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# dskel free Press

VOL. 113-NO. 52, ©DECEMBER 30, 1999

"The People's Choice"

10 PAGES-ONE SECTION-50 CENTS

### Basketball games

Haskell JV-B, VB vs. Wylie Tues., Jan. 4, 5 p.m. at Haskell JV-G, VG vs. Throckmorton Tues., Jan. 4, 4 p.m. at Throckmorton

Paint Creek vs. Moran Tues., Jan. 4, 6:30 p.m. at Moran

### Calendar

### Y2K emergency services available

For emergency utility or communication needs in the event of a Y2K glitch, contact the following emergency centers:

In O'Brien contact the Knox Co. Hospital; in Rochester contact the Rochester Fire Dept.; in Weinert contact the Weinert Fire Dept.; in Rule contact the Rule City Hall; in Sagerton contact the Sagerton Fire Station; in Paint Creek contact the Paint Creek Fire Station and in Haskell contact the Haskell Fire Dept.

Someone will be at each location to help you with your emergency needs from 10 p.m. on Dec. 31 to 3 a.m. on Jan. 1.

### Reception to honor Dr. J. F. Cadenhead

Dr. J. F. 'Frank' Cadenhead will be honored by the employees of the Cadenhead Rural Health Clinic with an informal come and go reception Fri., Dec. 31 from 1 to 3 p.m. at the clinic. Dr. Cadenhead will be retiring after 52 years of service in Haskell and the surrounding area. No gifts

### Jingle Bell kitchen

Lunch will be served at the Haskell Elementary cafeteria, Dec. 30 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Everyone is invited. There is no charge for the lunci, but donations will be accepted.

### Holiday mail service

The Haskell Post Office will deliver mail New Year's Eve, Dec. 31. The window section of the post office will close at noon on New Year's Eve. No mail will be delivered on New Year's Day, Jan. 1.

### Medical fund established

A medical expense fund has been established at Haskell National Bank for the infant son of Jimmy and Jamie Johnston. Jimmy is a 1991 graduate of HHS and the son of Jim and Ann Johnston, former Haskell resi-

### Lodge meeting

The Sons of Hermann Lodge meeting will be held Sun., Jan. 2 at the Irby Hall. The meeting gins at 3 p.m. The meal will be tew, chili and desserts.

### Social Security

A representative from the Social Security Administration will be in Haskell at the old City Hall annex, 305 N. 1st, Thurs., Jan. 6 at 9:30 a.m.

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LAST CHANCE FOR THE JACKPOT-Numbers of area shoppers were on hand for the last Giant Jackpot drawings Wed., Dec. 22.

Twelve names were drawn to share in the thousand dollar jackpot on tickets they received when shopping at local businesses.

## last jackpot drawing

Twelve Haskell area shoppers were lucky winners Wed., Dec. 22, in the last of four Giant Jackpot Drawings held during the month of December by Haskell merchants and Chamber of Commerce.

B. Munsell of Knox City was not present, winning \$50.00, one half of a \$100.00 jackpot on a ticket from Boggs and Johnson. In a drawing for the other half, Dana West was present to win a \$50.00 jackpot on a ticket from Modern Way Food Store.

W. W. Farrel of Weinert was present to win a \$100.00 jackpot on a ticket from Modern Way Food

John Smajstria of Seymour was not present, winning \$50.00, one half of a \$100.00 jackpot on a ticket from Heads or Tails Western Wear. In a second drawing for the other half, Frances Bowen of Rule won a \$50.00 jackpot on a ticket

from Bill Wilson Motor Co. Wes or Laura Alsabrook were

## New Year's **Eve Watch** Service set

'A community-wide New Year's Eve Watch Service will be held at the Christian Church in Haskell.

Beginning at 10:30 p.m., Friday, everyone is invited to come and bring a plate of their favorite goodies to share in a time of refreshment and fellowship.

Philip Martin will lead the singing during a time of praise, worship and prayer.

At midnight a communion service will be shared.

Given in honor of the Lord Jesus Christ

not present, winning \$50.00, one half of a \$100.00 jackpot on a ticket from Cecil's Country Meat Market and Grocery. In a second drawing for the other half, Leatha Newton won a \$50.00 jackpot from The Drug Store.

Maria Alvarez was not present,

winning \$50.00, one half of a \$100.00 jackpot on a ticket from Modern Way Food Store. In a second drawing for the other half, Jeri Burke won a \$50.00 jackpot on a ticket from Bassing Jewelry.

Flossie Garvin was present to win a \$200.00 jackpot on a ticket from Modern Way Food Store.

Krystal Cleveland of Rule was not present, winning \$150.00, one half of a \$300.00 jackpot on a ticket from Modern Way Food Store. In a second drawing for the other half, Bill Comedy won a \$150.00 jackpot on a ticket from Haskell Tire and Appliance.

## Area athletes named to Big **Country Team**

Four Haskell County athletes have been named to the All-Big Country Six-Man Football Team; Brian Lehrmann and Cody Harvey of the Rule Bobcats team that went all the way to Semifinals playoff, and Cody Ray Byrd and Manuel Gonzales of the Rochester Steers.

Lehrmann, a 5' 8", 145 pound senior, led the Big Country with 17 interceptions from his safety position. He also had 41 solo tackles and 72 assists with four fumble recoveries. Offensively, he caught 29 passes for 580 yards with 11 touchdowns, and also rushed for 868 yards and 17 touchdowns on 132 carries.

Harvey, a 5' 9", 165 pound senior, rushed for 1,332 yards and 21 touchdowns on 153 carries, completed 17 of 30 passes for 355 yards and six touchdowns, and caught 12 passes for 184 yards and four scores. Defensively, he had 52 solo tackles, 78 assists, six fumble recoveries and two interceptions.

Byrd, a 5' 10", 140 pound senior, passed for 1,557 yards and 22 touchdowns, completing 65 of 126. At safety, he collected 79 tackles and five interceptions.

Gonzales, a 5' 9", 155 pound senior, caught 31 passes for 922 yards and 17 touchdowns. On defense, he had 47 tackles, two interceptions and five fumble recoveries.

## Blake Liles has cooked up a sweet career

By Mary Kaigler

Haskell native Blake Liles, Executive Chef at the Sheraton Tower Hotel in Tyler until his move in October to the Kiepersol Estates, is no novice to the culinary world in which he chose to make

In July he was named Chef of the Month by the Texas Chefs Association, and recently he was named Chef of the Year by the East Texas Chapter of the Association.

In August, as chef de cuisine for each event, Liles was responsible for preparing meals for 300 of his peers during the Texas Chef's 41st annual convention in Tyler.

The son of Estalynn and Howard Liles of Haskell, Blake said he has always had an interest in cooking and the culinary arts. As far back as 1981 he won Best of Show in the Baked Goods Youth Division at the Haskell County Fair.

A 1987 graduate of Paint Creek, where his mother was a teacher, Blake started cooking for friends at Tareleton State University. Whether from procrastination, or for education, he says his favorite pastime in high school and college was watching the Great Chefs series on the Discovery Channel.

As his interest grew, he began to realize he could make a career out of his hobby. Deciding to give it a try, Blake says it has proved to be

**Goodfellows Donations** 

by Melvin and Juanita Miller .....\$25.00

Anonymous .......\$100.00

Bread ...... Mrs. Baird's Bread

Total to date ......\$1264.60

very rewarding and satisfying as a

Working as a prep cook at the Petroleum Club in Abilene inspired him to take a course in cake decorating. Promoted to pastry chef, he was solely responsible for all baked goods and pastries. Later on he returned to the Petroleum Club as Executive Chef, a position that enabled him to create original dinner specials and banquet items.

After taking a year off from the kitchen to work as a farmer back home in Haskell, he spent a working vacation in Santa Fe, New Mexico, to learn new techniques and styles to enhance his cooking

Before coming in October to the Kiepersol Estates, a fine dining restaurant which has connections with four or five bed and breakfasts, he has been Executive Chef at the Petroleum Club in Abilene, the Roy H Laird Country Club, Kilgore, and The Sheraton Hotel,

A member of the American Culinary Federation and the Texas Chefs Association, Blake won a gold medal in June at the Texas Restaurant Association Signature Cook-off.

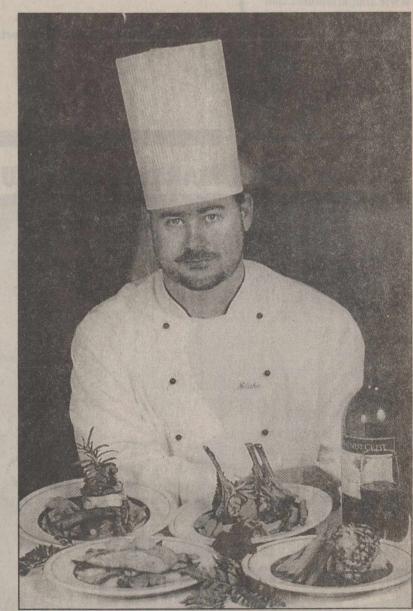
Married to the former Deanna Scheets, daughter of Howard and Frances Sheets of Haskell, Blake says he loves to cook at home, and is proud to say Deanna is delighted to help out in the "test kitchen". His personal favorite food is Mexican Brown Shrimp, cooked any way.

In the July edition of the Lone Star Chef, he was quoted as saying that if he ever slows down his fast paced life, he would like to own a small, intimate, bistro-style restaurant with a display kitchen to

serve simple food, elegantly presented.

Blake Liles' advice to future chefs is to learn the basics, and improve upon these basics every

day. And, in a bit of advice that would be good for one seeking to excel in any career, he added, "Be willing to commit to your career 100 percent."



CHEF OF THE YEAR-Blake Liles, formerly of Haskell, has developed his love and talent for cooking into a successful career as a prize-winning chef in the culinary world of fine dining.

### FOR NEWS ITEMS OR TO SUBSCRIBE, CALL 864-2686

### Gin Report

December 26, Haskell	1999
Haskell Co-op Gin O'Brien	4,830
O'Brien Gin	17,034
Rochester Rochester Co-op Gin Rule	1,480
Rule Co-op Gin	2,803
Sagerton Gin Weinert	1,050
Griff's Gin Weinert Gin Total Bales	2,890 5,013 35,100
	Total Control of the

## Area basketball scores

Rule 85, Roby 73
Scoring for Rule: Lehrmann 24,
Harvey 19, Smith 16, Hisey 12,
Hertel 9, Coker 5.

100	30 Color Photos	
\$	299	
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(plus tax)

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8 - Regular Size Wallets

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2- 5x7



## Sport-About

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## **Obituaries**

### Frank Smith

Funeral services for Frank Smith, 60, of Roswell, N.M. were held Tues., Dec. 21 at LaGrone Funeral Chapel with Danny Sons of Midway Assembly of God officiating. Burial was in South Park Cemetery.

Mr. Smith died Sat., Dec. 18 at Eastern New Mexico Medical Center.

Born May 12, 1939 in Haskell, he was the son of Howard James and Mae Dell Harvey Smith. He was employed by Transwestern Pipeline Co. and retired after 26 years of service. He was then employed by New Mexico Department of Health where he was an administrator. He had lived in Roswell for 42 years.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

Eagles and St. Andrew's Episcopal School.

Survivors include his wife, Marcia Smith, of Roswell; two daughters, Candy Smith of Roswell and Michelle Reyna and her husband, Rusty, of Fort Worth; one brother, James Smith and his wife, Sharon, of Wichita, Kan.; an aunt, Katherine Bartley of Haskell; two grandchildren, Ashleigh and Cody Reyna; numerous cousins, nephews and nieces.

Pallbearers were Rusty Nasta, Uvaldo Quintana, Phillip Quintana, Francis Cox, Rusty Reyna and Omer Parker.

Memorials may be made to the Fraternal Order of the

### **Doyle Dean Johnson**

Memorial services for Doyle Dean (West Texas Slim) Johnson will be held Mon., Jan. 3 at Abundant Life United Methodist Church in Houston with Rev. Dennis Oetting officiating. Masonic tribute will be by the Pasadena Masonic Lodge #1155 A.F. & A.M.

Born Oct. 29, 1926 in Munday, he was the son of Wylie and Dorothy Johnson. He served in the Navy during World War II on an aircraft carrier in the Pacific. He worked for many years in the oil fields of West Texas and spent over 20 years working for Brown and Root offshore in the Gulf of Mexico, the Caribbean Sea, the Persian Gulf, the Pacific Ocean, the North Sea and the Bay of Campeche. He operated a heavy duty crane and

enjoyed working on the water and traveling the world.

He was a member of the Haskell Masonic Lodge in Haskell for 40 years and a member of the Order of the Eastern Star for 35 years. He served as Worthy Patron

for the Order of the Eastern Star in Eliasville and most recently for the Pasadena Chapter #711 during 1989-90. He was a member of Richey Street Baptist Church in Pasadena

He was preceded in death by his parents, stepmother Daisy Johnson; his brothers, Delbert Beauchamp, Don Wylie Johnson and Burl Johnson.

Survivors include Patsy Johnson of Pasadena; Dennis and Michelle Johnson of Houston; Mark and Elizabeth Ann Johnson of Waukesha, Wisconsin; Doylena and Mike Kent of Friendswood; seven grandchildren, Aethena, Charlie, Andrea, Joshua, Adam, Allison and Sarah; his brother, Ellis Johnson of Belton; his sisters, Betty John Chandler of Santee, Calif. and Sybil Chandler of Cromwell; and many other relatives and friends.

Memorials may be made to the American Cancer Society or the donor's favorite charity.



**Stamford Center** 

**SPRING, 2000** 

Classes begin Jan. 18 and end May 10.

### College Classes Close to Home

From WTC's Dis	stance Learning (IT	(V) Cla	ssroom:		
ECON 2301-0790	PRINC/ECO	M	7:00-10:00 p.m.	SMITH, N	
GOVT 2306-0794	US/ST/LOC GOV	MWF	9:00-9:50 a.m.	PRICE, J	
HIST 1302-0795	US HIST 1865-	MWF	10:00-10:50 a.m.	ADAMS, R	
MATH 1314-0796	COLL ALGEBRA	W	6:00-9:00 p.m.	DUCHENEAUX, S \$	8 lab fee
SOCI 1301-0798	INTRO/SOCI	MWF	12:00-12:50 p.m.	DURHAM, J	
SPCH 1315-0799	FUND/PUB SPEAK	MWF	11:00-11:50 a.m.	COGAN, H	

aught	on	Stamford	Campus

ENGL 1302-0791	COMP II	MWF	12:30-1:24 p.m.	RISTER, M	\$8 lab fee
ENGL 1302-0792	COMP II	M	6:30-9:20 p.m.	RISTER, M	\$8 lab fee
ENGL 2322-0793	ENGLISH LIT	MWF	9:00-9:50 a.m.	RISTER, M	

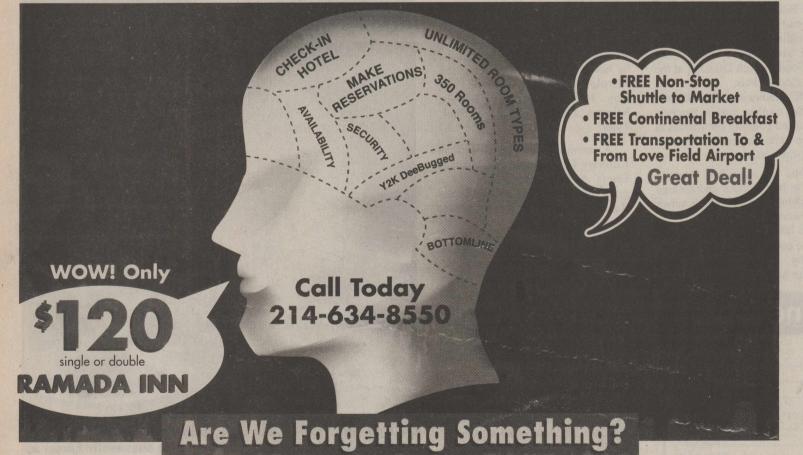
Registration: Thursday, Jan. 6, 6:00-8:00 p.m. Library Media Center, Stamford High School

Internet access at info@gotowtc.org

Cost: 1 class - \$120.00 2 classes - \$225.00 3 classes - \$330.00 (not including lab, DL fees, or books)

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## Sagerton News

By Dorothy M. Clark

As we bring you this article we bid farewell to 1999 and make plans for the upcoming 2000 and a new millennium as well. All the residents of Sagerton wish our readers good health, much happiness and all our best wishes for the upcoming year. May we keep the Spirit of Christmas in our hearts and lives and share it with our families and neighbors.

Speaking of the Spirit of the Christmas, we have a special note to pass along to everyone. Last Thursday night a group of young people from the community went around to sixteen homes in the area to sing Christmas songs. They reported a good time and the recipients were most thankful to them for bringing the Christmas cheer. It was a most welcome sight as we opened the door and saw our young friends singing for us. Making Christmas a bit more special for a lot of people were Jill, Kinsey, Tully and Cade Brown, Clayton, Paula, Stephanie and Michelle Stegemoeller, Matt Dudensing, Laci Standifer, Tami and Kami Baitz, Steven, Karen, Brian, M'Lynn and Joanna Lehrmann. Thanks everyone!

Congratulations are in order for Brian Lehrmann for being selected to be on the All Big Country Sixman football team. He led the Big Country with 17 interceptions from his safety position. He also had 41 solo tackles and 72 assists with four fumble recoveries. Offensively, he caught 29 passes for 580 yards with 11 touchdowns and also rushed for 868 yards with 17 touchdowns on 132 carries. "Good goin', Brian!"

Charles and Dorothy Clark had their children and grandchildren visiting them during the Christmas holiday including Bob and Tommye Jo Clark of Mission; Steve, Donna and Shawn Clark of Webster; Kyle and Jennifer Clark of Navato, Calif. and Judson and Laura Clark of Ft. Worth. On Sunday, Pastor Daniel and Robin Ramey and sons of

Zephyr visited in the Clark home. Daniel is a former pastor of the Sagerton and Rule Methodist churches and currently serves two churches at Brownwood.

Leon and Mae Stegemoeller hosted a family Christmas gathering in their home during the holiday with all their children and grandchildren present along with visitors that included: Mitchel Payne of Haskell, Matt Dudensing of Paris, Tex., Calvin, Cherri Lynn, Ross, Eric and Christi of Hewitt, Clyde of Richardson, Carl, Beth, Mindi, Jonathan and Maegan of Hobbs, N. M., Clifford, Theresa, Brannon and Bailey of Houston and Clayton, Paula, Stephanie and Michelle of Sagerton.

Kay, Brian and Chelsea Tonnan of Wylie spent Christmas with their grandmother, Frances Clark. The younger Tonnans had been here for several days prior to enjoy their break from school.

Family members visiting in the home of Joe and Dorothy Clark during the holiday included Patsy and Don Bivins of Valley View, Ray and Nancy Clark of Stamford and Emmalee Bivins and Rick Phemister of Haskell. On Christmas Eve, the Clarks and the Bivins attended the midnight worship service at Bethel Lutheran Church of Ericksdahl.

J. B. and Dorothy Toney and their family had their Christmas reunion with their family on Thursday before Christmas in the home of Bruce and Michelle Toney of Ft. Worth. John and Renee McAden and little daughter visited with the Toneys on Christmas Day and attended worship services at Faith Lutheran. The McAdens are from Abilene.

More Christmas activities will follow in next week's news since my writing time was limited due to Joe's hospitalization. Hopefully he will be home in a few days and I will be able to talk to more of you.

Happy New Year to all from some of the best people in Texas...Sagertonites!!!

## Snoring is no joke

The buzz-saw sound of snoring is funny in cartoons, but it's no joke in the medical community.

Forty-five percent of adults snore at least occasionally and for some snoring may be a serious medical problem. If the snoring is severe enough to disturb others or cause daytime sleepiness, the snorer should seek medical evaluation, suggests Dr. John Truelson, associate professor of otolaryngology-head and neck surgery at UT Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas.

"In addition to being tired and awakening others, snorers may

have sleep apnea," he says. "Apnea is a serious condition that causes people to decrease or stop breathing until the amount of oxygen in their blood is lowered to a dangerous level."

There are several ways to treat snoring or apnea. Patients with severe problems may need to use a type of ventilator applied with an external mask. For moderate cases, avoiding alcohol, sleeping pills, tranquilizers or antihistamines can ease snoring. Weight loss is also helpful and outpatient surgery can alleviate the problem for many patients.

## Time to check the medicine cabinet?

Have you looked in your medicine cabinet lately? Chances are it may be stocked improperly.

Here are some items to have on hand: first aid supplies such as bandages, antiseptic ointment, tape and gauze; acetaminophen for pain and fever relief; a small pair of scissors and tweezers; a thermometer; a spoon or oral liquid syringe for medicines; topical ointment for insect bites or rashes; sunscreen; and ipecac syrup. (Call your local poison control center

before using.)

"Remove all medications and store them in a cool, dry place that is not accessible to children," said Dr. Pam Bailey, an emergency-room physician at Texas Children's Hospital in Houston. "Discard expired medicines by flushing them down the toilet."

Keep a copy of important phone numbers, such as your local poison control center or child's pediatrician, in or near your medicine cabinet.

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### **Around Town**

By Joyce Hawkins

John Conn of Austin spent Christmas weekend with family David and Denice Conn and girls, Cody and Julie Cochran and baby Audrey and Daniel. They all had dinner with Darlene Conn and opened gifts after dinner.

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On Tuesday Bobby Scheets and 648 mother Minnie along with Creora Tatum attended the funeral services for Dustin Ratliff in Springtown. Dustin is the grandson of Minnie and nephew of Bobby

Mr. and Mrs. Bailey Toliver had their children home for the holidays which included Mr. and Mrs. Brian Toliver and family of Sweetwater, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Toliver and family of Ballinger, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Colbert of Dallas and Mr. and Mrs. Sam Toliver and family

Dr. and Mrs. Frank Cadenhead had their children Mr. and Mrs. Bill Proctor of Waco, Helen Mary and husband of San Angelo, Jeff and wife of Vernon and Dr. Wayne and family of Haskell.

Visiting with Lucille Gannaway over the Christmas holidays were her children, John and family from Lubbock, David and family of Roswell, N. M. and Andy and family of Haskell.

Paul Cox of Ft. Worth and Emily Cox of Tucson, Ariz. spent the holidays with parents Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Cox, Jr.

Hope Josselet was released from Hendrick Medical Center in Abilene on Friday, Dec. 24 and was home for Christmas with family which included daughter and her husband Brenda and Clinton Baccus of Mansfield; their son and family Gary and Kim, Kara and Austin Baccus from Beale AFB, Calif.; granddaughter and family Dyrel, Gina, Dustin and Britni Hamrick from Abbott; son Joe and Pam Josselet and son Brent from Dimmitt; granddaughter Roane Josselet of Wichita Falls; Justin and Kara Glehorn of Lubbock; son Ron, Brenda and Amber Josselet; Austin, Blade and Licia Josselet of

Hope went home with Joe and Pam to Dimmitt for a few weeks get her strength back.

The George Grays had all their children home for Christmas. They are Lynn Gray of Grapeland; Lee and Polly Gray of Midland; Chuck and Judy Hicks of Abilene; and Georgia and Woody Turnbow of Weinert. Also grandchildren Michael and Jennifer Hicks and little son Kyle. The boys took

### Early reading

Pediatricians who take some extra time at office visits to e courage early reading could be starting their young patients on the road to academic success.

A study is under way at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston to determine if pediatricians can influence language development by encouraging parents to read to their infants and toddlers.

their musical instruments to the care home and played for dad

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Josselet of Dimmitt visited her mother Inez Mobley. Also Joe Ellis, Joanne and Cloy Jackson.

Bernice Hilliard had Christmas at her daughter's, Mr. and Mrs. Larry Short at Rochester. Those who were there were Bernice's sons Mr. and Mrs. Ron Hilliard of Odessa; Kenneth Hilliard of Waco: Jason Hilliard of Odessa; and Jarred Hilliard of Houston. Also Ellen Hilliard and Jean Ballard.

Vivian Roberson's granddaughter Lisa Whitley of Lubbock came for her on Sun. afternoon to go stay a few days and see a doctor in Lubbock.

David and Denice Conn and girls and Casey and Dian Reed and children had Christmas on Sat. with parents Mr. and Mrs. Dale Carroll in Weinert.

Cody and Julie Cochran and little Audree had Christmas on Fri. night and Sat. with Cody's parents Mr. and Mrs. Tom Cochran in Aspermont.

Paula Garcia had her daughter and children Sylvia Escabado from Austin for the holidays.

Jason Torres of Lubbock was home with his parents Mr. and Mrs. Joel Torres for the holidays.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Cox and their daughter Deborah MacKay, Zane and Annah of Naples visited in the home of Mr. Cox's mother, Mrs. Julia Cox, during the Christmas holidays. Mrs. Cox and her sister Lona Mae Phelps went to Abilene to visit their brother Mr. and Mrs. Rocky Sanders, then to Putnam to visit another brother, Mr. and Mrs. Jacky Sanders and their children Ricky, Rex and Jaclyn of Weatherford, then to Cross Plains in the home of another brother and his family Mr. and Mrs. Andy Sanders where they saw all of his five daughters and their families. They are Mr. and Mrs. Ricky Carrouth, ReNetha and A. J.; Mr. and Mrs. Brent McDaniel; Crystal of Texarkana, Mrs. Andea Poole, Candra and Andrew of Pampa; Mr. and Mrs. Mark Herrington, Amber and Marcus of Jackson, Miss.; Mr. and Mrs. Tommy Lambright and Tiffany of Austin; and Mr. and Mrs. Ricky Thomas, Megan and Austin of Cross Plains

From there they went to Coleman to the home of their other brother Mr. and Mrs. Travis Sanders and saw their children and grandchildren: Mr. and Mrs. Travis Sanders, Leigh and Bryan of Burleson; Mr. and Mrs. Darrill Sanders, Texas Marie and Phoenix Quin of Coleman. They helped Texas Marie celebrate her 4th birthday. She was born on Christmas Eve in Ft. Worth.

Mr. and Mrs. Cox ate Christmas dinner with Lona Mae and her family Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Campbell, Karen Mitchell, Kendall and Allison before starting home.

## How well does your credit card measure up?

by Lou Gilly Haskell Co. Extension Agent If you are like most people, you receive several credit card applications a month. If your card does not offer most of the features listed here, apply for a new card that does (and do not forget to cancel the old one).

1.) Does the card charge an annual membership fee? If you currently use a card that does, call and ask them to drop the annual fee; many will if they want to keep you as a card user. Travel and entertainment cards (American Express, Diners) always charge a hefty annual fee; you must pay off the balance in full every month. There is no reason to pay an annual

2.) Does your card offer you a grace period? A grace period is the number of days between the statement date and the payment date when no interest is assessed to the charges listed on the statement as

·you pay off the statement balance in full each month and

•your payment arrives by the payment due date.

For example, Bonnie pays off the entire balance on her March statement. The April statement's closing date is April 5; the payment due date is April 25. Her grace period is 20 days. She will not incur any interest charges for the purchases listed on her April statement as long as her check reaches the card issuer by April 25. If Bonnie misses that date, she will be assessed a late payment fee (even if the payment gets there before the next "billing or closing date.") She will also be assessed interest charges from the date she made each purchase.

Develop the habit of using a credit card company's money for up to 50 days without having to pay interest. Here is how to do it. Matthew's statement closes on the 8th of each month. His card offers a 20 day grace period. Matthew

### Preventing colds and flu

Extra attention to hygiene may keep the cold and flu away this winter.

"The most common way that colds are transmitted is through handshaking on hands covered with virus," said Dr. Jane Corboy, an assistant professor of family and community medicine at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston.

Everyone should get in the practice of washing their hands. Although new antibacterial soaps are on the market, they will provide no better protection in fighting virus than good old soap and water. Keep phones and door handles as clean as possible and if you do come down with a virus, do you co-workers or classmates a favor and stay home for a few days.

charges a purchase on June 9, that charge does not show up until his July 8 statement. His grace period ends July 28. As long as he pays the balance in full each month, he will not be charged interest on the June 9 purchase if his payment reaches the card company before or on July 28. However, if he does not pay off balances in full each month, each purchase is charged interest on the date of the charge. In the above example if Matthew had not paid off the May statement balance in full, the June 9 purchase would be assessed interest starting on June 9.

You need to know four things about grace periods:

•Some credit card companies do

•On some cards like Discover, you must pay off the balance in full for a minimum of two consecutive months to avoid paying interest.

•The grace period is 25 days for some cards; on others it is 15 or fewer days. A shorter grace period means that payments must be returned more quickly after the statement arrives.

•Grace periods are an endangered species; more cards are dropping them. If you always pay off your balance in full each month and use a card that does not charge an annual fee, expect to see your grace period disappear if you charge less than \$2,000 a year.

3.) What Annual Percentage Rate does the card offer? Unless you have terrible credit, you should be able to get a card with an annual percentage rate below 14%. If you now have a card with a higher rate, call the card company today and ask them to lower it. Tell them that you are considering canceling their card because you can get a lower rate from another company. If they do not lower your rate, cancel the card after you receive your card from the other company.

4.) How does your card compute monthly interest? Most cards use one of two systems:

•Average daily balance. Here is how it works. During April William charged \$1,000. When his May statement arrived, he sent in a payment of \$950 leaving an unpaid balance of \$50. However on his June statement he will be charged interest on the average daily balance in May. For 26 days in May he owed \$1,000, so he will pay interest on \$1,000 for 26 days and interest on \$50 for five days. Since Bill did not pay off his balance in full, any charges made in June will be charged interest starting on the day the purchase

•Two-cycle average daily balance. Nancy's May statement arrived. She had paid off the balance in full for April, but she did not in March. On her May statement she will be charged interest for the average daily balance for both March and April. If Nancy pays off the May balance in full, she will not be charged interest on her June statement.

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5.) What fees must you pay when you get a cash advance from your card? This is a game you cannot win, but at least learn the rules. For example, you find yourself in a bind. You need a hundred dollars in cash right now because the merchant will not take your check or your credit card. You have two options:

•Get a cash advance from your

•Use your debit card to withdraw cash from your checking account.

It would be an easy choice if you had the cash in your checking account. On a \$100 withdrawal using a debit card, the ATM could charge from 50 cents to \$2. For the cash advance from your credit card, your card may charge from 1.5 -2.5 percent of the amount you withdraw and the card starts to charge you interest on the \$100 the day you get your money. The Annual Percentage Rate (APR) calculated on charged purchases. For example, Shirley takes a \$500 cash advance; her card charges her 2 percent of \$10 plus interest starts accruing at 21.9 percent. Avoid

cash advances like a plague.

6.) What perks does the card offer to attract you to their card? Some of the better ones include: •Collision coverage. People

who have a Gold Visa or MasterCard can decline the collision damage insurance waiver when they rent a car. Collision coverage can cost as much as \$12 to \$15 a day, so this is a useful benefit if you rent cars.

The Gold Visa or MasterCard will also cover anyone renting cars in many countries of the world. Anyone planning to rent a car overseas should call their credit card company and ask three questions:

A. "Will my credit card provide collision coverage if I wreck a rental car in (name country)?"

B. If the answer is "yes," then ask. "For how many weeks is the coverage good?" Some cards only cover you for two weeks (in the

U. S. and overseas). C. "If I have an accident, what is the phone number in (name of country) that I should call to report my accident?" Obviously, a renter needs this phone number for each country in which he or she plans to

travel while driving the rented car. Not all cards provide collision coverage. Sometimes the employer has a separate policy providing collision coverage. Before you rent a car with a company card, find out if the company eard includes collision coverage!

Your credit card may cover damage to the rental car anywhere in the world, but it does not include liability coverage if you are responsible for injuries or property damage you cause while driving the rental car. You have such liability coverage on your auto policy when driving a rental car in the United States and in Canada. You do not have such coverage when renting a car anywhere else on the planet funless you buy it when you rent the car

•Frequent flyer miles. For every dollar charged, a cardholder earns one mile. For example, Philip

charges a new \$200 suit using a credit card that awards frequent flyer miles. His next statement from his frequent flyer account should show that he earned 200 miles for the

•During the first 30 to 90 days from the date of purchase, the card will replace a lost, stolen or damaged item. Cards are dropping this coverage, so it must have

•Some cards have also offered discounts on the purchase of a new car; however, these benefits have been cut back or eliminated.







No Waiting

Call In Orders

Offer good December 1-31, 1999. Not valid with any other offer. Only at participating Drive-Ins



### HIGHLIGHTS

By Ed Sterling **TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION** 

AUSTIN — Underprivileged children in Texas will receive \$2.8 million worth of toys through national anti-trust settlements with four major toy companies, Attorney General John Cornyn announced.

The toys are being distributed by the U.S. Marines Toys for Tots program benefiting needy children in cities across the state.

"This holiday season thousands of underprivileged Texas children will receive toys as a result of these settlements. My office will continue to enforce the law for companies who seek to get around the rules of the marketplace," said

"I want to applaud the Marines who are helping distribute these toys. I hope our efforts will bring additional cheer this year."

The distribution of toys resulted from national anti-trust settlements totaling \$56 million with Toys "R" Us, The Little Tykes Co., Hasbro and Mattel. The settlements resolved allegations that the companies conspired to withhold popular toys from low-margin warehouse clubs and forced the manufacturers to sell the toys in multi-toy packaging.

These practices ensured that consumers could not easily compare the retail prices charged by the clubs to those charged by Toys "R" Us.

State Limits Fireworks Sales Sales of fireworks (legal only twice a year in Texas) began Dec.

20 and will end Jan. 1 at midnight. Fireworks can be sold for two weeks before Independence Day and two weeks before New Year's Day.

Dec. 15 was the deadline for county commissioners to implement a ban on the sale of aerial fireworks (stick rockets and missiles with fins and rudders) for this holiday season.

State Fire Marshal G. Mike Davis said people who use fireworks should be prepared.

"People should pay special attention to the prevention of fires and be ready to take quick action to douse a fire if one does ignite," Davis said.

Each holiday season emergency rooms receive people with face, eye and hand injuries from improper use of fireworks.

The State Fire Marshal's Office recommends that Texans choose a public fireworks display operating under a state permit as a much safer alternative to the private use of fireworks.

1st Online Auction Succeeds Texas Comptroller Carole Keeton Rylander declared the state's first online auction of un-

claimed property a success. She said the Dec. 10 through Dec. 16 sale of jewelry and collectibles from abandoned safe deposit boxes attracted worldwide bidders.

The 81 auction items sold for \$12,265. Their appraised value was just under \$10,000.

The state paid about \$282 to sell the items online, using the online auction web sites eBay, Yahoo, and Amazon.com.

AG Halts 'Payday Lending'

Attorney General Cornyn announced the filing of a permanent injunction and compromise settlement with lender Cash Today.

Under the settlement, the company, which owns operations throughout the state, will pay \$1 million in restitution to Texas consumers and end its loan business known as "deferred deposit" or "payday lending."

Payday loans are short-term loans made by unlicensed lenders for up to several hundred dollars at extremely high interest rates, ranging from 650 percent to over 1000 percent annually.

Texas law prohibits businesses without a license from loaning money to consumers at an interest rate higher than 10 percent.

**DPS Issues Travel Caution** As many as 62 lives could be lost in traffic accidents over the Christmas and New Year's holiday weekends, the Texas Department

of Public Safety said. Extra DPS units will be patrolling the Texas highways over the holidays, keeping a special lookout for speeders and drunken driv-

Thirty-three people died in traffic accidents during the 1998 Christmas reporting period and 35 deaths were recorded over last New Year's.

Other Highlights

Gov. George W. Bush officially filed Dec. 17 as a candidate in the Republican presidential primary in Texas set for March 14.

■ The Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission approved a set of proposals calling for "deep emissions reductions" to improve air quality in the state's major metropolitan areas. A public comment period for the proposed plans ends Feb. 1.

Back the Indians!

Established January 1, 1886 **PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY** 401 S. First St P. O. BOX 555 HASKELL, TEXAS 79521

John McDougal ..... Publisher Lisa Shaw ......Business Manager Mary Kaigler ..... Editor Doris McDougal ...... Production Bill Blankenship ...... Staff Photographer

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### From The Inside Out

By Mary Kaigler

This week, as we go into a new year in a new millennium, there is a lot of speculating going on about the world we will be experiencing in the future. Certainly, it won't be the same one that our foreparents faced in 1900 at the beginning of the twentieth century.

With science and technology escalating in ever increasing speeds, it's mind-boggling for one born at the end of the first quarter of this century to consider the changes we may be making to our life-styles as a matter of course. But while nothing can be expected to remain static or the same any more, that in itself is not a reason for us to fear it. Indeed, change may be the only constant we can count on.

Due to good and instant communications, today we know of so much that is going wrong for so many people in the world. But this is an exciting time to be a part of this world, and an excellent time for human beings to decide what they can or will try to do about some of the things that need fixing.

Although almost everything else has changed, human nature may not have changed much in the last two thousand years. The beginning of a new millennium may be a good time for us to take stock of our own personal attitudes that we will be taking into it.

Dr. Robert Schuller says, "Your freedom to choose a positive attitude is the one treasure God will let no one take from you."

Even though we often tend to feel that we are just helpless, hapless victims of the "times,"

I am writing to tell you about

the Rule Lions Club. Today they

had a Christmas meal at their Lions

Club for all the men and women 80

They also delivered the meals to

the ones that could not get out. The

meal was not only delicious, it was

Dear Editor:

years old and over.

think of all the things that could possibly be changed in people's lives by finding positive attitudes and words to live by.

Anne Foster of Rule has shared with me the following thoughts she has had while reflecting on her own New Year's resolutions, and on the world we live in. She makes the case for the positive effect it would have on our world if each one of us adopted one key word to live by. A Word to Light the Way

By Anne Foster

If there were just one word to live by in the dawning of a new millennium, is there one any greater than "integrity'

Imagine a world of people whose word could be trusted, whose actions were sincere, who valued the complete true wholeness of their Being; people who didn't lie, even to or about themselves. Imagine what kind of world that

There would be parents whose word could be depended on by their

There would be politicians who voted the way their constituency wanted them to rather than to please a group of lobbyists.

There would be school administrators who refused to take money from Washington if they believed children in their trust might suffer as a result.

There would be teachers who taught that mistakes are not 'bad', but who simply showed us what we needed to learn.

There would be film makers and actors who turned down scripts

Letters to the Editor

Lions Club men and their wives for

doing such a nice thing and for all

their hard work in preparing and

Sincerely.

Dear Editor:

Margaret Tanner

because they cared more about its bad influence on youth than on their own pocketbooks.

There would be doctors who advised taking an inexpensive herbal cure rather than the latest, most expensive pill on the market, unless its side-effects have been thoroughly proven.

There would be white collar workers who praised their employees and refused to take credit for other's efforts.

There would be blue collar workers who did their jobs as if they were their own bosses, and who were not afraid of losing their jobs for speaking out against what they believed might be detrimental to their fellow man.

There would be police who placed the safety and welfare of others before their own egos.

There would be ministers who taught that God loves us all regardless of our color, nationality or religion, and that Life is a gift, not a reward.

There would be adults who were not promiscuous because they valued the integrity of their vows and the wholeness of their bodies.

There would be friends who were non-judgmental and who could keep a confidence.

Ultimately, we would no longer worry about our youth, for they would then respect their leaders,

educators, parents and elders. Then we could truly say, "How

beautiful mankind is. Oh, brave new world that hath such people in

those who helped with our 1999

project. The donations of money,

food, toys, time and clothes are

### From Out of the Past

From the files of The Haskell Free Press

10 Years Ago December 28, 1989

Haskell dentist Dr. William Kemp has been elected president of the Texas Board of Dental Examiners.

Jimmie Darden was the winner of the gun given away by the American Legion Post. The winning ticket was drawn by Will Trammell.

The annual Christmas party of the Faith Circle of Faith Lutheran Church of Sagerton was held in the home of Mrs. J. B. Toney. Mrs. Herbert Vahlenkamp led the ladie in singing Christmas carols, some of them in German.

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20 Years Ago December 27, 1979

Haskell County is in the final stages of producing a record cotton crop. It is estimated that approximately 150,000 bales will be ginned in the county. Last week, county gins had weighed over 118,000 bales and were aware of another 24,000 bales which had already been stripped and placed into modules and ricks.

Members of the Haskell Volunteer Fire Department who retired during the past year and who had been members of the department for more than 20 years were presented with plaques during the annual banquet. Receiving plaques were Jack Speer, 37 years; Dent Atchinson, 31 years; Brooks Middleton, 28 years; Jim Alvis, 24 years; and Tom Paul Barnett, 25 years.

30 Years Ago December 25, 1969

Richard Frierson, son of Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Frierson of Haskell, received the Bachelor of Science degree from Tarleton State College in Stephenville.

Mr. and Mrs. Viars Felker and Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Lane were host to employees of Lane-Felker, Dad 'N Lad and School Tax- Assessor-Collector's office, to a dinner at Felker's Restaurant. Thirty-three persons attended, including employees and guests.

Haskell County 4-H Club members will participate in the Sand Hills Hereford and Quarter Horse Show in Odessa. 4-H members who will exhibit Hereford steers are: Jeff Denson, Larry Denson, Jackie Wilcox of Rule; Kim and Sue Hager of Weinert and Jim Bob Mickler of Haskell.

40 Years Ago December 24, 1959 Paulette Fischer's 26 points

paced Paint Creek to a solid 49 0 victory over Knox City for the Haskell Girls Basketball Tournament title.

The Neighbors Hobby Club met in the home of Mrs. Laura May Mullins for their Christmas party. A Christmas story was read by Mrs. Pansy Harris and several games were played and carols sung.

Martha Meadors entertained the Keystone Class of the First Christian Church with a traditional buffet supper party at her home.

State health authorities have awarded Alford Fowler of Haskell a Grade C "Certificate of Competency" in recognition of his skill and knowledge of water plant operation. Fowler is employed in the city water department.

### 50 Years Ago December 29, 1949

The annual Christmas party of the Blue Bonnet Home Demonstration Club was held in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Knipling. A 1950 Ford tudor sedan was

given to Coach Jack Roten by his friends and the citizens of Haskell to express their appreciation for the success that he achieved with the 1949 Indian football team. The

Haskell Indians won the 199 District 6A championship, a title that had not been held by Haskell since 1938.

90 Years Ago December 25, 1909

The Wichita Valley Railway Company has granted free of charge to M. R. Hemphill, the right of way for his street car line across the tracks of the company.

About four inches of snow fell the latter part of last week. John Oates has returned from

Simmons College at Abilene to spend Christmas.

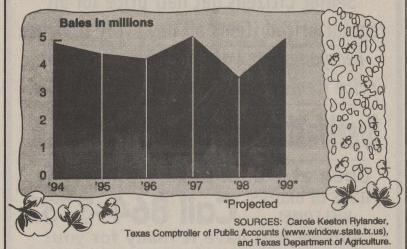
Mr. and Mrs. Clarke Dennington of Stamford are spending Christmas with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. McKey.

### The Haskell Goodfellows would also beautiful. I just wanted to brag on these like to express sincere thanks to

Keeping an eye on Texas

### Texas turns bolls to bales to bucks

Despite weather setbacks, the 1999 Texas cotton crop is projected to top 5 million bales. Cotton is the leading cash crop in Texas, contributing more than 12 percent of the total agricultural income for the state. In 1998, cotton earned more than \$1.6 billion for Texas producers.



appreciated. A total of 50 packages were distributed to needy families. This year's Goodfellows project

was a community effort, which was spearheaded by the Haskell Lions Club, the Haskell County Child Welfare Board and the Haskell Fire Department. Also assisting in this endeavor was the Haskell Free Sincerely,

Haskell County Child Welfare

Donnie Rieger

Linda Haynes

Board

Haskell Lions Club

Like what you're reading? Call 940-864-2686 to Subscribe.

Haskell Co. Extension Agent

Thanks to Dorcus Hardy, who served as the Commissioner of Social Security during the 1980's, you can obtain a record of the Social Security taxes you have paid as well as an estimate of the Social Security benefits you are expected to be eligible to receive. To check on your Social Security account, obtain "Request for Earnings and Benefit Estimate Statements" for SSA-7004-SM, you can phone (800) 772-1213 to receive a copy of the form, or go to the Social Security Web site, http://www.ssa.gov to process the form.

After you complete the form, you will receive your "Personal Earnings and Benefit Estimated Statement." Your "Statement" has two parts.

Social Security Earnings Record You should receive a chart that

shows your earnings from the first year that you were employed. Your statement will not show any earnings from this year and may not yet show your earnings from last year. If your earnings records do not agree with what is printed on your statement, contact the Social Security Administration at (800) 537-7005. However, you can only make corrections on your earning records for the last three

> Estimated Social Security Benefits

The Social Security Administration has estimated three types of benefits for you: disability, survivor and future retirement benefits. Estimated benefits are a function of the amount of taxes you pay each year, the number of years you have paid taxes and the number of dependents you have. In calculating estimated

retirement benefits, Social Security personnel assume that your future earning's record will be similar to your income history. These estimates are in today's dollars. For example, Luise is 40 years old. Social Security estimates that when Luise turns 62 and is eligible for reduced retirement benefits, he should receive \$650 a month were he to retire then. However, because of inflation, by Luise's 62nd

birthday, his actual monthly

payments are likely to be more

than twice as much as today's \$650

estimate.

Retirement

Benefits are defined for three retirement options:

A. If you retire at age 62 (lowest benefit)

B. If you retire at the earliest age you can receive maximum benefits (somewhere between your 65th and 67th birthday).

C. At a retirement age you select.

spouse has a choice of benefits: A. He or she can receive 50

percent of your benefit or B. 100 percent of his or her own

Divorced? If you were married a

Disability

To qualify for disability benefits, your disability must be expected to last at least one year or result in your death. A disabled person must wait six months before benefits start. However, most disabled individuals apply two or three times before Social Security agrees to pay disability benefits. Many disabled persons have found it necessary to hire attorneys to appeal Social Security's rejection of their claim

your employer are probably merged with Social Security. For example, Loraine's employer's disability insurance policy promises to pay her \$1,600 a month. If Social

Benefits are a function of the number of dependents you leave at your death. Children receive benefits until they graduate from high school or have their 19th birthday, whichever occurs first. A surviving spouse will receive benefits if his or her wages are less than \$10,000 and one dependent child is younger than 16. For every \$2 that the spouse earns above \$10,000 (\$9,600 in 1999), his or her Social Security benefits will be reduced by one dollar. When the youngest child turns 16, spousal benefits stop until the spouse turns

## Y2K food supply system is OK

Haskell Co. Extension Agent The U. S. food supply system

is in good shape for the year 2000 transition. Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman says the USDA has

## Count your drinks

Holidays are merry, but be frugal with your alcohol consumption to make them even more joyful. Teetotaling not only prevents traffic accidents, it may safeguard your heart.

Too much alcohol is one of the factors, along with fatty food, that cause blood vessels to narrow. The alcohol acts like a poison," says Dr. Richard Lange, a cardiologist at UT Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas. "In addition, alcohol can directly damage the heart muscle, a condition called cardiomyopathy."

Once the heart is injured this way. it may beat dangerously fast and can cause a heart attack or heart failure. Lange says.

A recent study reported that deaths from heart disease rise dramatically after Thanksgiving and peak around New Year's Day. Researchers believe that this may be at least partially due to overindulgence in all the holiday goodies, including alcoholic beverages.

## Dark days can lead to dark moods

For some people, autumn's palette isn't all reds, oranges and golds. It is blue.

Dr. Madhukar Trivedi, associate professor of psychiatry at UT Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas, says the loss of light that comes with the passing of long summer days and Daylight Savings Time can give some people the

### Cold, or sinus infection?

If that nasty winter cold just won't go away, it might be because it has turned into a sinus

"A sinus infection can make someone feel sick for a number of days," said Dr. Holly Birdsall, an associate professor of otorhinolaryngology at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston. "Symptoms might include fatigue and headache.'

Decongestant nose drops often provide relief, as do home remedies, like soup and spicy foods. The key is to flush out the sinuses and get the bacteria out before they accumulate and cause sinusitis. If none of these measures cure the problem, see a doctor to determine if an antibiotic is necessary.

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Seasonal affective disorder, or SAD, is a depression related to exposure to certain frequencies of light. Although more needs to be learned about SAD, Trivedi says many therapists recommend light therapy using special light bulbs in light boxes, fluorescent lights or lamps designed for therapeutic

Consult a physician or therapist if you experience a persistent change in sleeping or eating habits; feel irritable, nervous or fatigued; lose an interest in hobbies or withdraw from friends and family; or have thoughts of death. Those are the signs of depression.

Working Group. The group studied the Y2K readiness of the food supply to continue producing and moving food efficiently from the farm to grocery shelves. The group determined that the risk of serious disruptions is slight. Industry experts estimate that wholesalers and retailers carry a 30

worked with other government

agencies and industry officials as

part of a national Food Supply

to 60 day supply of non-perishable food. Even in the event of disruptions lasting several days, the food supply system could absorb the impact with little ill effect.

Chairman of the Council on Y2K Conversion John Koskinen urged Americans to approach the transition weekend as if it were any other long holiday weekend and prepare accordingly. This means having a few days' supply of food and water in the pantry. He says as long as traditional shopping patterns continue, food shortages are unlikely. However, there may be isolated locations where minor disruptions may occur. Koskinen says it would be similar to a winter snow storm in one section of the If married at retirement your

(You select the larger of A. or

minimum of 10 years before your divorce, you should be eligible to receive retirement benefits which are 50 percent of your divorced spouse's benefits or 100 percent of your own, whichever is larger.

in order to receive benefits.

Checkpoint

Disability benefits provided by

Security were to pay \$1,200 a month, her employer's policy would only pay Loraine \$400 (the difference between the \$1,200 paid by Social Security and the \$1,600 promised by the insurance policy).

Survivors

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\* = Benefit Wildlife

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QUAIL: Russian Olive, Aromatic Sumac, Nanking Cherry, Plum DEER: Bur Oak, Fourwing Saltbush, Flameleaf Sumac, Hackberry TURKEY: Aromatic Sumac, Bur Oak, Hackberry, Honeysuckle SQUIRREL: Walnut, Osage Orange, Red Oak, Bur Oak

4 Species: 25 Each Species = 100 Per Packet

50.00

Due to variables in weather conditions and care required by planter, no guarantee of livability is made.

### **ORDER DUE DATE: FEBRUARY 11, 2000**

CALL THE

**Haskell Soil and Water Conservation District** WITH YOUR ORDER AND AVAILABILITY INFORMATION. Phone 940-864-8516

The HASKELL FREE PRESS-Thursday, December 30, 1999-Page 5

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CJSA 1359 Police Systems and Practices, Thursday, 6:30 - 9:30 p.m. MCOT 2412 Principles of Database, Monday, 6:00 - 10:00 p.m.

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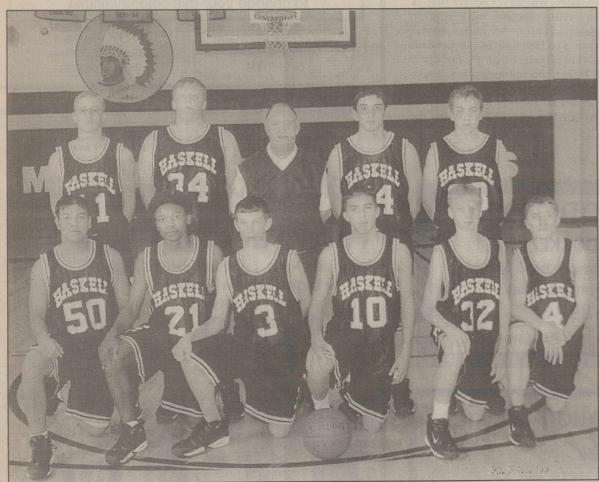
# GOOD LUCK, INDIANS and MAIDENS



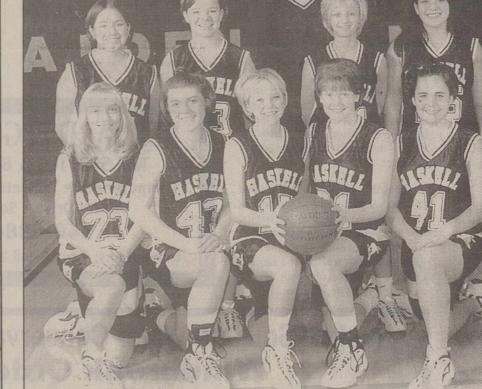
HASKELL VARSITY INDIANS



HASKELL VARSITY MAIDENS



HASKELL JV INDIANS



HASKELL JV MAIDENS

## JV & Varsity vs. Wylie

Tues., Jan. 4 at Haskell

MAIDENS JV & Varsity vs. Throckmorton Tues., Jan. 4 at Throckmorton

Photos by KIS Photo

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### Ask the AG

Q: I heard on the news that you have filed some sort of suit against a sweepstakes company. Is this true? If so, how can I join in the suit?

A: My office receives hundreds of letters each year from consumers who are concerned about the marketing activities of sweepstakes companies.

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Home

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All too often, their letters asking for assistance are too late. They have already sent hundreds or thousands of dollars to these companies in the hopes of winning a huge cash prize. In many cases, those victimized are elderly citizens who live on a fixed income. These seniors are often looking for a way to supplement their incomes and these sweepstakes offers seem like an easy way to get more

Many times, consumers purchase products or magazines that they do not need and cannot afford in the mistaken belief that these purchases will increase their odds of winning. Sweepstakes companies are not eager

to dispel that notion.

After consumers enter the sweepstakes by placing orders for magazines or other merchandise, their mailboxes are flooded with additional solicitations. Each one promises that the consumer is closer to the grand prize. The notices also suggest that additional orders will help move consumers to the next level in the contest.

We have heard stories of entrants who, upon receiving an announcement that they are in the final running for the grand prize, invite their family and friends over for a celebration when the prize is delivered. Of course, there is never a delivery. Others have traveled hundreds of miles to collect prizes that they have

Because of the number of complaints my office has received, I recently filed a lawsuit against Publishers Clearing House for violations of the Texas Deceptive Trade Practices Act (DTPA). This

by Brandon Anderson Haskell Co. Extension Agent Tender steaks start with cattle breeders. Their goal is to breed the best animals with the best combination of desired traits. However, USDA geneticist Michael MacNeil says the term "best" is a subjective and inconsistent measure. He says it has slowed producers' ability to breed improved animals. However, new research can help breeders refine their decision-making process by focusing on profitability.

To assess their animals, breeders keep track of growth and carcass traits. Breed associations take the information and combine it with each animal's genetic tree. They run it through a computer program to develop an expected progeny

The complicated calculations are not yet available in a simple computer program for individuals to use. Until then, producers will most likely get the information through Extension specialists or breed associations.

By John Cornyn, Attorney General

suit alleges that the sweepstakes company made a variety of misleading representations through mail-order solicitations to obtain money primarily from elderly citizens.

This lawsuit is brought in the public interest, not on behalf of named individuals or a class. Therefore, private individuals cannot join this legal action. However, they can file complaints against a sweepstakes company. These complaints help my office investigate and stop deceptive sweepstakes

As I have said many times before, elder Texans need and deserve protection from those who would try to take advantage of them. By taking legal action, I hope to bring to an end the clearly illegal practices of Publishers Clearing House.

The lawsuit cites multiple violations of the DTPA, all of which allege that Publishers Clearing House misled consumers about their odds of winning a sweepstakes in order to sell a wide assortment of mercha-

My office, through the lawsuit, has asked the court for a permanent injunction that will require Publishers Clearing House to discontinue several marketing practices in Texas. We are also asking for civil penalties of up to \$10,000 for each violation to be paid to the state.

If you have a complaint against a sweepstakes company, you can file a complaint with the Consumer Protection Division of the Office of the Attorney General. To request a complaint form, call us at (800) 621-0508. Complaint forms are also available on the Office of the Attorney General Web site at www .oag.state.tx.us.

Finally, anyone who enters a sweepstakes should be aware that, by law, you do not have to purchase anything to enter and that buying merchandise will not increase your chances of winning. Whether you buy or not, the odds against winning a sweepstakes are tremendous.

## Inhalant abuse is silent epidemic

Inhalant abuse is a silent epidemic on the rise in Texas.

A recent Texas School Survey of Substance Use indicated that about 15 percent of all elementary students in fourth through sixth grades had used inhalants. In addition, over the last three years, inhalants are the only substances that have increased in usage among Texas school-age children.

"Although these numbers don't translate into large numbers of children who may be abusing substances, they present an opportunity to take action at a time when prevention and intervention efforts are most effective," said Dr. Joan Shook, chief of emergency medicine at Texas Children's Hospital in Houston.

'Huffing" is a form of inhalant abuse in which vapors or fumes are inhaled through the mouth to obtain a quick high. Also know as "sniffing" or "solvent abuse," this harmful activity can cause shortand long-term health problems, including brain damage.

"Although inhalants rank fourth behind alcohol, marijuana and cigarettes in usage, they are the most dangerous in regard to risk of death in the short term," said Dr. Todd Vedder, inhalant abuse expert at Texas Children's Hospital.

A child can die from using inhalants only once. Common household products like spray paint, cooking sprays, air freshener and butane can be sprayed into cans and small plastic bags or onto clothing so the concentrated vapors can be inhaled. Ten to 15 seconds of huffing might produce a high that lasts 10 to 15 minutes.

Texas Children's physicians encourage parents and teachers to huffing or abusing other inhalants.

These signs include: •Unusual breath odor or clothing

that smells like chemicals •Slurred or disoriented speech

·Spots or sores around the

•Chronic runny nose and red

·Paint or stains on body or

•Drunken, dazed or glassy-eyed

There are many reasons why children find inhalant abuse appealing. These products are cheap, accessible and legal.

"Any experimentation with drugs is potentially harmful and the danger of inhalants coupled with the ease of abusing them make this an urgent fight for our kids' futures," said Shook.

Breakfast for

two, in the

restaurant

## **Breeders optimize** profit and strive for desired beef traits

difference, or EPD. That lets breeders compare individual animals for individual traits. But the process is not complete. Producers are left with the difficult task of combining the EPDs in an efficient manner. So MacNeil is improving the performance testing process by using the EPDs to predict genetic potential for profit. Whit his system, breeders will be able to know how to trade off changes in fat thickness and marbling most profitably. Breeders would also be able to rank animals more effectively.

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## VRJC spring semester registration set

Registration for the 2000 spring semester at Vernon Regional Junior College is scheduled for Wed., Jan. 5, on the Vernon campus. Students may register from 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. and 3:00 - 5:30 p.m. at the Osborne Administration Building. The 16week semester begins Jan. 10.

VRJC will also offer interactive video, Internet and video tape courses. Interactive video classes originate from VRJC and are available in Breckenridge, Haskell, Sweetwater, Quanah, Iowa Park and Throckmorton. Check with the College to see courses offered and times. For more information on distance learning classes, call (940) 552-6291 ext. 2230.

21 Internet classes and 5 video classes are being offered. To enroll in an Internet class, students must have access to an IBM compatible

computer with a modem and an Internet provider. Students taking video tape courses work individually using text and tapes. Orientation is required for Internet and video tape courses on Thurs., Jan. 13, in the Sumner Applied Arts Center.

First-time students should fill out an application as soon as possible. At registration, students should have high school transcripts and college transcripts if they have attended other colleges, TASP scores and trial schedules that have been signed by an advisor. Students should make an appointment with an advisor and have their trial schedules signed. Call (940) 552-6291 ext. 2253 for more information or check the VRJC website at http://www.vrjc.cc.tx.us for the schedule.

## Tips for safe travel this holiday weekend

Texans with New Year's travel plans should take extra precautions when hitting the road this holiday season. But the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) says heavy holiday traffic volumes and the possibility of harsh winter weather are bigger concerns than problems caused by the Y2K

"Although we encourage Texans to prepare for Y2K, we believe it will be human factors that cause the most safety problems for travelers." said Carlos Lopez, TxDOT's director of traffic operations. He said there is potential for a high number of celebrants since this New Year's Eve marks the beginning of a new millennium and falls on a Friday.

"There aren't any Y2K problems with safety belts and car safety seats. Using them properly, along with traveling at an appropriate speed and never drinking and driving will make it a safer

TxDOT says there are several tips that can help to minimize

holiday travel headaches. Pre-travel tips

·Plan ahead to allow extra travel time to and from your holiday ·Inspect your vehicle before any

trip to make sure it is in good driving condition. Inflate tires properly and check that the battery and lights are in full working order.

·Pack an emergency safety kit that includes such items as a blanket, flare, flashlight and a travel map.

•Plan ahead when filling your car with gas. It isn't likely that Y2K will cause delays in fuel delivery, but stormy winter weather

Travel tips

Faith Chapel of Rochester

Katherine Byrd, minister

Sun. Morn. 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 7 p.m.

Hwy 6, Rochester

First United Methodist Church

Dolan Brinson, pastor

Sun. Morn. 10:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m.

Rochester

---SAGERTON---

Sagerton Methodist Church

Tommy Wilson, pastor

Sun. Morn. 9:30 a.m.

Sagerton

Faith Lutheran Church

Jeff Zell, pastor

Sun. Morn. 9:15 a.m., 10:30 a.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.

Sagerton

---RULE--

First Baptist Church

Scott Hensley, pastor

Sun. Morn. 9:45 a., 11:00 a., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.

1001 Union Ave., Rule

Primitive Baptist Church

First & Third Sundays 10 a.m.

Corner of 8th & Robins, Rule

Church of Christ

John Greeson, minister

Sun. Morn. 9:45 a., 10:40 a., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.

811 Union, Rule

First United Methodist Church

Shane Brue, pastor

Sun. Morn. Worship 9 a.m.

Sunday School 10 a.m.

1000 Union Ave., Rule

New Life Baptist Mission

Jesus Herrera

Sun. Morn. 10:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m.

Elm Street•Hwy 380 E, Rule

Sweet Home Baptist Church

Sun. Morn. 10:00 a., 11:00 a., 6 p.; Wed. 7 p.m.

Gladstone Ave., Rule

West Bethal Baptist Church

Rev. Robert Sweet

Sun. Morn. 10 a.., 11 a., 8 p.m.; Wed. 7:30 p.m.

300 Sunny Ave., Rule

•Use safety belts and car safety seats properly, drive at a speed appropriate for the conditions and use common sense.

•Always designate a driver and ensure that person does not drink and drive. Those under 21 shouldn't drink at all-Texas is a "zero tolerance" state.

•Use your car radio to monitor rapidly changing winter weather conditions

•It is especially important to pay attention to the road in severe weather or heavy traffic. Be mindful of distractions including cellular phones, car stereos nd other passengers.

•Traffic lights may fail in the

event of a power outage. Motorists should take extra care at an intersection with a traffic signal that is not working and they should be prepared to give other drivers the right of way if necessary.

•If you begin to feel sleepy while driving, find a safe location to get off the road and take a break. Recent studies show that drowsy driving may be just as dangerous as drinking and driving.

•Call the Texas Department of Public Safety stranded motorist hotline (1-800-525-555) in case of vehicle difficulties.

### Haskell School Menu

### Jan. 3-7 Breakfast

Juice or fruit and milk are served daily on the breakfast menu. Cereal offered daily

Monday: Buttered toast/jelly Tuesday: Eggs, sausage, buttered

Wednesday: Pancakes/syrup Thursday: Biscuit/gravy, sausage Friday: Cheese toast

Lunch A choice of baked potato with choice of topping or a salad bar are offered daily at the High School. Ala-carte line offered daily Secondary only. Snack bar price list posted in each class. Milk and

assorted drinks are served daily at

the High School. Milk and juice are served daily at the Elementary

Monday: Corndog, macaroni and cheese, pork 'n beans, pickle spears, cinnamon rolls Tuesday: Pizza, seasoned corn,

vegetable sticks w/dip, apple wedges

Wednesday: Chicken and spaghetti, seasoned green beans, hot rolls, applesauce

Thursday: Hamburger, French fries. hamburger trimmings, pudding cake Friday: Chicken fried steak/gravy,

creamed potatoes, seasoned carrots, hot rolls, fruit cocktail

## This Week's Devotional Message: IFT FAITH CONSOLIDATE YOUR NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS



only New Year's resolution you'll ever need.

·--HASKELL--East Side Baptist Church David Page, pastor

Sun. 8:30 a.m., 9:45 a.m., 11 a.m., 6 p.; Wed. 7 p.m. 600 N. 1st East, Haskell Christian Church Dusty Garison, minister Sun. Morn. 9:45 a., 10:45 a., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m. 107 N. Ave. F, Haskell Church of God

Eric Clark, pastor • 864-2021 Sun. 9:45 a.m., 11 a.m., 6 p.m., Wed. 7:00 p.m. East Hwy 380, Haskell Trinity Lutheran Church

Gary Bruns, pastor Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Worship 10:30 Hwy 380 East, Haskell Iglesia Bautista El Calvario Sun. Morn. 9:45 a., 10:45 a.m., 5 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m. 607 S. 7th, Haskell

First United Methodist Church Shane Brue, pastor Sun. Morn. 9:45 a.m., 10:50 a.m. 6 p.m.; Wed. 6 p.m. 201 N. Ave. F, Haskell

First Assembly of God Rev. J.C. Amburn Sun. Morn. 9:45 a., 10:45 a.m., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m. 1500 N. Ave. E. Haskell St. George Catholic Church Father Michael Melcher

Sat. Mass 7:15 p.m.; Sun. Morn, 9:00 a.m. 901 N. 16th, Haskell Church of Christ Brett Anderson, minister Sun. Morn. 9:30 a., 10:30 a., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7:30 p.m. 510 N. Ave. E, Haskell

First Presbyterian Church Luther S. Hollowell, II, pastor Sun. Morn. 9:45 a.m., 11:00 a.m. 306 N. Ave. E, Haskell Trinity Baptist Church Rev. Kenneth Blair Sun. Morn. 10 a., 11 a., 6:30 p.m.; Wed. 7:30 p. 401 S. Ave. D, Haskell Hopewell Baptist Church

John Lewis, pastor Sun. Morn. 9:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m.; Wed. 7 p.m. 908 N. Ave. A, Haskell

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As the season of fun and festivity draws to a close, let us give some serious thought to a worthwhile task which most of us have undertaken rather half-heartedly at this time every year, despite our good intentions. Driven by a natural impulse to turn over a new leaf in our lives as well as on the calendar, we compile our annual list of personal reforms and even try to follow it for a few days before consigning it to limbo along with its predecessors. This year for a change, try simplifying it into one all-encompassing resolution: to attend the Church of your choice regularly throughout the coming year. If you will do so and try to live by the lessons you learn there, this will be the

### ATTEND CHURCH THIS SUNDAY

Greater Independent Baptist Church Bobby Ray Wade, pastor Sun. Morn. 9:30 a., 11:00 a., 6:30 p.; Wed. 7 p. 301 N. 3rd St., Haskell New Covenant Foursquare

Kevin and Sharon Fletcher, pastors Sun. Morn. 10 a., 11:00 a., 6:30 p.; Wed. 7 p.m. 200 S. Ave. F, Haskell Mission Revival Center

Rev. William Hodge Sun. Morn. 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 6 p.m.; Tues. 6 p.m. 1600 N. Ave. B, Haskell First Baptist Church

Troy Culpepper, pastor Sun. Morn. 9:45 a., 10:55 a., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m. 301 N. Ave. E, Haskell Church in the Park

Rev. Tim and Suzann Townsend Sun. Morn. 10:30 a.m. Wed. 7 p.m. Gazebo or Pavillion ·--PAINT CREEK---

Paint Creek Baptist Church Sun. Morn. 10:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 6 p.m. Paint Creek

---WEINERT-First Baptist Church Joel Rister, pastor Sun. Morn. 10:00 a., 11:00 a., 6 p.; Wed. 7 p.m. Weinert

Weinert Methodist Church Rev. James Patterson Sun. Morn. 9:45 a.m.

Weinert Foursquare Church Rev. Joyce Goossen and Rev. Diane Crownover Sun. Morn. 10 a.m., 11 a.m. Wed. 7 p.m.

·--ROCHESTER-Church of Christ Steve Wilis, minister Sun. Morn. 9:45 a., 10:45 a., 6 p.m.; Wed. 6 p.m. West on Main Street, Rochester

First Baptist Church Ed Buerkle, pastor Sun. 11:00 a.m., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7:00 p.m. 500 Main, Rochester

Union Chapel Baptist Church Rev. Clarence Walker

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### **ECC Calendar and Menu**

Monday, January 3

Lunch-Chicken, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans w/tomatoes, cabbage slaw, fruit, bread, milk, tea or coffee Wednesday, January 5

11:00 a.m. Outreach Health Services blood pressure check

Lunch-Tamale pie, tossed salad, Spanish rice, refried beans, Jello, cookies, bread, milk, tea or coffee

Friday, January 7 Lunch-Roast beef, mashed

potatoes, gravy, corn, carrot salad, cobbler, bread, milk, tea or coffee Announcements begin at 11:45

a.m. followed by lunch. All over 60 are invited to come and eat. Call 864-3875 for transportation to the center or for home delivered lunches for the sick

All deadlines are 5 p.m. Monday.

or disabled.

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### PUBLIC NOTICE

Valor Telecommunications of Texas, LP, ("Valor"), formerly known as dba Texas Operating Co., LP, has entered into a contract with GTE Southwest Incorporated to purchase the following exchanges in Haskell County: Haskell, Rochester, Rule, Weinert. On December 13, 1999, Valor filed an application with the Public Utility Commission of Texas ("Commission") requesting approval of the acquisition and issuance of a certificate from the Commission to provide telephone service to the listed exchange(s). If approved, GTE will cease to be the local telephone service provider in this area and Valor will assume the responsibility of providing local exchange service in this area. The Valor application has been assigned Docket No. 21834. GTE's application to remove the exchange(s) from its certificate has been assigned Docket No. 21830. The Commission intends to investigate the acquisition and its impact on the public interest pursuant to Sections 14.101 and 54.051-54.054 of the Public Utility Regulatory Act.

Valor does not propose any increase in charges to customers in this application. If, in the future, the Company proposes a rate change, customers will be given notice at that time.

In addition, Valor seeks designation by the Commission as both an eligible telecommunications provider ("ETP") and as an eligible telecommunications carrier ("ETC") within the service area acquired from GTE, to permit it to receive state and federal universal service support. The Valor applications have been assigned Docket Nos. 21832 and 21833. GTE also seeks to remove the service area sold to Valor from the area in which it has been designated as an ETP and ETC. The GTE application has been assigned Docket No. 21831.

All of the applications and the proposed tariffs are available for inspection and copying at the Central Records Office of the Public Utility Commission of Texas in Austin, Texas. The Valor applications and tariffs are also available at the office of counsel, Brook Bennett Brown, McGinnis, Lochridge & Kilgore, L.L.P., 919 Congress Avenue, 1300 Capitol Center, Austin, Texas 78701. The GTE applications are available for inspection at GTE's offices at 816 Congress Avenue, Suite 1500, Austin, Texas

Persons with questions regarding the Valor proceeding should contact Mike Page with Valor at (202) 466-0940. Persons with questions regarding the GTE proceeding should call Carl Erhart with GTE at (512) 477-8986. Persons who wish to intervene in either proceeding or comment on the action sought should identify the relevant docket number and contact the Public Utility Commission at Public Utility Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 13326, Austin, Texas, 78711-3326, or you may call the Public Utility Commission office of Consumer Protection at (512) 936-7120 or, toll free, at (888) 782-8477. Hearing-and speech-impaired individuals with text telephones ("TTY") may contact the Commission at (512) 936-7136 or use Relay Texas at (800) 735-2989 to reach the Commission's toll free number (888) 782-8477. The deadline for intervention in these proceedings is February 22, 2000, and you must send a letter requesting intervention to the Commission which is received by that date.

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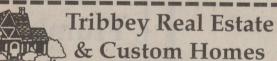
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FOR RENT: Large 2 bedroom, one bath. Excellent condition. \$300. FOR RENT: Two bedroom, one bath. Good location. \$200. IDEAL FOR COUPLE. 2 bedroom, bath with large walk-in closets. Central H/C, all appliances, patio, new storm celler and water well. 804 N.

3 BEDROOM, 2 BATH ONE AND ONE HALF STORY, 2159 sq. ft. of living area. Large from potent, -car capont e. A on 114'x140' corner lot 3 BEDROOM, 2 1/2 BATH, BV, large family room with built-in gun case, fireplace with insert, central H/C, ample closets. 12x34 ft. solid metal patio, water well and storage building. 1819 sq. ft. of living area on 100x150 ft. 165 ACRE FARM N/E of Rule. Good cotton and sorghum bases.

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### POL CALENDAR

The Haskell Free Press is authorized to make the following announcement for the political office in Haskell County, subject to the action of the 2000 Primaries.

Unless otherwise specified the candidates listed paid for the announcement, and have designated themselves as campaign treasurer.

All political advertising and announcements are cash in advance.

Dist. Attorney, 39th Jud. Dist. Mike Fouts (Pd. by Kristen L. 'Kris' Fouts, campgn, treas.) **County Attorney** Shane Hadaway

**County Sheriff David Halliburton** Dan R. Griffith Martin Dale Coleman **County Tax Assessor Collector** 

**Bobbye Guffey Collins Commissioner Precinct 3** Danny M. Medford Kenny Thompson

"Man who sneezes without handkerchief takes matter into his own hand." Lots of sofas and love seats with special prices right now at Kinney Furniture in Stamford. We've been offering small town personal service, quick free delivery, and no high pressure salesmen since 1932.



5 AVE. E HASKELL 864-2951

LORAINE JOHNSON, BROKER TIM JOHNSON, AGENT

A man's idea of doing housework is lifting his legs so the wife can vacuum. The easiest way to lift your legs is in a La-Z-Boy recliner. We have lots of La-Z-Boy recliners and they are on sale right now at Kinney Furniture in Stamford. Nobody beats



He's happy with COMPUTER **SOLUTIONS!** 940-864-2964

New Year's Eve

### DANCE

at Rhineland K-MAC

Fri., Dec. 31 9 to 1 

### **HASKELL LODGE (IRBY) DANCE** New Year's Eve, Fri., Dec. 31

8:00-12:00 Music by:

### Willow Creek Band

**Members and Invited Guests Welcome Everyone to Bring Snacks for Snack Table** 

There's a miracle called friendship that dwells within the heart, and you don't know how it happens or where it gets its start, but the happiness it brings you always gives a special lift, and you realize that friendship is God's most precious gift. Thank you for your prayers and your many acts of kindness during our loss.

The O. V. Kreger family

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> 209 S. Ave. E Haskell, Texas

Hanson Paint **Body Shop** 864-3631

Haskell Tire & Appliance

Haskell, Texas

864-2900 206 S. Ave. E

Haskell, Texas

Davis and Wardlaw Oil Co., Inc. Two N. First . Haskell 864-2959

The Sweet Shop 864-2711

> 507 N. Ave. E Haskell, Texas

Haskell Co-op Gin 864-2046

Leon Jones, Manager Haskell, Texas

Nemir's Medical Supply 864-2258

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Haskell, Texas



Jay's Tire Center 864-2908 506 N. 1st East • Haskell



safe holiday season!

Have a

Cecil's Country **Meat Market** & Grocery 864-2511 Haskell, Texas

P. O. Box 10 Rule, Texas 79547 940-997-2216 Member FDIC

Always The Low Price Always:

Stamford, Texas

True Value case Richardson's Case IH & True Value 864-8551 • Haskell

Rice **Springs** Care Home 864-2652

1302 N. First Haskell, Texas

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Double A Drive In 864-2466

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FOR INSURANCE CALL

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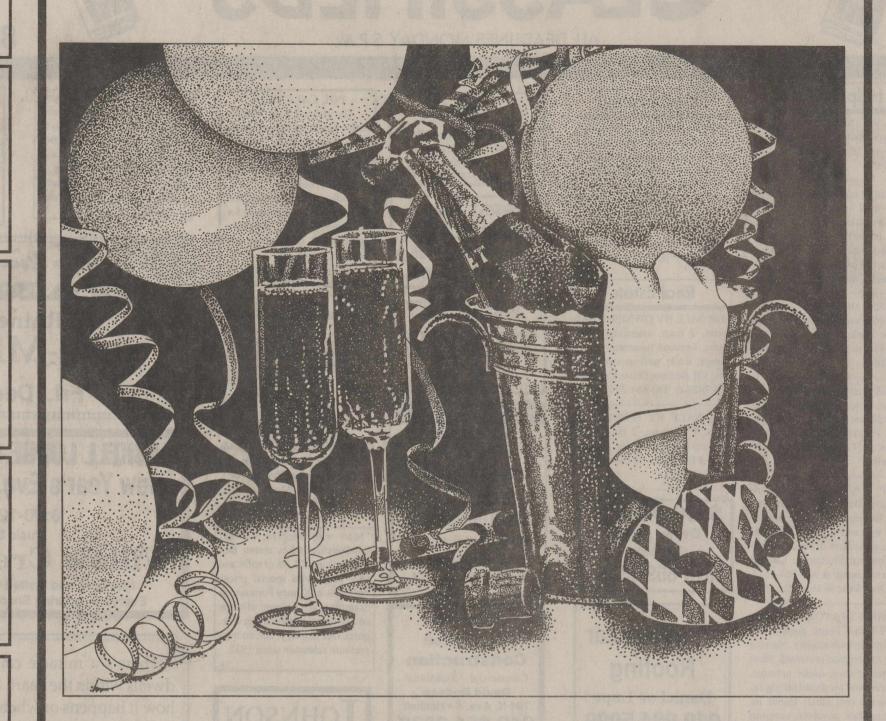


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'Tis The Season To Be Wary.



HERE'S TO GOOD JUDGEMENT AND COMMON SENSE

# Please Don't Drink And Drive

(AND WATCH OUT FOR THE OTHER GUY!)

All of us want to see all of you next year! Wishing you a happy, healthy and SAFE Holiday Season. We value your friendship and support.

