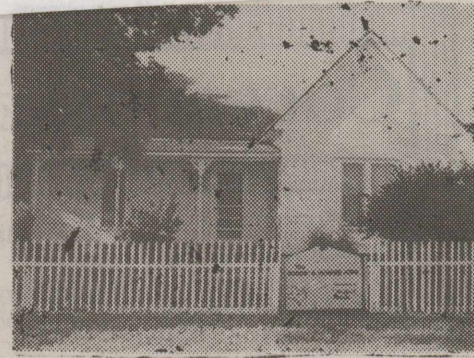


# Cross Plains Review

CROSS PLAINS' OLDEST BUSINESS INSTITUTION

"A Caring Community"



THE FIGHTING BUFFALOES  
Masthead designed by Barbara J. Sowell

THURSDAY, December 26, 2002

ROBERT E. HOWARD MUSEUM  
Texas Tech University  
LUBBOCK, TEXAS 79409  
Price 50¢

94TH YEAR

CROSS PLAINS, CALLAHAN COUNTY, TEXAS 76443

NUMBER 40

## DOWN HOME

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** The following story was brought in by Chris Biggerstaff and it was just perfect for the season. I loved the sentiment reflected therein. You probably all have your own "Christmas tree story (stories)", I know my family does. Take a little journey to the past and enjoy the wonderful memories you've made. Vanda Anderson Creech

"The Leaning Tree"

By Chris Biggerstaff

All families have traditions and memories of Christmas past. Our family has a story about a Christmas tree. The artificial tree was given to us by Jerry's brother, Richard, and his wife, Kathy. It was a pretty tree and given to us when our three kids were quite young.

Jerry and I both worked at that time and the kids were latch-key kids. One day when I came home I did a double-take when I looked at the Christmas tree. It was leaning badly to one side. I asked the kids what happened to the tree. They asked, "What's the matter with it?" Upon further investigation I found that the tree had been broken where the two parts of the trunk fit together. It had been wrapped up with all kinds of tape in an attempt to repair it.

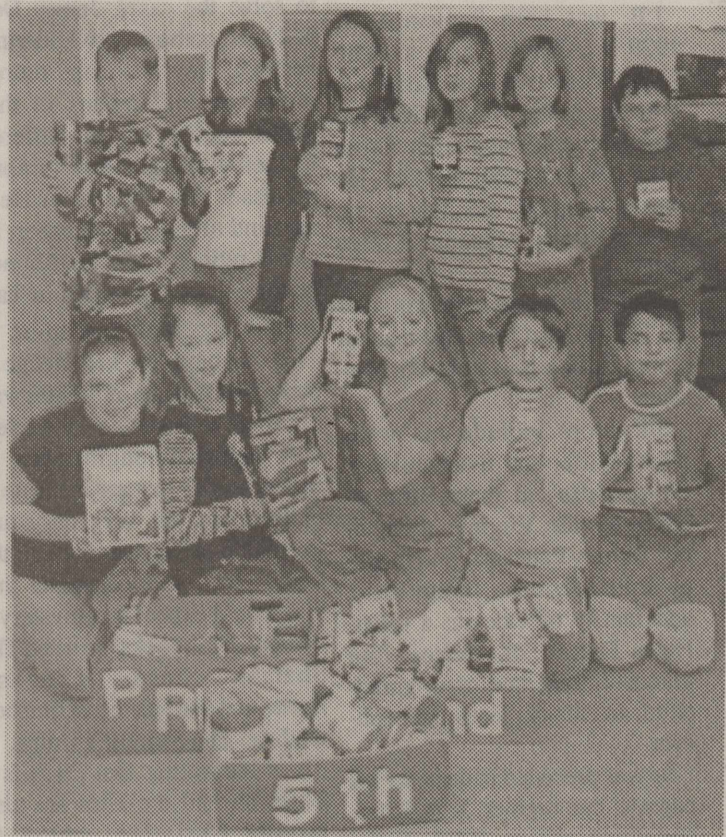
I asked, "Who broke the tree?" It seemed like the Family Circus kids were there—got three, "Not Me!" answers.

We stripped all the tape off and did our best to straighten the tree and retaped it, but it remained a leaning tree.

We used that tree for many years but decided one year to buy a new tree and all new ornaments. We bought a nice one, brought it home, set it up, and decorated it. Then, in silence, just stood looking at it. We took it down, boxed it and the ornaments up and called the church to find a needy family to give the tree to. We took it to them and they were very happy to receive it.

We went home and put up our leaning tree and stepped back to look at it. It looked perfect—it belonged right there in our living room.

We did have to retire the tree a few years ago when the branches began to come apart. We gave the old treasured ornaments to the kids. We talk about our "leaning tree" every Christmas with happy memories.



COLLECTED THE MOST FOOD—  
5th Grade Students



COLLECTED THE MOST FOOD—  
5th Grade Students

### Elementary Students Help Stock Local Food Pantry

Students at Cross Plains Elementary participated in a food drive for the local Food Pantry. Participants included Pre-K through 6th grade.

Each day Mrs. Lawrence's 4th grade math classes tallied the number of canned goods brought. The number was rounded to the ten's place and a bar graph was constructed to show the daily progress of each class.

A total of 880 cans were counted. Leading the classes in collection was Fifth Grade with

195 cans. The total weight of the cans was 1,010.

Following is a list of cans collected:

|                  |     |
|------------------|-----|
| Pre-Kindergarten | 57  |
| Kindergarten     | 92  |
| First Grade      | 54  |
| Second Grade     | 84  |
| Third Grade      | 171 |
| Fourth Grade     | 185 |
| Fifth Grade      | 195 |
| Sixth Grade      | 42  |

The students enjoyed participating in this worthy project.

## 3 Bar M — A New Business With Unique Decorating Items

By Vanda Anderson Creech  
Editor

3 Bar M is a new business in Cross Plains featuring western and country style living decor. Located at 116 South East 5th Street (on Highway 36, across from Food Plaza), it officially opened on November 1st. Casey and Darlene Moore are the owners.

The Moore family has been residing in the Cross Plains area for the past six years. They have a 13 year-old son, Colton.

3 Bar M has a charm all its own. If you are into western or country style living decor you will love the selections. Wall hangings, candles, candle holders, rope and cowboy accents are available.

Darlene specializes in offering rustic furniture that is made in Mexico. She has some pieces in stock and has a catalogue you may order any item you wish. The furniture will be delivered within 7 to 14 days. She wants customers to know that she is planning on volume sells and the furniture will be reasonably priced, without a huge markup. The furniture is absolutely beautiful. Even if you don't have the western decor there are pieces that would blend with almost any decorating theme. She will also be carrying leather couches after January 21st.

They also sell steer and bull hides for rugs and covering furniture. Darlene can order these for you.

The shop features lamps, pictures, handmade soap from Montana, Cowboy Candles with leather scent, etc. made at Clyde, pocket knives, remote control cars, and more. Darlene remarked, "There is something for everyone."

Darlene also deals in antiques and used items. She will sell items on consignment (20 percent commission). She noted that several locals have brought in merchandise for resale both new and used.

The shop has silver jewelry and will be carrying K.T. and Company western jewelry.

All 3 Bar M Christmas decorations are currently on for half price. These were unusual items and I couldn't resist them. See how you do.

Darlene has a flair for decorating and she will help you redecorate a wall, bedroom, bathroom, etc. She is willing to spend some time organizing just the right collection of items to make your house look terrific.

3 Bar M's regular hours are 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Tuesday



3 BAR M FEATURES RUSTIC FURNITURE—You can purchase unique furnishings for your home.



ANTIQUÉ FURNITURE ALSO SOLD AT NEW BUSINESS—This western style couch and chair has special charm from the past.

through Saturday. However, they will be open Monday, December 23rd, for the convenience of those last minute shoppers. If you need for Darlene to stay a little later some evening, just give her a call at (254) 725-4733.

An After Christmas Sale will be held Friday and Saturday, December 27 and 28th to make room for new merchandise.

3 Bar M will be closed January 6 through January 20 so they can go to market. The shop will be full

of new inventory on Tuesday, January 21st.

Casey and Darlene have been very pleased by the local response to their new endeavor. They wanted to express their appreciation to everyone for their support. They invite you to come in and get acquainted.

3 Bar M offers unique decorating and gift ideas. You will feel right at home and love the neat goodies!

## New Year's Eve Dance Planned at Grand Ole Oplin !!!!!!!

The Grand Ole Oplin wants to invite everyone to our annual New Year's Eve Dance. Join us for an evening of celebration and dancing on New Year's Eve. Roland Smith and the Roadrunners will be providing all the entertainment, kicking off the evening at 8:00 p.m. and playing until midnight. Breakfast and black eyed peas will be served immediately after the dance. Everyone is encouraged to bring a snack to be shared by everyone during the band's break. Admission to our New Year's dance will be

\$4.00 per person. Don't forget that we have Cross Country coming to play for us on December 20 and Muddy Creek will be playing again on December 27 in case you want to come and practice dancing for our New Year's dance.

Again we remind everyone beginning with the New Year our regular admission to our Friday night dances will be increased to \$4.00 per person. We apologize for this inconvenience, but with rising costs in just about everything, it's just something that we were forced to do. We do

appreciate everyone's continued support.

The Grand Ole Oplin is hosted by the Oplin Community Center and is located at the intersection of F.M. 604 S. and F.M. 2926 in Oplin. Alcohol and smoking is not allowed.

So gather all your friends and family and come on out to the Grand Ole Oplin for evenings of good friends and good fun. And if we don't see on New Year's Eve, have a safe and Happy New Year. Have a very Merry Christmas too!

## Key Club Appreciated Community Christmas Tree Support This Year

The Key Club at Cross Plains High School would like to thank the citizens of Cross Plains for their support of the Community Christmas Tree.

Through the many generous gifts given, a multitude of children who might not have received a gift during the holiday season will have a Merry Christmas.

The Key Club would like to give a "special thanks" to the Texas Heritage Bank and its employees, as this project would not be possible without their support. They appreciate the assistance of everyone involved with the project and the overwhelming generosity of the Cross Plains Community.

Texas  
Heritage  
Bank

"We're Proud of Our Local Heritage"

MEMBER  
FDIC

Presents:

"What's Inside"

|                      |      |   |
|----------------------|------|---|
| Book Review          | Page | 2 |
| Cottonwood News      | Page | 3 |
| County Roads         | Page | 8 |
| Courthouse News      | Page | 2 |
| Cross Plains Musical | Page | 2 |
| Jr. Livestock Show   | Page | 5 |



# COURTHOUSE NEWS

**COUNTY COURT**  
Roger Corn, presiding

**Marriage Licenses**  
Joe Wyatt, Jr. and Betty Joyce Harris, both of Cross Plains.

**Misdemeanor Filings**  
Mary Roeder, theft by check.  
Bewson E. Kilpatrick, theft by check.  
Brent Cogburn, theft by check.  
Stephen T. Crow, driving while license suspended (DWLS).  
Marcial Martinez, possession of marijuana.  
Jessie Nash, assault.

**42nd DISTRICT COURT**  
John Weeks, presiding

**Civil Filings**  
Kelly Gill and Kimberley Ann Lassiter, divorce.

**Civil Minutes**  
Anita Jean Ray and Chris Dean Ray, divorce granted.

**Criminal Information & Complaints**  
Benji T. McDougal, Ct. I - unauthorized use of a motor vehicle, Ct. II - criminal mischief.  
David J. Lucas, Jr., Ct. I - unauthorized use of a motor vehicle, Ct. II - criminal mischief.

**Misdemeanor Minutes**  
Jason M. Howell, motion to withdraw as surety and application for warrant granted.  
Richard A. Cardenas, motion to withdraw as surety and application for warrant granted.  
Kyncie Harbuck, order extending probation granted.  
Cristie Immel, plea of guilty to theft by check, 6 month probation, \$25 fine, \$293 court costs, \$60.09 restitution.

# OBITUARIES

## William "Bill" Duwain Smoot

William "Bill" Duwain Smoot, 64, of Clyde, passed away Wednesday, December 18, 2002, at an Abilene hospital. Services were held at 2:00 p.m. Friday, December 20, 2002, at the Highway 36 Church of Christ with Ed Hedrick officiating. Burial was in Dudley under the direction of Bailey Funeral Home.

Bill was born December 30, 1937, in Hobbs, New Mexico to William and Mary Wood Smoot. He attended school in Pioneer and Cross Plains.

He married Judy McMillan September 24, 1955 in Cross Plains. In 1965 he moved from Cross Plains and lived in the Potosi/Eula Communities. In 1998 he moved from Oplin to Clyde. He was a heavy equipment mechanic employed by Plains Machinery Company for 15 years and later was employed by the City of Abilene where he retired after 15 years. Bill was a member of the Highway 36 Church of Christ.

Survivors include his wife, Judy Smoot of Clyde; three sons, Johnny Smoot and his wife, LaJunda, of Eula, Garry Smoot and Anthony Smoot, both of Eula; two daughters, Tammie King and her husband, Brian, of Lawn, and Alaina Vogler and her husband, Dan, of Abilene; his mother, Mary Smoot of Brownwood; one brother, Odean Smoot of Pioneer; three sisters, Mary Katherine Meador of Pioneer, Kay Thompson of Blanket and Barbara Henson of Brownwood; eleven grandchildren, Rusty and Lacy Smoot, Douglas Smoot, April and Zack Hayhurst, Chris Smoot, Kole, Kara and Kali King, and Blake and Ashlynn Vogler; and two great-grandchildren, Zane and Natalie Smoot.

He was preceded in death by his father, William Neely Smoot; one sister, Martha Smoot; and one grandchild, Braley Vogler.

## James Benjamin Riffe, Jr.

James Benjamin "J.B." Riffe, Jr. passed away on December 21, 2002, in Bastrop, Texas after a long illness.

Graveside services were held on Saturday, December 21, 2002, at the Atwell Cemetery under the direction of Higginbotham Funeral Home of Cross Plains.

J.B. was born September 1, 1929 in Albany, Texas to Ruth Jones Riffe and Ben Riffe. He grew up in the Atwell Community and graduated from Cross Plains High School in 1947. He was a longtime member of the Cross Plains Masonic Lodge #627.

Mr. Riffe was employed in sales all his life, and later had a small import business in Branson, Missouri.

Survivors include his wife, Zoika Riffe, and their children, Shawn Riffe and Shelia Riffe, all of Centerville, Virginia; a daughter, Tammy Patterson, and family of Smithville; a son, Jimmy Riffe, and family of Odessa; a sister, Helen Faucett, of Abilene; four grandchildren, one great-grandchild, and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; one brother, K.B. Riffe; and three sisters, Edith Riffe, Ruby Nell Purvis and Ella Mae Doyle.

In lieu of flowers, the family requested memorials be made to the Cross Plains E.M.S.

# BOOK REVIEW

## A service of the Cross Plains Library

I have been reading a lot of novels about American Indians, mostly historical novels, but I also enjoy the murder mysteries of Tony Hillerman. A few years back I accidentally discovered another author of murder mysteries set in the four corners area using Indian and white policemen to solve the cases. James Doss had been compared to Hillerman because they both use murder mysteries and Indians in their books, but they are very different in their writing. Doss is not a professor like Hillerman. He is my kind of guy, an engineer, recently retired from Los Alamos, he now lives and writes in Taos and consults for Los Alamos.

He combines his knowledge of the small Ute tribe of Indians with his huge knowledge of nuclear and electrical engineering to weave stories that are intricate in philosophy, but very easy and exciting reading, leaving you the many clues and questions that you would expect in a mystery.

Many of his books are titled *The Shaman*---Sings, -Laughs, -Bones and one I have just finished reading: *The Shaman's Game*.

It is interesting that Doss is a Christian and the Utes are also largely Christian, where in Hillerman's novels the Navajos practice their own religion. Hillerman started writing his novels to encourage the Navajos and Hopis to take pride in the

rapidly fading native ceremonies. Each of his novels emphasizes a ceremony. Doss also uses this technique in the *Shaman's Game*, using the Sun Dance ceremony as practiced by the Utes at two different locations. Also called dancing thirsty, the dance is a three day affair where the dancers don't eat or drink with the goal of reaching a mental state of having visions as a result. These can result in healing effects, either for the dancers or observers. Like so much of religion in Mexico and the U.S., the old Indian beliefs are woven into their Christian understanding.

Doss's books are set in Colorado, but the police activity ranges across Wyoming, Utah, Arizona and New Mexico. Two main characters are the good-natured seven foot tall Southern Ute Police Department policeman, Charlie Moon, and his elderly shaman aunt, Daisy Perika. Between them they solve the mystery of who want to kill a sun dancer. In the second book I read, *The Night Visitor*, Doss comes up with a fascinating plot of an archeological discovery of a mammoth being excavated by typical competitive archeologists on a ranch where the rancher want to create a museum and get rich. Another character is a drifter from Arkansas living in a travel trailer with his six year old daughter. His murder and the sale of an artifact from the dig to a rich Arabian make for a compelling story.

Daisy wants Moon to be married to a good Ute woman, but he is pursued by several different women in both books to add a little romance to the stories. In both books Daisy communicates with a pitukuf, who lives in a badger hole and has the characteristics attributed to an Irish Leprechaun.

You can discover many new authors such as Doss at your own Cross Plains Public Library and look up Doss on the Internet which took me several tries to find biographical information.

You can send me E-mail at CAR926@aol.com.

Copyright C.A. Rodenberger 2002

"For unto us a Child is born,  
Unto us a Son is given. . ."  
Isaiah 9:6 a



**First Baptist Church**  
725-7629 3rd & Main Cross Plains, TX  
Ronnie B. White, Pastor

# Merry Christmas And A Happy New Year

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
Van Service Available - Call (254) 725-7694



N. Main (Hwy. 206)  
Cross Plains, Texas  
Sunday School - 9:30 a.m.  
Worship - 10:45 a.m.  
Rev. C. Michael Redd, Pastor

## CHURCH DIRECTORY

### Living Water Ministries Fellowship

Full Gospel \_\_\_ Non-Denominational \_\_\_ Apostolic  
Restoring And Equipping The Saints  
Sunday 10 a.m. \* Monday Prayer 7 p.m. \* Wednesday 7 p.m.  
Pastors: Colleen Anderson and Maxey Evans  
Glenda Tidwell - Praise & Worship  
Linda Fortune - Youth Pastor  
For Information Call (254) 725-6800 1-800-252-3629

### COTTONWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday School.....9:45 A.M.  
Morning Worship.....11:00 A.M.  
Evening Service.....6:00 P.M.  
Wednesday Bible Study & Prayer Time.....7:00  
Matt McGowen, Pastor (254) 725-4599  
Church (254)725- 6266  
Friendly Church Bible Teaching

### ROWDEN BAPTIST CHURCH

Hwy. 36 at Rowden - 12 Miles West of Cross Plains  
SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP.....11:00 A.M.  
Pastor: Carl Mauldin  
Come Worship With Us!

### NIMROD BAPTIST CHURCH

Sponsor: Pioneer Baptist Church  
Sunday School.....10:00 A.M.  
Sunday Morning Worship.....11:00 A.M.  
Sunday Evening Worship.....6:00 P.M.  
Bill Armstrong - Pastor

### Cross Plains Masonic Lodge

No. 627  
Stated Meeting  
1st Thursday, 7:30 p.m.  
www.cross-plains.tx-mm-org  
www.gltexas.org  
Sec. (254) 725-7530

## TDA embraces a bull-ish lottery market

AUSTIN—The Texas Department of Agriculture has gone bull-ish on Blue Ribbon Bucks, the latest scratch-off lottery ticket game from the Texas Lottery Commission. In a unique partnering venture between state agencies, TDA provided the Texas Lottery Commission with the photo portrait of "Houston," a two-year-old Grand Champion Polled Hereford bull that is now featured as one of four "blue ribbon" Texas stock show animals on the lottery ticket game, made available to the public in mid-October.

"For a game called 'Blue Ribbon Bucks,' I can't think of a better blue ribbon champion to feature than Houston," said Terri Barber, TDA director for Livestock Marketing. "Houston has some incredible credentials and is a true testament to ranchers and their devotion to raising the best in Texas cattle."

In addition to winning the coveted Grand Champion Bull title at this year's Houston Livestock Show, Houston has won the Reserve Champion Polled Senior Yearling Bull title at the 2002 National Western Stock Show in Denver, and the Reserve Grand Champion Bull title at the 2002 Fort Worth Stock Show. The bull is co-owned by Larson's Polled Herefords of De Soto; Steve Osborne of De Soto; B&C Janssen Farm of Liberty, Illinois and Johnathan Harfst of Easton, Illinois.

Texas is the nation's leader in cattle production and home to more than 14 million head of cattle and calves—more than double the number raised in the second leading state. Cattle are found on more than 150,000 Texas farms and ranches, and sales of cattle and calves account for almost half of all agricultural cash receipts in the Lone Star State.

Nominations should include a written account of the incident and the names, addresses and telephone numbers of everyone involved. If available, newspaper clippings and photographs should accompany all nominations.

Nominations must be post-marked by Feb. 1, 2003 and mailed to Lola Lemmon, TDA Safety Coordinator, Texas Department of Agriculture, P.O. Box 12847, Austin, Texas 78711. For additional information on qualifications, contact Lemmon at (512) 475-1611.

The 2002 recipient will be announced March 31 at the Texas Safety Association's annual conference at the Adam's Mark Hotel in Houston.

## TDA Accepting Nominations for Heroism Award

AUSTIN—Agriculture Commissioner Susan Combs announced today that the Texas Department of Agriculture is now accepting nominations for TDA's 2002 Rural Heroism Award.

Candidates must have performed a heroic, lifesaving act within Texas during 2002. The heroic deed should be related to farming or ranching and occur in a rural area. Automobile accidents or accidents caused by negligence will not be considered.

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## Cross Plains Musical at Skateworld This Friday

There will be a Musical at Skateworld, located at 141 Main Street, Cross Plains, on Friday, December 27.

All area musicians are asked to call Ray Boles at (254) 442-1137 for a spot on the evening's entertainment program.

The doors will open at 5 p.m. and the music commences at 6 p.m.. Concessions will be available. THERE IS NO ADMISSION CHARGE.

Come enjoy an evening of music, fellowship and food.

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To Guarantee  
Publishing In The  
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Have Articles in By  
2p.m. Monday and  
Ads by Noon on  
Tuesday of that  
week

**CROSS PLAINS  
REVIEW**  
(USPS 138-660)  
DON TABOR, PUBLISHER  
VANDA CRECH, EDITOR  
CROSS PLAINS REVIEW

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THE  
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REVIEW**



## Abilene Airport Welcome American's New Low Fares

ABILENE—American Airlines/American Eagle's announcement December 17th about far reductions from Abilene of 40 to 70 percent was greeted with enthusiasm by airport officials.

"The timing of this announcement coinciding with the opening of our new facilities has combined to make Abilene an even better choice for Big Country air travelers," said Abilene's Aviation Director Daniel T. Weber, A.A.E. (Accredited Airport Executive).

In a separate news release from American Eagle Corporate Communications, American Airlines and American Eagle announced a test of a new fare structure to cities served from Abilene Regional Airport. The test reduces by 40 percent the cost of full-fare coach travel to more than 140 U.S. cities the airlines serve from Abilene, including connections through Dallas/Fort Worth Airport.

American Eagles operates 14 daily flights to and from Abilene Regional Airport, with connections through Dallas/Fort Worth Airport. Two of the daily flights are offered with regional jet service.

An expansion and modernization project begun in 1995 at the Abilene Regional Airport terminal was recently completed. In addition to increasing the terminal size from 26,000 square feet to 38,000 square feet, traveler enhancements include two en-

closed, climate-controlled access ramps for planes. Known as jet bridges, the ramps allow passengers to board and disembark the airplane without stepping outside.

Additional improvements include: an enlarged passenger waiting area with floor-to-ceiling windows for viewing arriving and departing flights; two new boarding counters; new furnishings; escalators; and revolving baggage carousels that will make luggage pickup easier and quicker. New, no-fee baggage carts are located by the baggage carousels. The modernization also includes a state-of-the-art security system designed to prevent unauthorized access to sensitive areas. In addition to American Eagle Airlines, the airport terminal also is home to Avis Car Rental, Budget Rental Cars, and Hertz Rental Cars. Other airport tenants include:

- \*Abilene Aero-general aviation services; charter air service; aircraft sale, maintenance and storage; and aircraft refueling.

- \*Eagle Aviation Services, Inc. - subsidiary of American Airlines offering regional jet maintenance.

- \*Texas State Technical College's School of Aviation Technologies - including programs for Aircraft Maintenance and Pilot Training.

- \*Airborne Express and Federal Express - Overnight freight forwarders.

## Ag Commissioner disappointed with NADBank decision

AUSTIN—Agriculture Commissioner Susan Combs today said that she was extremely disappointed and dismayed with the North American Development Bank's apparent "indecision" on allocating a potential \$40 million in irrigation project grants to help South Texas.

"Clearly Minute 308 of June 28, 2002, expected significant funds to be spent on both sides of the border to solve the water crisis between the United States and Mexico by funding conservation projects," Combs said. "I am amazed that the Treasury Department does not have the same understanding."

Representatives from South Texas were told at the Dec. 5 NADBank meeting in San Antonio that the \$40 million existed without regard to Minute 308 and that criteria had not yet been set to determine the allocation of the grant funding.

"Grant criteria for Mexico have been finalized and provide for 100 percent grant financing for agricultural water conveyance and conservation projects," Combs said in a letter Monday to Secretary of State Colin Powell, Treasury Secretary Paul O'Neill and Environmental Protection Agency Administrator

Christine Todd Whitman. "However, proposed U.S. grant criteria do not provide for 100 percent grant financing nor do they dedicate funding to Texas, even though it is the only state impacted by the nonpayment of water," Combs wrote. "Texas will have to compete with all other U.S. border states for our nation's share of the \$40 million even though Mexico has dedicated its entire \$40 million to Chihuahua."

According to the latest satellite imagery, Mexico had 3.1 million acre-feet of water in storage in seven Chihuahuan and eight other Mexican Rio Grande tributary reservoirs, including the international Falcon and Amistad reservoirs on Nov. 25. This amount is double the 1.5 million acre-feet owed to the United States.

"For Chihuahua to continue to maintain that they have no water - when hard evidence proves otherwise is both ridiculous and outrageous," Combs said. "Texas desperately needs funding to improve its agricultural and municipal irrigation systems since it seems apparent that Mexico does not intend to release its incredible and vast amount of water stored in Chihuahua."

## Holiday Food Safety Tips

### Sidebar: Safe Food Handling

Follow these guidelines to make sure your holiday meals are safe to eat:

1. Wash hands and surfaces often.
  - Wash hands with hot, soapy water before preparing food and after using the bathroom, changing diapers, sneezing or touching pets.
  - Wash cutting boards, dishes, utensils and counter tops with hot, soapy water after preparing each food item.
  - Use paper towels to clean up kitchen surfaces or wash kitchen towels in the hot cycle of the washing machine before using again.
2. Separate foods to keep bacteria from spreading.
  - Keep raw meat, poultry, seafood and their juice away from other foods in your shopping cart and refrigerator.
  - Put cooked meat, fish and poultry on a clean plate - never back on an unwashed cutting board. If possible, use a different cutting board for preparing

raw meat. If not, wash it in hot, soapy water before preparing another food item.

3. Refrigerate well
  - Do not crowd the refrigerator. Cool air must be able to move around to keep food safe.
  - Do not leave food on the counter to thaw or marinate. Thaw food in the refrigerator or in cold running water. Marinate food in the refrigerator.
  - Set your refrigerator at 40°F or lower and your freezer at 0°F or lower.
4. Cook to proper temperatures
  - Ground beef, veal, lamb and pork: 160°F
  - Ground chicken and turkey: 165°F
  - Beef, veal and lamb - steak or roasts: 145°F
  - Pork - chops, roasts and ribs: 160°F
  - Fresh ham and sausage: 160°F
  - Chicken, turkey and duck: 180°F
  - Casseroles, sauces and custards: 160°F

## COTTONWOOD NEWS

By WALLACE BENNETT

### Malee Kalekimaka, Haole Makihiki Ho

It may be that I misspelled that phrase, but I do not miss-speak it. And I speak it to you, all readers of this column of the *Cross Plains Review*. I speak to those of you who are current and former residents of this fair community of Cottonwood, Texas.

The words mean, simply, "Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year". I picked the phrase up from an Hawaiian friend on the Island of Okinawa. We had met in the chow line of the mess hall for dinner on Christmas Day, 1951. It was a bleak day for me. I had recently arrived on the island on transfer from Korea, and still separated from my family, for yet another Christmas.

As we stepped in line, I recognized her only as an American civilian employee in the office of the Ryukyus Army Command, Signal Corps Headquarters, but had never met her formally. We greeted each other, she with a big smile and the words, "Malee Kalekimaka, Haole Makihiki Ho!"

Not understanding the words, but taking her smile as genuine, I smiled back and said something like, "Uh, er--, Hi there, how are you?"

We received our tray of food and sat down to eat Christmas dinner together. I asked her the

meaning of her words of greeting. She smiled again and said, "Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year," she said, "it is Hawaiian."

I felt somewhat like a dunce for not being smart enough to know that. But, the joy and brightness of her smile and greeting was genuine, and made a difference in my life on that Christmas Day.

I have spent seven Christmas days alone and without my family, all of them overseas. I never forget the agonizing loneliness of those times.

I have forgotten her name, and how to spell the words. But, at Christmas time, I always, "remember to remember" that day and to remember the real spirit of Christmas that was in her greeting. And, I always make it a point to say to someone else, "Malee Kalekimaka, Haole, Makihiki Ho."

So, whoever you are, and wherever you are, especially if you are separated from those you love, and more especially if you are a member of the United States Armed Forces and separated from home, or have members of your family in the Armed Forces, separated from home; my family says to your family, "Malee Kalekimaka, Haole, Makihiki Ho—Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year."

## "The Time Was Right"

By Burlie W. Taylor

Have you ever wondered why Jesus came when He did? Why didn't God see fit to send Jesus during our time? With all of our modern day technology we could have put Jesus before the World with little effort. The use of television and radio would have reached more people than were reached in Bible times.

The solutions to the above questions are found in Galatian 4:4, "But when the fullness of the time was come, God sent forth His Son..." The expression the fullness of the time refers to that time when the world was providentially ready for the birth of the Savior. God works unhurriedly, without haste. He works, and in His sovereign will and grace, these great movements progress forward under His surveillance.

How was the world providentially ready or how was the time truly right. First of all, the time was right religiously for the coming of Christ. After the Babylonian captivity, three monumental events took place in the preparation for the coming of Christ. Ezra had put together all the scrolls, and so the Old Testament, as we know it, came into being. In the next place, the Jewish people were thereafter and forevermore monotheistic. They were never idolatrous again. Finally, Jewish synagogues were in many places that provided the perfect setting for the presentation of the Gospel.

In the next place, the time was right culturally for the coming of Jesus. Alexander the Great, in about 350 B.C., set out to conquer the world. His conquest was so thorough and permanent in its influence that the entire world became Greek, and the universal language was Greek. In Egypt in

280 B.C., the Hebrew Old Testament was translated into Greek, called the Septuagint. When Jesus was born, Greek was still the universal language, which allowed the Gospel to be preached everywhere without struggling over language barriers.

Furthermore, the time was right politically for the coming of the Son of God. Rome had conquered the world and instituted the Pax Romana—the Roman peace. Because of this peace, men could go everywhere preaching the good news of the birth of the Son of God. In addition, the Romans laced the entire civilized world with paved roads that are traveled on today.

Finally, the time was right spiritually. The conditions in the Greco-Roman world had produced religious bankruptcy and spiritual hunger everywhere. Men tried philosophy, magic, astrology and foreign cults as the sought inner peace. The old national religions and systems of belief proved unable to soothe the urgent moral and spiritual demands of man's nature. This left a spiritual vacuum which the religions of that day could not fill. Human nature had passed through every conceivable form of sin and immorality. Sin had caused the suffering world to cry out for a word from God. In due time the Savior came at the exact moment when, in God's wisdom, it was best for the world to witness, the fullness of revelation. Christ's coming was the turning point in human history and is properly called "the fullness of time".

When the fullness of time was come, God's preparation for Christmas was complete. Then "...at the right time Christ died for the ungodly". God's providence is always at the right time.

## LIBRARY NOTES

**Circulation:**  
Books 40  
Audio 2  
Total 42

**Memorials:**  
Melissa Pancake Richards  
In Memory of Johnny Pancake

**Donations:**  
Books—

Gale Watson  
Peggy Ward  
Sharon Molesworth  
Helen Graves  
Ellen Turner  
Susan Hunter - audio books  
Monetary —  
Allen Wright  
Ron Bagley  
Max M. Howell  
Donna Castleman  
Eva Fleming

## QUIPS, CLIPS & COMMENTS

By KAY MOSLEY

Note: December 25 is the date we celebrate the birth of Baby Jesus, it is doubtful that he was actually born on this day, however, it is the day we celebrate the fact that he was born. Let us pray today for all others and for peace on earth, and goodwill toward men.

### "The Question"

Little Virginia, way back when, made history when she wrote to her local newspaper with the burning question that had puzzled children for many generations, "Is there really a Santa Claus?" In her letter, Virginia stated that her father always told her if you read it in the local newspaper then it was true. That was her reason she stated that she had written to the newspaper to find out the truth. The answer to Virginia's question came swift and straight, "Yes, Virginia, there really is a Santa Clause."

Here's a test for all toddlers and small children. Take six men and line them up all in a row. Now tell me, who knows without a doubt

which one is Santa Claus? Yes, that is correct! Now tell me, girls and boys, how did you tell which fellow is Santa?

Oh, it was the bright red suit, the bag of toys, the jingle bells and his shouting "Ho, Ho, Ho! Merry Christmas! Ho, Ho, Ho!" Oh yes, I see what gave it away to this little one was the round little belly that shook like a bowl full of jelly. That's probably why Santa has so much energy, because he gets mor bounce per ounce from all that jelly.

Whether we call him Saint Nick, St. Nicholas, Father Christmas, Papa Noelle, Santy Klaus, "Ho Ho" or just plan Santa Claus, he is in our minds and in the hearts of children of many cultures. He's the fellow who Ho, Ho, Ho's and whether we spell it Merry Christmas, Feliz Navidad, Happy Holidays or whatever, we wish to end this column with:

A Very Hearty Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, Season's Greetings and Happy New Year! Ho, Ho, Ho! See you next year!

Any business, group or individual who would like to be included on the Signature Page for holidays, special occasions and athletic tributes may do so by calling the *Cross Plains Review* (254) 725-6111. The cost is \$3.00 each run and there is usually 12 or less per year. This is a great, inexpensive way to advertise and support community events.

## SENIOR CITIZENS MENU

December 30 - January 3

MONDAY--Beef Cheese Macaroni, Pickled Beets, Peas, Brownie, Bread, Milk  
TUESDAY-- Chicken Strips w/ gravy, Diced Potatoes, Green Beans, Birthday Cake, Roll, Milk  
WEDNESDAY-- Closed For New Years

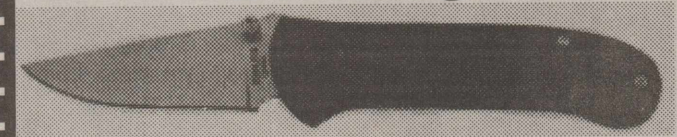
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Coupon expires 2-28-03

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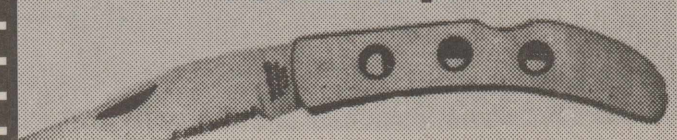
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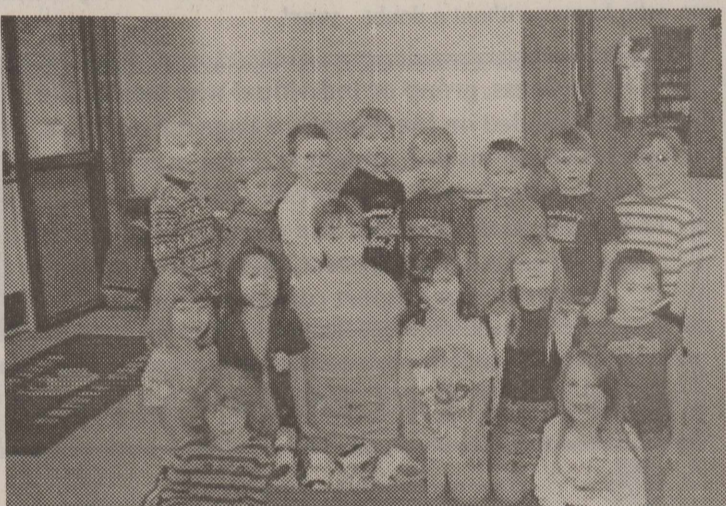




PRE-KINDERGARTEN CLASS



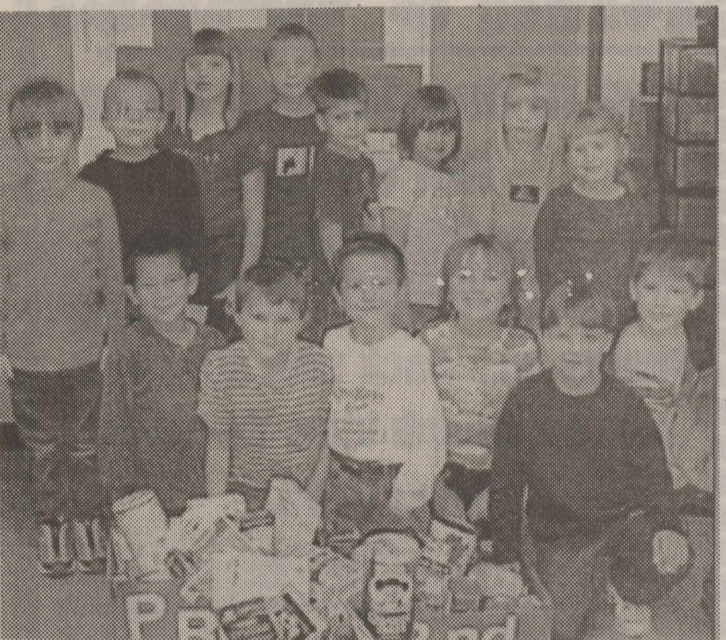
PRE-KINDERGARTEN CLASS



KINDERGARTEN CLASS



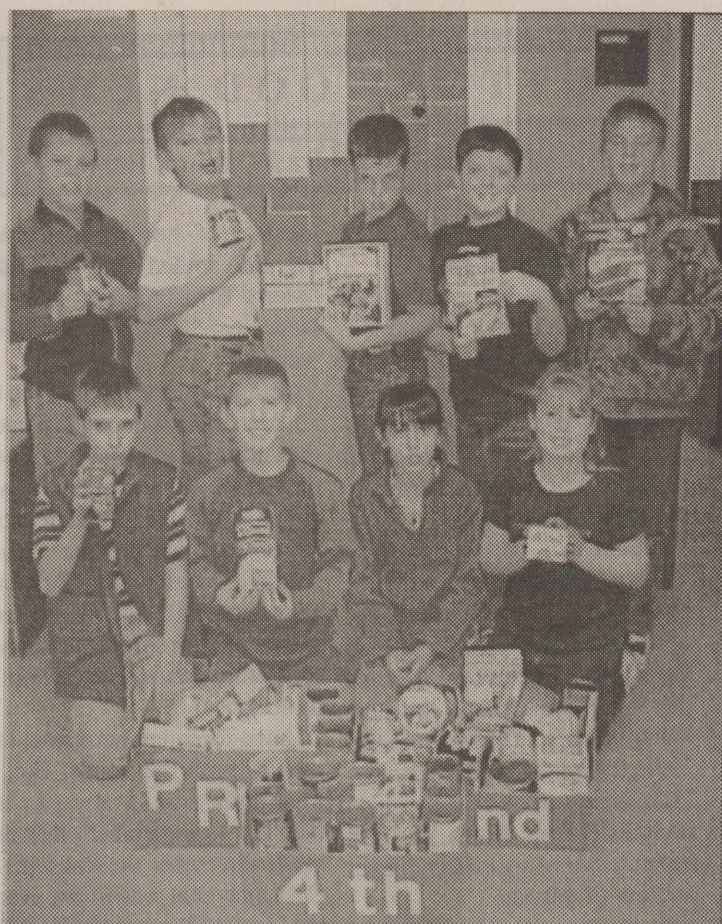
KINDERGARTEN CLASS



1ST GRADE CLASS



2ND GRADE CLASS



4TH GRADE CLASS



4TH GRADE CLASS



3RD GRADE CLASS



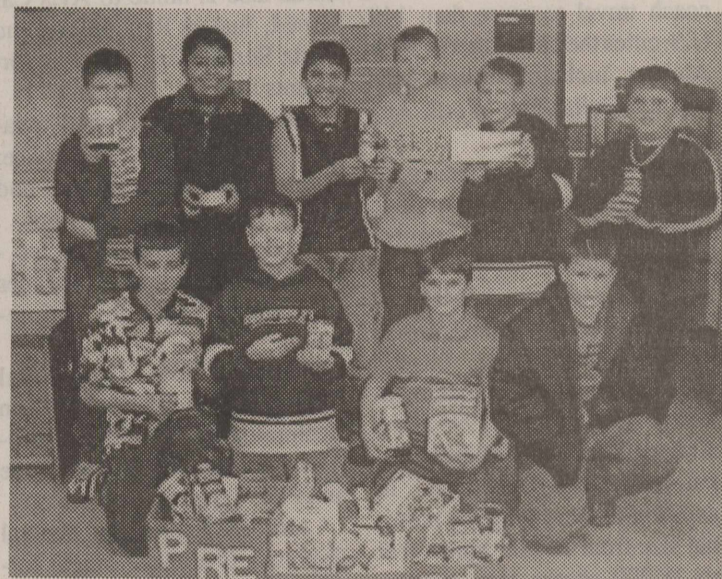
3RD GRADE CLASS



2ND GRADE CLASS



6TH GRADE CLASS



6TH GRADE CLASS

### SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES

The Cross Plains I.S.D. Board of Trustees met December 19th with the following members present: Vicki Dillard, Donnie Dillard, Monty Richards and Superintendent Jackie Tennison.

A public hearing on the School Report Card was held.

The Cross Plains I.S.D. Board of Trustees met December 19, with the following members present: Vicki Dillard, Susan Schaefer, Donnie Dillard, Bryan Bennett, Jim Cook and Monty Richards.

The following administrators and guests were also in attendance: Superintendent Jackie Tennison, High School Principal Leonard Wilson, Elementary Principal Margie Sowell, and guests, Terry Thomas, Bun Barry and Rick Bennett.

Prayer was led by Jackie Tennison.

Minutes were read. Motion was made by V. Dillard and seconded by Bennett to accept.

Terry Thomas and Rick Bennett gave a presentation about surge protection (Consumption Reduction System). Action on Surge

Protection System was tabled. For 6 Against 0

A report was given by Bun Barry, Property Tax Appraiser, and a report from Tammy Walker, Tax Assessor/Collector.

Motion was made by Richards and seconded by Cook that the Highway 36 bus route be declared a hazardous bus route. For 6 Against 0

Executive Session began at 9:20 p.m. and ended at 10:30 p.m.

Motion was made by Richards and seconded by Bennett that they accept Carol Atchley's resignation. For 6 Against 0

Motion was made by V. Dillard and seconded by Cook that they hire Christy McDonald as a maintenance/cafeteria worker. For 6 Against 0

Vicki Dillard left the meeting. Motion was made by Bennett and seconded by Richards that they approve the audit for the year ended 8/31/02 presented by Cameron L. Gulley. For 5 Against 0

Motion was made by Bennett and seconded by Cook that they adjourn. For 5 Against 0

## Junior High Girls Basketball Report

Monday, December 16, the Baird Cubs met the girls for a workout on the gym floor.

"A" Group  
C.P. 6 9 13 20  
Baird 8 12 15 27

Team players: Scott 9, Douglass 6, Avants 4, Randolph 1, Wallace and Milam.

This group of girls work hard every game but they just can't come out with a win. They play a good press and defense. The shots still are put-up, they just want fall in that HOOP!!!

"B" Group  
CP 0 2 2 4  
Baird 8 18 24 34

Team players: Mathews 2, Cook 2, Burrhus, Stout, Schaefer, Biggs, Lewis, Walker and Byars.

Now this group of girls work hard also. They keep their heads up, attack each game with try, and they have a goal—"SCORE" and they do it and are proud.

The next game will be January 6th at Albany.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!!!!

Submitted by  
Coach Becky Dillard

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## College Information Hotline Available

COLLEGE STATION—The Texas Association for College Admission Counseling (TACAC) announces its 18th annual toll-free College Information Hotline 877-275-7007. Hotline 2003 will be available January 18 and 19, 2003, from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. (Central Standard Time). The College Information Hotline, which is the largest project of its type in the nation, provides information about post-secondary educational opportunities to students and their families.

The College Information Hotline is available to anyone in the state who has questions about any aspect of college admission, financial aid, degree programs, housing, student life and activities, or special programs. Callers may also request information

from specific colleges and universities or information about any college in the United States. Spanish-speaking counselors and admission representatives from more than 25 public and private colleges and universities in Texas will be on duty.

In previous years, callers have predominantly been high school students and their parents, but an increasing number of information requests are beginning to come from middle school students, current college students, adults who did not complete college or have never attended, and veterans with questions about their benefits.

TACAC would like to thank LoanStar Educational Loans for their support in serving the students of Texas.

## Callahan County Jr. Livestock Show Coming in January

The Annual Callahan County Jr. Livestock Show will be held Thursday, January 16th - Saturday, January 18th. Starting time will be Thursday, January 16, at 5:30 p.m. with the judging of the rabbits and poultry.

Frankie Hyles, President of the Callahan County Jr. Livestock Association, said that entries are expected to number about 450 this year from the various FFA Chapters and 4-H Clubs in the County. Other officers of the association are Steven Mitchell as Vice President, Johnny Adkins as Treasurer and Karen Johnston as Secretary.

Superintendents for this year's show are: Beef Cattle — Eddie Riley, Jimmy Seider, Johnny Lee and Richie Crow

Market Swine — Jackie Tennison  
Poultry & Rabbits — Doug Johnston and Larry McIntire  
Sheep & Goats — Steven Mitchell, Lesa Harris, and Toby Reeves

Judging of the rabbits and poultry will begin at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, January 16th with Scott Anderson of Brownwood doing the judging. All participants must be checked in by 5:00 p.m. on the 16th.

Judging will begin at 8:00 a.m. on Friday, January 17th, with the Breeding Swine Show followed by the Market Barrow Show. Gary Houser of Royse City will be judging the Swine Show.

At 1:30 p.m. on Friday, January 17th, Justin Jonas of San Angelo will start judging the Market Lambs followed by the Meat Goats and Boer Goat Show.

On the afternoon of the 17th from 3:00 - 6:00 p.m. all steers and heifers will be classified and weighed. Mr. Greg Gruben of Snyder will get the judging of the Beef Cattle underway at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday morning, January 18th with the heifer show. Mr. Gruben will also judge the steer show starting at 9:00 a.m.

The Premium Sale will begin at 1:00 p.m. The Awards Presentation of all the trophies for the champion animals will be held prior to the premium sale auction.

Announcers for the three day show will be Dick Vestal, Greg Gerngross, Tom Turner, John Belcher and Doug Johnston.

Officials of the Show would like to invite everyone out for all or part of the show and support the young folks of Callahan County.

## Musical To Be Held at Pizza House in Clyde

Country and Western Musical will be December 28th, at the Pizza House at South Access Road & I-20, Clyde.

The best pizza anywhere, musicians from all around the area, from 5:30 to 10:00. Drawings for \$100. Hope to see you there.

## Callahan County DPS Report

Calls received by the Callahan County Department of Public Safety from December 15, 2002 through December 21, 2002 include:

**Cases Investigated**  
Warnings-91  
Complaints-76  
DWI-1  
Stolen Vehicle Recovery-1  
**Vehicle Accidents**  
There were four vehicle accidents investigated during this time span.  
**People Arrested On Outstanding Warrants**  
There were 18 outstanding warrants issued for a total of \$4,995.00 collected.

## NOAA Says El Nino To Influence U.S. Weather

Last week's early dose of snow and ice in the Southeast and along the East Coast may be a glimpse of weather to come during Winter 2002-03, thanks to a moderate-strength El Nino digging in its heels. Top weather and climate experts from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) today said El Nino will set the stage for increased storm activity across the South. NOAA is an agency of the Commerce Department.

At a press conference in Washington, NOAA officials updated its winter outlook, first issued in September, and said El Nino remains a key influence.

"This is a classic El Nino pattern," said retired U.S. Navy Vice Admiral Conrad C. Lautenbacher, Ph.D., undersecretary of commerce for oceans and atmosphere and NOAA administrator. "El Nino is one of the driving forces behind these kinds of winter storm systems, which develop in the South and head east. But in some cases this winter, these storms could bring more rain to parts of the East." Lautenbacher added, "El Nino will shape weather patterns through spring 2003."

El Nino occurs when sea surface temperatures in the equatorial Pacific Ocean remain above average for more than several months. This usually triggers a chain reaction of atmospheric and weather changes around the globe.

Based on NOAA's latest El Nino forecast and its updated December-February winter outlook, forecasters said the nation can expect warmer-than-normal temperatures across the northern half of the country, wetter and stormier-than-normal

weather across the south from California through the Carolinas, and drier-than-normal conditions in the northern Rockies and Midwest.

"Over time, these precipitation patterns can reduce lingering drought conditions that have plagued the southeast and southwest in recent years," said retired Brig. Gen. Jack Kelly, director of NOAA's National Weather Service. However, he added, "drought may intensify in the northern Rockies and parts of the Midwest."

Kelly said nine percent of the area east of the Mississippi River remains in drought, while 53 percent of the region west of the river remains in drought. In September, approximately 55 percent of each region was affected by drought.

"El Nino most strongly impacts U.S. weather patterns during the winter by shifting the jet stream and storm track toward the southern tier of the country," said Jim Laver, director of NOAA's Climate Prediction Center (CPC). "As a result, increased storminess is expected across the southern U.S.," said Laver.

The U.S. 2002/03 winter outlook for December-February calls for:

- Warmer-than-normal temperatures across the northern half of the country.
- Equal chances for temperatures to be above normal, near normal, or below normal in the southern half of the continental United States.
- Drier than normal conditions in the northern Rockies, including Montana and northern parts of Idaho and Wyoming.
- Drier than normal conditions in the Midwest, including eastern Iowa, eastern Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan, Illinois,

Indiana, Ohio and Kentucky.

Wetter-than-normal weather pattern across the South from California to the Carolinas, including California, Nevada, Arizona, New Mexico, southwest Utah, southeast Colorado, Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, southern Nebraska, western Missouri, western Arkansas, Louisiana, southern Mississippi, southern Alabama, Georgia, Florida, South Carolina and eastern North Carolina.

• States and regions in the continental United States not mentioned above will have equal chances for precipitation to be above normal, near normal, or below normal.

• Warmer and wetter-than-normal conditions in southern Alaska.

• Cooler and drier-than-normal conditions in Hawaii.

The CPC updates its El Nino Diagnostic Discussion and seasonal outlooks each month and they are available on-line.

The CPC is one of the National Centers for Environmental Prediction, which is part of the NOAA Weather Service. The CPC predicts and monitors El Nino and also produces the nation's official long-range outlooks and medium-range weather forecasts. NOAA Weather Service is the primary source of weather data, forecasts and warnings for the United States and its territories and operates the most advanced weather and flood warning and forecast system in the world, helping to protect lives and property and enhance the national economy.

On-line information available at: <http://www.noaa.gov>; <http://www.nws.noaa.gov>; and <http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov>.

## Farm Bureau Delegates Take Hard Look at Water Supplies

CORPUS CHRISTI—As the Lone Star State's population continues to grow and water supplies continue to shrink, Texas Farm Bureau delegates took a hard look at this precious natural resource here at their 69th annual meeting.

Continuing to recognize that Farm Bureau policy needs to move beyond the all-inclusive rule of capture to address realities such as water marketing and potential water shortages, delegates favored a number of changes in both ground water and surface water policy. Recommendations adopted at the state level become policy for the organization to follow in the coming year.

In addressing water marketing and the potential impact on those in an area who choose not to market their water, and continuing opposition to any state control of groundwater, delegates recommended that groundwater conservation districts be allowed to set unrestricted fees on water leaving their district. They also supported a requirement for districts to assess a mitigation fee on high impact municipal or industrial users, and suggested districts use revenues from this fee to mitigate any damage to landowners.

Delegates opposed legislation resulting in unfunded mandates for conservation measures for historic water use, and supported legislation requiring any new appropriations or any new water permits be subject to conservation requirements. "Municipalities and water utilities that have taxing authority or collect fees for water, should be required to impose water conservation mea-

sures," delegates said, noting that both urban and rural areas should be responsible for wise water use.

In the area of eminent domain, delegates strongly supported enactment of legislation requiring that landowners be compensated for the value of natural resources if the property is being condemned to acquire those natural resources, including groundwater. Addressing surface water, delegates opposed condemnation of surface water rights except for "domestic, essential municipal or livestock use necessary to sustain life."

In the ongoing Rio Grande Valley water crisis, where Mexico has failed to deliver water to Rio Grande reservoirs as specified in the 1944 water treaty between the U. S. and Mexico, delegates reaffirmed their support for Texas and U.S. government efforts to solve the crisis. They supported federal and state programs designed to help Texas agribusiness as a result of Mexico's treaty noncompliance, and supported financing of improvements for water delivery systems along the Rio Grande River. They also opposed efforts to amend reclamation laws that would negatively affect the priority of water allocation for agricultural use and would reduce the U.S. Secretary of Interior's authority to direct water usage.

In other action, in an effort to help Texas and the U.S. develop alternative energy sources, delegates supported the creation of a renewable fuel producer assessment fund, financed by an assessment on each gallon of ethanol or biodiesel produced.

The resolution suggested that this fund be matched with funds from the State of Texas fuel, ethanol and biodiesel production account, overseen and administered by the Texas Department of Agriculture.

In other action, delegates:
 

- Recommended that the Texas Department of Agriculture and the Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation develop a procedure to ensure that cotton harvesting equipment and raw cotton products being transported into established boll weevil eradication zones are boll weevil free.

• Recommended the Texas Animal Health Commission work toward a quick solution with the United States Department of Agriculture to ship cattle out of Texas to TB free states, and recommended that the Texas Cattle and Deer Tuberculosis Management Plan use the zone approach to control movement of cattle exposed to TB-infected herds.

On the national level delegates approved a cost of living adjustment on all farm program payments and payment limitations. They recommended development of a basic right-to-farm, right-to-harvest, right-to-access roads and highways policy.

Adopted national policies are forwarded to the American Farm Bureau Federation for consideration at their annual convention in January.

The Texas Farm Bureau convention wrapped up Wednesday with the election of officers and members of the board of directors.

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**ACREAGE:**

NEW LISTING-- Building and 2 lots in Cottonwood. \$10,000  
 NEW LISTING-- Old Elementary Building in Rising Star, 11,000 Sq. Ft. Brick, Good Investment Property \$24,000. Call Pauline  
 NEW LISTING-- 1.72/A, 3bd/2bath with garage apt., metal barn, landscaped, 3 car detached garage - Nice - Rising Star, \$85,000  
 \* 10/A, 3 bd/2 bath home, lots of trees, stockpond, metal shop building, storage building, 2 water wells, on pavement. \$75,000  
 \* 10.655/A- High Fenced and cross fenced, on pavement, lots of oak trees, stock pond, septic system, city water, pretty and close to town \$32,900  
 \* 11.41/A, waterwell, fenced, native grass, good home site. \$1,500/A  
 \* 20/A, on pavement, 5 miles from town unimproved, \$20,000  
 NEW LISTING-- 20/A with 2bd/1 1/2b Log Cabin, large trees, remodeled guest house, on pavement - pretty, Callahan Co. \$137,000  
**UNDER CONTRACT**  
 \* 22/A. with 4bd/2 bath home with good hunting, 2 ponds, 1000  
 NEW LISTING-- 22.41/A in Rising Star, subirrigated, corral, old barn, pecan trees, costal. \$60,000  
 NEW LISTING-- 40/A. in city of Lubbock, near airport, I 27, Regent St; and M.L.K. Blvd. Excellent Development Property. \$250,000  
 NEW LISTING-- 40/A. on pavement, pond, good costal, some brush, underground water. \$60,000  
 NEW LISTING-- 40/A with 2bd/1 1/2 bath, 1,500 Sq. Ft., out buildings, 3 water wells, pond, 4 miles N.W. of Rising Star. \$150,000  
 NEW LISTING-- 45/A. Eastland Co., Unimproved brush and timber. Good small Deer place.  
 NEW LISTING-- 99.76/A. Eastland Co., Mobile Home, 5 water wells, on pavement, some thick brush, deep creek, Hunting, Good Stock Farm. \$830/A  
**UNDER CONTRACT**  
 NEW LISTING-- 100/A Farm with 3bd/1 bath frame house. Several outbuildings, carport and barn. New fences, improved coastal, creek, and 2 tanks, Southern Eastland Co. \$140,000.00  
 NEW LISTING-- 100/A with 2,432 Sq. Ft. 5bd/4b 2002 model Palm Harbor double wide home, excellent water well, 2 ponds, pretty views, good hunting, on pavement, 5 miles from Cross Plains. \$190,000  
 \* 140/A South of Carbon; 20/A in Cultivation. 120/A in Native pasture with clusters of oak trees scattered throughout. Excellent deer and turkey hunting. \$830/A  
**UNDER CONTRACT**  
 \* 143.45/A heavily wooded, secluded, close to town, good fences, pond, excellent hunting. \$158,000.  
 NEW LISTING-- 155/A. Eastland Co., 3/2 brick home, 3 large metal barns, 2 ponds, Costal, woods, 32/A. Vineyard. \$255,000  
 \* 160/A, 3 miles S.W. of Cross Plains, rural water line, excellent fences, 2 ponds stocked with fish, Good deer & dove Hunting-will divide.  
 NEW LISTING-- 168/A. Pasture, super hunting, large creek, deep water holes, Eastland Co.  
 NEW LISTING-- 169/A. Callahan Co., Excellent hunting, 2 large ponds, native pasture, includes 1993, 30' travel trailer, ponds stocked with catfish, bass and bluegill. Owner Finance, 20% down for 15 years.  
 \* 185/A in North Brown County, 2 stock ponds, rural water line, on pavement, wooded, creek some cultivation. Good hunting & fishing! \$750/A  
**SOLD**  
 NEW LISTING-- 200/A Brown Co. good hunting and fishing, 4 ponds, excellent fences, \$750/A  
 NEW LISTING-- 223/A. 4 ponds, Good Hunting, 1100 sq. ft. frame home, Rural water, 48% minerals, Owner Financing, Brown County. \$220,000  
**UNDER CONTRACT**  
 NEW LISTING-- 233/A. Eastland Co., pretty and productive, creek, 3 stock ponds, scattered large oak trees, Coastal and Kline grass, working pens, 2 water wells on County Road. \$233,000  
 \* 240/A-Comanche County, 20 acre lake, new fences, County Rd., 68 acres cultivation, 110 acres Costal Bermuda, center pivot irrigation system, very productive \$1,600/A Call Pauline  
 NEW LISTING-- 247.6/A, 3bd/2b Brick home, large trees, 2 water wells, good fences, barn, Comanche Co. \$272,600  
 NEW LISTING-- 250/A., Callahan Co., Coleman water line, 4 tanks, oaks, 2 creeks, good hunting, improved grasses. \$250,000  
 NEW LISTING-- 260/A., West of Cisco, North of I-20, hills, creek, mesquite, stock ponds. \$625/A  
 \* 285/A near Rising Star, costal, good fences, Hwy frontage, \$1,200/A Call Pauline.  
 NEW LISTING-- 303/A, Eastland Co., game fence around 203/A, 15/A lake, Sabanna Creek runs through it, canyons, live oak, deer, turkey, rural water, super hunting \$450,000  
 NEW LISTING-- 303/A. of prime hunting land. Lots of deer, turkey and quail. Heavily wooded with excellent food plot areas. 3 tanks, wet weather creek, good elevation changes. Hwy. frontage, 12 miles north of Cisco. \$895/A  
 NEW LISTING-- 356/A. in Coleman Co., good cattle or horse place. Quail, Dove, and Deer. 4 tanks at \$650/A. Call Tom.  
 NEW LISTING-- 384.91/A. Stephens Co., 1,400 Sq. Ft. Farm House, 8 miles N. of Cisco, 4 ponds, water-well, several out buildings. Good hunting. \$343,680  
 \* 467/A, 15/A lake, 300/A costal, springs, super productive, Excellent Hunting & Fishing. \$485,000  
 NEW LISTING-- 512/A. Excellent hunting, heavy cover, 4 ponds, good fences, water well, secluded, good views, Callahan Co. Owner Finance, 10% down, up to 30 years. \$950/A  
 \* 570/A Coleman/Callahan counties, lake on Little Pecan Bayou + 4 stock tanks, metal barn & cattle pens. Part in cultivation, part Oaks & Mesquites. Coleman water system. GREAT HUNTING! \$1,500/A  
 \* 700/A with costal Bermuda, underground water, near Rising Star. call Pauline \$1,200/A  
 NEW LISTING-- 705/A., Lake, 5 ponds, irrigation wells, Coastal, approx. 350/A. thick cover, center pivot system, good hunting. Eastland Co. \$780/A  
 NEW LISTING-- 1243/A in Scurry Co., well, pen, 3000 sq. ft. house, deep creek, canyons, cedar & mesquite, deer, turkey, hogs. \$295/A. Call Tom  
**SOLD**  
 \* large residential lot in the Tom Bryant addition to Cross Plains, trees, prime home building location.

**ACREAGE WITH HOME:**

NEW LISTING-- 10/A. with 2bd/2 bath doublewide, 30x60 new metal barn, new septic system, water well, on pavement, close to town. \$60,000  
 NEW LISTING-- 3bd/13/4 bath, on 3/4/A in Burkett, several outbuildings, garage, RV shelter, 17 Pecans Trees, Cabin with kitchen and bath, all for \$41,900  
 NEW LISTING-- 3/A and 3bd/2 1/2 bath, CH/A home on Pecan Bayou, garage, 2 car ports, on pavement, basement, city water, excellent fishing, retirement dream spot. Coleman Co., \$60,000  
 \* 4.89/A with 1,880 sq. ft. 3 bd/1 3/4 Bath, nice, close to town, large storage bld. city water and waterwell. \$80,000  
 NEW LISTING-- 27/A., 2bd/2 bath home, 30x60 metal barn, Callahan Co.  
 NEW LISTING-- 50/A, 2bd home, barn, pens, water well, improved grass, good location. \$120,000  
 NEW LISTING-- 99.76/A. Eastland Co., Mobile Home, 5 water wells, on pavement, some thick brush, deep creek, Hunting, Good Stock Farm. \$830/A  
**UNDER CONTRACT**  
 NEW LISTING-- 155/A with 32/A Producing Vineyard, 1,600 sq. ft. Brick home, 3 large barns, water wells, large pond, 60/A thick brush. Eastland Co. Pretty and Productive. \$250,000  
 \* 255/A with 3 bd/2 bath rock house, waterwell, SOLD Orchard, mountains, good hunting, north of Cottonwood.

**RESIDENTIAL:**

\* Fixer upper, 2bd/2 bath, frame, good landscaping, on paved street in Cross Plains, \$15,000  
 NEW LISTING-- 6 lots with older home and two mobile homes, trees, cellar. \$12,000  
 NEW LISTING-- Nice 3bd/1 1/2 bath, brick, CH/A, 1,100 Sq. Ft., 2 storage blds., car port, fenced, paved street, good neighborhood in Cross Plains. \$52,000  
 NEW LISTING-- 1bd/1bath house close to school, in Rising Star, \$13,500. Call Pauline  
 NEW LISTING-- In Cisco, 4bd/21/2bath brick home, fire place, CH/A, large corner lot, carport, garage, excellent location. \$79,000  
 NEW LISTING-- 3bd/1 bath on large lot, metal storage building, fruit & pecan trees on Hwy 36, Rising Star. \$25,000. Call Pauline  
 \* 2bd/1 bath, large Kitchen and Dining Area, fenced, on large lot in Cross Plains \$32,500 Call Pauline.  
 \* 3 bd/1 bath, 1/2 acre fenced chain link, fruit trees, in Rising Star. REDUCED \$34,500 Call Pauline.  
 \* 3bd/2 bath on large lot, 16 pecan trees, a homestead in town.  
 \* REDUCED-2bd/2 bath home, with glassed in porch. Also 1bd/1 bath apartment w/shop building on South Main. Good Buy! \$35,000. Owner Finance 30% DOWN  
 NEW LISTING-- 4bd/2bath late model doublewide. Good lot w/trees, water well, storage building, north of city limits, approx. 1,500 sq. ft., carport CH/A. \$50,000.00

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 NEW LISTING-- Commercial building on Hwy 36, Rising Star, 5,000 Sq feet, under one roof, 3 bd/2 bath home with restaurant type kitchen, converted area of 6-23' X 11' rooms, 2-16' X 11' rooms, each with bath. Ideal foretirement or assisted living center, or motel/apartment complex. For Rent or Sale. Call Tom  
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## COUNTY ROADS by Ginny Greene

### Stringing words...

Fifty lights. There are 50 bulbs on each strand of lights that trim our Christmas tree. Fifty lights strung together that must work together or they don't work at all.

I'm deep in thought here, transfixed by the soft glow of colors against green branches, hypnotized by twinkling tinsel. The same 50 lights (be real! Buy a few spares!) create a new picture each year. The trees we decorate from year to year never look exactly the same.

Like letters. Twenty-six letters, strung together, create all the sounds of our language, all the words we utter, all the stories we read. Only 26 letters, arranged in hundreds of ways to make up the thousands of words we use in millions of sentences.

Abilene author Nancy Robinson Masters, as a workshop speaker, often asks listeners to fold a piece of paper in half, and keep folding it. One small rectangle on the page represents all the people in the world who can read and write in any language. She uses it to impress upon us that if we have the gift of writing, we can't keep it to ourselves, but must feel a duty to pass it on.

In the four years I've been writing this column, I've met many of you who are rich with the gift of writing. Writing the Great American Novel is not the only way to share. A poem, a Letter-to-the-Editor, a note of comfort

or congratulations - all of these are ways to pass around the gift of words. I always appreciate the historian in a family, the one who preserves memories the rest of us forget. Some dig into genealogy, and some have found enough interest among their relatives to publish a family newsletter.

Writers from our area have written devotions for inspirational websites, crafted greeting card messages, entered writing contests, compiled cookbooks, and written every kind of magazine article. Several have written educational curriculum and Sunday School lessons. Texans are consummate recorders of history from every aspect. At least four have made a major commitment to correspondence that uplifts shut-ins and those with specific health issues.

The Christmas holiday once again passes before us. Hiding behind a thinning veil is another new year. What a grand way to tumble through that doorway at the end of the year, filled first with the Hope of the World.

Twenty-six letters. It's got me thinking. Before it's time to string lights again next year, I resolve to string letters and words across pages and pages in dozens of new ways. And may all who love to write find a way to bless others with the gift that has blessed them.

Happy New Year from me and MyKeeper, all our kin, and all our critters.  
© Ginny Greene, 2002

## OHA WIC Says "Keep it Healthy" This Season

CLYDE—Many Americans welcome the holidays as a time to indulge in high-calorie, high fat food and beverages. Our holiday tables positively groan with pies featuring fat-rich crusts and egg-laden fillings, dressing made with turkey drippings, and sweet potatoes swimming in butter and brown sugar and topped with marshmallows. And of course there's plenty of eggnog for everyone! The result of this overindulgence is a holiday weight gain of from one to seven pounds for most adults. But according to the staff of Outreach Health Services (OHS) Women, Infants and Children (WIC) program, there are ways to lower calorie and fat intake without compromising flavor. "Today's society offers low-fat versions of virtually every product," said Ann Latham, registered licensed dietitian and an assistant director for the OHS Women, Infants and Children (WIC) program. "If we take advantage of those items, watch our portion sizes and control the tendency to graze at parties, we can avoid weight gain during the holidays."

### LOWERING THE CALORIES & FAT IN FOOD

Here are some ideas for making your holiday meal less fattening:

1. Pecan pie. Make a reduced-fat version by cutting the butter in half and using two large eggs plus two large egg whites instead of three large eggs. Rather than using two cups of pecans, use 1/2 cup of pecans plus 1 1/2 cups of walnuts, hazelnuts or almonds, which are lower in fat content. Recipes also are available for reduced-fat piecrusts.
2. Mashed potatoes. Use evaporated skim milk (which is very rich and creamy) instead of cream and replace the butter with butter flakes.
3. Sweet potatoes. Rather than serving candied yams, bake sweet potatoes in the jackets and add a small amount of reduced-fat margarine and just a sprinkling of brown sugar.
4. Pumpkin pie. Use evaporated skim milk and egg substitutes instead of whole milk and eggs.
5. Dressing and gravy. Use fat-free chicken broth instead of stock from the turkey. To keep

turkey fat out of the dressing, cook it in a separate dish rather than stuffing it into the bird.

### REDUCING FOOD INTAKE

Here are some tips for cutting back on the amount of food you consume at holiday gatherings:

1. Don't go to a holiday party hungry. Eat a light meal, such as fruit and yogurt, beforehand.
2. Avoid high-fat hors d'oeuvres such as cheese and nuts. Instead nibble on veggies without dip.
3. Don't hover around the area where the food is displayed.
4. Bring your favorite low-fat dish to a party or dinner and eat a lot of it. Limit yourself to a small bite of fattening treats.
5. At a holiday dinner where lots of different items are being served, take only small portions.
6. Choose only the foods that you really enjoy. Do not waste calories on food you can consume any time of the year.
7. Don't eat the skin from the turkey or chicken.
8. Start with vegetables, but watch out for the starchy ones.
9. Avoid seconds. The food (or more like it) will be around the next day.
10. Eat more slowly.
11. Exercise after eating. Taking a walk around the block is a good way to burn some calories.

WIC is a well respected, federally funded program that gives children a healthy start by encouraging optimal nutrition during the critical stages of development. WIC participants have access to vouchers for healthy foods, ongoing nutrition education classes, meal planning assistance, immunizations and breast-feeding instruction and support.

Each month Outreach Health Services offers WIC services to more than 33,500 clients in 58 Texas counties. Free WIC services are available to middle- to low-income women who are pregnant, breast-feeding, postpartum or have an infant and/or children younger than five years of age. Income and residency requirements may apply. For information on WIC services, contact the Clyde WIC Clinic at (915) 893-4552 or visit [www.outreachhealth.com](http://www.outreachhealth.com).

## The Facts About Secondhand Smoke

\* Secondhand smoke is the third leading preventable cause of death in the U.S. killing 38,000 to 65,000 nonsmokers every year.

\* Secondhand smoke causes lung cancer, other types of cancer, and heart disease in nonsmokers.

\* Exposure to secondhand smoke can cause children to develop asthma, bronchitis, pneumonia, other respiratory infections, and ear infections. Exposure to secondhand smoke also increase the risk that infants will die of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS).

\* Food service workers appear to be 50% more likely than the general population to develop lung cancer, largely because many of them are exposed to secondhand smoke on the job.

\* Besides causing disease, secondhand smoke also exacerbates a number of pre-existing health conditions, including some allergies, asthma, bronchitis, other respiratory ailments, and heart disease.

\* Cigarette smoke contains over 4,700 chemicals, over 200 poisons, and over 50 human carcinogens. The poisons in cigarette smoke include carbon monoxide, hydrogen cyanide, and methyl isocyanate. The carcinogens in cigarette smoke include benzo(a)pyrene and NNK,

which cause lung cancer; nitrosamines, which cause cancer of the lung, respiratory system, and other organs; aromatic amines, which cause bladder and breast cancer; formaldehyde, which causes nasal cancer; and benzene, which causes leukemia. The carcinogen NNK has been found in nonsmokers who have been exposed to secondhand smoke.

\* Each year environmental tobacco smoke kills approximately 53,000 Americans, the same number of Americans killed in the Vietnam War. (Action on Smoking and Health, Special Report, Involuntary Smoking: The Factual Basis for Action, 1993)

\* The Environmental Protection Agency has classified environmental tobacco smoke as a "Group A" Carcinogen — a substance known to cause cancer in humans. Environmental tobacco smoke joins a list, which includes substances such as radon and asbestos. (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Respiratory Health Effects of Involuntary Smoking, 1993)

\* Waiters and waitresses have almost twice the risk of lung cancer due to involuntary exposure to environmental tobacco smoke (ETS). (Siegel, Michael, "Involuntary Smoking in the Restaurant Workplace," *Journal of the American Medical Association*, July 28, 1993; 270: 490-493.)

## Happy Birthday!

### DECEMBER 28

Tami Gwen Woody  
Brian Sibley  
Marion Perry  
Mrs. Glen Vaughn  
Michael Ingram  
Mrs. Billy Paul Golson  
C.A. Walker  
Karen Flecher  
Mrs. Pauline (Lee) Regian  
Sheila Bell

### DECEMBER 31

Kathy Denny  
Johnny Combs  
Eldon Gregg  
Shirley Emmons  
Mrs. Norman Farr  
Danielle Webster  
George Randall Dickey  
Vickie (Hickman) Walker  
Billy Spoon  
Jesse Norris  
Kimberly Ratliff  
Royce Lawrence  
Austin Walker

### DECEMBER 29

Dianne (Johnson) Stahnke  
Mrs. Earl Allen  
Johnnie Strickland  
Kenneth D. Brown  
Frances Knott  
Vicky (Moore) Worley  
Michael Blake Foster  
D.J. Roe  
Jacob Strickland  
Peyton Wood  
Shelby Wood  
Jon Tonne

### JANUARY 1

John Bagley  
Charles Barr  
Ava Jones  
Henry Wellmaker  
Joyce Williams

### JANUARY 2

Leesa Higginbottom  
Jimmy Harris  
Patsy Letney  
Emma Jane Hobson  
Cherilyn Fleming  
Linda Reed  
Cameron Cobb  
Eunice Pointer  
Tami Lee Hall

### JANUARY 3

Sandy (Bailey) Hunter  
Teck Whitney  
James Alexander  
Cookie Robinson  
Mrs. Pat McNeel, Jr.  
Kathy Pippins  
Mrs. Donald Baird  
Billy Joe Lofton  
Eddie Wade Dillard  
Mrs. Moreland Baldwin  
Joann Womack  
Lessie Baum

### DECEMBER 30

Keith Hopson  
Billy Gene Spoon  
Carol Bates  
Eric Lovel  
Oddie Dawkins  
Mrs. Bob Dean  
Christopher Hamer  
Getrude Johnson  
Wanda Jennings  
Milton Bates  
Billy King  
Joseph L. Hopkins  
Nancy Sheppard  
Don Edington  
Randy Duncan  
Sambo Fleming

## Western High Plains Cotton Producers Vote

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

Don Parrish, re-elected to be the zone's representative, said

the vote shows the area's growers know they have benefited from the eradication program.

"If we didn't have the program, growers wouldn't have seen the yields they have. They wouldn't have made that top crop or had the yields with the weevil pressure we had two or three years ago," said Parrish.

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

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

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

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

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

Three other zones in the state previously passed retention elections, all by similar margins.

The Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation is a nonprofit, grower-initiated and funded organization dedicated to eliminating the cotton boll weevil from the state in the most cost-effective and environmentally responsible manner possible.

★

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of  
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&  
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**SPECIALS OF THE WEEK**  
(Price Good Thru December 31)

|   |  |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|
| Milk<br>By Bordens<br><b>\$1.99</b><br>a Gal. | Main Street<br>Cigarettes<br><b>\$1.89</b><br>a pack | 10 lb. Sack<br>of Potatoes<br><b>\$1.99</b><br>Buy One Get<br>One Free | 20 oz.<br>7UP<br>Products<br><b>2 for \$1.00</b> |
|---|--|--|--|

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