edison blame \$8 billion in losses since May on soaring wholesale costs and frozen customer rates.

SoCal Edison on Friday announced cutbacks that would affect 400 contract-labor jobs and that "more substantial reductions" were possible if its financial condition did not improve.

The company did not say exactly how it was cutting costs, and it was also unclear whether the contract workers would be laid off or lose overtime opportunities as a result of the spending cuts.

Commission President Loretta Lynch said wholesale electricity costs had increased fivefold over three weeks.

"We are operating on an emergency basis," she said. Consumer groups balked at the commission's decision, saying it paved the way for a bailout to appease investors.

"This is regulation by Wall Street. The commission has prejudged the case and decided, before any evidence has been presented, that the utilities will be granted a rate increase," said Nettie Hoge, head of the utility watchdog group TURN.

But Dan Richard, of PG&E, said Wall Street's approval was vital to fiscal health and that the losses had wrecked the utilities' credit.

Richard said PG&E would set up a rate-stabilization plan to spread the spikes over time. The company earlier proposed a 17 percent hike, which would have raised the average \$54 monthly bill to about \$63.

Both PG&E and SoCal Edison complained about the commission's delay in responding to the crisis.

"The good part is, they're doing something. The bad part is, they didn't act in October," Richard said.

Standard & Poor's backed off its earlier threat to relegate the credit ratings of PG&E and SoCal Edison to "junk" status, a move that would make borrowing money difficult, if not impossible.

After both utilities' stocks had plunged by nearly \$3 on Thursday amid fears of an imminent financial calamity, they rebounded Friday.

**POLICE**

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activities between 8 a.m. Friday through 8 a.m. Saturday:

• **GABRIEL TALAMANTEZ**, 23, of 600 Steakley, was arrested on a charge of driving while intoxicated.

• **TORYN HAYNES**, 18, of 801 W. 15th, was arrested on a charge of Driving under the influence-minor.

• **MARIA VELEZ**, 25, of 1000 Goliad, was arrested on a charge of probation violation.

• **RONNIE FREEMAN**, 43, of 1002 Rannels, was arrested on a charge of public intoxication.

• **JOSE JIMENEZ**, 40, of 806 E. 12th, was arrested on a charge of driving while intoxicated.

• **SEXUAL ASSAULT** was reported in the 1600 block of Kentucky Way.

• **CRIMINAL MISCHIEF** was reported in the 600 block of N. Lamesa and in the 600 block of West I-20.

• **CLASS A ASSAULT** was reported in the 1600 block of Martin Luther King.

• **ASSAULT BY THREAT** was reported in the 1700 block of S Monticello.

• **BURGLARY OF A HABITATION** was reported in the in the 400 block of Armstrong.

• **THEFT** was reported in the 1100 block of N. Lamesa, in the 3300 block of E. FM 700 and in the 400 block of E. Fourth.

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EDITORIAL

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."

FIRST AMENDMENT

Opinions expressed on this page are those of the Editorial Board of the Big Spring Herald unless otherwise indicated.

John H. Walker Publisher

John A. Moseley Managing Editor

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Bill McClellan News Editor

Is there a Santa Claus?

This famous editorial first appeared in The New York Sun, Sept. 21, 1897

We take pleasure in answering at once and thus prominently the communication below, expressing at the same time our great gratification that its faithful author is numbered among the friends of The Sun:

"Dear Editor: I am 8 years old. Some of my little friends say there is no Santa Claus. Papa says 'If you see it in the Sun it's so.' Please tell me the truth, is there a Santa Claus?"

Virginia O'Hanlon, 115 West 95th Street"

Virginia, your little friends are wrong. They have been affected by the skepticism of a skeptical age. They do not believe except they see. They think that nothing can be which is not comprehensible by their little minds. All minds, Virginia, whether they be men's or children's, are little. In this great universe of ours man is a mere insect, an ant, in his intellect, as compared with the boundless world about him, as measured by the intelligence capable of grasping the whole of truth and knowledge.

Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give to your life its highest beauty and joy. Alas! how dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus! It would be as dreary as if there were no Virginias. There would be no childlike faith, then, no poetry, no romance to make tolerable this existence. We should have no enjoyment, except in sense and sight. The eternal light with which childhood fills the world would be extinguished.

Not believe in Santa Claus! You might as well not believe in fairies. You might get your papa to hire men to watch in all the chimneys on Christmas eve to catch Santa Claus, but even if they did not see Santa Claus coming down, what would that prove? Nobody sees Santa Claus, but that is no sign there is no Santa Claus. The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor men can see. Did you ever see fairies dancing on the lawn? Of course not, but that's no proof that they are not there. Nobody can conceive or imagine all the wonders there are unseen and unseeable in the world.

You tear apart the baby's rattle and see what make the noise inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world which not the strongest man, not even the united strength of all the strongest men that ever lived, could tear apart. Only faith, fancy, poetry, love, romance, can push aside that curtain and view and picture the supernal beauty and glory beyond. Is it all real? Ah, Virginia, in all this world there is nothing else real and abiding.

No Santa Claus! Thank God he lives, and he lives forever. A thousand years from now, Virginia, nay, ten times ten thousand years from now, he will continue to make glad the heart of childhood.

How the editorial happened to be written

"Is there a Santa Claus?" is the question Virginia, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Philip F. O'Hanlon, put to the editor of The (New York) Sun in September, 1897. Her letter was received by Edward P. Mitchell, who turned it over to his associate, Francis Pharcelius Church, to answer. With some reluctance Mr. Church undertook the assignment. The product of his fine nature, mellow wisdom and sound craftsmanship was the editorial article "Is there a Santa Claus?" — the most famous editorial article that has ever been written. It has been produced in every conceivable form, in every quarter of the globe.

How To CONTACT Us

- In order that we might better serve your needs, we offer several ways in which you may contact us:
• In person at 710 Scurry St.
• By telephone at 263-7331
• By fax at 264-7205
• By e-mail at either bsherald@xroadstx.com or jwalker@xroadstx.com.
• By mail at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721

A mother's gift deserves extra care

The photograph is black and white, with wavy edges, the image crisp as the day it was processed.



RHETA GRIMSLEY JOHNSON

I prefer the old snapshots with borders. The color ones we take today are just not as dramatic, and they fade faster than Saturday night.

As the sun rolls behind a convenient hill to roost for the evening, I sit in my Thinking Place on the porch swing and study this particular photo.

My sister and I are wearing chenille housecoats, which look new, and despite the obvious early hour, Mother has run a comb through our bangs and dragged a washcloth over our faces; we shine. We have on socks and shoes with our pajamas and robes, an odd effect, Nixon on the beach in wingtips.

and a half years. I look peeved. My sister the 5-year-old is standing straight and smiling into the camera, proudly propping her new Sweet Sue doll next to the tabletop Christmas tree.

I am holding my own Baby Sweet Sue in a death grip, both my clumsy paws around the rubber neck beneath her organdy bonnet. I am frowning at the photographer, not yet having learned the benefits of smiling at him.

I don't remember that Christmas, but now I have it all right here in my lap, its full glory captured in that small, square image. The toys bought on a butcher's budget. A tree with tinsel. A certain pride in the holiday's photoworthy results, or why would someone have bothered to take a picture?

This little scrap of paper is tangible proof of my parents' desire to hold forever that bright morning, courtesy of the magic of silver emulsion.

I don't know how my mother did it year after year, but she did. She cupped her ear to eavesdrop on our conversations with Santa, then she went

out and found what we'd asked him for. Except when she instinctively knew we had erred in compiling a Want List — that the Invisible Horse wasn't what really would make us happy, just a passing fancy.

She wrote down every penny she spent in a big ledger, an accounting nobody ever asked for but her own conscience required. I don't know for sure, but I'd bet my red pickup she still has all those ledgers somewhere.

What I do know for sure is this: I never wanted to be beneath anyone else's tree on a childhood Christmas.

My mother gave me this snapshot recently. She hesitated a moment, held it toward me, withdrew it to herself, then handed it to me again.

"Keep it forever," she said.

For years the sure way to face a firing squad at dawn was to pilfer from one of my mother's many scrapbooks.

Now she is regularly meeting out memories to her four children, unearthing photographs I have never seen and those I've seen all my life. That depresses me

a little. I'm not ready to be custodian of my own childhood.

Keep it forever, she says. I'll try.

Life has a way of messing with the items you value the most. The attic roof leaks, a mouse makes a bed, the U-Haul drives off without it.

Sure as I vow to keep something forever, it disintegrates. But for this, the photograph in my hands, and for a million reasons, I'll really try.

The porch is dark and the sun abed. I take my new treasure inside and carefully place it between the covers of "The Spell of the Yukon and Other Verses" by Robert Service. It is safely sandwiched by the poems "My Madonna" and "Unforgotten." Seems appropriate.

Later in the evening I think about the year my books grew mildew, and my library of favorites had to be bathed one by one.

So I move my picture once again. This time I tuck it into a small frame, on top of a postcard of a waterfall and beneath the glass.

It has a fighting chance at forever there.



Bush needs to repair our military

One of the first tasks facing President George W. Bush will be to repair the damage done to America's military forces by eight years of the Clinton-Gore administration.



CHARLEY REESE

Retired Adm. Jeremy D. Taylor, in an article published in the (Ogden, Utah) Standard-Examiner last October, sums up the situation quite succinctly: "The nation and the institutions we hold most dear," the admiral wrote, "are now at risk. Despite this fact, Americans are content to let the good times roll and to put national security out of mind. Not for long. A train wreck is just around the corner."

In the following paragraph, the admiral sums up the damage: "Over the last 10 years, while our military forces were cut 40 percent, our commitments in the world led to a 300 percent increase in deployments. Out of the Cold War we sought to cash in a peace dividend, and we lost our forces by almost 1 million troops. We also retired 20 air wings with 2,000 combat aircraft, 323 strategic bombers; 13 ballistic mis-

sile submarines with 232 missiles and 3,114 nuclear warheads; 500 ICBMs with 1,950 warheads; four aircraft carriers; and 121 combat ships and attack submarines. At the same time ... our commitment ... required that the reduced forces be deployed 116 times at tremendous cost to the American taxpayers. The eight-year peacekeeping effort in Yugoslavia alone has cost more than \$20 billion."

The admiral then goes on to outline in even more specific detail how cuts have made the remaining forces not only stretched out and overworked but also not ready for combat.

I'm sure you remember that during the ineffective bombing campaign against Yugoslavia, a tiny country of only 10 million souls, the United States ran out of its smart bombs. Bill Clinton's recent trip to Vietnam for another photo op tied up practically the entire military's airlift capability and cost taxpayers \$63 million.

All of this is shameful, but most Americans merely yawn. They could be heading for a rude awakening. It's simple: The world is ruled by force. Nations don't like each other, but they respect power. As the power declines, the respect declines.

There is a growing number of countries that it's safe to say we could not defeat in a conventional war — Russia, China, Vietnam and North Korea

being only four that come to mind. I doubt we have the capability, if we forgo nukes, to defeat Iran, Russia and China, whatever their economic problems, still retain nuclear teeth. You should never equate civilian economies with war-fighting capacity. World War II started in the middle of the Great Depression.

If we lack the capability to deter war, then we are much more likely to have to fight one. And if we have to fight one ill-prepared, we will lose territory and lose lives.

Bush, if he sticks to his promises, has the right approach. He has promised a hard look at America's military missions and the likely future threats.

Military capability should be tailored to the mission. You must have the troops and equipment necessary to accomplish the mission. You don't just pile up equipment and troops and then go looking for missions. You darn sure don't do what Clinton did: reduce troops and equipment and increase the missions.

I hope the next president will realize that it is most unlikely that it will ever be in our national interest to fight a ground war overseas.

We need to abandon the World War II-Cold War thinking. God knows, if Europe and the Asian democracies can't defend themselves at this point, it's their problem, not ours.

ADDRESSES

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Mallard Fillmore by BRUCE TINSLEY. I've got one more Christmas gift idea... The Book of Verses by William J. Bennett. Tom Sawyer. GOOD BOOKS ARE NEVER THE WRONG SIDE, AND DON'T NEED BATTERIES OR ASSEMBLY. YOU GIVE YOUR CHILDREN A GREAT BOOK, AND IN A WEEK OR SO... THEY WANT ANOTHER ONE. THEY DO, HOWEVER, HAVE ONE DRAWBACK...



# Los Angeles police officers' corruption convictions overturned

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Three police officers found guilty of corruption in the worst scandal in department history had their convictions tossed out by a judge who said the courts shouldn't remedy the scandal with an unfair verdict.

In a ruling obtained by The Associated Press late Friday, Superior Court Judge Jacqueline Connor said jurors disclosed in post-trial statements that they had focused on an issue which was never raised in the trial.

Connor threw out the convictions of Los Angeles Police Department Sgts. Edward Ortiz

and Brian Liddy, and Officer Michael Buchanan, who were convicted last month of conspiracy and other charges involving framing gang members.

"While recognizing the enormous pressure on the community, on the police force, on the district attorney's office, and on the courts to 'fix' the Rampart scandal, this court is only interested in evaluating the fairness of the proceedings and determining whether justice was done in this case," Connor said in her 18-page ruling.

The officers were the first members of the now-defunct Rampart

station anti-gang unit to be tried on charges based on the allegations of ex-officer Rafael Perez, who said police beat, robbed, framed and sometimes shot innocent people in the city's tough Rampart neighborhood.

The ruling reversed the convictions on the basis of jurors discussing the wrong issue and failing to decide a key question — whether two policemen were struck by a vehicle driven by a gang member.

Instead of discussing whether the accident occurred, Connor said the jurors focused on whether

any of the injuries rose to the level of "great bodily injury."

"While the court cannot and will not presume to guess whether a correction of the errors would result in any different verdict, it most certainly concludes that the verdict in this case cannot stand," Connor said.

Defense attorneys said they were elated and hoped the reversals would mark an end to the case. The next court hearing is scheduled for Jan. 16, at which time a new trial could be scheduled.

Harland Braun, who represented Buchanan, said it was "a relief to

have this decision before Christmas. It had been surreal for the officers to stand there and have the jury convict them of something that didn't happen."

District attorney's spokeswoman Sandi Gibbons said prosecutors were deeply disappointed with Connor's ruling but had not yet had a chance to analyze it and decide on their next step.

Lead defense attorney Barry Levin, who represented Ortiz, said Connor took her action in the face of enormous community pressure. "The court's ruling was absolutely just and correct."

## Taped conversations about baby may not be admissible

TAMPA, Fla. (AP) — When 5-month-old Sabrina Aisenberg vanished three years ago, investigators disputed her parents' notion that the girl was snatched from her crib while the family slept.

They launched an exhaustive search, checked leads across the country and installed wiretaps in Steve and Marlene Aisenberg's bedroom and kitchen that now have the government on the hot seat.

The secretly recorded conversations, the core of the government's case, could be in jeopardy, after a two-week hearing that ended Friday raised questions about their admissibility.

A parade of witnesses — including case detectives, audiotape experts and doctors — poked holes in the prosecution's case, admitting there were misrepresentations, discrepancies and omissions in sworn statements to bug the suburban Tampa house.

Prosecutors say the

recordings prove the Aisenbergs lied, that in private conversations they talked about the baby's death and pointed blame.

The couple's lawyers say the tapes prove nothing — that they were illegally obtained and of such poor quality, the conversations are garbled and unintelligible.

Prosecutors alleged a conversation in which Marlene Aisenberg blamed her husband for the baby's death, saying: "The baby's dead and buried. The baby's dead no matter what you say — you just did it."

Steve Aisenberg replied: "Honey, there was nothing I could do about it. We need to discuss the way that we can beat the charge. I would never break from the family pact and our story even if the police were to hold me down. We will do what we have to do."

No murder or kidnapping charges have been brought against the couple, who have two other children and

now live in Maryland. They are charged with conspiracy and lying when they told investigators they didn't know what happened to their infant. The disputed tapes were the basis for the charges.

A federal judge could toss the tapes or portions of them out. U.S. Magistrate Mark A. Pizzo is not expected to rule for several weeks.

At the hearing, pivotal issues were the conduct of law officers in getting approval to extend the wiretap which lasted 82 days, clarity of the tapes and whether a homemade videotape of Sabrina days before she disappeared showed signs of abuse.

The agents defended their actions, saying documents used to apply for two 30-day wiretap extensions were a summary, not a transcript.

Hillsborough County Sheriff's Sgt. Donald Roman testified he knew the application he wrote seeking to extend the court-ordered surveillance did not comply

with the law but he never told superiors.

Opposing attorneys summoned audio experts as witnesses and they differed dramatically on the audio quality of the tapes.

Prosecutors honed in on Sabrina's condition — whether the videotape showed facial bruising and a bald spot where a patch of hair had been pulled from her head, indicating child abuse.

Throughout the hearing, the Aisenbergs sat at the defense table, flanked by three lawyers. Tears rolled down Marlene Aisenberg's face when the videotape of Sabrina was shown on television monitors. Otherwise, the couple showed no emotion and kept to themselves, speaking only with their lawyers and family members.

If the tapes stand, another judge will preside at the Aisenbergs' trial and will rule on admissibility. The earliest a trial would begin is next spring.

# Clinton grants clemency to 62 people, including Rostenkowsky

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Clinton granted Christmas clemency Friday to 62 people, including a once-powerful Illinois congressman indicted for misusing taxpayer money and a friend from Arkansas ensnared in the corruption probe of a former Cabinet member.

Clinton gave pardons to 59 people, including Dan Rostenkowsky, former Democratic chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, and Archie Schaffer III, a chicken company executive convicted as a result of the investigation of former Agriculture Secretary Mike Espy.

The others who received pardons included 19 convicted of drug-related offenses, 13 convicted of fraud, and four convicted on tax charges.

In what the White House described as the first batch of clemency decisions by Clinton as he prepares to leave office next month, the president also commuted the sentences to time already served for three people, including two women who received long terms under federal drug sentencing guidelines.

Clinton's pardon of Rostenkowsky was unexpected.

"For Danny, Christmas came early," said Thom Serafin, a consultant and spokesman for Rostenkowsky in three of his campaigns.

David Axelrod, a Chicago-based Democratic consultant who advised Rostenkowsky, said: "I think it was an appropriate thing to do. He certainly paid a heavy price already and I think this is a way of saying that however the last chapter ended, the 40 years of public service that he contributed were meaningful."

Rostenkowsky pleaded guilty to two counts of misusing public funds in 1996 and served time in a minimum-security prison in Wisconsin.

He was released from a

## Five sentenced in Texas pardoned

WASHINGTON (AP) — Five people sentenced in Texas were among the 62 who received pardons from President Clinton Friday. Those pardoned were:

— Joe Robert Grist of Abilene, sentenced June 14, 1990, to five years' probation for misapplication of funds by a bank employee.

— Jose Rene Pineda-Martinez of Houston, sentenced to various sentences between April 1983 and May 1984 for entering the United States without inspection and two charges of transporting an illegal alien within the United States.

halfway house in October 1997 after 451 days in federal custody.

He was not even eligible to request a pardon through the Justice Department, which requires that a person wait at least five years after completing a sentence before filing a pardon application.

However, Justice Department spokeswoman Chris Watney said the Constitution gives the president broad authority to grant pardons.

Howard Pearl, a Chicago attorney who represented Rostenkowsky during his criminal case, declined to say who interceded with the White House on Rostenkowsky's behalf.

The president's pardon of Schaffer, an executive for Springdale, Ark.-based poultry producer Tyson Foods Inc. was not as surprising.

Schaffer was convicted in June 1998 of illegally trying to influence Espy, then the agriculture secretary, by inviting him to a May 1993 Tyson party in Russellville, Ark.

He was convicted of violating a 93-year-old law that prohibits bribing meat inspectors.

"I would have preferred to have been vindicated by the

judicial system," Schaffer said in a telephone interview.

"We were prepared to continue battling that, but we're pleased with this outcome as well."

Schaffer, called out of a meeting at Tyson Foods to learn of Clinton's action, said getting a pardon was a fitting political solution because he remains "convinced that politics was at the bottom of this ordeal from the outset."

In a statement, Tyson said company officials believed in Schaffer's "innocence from the very beginning of his long, arduous ordeal."

Schaffer, who has known Clinton for nearly 30 years, was sentenced in September to a year plus one day in prison for trying to illegally influence Espy. But the U.S. Appeals Court of the District of Columbia ruled Dec. 14 that Schaffer could remain free pending appeals.

Espy, the target of Independent Counsel Donald Smaltz's six-year, \$23 million investigation, was acquitted in December 1998.

White House press secretary Jake Siewert said the trial judge in Schaffer's case concluded there was insuffi-

cient evidence to support the conviction, and the law required him to impose a sentence that was unjust. "The president believes that what happened here was wrong," Siewert said.

Arkansas' top elected officials — including Republican Sen. Tim Hutchinson — all pleaded with Clinton to give clemency to Schaffer, who is the nephew of former Arkansas governor and U.S. Sen. Dale Bumpers, D-Ark.

"I think Archie is deserving and that he's gone through a lot," Hutchinson said. "I'm pleased with the president's decision. He's gone through trial after trial and appeals."

The president also commuted the sentences of three people, allowing them to be freed.

The trio includes two women who got entangled in the drug crimes of others. Both women were subjects of a national campaign by women's groups and opponents of mandatory minimum prison sentences.

One is Kemba Smith, 28, of Richmond, Va., who was sentenced to 24 years and six months in prison with no chance of parole for helping her boyfriend Peter Hall, head of a violent drug ring.

The other is Dorothy Gaines, 42, of Mobile, Ala., who similarly received 19 years, seven months for her low-level role in a local drug ring.

The men who ran the ring received more lenient sentences.

"President Clinton has shown mercy and integrity by releasing these individuals, who clearly aren't the drug kingpins Congress intended to target," said Laura Sager, director of the group Families Against Mandatory Minimums.

She urged Congress "to go even further and initiate a review and reform of mandatory minimum sentencing laws when the new session begins."

Before Friday, Clinton had

## Jailhouse journalist's conviction thrown out

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Wilbert Rideau, a crusading jailhouse journalist acclaimed for his unflinching exposes of brutality behind bars, has had his murder conviction overturned by a federal appeals court after nearly 40 years in prison.

Reactions were mixed to Friday's reversal by the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

"People of Louisiana should rise up in rightful indignation over this unbelievable, unjust and horrible pro-criminal decision," said James Sandifer, of Common Sense Against Crime, a victim advocacy group.

Keith Nordyke, who has represented inmates at the Louisiana State Penitentiary in Angola in two class action lawsuits, said if anyone deserves another chance, it is

Rideau.

"I don't mean at all to depreciate the nature of the crime and the seriousness of the offense. But if there is such a thing as rehabilitation, he is someone who ought to benefit from it in some manner," Nordyke said.

In 1961, when he was 19, Rideau robbed a Lake Charles bank of \$14,000, took three hostages and shot them as they begged for their lives. Two lived, teller Julia Ferguson died. Only one black was among the 20 grand jurors.

The three-judge panel on Friday unanimously ruled that blacks were improperly excluded from the grand jury that indicted Rideau.

The court said Rideau, 58, must be either retried in a reasonable amount of time — no more than six months, his lawyer argued — or set free.

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# Blind man uses sense of touch, hearing to repair vehicles

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — Edward Marko is fumbling around a cold, dark garage cluttered with heaps of rusted engines, gears, wires, wrenches and ratchets.

His hands dig into the belly of a Chevrolet pickup.

His coat is spattered with oil. His fingers are stained with grease. His gray eyes above a thick gray beard hardly blink.

Marko, a skilled mechanic, is blind.

"Well, part of that's right. I'm definitely blind. Whether I'm a mechanic may be up for some debate," he says with a laugh.

Marko, 65, was born with infantile glaucoma, a disease that left him completely blind by the time he left college.

For two decades Marko counseled other blind people on finding work. It was "social work burnout," he says, that led him to leave his job in 1978. He's not sure

what it was that led him to start fooling around with Volkswagens in the backyard.

Marko taught himself to take engines apart. Some of his friends got into drag racing, and Marko participated in the way he could — helping to tear down engines.

"When you watch drag racers work on an engine, you're watching some elite stuff being done — tricks for enhancing the power of engines," he says. "It's probably the best way to learn how everything works."

Now, Marko runs a small garage on Columbus' east side.

There, slivers of window light fall on piles of rusting auto parts.

An orange cat leaps onto a table strewn with rags, greasy bolts and cans of oil. Marko and a few other workers amid a din of sputtering engines and clanging tools.

*"It seems like he knows more than people who see — with his memory, his inner vision."*

— Emanuel Harris, friend

Emanuel Harris smokes a cigarette while lying on his back beneath a Ford Taurus, fixing an oil leak. He says Marko is amazing.

"It seems like he knows more than people who see — with his memory, his inner vision," Harris says.

In the late 1950s, Marko's fingers glided across the pages of Braille books and tapped tediously at the keys of a manual typewriter. He was an English major at Bowling Green State University when the little bit of light and shape he could still see was snuffed out.

Now, absent-mindedly

rolling a bolt between those fingers, he says matter-of-factly that losing his sight wasn't such a big deal.

"When you're young you don't care," he says. "I mean, I couldn't see very good anyway."

Now that he's nearing retirement, his biggest worry is figuring out what to do with himself.

"Actually, the car stuff was a hobby for 20 years," he says. "I done burned up the hobby so I can't retire with that. I just can't conceive of not working on something."

Stooping to reach under a blue Volkswagen Beetle,

Marko pulls out a handful of orange rust.

"Looks nice on the outside," Marko says. "We'll have to remove the body, cut it up with a torch to replace the chassis."

Many of the cars Marko works on seem beyond hope.

He's got another Beetle that had caught on fire. But he's optimistic.

"There is a certain satisfaction when you get something in here that's completely dead and you try to figure out what's wrong," he says. "It's a hands-on thing. Still, 50 percent of it's mental."

A frayed knit hat slides down to cover his eyes as he reaches under the hood of a Chevy S-10 pickup. His fingers set about the tedious task of navigating the engine piece by piece.

There is the radiator in the front and a fan and a series of belts and hoses.

Then there's the alternator, a power steering pump and a water pump. Behind that is the engine and the transmission.

"Other mechanics are surprised when I point out to them how much they rely on touch," he says.

"A lot of times you have to reach around for a bolt or a wire and you can't see it — I mean, no one can see it."

Marko also relies on his sense of hearing. With the windows up and the motor running, Marko sits inside and listens for the trouble spots.

He says people rarely question him about being blind.

"Once in a while I get someone who won't trust me with their car because I'm blind. Or someone will ask, 'How can you work on cars when you can't see?' And I say, 'Well, I don't know. Don't ask me that question.'"

## Dallas County courts are divided over sweet holiday treats

DALLAS (AP) — Justice may be sweet, but will a dozen snickerdoodles sway a court official?

The cookie influence is a topic of debate in the Dallas County civil courts building. Hundreds of confections have been delivered this holiday season to judicial staff members and court personnel from local law firms, who say it's a sweet way to show appreciation.

No one knows when or how the practice started at George L. Allen Sr. Courts Building. It has just always been there, clerks and lawyers say.

But in recent years, there has been some restraint as the State Bar of Texas and other legal organizations have zeroed in on the ethics

of gifts from law firms to judges.

Judicial clerks, who told The Dallas Morning News they did not want their names used, said gifts used to be mostly hams and turkeys. Lately, law firms have scaled back to less-expensive sugary treats.

The clerks said that they appreciate the gifts and that they don't change the way they conduct business.

"Unless that judge of the particular court has expressed a desire not to allow it," said District Clerk Jim Hamlin.

Hamlin has become a cookie cop, fielding law firms' questions about which courts are pro-cookie and which are not. As long as a gift can be eaten, it's

allowed to pass into what is a cookie-friendly zone.

"We're weighed, but we're not swayed," Hamlin said. "It makes people a little more pleasant in the day, but that's all."

Any implication that a cookie could curry a law firm more favor is ridiculous, said Mike Brown, a partner in Figari, Davenport and Graves, which this year gave 31 large iced cookies to judicial clerks.

"That's not the intent," he said. "You win or lose arguments at the courthouse on the facts in the law, not because of a cookie. It's nice to have a relationship with people. That's all it is about."

Each judge has clerks,

coordinators and administrators who catalog case files, process orders and set calendars, in addition to handling upset plaintiffs or defendants on the phone or impatient attorneys waiting for paperwork or a hearing date.

"Court staff have some, at least, opportunity to influence the judges," said Teresa Collett, who teaches

ethics at South Texas College of Law in Houston.

She said more judges and law firms are questioning the gift-giving practice.

Hamlin said that his office stresses to law firms that if they are giving something, it has to be to the entire office, not to an individual.

Some judges have made their courtrooms and offices cookie-free zones because

gifts from law firms may appear improper.

"I don't want to sound silly about this," said state District Judge Jay Patterson. "I think the integrity of the judge has to be without blemish, for all the obvious reasons. All the people who come here consider their dispute important. They want to feel that they get a fair shake."

## Want a Christmas gift with that Big Gulp?

NEW YORK (AP) — Last-minute Christmas shopping this year can be as easy as stopping for a fill-up and a Big Gulp.

Shell gas stations and convenience stores such as 7-Eleven have taken to selling toys, electronics and other gifts on Christmas to appeal to desperate shoppers.

7-Eleven is offering holiday merchandise for the first time this year after success with its \$79.99 scooter this past summer. Wedged in between the potato chips and Slurpees are such items as \$11.99 Holiday Barbies and AT&T digital cellphones for \$69.99.

"Christmas is our biggest shopping day. People stop in to buy milk and bread, but now we can fill a new gap this year," said Cathy Heald, spokeswoman for the Dallas-based, 5,700-store chain. "If you have an unexpected guest on Christmas, what do you get them?"

Shell Oil is offering 12 different Lego toys at half of

its 10,000 locations. Shell also offers gasoline gift certificates in \$10, \$20 and \$50 denominations.

Several drugstore chains such as CVS are staying open for the last-minute rush for stocking stuffers such as candy, lotion and scented soaps.

At Blockbuster's 5,000 stores nationwide, holiday slackers can pick up videos,

DVDs and toys.

For those too lazy to leave home, Web sites like Giftcertificates.com and Flooz.com offer instantaneous gift certificates sent by e-mail.

And Kozmo.com will deliver a basket of cookies with milk, a new video or even a Palm Pilot to customers in 11 selected cities within an hour.

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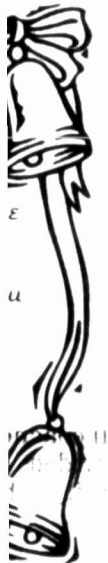
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# Sports

BIG  
SPRING HERALD

Do you have an interesting item or  
story idea? Call John A. Moseley,  
263-7331, Ext. 233.

Page 7A  
Sunday, Dec. 24, 2000

## IN BRIEF

### YMCA schedules basketball camp

Elementary school students may now register to take part in a YMCA basketball camp conducted by former Big Spring Lady Steers coach Kathy Loter.

The camp is set for Jan. 3-5 with students in grades K-2 attending at 9:15 a.m. and those in grades 3-6 meeting from 10 a.m. to noon.

The camp will be limited to 40 youngsters per age group.

Fundamental skills will be emphasized.

Fees are \$10 for non-members of the YMCA and no fee will be charged of members.

For more information, call the YMCA at 267-8234.

### Sign-ups continuing for YMCA basketball

Registration is now under way for the youth basketball program at the Big Spring Family YMCA.

Boys and girls between the ages of 5 and 12 are eligible to play. Fees are \$20 for non-members and \$15 for members, but scholarships are available and no youngster will be turned away due to an inability to pay.

The deadline to register is Friday.

Practices begin the week of Jan. 2 and games will be played on Saturdays beginning Jan. 20.

For more information, call the YMCA at 267-8234.

### Area coaches asked to transmit schedules

The Herald is asking all Crossroads area basketball coaches who have not provided copies of their varsity schedules and rosters for the 2000-2001 season to do so as quickly as possible.

Rosters and schedules can be faxed to the attention of John A. Moseley at 264-7205.

### ACS now offering Texas Golf Pass

The American Cancer Society is again offering the Texas Golf Pass that entitles holders to more than 680 rounds of golf at 289 courses throughout the state.

The passes are \$35 each and proceeds from the program benefit the Cancer Society's research, education programs and patient services efforts.

Both the Big Spring Country Club and Comanche Trail Golf Course are participating in the program and order forms are available at the two courses.

For more information, call 1-800-ACS-2345 or check the society's web site at www.acs-tx.org

## ON THE AIR

### Television

**COLLEGE FOOTBALL**  
7:30 p.m. — Oahu Bowl, Georgia vs. Virginia, ESPN, Ch. 30.

### PRO FOOTBALL

Noon — St. Louis Rams at New Orleans Saints or Tampa Bay Buccaneers at Green Bay Packers, FOX, Ch. 3.

Noon — New York Jets at Baltimore Ravens, CBS, Ch. 7.

3 p.m. — Minnesota Vikings at Indianapolis Colts, FOX, Ch. 3.

### FIGURE SKATING

1 p.m. — ISU Grand Prix Series NHK Cup, ABC, Ch. 2

**GOLF**  
1 p.m. — Senior Match Play Challenge, semifinals, ESPN, Ch. 30.

3 p.m. — Three-Tour Challenge, final round, ABC, Ch. 2.

4 p.m. — PGA Year in Review, NBC, Ch. 9.

### SKIING

3 p.m. — Downhill Series, NBC, Ch. 9.

3:30 p.m. — Bumps and Jumps, CBS, Ch. 7.

## Virginia's Welsh doesn't want to be 'Gipper' in career finale

CHARLOTTESVILLE, Va. (AP) — George Welsh is remaining consistent to the end.

In 28 years as a college coach, he has focused on game plan and preparation and left the motivational speaking to others. It's overrated, he thinks, and no substitute for being ready to play and win.

Now, even though Welsh, 67, is preparing for his final game after 38 years in the profession, and even though much is riding on the outcome, he doesn't plan to step out of character to mark the emotional occasion.

"I don't want them to go out and win one for the Gipper," Welsh said

before Virginia's Oahu Bowl game against Georgia today.

"I don't want them to do it for me. I'd rather they do it for themselves. I've always said that. I think players play the game for themselves, for the most part."

The Cavaliers will have many other motivations to play well besides sending Welsh off with a victory, but almost to a man, they said ending his 19th season at Virginia with a win is important.

"I don't want him to go out with a loss," said cornerback Tim Spruill, one of 13 seniors. "He's done too much for us."

"He recruited us, gave us scholar-

ships. And he's never lied to us. That's something you can respect as a player and as a person."

The game also is a chance for the Cavaliers to extend to 14 their streak of seasons with at least seven victories. Only Florida State, Nebraska and Michigan can match that run, which started in 1986.

Considering that Virginia was a doormat when Welsh arrived and will be making its 12th bowl appearance in the past 17 years with him as coach, linebacker Byron Thweatt said extending the streak would only be fair.

"The players ... feel we owe him after all he's done for us," said

Thweatt, a four-year starter. "We want to send him out with a win in his last game here."

The Cavaliers are underdogs against the Bulldogs (7-4), who spent part of the season in the Top 10 before losing three of their last four. The skid cost coach Jim Donnan his job, but he will coach today.

Historically, these teams play close games.

In the 1995 Peach Bowl, Georgia scored on a 10-yard fumble return with 1:09 left to tie Virginia 27-27, but Petey Allen returned the ensuing kickoff 83 yards for a touchdown, giving the Cavaliers a 34-27 victory.

## Cowboys face Titans team seeking NFL's best record

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) —

When the Tennessee Titans called Houston home as the Oilers, they lived life in the long shadow cast by the Dallas Cowboys over Texas and the NFL.

No more.

The Cowboys will always be the Cowboys, but the Titans have made themselves at home in four seasons in Tennessee, where fans have gone crazy for the state's only NFL franchise.

"Some things do come full circle," Titans left tackle Brad Hopkins said. "I was in Houston when Dallas was winning championships and going to back-to-back Super Bowls. There were a lot of Dallas fans in Houston. It kind of made you mad."

"Look at the scenarios and situations now, they have a way of working themselves out."

When the Cowboys (5-10) visit the Titans (12-3) on Christmas night for the first time since they left Texas, Tennessee has a chance to show just how far it has come.

Dallas will be busy checking out Anthony Wright as a possible replacement to quarterback Troy Aikman. The defending AFC champions can finish with the NFL's best record, win their first AFC Central title since 1993 and get home-field advantage through the playoffs.

The Titans can clinch all that before kickoff if the Baltimore Ravens lose to the New York Jets on Sunday, but coach Jeff Fisher isn't letting his players consider that possibility.

"We're going to play this game to try to create a situation where the road to the Super Bowl in the AFC has to go through Nashville," he said.

If the Titans lose to Dallas, that would drop them from the AFC's top seed with a bye week to No. 4, possibly forcing them to play five days later. That's not acceptable to a team whose bye week came Sept. 17.

Plenty of Titans remain on the roster from Houston. They expect the Cowboys to play well. And linebacker Randall Godfrey, who left Dallas to sign with the Titans last February, can picture coach Dave Campo telling his Cowboys they have to pull the upset.

"They're capable of doing anything," Godfrey said. "You never know what's going to happen."



Dallas running back Emmitt Smith, pictured here during a 1993 game, and his Cowboys teammates will face a Tennessee Titans team Monday night that has its eyes set on posting the NFL's best record this season.

Maybe not, but this game shouldn't be close if the Titans are serious about fine-tuning themselves for the playoffs.

With Aikman out after suffering his second concussion this season, Wright will be making his second straight start. He was 12-of-25 for 119 yards passing in last week's 17-13 loss to the New York Giants, with most of his numbers coming before the defense started blitzing heavily.

That leaves the pressure on Emmitt Smith, who needs only 124 yards to pass Barry Sanders for No. 2 on the career rushing list, to provide much of the offense against the NFL's second-stingiest defense.

Tennessee is allowing only 247.9 yards overall, just 86.9 yards rushing.

The Titans did little more than use Eddie George in beating

Cleveland 24-0 in the snow last week, and they may be tempted to keep running against the league's worst rushing defense.

But Steve McNair should get to work with his revived receiving corps against a reworked secondary that will feature cornerback Phillip Sparks at safety and rookies Kareem Larrimore and Mario Edwards at the corners.

Campo denied his Cowboys have packed it in, and Smith said now they will find out just what kind of players they have after finishing the last two seasons in the playoffs.

"Anyone can play good football when everything is good, and anybody can have a great time playing when everything is good, but can you still go out and get yourself motivated to play when things are bad?" he said.

## Lee's Benson repeats as 5A offensive star

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cedric Benson's numbers may not have been as good as his record performance of 1999, but they were even more impressive considering the circumstances he faced in his senior season at Midland Lee.

"After he had a great sophomore year and phenomenal junior year, everybody was focused on stopping Cedric Benson, almost to the point where they were selling their souls to the devil to get him stopped," said Midland Lee coach John Edd Parchman. "And still he has put up remarkable numbers."

Benson, who ran for 2,871 yards and 43 touchdowns on 356 carries this season as Lee won its third straight Class 5A state title, was named Friday by Associated Press Sports Editors as the Texas Class 5A offensive player of the year for the second year in a row.

Before winning the same award last year as a junior, Benson set a Class 5A record and had the fourth-best season in Texas prep history with 3,526 yards and 44 touchdowns on 354 carries.

"In previous years, the circumstances were different and the attention given to him different," Parchman said. "In that respect, his stats this year were remarkable."

Benson finished his career with 8,423 yards, the 10th-best in the national high school record book. His 115 career rushing TDs ranks seventh.

The 11th annual APSE team was chosen by sports-writers in Texas, based upon players' regular-season performance. Nominees were selected during the season, and balloting was conducted during the playoffs.

Benson wasn't the only repeat performer on the Class 5A all state team.

Missouri senior defensive back Eddie Vasquez was a first-team pick for the second year in a row. This season, he was also selected as the 5A defensive player of the year after having 52 tackles and 13 interceptions, two of which were returned for touchdowns. He also returned two punt returns and a kickoff return for touchdowns.

The other two all-state running backs were McKinney senior Donta Hickson and Ra'Shawn

Mosley (2,094 yards rushing) of San Antonio Southwest.

While Benson has verbally committed to play at Texas, Hickson (2,243 yards and 28 touchdowns) has said he will play for another Big 12 school, Oklahoma.

Abilene Cooper senior quarterback Jordan Neal (157-of-235 passing for 2,185 yards, 28 touchdowns and six interceptions) also was named first-team all-state, along with receivers Thomson Omboga of Grand Prairie (50 catches for 1,027 yards and nine touchdowns) and Keiron Stevenson of The Colony (68 catches for 977 yards).

The offensive line consisted of five seniors: Copperas Cove's Josh Edwards, Houston Washington's Adrian Henderson, Abilene Cooper's Charles Mock, Carter's Jonathan Scott and Temple's Dominique Steamer.

The all-state defensive linemen were Duncanville senior Rishone Evans (78 tackles, 20 for loss, and eight sacks), Killeen Ellison senior Chuck Fisher (122 tackles), Marshall senior Jason Franklin (100 tackles) and Friendswood Clear Brook senior Thadis Piques (13 tackles for loss and nine sacks).

Another Killeen Ellison defender, senior Kevin Patrick (134 tackles), was an all-state linebacker, along with senior Matt Bose of Midland and senior Mike Kipper of The Woodlands.

Vasquez was joined in the defensive backfield by Rosenberg Terry senior Tony McClain (102 tackles and eight interceptions), Plano senior Trevor Nelson (77 tackles and seven interceptions) and Westlake senior Huston Street (seven interceptions).

Richland senior place-kicker Russ Davis (24 extra points and nine field goals) and Friendswood Clear Brook senior punter Mike Northern (44.3 average on 36 punts) were the all-state kickers.

The Class 5A All-State high school football team, released Friday, as voted on by The Associated Press sports Editors based on regular season performance. Players are listed in alphabetical order at each position.

See ALL-STATE, page 8A

## La Grange knocks off Forney for Class 3A, Division II crown

IRVING (AP) — Tye Gunn rushed for 119 yards and two touchdowns, leading La Grange to a 20-17 win over Forney in the Class 3A Division II state title game Friday night at Texas Stadium.

Gunn's 1-yard score with 2:23 to play capped a 94-yard scoring drive and gave the Leopards the lead for good. The senior quarterback, who also passed for 108 yards, registered 74 yards on the scoring drive.

Forney then drove to the Leopards' 16-yard line after C.J. Tomlinson's 42-yard pass to T.J. Gilmer. But running back DaBryan

Blanton fumbled on the next play. La Grange's Seth Anderson recovered the ball with 1:42 left.

After Gunn ran for a first down, the Leopards ran out the clock to claim the victory.

The Jackrabbits fell behind 14-0 late in the second half, but scored 17 unanswered points, including 10 in the third quarter. Blanton, who picked up 234 total yards, kept Forney in the game. His 2-yard touchdown with 11:05 remaining in the game gave the Jackrabbits their first lead at 17-14.

Forney got the ball back on the

next series when cornerback Matt Adams intercepted Gunn's pass at the Jackrabbits' 30-yard line. Although they failed to pick up a first down, Pete Cuva booted a 64-yard punt to pin the La Grange down to its 6-yard line before the game-winning drive.

The Leopards out-gained Forney 308-291. The first half had the showing of a defensive battle. Both teams failed to score on their first two possessions, ending the first quarter in a scoreless tie.

But once La Grange got the ball in the second half, Gunn led the way

on a 14-play, 80-yard drive, ending with Gunn's first score of the game, a 1-yard run around the right end. Late in the first half, the Leopards appeared to take total control after fullback Kevin Kelina broke three tackles at the line of scrimmage and rambled for a 61-yard touchdown with just 54 seconds remaining.

But Forney had an answer and needed just one play to give it. Tomlinson fired a bomb down the middle of the field, which landed perfectly in Blanton's hands for a 76-yard touchdown to cut the Leopards' lead in half.



SPORTS EXTRA

BOWL SCHEDULE

Sunday, Dec. 24
Oahu Bowl
At Honolulu
Payout: \$750,000
Virginia (6-5) vs. Georgia (7-4)
7:30 p.m. (ESPN)
Monday, Dec. 25
Blue-Gray Classic
At Montgomery, Ala.
Blue vs. Gray, 11 a.m. (ABC)
Aloha Bowl
At Honolulu
Payout: \$750,000
Boston College (6-5) vs. Arizona State (6-5), 2:30 p.m. (ABC)
Wednesday, Dec. 27
Oklahoma City Bowl
At Oklahoma City
Payout: \$750,000
Marshall (7-5) vs. Cincinnati (7-4), 3 p.m. (ESPN)
Galleymfurniture.com Bowl
At Houston
Payout: \$750,000
Texas Tech (7-5) vs. East Carolina (7-4), 7 p.m. (ESPN2)
Thursday, Dec. 28
Humanitarian Bowl
At Boise, Idaho
Payout: \$750,000
Boise State (9-2) vs. Texas El Paso (8-3), 12:30 p.m. (ESPN2)
MUSIC CITY BOWL
At Nashville, Tenn.
Payout: \$750,000
West Virginia (6-5) vs. Mississippi State (7-4), 3 p.m. (ESPN)
Microsonic.com Bowl
At Miami
Payout: \$750,000
Minnesota (6-5) vs. North Carolina State (7-4), 6 p.m. (TBS)
Insight.com Bowl
At Phoenix
Payout: \$750,000
Iowa State (8-3) vs. Pittsburgh (7-4), 6:30 p.m. (ESPN)
Friday, Dec. 29
Liberty Bowl
At Memphis, Tenn.
Payout: \$1.2 million
Colorado State (9-2) vs. Louisiana State (9-2), 12:30 p.m. (ESPN)
Sun Bowl
At El Paso, Texas
Payout: \$2 million
UCLA (6-5) vs. Wisconsin (8-4), 1 p.m. (CBS)
At Atlanta
Payout: \$1.8 million
Georgia Tech (9-2) vs. LSU (7-4), 4 p.m. (ESPN)
Holiday Bowl
At San Antonio
Payout: \$1.9 million
Texas (9-2) vs. Oregon (9-2), 7:30 p.m. (ESPN)
Saturday, Dec. 30
Alamo Bowl
At San Antonio
Payout: \$1.2 million
Nebraska (9-2) vs. Northwestern (8-3), 7 p.m. (ESPN)
Sunday, Dec. 31
Silicon Valley Classic
At San Jose, Calif.
Payout: \$1.2 million
Fresno State (7-4) vs. Air Force (8-3), 6 p.m. (FOXSN)
Independence Bowl
At Shreveport, La.
Payout: \$1.1 million
Texas A&M (7-4) vs. Mississippi State (7-4), 7 p.m. (ESPN)
Monday, Jan. 1
Outback Bowl
At Tampa, Fla.
Payout: \$2 million
Ohio State (8-3) vs. South Carolina (7-4), 10 a.m. (ESPN)
Cotton Bowl
At Dallas
Payout: \$2.5 million
Kansas State (10-3) vs. Tennessee (8-3), 10 a.m. (FOX)
Qatar Bowl
At Jacksonville, Fla.
Payout: \$1.4 million
Virginia Tech (10-1) vs. Clemson (9-2), 11:30 a.m. (NBC)
Citrus Bowl
At Orlando, Fla.
Payout: \$4 million
Michigan (8-3) vs. Auburn (9-3), Noon (ABC)
Rose Bowl
At Pasadena, Calif.
Payout: \$1.3 million
Purdue (8-3) vs. Washington (10-1), 3:30 p.m. (ABC)
Fiesta Bowl
At Tempe, Ariz.
Payout: \$1.3 million
Oregon State (10-1) vs. Notre Dame (9-2), 7 p.m. (ABC)
Tuesday, Jan. 2
Sugar Bowl
At New Orleans
Payout: \$1.3 million
Florida (10-2) vs. Miami (10-1), 7 p.m. (ABC)
Wednesday, Jan. 3
Orange Bowl
At Miami
Payout: \$1.13 million
Oklahoma (12-0) vs. Florida State (11-1), 7 p.m. (ABC)

NFL STANDINGS

Table with columns: Conference, Team, W, L, T, Pct, PF, PA. Includes American and National Conferences.

Local Bowling

Local Bowling
LADIES MAJOR
WEEK 12
RESULTS: Rock's 2-6, Frustrated 4-2, Dakota's Flowers 2-6, Bowling Angels 6-2, Culligan Water 4-4, Neighbors Hot Rods 4-4, Day & Day Builders 8-0, Big Spring Clue 0-8, Big Spring Musicians 4-4, D&S Flooring 4-4, Star Tek Strikers 2-6, Greenhouse Photography 0-8, DUH 8-0, Greenhouse Photography 0-8, Bow-A-Rama 8-0, hi sc team game Big Spring Music 7-2, Frustrated 4-0, DUH 6-2, hi sc team game Big Spring Music 1997, DUH 18-4, Day & Day Builders 18-13, hi sc team game Day & Day Builders 8-7, DUH 8-7, Bowling Angels 8-7, DUH 26-4, Day & Day Builders 25-9, Bowling Angels 25-9, hi sc game Alice Ewing 21-7, Irene Jackson 21-5, Cindy Sturdevant 20-7, hi sc series Irene Jackson 2003, Agreed to terms 5-3, Diane Ewing 5-17, Rosalita Lozano 5-17, hi sc game Cindy Sturdevant 27-5, Irene Jackson 25-8, Faye Day 25-7, hi sc series Irene Jackson 696, Faye Day 685, Cindy Sturdevant 681.

Rosy ticket figures inflated for bowl game

HOUSTON (AP) — Ticket sales for the first Galleryfurniture.com Bowl, set for this week at the Astrodome, didn't get off to as good a start as first believed. Bowl president Jerry Ippolito announced Dec. 7 that 28,000 tickets had been sold. A recount showed only 4,200 tickets were purchased.

"I'm sorry that we made a mistake and that Jerry made the mistake in the ticket count," said Jim McIngvale, whose Houston furniture company is sponsor of the game. "But I think if we hustle and promote in the next (few days) we can still have a great attendance between 30,000 and 40,000, get off to a good start and make sure everybody has a good time."

On Friday, game officials had no new ticket sales estimate. The game will match Texas Tech (7-5) against East Carolina (7-4). Each team was allotted 9,000 tickets but East Carolina asked for and received 11,000. Tech officials said they expect to sell about 10,000 tickets.

ALL-STATE

Continued from page 7A

— JAMES WINN, North Garland, Sr. 6-0, 185.
PUNTER:
— MARVIN McMURRAY, Lubbock Monterey, Sr.
HONORABLE MENTION OFFENSE:
LINEBACKER: Will Allen, Cypress Falls; Albert Bemper, Arlington Bowie; Edwin Green, Arlington Lamar; Adrian Henderson, Houston Washington; Joe Johnson, Allen Elisk; Craig Jones, Garland; Victor Mercado, Irving; Tyler Rowe, Arlington; Ian Sverly, Copperton Cove; Terrance Young, Longview; Tim Young, Lubbock Monterey.
ENDS/RECEIVERS: Juan Adams, McAllen; Willie Andrews, Longview; Zach Bailey, Leander; Trey Campbell, Houston Westbury; Antaeus Coleman, North Mesquite; Ryan Hamilton, Klein; Robin Kellner, San Antonio Churchil; Andrew Mattingly, Flower Mound Marcus; Cody Mavroulis, Abilene Cooper; James Moses, Galena Park North Shore; Buddy Nunez, El Paso Del Valle; J.J. Saazar, Brownsville Rivera; Robert Speltz, Abilene, Caleb Stone, San Benito.
QUARTERBACKS: Justin Algood, The Colony; Clayton Braddock, Grand Prairie; Sky Cook, McAllen; Kevin Goodman, Abilene; Juan Guerra, Brownsville Pace; Kyle Kummer, San Antonio Churchil; Reggie McNeal, Lufkin; Mark Schuck, Flower Mound Marcus; Drew Tate, Baytown Lee.
RUNNING BACKS: Joseph Adda, Houston Sharpstown; Roy Bishop, San Angelo Central; Irving Campbell, El Paso Austin; Eric Chapman, Keller; Jay de Luna, Brownsville Pace; Matt Esquibel, San Antonio MacArthur; Tony Fraber, Aldine Eisenhower; Greg Gold, Irving; Josh Harrison, Copperton Cove; Clint Jackson, Cypress Falls; Vincent Meeks, Rockwall; Garinus Scott, La Porte; Yamar Washington, Klein Forest.
KICKERS: Ryan Boswma, Brownsville Hanna; Leonard Guerror, Amarillo Tascosa.

— DOMINIQUE STEAMER, Temple, Sr. 6-5, 290. Graded 94 percent, 29 pancakes.
ENDS/RECEIVERS:
— THOMSON LAMBOGA, Grand Prairie, Sr. 6-2, 175. 50 catches for 1,027 yards and 9 touchdowns.
— KEIRON STEVENSON, The Colony, 68 catches for 977 yards.
QUARTERBACK:
— JORDAN NEAL, Abilene Cooper, Sr. 5-10, 160. 157 of 235 passing (67 percent) for 2,185 yards, 28 touchdowns and six interceptions.
— CEDRIC BENSON, Midland Lee, Sr. 6-0, 200. 362 carries for 2,871 yards (7.9 yards per carry) and 43 touchdowns. Also had nine catches for 223 yards and 3 touchdowns.
— DONITA HICKSON, McKinney, Sr. 234 carries for 2,243 yards (9.5 yards per carry) and 28 touchdowns.
— SHAWN MOSLEY, SA Southwest, 256 carries for 2,094 yards (8.2 yards per carry).
— RUSS DAVIS, Richland, Sr. 6-3, 180. 24 extra points. Made 9 field goals, 2 of his game winners in overtime.
OFFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR: Cedric Benson, Midland Lee.
FIRST TEAM DEFENSE:
LINEBACKER:
— RISHONE EVANS, Duncanville, Sr. 6-1, 270. 78 tackles, 20 for loss, 8 sacks.
— CHUCK FISHER, Killeen Ellison, Sr. 6-0, 170. 122 tackles, 8 for loss, 2 sacks, 9 hurries. 1 pass breakup, 1 fumble recovery.
— JASON FRANKLIN, Marshall, Sr. 6-3, 306. 100 tackles, 4 sacks, 5 fumble recoveries. Missed 3 games with injury.
— THADIS PEGUES, Friendswood Clear Brook, Sr. 6-1, 220. 70 tackles, 13 for loss, 9 sacks, 3 caused fumbles, 2 fumble recoveries, 1 blocked kick and 1 interception returned for a touchdown.
LINEBACKERS:
— MATT BOSE, Midland High, Sr. 5-11, 196. 139 tackles, 68 solo, 8 for loss, 2 interceptions. 1 caused fumble, 1 fumble recovery.
— TREVOR NELSON, Plano, Sr. 170. 77 tackles, 4 blocked kicks and 7 interceptions.
— HUSTON STREET, Westlake, Sr. 5-10, 165. 41 tackles, 7 interceptions, 2 fumble recoveries.
— EDDIE VASQUEZ, Mission, Sr. 5-11, 185. 52 tackles, 34 solo, 8 for loss, 13 interceptions (2 returned for touchdowns), 4 fumble recoveries (3 returned for touchdowns), 2 punts returned for touchdowns, 1 kickoff returned for touchdown.
PUNTER:
— MIKE NORTON, Friendswood Clear Brook, Sr. 6-1, 185. 36 punts for a 44.3-yard average. Long of 67 yards. None blocked.
DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR: Eddie Vasquez, Mission.
SECOND TEAM OFFENSE:
LINEBACKER:
— MERLIN FRIESENHAIN, Hays Consolidated, Sr. 6-4, 260.
— KURTHER HERRING, Aarland High, Sr. 6-6, 340.
— AARON METCALF, Copperton Cove, Sr. 6-1, 240.
— JEFF PARKER, Westlake, Sr. 6-2, 245.
— PHILIP WALLS, Tyler Lee, Jr. 6-3, 276.
ENDS/RECEIVERS:
— JASON MATHENA, Copperton Cove, Sr. 6-1, 180.
— ERIC WINSTON, Midland Lee, Jr. 6-7, 272.
QUARTERBACK:
— KYLE YORK, Spring, Sr. 6-3, 205.
RUNNING BACKS:
— ANTHONY EVANS, Pearland, Sr. 5-10, 190.
— DEE FARMER, Tyler Lee, Sr. 6-1, 205.
— ERCE, Weatherford, Sr. 6-0, 200.
KICKER:
— LANCE GARNER, Copperton Cove, Sr. 5-10, 185.
SECOND TEAM DEFENSE:
LINEBACKER:
— JAVIER HERNANDEZ, Mission, Sr. 5-11, 240.
— JAKE JORDAN, Deer Park, Sr. 6-1, 255.
— ANGEL SAENZ, Donna, Sr. 6-2, 245.
— FRED THREWAT, Midland Lee, Sr. 6-3, 280.
LINEBACKERS (4 due to tie for 3rd spot):
— LANCE EVERSON, Rosenberg Terry, Sr. 6-2, 220.
— LEE FOLIAN, Eules Trinity, Sr. 6-4, 215.
— SERGIO GARCIA, Phan San Juan-Alamo North, Sr. 6-0, 180.
— DON STANSBURY, El Paso Irvin, Sr. 6-3, 280.
BACKS:
— DEWAYNE BRANDON, Temple, Sr. 6-4, 195.
— JACORY MARSHALL, Copperton Cove, Sr. 5-8, 175.
— AARON ROSS, Tyler John Tyler, Sr. 6-0, 175.

ZOOM -- ZOOM -- ZOOM
What's got into us?
Actually, a lot.
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NOW 0.0%\* Available On All Remaining 2000 Mazda's - Protege - 626 - Milenia - B Series Truck - Miata
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Dipset Best Buy 3 years in a row.
2000 Mazda Protege LX
It's handsome, reliable, spacious and affordable.
Autometric Magazine Buying and Leasing 2000
Table with specifications for 2000 Mazda Protege, Honda Civic LX, and Toyota Corolla L.

PLAYOFF PAIRINGS

CLASS 5A
Division II
Championship
Katy (15-0) vs. Tyler John Tyler (12-3), late Saturday, AstroDome.
CLASS 4A
Division II
Championship
Texas (13-2) vs. West Orange Stars (13-0), late Saturday, Texas Stadium.
CLASS 3A
Division II
Championship
Forney (11-5) lost to La Grange (14-2), 20-17.
CLASS 2A
Division II
Championship
Celina (15-0) vs. Mart (15-0), late Saturday, Texas Stadium.
CLASS 1A
Championship
Stratford (15-0) vs. Burkeville (10-4), late Saturday, Waco.
TRANSACTIONS
BASEBALL
American League
BALTIMORE ORIOLES—Acquired RHP Jorge Julio from the Montreal Expos for 3B Ryan Minor.
CLEVELAND INDIANS—Agreed to terms with OF Karim Garcia on a minor league contract.
SEATTLE MARINERS—Agreed

NBA

Friday's Games
Utah 109, Indiana 101
Atlanta 78, Toronto 72
New York 91, Philadelphia 71
Indiana 103, Cleveland 95
L.A. Lakers 108, Dallas 103
Charlotte 83, Minnesota 74
San Antonio 105, Golden State 87
Denver 116, Portland 96
Seattle 107, Washington 87
Sacramento 95, Vancouver 93
Saturday's Games
Indiana at Atlanta, (n)
Chicago at Detroit, (n)
Miami at New Jersey, (n)
Cleveland at Orlando, (n)
San Antonio at Charlotte, (n)
Utah at Minnesota, (n)
Boston at Milwaukee, (n)
Golden State at Houston, (n)
Denver at Phoenix, (n)
Washington at Portland, (n)
Seattle at Sacramento, (n)
Vancouver at L.A. Clippers, (n)
Today's Games
No games scheduled.
NHL
Friday's Games
Detroit 2, Anaheim 1, OT
New Jersey 2, Florida 0
Minnesota 4, Los Angeles 3
Phoenix 5, Atlanta 1
Edmonton 1, Calgary 1, tie
Saturday's Games
Nashville at N.Y. Rangers
Carolina at Philadelphia
Chicago at Ottawa
San Jose at Buffalo
Detroit at Boston, (n)
Florida at Washington, (n)
Toronto at Montreal, (n)
Dallas at Pittsburgh, (n)
Dallas at Pittsburgh, (n)
New Jersey at Tampa Bay, (n)
Anaheim at St. Louis, (n)
Today's Games
No games scheduled.

NBA

Friday's Games
Utah 109, Indiana 101
Atlanta 78, Toronto 72
New York 91, Philadelphia 71
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Florida at Washington, (n)
Toronto at Montreal, (n)
Dallas at Pittsburgh, (n)
Dallas at Pittsburgh, (n)
New Jersey at Tampa Bay, (n)
Anaheim at St. Louis, (n)
Today's Games
No games scheduled.

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A Two Receiver DIRECTV System
That's 2 DIRECTV Receivers So You Can Watch Different Programs On 2 Different TVs!
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Our Gift To You
Christmas is coming! May this be the very merriest ever, filled with the joy and laughter of family and friends to keep you warm inside and out. We thank you for your Patronage, and look forward to service you again next year.
Dibrell's Gun Ammunition Reloading & Shooting Supply
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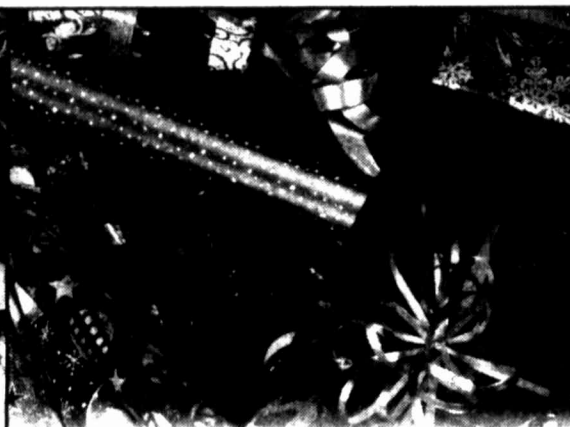
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**All Trim-A-Tree**

including artificial trees, ornaments, garland, wreaths and tree stands



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**All Christmas Home Decor**

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**All Christmas Party Goods**

Choose from an assortment of Holiday patterns

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**Selected Christmas Housewares**



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**All Christmas Boxed Cards**

**While supplies last. No rain checks.**

**Good at your neighborhood H-E-B store including H-E-B Marketplace.**

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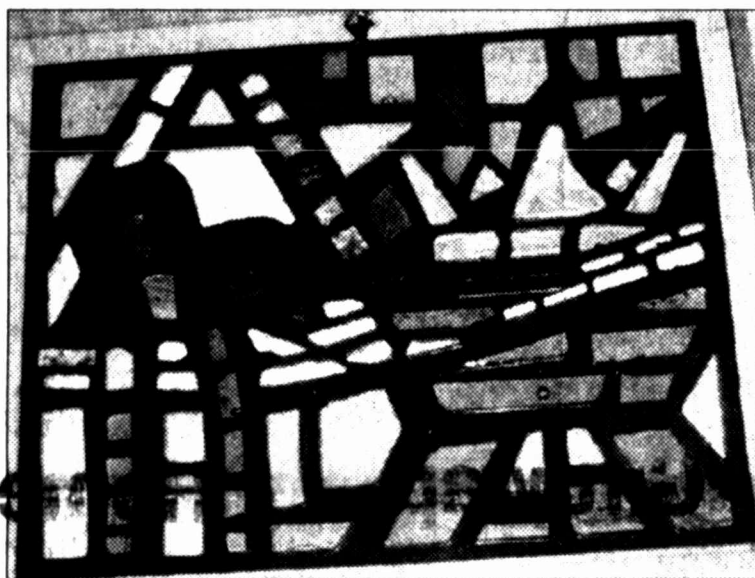
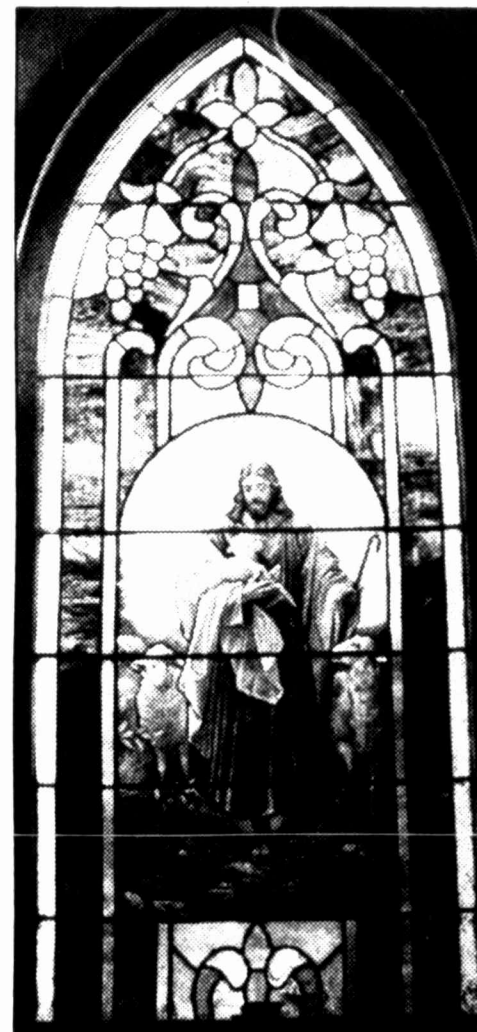
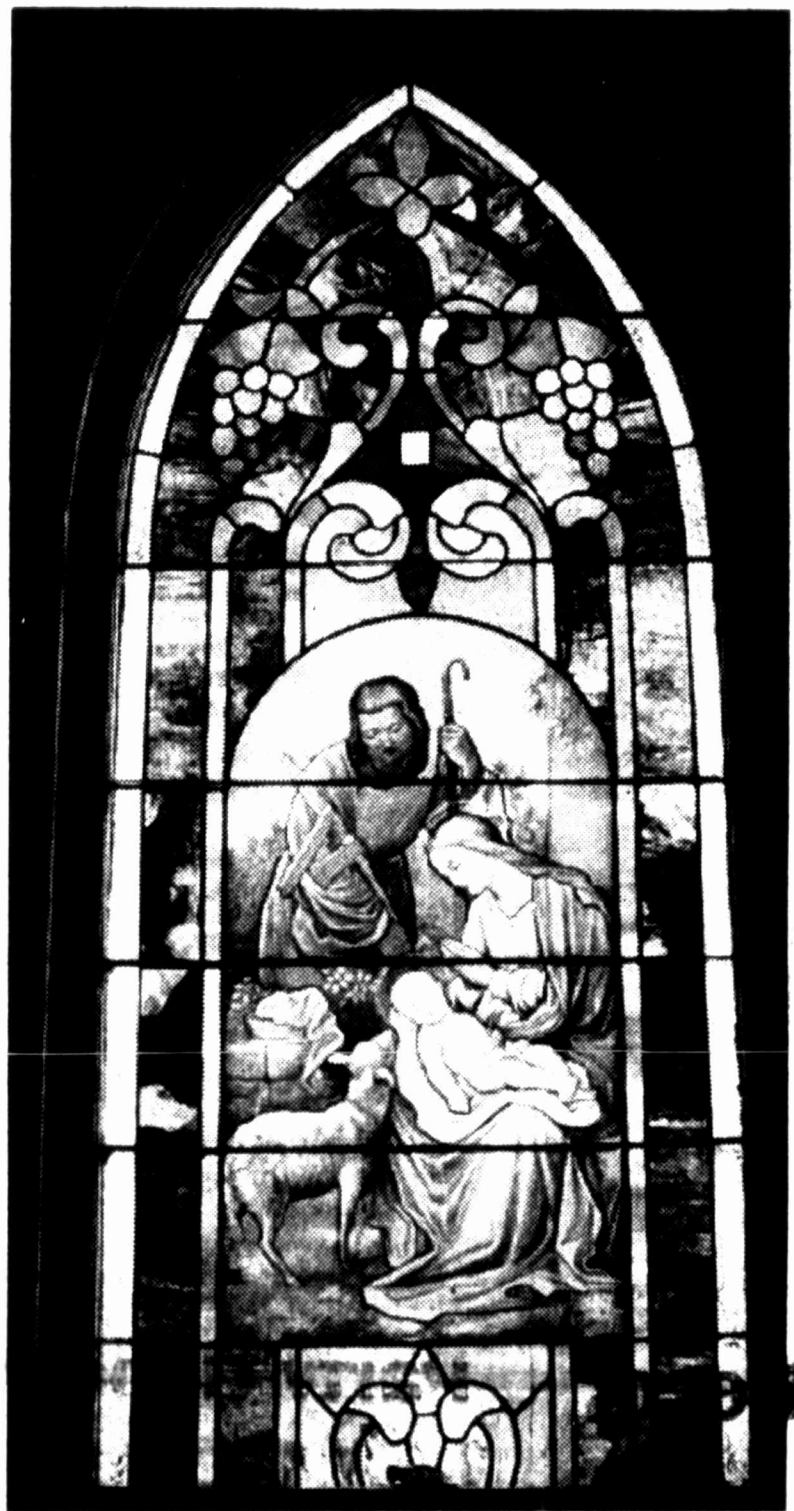
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Above

Mou

I get a little times, when truly historical find that what for is, unhappy there.  
In the old p Alvin Sipes c hamburgers derful Texas tion, stand cement garag But old, shriveled Al still live in m Alvin was a chili cook,



# Reflections ON FAITH



Top, left, a window at the historic St. Thomas Catholic Church depicts the nativity. Center, above, a window in the sanctuary at First Presbyterian Church shows Jesus teaching. Above, St. Thomas Catholic Church windows show Christ in many settings, here, with lambs as "the good shepherd." At left, St. Paul Lutheran Church windows lining the sanctuary contain various religious symbols. Shown here is the manger covered with a crown.



Above and at right, First United Methodist Church sanctuary windows show Jesus in the work of his ministry and in scenes mentioned in the Bible. Above, with children, and at right, with men.

Photos by Debbie L. Jensen

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## Mourning the loss of a historic site on the Texas chili map

I get a little angry sometimes, when I drive by some truly historical location to find that what I am looking for is, unhappily, no longer there.

In the old place where Mr. Alvin Sipes cooked hot dogs, hamburgers and his wonderful Texas Chili concoction, stands a rebuilt cement garage of some kind.

But old, white-haired, shriveled Alvin Sipes, will still live in my memory.

Alvin was a pioneer Texas chili cook; he was among

the first. He told me that during the Snyder Texas Oil Boom, he traveled there, selling his hot, spicy brew to the oil field workers and roustabouts.

He served his chili from the tailgate of his model "A" Ford pickup.

He operated his tiny restaurant just a house or two from the corner of Sixth and Benton Street. For several years the old man sold his hot dogs, hamburgers and chili to the elementary school kids at lunch time.

He did this until the school started serving lunch, and the campus was closed during the noon hour.

This, of course, put Alvin out of business.

Some of us old radio guys



AL SCOTT

*...Alvin Sipes and his wonderful "State Food of Texas" will be forever in my memory.*

—Daddy Don Brooks, Bill Birrell and I — would sneak off over there for a bowl of his delicious "Texas Red." It was truly fabulous, with that sinus cavity delight, with its glorious "after bite" that all

chili lovers know so well. That wonderful taste of Texas history.

This was real Texas Chili. And would put you in mind of the old chuckwagon cooks, who served it during chilly winter days on the Texas Cattle drives.

I went by his cafe one day many years ago with a tape recorder and interviewed Alvin. He said he had many grandkids, but they had all moved away somewhere and never knew where he had gone.

My taped interview has since been lost or erased, because I could never find it; a pity. However Alvin Sipes and his wonderful "State Food of Texas" will forever be in my memory.

Just as soon as I put this column to bed, I will go to the Big Spring Chamber of Commerce with my "Al Sipes story" to see if we can get a historical marker. That, in my opinion is the least we can do.

Al Scott writes a regular column for the Herald.



# WEDDINGS ANNIVERSARIES

## Smith-Foresyth

Amanda Smith and Paul Foresyth, both of Big Spring, exchanged wedding vows on Dec. 15, 2000, at the Globe of the Great Southwest with Lynn Money officiating.

The bride is the daughter of Nick and Myndi Smith, and the granddaughter of Jewell Bettes-Dennard, all of Midland.

The groom is the son of Jimmy and Deanna Foresyth of Big Spring.

The bride, given in marriage by her father, Nick Smith, wore a Renaissance Victorian gown of ivory satin encrusted with seed pearls. The sleeves were long, fitted lace and the bodice was lace encrusted with seed pearls. The 8-foot train was ivory satin edged with lace and seed pearls and had a chapel-length veil of ivory. She carried a bouquet of burgundy and white roses, holly, pine cones and ivy.

Allyson Smith, sister of the bride, served as maid of honor and Denise Foresyth, the bride's sister-in-law, served as matron of honor. Bridesmaid was Jessica Nash and Breanna Becker was junior bridesmaid.

David Foresyth, brother of the groom, served as best man. Richard Foresyth, Charlie Harman and Jeremy Harman served as groomsmen.

Ushers were Blake Hull, Ben Bracken, Bryan Becker and Lonnie Smith.

A reception was held at Ann Hathaway's Cottage next to the Globe of the Great Southwest.



MR. AND MRS. PAUL FORESYTH

The bride's cake was a five tier, free floating ivory basket weave adorned with fresh flowers. The groom's cake was a two tier chocolate cake decorated with basket weave. It was accented with holly and had the bride and groom's names written across it.

The bride is a 1996 graduate of Midland High School and will graduate from the Southwest Collegiate Institute for the Deaf in 2001. She is presently employed by StarTek.

The groom is a 1997 graduate of Big Spring High School and has attended Howard College and Midland College. He is presently employed by Big Spring State Hospital.

After a wedding trip to Ruidoso, N.M., the couple have made their home in Big Spring.

## Covington-Meiser

Heidrun Covington and Edgar Meiser, both of Big Spring, exchanged wedding vows on Dec. 9, 2000, at the VA Medical Center Chapel with the Chaplain Dean Thomas officiating.

The bride is the daughter of the late Elly and Helmut Mueller of Stuttgart, Germany.

The groom is the son of George and Althea Meiser and the late Ruth E. Meiser of McAlisterville, Pa.

Vocalist at the ceremony was Jennifer Evans.

The bride was given in marriage by Stanley Meiser and wore a two-piece ivory full-length gown with a jacket that was embellished with beads and embroidery. The gown was brought from Germany. She carried a bouquet that was a tussymussy of ivory roses and edged in red Christmas lilies.

Tammy Denn served as matron of honor and Kenneth Jolley was best man.

A reception for the couple was held at the VAMC.

The bride's cake was three tiered and decorated with red ribbon and ivory flowers. The groom's table had three cakes consisting of red velvet, German



MR. AND MR. S EDGAR MEISER

chocolate and rum. The bride is a 1959 graduate of Stuttgart Badcannstatt, Stuttgart, Germany and is presently employed by the Disabled American Veterans.

The groom is a 1966 graduate of Greenwood High School in Millerstown, Penn. and the DeVry Institute of Technology in 1968. He is presently employed by Home Depot.

After a wedding trip to San Antonio and Fredricksburg the couple made their home in Big Spring.

## Click

Lloyd and Ophelia Click of Big Spring will be celebrating their 50th anniversary on Dec. 27, 2000.

He was born in Tioga and she was born Ophelia Bell in Roby.

The couple met while hauling hay in Senew Wells. They were then married on Dec. 27, 1950, in the home of J.D. Harvey in Colorado City.

Lloyd and Ophelia have two sons; Lloyd M. Click of Fort Worth and Donald W. Click of Lubbock. They have seven grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren.

They have lived in Loraine, Wichita Falls and Big Spring during their marriage.

Lloyd and Ophelia are



LLOYD AND OPHELIA CLICK

both retired and Lloyd had been a carpenter for 55 years. They spent the first four years of their marriage farming. Ophelia worked at Montgomery Ward, Sears, Malone And Hogan and Big Spring State Hospital. They are members of the Church of Christ at 11th and Birdwell and enjoy fishing.

## STORK CLUB

Marilee Elizabeth Renea Mauzey, Dec. 11, 2000, 7:56 a.m., six pounds 15 ounces, 19 inches long. Parents are Michael and Melissa Mauzey; grandparents are Don and Carol Browning of May; Carolyn and Dolin Hughes, Stamford; Shirley and Benny Deleon and the late Albert Don Mauzey.

Christon Maria Rodriguez, Dec. 7, 2000, 10:02 a.m., six pounds 1 1/2 ounces and 19 inches long. Parents are Andy Rodriguez and Roberta Garza. Grandparents are Juan and Maria Rodriguez and Robert and Olga Garza all of Big Spring.

Abraham Joseph "A.J." Gonzales, Dec. 5, 2000, 9:32 a.m., eight pounds 9 1/2 ounces and 21 inches long. Parents are Jennifer and Abraham Gonzales. Grandparents are Joe and Hortensia Jacobo of San Angelo and Becky Rivera and Max Gonzales of Uvalde.

Alexis Renee Calvio, Dec. 18, 2000, 1:33 p.m., six pounds 11 ounces and 19 inches long. Parents are Jacob and Irma Calvio. Grandparents are Sammy and Marlene Calvio of Knott and Jose and Irma Navarro of Jal, N.M.

Amber Rose Hoard, Dec. 17, 2000, 8:48 p.m., seven pounds 11 ounces and 20 1/2 inches long. Parents are James and Roxanne Hoard. Grandparents are Brenda Grissom and Rocky Grissom, Helen Hoard and James Galloway all of Big Spring.

Janeigh Alexis Vanderbilt, Dec. 18, 2000, 3:06 p.m., six pounds 13 ounces and 18 inches long. Parents are Ashley Crossman and Brian Vanderbilt. Grandparents are Linda and Rusty Ille and Sheila Vanderbilt.

Manuel Moreno Marquez III, Dec. 7, 2000, 10:20, seven pounds 11 1/2 ounces and 21

inches long. Parents are Dominique and Manuel Marquez; grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Emery Horvatic of Big Spring, Manuel Marquez of Colorado City and the late Precilia Marquez.

Gary Colton Redlin, Dec. 10, 2000, 4:06 a.m., eight pounds seven ounces and 20 inches long. Parents are Gary and Carla Redlin; grandparents are Helen Hoard and James Galloway of Big Spring, Ivan and Patty Preheim, Ruidosa, N.M. and the late James Hoard.

Kaylee Nicole Morgan, Dec. 10, 2000, 5:52 a.m., seven pounds and 20 inches long. Parents are Ernie and Lori Morgan; grandparents are James and Gloria Pennington, Meridian.

Megan Lee Ann Flores, Dec. 7, 2000, 8:20, seven pounds five ounces and 20 inches long. Parent is Nora Flores; grandparents are Humberto Mier and Elena Mier.

Faith Charlotte Herrera, Dec. 5, 2000, 6:09 p.m., six pounds 1 1/4 ounces and 18 3/4 inches long. Parents are Robert Juan and Linda Herrera; grandparents are Juan M. and Olga Herrera and Jacinto and Dora Hilario of Big Spring.

Luis Lara III, Dec. 10, 2000, 8:24 p.m., six pounds and 19 1/4 inches long. Parents are Mr. and Mrs. Luis Lara Jr.

Adonna Monea Garcia Moreno, Dec. 11, 2000, 2:17 p.m., five pounds 11 ounces and 18 1/2 inches long. Parents are Michelle Garcia and Paul Moreno; grandparents are Rosalinda Garcia, Springdale, Ark., and Sasana Mendez Moreno, Big Spring.

Cassidy Guadalupe Martinez, Dec. 12, 2000, 8 p.m., six pounds 15 ounces and 20 inches long. Parents are Lita Hernandez and Chris Martinez; grandparents are Rudy and Olivia Hernandez and Johnny and Mary Martinez all of Big Spring.

## Every letter gets an answer in Santa Claus, Indiana

SANTA CLAUS, Ind. (AP) — Nonbelievers, beware: That whole Santa-Claus-is-a-myth theory doesn't fly in this town where elves have answered Christmas letters for nearly a century.

Dozens of town scribes, from the veterans of the American Legion to the women of the garden club, pen replies in red ink to believers young and old. Bilingual monks and nuns from local monasteries answer letters from foreign lands.

The letter writers, who see themselves as Santa's elves, follow two rules: "We never promise anything to kids and we keep the spiritual part of Christmas in it," says the head elf, Patricia Koch.

Some of the 10,000 annual letters addressed to the town's namesake are downright funny.

"I just want to tell you that my chimney is full of glass," writes young Victoria. "I will leave the keys out for you to come in the door."

Others require a tissue. "My mom got fired from her job in November," writes Alfred, 13. "We are using an electric heater to heat up the apt Dear Santa, I was here. What you will send us something for we will have a Merry Christmas."

The holiday spirit is taken seriously in this rural southern Indiana community of 2,000 people. They rent movies at Ho Ho Ho Video, offer prayers at Saint Nicholas Catholic Church, buy groceries at Holiday Foods and golf at Christmas Lake Village.

"I think someone who doesn't like Christmas would go live in another town," says Paul Werne, spokeswoman for Holiday World Theme Park in Santa Claus.

The town's post office offers a special red decorative postmark — available upon request. An estimated 100,000 cards from across the United States come through the post office each December, just to get it, postmaster Sandra Collignon says.

Santa Claus originally was a settlement named Santa Fe (pronounced Fee).

Legend has it there was much dissension over what to call it until the Christmas spirit came over the townspeople at a December party.

It's unclear when kids started addressing letters to Santa Claus, Ind., in addition to the North Pole. But it's believed postmaster Jim Martin started sending replies to children's letters in 1914. A few years later, the town was highlighted in Ripley's Believe or Not.

Think it over...

### Design your ideal kitchen.

We're here to help you realize the dream.

First we will give you precise visuals to show you exactly how your new kitchen will look.

Secondly your dream will be sweet because you get a firm price and schedule before we begin your work. Think about it. Think locally. Choose quality.

### All-American Cabinets & Design

Dalton & Carol Lewis 203-6001 Steve Link 203-0430  
We're here. And we can match our out-of-town prices!

### Have A Jolly Holiday!

We want to express our sincere appreciation for your loyalty and patronage throughout this past year.

To all of our friends and neighbors, we wish you a wonderful holiday season, filled with much happiness and love.

**David L. Ward PC DDS**  
Gentle Care. Beautiful Smiles  
FAMILY, IMPLANT & COSMETIC DENTISTRY  
1500 Scurry Big Spring, Texas  
(915) 267-1677



## Mary Christmas.

Celebrate the true spirit of Christmas by remembering that God's son was born to Mary. Such a marvellous gift. Mary held in her arms and that we hold in our hearts. Mary Christmas. Merry Christmas.

### St. Mary's Episcopal Church

Christmas Eve Service  
10:30 PM December 24

Christmas Day Communion—10:30 AM

1001 Goliad 267-8201

Http://www.xroadstx.com/~stmarys

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THE BEST OF THE AFTER

# Christmas

Happy Holidays

From Suggs Hallmark

263-4444

Don't Forget Our After Christmas Sale  
STARTING TUESDAY DEC. 26TH

**DOORS OPEN 10:00 AM**

Big Spring Mall

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LAUGHLIN WEEKEND GETAWAY

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# Mom's in prison

## Women at Riker's Island get holiday time with their kids

NEW YORK (AP) — Brightly wrapped packages covered a table, and holiday banners hung on walls. Laughing children sat on their mothers' laps throughout the room.

Christmas had arrived at Rikers Island.

Infants and teenagers were reunited with their mothers Tuesday through the Children of Incarcerated Mothers Initiative. The program, launched six months ago, is run by New York City's Department of Correction and the Administration for Children's Services. It brings children in foster care to their incarcerated mothers for weekly visits.

"We want to afford incarcerated women an opportunity to see their children, who we view as innocent victims in this scenario," said Anthony Serra, a corrections official.

The women in the program are at Rikers Island awaiting court appearances or serving 12 months or less for misdemeanors.

Gelisha Paige, 37, couldn't hug her toddler fast enough as he came through the sliding metal security door into the room.

"Whenever he comes to

visit, it's the happiest moment in my life," she said. "If I don't have my son, I don't have my life. People make mistakes, but they can change, they can learn."

Besides promoting close family relationships, the program may help rehabilitate the women, according to officials.

"They have time to think about reinventing their lives and to bond with their children," Warden Jacqueline Thomas-Andrews said.

The visitors' center usually contains small, square, numbered tables arranged in rows, with blue chairs on one side for inmates and red chairs on the other for guests.

But organizers transformed the center for Tuesday's gathering, modeling a home situation where the bond between parent and child is the focus.

Mothers sat next to their children at round tables covered with white linens. Red-and-blue chairs were scattered around the tables and gift-wrap dressed the walls.

Damara Quiles, 21, had seen her two children — Meagan, 5, and Justin, 8

months — once-during her month at Rikers.

"Mom, you need to feed him," Meagan said, "and change his Pampers."

"She takes good care of her brother," Quiles said.

"I'm coming home soon, real soon," she said, stroking her daughter's hair.

"As a father of four it almost brings you to tears to see this," said Serra, as children and their parents played and laughed together.

After lunch, mothers picked wrapped gifts from a table to give their children. Others looked on, sometimes helping younger ones open their presents. Soon the room was awash with musical books, dolls, electronic equipment and countless balls.

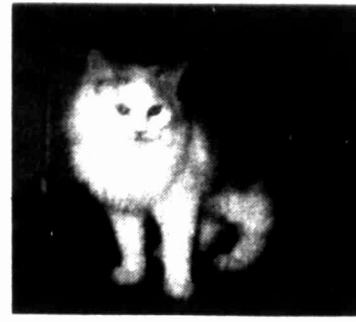
A cake — baked by inmates — was served and a children's services worker took instant snapshots of each family.

But then a warden said, "OK, time to go," and a chorus of "No!" erupted.

Nonetheless, misty-eyed children filed out.

"Be brave. Be brave. Good-bye, babies," said an inmate, who ducked around the corner to cry.

# HUMANE SOCIETY



Pictured is Cookie - DSH, Orange and white, 1 yr., male, neutered.

Special Note: All dogs and cats presently available for adoption at the shelter have received their vaccinations, including rabies.

Lillybell - Grey tabby, 2

yrs., female, spayed.  
Sweetheart - Black/white, 1 yr., female, spayed.  
Luther - DSH, black, 1 yr., male, neutered.

Blackberry - DSH, black, 6 mos., male, neutered.

Maria - DSH, black, 6 mos., female, spayed.

Pitch - Shorthair, black, 6 mos., female, spayed.

Felix - Black and white, 6 mos., male, neutered.

Tom - Black, 6 mos., male, neutered.

Miss Kitty - Grey and white, tabby, 2 yrs., female, spayed.

These, plus many more dogs and cats are awaiting adoption. Adoption fees for dogs are just \$60, for purebred dogs \$100 and cats are \$60. Call the shelter at 267-7832 for more information.

# ON THE MENU

SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER

MONDAY-MERRY CHRISTMAS

TUESDAY-Chicken, rice, squash, salad, milk/rolls, cookies

WEDNESDAY-Steak fingers, french fries, brussel sprouts, spinach salad, milk/rolls, fruit.

THURSDAY-Hamburger steak, potatoes, green beans, gelatin salad, milk/rolls, pies

FRIDAY-Enchiladas, spanish rice, beans, salad, milk/cornbread, fruit.

# WHO'S WHO

Monica Rodriguez of Abilene, formerly of Big Spring, was pinned as a licensed vocational nurse by her husband, John Rodriguez, and her sister Rosemary West, at a Vocational Nurse

Pinning Ceremony held at the First Baptist Church in Sweetwater.

Rodriguez graduated from Texas State Technical College Sweetwater on Dec. 15, 2000, after completing an 18 month course in nine months.

She is the daughter of George Bustamante and the late Margaret Bustamante, formerly of Big Spring.



RODRIGUEZ

# NEWCOMERS

New residents of Big Spring welcomed by Joy Fortenberry and the Newcomer Greeting Service include:

Arturo and Kari Muniz from Midland. He is employed by TXU Electric.

Elizabeth Galan and daughters; Marissa and Ericka; sons, Michael, Matthew, Salvador and Alex; and grandson, Levar, from Del Rio. She is employed at Taco Villa.

J.R. and Persila Balencia, San Antonio. He is employed by Tire Time.

Bobby and Judy Foust and granddaughter, Courtney from Sweetwater. He is employed by Fiberglass Systems.

Karla Cregar from Odessa. She is employed by Goliad School.

Brian and Amy Ward from Sweetwater. He is employed by Fiberglass Systems.

Odis and Susan Franklin and son, Madison, from Sundown. He is employed

by Howard College and she is a student.

Bert and Sarah Hollis; son, Cooper; daughter, Ashley from Shreveport La. He is employed by the Church of Christ.

Linda Tittle from Lubbock. She is employed by Denny's Restaurant.

Malik and Miranda Mohammad from Austin. He is the owner and operator of the Courtyard Apartments.

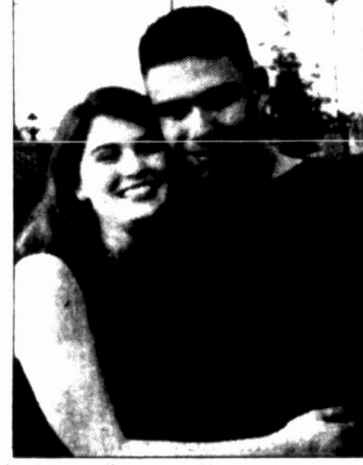
Joseph and Debra Hines, son Sloan, daughters, Samantha, Clarissa, and Caitlan from Killeen. He is employed by Marcy House and Western Container.

Steven and Marieann Walker, daughters, Vicky, Zeana and Zenia, sons, Ezekiel and Michael from Midland. He is employed by Denny's Restaurant.

Arthur and Anna Miramontes, daughter Melissa from Dallas. He is employed by the Big Spring Independent School District.

Mike and Bonnie Tweedy from Saalsbury, Tenn. He is employed by the city of Big Spring.

# GETTING ENGAGED



Donna Sue Fite and Gary R. French, both of Big Spring, will exchange wedding vows on, Dec. 27, 2000, at First Church of the Nazarene with the Rev. Alan Wallace officiating.

She is the daughter of Dor and Ann Fite of Big Spring and the granddaughter of Flora Lee Dyer.

He is the son of Tomasa French of Big Spring and Larry Ray French of Oklahoma.

# IN THE MILITARY

Marine Corps Cpl. Derek M. Hicks, son of Virginia L. Taylor of Big Spring, and the 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU) recently supported rescue and recovery efforts for the USS Cole after the Oct. 12 attack.

Hicks' unit provided immediate security during repair efforts and towing operations.

Air Force Airman David

B. Rivera has graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio.

He is the grandson of Sally Martinez of Colorado City and a 2000 graduate of Colorado High School.

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*I like to say that I have a very healthy respect for families. These days, lives are in busy that people tend to forget the importance of solid health basics. Diet, exercise, stress relief. I'm your family's reminder and guide to get there.*

**DALE BRADLEY, M.D.**

SPECIALTY: Family Practice  
RESIDENCY: St. Joseph Health Center, Warren, OH  
EDUCATION: University of Health Sciences, College of Osteopathic Medicine, Kansas City, Mo.  
CERTIFICATION: Diplomate, American Osteopathic Board of Family Practice  
MEMBERSHIP: Diplomate, National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners  
OFFICE: Family Medical Center / 2301 S. Gregg St. Big Spring, TX 79720 / 915-267-5531

Family is the center of everything. That's my personal view, and certainly, part of why I chose to practice family medicine. As a primary care doctor, I have a from-the-ground-up opportunity to encourage healthy lifestyles and to develop long-term relationships with my patients. Like any relationship, it's about easy communication. Trust. Building understanding and awareness over time. And that applies to both sides of the equation — physician and patient. We're really in this together — for life.

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DECEMBER 24 2000



## Researcher using infrared cameras to monitor livestock

WICHITA, Kan. (AP) — In Mark Spire's vision of the modern feedlot, operators will be able to pan over their livestock with a small specialized camera to monitor each animal's health and weight gain.

Called infrared thermal imaging, the technology is already used for limited medical testing in people and livestock. An infrared camera detects energy from any object for a specific wave length, then converts that image into a picture.

The technology is used as an estrogen detection system to find

animals in heat, test bulls for fertility or check horses suffering from lameness.

For people, thermal imaging is used to diagnose circulatory and nerve injuries, including migraines and toothaches.

A beef specialist in the Food Animal Health and Management Center at Kansas State University, Spire is pioneering its use in feedlot operations to look at disease and metabolism in cattle and pigs.

He expects to have a product ready for public use within a year.

"What has really made it possible is that within the last 10 years

we have equipment that has become very portable and self-contained," he said. "In the past, we had a bulky camera and a computer setup. Now it looks very much like a small camcorder."

Animals that are sick or not eating well give off a "cooler" thermal image.

"We basically are looking at factors that influence thermal profiles — such as illness, diet, genetics, environment," Spire said.

Researchers can create a health profile for each animal once they adjust for environmental conditions like temperature, precipita-

tion and wind.

Once researchers determine how to adjust those conditions, they can get a very accurate prediction of that animal's health and how well it is gaining.

"It is pretty extensive," Spire said. "It is going to have a very, very unique place in cattle performance evaluation."

That technology does not come cheaply. Thermal cameras range from \$20,000 to \$50,000, with those used for scientific applications pushing the higher end.

So it's unlikely they will soon become popular among cattle pro-

ducers. But in feedlot cattle and hog operations — where there are many more animals — the cost can be justified, he said.

"Economically, this is important for feedlot owners because our research has shown animals that become sick have reduced average daily gains by 25 to 50 percent," he said.

Thermal cameras can also pick up things like injection site reactions, abscessed implants and lameness that alters blood flow.

As an added bonus, the cameras can also be used to monitor equipment as well as animals.

## KBYG changes management, format

By CARL GRAHAM  
Staff Writer

Call it a change of management, a change of menu or changing of the guard, radio station KBYG has launched out on a different format.

A little over a year ago, co-managers David Pappajohn and Raul Marquez began La Favorita, a tejano music format in which they leased program time from KBYG owner Drew Ballard.

The popular request program played to a large hispanic audience has been highly successful but an opportunity arose for the two to run the whole operation.

"We were given a proposal several months ago to take over the complete management of the station," said Pappajohn.

Something added that is fast becoming a hit, he said, is the "oldies but goodies" music now being played from 6 a.m. until 6 p.m. each day. Disc jockey Steve "Rock & Roll Stevo" Lopez spins all the favorites and plays requests that are called in.

"These two different types of music fill a void," said Pappajohn, who owned and operated Circuit Electronics before making a career change in 1998. "There is a need for tejano music and there is a need for the hits of the 50s, 60s and the 70s so we are able to fulfill both."

He said that the station is also an ABC affiliate and carries state and national news.



Disc jockey Steve Lopez (seated) takes a request while new managers David Pappajohn and Raul Marquez check out his program log. Lopez, known as "Rock & Roll Stevo" plays oldies from the 50s, 60s and 70s.

"We have news at the top of each hour," said Pappajohn. "We have state and national news and have plans for a local newscast at noon and 5 p.m. starting the first of the year."

There will also be six hours of religious programming on Sunday mornings.

"Bob Rumpff will be playing religious music from 6 a.m. until noon each Sunday," said Pappajohn. "This has been a very popular slot as well and we want to keep it going. We

are more than a one-dimensional station. We want to be reach out to Big Spring and be their source for listening entertainment as well their source for news and information.

"When we took over we began to change formats a little. We added B. Michael Brown to our "Ask your Neighbor" program which is one of the most listened to programs in this area. He is a professional person who goes back to the early 1990s and is very popular

with the audience."

Pappajohn said the show runs on a daily basis as a community service and it is for anyone.

"It's open to individuals who wish to buy, trade or sale items," said Pappajohn.

"They can advertise almost anything at all as long as it's legal. We also do the public service announcements about meetings coming up club news and anything else the public needs to know about."

## Underground water district for Howard County subject of two January meetings

A group of agricultural producers and Howard county Farm Bureau will be sponsoring an informational meeting about forming a local water district or annexing with the existing Permian Basin Water District within predominantly Martin County.

Much interest in forming a local district is due to the fact that any zone within the state that is not under a water district by May of 2001, will be under the authority of the State of Texas. Many landowners would like to see us keep local control of our area's underground water resources.

The two informational meetings will be held on Jan. 16, 2001, at 6:30 p.m., in the Fireplace Room of Howard College in Big Spring. The other meeting is scheduled for Jan. 22, at 7:30 a.m. at the same location as the previous meeting.

A water district is a taxing entity. If annexed in with the Permian Basin Zone, the tax rate by law cannot exceed .02 cents per \$100 valuation. City municipalities of Big Spring and Coahoma would be excluded due to the fact that their water resources are arrived through the Lower Colorado River Authority or other municipal sources.

The purpose of a water district is to develop a comprehensive plan for the most efficient use of groundwater for landowners and operators, and for the control and prevention of waste of that resource. The other functions a district would provide would be to carry out research projects and develop information on wells within a zone.

A local board of directors would be elected from zones within the district. These directors would in turn give direction of the programming efforts within the water district.

Representatives from the Texas Alliance of Ground Water Districts, Howard County Commissioners Court and directors from the Permian Basin Water District will be on hand at the informational meetings to answer any questions that you might have.

Interested landowners, agricultural operators, and all other interested parties are welcome to attend.

### MEETINGS SET

Jan. 16, 6:30 p.m.,  
Howard College Fireplace Room.  
Jan. 22, 7:30 p.m.,  
Howard College Fireplace Room.



DAVID KNIGHT

See DISTRICT, Page 5B



Tommy Sullivan, left, Howard County VFD Fire Chief, came away from the annual firemen's award banquet with three awards. Those were medal of distinguished service, medal of merit and for officer of the year. Louie Smith was named "Firefighter of the Year" for his work as the certification coordinator.

HERALD photo/Carl Graham

## First Firestone trial may be in Coastal Bend

CORPUS CHRISTI (AP) — The Coastal Bend could be the venue for the first lawsuit to reach trial over fatal tire tread separations that have been linked nationwide to more than 200 accidents.

A lawsuit by attorneys for a paralyzed Portland woman is scheduled for trial on Jan. 8 in Corpus Christi over allegedly defective Bridgestone/Firestone tires on a Ford Explorer.

Donna Bailey was left paralyzed from the neck down after the Explorer in which she was a passenger crashed March 10 on U.S. Highway

181 near Poth. The case was scheduled to be heard by State District Judge Nanette Hasette in her 28th District Court.

Attorneys on both sides said that although similar cases have been settled out of court, none has proceeded to trial.

Paul LaValle, one of several attorneys representing Bailey and her family, said the case is being monitored by Ford, Firestone and dozens of plaintiffs around the country who have similar lawsuits pending against the companies.

"We have the full atten-

tion of the Ford board of directors and Firestone and all the attorneys" suing the companies, LaValle of Texas City told the Corpus Christi Caller-Times in Friday's editions.

Executives of Nashville-based Bridgestone/Firestone Inc., who have recalled millions of ATX and other tires, have denied that design and manufacturing flaws were to blame for the accidents. The tire manufacturer cited Ford Motor Co. for recommending a lower tire pressure and heavier load level than is believed safe for the Explorer.

## Dr. Bradley joins Family Medical

By LYNDEL MOODY  
Staff Writer

Family Medical Center held a public reception last week to welcome a native born Texan who is a doctor of osteopathic medicine back home.

Dale Bradley, who has joined the Family Medical Center, received his medical training at the University of Health Sciences, College of Osteopathic Medicine in Kansas City, Mo., and completed his residence at St. Joseph Medical Center in Warren, Ohio.

Following his residency, Bradley served in the Air Force as a physician while stationed in Robins Air Force Base, Ga.

Bradley and his wife, Jill,

decided to return to a small Texas town to raise their two children, 4-year-old Madison and 2-year-old Matthew.

"We wanted to get back to Texas and find a small town because it is a better place for our kids to grow up," he said.

According to Bradley, a doctor of osteopathic medicine is a fully-trained physician that takes a holistic approach to treating patients.

"Osteopathic physicians are taught to take a whole-person approach to the practice of medicine, treating people, not symptoms," Bradley said. "The focus is aimed at prevention rather than intervention."

Osteopathic physicians received extra training to treat certain ailments such

as neck, shoulder and back pain and they incorporate spinal manipulation into the treatment regime when clinically appropriate to speed recovery time and lessen pain, he said.

As a family doctor, Bradley said he provides medical care for family members of all ages including preventative services such as well baby exams, immunizations, colon cancer screening by flexible sigmoidoscopy and exercise stress testing for the early detection of heart disease.

"Of particular interest to me is dermatology and dermatologic surgery of both benign and some malignant skin lesions," he said. "I have extensive experience in the use of radiofrequency skin surgery that minimize scarring in most patients."



Amber Rich of Family Medical Center, left, waits while Dr. Dale Bradley, D.O. cuts a piece of cake at his welcome reception party. Bradley's wife, Jill, and his 4-year-old daughter Madison stand close by.

HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody



**PUBLIC RECORDS**

**Justice of the Peace  
Bernie Green  
Precinct 1, Place 1  
Bad Checks/Warrants  
Issued:**

The addresses listed are the last known addresses. Names on this list remain until all fines have been paid. If any problems with this list, please call 264-2226.

- Aguilar, John C., 6701 Eastside Road 303, Odessa
- Alsbough, Donald Ray, 600 Runnels or 4202 Muir, Big Spring
- Alvarez, Ruddy, 1106 1/2 N. Main, Lamesa
- Anderson, Michelle N. 7105 E. County Rd. 90, Midland
- Balderaz, Bernard, 3304 W. 80 Apt. 44, Big Spring
- Barraza, Alicia, 1501 Wood, Big Spring
- Batchelor, Dana, 2300 S. Eight No. 24, Lamesa
- Beck, Linda, 1713 Worley Rd. Banner Elk, N.C.
- Benton, Forest E., 3304 W. Highway No. 15, Big Spring
- Brown, Jason, 1510 Johnson, Big Spring
- Bowen, Pennie G., 1811 SE 18th, Mineral Wells
- Brown, Robbie D., 515 N. 10th, Lamesa
- Bryan, Randy, P.O. Box 783, Snyder
- Lullard, James 202 Fourth, Palestine
- Calcutt, Gloria, 1104 N. Bell or 1011 N. Scurry, Big Spring
- Cansino, Andrea, 1906 Runnels, Big Spring
- Cardona, Talana, 2300 S. Eight No. 60, Lamesa
- Carrisalez, Mary Helen, 903 Ave Q, Snyder
- Carter, Terry, P.O. Box 2771 or 151 11th Place, Big Spring
- Cavazos, Anthony, 2435 N. Central Express Way South, Richardson
- Chavera, Arnulfo Sr., 1108 West Sixth Street, Big Spring
- Chavera, Arnulfo Jr., 1810 Mittle, Big Spring
- Chism, John, 4105 Dixon, Big Spring
- Christian, Amanda, 1508 Tucson, Big Spring
- Cisneros, Ramon, 623 McEwen, Big Spring
- Cobb, Melissa, P.O. Box 812, Coahoma
- Co, J. Glen Dale, P.O. Box 877, Coahoma
- Connolly, John C., P.O. Box 305, Taxhoma, Okla.
- Cooper, Melody Ann, P.O. Box 391, Coahoma
- Cox, Donna Lynn, 1607 State, Big Spring
- Crick, Don, 186 Las Lomas, Rio Grande City
- Crow, Cindy, 1310 Tucson, Big Spring
- Cruz, Caesar Santa, P.O. Box 344, Van Horn
- Davis, Russell Lamar, 5822 Ranch Road 33, Big Spring
- DeBlanc, Roy E., 1066 Cutrer Road, Osyka, Miss.
- Dickson, Krista A., 6917 Todd, Sachse
- Dunnam, Layla, 205 Settles, Big Spring
- Dominguez, Albert, 2010 S. Polk, Amarillo
- Elliott, Amy, 408 Sleepy Top, Glenn Heights
- Evans, W. Carol, 809 E. 33rd, Plainview
- Fagan, Chris M., 1305 N. Taylor Apt. A, Amarillo
- Flores, Isaac Jr., 841 Carver, Abilene
- Flores, Rachel, 211 S. Convert, Stanton
- Flores, Tony Jr., 2000 Runnels, Big Spring
- Ford, Paul, 501-A West Kiowa, Hobbs, N.M.
- Futrelle, Deborah, 2512 Fairchild, Big Spring
- Garcia, Ricky, 500 25th Street, Snyder
- Garza, Angel A., 501 E. 15th Street, Big Spring
- Greco, Benjamin, 2609 Wasson No. 38, Big Spring
- Guevara, Yvette, 405 E. 11th Street, Big Spring
- Hamilton, Alfred Jr., 1110 1/2 Aylesford, Big Spring
- Harris, Ruby, 907 Ave. S. Apt. 502, Lubbock
- Harrison, Tiffany S., 1935 Dunbar Road, Woodland, Tenn.
- Hataway, Bobby G. Jr., 3012 Austin Ave, Snyder
- Helms, Johnny Michael, 538 Westover No. 156, Big Spring
- Henderson, Tammy Jean, P.O. Box 59, Coahoma
- Henry, Nakia, 618 State St., Big Spring
- High, Eva Marie, P.O. Box 1115, Lamesa
- Hill, Johnny R., 704 San Antonio, Big Spring
- Hilliard, Robert, 2605 Brunson, Midland
- Holje, Jon, 835 E. 11th Street, Colorado City
- Howery, Jeanie R., 4700 Polo Parkway No. 149, Midland
- Hunter, Fredlee Jr., 308 N. Ave. H., Lamesa
- Irvin, Suzanne Marie, 2208 S. Monticello, Big Spring
- Isidro, Victor, 114 Sleepy Mountain, Kerville
- Jackson, Thomas Jeremy, 908 E. 14th Big Spring or 900 W. Second, Breckenridge
- Johnson, Tanya, 8000 Clear Brook Circle, Fort Worth
- Jones, Amy, 1602 Wren, Big Spring
- Juarez, Benita, 1809 E. Maple, Midland
- Kennedy, Charles Dean, 4824 E. 20th St., Joplin, Mo.
- Kent, Cynthia Lee, moved to Newport
- Limon, Rita, 406 E. Broadway, Brownfield
- Lipscomb, Carol Thompson, 1511 E. Scurry St., Big Spring
- Locke, William Ray Jr., 3205 E. 11 Place, Big Spring
- Lopez, Jaime, 1815 Benton, Big Spring
- Lopez, Michael, 520 N. Ave. A, Kermit
- Lopez, Ruben Jr., 107 Milburn, Snyder
- Loveless, Nancy M. 3611 Dixon, Big Spring

- Mann, James A., 1610 Young, Big Spring
- Martinez, Theodore, 1610 Owens, Big Spring
- Martinez, Victoria Joseph, 1509 Lancaster, Big Spring or 323 S. Main, Lorraine
- Massingill, Sky W., 6526 Lyngate, Spring
- McClain, O'Neal, 911 17th, Snyder
- McDaniel, Michael Christopher, 440 E. 11th, Colorado City
- Mims, Abrol L. 4005 Connally, Big Spring
- Moland, Todd, 3301 Indiana St., Great Lakes, Ill.
- Moore, Gary, 817 N. 26th Street, Odessa
- Morris, Quinton D., P.O. Box 183, Lorraine
- Morris, Patricia Ann, 803 Lorilla, Big Spring or Rt. 3, Box 43, Colorado City
- Moyers, Russell D., 166 W. Colorado, Amarillo
- Murray, Phillip L., 1313 E. 6th, Big Spring
- Nail, Gena Gayle 1120 Will Rogers Dr., Santa Rosa, N.M.
- Nail, Jessica, P.O. Box 1934, Big Spring
- Nirmul, Banu B., 205 Mindy Lane, Piscataway, N.J.
- O'Bannon, Eddie, Rt. 1, Box 50, Ackerly
- Olivas, Julian Hernandez, P.O. Box 304, Coahoma
- Olyer, Marla, 1016 E. 21st, Big Spring
- Orozco, Juana, P.O. Box 186, Idalou
- Ovalle, Ninfa Gonzales, 3801 E. Highway 80 No. 34, Midland
- Padron, Abram, 927 N. A or Hcr 3 Box 76, Brownfield
- Pallanes, Lucia, P.O. Box 10054, Midland
- Palmer, Johnny D., P.O. Box 30458, Midland
- Palmer, Reeda Castillo, 2735 E. Eight No. 135, Odessa
- Pena, Sammy Jr., 208 N. Nolan, Big Spring
- Perry, Allen, 2600 Dow, Big Spring
- Picazo, Alanda L., 112 Cedar or P.O. Box 2464, Big Spring
- Pierce, Vivian Kay, 113 W. Robinson Road, Big Spring
- Pond, Henry C. Jr., 840 Western, Amarillo
- Price, Michele, 1606 Oriole, Big Spring
- Posey, Christopher Allen, 3417 Midland Dr., Midland
- Ragsdale, Sam, 814 N. 12th, Lamesa
- Ramirez, Francisco, P.O. Box 217, Lyford
- Ramirez, Ramon, 1710 Alabama, Big Spring
- Redford, William Robert, 1604 Virginia Apt. B, Big Spring
- Redman, Michael David, P.O. Box 1254, Snyder
- Resendez, Guadalupe, 945 Clifford, Odessa
- Reyes, Shalina Louise, 186 Sourdough Rd., Coahoma
- Reynolds, Elton R., P.O. Box 1142, Colorado City
- Riggouts, "Berta" M. P.O. Box 1292, Snyder
- Rios, Fidel, 1219 San Felipe, Alice
- Rivera, Krishna N., 2020 Mattie Woods Lane, Colorado City
- Roach, Gene D., 1685 Mount Springs Road, Cabot, Ariz.
- Roberts, Dons P., 3303 Auburn, Big Spring
- Robertson, Caleb L., 1715 Hailey Apt. 101, Sweetwater
- Rodriguez, Dalma, 707 N. Ninth, Lamesa
- Rodriguez, Gloria, 3313 Cuthbert, Midland
- Rodriguez, Joe Jesse Jr., 5318 Opal Lane, Big Spring
- Rodriguez, Joel, 1601 E. Third, Big Spring
- Rosales, Chris, P.O. Box 216, O'Donnell
- Rudd, Matt A., 17059 Highway 46 W. Lot 35 Spring Branch
- Ruiz, Jennifer, P.O. Box 484, Colorado City
- Runnels, Brad Mark, 6414 E. County Road 75, Midland
- Salinas, Elizabeth, 1303 N. First Street, Lamesa
- Sanchez, Debbie Ann, 538 Westover No. 260, Big Spring
- Sanders, Randolph K., 460 Greenway Road, Kingsford Heights, I.
- Sams, Alyson Beth, 321 W. 21st

- Apt. 4, Big Spring
- Schenck, Robert Charles, 1303 W. Michigan, Midland
- Silvera, Joey, 2006 Ave. L., Snyder
- Sena, Jeannine, 6 Eagle Place, Roswell, N.M.
- Shubert, Billy G., 538 Westover No. 119, Big Spring
- Simpson, Patricia, 3527 102nd Street, Lubbock
- Sims, Teresa Ann, 1019, Johnson, Big Spring
- Smith, Rosemary, 711 E. 15th, Big Spring
- Sowell, John A., 500 N. Salem Rd., Big Spring
- Stone, Marsha A., 820 S. Meridian, Oklahoma City, Okla.
- Sumpter, Elaine, No. 1 Courtney Place Apt. 411, Big Spring
- Sutton, Michael L., 4211 Parkway, Big Spring or 1502 N. Ave. G, Lamesa
- Thornton, Jeanette, 120 Airbase Road No. 155, Big Spring
- Timmerman, Angela M., 5280 Professional Dr., Apt. 347, Wichita Falls
- Trevino, Cynthia, Rt. 5 Box 166M, Kilgore
- Torres, Christine, 2101 Lakeview Circle No. 109, Lewisville
- Tyron, Evangeline, 406 E. Cedar, Midland
- Urbie, G. Gina, P.O. Box 123, Big Spring
- Vasquez, Jose Olger, 1605 Glenwood Dr., Midland
- Vasquez, Judy, 1907 N. Seventh, Lamesa
- Velasquez, Vita L., 2023 W. Sixth Street, Odessa
- Vex, Eugene, 1007 Wood, BigSpring
- Viasana, Elizabeth R., 203 NW Third, Big Spring
- Vidales, Shawn Lee, 1205 N. Lincoln, Oressa
- Villa, Manuela L., 1218 W. Third, Stanton or 1222 W. Third, Big Spring
- Villafraanco, Felisa, 301 E. Peck, Midland
- Villareal, Paul, 206 Southwest Ave., Seminole
- Wagner, Cynthia, 1406 Anson Ave., Abilene
- Waldie, Eliene, 4503 Versailles Dr., Midland
- Waldow, Dwight, 3405 E. Highway 350, Big Spring or 729 Cactus Lane No. 1, San Angelo
- Walker, Dan A., P.O. Box 672, Forsan
- Washburn, Shawn, 139 Normal Ave. Apt. D11, Kutztown, Pa.
- Webb, Shelli D., 2402 E. Marcy Dr., Big Spring
- Welch, J.B., 3311 Scur 1206, Midland
- Wilburn, Fred, 3307 Drexel, Big Spring
- Williams, Jason, Lima Co. 3/5 WPNS Camp Pendleton Calif.
- Williams, Joe, 2409 S. Orj, Amarillo
- Woodfin, Anna E., 2609 Wasson No. 38, Big Spring
- Wirges, Joseph A. IV, 53893 Way N., Bloomfield, Nev.
- Yanez, Eva Carrasco, 1408 Oriole or 1816 Mestasite, Big Spring
- Ybanez, Lucia C., P.O. Box 1393, Lamesa

**Howard County  
Clerk's Office:**  
**Marriage Licenses:**  
Jose Mendez Cuellar Jr., 38, and Jane Cuellar, 35, both of Big Spring  
Guadalupe Nieto, 33, and

- Rosalinda Perez, 29, both of Big Spring
- Michael David Bustetter, 37, and Ana Suzanne Bustetter, 37, both of San Angelo
- Marcelino Natividad Brito, 76, Midland and Guadalupe S. Chavarria, 78, Big Spring
- Michael Kevin Calley, 21, Waco, and Amanda Rene Petko, 21, Imperial, Mo.
- Manuel O. Sosa III, 27 and Angelita Bihl Pineda, 37, both of Big Spring
- Ronald Dewayne Baker, 37 and Connie Flores, 34, both of Big Spring
- Keith Wayne Rich, 20, Fort Gordon, Ga., and Brianne Rene Fryar, 18, Big Spring

- County Court Rulings:**
- Probated judgment possession of marijuana, less than two ounces. Emanuel Thomas Miguela, \$500 fine, \$260.25 court cost, 90 days in jail.
  - Probated judgment (fleeing) to elude/vehicle. Luis Rios Jr. \$250 fine, \$260.25 court cost, 180 days in jail.
  - Probated judgment evading arrest. Larry Dale Jackson, \$250 fine, \$310.25 court cost, 180 days in jail. Johnathan Wilmont Taylor, \$100 fine, \$310.25 court cost, 90 days in jail.
  - Probated judgment dwli. Jackie Doyle Richey, \$250 fine, \$260.25 court cost, 180 days in jail. Luis Rios Jr., \$250 fine, \$260.25 court cost, 180 days in jail. Raul Garcia III, \$250 fine, \$260.25 court cost, 180 days in jail.
  - Probated judgment dwli. Roberto Cansiano, \$250 fine, \$260.25 court cost, 180 days in jail. Eugene Marquez Jr., \$250 fine, \$260.25 court cost, 180 days in jail. Albert Smith Jr., \$250 fine, \$265.25 court cost, 180 days in jail. Melissa Ann Sosa, \$250 fine, \$260.25 court cost, 180 days in jail.
  - Probated judgment display fictitious motor vehicle inspection certificate. Henry Rojo Valverde, \$250 fine, \$260.25 court cost, 180 days in jail. Judith Puga, \$250 fine, \$260.25 court cost, 180 days in jail.
  - Probated judgment dwi. Jacob E. Rodriguez, \$1500 fine, \$275.25 court cost, 180 days in jail. John William Salazar, \$500 fine, \$275.25 court cost, 180 days in jail. Scotty Ray Bland, \$1000 fine, \$275.25 court cost, 180 days in jail. Domingo Gonzalez, \$750 fine, \$275.25 court cost, 180 days in jail. Danny Ybarra, \$1500 fine, \$275.25 court cost, 180 days in jail. John Paul Ierra, \$750 fine, \$275.25 court cost, 180 days in jail. Terry Hendricks, \$1500 fine, \$275.25 court cost, 180 days in jail. Rosa Maria Ovalle, \$100 fine, \$275.25 court cost, 180 days in jail.
  - Probated judgment dwi-second offense. \$1500 fine, \$275.25 court cost, 365 days in jail.
  - Probated judgment criminal trespass of a building. Johnathan Wilmont Taylor, \$500 fine, \$260.25 court cost, 180 days in jail.
  - Probated judgment fail to identify. Johnnie Evette White, \$100 fine, \$234.25 court cost, 180 days in jail.
  - Probated judgment theft more than \$50 and less than \$500. Martin G. Castaneda, \$100 fine, \$310.25 court cost, 180 days in jail. David Arthur Wittrein Jr., \$100 fine, \$260.25 court cost, 180 days in jail.
  - Judgment and sentence dwl. Stephen Joel Mundell, \$1500 fine, \$275.25 court cost, 30 days in jail.
  - Judgment and sentence theft more than \$500 and less than \$1500. David Arthur Wittrein Jr. \$500 fine, \$310.25 court cost, 90 days in jail.
  - Judgment and sentence dwls. Jorge Antonio Escajeda, \$500 fine, \$260.25 court cost, 90 days in jail. Johnnie Ramoz, \$250 fine, \$260.25 court cost, 10 days in jail.
  - Judgment and sentence evade arrest/vehicle. Enrique Calderon III, \$250.25 fine, \$260.25 court cost, 90 days in jail.
  - Judgment and sentence criminal trespass/habitation. Fabian Santana Duran, \$500 fine, \$260.25 court cost, 30 days in jail. Scotty Bryant, \$260 court cost, 160 days in jail.
  - Judgment and sentence evade arrest/detention. Michael R. Hernandez, \$500 fine, \$260.25 court cost, 30 days in jail.
  - Revocation of probation and imposition of sentence. Enrique Calderon III, \$250 fine, \$449.25 court cost, 90 days in jail. Benny Islas, \$500 fine, \$360.25 court cost, 30 days in jail.

**Warranty Deed**  
General warranty deed  
Grantor: Gioacchino Giaco  
Grantee: Randy and June Sikes  
Property: 0.72 acre tract of land, out of the sw/4 of sec. 31 in blk 33 1-m-1, T&P RR Co.  
Date filed Nov. 28, 2000

Grantor: Ann M. Quackenbush and Terry N. Pelletier  
Grantee: Karla S. Cregar  
Property: Lot 2, blk 1, Caroline Court Subdivision  
Date filed Nov. 28, 2000

Grantor: Claude Ingram  
Grantee: The Duncan Family Trust, Alexander G. Duncan and Gladys R. Duncan trustees  
Property: Lot G, Village at the Spring, sec. 2  
Date filed Nov. 28, 2000

Warranty deed with vendors lien  
Grantor: Randy and June Sikes  
Grantee: Malik Muhammad Khurshid  
Property: 0.72 acre tract of land, out of the sw/4 of sec. 31 in blk 33 1-m-1, T&P RR Co.  
Date Filed Nov. 28, 2000

Grantor: Allene Warren  
Grantee: Susan and Michael J. Yeater  
Property: Lot 12, blk 1, Belmont Addition  
Date Filed Nov. 28, 2000

**DISTRICT**

Continued from Page 4B

Input is being sought on possibly pursuing the formation or annexation of a local water district for Howard County.

Additional information will be provided through April.

*(David Kight is the Howard County Extension Agent - Agriculture. His telephone number is 264-2236 and his office is located in the basement of the Howard County Courthouse.)*

**Special Holiday Delivery**

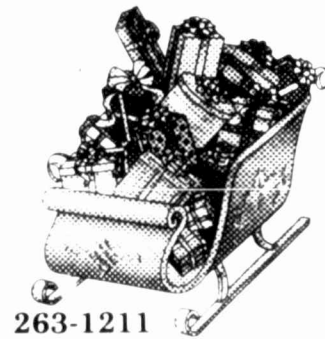
Before the season really takes off, we wanted to wish everyone all good things for the holidays and beyond.

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**Dr. James R. Riley, B.S., D.C.**  
1409 Lancaster St.  
Big Spring, TX



For Appointments  
915-263-6185

**Happy Holidays**



1989 Allegro 33 ft motor home, 29,000 actual miles. Like New Condition  
**\$17,500**



2000 F350 Crew Cab Lariat, 2 WD, Power Stroke, 10,000 miles. Full Factory Warranty  
**\$29,900**



1995 Silverado LT, Leather, 66 K, Like New.  
**\$15,900**



1999 Chev. Crew Cab Silverado Short body, 400 Automatic, 98K Local One Owner  
**\$20,900**



1995 Olds Cutlass Supreme 36,000 actual miles. Very Clean  
**\$7,950**



1997 Chevy Unique Conversion van, TV, VCR, New Car Trade  
**\$10,900**

**87 Auto Sales**

210 Gregg  
263-2302

Est 1972

110 Gregg  
263-8787

DECEMBER 24, 2000



# Classifieds

### AUTOS

1990 Camaro RS. V-8 Good school car. Asking \$1,600. Call 268-9820

### PICKUPS

For Sale. (2) 1998 Z71 Chevy pickups 2000 GMC pickup. Call 267-3126 or 238-7650

### PERSONAL

ATTN: I am looking for anyone who worked on the construction of Malone/Hogan Clinic - in the late 60's early 70's. Please call 263-5818

2000 Ford Rangers \$2000 off & 3.9% APR BOB BROCK FORD 500 W. 4th

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WORK FROM HOME & GET UP TO \$1,200-\$1,500/mo PT or \$6,000-\$8,000/mo FT. No experience needed WILL TRAIN FREE recorded info 24 hrs. 1-888-456-4451

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Next driving class for 2001 Class starts January 8th, 2001 Call 268-1023 or 270-4610 to register C1200

### ADULT CARE

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### HELP WANTED

Child Development Specialist Salary: \$1716.00-\$2161.00 DOE Associates degree (60 semester hours) from an accredited college or university with a major in child development, early childhood education, special education, child psychology, educational psychology, or elementary education. Related work experience may substitute for the required education on a year for year basis with a maximum substitution of 2 years. Will oversee purchased day care services by coordinating and implementing age-appropriate curriculum, making recommendations regarding the acceptability of a provider's services, ensuring an enriched environment, coordinating activities, and developing program objectives. May provide actual childcare is needed. Must have physical, mental and emotional health necessary to carry out essential functions of this position.

Big Spring State Hospital 1901 N Hwy. 87 Big Spring, Texas 79720 Certified Mother Friendly Workplace

### HELP WANTED

A TRUCK'S DREAM Do you need a CDL? A better job? We can help. CDL training with \$0 down is available for the inexperienced.

Drivers w/CDL choose from over 40 companies. We have 316 jobs avail. this month.

CDL DELIVERS 1-800-994-2896

Tax preparer need for 2000 tax season. 3-5 yrs tax exp. necessary. CPA preferred. Send resume and ref. to PO Box 718/1431 Big Spring, Tx 79721.

Mitchell County EMS is seeking a full-time paramedic. 24/48 shift work with competitive salary and benefits. Experienced preferred, but not required. Please contact Shane Terry, or Jason Cooper for an application (915) 728-3483 during regular business hours or e-mail mcmerns@abi.tonline.net

### HELP WANTED

Maintenance Positions Big Spring area

The Colorado River Municipal Water District, has 2 positions available. Maintenance workers needed for the Big Spring area. A CDL license and mechanical experience helpful. Company benefits include paid vacation, sick leave, retirement plan, group insurance, and paid holidays. The District is an equal opportunity employer. Applications are available at the District's office located at 400 East 24th St., Big Spring, TX. (915)267-6341.

### HELP WANTED

ACCOUNTING MANAGER 3-5 year experience in Accounting required Computer experience with Excel, Word & Lotus a must Accounts Payable & Payroll experience preferred

### HELP WANTED

TRANSPORTATION Major carrier has immediate openings at its Big Spring Terminal for experienced crude oil drivers. We will train CX offers: sign on bonus \$200, group health insurance, retirement plan, paid vacation, paid company holidays, home most nights. CX requirements: 23 yrs. old, 2 yrs. verifiable road experience. CDL Class A License w/Hazmat & Tanker Endorsements, good driving record, must pass DOT physical & drug screen Applicants can apply at: 120 & Midway Rd Big Spring or Call 1-800-729-4643

### HELP WANTED

Physical Therapy Technician needed. Must be willing to do multiple tasks including PT technician, drug/alcohol screening, van driving and janitorial duties. Benefits include paid vacation, health insurance and retirement. Must be 25 or older due to vehicle insurance and clean driving record. Please call 915-267-3806 to set up appointment for interview or come by 306 W. 3rd. to fill out application.

### HELP WANTED

Domino's Pizza Drivers needed. We pay hourly wages, mileage, and tips. 2202 Gregg, Big Spring, TX

### HELP WANTED

Don's Tire & Truck Service South Service Rd, I-20 & Hwy 350 Big Spring, TX 78721

### HELP WANTED

Taking Applications: Experienced Diesel & Gas Mechanic & Tire Repairman. Must Have Valid Texas Driver Lic. Full or part Time/ Top pay for qualified person. Apply In Person Only.

### HELP WANTED

West Texas Centers for MHMR has openings for the following: Accounting: Bachelors degree with a major in accounting plus four (4) years experience. \$14,718 (\$30,588 annually).

### HELP WANTED

ACT Team Specialist: Bachelors degree with major in social, behavioral or human services plus two (2) years experience in human services or related field. On Call. Salary \$12.90 hr (\$26,832 annually).

### HELP WANTED

ACT Team Service Coordinator: Bachelors degree with major in social, behavioral or human services plus two (2) years experience. Must have knowledge and certification in substance abuse services. On Call. Salary \$11.31-\$12.90 hr. (\$23,532 to \$26,832 annually) DOE

### HELP WANTED

Rehab Specialist: Bachelors degree with major in social, behavioral or human services plus two (2) years experience in human services or related field. On Call. Salary 12.90 hr. (26,832 annually).

### HELP WANTED

Casework Assistant: Diploma/GED plus two (2) years direct care experience. Salary \$7.28 hr. (\$15,132 annually)

### HELP WANTED

Rehab Provider QMHP: Diploma/GED. Salary \$6.85-\$8.20 hr up to 35 hours. DOE

### HELP WANTED

Administrative Assistant: Diploma/GED plus two (2) years clerical experience. Word and Excel experience required. Salary \$8.20 hr. (\$17,052 annually).

### HELP WANTED

Training Coordinator: Diploma/GED plus two (2) years direct care experience. Salary \$7.71 hr. (\$16,044 annually).

### HELP WANTED

Crew Supervisor: Diploma/GED plus six (6) months to two (2) years direct care experience. Salary \$6.85 to \$7.28 hr. DOE

### HELP WANTED

Job Coach: Diploma/GED plus six (6) months to two (2) years direct care experience. Salary \$6.85 to \$7.28 hr. DOE

### HELP WANTED

HRD Training Specialist: Diploma/GED plus four (4) years related experience. Salary \$8.75-\$9.93 hr. DOE

### HELP WANTED

LVN: Licensed to Practice as an LVN in the state of Texas. Salary \$9.30 hr.

### HELP WANTED

Benefit Plan Manager: Diploma/GED plus two (2) years related experience. Experience Word, Excel, Access, and other related software preferred. Salary \$14.71 hr. (\$30,588 annually)

Applications may be obtained at 409 Rannels, by calling JOBLINE at 800-687-2769 or visit www.wtcmhmr.org. EOE

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1601 WEST 11TH PLACE BIG SPRING, TEXAS 79720 PHONE: (915) 268-4833 FAX: (915) 268-4959 E-MAIL: robbibanks@yahoo.com WEBSITE: SMMCCARES.COM Equal Opportunity Employer

**ACCOUNTING MANAGER**

- 3-5 year experience in Accounting required
- Computer experience with Excel, Word & Lotus a must
- Accounts Payable & Payroll experience preferred
- CST, LVN or RN
- Scrub experience preferred
- Good communication skills required

**RN-OB**

- Fulltime or PRN positions
- Experience in Nursery, L&D, and OB preferable, but not required

**HOUSE SUPERVISOR**

- PRN position, Weekend Nights
- RN with supervisory experience required

**RN-ICU**

- 2 years experience preferred
- 7p-7a shift

**LVN-MED/SURG**

- 1 year experience preferred
- 11p-7a shift

**RN-MED/SURG**

- 7p-7a
- Experienced preferred

Scenic Mountain Medical Center offers competitive salaries and an Excellent benefits package. Please mail, fax, or e-mail your resume, or call for an application to be sent to you

**Big Spring Herald**

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Four Seasons Insulation and Siding Inc. Locally owned. Big Spring's oldest full time siding company. We specialize in Custom vinyl and steel siding. \*Overhang and trim siding. \*Attic and wall insulation. \*Thermo replacement windows. \*Storm windows and doors. 100% no lien. Financing available. Our siding has a hail warranty on labor and materials. 915-264-8610 no down payment required

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SPRING CITY ROOFING Johnny Flores Shingles, Hot Tar & Gravel. All types of repairs. Work guaranteed!! Free Estimates 267-1110

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**Big Spring Sunday, HELP WANTED**

**Clinical Social Worker** II or III Salary \$2436.00 to \$3000.00 mo. (DOE)

**Must be licensed in Texas** Professionals Worker Exam a LWS or LMS ACP plus 2 y related work experience. Liaison among Health Authority patients, family community as for the purpose of assessment, education, coordination, patient discharge must have physical, and emotional health needs carry out essential functions of position

**Big Spring Hospital** 1901 N. Hwy. 87 Big Spring, Texas (915)268-7331

ATTN: Big Postal positions clerks/carriers/No exp. re Benefits. For salary, and information (630)836-9363 8am-8pm 7 days

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**HELP WANTED**  
**Clinical Social Worker for 18 Salary \$2436.00 to \$2729.00 mo. (DOE)**  
Must be licensed by the Texas Professional Social Worker Examiners as a LMSW or LMSW or ACP plus 2 years or related work experience. Acts as liaison among Mental Health Authorities, patients, families and community agencies for the purpose of assessment, education and coordination of patient discharges. Must have physical, mental, and emotional health necessary to carry out essential functions of this position.

**HELP WANTED**  
**Extreme People Wanted! Internet Business From Home \$25 - \$75/hr. www.MakeWorkFun.com**  
Gregg St. Cleaners needs a counter help person. Apply in person at 1700 Gregg St.  
**HEAD OF SCHOOL** St. Mary's Episcopal School, Big Spring, Texas  
Relevant educational and administrative experience required. Master's degree preferred. Early Pre-K through sixth grade - 130 students. Salary based upon qualifications and experience. Available March 1, 2001. Open until filled. Send cover letter and resume to: P. O. Box 1051, Big Spring, TX 79721.

**HELP WANTED**  
**Covenant Malone and Hogan clinic has openings for the following positions:**  
LVN - Ideal candidate will have 3 to 5 years' clinical experience.  
**General Maintenance** - Minimum qualifications include a valid Texas driver license with dependable transportation, and verifiable work experience in one or more of the following areas: plumbing, electrical pump and motor repair, heating and air conditioning.  
Salary is commensurate to experience and a full benefit package is available. Only qualified applicants need apply to the Personnel Office of Covenant Malone and Hogan Clinic, 1501 W. 11th. Place, Big Spring, Texas 79720, or fax resume to 915-267-1137.  
Position for LVN: Vacation, sick time, holidays, health insurance retirement. Contact Elia Gonzalez D.O.N.  
Valley Fair Lodge Colorado City, Tx 915-728-2634

**HELP WANTED**  
Entry level or experienced full-time soft drink route person needed. Requirements include being 18 or older, completion of high school or GED, good driving record, capability to perform physically demanding labor, ability to meet people and communicate effectively, and a willingness to work till the job is done. Applicants with Class A-CDL and route sales or commercial driving experience preferred, but the company is willing to train the right person.  
**Dr. Pepper/Pepsi** 3611 N. Hwy 87 Big Spring, Texas EEO/AA Employer 263-4186  
**MOUNTAIN VIEW LODGE** is now hiring RN/Floor Supervisor to assist with Quality Assurance. Excellent starting Salary. 7 paid holidays. 2 weeks vacation after 1 year, insurance and retirement plan available, excellent work environment and much, much more.  
Inquire in person at 2009 Virginia for our complete benefit package

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DELTA LOANS Loans from \$50-\$450 Se Habla Espanol Phone Apps. Welcome 115 E. 3rd. 268-9090  
LET US GET YOU READY FOR THE HOLIDAYS! No Credit - No Problem Loans \$100-\$467 Apply by phone 267-4591 or come by SECURITY FINANCE 204 S. Goliad • Big Spring  
MIDWEST FINANCE Loans \$100-\$430. Open M-F 9-6pm 612 Gregg 263-1353. Phone app's welcome. Se Habla Espanol.

**LOANS**  
**NEED CASH NOW OPEN E-Z Cash \$100 to \$1000.000 No Credit Check Checking Acct Required 263-4315**  
**FARM EQUIPMENT**  
Want to BUY: Irrigation - side roll & pivot. Call after 7PM 268-1888  
**DOGS, PETS, ETC.**  
Great Christmas gift. Chocolate toy poodle puppies. Ready for Christmas. Males - \$250. 267-3833.  
**EQUIPMENT**  
1985 John Deere 410 Backhoe. Good condition. \$11,500 firm. Call 915-728-3713  
**FOUND / LOST PETS**  
Lost: Female black & white cat. Has extra toes. Lost from Texas RV Park. Reward offered. 601-605-1442  
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**AUCTION**  
**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30 10:00 A.M.**  
LOCATION: Tarzan, TX (MartinCo.). Go 1.5 Miles West on State Road 176 to Sale Site.  
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AVERS SHAD LICE  
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ASEA HORA SCENT  
STEMWARE THERES  
LORE READ  
MARINA BOARD SHE  
ELAN DEEPSEATED  
LOVE ESTEE GORE  
DEED SEARS OPEN  
33 Sweet green liqueur  
34 Of equal tension  
39 Birthplace of Frank Sinatra  
41 German sausages  
43 \_ fidelis  
44 Uttered  
45 John Jacob and Mary  
47 As such  
50 " \_ Gynt"  
51 Programming language  
54 Dad's part r  
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HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Sunday, Dec. 24:

Surprise becomes your middle name this year. You have the ability to turn problems into good news. You have an unusually keen financial sense or you might understand a lot more than you realize. Your decisions are nearly instinctive. Take walks to center, and allow yourself to free-associate. If you are single, romance has an unpredictable element. You are far more sensitive than you realize. Get to know any potential love interest better before committing. If you are attached, share more of your dreams with your significant other. You will add to the excitement of your relationship. SAGITTAR: JS understands you.

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19) \*\*\*\*\* Listen carefully to another. The unexpected occurs with a loved one. Enjoy the excitement and the moment. You could be nothing but delighted by a child or loved one. Share this person's enthusiasm about the holidays. Let go of concerns. Tonight: Put on the carols.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20) \*\*\*\*\* Someone does every-

thing he can to make you happy. Listen to this person carefully. An older relative could surprise and delight you. Discussions with a partner or dear friend add to the joyousness of the moment. Tonight: Sprinkle mirth around.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20) \*\*\*\*\* Get into this unusual day. Others seek you out, bearing gifts. Understand how deeply you are cared for. Express your caring. Someone at a distance surprises you. Anything is possible. Tonight: Say yes.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22) \*\*\*\*\* Make an extra effort to complete all last-minute details. Pace yourself and know that you only have a day left. Still, ask a partner to pitch in. Working as a team, you get a lot done. Expect the unexpected from this person. Tonight: Please, put your feet up.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22) \*\*\*\*\* Be playful with loved ones and children. Teasing another only adds to the anticipation of the big event. Do something special for another. Someone teases you as well. Laughter marks your interactions. Bring others together for something fun and lively. Tonight: Play the night away.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) \*\*\*\*\* Hopefully you can spend most of your time close to hearth and home.

HOROSCOPE

You might have some last-minute errands and details to take care of. Listen to your sixth sense with a family member. Your sensibilities help make someone comfortable. Tonight: Get into Santa gear.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) \*\*\*\*\* Think through a decision that involves a child or loved one. You could be stunned by what a close friend or loved one does. Your sense of humor helps someone who might be a bit glum. Your spontaneity paves the way to mischief. Tonight: Out and about.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) \*\*\*\*\* Indulging another might take a different shape than what you'd thought. Listen to a loved one. Work with the unexpected and another's needs. Your sensitivity and your willingness to look at the big picture make you a winner. Tonight: Indulge and enjoy.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) \*\*\*\*\* Your smile wins the day. Not everyone is thrilled with the holiday and what it means. Your attitude and efforts make a big difference to others. What seems like a piece of cake to you proves to be a problem for another. Help someone by nurturing him. Tonight: It's your call.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) \*\*\*\*\* Refuse to let a bah-humbug attack get to you. You might not be up for the festivities. Put on a couple of holiday movies, pour some

egg nog or have some hot cider. Not every holiday needs to be action-packed. Go for cozy. Go for intimate. Tonight: Treat someone.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) \*\*\*\*\* Aim for what you want, knowing what is important to you. Many Aquarians will want to be surrounded by friends and loved ones. Make the most of these special few days. Get together with others and make the most of the moment. Tonight: Cheer in Santa.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20) \*\*\*\*\* Bring others together and make merry. You have a way of making others feel important and very much at ease. Allow more happiness into your life. You might have a sudden insight about what is acceptable here to another. Tonight: In the limelight.

**BORN TODAY** Business magnate Howard Hughes (1905), frontiersman Kit Carson (1809), singer Ricky Martin (1971) For America's best extended horoscope, recorded by Jacqueline Bigar, call (900) 740-7444, 99 cents per minute. Also featured is The Spoken Tarot. Callers must be 18 or older. A service of InterMedia Inc., Jenkintown, Pa. Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at http://www.jacquelinebigar.com. © 2000 by King Features Syndicate Inc.

Dad feels pressure raising a son who is not his child

DEAR ABBY: I'm 27 years old. When I was 18, I got married because my girlfriend was pregnant. We're now divorced, and my son lives with me because my ex refused to be responsible for him. She ran off with her new boyfriend.

I have just learned that my son isn't really my son after all. My ex finally admitted to me that she had a l w a y s known he wasn't mine, and that his real father died of a drug overdose in 1996. A DNA test will prove it this week.

I'm extremely frustrated because I don't feel I should have to take care of a child who isn't even mine. I love the boy, but I don't feel he's my responsibility anymore. I was tricked into being his father. I wouldn't have taken the job had I known eight years ago that he was someone else's.

We have a very close relationship and I take good care of him, but I would like to live my life for myself and do what I want when I want — like his mother does. I can't do that because he's my responsibility.

I know he needs me and loves me, and I'm afraid of what it would do to him if I sent him to live with his mother so I could live my life. I'm so confused, Abby. Can you give me any advice so I can compromise my desire and his needs? — USED N NORTH CAROLINA

DEAR USED: The last thing you should do is send the boy to live with a woman who has already proven she's an unfit mother.

You are young, and you're feeling overwhelmed with responsibility. However, quitting is not an option, and I doubt you could live with yourself if you tried it.

You need time for yourself — every single parent does. If at all possible, arrange for relatives or close friends with children to invite your son to stay with them for an evening or a weekend once or twice a month.

Another alternative would be to find a single-parent support group in your area. Parents Without Partners is a good one. You can contact the organization by calling

(800) 637-7974 or visiting the Web site: www.parentswithoutpartners.org.

DEAR ABBY: When my beloved transferred pictures and cards to a new wallet, he found a clipping from an old Dear Abby column. He'd carried it for ages. Unfortunately, it is tattered, frayed and worn away around the folds.

Abby, please reprint it. We would like to share this philosophy with others in our crowd. We celebrated our 80th birthdays this year. Sign us ... STILL IN LOVE IN TEXAS

DEAR STILL: I've received several requests to reprint that letter. Read on: DEAR ABBY: Please explain the difference between "making love" and "having sex." A lot of people confuse these two very different acts. Will you please define each one? — JUST PLAIN BILL

DEAR BILL: In "having sex," the name of the game is sexual gratification. It's a selfish, physical exercise in which the partner can be a faceless object. (Anyone will do.)

In "making love," one is motivated by a desire to give pleasure, express deep affection and communicate one's feelings of caring. It's the ultimate in sharing. In "making love," the partner must be a very special person. (No one else will do.) Love is a metropolis. Sex is a whistle-stop.

CONFIDENTIAL TO MY READERS: Have a Merry Christmas, but keep in mind: If you're drinking, don't drive; if you're driving, don't drink.

To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable — and most frequently requested — poems and essays, send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$3.95 (\$4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby's "Keepers," P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

Abby shares her favorite recipes in a two-booklet set. To order, send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$7.90 per set (\$9 per set in Canada) to: Dear Abby Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

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•Senior Citizens Discount  
•1 & 2 Bedroom Unfurnished  
PARKHILL TERRACE APARTMENTS  
800 W. Marcy Drive  
263-5535 263-5000

Barcelona Apartments  
"Call Us For Our \$199 Move In Special!"  
All Bills Paid  
Check The Competition Then Call 263-1252  
For The Best Deal in Town 538 Westover Rd.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
CITY OF BIG SPRING  
Pursuant to the authority granted by the City Council of the City of Big Spring, Texas, sealed proposals will be accepted until 2:00 P.M., Wednesday, January 10, 2001, for the consideration of selection of a financial institution for lease/purchase financing of equipment for the City of Big Spring. Bids are to be opened and read aloud in the City Council Chambers, City Hall, 307 E. 4th Street, Big Spring, Texas 79720, with award to be made at a regularly scheduled meeting of the Big Spring City Council. Bid information and specifications may be obtained in the office of the Director of Finance, Room 102, First Floor, City Hall, 310 Nolan St., Big Spring, Texas 79720. All bids must be marked with the date of the bid and a general description of the bid item. The City of Big Spring reserves the right to reject or all bids and to waive any or all formalities. Signed: Russ McEwen, Mayor Signed: Tami Matthews, Assistant City Secretary 3028 December 24 & 31, 2000



ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

**Ponderosa Apartments**  
A Nice Place For Nice People  
•All Utilities Paid  
•One Bedroom - 820 sq. ft.  
•Two Bedroom One Bath - 1080 sq. ft.  
•Two Bedroom Two Bath - 1280 sq. ft.  
•Three Bedroom Two Bath - 1800 sq. ft.  
Furnished & Unfurnished  
1425 E. 6th • 263-6319

**FARM FOR SALE**  
100 acres more or less in Howard County, located 5 n. lbs. southwest of Big Spring, TX near the community of Elbow. The Farm Service Agency (FSA) has priced the property to sell at \$14,000. The property is being offered for sale to those individuals FSA considers to be qualified beginning farmers or ranchers and all prevailing claimants in the civil action Pfafford vs. Glickman. Beginning farmers or ranchers who are prevailing claimants will be given first priority consideration in the purchase of this property. If more than one beginning farmer or rancher who is a prevailing claimant submits an application, priority within this group will be determined by lottery. Qualified beginning farmers or ranchers must be in need of FSA credit assistance either in the form of direct FSA financing, a FSA guaranteed loan or a participation loan. For other requirements and information on how to qualify as a beginning farmer or rancher, you may contact your local FSA office. Financing may be subject to the availability of funds. If financing is not available at the time of sale, the selected applicant will be given the opportunity to lease the property for up to 18 months or until such time that Agency funds become available, whichever comes first. Applications can be picked up at the Martin County FSA office. Applications must be completed and received by January 31, 2001. The Government reserves the right to cancel the sale at any time and the right to reject any or all applications. For additional information contact FSA at P.O. Box 919, Stanton, TX 79782, 915/756-3308. The Federal Equal Credit Opportunity Act prohibits creditors from discriminating against credit applications on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, marital status, age (provided the applicant has the capacity to enter a binding contract), because all or part of the applicant's income derives from any public assistance program, or because the applicant has in good faith exercised any right under the Consumer Credit Protection Act. The Federal agency that administers compliance with this law is the Federal Trade Commission, Equ. Credit Opportunity, Washington, DC 20580. USDA regulations prohibit discrimination in USDA programs because of your race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, marital status, familial status, sexual orientation, disability, or because all or part of your income is derived from any public assistance program, or because you have filed a program complaint, participated in any program complaint proceeding, or opposed a prohibited practice. If you believe that you have been discriminated against for any of the reasons stated above, you may file a complaint with the Director, Office of Civil Rights, United States Department of Agriculture, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Ave., S.W. Washington, DC 20250-9410.

**You say you didn't notice until it was too late to do anything about it?**  
Probably, if you aren't checking the Public Notices columns of this newspaper regularly.  
Public Notices are required by state law to protect your rights and to help you function more effectively as a citizen. Access to information about what government agencies are doing is what makes the American the most powerful citizen in the world.  
The Public Notices give you access to information you need... about new local laws that will affect you... about plans for major land use changes... about where roads will go... whose land will be condemned... how your tax dollars will be spent... about court actions that could be important to you, or just plain interesting.  
Whether you know them as Public Notices or as "the legal", it pays you to check the Public Notice columns in this newspaper each issue. What you don't know might cost you!

**BIG SPRING HERALD**