Basketball games

RULE JV-VB vs Ira Thurs., Dec. 21, 6 p.m. at Rule

Calendar

Early deadline

Deadline for news and advertising for the New Year's edition, Thurs., Dec. 28 of the Haskell Free Press will be Thurs., Dec. 21 at 5 p.m. Deadlines for news and advertising for the Jan. 4 issue is Thurs., Dec. 28 at 5

Candlelight service

A candlelight Christmas Eve service will be held Sun., Dec. 24 at 5:30 p.m. at First Baptist Church in Haskell.

Immunizations

The Texas Dept. of Health in Stamford will hold an immunization clinic Thurs., Dec. 21 at the Haskell National Bank Community Room in Haskell. Clinic times are from 12:30 to 3 p.m. For more information call 325-773-5681.

Chapman retires

A reception will honor the retirement of The Honorable Charles Chapman, Judge, 39th Judicial District in celebration of his twenty-two years of service, Thurs., Dec. 21 from 2 to 3:30 p.m. at First National Bank, South 2nd and U.S. 277 South in Haskell

Candlelight service Trinity Lutheran Church,

located east of Haskell on the Throckmorton Highway, will hold a candlelight service Christmas Eve at 11 p.m. Come join in the worship service and beautiful music of Christmas.

Candlelight service

A Christmas Eve candlelight service will be held at 6 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church, N. Ave. E in Haskell. on Dec. 24. Everyone is invited to join in communion.

Burn ban issued

A burn ban is in effect for Haskell County. The use of combustible materials in an outdoor environment by any person is prohibited. Combustible materials specifically include, but are not limited to, fireworks, camp fires, welding and any other pyrotechnic material, which in the manner or means of its use could results in a wildfire. The ban will continue until conditions warrant otherwise, stated Haskell County Judge David C. Davis. A person who knowingly or intentionally violates this order commits a Class C misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of up to \$500.

Cookbook

The Haskell County Christmas Cookbook is available at local merchants or at the office of Judge David Davis at the courthouse. Proceeds of the sale benefits the Committee to Help Haskell County.

Events calendar The Haskell Chamber of

Merry Christmas The Re Press ree "The People's Choice'

VOL. 120-NO. 51, ©DECEMBER 21, 2006

16 PAGES-TWO SECTIONS-75 CENTS

Fireworks to pop Dec. 31

Weather permitting, the eighth annual W.E. Hollingsworth Memorial Fireworks display, sponsored by the Haskell County Historical Commission, will be held Sun., Dec. 31. The event will begin at 9:00 p.m. at the request of many who are sleepy by midnight.

Jim Hollingsworth, his son-inlaw Scott Burgess and Jim's grandchildren will set off another large load of fireworks on the Hollingsworth farm between Rule and Rochester, located five miles west of Hwy. 6 at the intersection of FM 2407 and County Road 146. The fireworks will be on the west side of County Road 146 on thirty acres of land especially prepared for the event due to dry weather conditions. Parking along FM 2407 for a mile east of County Road 146 will again provide a prime view of the fireworks display.

About this time in 1999, a local article was published about Jim and his grandfather William Edward Hollingsworth's discussion in 1944 about the change of the century. A five year old boy was heartbroken that his beloved granddad would not be with him to witness the new

century on New Years Eve. Jim vowed to celebrate in honor of his grandfather nevertheless.

News wires picked up the story for Abilene, Wichita Falls, Amarillo and Lubbock newspapers. That article triggered an overwhelming response among area grandparents. The older generation brought their grandchildren to witness the fireworks party Jim threw in honor of his grandfather's memory a half century after their talk. The roads were lined triple deep for miles around. Jim feels the presence of his granddad every New Year's Eve during the fireworks display.

It is estimated that the small but close-knit Jud Community, population about 25, swells to hundreds of people on New Year's Eve. The event has become a ritual for many area residents. Hollingsworth invites everyone out to view the display.



TOY RUN-Over 35 participants on 26 motorcycles paraded into Haskell just after noon last Saturday with toys to donate to the Child Welfare Board. Area motorcyclists joined the 'Big Empty Riders' of the West Texas H.O.G. Chapter for the run to benefit

Iwo retire trom courthouse careers

After 40 years of working at the Haskell County Courthouse, County Treasurer Willie Faye Tidrow is retiring.

On Oct. 18, 1966 she began working as the county extension secretary. Almost thirteen years later, on Jan 1, 1979, she began as county treasurer, a post she continues to fill until she retires as of the first of January, 2007.

Having started her long career with the county at the age of 22, she has seen a lot of changes take place in almost every aspect of her life.

One change she points to is in the accepted dress code, which included always wearing hose, dresses and high-heeled, pointed- toes shoes to work. One of the biggest changes she remembers is that hers was the first office in the courthouse to be put on computer. Before that, she had to post everything by hand to the big, thick ledgers, which took a lot of time to record and research. Another change occurred in 1994, when the County Auditor's office was done away with, and in 1995 she became the only county finance officer.

During her tenure, she worked with many people, including three county judges and thirteen county commissioners, all of whom she can still name.

Other ways she has served include being the county representative to the Training Center board. In 2005, she was appointed

by Judge Charles Chapman to the Judicial District fiscal office.

Tidrow and her husband of 45 ears, Gaston Tidrow, are members of the East Side Baptist Church, where she is the teacher of the Gleaner's Sunday School Class. Prior to that, she was teacher of the children and youth departments. She was treasurer for the Haskell-Knox Baptist Association from 1989 to 2004.

The Tidrows son Barry and daughter Sonja were raised here and were graduates of Haskell High School. She says all that the children knew and remember about growing up is her working at the courthouse. Now, with four grandchildren, Brandon, Blane, Conner and Kendall, Tidrow says "I'll have more time to be a grandmother."

Of her retirement, Tidrow says she is excited about it, and extremely grateful to the citizens of Haskell County for giving her the opportunity for a long career with the county. "I am very blessed," she said.

Her plans include doing a little traveling and getting around to doing numerous projects around her house. Also, she said her family is making plans for her.

Now ready to go, to a take a new step forward and to make a change in her life, she added that. "I think it's time for someone vounger to take over.'

District Judge Charles Chapman of Haskell is retiring after a long career serving with the State Bar of Texas.

were on hand to receive the gifts.

Coming from a family of those working with the law, the son of Ben Charlie and Mary Chapman graduated from Haskell High School in 1964 and attended Texas Christian University, graduating in 1968 with a BBA degree. He then attended law school at Baylor University, graduating in 1971 with a Juris Doctor degree. While at Texas Christian, he was a member of Kappa Sigma Social Fraternity, and at Baylor law school, he was a member of Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity.

In 1967 he married Peggye Jones Chapman. The couple had one son, Charles Davis Chapman, who is an attorney practicing in Fort Worth with the firm of Wallach, Andrews and Stouffer.

The judge married Judith A. Chapman, Feb. 14, 1996. His step daughters are Tonya Weatherman. the Human Resources Director at Heart of Texas Memorial Hospital in Brady, and Amy Burson, office manager for Liberty Funds Group, Inc., Dallas. His grandson, Holton Heath Weatherman, lives in Brady.

His service to the county included serving in the National Guard from 1968 to 1972, and in the U.S. Army Reserves in 1971 to 1974

Returning to Haskell in 1971, he was licenced to practice law, and worked with the law firm of Adkins graduate of the Texas College for Judicial Studies.

children of this area. Money was also collected to be donated to

the board. The Haskell Probation Department also made a \$250

donation during the event. Members of the Child Welfare Board

In the community, Chapman has served as an elder in First Presbyterian Church of Haskell since 1972, and as been active with its youth groups. Active with Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts of America for many years, he served on the Chisholm Trail Council of BSA Advisory Board. Also, he has been active with Haskell Little League baseball, and teenage baseball, and as a member of the American Legion, the Masonic Lodge and the Haskell Chamber of Commerce.

Speaking of his extensive family background in serving with the law, Chapman said, "My father served as District Judge of the 39th Judicial District from 1943-73. His cousin, Alton Chapman, served as a District Judge in the 110th Judical District. and on the 7th Court of Appeals at the same time. Their Uncle Walter Chapman served as District Judge of the 39th Judicial District Court in 1919-24, and on the Commission of Appeals, and as District Judge of the 104th Judicial District Court from the time it was created until he retired. My great grandfather, B.B. Greenwood, and my uncle, Tom Davis, were attorneys in Stamford and Haskell, respectfully."

A reception at the First National Bank on Thurs., Dec. 21, from 2 to 3 p.m. will honor Chapman's retirement after his 22 years of service.

Commerce is compiling a Community Events Calendar for 2007. To include your school, church, club or government dates call Ruby Turner at 256-1734. McDaniel retires

Larry McDaniel will be honored with a retirement reception Thurs., Dec. 21 from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Haskell County FSA Center. McDaniel officially retires Jan. 3 after serving 34 years and 10 months with the Farm Service Agency. Storm sirens

The City of Haskell will test the storm sirens at noon on Fridays

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WILLIE FAYE TIDROW, RETIRING COUNTY TREASURER

and Chapman, later known as Adkins, Chapman and Fouts. Elected county attorney in 1972, he served in that capacity until March 1985.

Appointed by Governor Mark White to the office of District Judge for the 39th Judicial District, composed of Haskell, Stonewall, Throckmorton and Kent Counties, he was elected to that office in five elections. A member of the State Bar of Texas since 1971, he has practiced in the US District Court for the Northern District of Texas since 1972.

Other capacities in which he has served include being on the Admission Committee and the Sunset Committee of the State Bar of Texas, a member of the College of the State Bar, a member of the Board of Directors of the Judicial Section of the State Bar. He is a



CHARLES CHAPMAN, RETIRING DISTRICT JUDGE

FOR NEWS ITEMS OR TO SUBSCRIBE, CALL 864-2686

Commissioners' Court report

The Haskell County Commissioners' Court met in a regular session, Dec. 11, with Judge David Thompson, Bobby Smith, and County



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Davis, Commissioners Johnny Clerk, Rhonda Moeller attending. Scoggins, Tiffen Mayfield, Kenny A motion by Thompson was approved to pay all bills presented to

the Court on that day. On a motion by Mayfield, the County Treasurer's monthly report

was accepted. Jimmy Wolf met with the Court to discuss concerns that he has about the County Park. A letter was read from the Scott Park residents, voicing their thanks to the Court for listening to their concerns at the Nov. 13 meeting of the Court, and expressing their wish to keep future management of the park as the Scott family wished it to be, a recreational park and not a commercial venture. The Court told Wolf that it likes the contract at County Park with Lake Stamford Management Group, and the matter is not open for more discussion.

Holidays set for the County for the County Offices were: New Year's, Mon., Jan. 1; President's Day, Mon., Feb. 19; Good Friday, Fri., April 6; Memorial Day, Mon., May 28; Independence Day, Wed., July 4; Labor Day, Sept. 3; Veteran's Day, Mon., Nov. 12; Thanksgiving Day, Thurs., Fri., Nov. 22 and 23; Christmas, Mon., Tues., Dec. 24 and 25. Each county employee will get one personal day to be used as approved by their supervisor.

A motion by Thompson was approved to take action on the termination of the contract with Emerald Correctional Management. The vote was 5 for, 0 against.

After discussion to take action transferring interest earnings from combination tax and junior lien certificate of obligation series 2000 bond fund to the reserve fund on a monthly basis, a motion by Smith was approved. No action was taken concerning

the County Attorney office space.

Announcement was made of a \$500.00 matching grant available through RC&D for a non-profit or governmental entity of Haskell County.



Funeral services for Evelyn Bervl Montgomery Cathey, 90, of Garland were held Thurs., Dec. 14 at New



Funeral services for Darlene

Swinney, 58, of Haskell were held Wed., Dec. 20 at Trinity Baptist

> Graveside services for Preston Strickland, 76, of Haskell were held Thurs., Dec. 14 at Rochester Cemetery with Paul Chambers officiating. Services were under the direction of Holden-McCauley Funeral Home of Haskell.

Mr. Strickland died Tues.., Dec. 12.

son of Hirum and Ola Mae Hester Strickland. He was a Austin; several nieces, nephews, cousins and friends. farmer.

HASKELL CONSOLIDATED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE

General Fund		Other Funds		Total Governmental Funds	
\$ 2,056,860 3,888,541 1,670	\$	81,690 134,010 866,578	\$	2,138,550 4,022,551 868,248	
5,947,071		1,082,278		7,029,349	
3,124,738 85,957 5,211 369,402 124,913 52,523 137,791 - 275,215 398,793 997,519 7,914 89,383 52,613		620,037 1,000 - 2,104 21,783 500 500 424,548 1,031 917 5,917 - 5,917 - 5,21 4,253		3,744,775 86,957 5,211 371,506 146,696 53,023 138,291 424,548 276,246 399,710 1,003,436 7,914 89,904 56,866	
42,726		1,751		45,000 44,477 323	
S	Fund \$ 2,056,860 3,888,541 1,670 5,947,071 3,124,738 85,957 5,211 369,402 124,913 52,523 137,791 275,215 398,793 997,519 7,914 89,383 52,613	Fund \$ 2,056,860 \$ 3,888,541 1,670 5,947,071 3,124,738 85,957 5,211 369,402 124,913 52,523 137,791 - 275,215 398,793 997,519 7,914 89,383 52,613	Fund Funds \$ 2,056,860 \$ 81,690 3,888,541 134,010 1,670 866,578 5,947,071 1,082,278 3,124,738 620,037 85,957 1,000 5,211 - 369,402 2,104 124,913 21,783 52,523 500 137,791 500 - 424,548 275,215 1,031 398,793 917 997,519 5,917 7,914 - 89,383 521 52,613 4,253 - 45,000	Fund Funds \$ 2,056,860 \$ 81,690 \$ 3,888,541 134,010 1,670 866,578 - 5,947,071 1,082,278 - 3,124,738 620,037 85,957 1,000 5,211 - - - 369,402 2,104 124,913 21,783 52,523 500 137,791 500 - 424,548 275,215 1,031 398,793 917 - 89,383 521 52,613 4,253 - 45,000 42,726 1,751	

Obituaries Evelyn Beryl Montgomery Cathey

World UMC in Garland. Graveside services and burial were held Fri., Dec. 15 at Willow Cemetery in Haskell under the direction of Bean Massey Burge Funeral Home of Grand Prairie.

Mrs. Cathey died Mon., Dec. 11. Born July 25, 1916 in Haskell, she was the daughter of William Arthur and Olive Elizabeth Welch Montgomery. She attended beauty school in Abilene eventually becoming an instructor there. She married Elvin Boyd Cathey of Dublin July 2, 1938. He preceded her in death July 21, 1993. They had one daughter, Frances Elizabeth. A longtime resident of Grand Prairie, she was formerly a member of Prairie Heights UMC and First UMC Grand Prairie. Known for her

Darlene Swinney

Church with Bro. J.C. Amburn and Bro. Tony Grand officiating. Burial was in Willow Cemetery under the direction of Holden-McCauley Funeral Home of Haskell.

Mrs. Swinney died Sun., Dec. 17 at her residence.

Born as a twin Oct. 3, 1948 in Haskell, she was the daughter of W.O. Irvin and Laura Alice Sellers Irvin. She married Billy Joe Swinney Feb. 9, 1966 at Trinity Baptist Church. She worked for Bassings Jewelry store as a sales clerk for 26 years. She was a member of Trinity Baptist Church. Darlene loved her grandchildren with all her heart, they referred to her as MeMaw. Her garden of wildflowers was always one of her favorite hobbies. She was an inspiration for all that knew her. Her faith was not knowing He can, her

Preston Strickland

He was preceded in death by his parents; sister, Cybil Hargrove; brothers, Marion Strickland, Cornelius Strickland and Thurman Strickland; and an infant son.

sweet spirit, infectious smile and

twinkle in her eye, she was a

talented ceramicist, enjoyed

crochet, cooking, tole painting, and

a variety of other crafts. In later

years, she lived at Christian Care

Center in Mesquite, and finally with

her daughter. She was an active

member of New World UMC

Garland, the Heritage Sunday

school class, the Tuesday Morning

Bible Study and volunteered

monthly to fold church newsletters.

her son-in-law, Robert Lowell

Maxson.

charity.

She was preceded in death by

Memorials may be made to New

World UMC Building Fund, to

Christian Care Center of Mesquite

Hospice or the donor's favorite

She was preceded in death by

Survivors include her husband,

her father; and brother, Sonny Irvin.

Billy Joe Swinney of Haskell;

mother, Laura Alice Irvin of

Haskell; daughter Shelia Renay

Cothron and husband, Bobbie of

Haskell; son, Joseph William

Swinney and wife, Tamara of

Haskell; grandchildren, Shelby

Layne Morrow, Preston Dwaine

Morrow, Tristen Maelynn Swinney

and James William Swinney;

brothers, Bobby Irvin of Houston

and Ricky Irvin of Graham; sisters,

Mayme Gee and Marlene Mueller,

both of Friona; numerous nieces,

Memorials may be made to

PD. NOTICE

Trinity Baptist Church, 114 South

Avenue D, Haskell, Texas 79521.

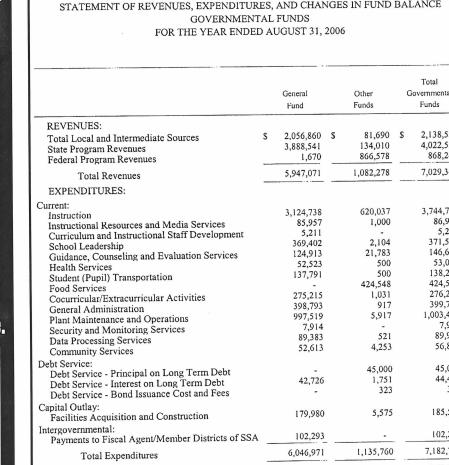
nephews and a host of friends.

faith was knowing He will.

PD. NOTICE

Survivors include two brothers, Troy Strickland of Fort Worth and Clayton Strickland of Haskell; two Born May 27, 1930 in Haskell County, he was the sisters, Delia Craft of Aspermont and Edith Kilgore of PD. NOTICE

GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS



STOREWIDE SAI Going on now at **Boggs & Johnson Furniture Check out these specials:** Large Blue Lane Double-Reclining Select Group of Loveseat Rocker-Recliner amps Reg. \$499.00 Medium Brown. Reg. \$1095 **30**%

CLOSEOUT 30% **PRICED AT** OFF

OFF each Sale Lane Leather Match Heavy Pine 4 Drawer Rocker-Recliner Dresser & Mirror Chest Burgundy Well Made! Reg. \$999.00 **20**[%] 40% Choice of Colors OFF OFF only Sale

Living Rooms, Dining Rooms, Bedrooms, and more-all on sale.

Did you know that we finance with approved credit?

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^{\$}99 Down and ^{\$}47/month for 18 months

Add a full size set of bedding and frame in with it and pay only . . . ^{\$}125 Down and ^{\$}64/month for 18 months

Don't miss out on these savings! **Boggs & Johnson Furniture Store**

VISA

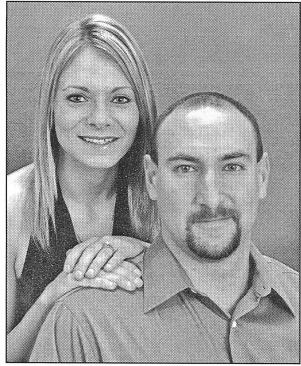
"We Want To Be Your Furniture Store!"

East Side of Square • Haskell, Texas • 864-2346



185,555 102,293 7,182,731 (153,382) (53,482) Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over (Under) (99,900) OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES): 25,000 25,000 Sale of Real and Personal Property 54,860 54,860 Transfers In (54,860) (54, 860)Transfers Out (Use) 54,860 25,000 Total Other Financing Sources (Uses) (29,860) (129,760) 1,378 (128,382) Net Change in Fund Balances 4,326,179 4,326,179 Fund Balance - September 1 (Beginning) 130,751 654,791 524,040 Increase (Decrease) in Fund Balance 4,852,588 4,720,459 132,129 \$ Fund Balance - August 31 (Ending)

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.



TRACY MATHIS - SCOTT MUELLER Mathis and Mueller announce engagement

Pleasant, formerly of Haskell, are announcing the engagement of their daughter, Tracy Mathis to Scott Mueller, son of Patrica and Gerald Barnett of Hamlin and Buddy and Darlene Mueller of Stamford.

The bride-elect is a graduate of Haskell High School and received her bachelors degree from Tarleton State University, where she is attending graduate school. She is the daughter of the late Larry Mathis Sue Olson of Stamford.

Pam and Ron Opitz of Mount and granddaughter of Wilbert and Dwanna Klose of Haskell.

> Mueller is a graduate of Stamford High School and is employed by Scientific Drilling International. Grandparents of the prospective bridegroom are Mildred Smith and the late Aubrey Smith of Hamlin, Lucille Mueller and the late E.H. Mueller of Stamford, Ethel LaBaume of Hamlin, and Donnie

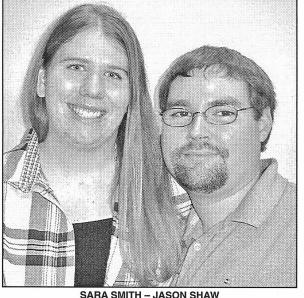
rolls, strawberry cake, milk, tea, or

Fri., Dec. 29

Lunch-Chili with wieners,

onions, pickles, pinto beans,

cornbread, misc. dessert, milk, tea,



Smith, Shaw plan January wedding

Glenn and Nancy Smith of Winters announce the engagement and upcoming marriage of their daughter, Sara Rebecca Smith of Winters, to Jason Keith Shaw of Abilene, son of Randy and Lisa Shaw of Haskell.

The bride-elect is a 2003 graduate of North Monterey County High School in Castroville, California. She is employed by All God's Children Daycare in Abilene.

Rule lists contest winners April Johnson was the first place winner of the Rule Chamber of Commerce Home and Yard Lighting

Contest. Winners in the Children's Christmas Poster Contest were:

Pre-Kindergarten: first place, Jessica Ramos-Cruz. Kindergarten: first place, L.J. Sanchez; second place, Brittany Macias; third place, Kourtney Hertel.

First grade: first place, Alexzandra Cooper; second place, Thomas Short; third place, tie, Savannah Elkins and Pablo

ECC Calendar and Menu corn, green beans, onion slice, yeast

coffee

or coffee

Mon., Dec. 25 Lunch-closed Wed., Dec. 27 Lunch-King ranch, buttered

Around Town By Joyce Hawkins

Jimmy Boyd of Abilene visited Joyce and Vickie Hawkins last Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. James Hawking of Wichita Falls visited his mother, Joyce Hawkins, and brother, Gary and Vickie Hawkins, on their way to Abilene where they visited with their son, Kevin and family. They also watched their grandson play in a basketball game.

Drywall

Drywall Interesting fact about drywall: It needs to stay dry.

Moisture can damage drywall and can cause mold and mildew. Because showers and bathrooms contain high humidity, they may

Announcements begin at 11:45 a.m. followed by lunch. Sandoval.

Goodfellows Donations

The Haskell Goodfellows, sponsored by the Haskell Lions Club, are accepting donations for Christmas boxes to be distributed to needy families this holiday season. Boxes will be delivered on Dec. 24 to those who have been selected to receive them. Donations of food, toys and clothing are being accepted. Cash donations may be sent to The Haskell Free Press, P.O. Box 555, Haskell, Texas 79521. Haskell Voung Hon \$250

Hasken Toung Homemakers	
In memory of Helen and Bill Wiseman	
by Ken and Kay Cheatham	\$200
Mr and Mrs. Wayne Wainscott	\$20
Total this week	\$470
Previous total	\$1,105
Total to date	\$1,575



The prospective bridegroom is a 2000 graduate of Paint Creek High School and a 2002 graduate of Texas State Technical College, Sweetwater where he obtained a degree in Industrial Automation/Robotics Electronics Technology. He is employed by Hendricks Medical Center in Abilene.

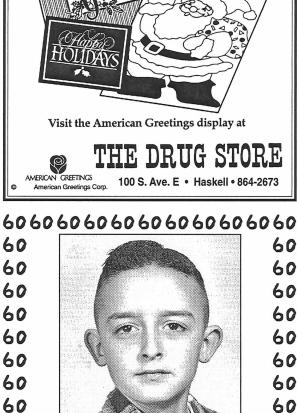
The couple plans to be married Jan. 12 in Abilene.

Second grade: first place, 60 Chancey Lewis; second place, tie, Hunter Threet and Austin Redden; 60 third place, Abel Sandoval. Third grade: first place, Haley 60

60

Macias; second place, tie, Ruby Fox and Sam Lewis; third place, tie, Kylie DeVille and Sarah Campbell. Fourth grade: first place, Stormie Hollabaugh; second place, Josh Starr; third place, Christina Herrera.

Fifth grade: first place, Chris Lewis.



The HASKELL FREE PRESS-Thursday, December 21, 2006-Page 3

Christmas Cards! For The Best Selection Of Cards To Send To Family And Friends



SON

Don't be so sad, 60 60 Turning 60 isn't bad! 606060606060606060606060



PINION

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION



HIGHLIGHTS

By Ed Sterling

Coal plant supporters raise voice as session nears

AUSTIN-The public relations war over a proposal to build 19 new coal-fired plants is getting hotter with the next state legislative session around the corner.

The Texas Association of Business stumped at the Capitol Dec. 15 in favor of the plants and a mix of other power-generation options, such as more nuclear power capacity and less reliance on natural gas.

Energy needs for residential customers, businesses and government are growing faster than power can be generated by the current grid of power plants, said Bill Hammond, executive director of the Texas Association of Business.

Hammond mentioned Texas could face rolling blackouts in the next few years if power needs aren't addressed.

Other groups, such as Public Citizen Texas, are emphasizing the degrading effects on public health and the environment if the state grants coal plant permits that don't require the cleaner, coal gasification process that results in minimal emissions.

Governor hires former senator Gov. Rick Perry on Dec. 14 appointed Sen. Ken Armbrister as legislative director for the governor's office.

Armbrister, D-Victoria, was elected to the Texas House of Representatives in 1983 and to the Texas Senate in 1986. During his tenure in the Senate, Armbrister has chaired the Natural Resources. Criminal Justice, State Affairs and Intergovernmental Relations committees. Armbrister chose not to seek re-election and will serve out his term of office, which ends when the new legislature convenes, Jan.

Judge orders speaker to reply

An Austin state district judge ordered House Speaker Tom Craddick to provide the court with information that may show whether one of his office calendars contains what is "public information" under the law.

Plaintiff Cris Feldman of Austin is suing for access to Craddick's 2003 political calendar and the first half of his 2004 political calendar.

The inclusive dates cover the period during which Republicans battled with Democrats over redistricting.

State District Judge Margaret Cooper set a deadline of Jan. 12 for at window.state.tx.us

Craddick to comply with her order. Hunting for the blind proposed State Rep. Edmund Kuempel, R-Seguin, has filed a bill that would

create conditions under which a blind person could hunt legally in Texas Kuempel's House Bill 308 would

allow a blind hunter, with the aid of a sighted hunter, to use a laser sighting device to hunt game. Lawmaker files cleanup bills

State Rep. William "Bill" Callegari, R-Houston, has filed legislation to do away with language in state law that created three state agencies.

Those agencies no longer have a function, he said.

H.B. 386 would repeal the portion of the Water Code that created Texas Deepwater Port Authority; H.B. 387 similarly wipes off the Texas National Research Laboratory Commission, which had to do with landing the long-defunct superconducting super collider project; and H.B. 388 would repeal the enabling legislation that launched the Ogallala Water Import Authority.

Callegari also filed a fourth piece of legislation, H.B. 385, repealing a 1935 law that authorized the Commission of Control for the Texas Centennial Celebrations to condemn property for the use of the state.

Strayhorn unloads re: foster care

State Comptroller Carole Keeton Strayhorn's term of office ends in January, but she's still at work.

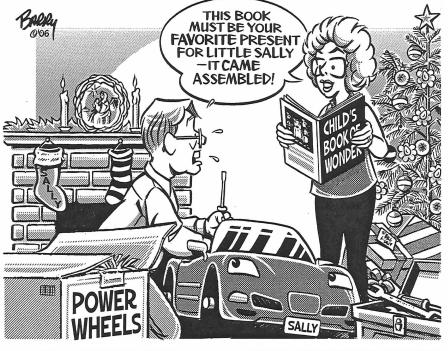
On Dec. 14, Strayhorn released Texas Health Care Claims Study: A Special Report on Foster Children," which she said raises red flags concerning the state's foster

care system. Among the many red flags, Strayhorn said, are Medicaid claims from 2004 and 2005 that show foster children are being prescribed "powerful, mind-altering psychotropic drugs" at an alarming rate.

She pointed out that Texas spent \$39 million on 436,480 prescriptions for nearly 24,000 foster children in fiscal 2004.

"Given the distressing findings contained in this report, I hope the state will not delay in adopting recommendations, which have been crafted to help mend this broken system," Strayhorn said in a news release

The full report is available online



From Out of the Past

From the files of The Haskell Free Press

10 Years Ago

December 19, 1996 The Haskell County Chapter of the American Heart Association held their annual American Heart Walk. Bob Gray had the honor of pushing Gene Plunkett, who raised the most money during the walk, around the City Park walking path in a wheelchair

Winners of the Haskell Chamber of Commerce Christmas poster contest were announced. In the first through third grade division Alex Foil won first place, Erica Roddman, 2nd place, and Kimberly Medford, 3rd place. Leon Goudeau won first place, Scarlett Lynn Adkins, second place and James Markey, third place in the fourth through sixth grade division.

Ethel Cameron celebrated her 100th birthday. She moved to Haskell County in 1906 and married Herbert Barnett in 1916. They had three daughters, Dorothy, Ruth and Maxine

20 Years Ago December 18, 1986

The Haskell Volunteer Fire Department has placed a new breathing apparatus air compressor into service. The compressor will be used to fill self-contained breathing apparatus

Mrs. Alfred Turnbow says her okra stalks reached at least nine feet, the day before the first freeze arrived.

Josh-O The Clown (Josh Densman) did his part to help Santa last Saturday in Haskell. Josh-O passed out candy canes to children and adults around the square.

The Boy Scout Troop 136 of Haskell held elections. Jason

Mrs. Everett Medley were Mr. and Munday was elected as senior patrol leader. Cody Stocks and Brad Lane Mrs. Alva Ray Medley and son Ray Lynn of Anson and Mr. and Mrs. Jim were named patrol leaders. Stacey Martin was elected quartermaster Medley and son Kenny of Dallas. and Mark Jones was elected scribe.

The Weinert FFA Ouiz Team placed third in the Double Mountain District Leadership Contest. Team members are Laurie Hester, Monica Estrada and Anthony Garza.

30 Years Ago December 16, 1976

Named to the Rule 5-B All family, Mr. and Mrs. Truman District football team was Ronnie Howard. Oliver as linebacker. To the secondary was Paul Flores who also received Honorable Mention as a his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Buster Tanner back. Receiving Honorable Mention as center was Eddie Brass. Nicki Hunt received Honorable Mention as a guard and end.

The Nine-Teens, a choral group of Haskell High School girls, directed by Mr. and Mrs. Hubert Bell, presented a Christmas Concert, in the Haskell First Presbyterian Church.

Mr. and Mrs. C.V. Ashley and son, Elgin, visited their niece, Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Yost of Munday.

Mr. and Mrs. R.W. Raynes spent the weekend with their daughter, Mr. and Mrs. George Shawver of Wichita Falls.

The "Canasta Gang" met in the home of Mrs. W.E. Johnson. Members were C.R. Cook, R.O. Fagan, Jr., O.W. Whiteker, H.D. Bland, Eva Pearsey, T.M. Patterson, Travis Smith and Mrs. W.E. Johnson

50 Years Ago

Visiting in the home of Mr. and family from the farm.

From the AG

Make the Holiday Season Memorable for Your Children **By Paying Your Child Support** The holiday season is a time of giving, sharing and making

such as losing a job, that make it difficult to meet one's child support obligation. For parents who are in a situation like this, I encourage you to contact my office so we can

December sales tax reported

Texas Comptroller Carole Keeton Strayhorn said the state collected \$1.73 billion in sales tax in November, up 9.4 percent compared to November 2005. The Comptroller sent local governments \$403.8 million in December sales tax allocations, up 8.4 percent compared to December 2005.

"The final sales tax allocation of 2006 brings total local sales tax revenue for the calendar year to a record \$5.2 billion," Strayhorn said. "This marks the first time local sales tax revenues have reached \$5 billion in a single year."

"In 1999, in my first year as Comptroller, I distributed \$3.5 billion in local sales tax. Compared to that year, annual local sales tax revenue is up 47.8 percent," Strayhorn said.

"Texas' population growth, diversity and economic strength have helped the state recover from the '02-'03 economic slowdown that followed the triple economic whammy of 9/11, the Enron and WorldCom scandals and the high tech bubble bursting. Local communities have bounced back from economic setbacks and natural disasters like Hurricane Rita," said Strayhorn.

Strayhorn sent Texas cities December sales tax allocations of \$273.1 million, up 8 percent compared to December 2005. City sales tax allocations during calendar year 2006 totaled \$3.5 billion, up 13.5 percent compared to calendar year 2005. Counties' December sales tax allocations were \$24.8 million, up 13.9 percent compared to December 2005. Counties received \$312.7 million in sales tax during calendar year 2006, up 16 percent compared to last year.

Ten local transit systems received December sales tax allocations of \$93.2 million, a 7 percent increase over December 2005. Sales tax allocations to transit systems in 2006 totaled \$1.2 billion, up 14.1 percent compared to the 2005 total. December sales tax allocations of \$12.5 million went to 115 special purpose taxing districts, an increase of 17.6 percent compared to last December. Special purpose districts received \$153.1 million during 2006, up 17.1 percent compared to 2005.

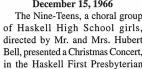
Haskell County had a 3.05 percent decrease for December 2006 of \$27,280.84 in comparison to \$28,139.46 for December 2005. 2006 payments to date of \$395,473.16 reflect a .77 percent increase over 2005 payments to date of \$392,417.78.

The City of Haskell had a 3.82 percent decrease for December 2006 of \$25,307.71 in comparison to \$26,313.11 for December 2005. 2006 payments to date of \$362,812.87 reflect a .21 percent decrease over 2005 payments to date of \$363.597.00.

The City of O'Brien had a 190.75 percent increase for December 2006 of \$84.61 in comparison to \$29.10 for December 2005. 2006 payments to date of \$911.11 reflect a 57.60 percent increase over 2005 payments to date of \$578.08. The City of Rochester had a 16.72 percent decrease for December 2006 of \$365.01 in comparison to \$438.33 for December 2005. 2006 payments to date of \$7,354.79 reflect a 5.81 percent decrease over 2005 payments to date of \$7,808.57. The City of Rule had a 7.69 percent increase for December 2006 of \$1,347.24 in comparison to \$1,251.03 for December 2005. 2006 payments to date of \$20,620.90 reflect a 16.44 percent increase over 2005 payments to date of \$17,708.10. The City of Weinert had a 63.37 ercent increase for December 2006 of \$176.27 in comparison to \$107.89 for December 2005. 2006 payments to date of \$3,773.49 reflect a 38.42 percent increase over 2005 payments to date of \$2,726.03.

December 20, 1956 residence in town and moved his

and daughter, Mrs. Lillian Walker, all of Odessa Mr. and Mrs. Ray Lusk spent the weekend in Canyon with their son and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Billy Ray 40 Years Ago December 15, 1966 Lusk and son. Jimmy Ray.



askell Free Press

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memories, but it also can put a financial strain on parents as they purchase gifts or host families for a holiday meal. One way to make sure the holidays are a memorable time of year for your children is to pay your child support.

Child support enables parents to put a roof over their children's heads, clothes on their backs, and food on the table. During the holidays, these challenges are compounded as parents also try to put gifts under the tree or gas in their car for a long trip to grandma's house. That is why I am giving parents this special reminder to pay their child support.

To those parents who regularly pay their child support in full and on time, I extend my heartfelt thanks. Your faithfulness will reap great rewards as you help your children remember the holidays as a time of provision rather than hardship.

Sometimes circumstances arise,

work together to determine a course of action. As an additional service, my office partners with the Texas Workforce Commission and workforce development boards across the state to help low-income parents find good-paying jobs so they can meet their child support obligations.

Ultimately, what children need most is to know their parents care about them. For unmarried parents, this begins with establishing paternity. When paternity is established, a child has a legal connection to his or her father that protects the child's access to a range of benefits fathers can provide, starting with having dad's name on the birth certificate. Through the Paternity Opportunity Program, my office trains and certifies employees of hospitals and birthing centers to assist parents with the process of acknowledging paternity just after their child's birth. We can also

support.

We also help parents who are having trouble getting access to their children. This year, my office administered more than \$500,000 in federal grants to 12 organizations across Texas that facilitate parents' access to and visitation with their children. One organization, Legal Aid of NorthWest Texas, operates a statewide Access and Visitation Hotline. The hotline is staffed by attorneys who provide legal information and assistance with child custody and visitation matters. Parents can call the hotline's tollfree number, 1-866-292-4636, Monday through Friday from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Arthur Yeager of Denton was

Tate and

visiting in the home of Mr. and Mrs.

granddaughter, Barbara Alexander,

left for Artesia. New Mexico. Where

they will be spending Christmas in

the home of Mr. Tate's daughter and

Guests in the home of Mr. and

Mrs. Bill Tanner were their son and

100 Years Ago

December 15, 1906

factory here on a small scale and is

turning out handmade mattresses.

black locust trees which he will have

planted on lots he has in various

said the Throckmorton road was in

had condition and that people served

by the road are anxious that some

Bert Brockman has returned

V.B. Hawkins of Temple was

W.F. Tomkins completed his

By Greg Abbott

facilitate DNA tests to scientifically

and legally establish fatherhood. As

children grow up, my office

encourages parents to stay involved

in their lives beyond paying child

from Idaho to make his home in

prospecting in Haskell several days

parts of town.

work be done on it.

Haskell.

this week.

B.C. Thorp has set up a mattress

H.S. Post has ordered some 500

F.A. Klose, who was in town,

T.A.

R.C. Montgomery.

Mrs.

Kids will forever remember what happens during this holiday season. Please, help make those memories good ones by being there for them and paying your child support. The Office of the Attorney General wishes you and your family a happy holiday season!

Stocker cattle opportunities noted for wheat growers

by Wes Utley CEA-Ag/NR, Haskell Co.

Central Texas cattle ranchers and others lucky enough to get good rains lately are holding the cards on wheat grazing this season, according to a Texas Agricultural Extension Service expert.

Dr. Ronald Gill, Dallas-based Extension livestock specialist, shared his views on stocker cattle opportunities before a group of producers at the recent Central Texas Stocker/Cow-Calf Conference at San Saba's Jordan Cattle Auction. The event was sponsored by the Extension Service, the Texas Beef Council, Jordan Cattle Auction, Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers' Association., HI Pro Animal Health, Bayer Animal Health, and Evergreen Feeds.

"I'm jealous," said Gill. "We've got a world of weaned calves ready to go and not enough moisture in my country to even think of wheat planting. Many of these animals are bringing bargain basement prices."

Gill told the growers blessed with adequate moisture that they and others would do well to consider retaining ownership of their weaned calves this fall. But, he also offered two ideas he felt might yield higher profits.

'You may want to sell yours and buy thinner, weaned animals from drought areas or take in cattle owned by others coming from these same areas.

'Thin, but otherwise healthy weaned calves, preferably from a known source, will start gaining immediately without the setback and health problems calves straight off the cow typically experience. And, they're usually a better buy from the dollar standpoint for the producers putting them on wheat pasture."

In his talk, Gill dispelled some long-standing beliefs concerning the effects of weaning calves. He drew his information from extensive studies conducted by Texas A&M University. He said the studies showed that it often takes up to 30 days for a set of weaned cattle to regain the weight lost through stress when taken from the COW.

"Knowing this, keep in mind then that it takes about a month for calves to regain their weaning weight. That's time and money lost," he said.

The studies also showed that cattle weaned for 14-30 days have more trouble than short-weaned calves; those weaned for only 7 days or less. Ideally, the best buy are calves properly weaned and backgrounded for at least 45 days. According to Gill, buyers purchasing properly weaned cattle can also skip much of the medical expense typically associated with stocker cattle.

"By properly weaned," Gill added, "I mean calves weaned for at least 45 days and managed under an adequate nutrition program from conception to shipment."

"Through monitoring calves consigned to the Texas A&M Ranch to Rail program we had seen a difference in health and performance relative to vaccinations given at the ranch. We conducted a couple of studies over the past two years in an attempt to determine which vaccination program would provide for the best post-weaning health and performance of calves.

"Our studies did not show an advantage to any vaccination program on performance or health of the calves during backgrounding or when they were sent to the feedlot. The key to the success of backgrounding and post-weaning performance continues to look toward the length of time weaned prior to shipment and overall cow herd nutrition. The critical length of time for a successful backgrounding program still appears to be 45 days."

'Our studies have never shown an economical gain from re-treating for internal parasites midway through the grazing period, if calves were dewormed prior to going on clean wheat pasture in the fall. There may be some gain improvement, but the difference is not shown to be economical," said the specialist.

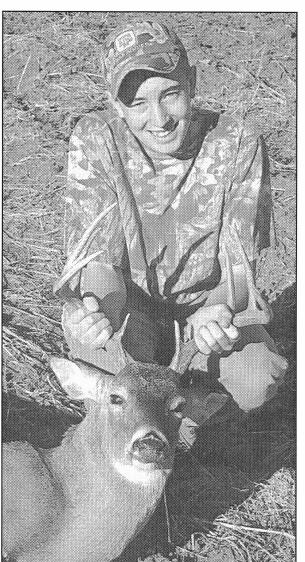
Gill said this year's cheap corn prices, especially that with aflatoxin problems, offers an added profit opportunity for those with wheat grazing prospects.

"Corn is cheap, especially that which has tested 'hot' for aflatoxin. This hot corn can be safely fed at the rate of two to three pounds per head per day to 400 pound and heavier stocker cattle on wheat provided that the aflatoxin contamination of the corn doesn't exceed 400 parts per billion. The toxicity is diluted by the wheat pasture. The recommendation on feeding affected grains to stocker cattle is to not exceed 100 parts per billion of aflatoxin in the total diet."

Gill said the corn-wheat combination makes for very efficient gains if initial inputs are low. The partial grain diet also helps guard against bloat.

"I know it's usually hard to buy properly weaned calves right, but this looks like the year to do it. This may be the year to really cash in on wheat cattle-provided they're bought now and it keeps raining."

Partial list!



FIRST DEER-Ross Wittenborn, eight-year-old son of James and Melyn Wittenborn of Haskell, is shown with the 11 point buck he shot Nov. 24 in Throckmorton County on the family farm.

City Council report

The Haskell City Council met Attorney Shane Hadaway. for a regular meeting, Mon., Dec. 11, with Mayor Ken Lane, May Pro Tem Sue Medford, Councilmen Chan Guess, Bob Smith and Meredith, City Lonnie Administrator Brandon Anderson, City Secretary Louetta Wallace, Thomas Rodriguez, Linda St. John, Police Chief Tom Bassett, Randy Hise and Mathew Cunningham.

Mayor Lane called the meeting to order, and the invocation was given by Chan Guess.

A motion by Medford was approved to appoint Bobby Jenkins the Planning and Zoning Board.

On a motion by Guess, the Council approved the bid by Bailey Toliver Chevrolet for \$24,080 with the trade in of the Tahoe, and using the remaining grant money funds for needed police equipment. Medford abstained from voting.

On a motion by Meredith, the Council approved allowing the Jail Committee to contract for lawyer

A motion by Smith was approved giving Randy Hise the authority to okay bond payments,

and to bring him under the City's bond umbrella. On a motion by Smith, the council approved Randy Hise for

the distribution of funds. The Administrator's report included a report of the Texas Transportation Commission and the Transportation Enhancement funding update. Updates were also given on the truck stop and new city

warehouse, the fuel system options, and moving police officers to the new Medford building. Atmos Energy report was brought by Mike Schweikhard. Reports were given of Haskell's city franchise fee, and the possible legislation to move governing authority to the Railroad Commission. Also, reports by Kenny Wetzel were given on the sensus meters, and the possibility

TxDOT is ready for winter weather

With the first major winter storm behind us, maintenance forces in the Texas Department of Transportation's Abilene District are gearing up to protect the traveling public and roadway against the next ice and snow conditions.

The district has a fleet of vehicles stationed at every maintenance office in its 13-county area that is equipped to combat snow and ice in the winter. Counties in the Abilene District include Haskell, Howard, Fisher, Callahan, Borden, Jones, Kent, Mitchell, Nolan, Stonewall, Scurry, Shackelford, and Taylor.

Dump trucks are fitted with vbox spreaders on the back, and as needed, snow plows on the front. The v-box spreaders are used to spread Meltdown-20, otherwise known as magnesium chloride on the highways. Snow plows are used to push snow off the roadway or to pick up ice off the pavement. As sand, salt and aggregate leads to clean-up conditions, deterioration of roadways and windshield hits, the Abilene District limits its use of sand and aggregate to emergency conditions such as steep hills and to aid trucks that need more traction to get on their way.

"On occasion," Brian Crawford, said, "we are questioned as to whether we are working the roadways as the public cannot see any aggregate or sand on the pavement. However, because we use Meltdown-20 which melts on contact with moisture, the visual effect is not evident." Crawford is the district's director of maintenance.

"Meltdown-20 is a granular substance that draws moisture from the ice, snow, and air to form a brine that breaks the bond between the ice, or snow, and the roadway surface. Therefore, Meltdown-20 is generally not visible to the traveling public, but it is still actively working to melt the ice and snow. In addition," Crawford said, "we can effectively treat roadways using Meltdown-20 at a lower overall cost that we can when using aggregate, sand, and or salt."

TxDOT's maintenance forces work the most heavily traveling highways first. After the high priority roadways are passable, they focus on the less traveled routes. Initial efforts are directed to locations where drivers are most vulnerable, such as bridges, overpasses, hills, curves, ramps, and interchanges.

Once called into action, the Abilene District maintenance crews continue to work around the clock to clear roadways until the storm has passed.

"The safety of the traveling public is a TxDOT priority, and we respond to snow and ice situations as quickly as possible," Crawford, said.

Motorists can also do their part by driving carefully and:

Use caution when driving over bridges and overpasses. These are the first to freeze.

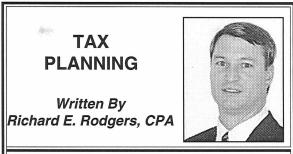
Reduce speed and drive with caution. A vehicle needs at least three times more space to stop on a slick roadway. Visibility can also be reduced during winter weather conditions.

Be patient. Your trip timeincluding short commutes to workcould increase when adverse weather conditions exist.

Winterize vehicles before traveling during adverse weather. Check fuel, tire, oil, and antifreeze levels. Make sure heater, brakes, and windshield wipers are working properly.

Check area weather conditions on radio or television before starting a trip.

Motorists can also call TxDOT's toll-free highway conditions line at 800-452-9292 or go on-line to www.dot.state.tx.us/ hcr/main.htm.



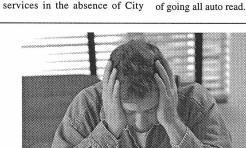
GIFTS: WHO PAYS TAX AND WHEN?

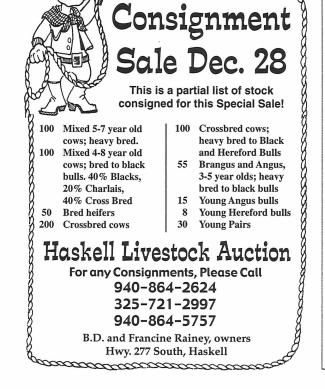
Receiving a gift is not a taxable event to the one who receives the gift. If the gift is large enough, it could result in gift tax being due by the donor.

In any case, you are not to report any gifts you receive on your income tax return. This is true whether the gift is in cash or a gift of property.

When you sell property you received as a gift, you have a whole new story. Your basis (cost) in the property is the same as it was in the hands of the donor. You are considered to have owned the property for as long as the donor owned it, and you cost. This is true for gifts made while the donor is alive. Property received from an estate is treated differently. So how does this work on your tax return? Let's assume that you received a piece of real estate from your mother three months ago, and the real estate has a current value of \$100,000. We will further assume that your mother owned the property for twenty years and had paid \$30,000 for it. If you sell the property this year for \$100,000, you will have a long-term capital gain of \$70,000 (\$100,000 minus your mother's cost of \$30,000). You get the favorable long-term capital gain treatment because you are deemed to have owned the property for twenty years. A final note about gifts: They are not taxable to the person receiving the gift, but they are also not deductible by the person giving the gift. Only gifts to charities and other organizations approved by the IRS provide a tax deduction for the giver. If you have questions about gifts and the tax consequences of giving or receiving them, contact our office. We will be happy to assist you.

The HASKELL FREE PRESS-Thursday, December 21, 2006-Page 5







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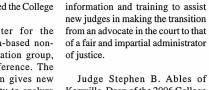
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Hadaway attends judges' college

Shane Hadaway of Haskell received instruction and insight into his new role as a judge at the College for New Judges Dec. 3-8. Hadaway, newly elected Judge of the 39th District Court, attended the College in Austin.

The Texas Center for the Judiciary, an Austin-based nonprofit judicial education group, developed the conference. The educational program gives new judges the opportunity to analyze the role and responsibilities of being a judge and allows them to develop the skills necessary to be effective in this position.

All newly-elected judges and



for New Judges, was joined by a diverse faculty of the state's most experienced judges and other professionals to educate the class members of the College.

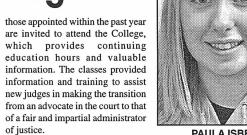
xDO S new ad 0

Santa's reindeer star in a new animated TV commercial produced by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) and airing throughout Texas this month. In the spot, Santa's reindeer are grounded for drinking on Christmas Eve, prompting Santa to hook up his sleigh to a quartet of yellow taxis. TxDOT's message to holiday revelers: if you've been drinking, designate a driver or take a cab to get home safely.

With holiday revelry now in full swing, state officials are urging motorists to take the precautionary step of planning ahead to get home safely when their holiday celebrations include alcohol.

"Drunk driving will ruin the holidays for hundreds of families," said Carlos Lopez, TxDOT's traffic operations director. "We can't say it enough: plan ahead and plan not to get behind the wheel if you've been drinking."

TxDOT's 9th annual holidaythemed campaign also uses radio commercials based on popular Christmas carols, billboards along interstate highways, ads at gas stations and festive coasters in bars and restaurants to deliver the reminder to designate a driver. The



Judge Stephen B. Ables of Kerrville, Dean of the 2006 College

PAULA ISBELL Students visit Rotary Club Paula Isbell is a senior student at children after she graduates college.

Paint Creek High School. She is the daughter of Gary and Cathey Isbell of Haskell.

She is active in FFA and basketball and enjoys showing pigs and hanging out with her friends. Her special awards include being

a member of the National Honor Society. She qualified for state in the dairy judging competition. She plans to attend Angelo State

University with a goal of becoming a dentist. She would like to adopt

Keith Wilcox, son of Paula and

KEITH WILCOX

Jackie Wilcox of Haskell, attends the Church of Christ.

In Haskell High School he is active in Agriculture and livestock projects. He likes the sports of shooting and hunting.

After finishing high school, he plans to attend Tulsa Welding School, and become a master welder.

Can you catch cold from the cold?

Mom always warned you that you'd catch a cold if you stayed out in wintry weather too long or returned from sweat-filled playtime outdoors to a chilly, air-conditioned house.

But are those old adages true? Not really, says Dr. Jane Siegel, infectious disease specialist at UT Southwestern Medical Center.

"If you're going out in the cold and having close contact with a lot of people who are sneezing and coughing, then it is the contact with the sick people that might cause you to contract the flu, but not simply going out in the cold," Dr. Siegel

A great way to avoid getting a cold or the flu is avoiding tightly packed crowds of people, she adds. "The 3-foot-rule is a good rule. It's less likely that you'll get the flu virus if you stay three feet away

from people, allowing you to avoid catching germs from coughs and sneezes," Dr. Siegel says.

Dr. Siegel has other tips to prevent getting sick during winter: •Clean your hands often with soap and water or with a waterless antiseptic hand de-sanitizer, especially after you've shaken hands with people or sneezing and

blowing your nose. •Eat right, get enough sleep and exercise to boost your immune system.

•Get a flu shot.

Flu shots are suggested for children ages 6 months to 5 years old, people age 65 or older, healthcare workers and those in contact with individuals who are at high risk for getting very sick when they get the flu. The flu vaccine is available to people ages 5 to 49 in an effective nose spray.

Rott For

Damage by fire ants in Texas estimated at \$236.5 million

by Wes Utley CEA-Ag/NR, Haskell Co.

A recent study in rural Texas allowed respondents to estimate not only the damage from red imported fire ants, but also to calculate benefits as well, according to a Texas Agricultural Experiment Station economist.

Agricultural producers in a 54county area in East, Central and Northeast Texas reported an average total cost of \$1,691.41 per farm, for a total cost of nearly \$94 million. said Dr. Curtis Lard of College Station.

Extrapolating that cost statewide would mean that fire ants cost Texas an estimated \$236.5 million, he said. This has increased from the \$90.5 million in fire ant costs projected from the last survey that was conducted 1999 and published in 2001.

"It shows that we still have significant losses from fire ants," he said.

But respondents estimated benefits of fire ants were \$6.5 million in the surveyed area. That would total about \$16.5 million in benefits statewide, Lard said.

The survey was conducted by Lard under the Texas Fire Ant Initiative through the department of entomology at Texas A&M University.

More than 1,000 farmers and ranchers were asked their perceptions about the impact of red imported fire ants. The survey was the most comprehensive study of its kind in the U.S., Lard said, and it was tacked on to the regular agricultural production survey conducted every year by the Texas Agricultural Statistics Service.

Some of the commodities covered in the survey were cotton. grain, timber, hay, beef cattle, sheep and goats, short-rotation woody crops and poultry.

To qualify for the fire ant study, participants had to live on a rural homestead that qualified as a farm or ranch. Lard said.

Red imported fire ants benefit such crops as soybeans, sugarcane and cotton because they break up and aerate the soil, making more water and nutrients available to plants, Lard said. They also attack other harmful insects in cotton fields. The majority of the producers said they also had fewer harmful insects, arachnids and arthropods such as chiggers, scorpions and ticks. However, some beneficial insects also were adversely affected by red imported fire ants.

Medical costs related to fire antsfor both humans and animals-were estimated at \$36,554, or \$36 per farm. This includes the costs of medical attention and loss of work hours. The most common medical were medications, costs hospitalizations and doctor visits, the report stated.

About 43 percent of the respondents reported harm to a person, and about 23 percent reported harm to pets.

The highest category in costs was homestead damage. Fire ant damage to electrical switchboxes and heating and cooling units totaled \$393,147, or \$388 per farm.

Costs associated with the repair or replacement of equipment was more than \$281,000 for the area, or \$278 per farm. According to the survey report, the costs included replacing or repairing broken parts on shredders, combines, tractors, well pumps, mowers, solar fence chargers and wheel bearings.

Production losses were lower than those in the 1999 survey, Lard said.

Respondents reported about \$267,000, or \$264 per farm, in production losses. In 1999, these production losses were about \$360 per farm. That included damage to trees, forage, hay, pastures, vegetables and fence posts, and injuries to livestock.

Dr. Bart Drees, Texas Cooperative Extension entomologist, said fire ants often construct mounds at the bases of fence posts, making the repair or replacement hazardous and difficult.

"On trees, imported fire ants are known to girdle and kill young citrus trees, and mounds at bases of trunks can be hazardous in cut-your-own Christmas tree plantations," he said. 'They are not known to be harmful to established trees, although some people believe that a mound at the base of a dying tree can be the cause of the tree's decline."

Wildlife losses were estimated at \$143,000, or \$141 per farm, and included decreases in wildlife numbers and customers, such as hunters and fishermen.

The red imported fire ant is found in more than two-thirds of the counties in Texas; the survey area was chosen because of its diversity in crops and abundant presence of fire ants, Lard said.

Understanding your medicines and avoiding medication errors

It may seem obvious, but thousands of Americans take their medications incorrectly, resulting in emergency hospital visits, longer illnesses and added monetary expenses.

Harmful reactions to commonly used medicines such as insulin, blood thinners and antibiotics send more than 700,000 Americans to emergency rooms each year, recent government research shows. Accidental overdoses and allergic reactions to prescription drugs are the most frequent cause of serious illnesses, and those over age 65 are most at-risk. According to Mary Chavez, Pharm.D., chair and professor of pharmacy practice with the Texas A&M Health Science Center Irma Lerma Rangel College of Pharmacy, knowledge is the key. "The more information a person has, the better they are able to prevent errors," Dr. Chavez said. "A person should ask their pharmacists, doctors and nurses about their medications and should expect to get answers." Dr. Chavez recommends people maintain a list of the prescription and nonprescription drugs and dietary supplements (vitamins, minerals, herbals) they take, then take that list to their physician for

a detailed, professional review. Seek out additional information from websites, bookstores and the library, and verify information for accuracy

In addition, report any allergies to your physician, and have your physician write the name of any prescribed drug (brand and generic, if available), its use, dosage and directions. This includes an exact explanation on properly taking the drug, along with possible side effects and how to report them. At the pharmacy, ensure the name of the prescription medication and directions for use match the information provided by your physician. You can review your list of medications with the pharmacist for additional safety and, by law, can receive pharmacist counseling, Dr. Chavez said. Ask for written literature about the prescribed medication.



\$500,000 public education initiative extends through New Year's Day. Safety advocates credit stepped-

up enforcement of the state's DWI laws and ongoing advertising reminding Texans not to drink and drive with the continued decline in impaired driving fatalities. Federal officials report that 135 fewer people died in Texas last year in alcohol-related crashes than in 2004, continuing the trend from 2003.

Supporting increased traffic enforcement allows TxDOT to accomplish one of its primary goals of enhancing safety on Texas highways.

The Texas Restaurant Association, the Texas Petroleum Marketers and Convenience Store Association, the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission, the Texas Municipal Police Association and Valero Corporation are also participating in the holiday DWIprevention campaign.

Penalties for a first-time DWI offense include driver's license suspension for up to one year, a fine of up to \$2,000 and up to six months in jail.

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		S — alway	s the per					lltel.com
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"It is in a person's best interest to know about their medications, learn how and when to take them, and what the effects and side effects may be," Dr. Chavez said.

Additional information on medication errors is available on the Institute for Safe Medication Practices website, http://www. ismp.org.



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den-dining-kitchen area, built-in appliances,

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Rule loses dream of state title to Richland Springs Coyotes

The Rule Bobcats' "One-Team, One-Dream" of winning the State Six-Man Division I Championship ended Saturday night at the hands of the Richland Springs Coyotes by a score of 78-58 in the game played at a packed Shotwell Stadium in Abilene. According to "the Bible of 6-Man football"-sixmanfootball. com-it was the highest-scoring game in six-man playoff history.

Playing before a crowd estimated by stadium officials to be around 11,000, the teams offered plenty of reasons for the fans to cheer, as both scored total of а eighteen touchdowns, even though the Bobcats and Coyotes came into

the game with highly-rated defensive units. The score was tied twice early, at 8-8 and 14-14, but the

Bobcats found themselves trailing at halftime, 38-34, after both teams scored on their first five possessions, with the only difference being two failed PAT kicks.

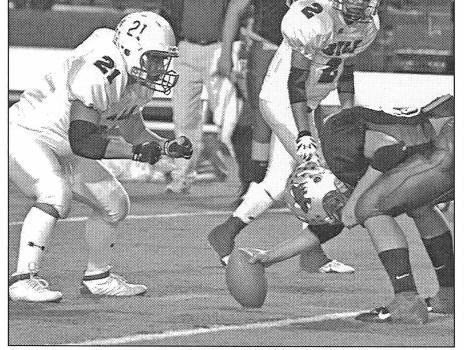
Richland Springs' superb doeverything quarterback, Tyler Ethridge, a junior, accounted for eight of nine Coyote touchdowns, including the first score-a pass-with only 1:29 having expired in the first quarter. The spunky Bobcats took the kickoff and drove the ball back down the field, aided by a 46-yard run by their own superb junior back, C.J. Saucedo. Senior Julian Menchaca scored on a one-yard

plunge only 2:17 later. The teams matched each other's score from that point until the middle of the fourth quarter, when

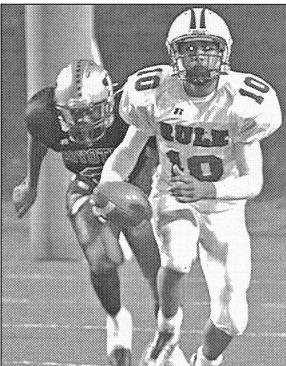
Richland Springs took advantage of two Bobcat miscues and pulled ahead by three scores.

In the meantime, Saucedo scored on runs of 6 and 10 yards and threw two touchdown passes, one to Kyle Simpson of 25 yards and the other to Jay T. Spitzer, covering 14 yards. Spitzer also had a 29-yard scoring pass to Simpson, a 4-yard TD pass to Tye Clark, and a 6-yard strike to Kade Kittley. Stephen Pace, who suffered a leg injury in the semifinals game against Meadow, was successful on five of eight PAT kicks.

Coach Mike Reed's Bobcats ended the season as State Division I Runners-Up with a record of 12 wins and one loss



BOBCATS GET SET-Rule Bobcats Julian Menchaca #21 and Austin Flores #2 get set before the play in the Six-Man State Championship game.



RUNNING GAIN–Rule Bobcat C.J. Saucedo #10 gets away from a Richland Springs rusher in the Six-Man Championship game held in Abilene Sat., Dec. 16.



PASS RECEPTION-Rule Bobcat Kyle Simpson #24 hauls in a pass from Jay T. Spitzer in the second half of the Division I Six-Man State Championship game played Sat., Dec. 16 in Abilene. Richland Springs defeated the Bobcats 78-58.

Weather Whys

Long-range forecasting

Q: How accurate is long-range forecasting?

A: Weather forecasting has been around longer than you might think, says Brent McRoberts of Texas A&M University. "The U.S. government started weather forecasting in the 1870s when Congress established a National Weather Service," explains McRoberts.

"It was aimed primarily for military uses. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) was established in 1970 and had under it a number of agencies, among them the National Weather Service. But the goal was still the same-trying to give an accurate prediction of weather forecasting. Weather forecasting is done to predict long ranges, such as a year or more, or sometimes a season, such as summer, or the kind we are most familiar with, the 4-or 5-day forecast. Meteorologists use various charts based on air currents, fronts, satellite images and other data to make their forecasts."

Q: So are these forecasts on target?

A: The answer is usually yes, says McRoberts.

"On forecasts within the next 24 hours, forecasts are usually very accurate. Forecasts made between 1-3 days are usually pretty good. But beyond 7 days or so, the accuracy rate tends to slip because factors that make up a forecast tend to change. So the shorter the time period, the more accurate the forecast. It's interesting to note that The Old Farmer's Almanac, one of the oldest publications in the country, makes up its weather forecasts about a year in advance and it claims to have an 80 percent accuracy rate. It uses a 'secret' method of weather forecasting that it's used for over 200 years.'





Santa letters

Dear Santa.

I have tried to be a good girl this year. For Christmas I want some new glasses, a new baby that does not cry alot and a new back pack. I would also like new baby furniture, a new stroller, crib and baby bag. I would also like all the Cars characters, especially Mater and a playhouse. Have a safe trip.

Love, K'Lee Lampe P.S. Don't forget to visit Aunt Nancy. ***

Dear Santa,

How are the reindeer and Mrs. Claus? I've been a good boy this year. But I've been mean sometimes because sometimes I get angry, but you Santa. You're so sweet!

Dear Santa,

My name is Marley Casey and I am 3 years old. I have been a good girl this year. There are just a few things that I really would like you to bring me this year. I would like a Dress-up trunk, and new baby doll, some baby food for my doll, and maybe a new movie. I also would like a Kidz-Bop CD, because I love to dance & sing. Well Santa, I think that's pretty much all. I'll be happy with anything you bring me. Please tell Mrs. Clause and the reindeer and elves hello for me. We will be at my Granny's house Christmas morning. Please don't forget my brother Cole and my cousins Addisyn and Spencer. They will be there too! Have a Merry Christmas and a safe trip!



Ethan Bulls, age 4

belly. Santa, that enough. Santa loves Gavin. Thank you for all the presents you will bring me and my family. I will be in Haskell for Christmas but you can leave my presents in Arlington. I love you

Love, Marley Casey

P.S. We will leave you some goodies to eat & drink.



The HASKELL FREE PRESS-Thursday, December 21, 2006-Page 1B

Of all the places in the land, we're glad we've settled here. Thank you for helping us to have a truly fruitful year. MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM Haskell Livestock Auction Hwy. 277 S. of Haskell Phone 940-864-2624

B.D. and Francine Rainey, owners



We'd like to thank each of you personally, but we've made too many good friends in the past year to find the space to list them here.

So to all of you, our very best wishes go for a very Merry Christmas and a ho...ho...ho!

Double A Drive In 1103 North 1st • Haskell 864-2466



ACCEPTS DONATIONS-Members of the Child Welfare Board accept toys and monetary donations from Lonnie Rolls, center, representing the 'Big Empty Riders' of the West Texas H.O.G. Chapter and other riders who joined them. Board members I-r, include Linda Haynes, Donna Sue Anders, Patti Raynes, Melba Lowrance, Rolls, Darlene Hopkins, Emmalee Phemiser with her children, Cassidy and Chambray, and Laura Macias.

Dear Santa, Please bring me a . . .

Dear Santa.

My name is Jaclyn and I'm 4 1/2 yrs. old. Momma says I've been sorta good. I would like some Moon Sand, Little Mermaid makeup vanity and kitchen and doll, some playdoh, slurpee maker, guitar and Easy-bake oven. Please bring my dog Arwyn a new chew toy-she's been good. Love, Jaclyn Snelling

Dear Santa Claus,

How's your raindeer? Is it cold at the North Pole? Is Mrs. Claus ok? I have been a good boy this year, Santa pleas breng me a .v.smile. pokit for Christmas. Oh and don't forget Ethan and Abbie. They have been good to!

Love, Johah Bulls, 1st grade Wylie Elementary School

Dear Santa. I am almost 3 years old. I like

dinosaurs alot. Please bring me a set of play dinosaurs and a couple of 'Clifford, the Big Red Dog" books. Thank you very much.

Mo Goff, College Station

Dear Santa, Hi! My name is Gavin Ray Brzozowski. I am four years old. This year for Christmas, I would like marbles and a stick to make a circle in the dirt. Santa, I want all of the presents. I want robots and red and

blue racecars. I want to ride on your I would also like Rip Cars and all sleigh and go the North Pole so I can get alot of presents for my cousins and friends. I want you to bring four rings for me, my mommy, my Daddy and our baby in Mommy's

Gavin Ray Brzozowski Dear Santa, My name is Rhett Lampe. I've been really good this year. I want a X-Box 360 and the Cars game for it. I would also like any thing Cars, especially the Cars City and Mater. I also want Cars stuff for my room.

the Cars characters. Don't forget my friend Brian. Love.

Santa.

Rhett

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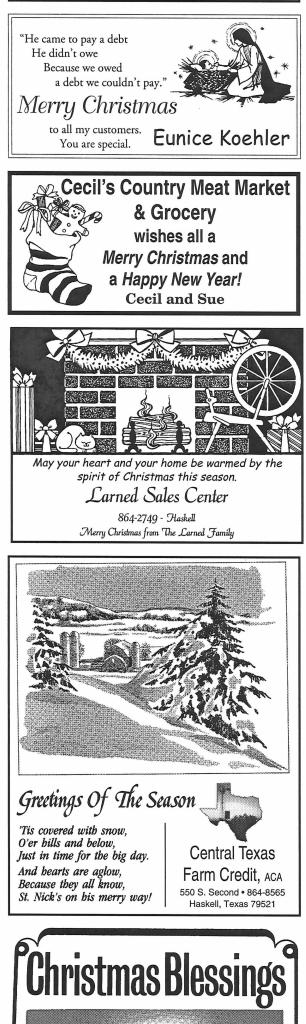
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Page 2B-Thursday, December 21, 2006-The HASKELL FREE PRESS





Dear Santa, I've tried really hard to be good!

My name is Cole Casey and I am 11 years old. Please bring me a new DVD player and some movies. I also would like a UT jersey, some football gloves that are orange & white and some new games for my PS2. I'll like anything else you want to bring me. We will be at my Granny's on Christmas morning. My sister Marley and my cousins Spencer and Addisyn will also be there. Have a safe trip. Love, Cole Casey

Dear Santa,

My name is Lauryn! I am 3 yrs. old. I want a baby Bratz Computer. Bratz Genie, a real cell phone, a baby Dooldle monster, a pink shirt like 'Kacies', a wiggle shirt, a real mini horse. Thank you Santa for my toys. I Love Santa.

Lauryn Macias Kountry Kids Preschool

& Daycare

Dear Santa,

I am in 1st grade. I would like a

children's cookbook and an apron to use when I make cookies at my Nana's house.

Love you, Santa. Marie Claire Goff, Dallas

Dear Santa, I hope you will bring me a heart shaped necklace and some

dominoes. We will play Chicken Foot at my Nana and Papa's house. I am 9 years old. Thank you, Santa.

Lauren Nicole Goff, Dallas

Dear Santa. For Christmas I would like a baby doll. I would also like a book and a

big ball. Thanks, Michelle Kountry Kids Preschool & Daycare

*** Dear Santa, For Christmas I would really like a baby doll, one toy and one ball.

Thank you, Baylee Kountry Kids Preschool

& Daycare Dear Santa,

For Christmas I would really like a toy truck, a big ball. I would also like blocks, cause I really like to play

with them. Thanks, Wyatt Kountry Kids Preschool

& Daycare ***

Dear Santa, big ball. Please bring me a book also.

For Christmas I would really like blocks. I like to play with blocks. Also, a big ball and a Dora video. That's all.

Kountry Kids Preschool & Daycare

pickup. Thanks, Eli Peacock Kountry Kids Preschool & Daycare ***

Dear Santa, I would like a guitar, shoes, money and one toy, stickers and that's all.

I would like stickers, football,

and gum. I also would like a duck,

and a soccerball and one toy, a

Thanks, Cassidy Jo Hippity Hop Phemister Kountry Kids Preschool & Daycare

*** Dear Santa, My name is J'Lynn. I am 3 yrs. old. Will you bring me a barbie. A princess barbie too. A car for my barbie. A purple one! Bring my brother a DVD. And a Love for my

mom! Bring a movie for my Dad! Be careful! Love, J'Lynn Kountry Kids Preschool

& Daycare ***

Hello Santa, My name is Kolby Rubio and I am 3 years old. Please bring me Lights Pops and a new cup and spoon, also I would like chocolate milk. Tell the reindeer hello for me.

Love, Kolby R Kountry Kids Preschool & Daycare *** Dear Santa,

My name is Gannon Pryor and I am 2 years old. I have been a pretty good boy this year. Please bring me some new toys for Christmas. I like anything Spongebob. See you on Christmas. Love, Gannon Kountry Kids Preschool

& Daycare ***

Dear Santa, My name is Nate Sanderson and I am 4 years old. For Christmas, please bring me a ladybug and a caterpillar that turns into a butterfly. I also would like a new bicycle with

Power Rangers on it. See you on Christmas. Love, Nate Kountry Kids Preschool

& Daycare *** Dear Santa, My name is Kacie Easterling. I am 3 yrs. old. I want a new puppy, a new baby doll, a new baby stroller

and new shoes with barbies! And bring Molly little new baby toys! New stuff with puppies on it! I love you Santa! Love, Kacie

Kountry Kids Preschool & Daycare ***

Dear Santa, My name is K'Lee. I am 4 yrs. old. Please bring me an easy-bake oven and a princess Barbie and a dancing princess movie. I want a Scooby-Doo toy too. That's all!

Love, K'lee Kountry Kids Preschool & Daycare ***



My name is Garret Gassaway and I am 4 years old. Please bring me a "Boots the Monkey Kitchen" and some bread. Also I would like some pizza. One more thing, please bring me a horn. Love, Garrett

Kountry Kids Preschool & Daycare

Dear Santa, My name is Michael Medford and I am 4 years old. For Christmas please bring me a choo-choo train and snowman and a little car. Love, Michael Kountry Kids Preschool & Daycare

*** Dear Santa, Please bring me a barbie, a baby, a bratz doll and Dora doll and some blue pom-poms! Stay warm. Love, Breanna Kountry Kids Preschool & Daycare *** Dear Santa,

My name is Creed Williams and I am 2 years old. Please bring me a bull for Christmas. Also bring me a cow and a horse and a rope. Love, Creed Kountry Kids Preschool

& Daycare *** Dear Santa, My name is Kelsea Tidrow. I am

5 years old. Can I please have some sparkly boots? I also want some clothes. I think a sparkly hat too! And a gate with horses. Thank-you! Love, Kelsea P.S. I love Christmas. I will be good! I love Santa Clause, I love Everybody! Kountry Kids Preschool & Daycare ***

Dear Santa, My name is Addisyn Grace Bates and I am 3 years old. Please bring me a Dora kitchen, Baby Alive and all the stuff I would like. Tell the elves hello. We will be at our Granny's Christmas morning. Love, Addisyn Kountry Kids Preschool & Daycare ***

Dear Santa,

My name is Taylor Sanderson and I am 3 years old. Please bring me a motorcycle and reindeer and a truck. I also want a new chair.

Love, Taylor Kountry Kids Preschool

& Daycare *** Dear Santa,

My name is Cash Bassett and I am 4 years old. Please bring me a long, long, crane that has wheels. I also want a pickup with a crane on top. Also a Batman Car to zoom around the house. See you at Christmas. Love, Cash

Kountry Kids Preschool & Daycare

Dear Santa,

My name is Eddie McBroom and I am 4 years old. Please bring me a train, a dinosaur car, reindeer, and five tractors. I also want stuff to cook with. See you at Christmas. Love, Eddie Kountry Kids Preschool

& Daycare

Stay warm. Love, Kolby T. Kountry Kids Preschool & Daycare Dear Santa. My name is Marley Casey and I

I am 4 yrs. old. My name is Kolby

Tidrow. I want a real power Ranger

with a suit and a white gun! Will you

bring me a new puppy and some new

shoes! I'm going to try to be good!

Dear Santa

am 3 yrs. old. Please bring me a dress up trunk and a new baby doll. I also would like a Kidz Bop CD. Please tell Mrs. Clause and the reindeer hello for me. We will all be at Granny's house Christmas morning.

Love, Marley Kountry Kids Preschool & Daycare

Dear Santa. My name is Brayden Brzozowski and I am 3 years old. Please bring me a train and a semi-truck for Christmas. I also would like a car, a firetruck, and a plane. Please tell Mrs. Clause hello for me.

Love, Brayden Kountry Kids Preschool & Daycare

Dear Santa,

My name is Tess Decker and I am 5 years old. For Christmas please bring me Baby Alive and Barney's Christmas Star. I also would like Walkie Talkies. Merry Christmas Santa.

Love, Tess Kountry Kids Preschool & Daycare ***

Dear Santa,

I want the Littlest Pet Shop playground. Please visit all my friends in Haskell and Bailey Ann in Abilene. Feed all your reindeer before you go and wear warm clothes. Say hi to all the elves and Mrs. Santa too. I love you Santa! Hollyn Dee Hadaway, age 6

Dear Santa, I would like a Girl Tech Password Journal. And I was wondering if the elves are OK? How about Mrs. Claus and the reindeers? Are they doing all right? I hope they are. Love, Reagan Hadaway, age 10

Dear Santa,

I want a pair of pink and brown Roxy shoes. I also want iPod speakers for my iPod. Make sure to visit my friends too!!

Love, Carson Hadaway, age 12

Dear Santa,

This year for Christmas I want a CD player (portable), a PS2, an iPod, a skateboard, some more games for my Nintindo 64, and a West Coast Chopper Truck (remote control) and a new bike, and could you please bring my mom a present that will make her happy.

Thank you and Merry Christmas, Joshua Frame

P.S. Oh and Santa I live in Weinert so you don't forget.

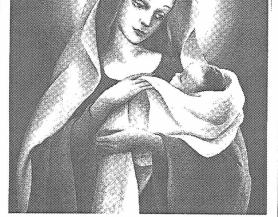
Dir Santa,

I want a barbe, scrf, angels, a baby, carrier, pla fone, barbe hous, big barbe, an ese bak uven, desk and chir and a trampulen. Love, Angelle Maynard



Thank you, Colton

For Christmas I would really like a baby doll, a baby doll blanket, a Thank you, Ragen Kountry Kids Preschool & Daycare *** Dear Santa,



May this Holy time bring to all hearts His clear message of Christmas love.

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Dest to You On Christmas

Here's hoping your holiday is stuffed with the gifts of family, friends and good fortune. We appreciate all you've given us throughout the year and look forward to continuing to serve you in the future.

Happy Holiday and many thanks.

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Dear Santa, All I want is a . .

Dear Santa

I like helping my Dad build things (and I am very good at it) so I would like a good set of tools for Christmas. I am going to need a saw, a drill and of course a hammer and nails. Also, I would like a tricycle so I don't have to hitch a ride with my sister on her bike. Don't worry Santa I have been very good this year (well pretty good, I am only two) and so I know I will be on the "nice" list. I hope you get this letter soon because I have lots of work to do.

Levi Rhoads, age 2

Dear Santa,

My name is Clyne and I just turned one year old. I've been a good little girl this year and all I'm asking for are some boxing gloves. I can walk now, so I'm ready to get some long time awaited revenge on my big brother, Creed.

Love, Clyne L'Shae Williams

Dear Santa,

My name is Creed and I'm almost 3 years old. I've been trying really hard to be a good boy this year. So can you please bring me a minature horse like "Sweetie Pie"? I will also need a saddle and a saddle blankie so I can ride him. Clyne and I will leave you milk and cookies. Love, Creed Jackson Williams

Dear Santa,

For Cristmas I want a Nintendo Wii and som longhorn stuff, some close, a new video now player with the shows, a kareoke macine, a new T.V., an orange jacket, a computer, art packet. But if you can't get that I want you to. But ~if you still can't get me some pac Man T.V. game or spouge bob T.V. game, curling iron. But thats all I want I still belive in you. I always will anyways. Love, Amie Muñoz

P.S. We will leave you milk an

cookies. P.S.S. I want a fly pentop

computer. P.S.S.S. Was I good?

Dear Santa Claus,

My name is Hayden Guzman, and I am 5 years old. I hope you remember me from last Christmas. This Christmas I want a chalk and paint easel and a pretend pistol and bullets to go with it. Also, I really want a real BB gun, even though Momma says I'll shoot my eye out! I think I have been good this year. Have a safe trip from the North Pole! Love, Hayden

Dear Santa,

Please bring me a Lightning McQueen car, a power ranger 4 wheeler and a Star Wars dark vador. I have tried to be good this year! Merry Christmas. Please bring Cody something too.

Love, Garret Dutton, 3 yrs old

Dear Santa,

I really want a power ranger zord and megazord. Also a Star Wars transformer. I have been a realy good boy this year. Please bring Garret something. Merry Christmas and have a happy New Year. Love, Cody Dutton, 6 yrs. old

Dear Santa, I am 3 yrs. old. For Christmas I want a doll that cries so I can feed it and change its diapers. Also a bike with training wheels. You can bring ne some clothes too.

Dear Santa Claus.

How are you? I'm great! My name is Adisyn Grace Bates and I am 3 years old. Mommy and Marty sav that I have been a good girl this year, so I hope that you think so too. I would like to have Dora's

Talking kitchen, Baby Alive, to talk to my Granny again, and anything else that you want to bring me. Please bring my cousins Spencer, Cole and Marley something too. We will be at Granny and Paw-Paw's. This will be our first Christmas without Granny and we really miss her. Mommy says that Granny is spending Christmas with Jesus this year.

Please don't forget my other cousins McKenzie, Emma and baby Allie. They will be at their house in Throckmorton. Also Santa, please bring something to every kid in the world. Please tell Mrs. Claus and the elves hi for me.

I love you Santa,

Addisyn Grace

P.S. We will have some goodies for you to eat in case you're hungry!

Dear Santa,

I have been a good girl this year. I want a kitchenette, baby doll, Barbie but what I really want is my uncle C.J. to win the Six man state football game. I will leave some milk and cookies by the tree. Merry Christmas

Love, Madison Saucedo 22 months

Dear Santa, I have been a good boy this year. I would like a Big Truck, blocks, Spider Man chair and some new shoes. I will leave some milk and cookies by the tree. Merry Christmas!

Love, Avery Delacruz 8 months

Dear Santa.

I have been a good girl this year. I would like a Barbie lab top, motor scooter and portable DVD player. I will leave some milk and cookies by the tree. Merry Christmas!

Love, Laylee Walker 9 years old

Dear Santa,

I've been a good boy this year. For Christmas I want a wooden playhouse, wiggles DVD and a John Deer Gator power wheels. I'll leave some cookies & milk by the tree. Love.

Corbuyn Walker 3 years old ***

Dear Santa.

May I have the Grim Adventures of Billy & Mandy game on Play Station 2. 2 Godzilla movies on DVD, a lap top, a Water Clone of Jutsu from Naruto. I've been very good this year. Thank you,

Toby Salazar, 3rd grade

Dear Santa.

I have been pretty good this year. Can I have Monsters Inc, Cars (the movie), paints, and attachments for my real vaccum from Richardsons. Thank you. Love.

Matt Salazar, 4 yrs. old Headstart ***

Dear Santa.

For Christmas I would like a Razor scooter, a puppy, a new red Texas Tech game chair, and a Fathead Texas Tech player. I also want my little brother and mom and dad to get what they asked for. Don't forget all the other boys and girls around the world. That is all I want Santa.

Your friend. Riley Meinzer

P.S. Tell Mrs. Claus hello.

Dear Santa Clause,

We moved again so I hope you find us.

I want Lincoln Logs, a new PS2 and Gameboy game, TinCan Alley Shoot out. I also need some new boots & some bb's for my gun.

Please bring my baby sister a teddy bear & something soft to play with.

> Be safe on your trip! Laken Olson 6 years old

Dear Santa.

I've been a good boy & I only fight with my brother. I'd like a big new toy, new books, new DVD, remote controled Mater, & the Shark game.

I need some girl toys for my sister cause we just have boy stuff. We will leave you a snack. Love, Landry Olson

4 years old

Dear Santa,

Love.

Rule

I have been a good boy this year. I would like to have some more Thomas Trains, I'd like other toys to play in the dirt with-tractors & dump trucks. I will leave you some cookies & milk. Thank you. Have a safe trip.

Love, Delaney Hanson Aaron Halliburton, age 4

Dear Santa. How are you? I'm doing good. Mommy and daddy have said that I have been a good girl this year and to write a letter and list the toys I would like for Christmas. I would like a Barbie guitar, Barbie computer, Barbie Hot tub, and a Barbie dress up doll. I would also like a doodle cat. That's all that I'm asking for Christmas. All of these tovs are in the Barbie magazine I got in the mail.

Take care and I'm watching all of your movies with mommy and daddy.

Merry Christmas. Cie Avel Rangel 4 years old

Dear Santa. This year for Christmas, I would

like some shoulder pads, side pads, hip pads and a #1 helment, the whole football outfit. Also, a tractor with a plow, a 4-wheeler, a bike that looks like a dirt bike, a trampoline, lots of little trucks and plows. I would also like a new watch, a UT jersey, and a billfold. Don't forget my big sister. She's tried to be good, but it's been hard for her. I've been really good! Have a safe trip Santa & I will leave you some milk & cookies in the usual spot. Love, Hunter Threet 2nd grade, age 7

Rule Elementary



The HASKELL FREE PRESS-Thursday, December 21, 2006-Page 3B

GRANDDAUGHTER VISITS-Cadet Lauren Franks of Abilene, left, visited her grandparents Woodie and Mae Woodard of Haskell. Franks is attending the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs. She is the daughter of Rita and Jim Franks of Abilene.

istmas wishes to Santa Dear Santa Claus,

Dear Santa,

My name is Delaney and I am 2

1/2 years old. I'm excited about you

but when I get real close to you, I

not like Santa Claus. I waved to you

in your little house at the mall but I

didn't want to come sit on your lap.

I hope that's okay. You should hear

me say "Ho,Ho,Ho, Meawy

Cwismas"! Whatever you bring me

this year, Santa, will be fine with me.

I like the Wiggles so maybe a new

DVD would be good. My bubba and

real soon. I love you Santa Claus.

I love you. Please bring my jeep, a driving jeep. Please bring Laney a new baby doll. Please bring a little new baby stroller for us. Buy Bubba a new football-a Texas Longhorn one. His is flat. I will give you some cookies and some milk.

I love you Santa, Landry Hanson

age 5

Thank you,

Kurt

Dear Santa, sissy have been pretty good-if My name is Kurt Leck. I am 3 they're not, I tell my mama. Please bring them something nice too. years old, and I have been really good this year. I would like to have Remember all the boys and girls and a Gordon train, some more tracks, mamas and daddies that are sick in the hospital and let them come home and a blue guitar, also a bike for

milk and cookies for you (what my sister Lauryn and I don't eat.) 2 1/2 years old ***

Dear Santa, My name is Lauryn Crane. I am 5 years old and I have been good this year. I would like to have a bike, a barbie, a dress, slippers, with a crown and wand, and a guitar for Christmas. We will leave cookies and milk for you (what my brother

Kurt and I don't eat.) Thank you, Lauryn Crane

Dear Santa, I've been a good boy. I want an -Box 360 and a puppy, and a Monster doodle, a basketball goal, a race track for hot wheels, a speed gun to tell how fast. I'll leave some milk & cookies and some food for Rudolph. I'll be waiting.

Love ya, Logan Steele, age 6 Munday

*** Dear Santa, Please bring me a cat, a art set and a net for my bed. Merry Christmas. Thank you, Hannah Grand age 7 ***

Dear Santa, Please bring me a hamster that won't bite me and a batman suit with a cape so I can save the day.

Thanks, Ashton Grand age 3

Dear Santa,

I am six years old. I have tried to be a good little girl this year.

Please bring me a baby doll with clothes and a crib. Also bring me some more clothes.

Please remember my Mom and Sissy and my Grandpa and Grandma.

Love, Hailey Sargant

Dear Santa,

My name is Shalee Bralynn Dunnam and I'm 2 years old. I know I saw you in Abilene and told you what I wanted for Christmas but I'm writing you a letter too because I don't want you to forget me. Please bring me a kitchen set with a refrigerator and a table and chairs. I'll leave you a snack by the Christmas tree. Thank you Santa and have a safe trip. I love you,

Shalee Dunnam

Merry Christmas

Christmas. We will leave some

Wishing you an old-fashioned holiday filled with warmth, love, laughter and all the special delights of the season

)erona

Vinnie V. Dungan

940-864-3351 = 13 Avenue E • Haskell Antiques – Collectibles – Artisan Jewelry – eBay Trading Assistant

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To all our valued

customers we offer our gratitude and

good wishes for a happy holiday season.

Big Country Electric

Cooperative

Stamford • Roby • Snyder

Love, TeYanna Finley

Dear Santa,

i am seven years old. i no i have not been good but i want a modersicool that has a moder and playstashen and games for my notendoe 64 and close.

from Javour Finley

Dear Santa,

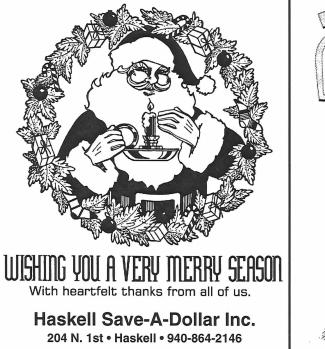
Hi, my name is Heavenly Love Perez. I've been a good girl this year. All I want for Christmas is a puppy, books, and a teddy bear. Santa, please try to come before I go to sleep. I always miss you! Also bring my cousins presents too!

Love,

Heavenly

Dear Santa,

My name is Micah Fudge. I am 2 yrs. old. This year for Christmas I want a "bam" (gun) & some books! I'll leave you some cookies & milk.





operative

Dear Santa, I want.

Dear Santa,

My name is Will. I am 3 years old. I like to blow horns and all kind of instruments. I like to play basketball, soccer, volleyball, football and baseball. I like Texas Tech and the Haskell Indians. Please bring me a trumpet and a bullet gun. I will be at my Daddy and Misty's for Christmas.

I love you, Will Gibson

P.S. Don't forget my dogs-they need new collars.

Dear Santa,

My name is Halee Alsabrook. I am 4 years old. I want some pants, Texas Tech shirt and Texas Tech Ranger shoes! Some candy! I want sparkly butterfly earrings and an X-Box! I love Santa! Don't forget your reindeer and please come safe! And goodnight!

Love, Halee Kountry Kids Preschool & Daycare

x Daycale ***

Dear Santa Clause,

I am writing you this letter and hope you get it before a snow storm hits the North Pole. This year for Christmas I have been a good girl and I would like to have some House Slippers to walk around the house. I also would like to have a new Barney doll and a new lip gloss. Santa my sister has also been a good girl can you bring her a guitar and a bear. I would really like that. My brother has been good to and he wants a game of Spiderman for his GameCube. Santa I will leave you some cookies and milk. Just in case you need to know my age I am 5 yrs. Sister is 3 yrs. and brother is 9 yrs. Thank you,

Lexia Nichole Arrieta Rule Kindergarten

Dear Santa.

I am five years old and I have been a good girl this year. I would like a new Teddye Bear. I also want a new bed and a toy Dora for my bed. I would like to have three Bratz dolls. I also want some new clothes. I will leave you some cookies and lemonade. Please have a safe trip. Love, Leann Manske Rule Kindergarten *** Dear Santa,

My name is Kourtney Hertel and I am five years old. I live in Rule, Texas. For Christmas I would like to have a new princess bedding. Also a phranna panic game. The movie Cars. And lots of clothes. Flushed Away movie. Don't forget to bring my baby sister Karleigh some toys. I also want a globe. I'll leave some milk and cookies for you. Love, Kourtney Sage Hertel Rule Kindergarten

Dear Santa,

Hi my name is Fabian. For Christmas I would like a super-man and a remote control car. Most of all I would like for my family to be together on that day.

Love, Fabian Hollingsworth Rule Kindergarten ***

Dear Santa,

Have a good Chrismas. For Chrisma I want my cat back for Chrisma.

Alexandrea Martinez, Rule

Dear Santa, I am Cheyenne. I hope you will bring me a Teddy Bear, a kitty cat, a duck and some girl tools. My brother would like a Teddy Bear, a kitty cat, a duck and some boy tools. We thank you very much.

Thanks a bunch, Cheyenne Kreger Rule Kindergarten ***

Dear Santa Claus,

I would like to have some Moon Sand and a train set, and a Pretty Pink Bicycle with training wheels, and some new pants and shirts, and socks. Santa I will have you a plate with cookies and a big glass of cold milk. There is one thing that I want more than anything is a visit from you and to see your pretty sleigh and raindeers.

Merry Christmas Love, Savannah Elkins Rule ***

Dear Santa Clause, I would like for Christmas would be a game cube with games and scooter. And could you also give me a puppy or a kitten.

Love, Thomas Short

Rule

Dear Santa, I would like for Christmas a pink dress, more long sleeve shirts, money machine, Moon Sand and floam.

I wish everyone a Merry Christmas.

Thank you Santa, Alexzandra Cooper Rule *** Dear Santa,

I've been a good boy this year and I want is a Big truck with a trailer. New belt and Cowboy hat and cows and horses. Alex Nino

> Rule Pre-K *** Dear Santa,

I have been a good girl this year. My little brother Timothy has been good to. He is walking now. I would like a new scooter as my scooter was left out in the driveway and got ranover. Please bring Timothy a car he can ride on.

I will leave out cookies and milk for you. Have a good trip.

Christina Moore I also would like a walking poney.

Rule

Dear Santa, I want new shoes, new shirts in colors, and pants. I want a Thomas Train that is grey and fast. The truck from the Dollar Store. I want every body to get presents. Ryan

Rule

Dear Santa, I have been good and I listen when I'm told to do something. Santa what I would like to have, Alive hide and seek Hayley, Big Bratz, Bratz make-up. Love, Brittany Macias Rule Kindergarten







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5. An



The Master of the Universe became a Baby. And then a Man. Oh, what a Man! Teacher – Champion – Savior – Immanuel. May the blessings of His glory be yours this Christmas.

The folks at Holden–McCauley Funeral Home Haskell – Rule

on sale Super Discounts	Year End Specials!
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Everything 20-30% off Just in time for Christmas!	CHEVROLET
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Phone No.	

All Shoes



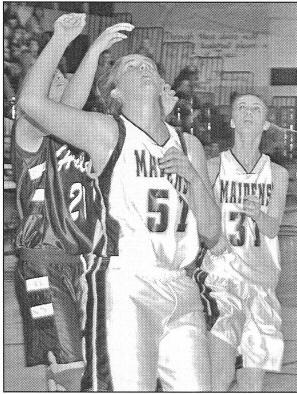
- 1. Clip out the ads, fill in your name, address and telephone number.
- 2. Deposit each ad in the box each week at the business listed on the ad. (All entries deposited in the wrong box will be disqualified.)
- Each store will award one FREE TURKEY you need not be present to win, no purchase is necessary.
- Drawing will be held Friday, December 22, 2006, 4. at noon.
- 5. Anyone over 16 years of age is eligible to enter (except employees at participating stores and this newspaper.)







MOVING THE BALL-Haley Chavez #41 moves the ball down the court during the Maidens game against Hawley on Dec. 12. The Maidens defeated Hawley 52-36.



WATCHING THE BASKET-Haskell Maiden #51 Lacey Peiser watching the basket to see if she makes her shot during the Hawley game held Dec. 12. Peiser scored 9 points during the Maidens 52-36 win over the Lady Bearcats.

Area basketball scores

Girls Haskell 52, Hawley 36 Scoring for Haskell: Samantha Rodriguez 25, Lacey Peiser 9, Kim Lisle 6, Dudensing 4. Medford 6, Hanna Wallace 4.

Haskell 47, Stanton 28 Scoring for Haskell: Samantha Rodriguez 10, Lacey Peiser 10, Chambray Bartley 7, Molly Agraz 5, Hope Reid 4, Hanna Wallace 3,

Rule 43, Eula 41 Scoring for Rule: Brannon 13, Ke. Scheets 10, Ky. Scheets 10,

Rule Booster Club Tournament Rule 33, Baird 31 Scoring for Rule: Brannon 12, Ke. Scheets 10, Trussel 3, Lisle 3, Ky. Scheets 3, Messinger 2. Boys

	Tire Needs!	Most of	<i>VVE CAN Help!</i> Before you select a Medicare drug card program, please call us at The Drug Store	Sarah Garcia 2, Haley Chavez 2, Lauren Newton 2, Ashton Rutkowski 2. JV score: Haskell 28, Stanton 27, OT.	Haskell 40, Munday 34 Scoring for Haskell: D.J. McCulloch 16, Weston Rutkowski 9. JV score: Haskell 41, Munday 29
	Merry Christmas!	R	at 940-864-2673	In the	Service
	Haskell Tire		for specific information about the various plans. Enroll NOW – Coverage	Army Pvt. Bobby Bartlett has graduated from basic combat training at Fort Jackson, Columbia, S.C.	Bartlett is the son of Joyce Bartlett of Haskell and a 2000 graduate of Lavernia High School.
	& Appliance		begins Jan. 1, 2007.	During the nine weeks of training, the soldier studied the	Gin Report
¢	206 S. Ave. E • 864-2900		Address Phone No www.haskelldrugstore.com	Army mission, history, tradition and core values, physical fitness, and received instruction and practice in basic combat skills, military	Dec. 18, 2006 Haskell Haskell County Gin
6	Address Phone No		THE DRUG STORE	weapons, chemical warfare and bayonet training, drill and ceremony, marching, rifle marksmanship, armed and unarmed combat, map reading, field tactics,	O'Brien O'Brien Co-op Gin 13,000 Rule Rule Co-op Gin 2,060 Weinert
4	S C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C		100 S. Ave. E • Haskell • 864-2673	military courtesy, military justice system, basic first aid, foot marches, and field training exercises.	Griff's Gin

Dear Santa,

Ho, ho, ho!! My name is Colby

Ryan West and I am 2 years old. I

will apologize now for my behavior

the past two months, but like I said,

I am 2 years old!! Not only that, but

I am a typical boy. That's what my

mommy says anyways! I hope that

I have at least been good enough for

you to come see me. This year I am

really in to toys. I love footballs, so

I want a football with a tee(Pop-O

taught me how to kick.) and a Dallas

Cowboys football uniform with

helmet. I also want the set of My

First Craftsman tools. I would like

to have the tool bench also. I really

enjoy playing with my daddy's tools

but they are really dangerous for a

little guy like me so mommy showed

me some just like daddy's at Sears.

I also love Elmo and anything with

Elmo on it would be great too. Santa,

I had a early Christmas present in

Dear Santa, Please bring me a football, a teddy bear and .

Dear Santa,

My name is Aaron Skiles. I am a good boy most of the time. For Christmas I would like a Texas Tech football suit, real football shoulder pads, a toy rifle with a scope and games for my play station. Please don't forget Sissy and Allie.

Love, Aaron ***

Dear Santa,

My name is Cutter Medord. I am 4 yrs. old. I am trying really hard to be good for you, some days it not easy though. I would like for you to bring me a black football helmet like the Haskell Indians wear. A black & gold football jersey with #1 on it, pads to keep me safe.

For my sister Harley who is 4 months old, please bring her some new clothes and a baby doll. I will leave a gingerbreadman and a Dr. Pepper out for you Christmas Eve. Love, Cutter Medford

Dear Santa,

I want a new PSP and burn out the game, a new Gameboy juctise leage the game, Playstation two, Spyro the legend begins, a new nintendo 64 games.

P.S. I'll leave you milk and cookies.

Your friend,

Taylor, age 8, Rule

Dear Santa,

Hi Santa, it's me, Kenley Grace. Thank you so much for all of the wonderful gifts last year. My Mommy and Daddy said that I have been good this year. I hope to get a kitchen set and playhouse this year for Christmas. I won't be at my house again this Christmas so look for me at Meme and Bops house in Bald Prairie. I'll be there with my favorite cousin Madi. We look forward to seeing you and will leave out some milk and cookies. Thank you so much Santa, and don't forget all my friends here in Haskell! See you soon Santa.

SEASON'S

Greetings

Wishing you

happy holidays!

I love you, Kenley Grace Cox 21 months

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0

October when my baby brother was born. I love him a lot and cannot wait for him to get bigger so he can play with me. It is possible that is why my behavior has not been the best lately. Don't forget to bring him some baby toys. He is not picky. Don't forget my friends Kenley and Delaney. I love you Santa! Colby Ryan West 2 years old *** Dear Santa, My name is Caden Bradley West

and I am almost 2 months old. I don't really know what to think about all this Santa stuff. I do like to look at mommy's tree that she has decorated. I'm really not picky about what you bring me this year. But, I do like to listen to music so a CD player would be good and maybe a bookshelf for my room so my books that mommy has been buying me have a place to sit. Don't forget my big brother Colby. He keeps me entertained. I will leave you some Dr. Pepper and chips Ahoy and maybe some carrots for your reindeer.

Love, Caden Bradley West

GREETINGS

May joy, prosperity, peace and goodwill visit your home

this holiday season.

Bassing Jewelry

404 N. First • Haskell

 $(\bigcirc$

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Texas.

Dear Santa.

My name is Nathan Martin and I am 2 1/2 years old. I have been a very good and very busy boy this year. I am really getting into Christmas this year and love seeing you, the baby reindeer, and other decorations all around town. I hope everything is going well at the North Pole for you and the baby reindeer.

Please bring me some more airplanes, helicopters, and rockets. I would also like some new choo choo trains and train tracks, cars and tractors. I like DVDs so you can bring me any new movies that you think I might need. Any of my favorites would be good, but this week I really like airplane movies, Christmas movies. Thomas the Train, the Backyardigans, Little Einsteins, Mickey Mouse Clubhouse, and I want to see the movie Cars. I would also like tools like Handy Manny, a guitar, a paint set, and some new books. I will love anything that you bring me, especially if it has to do with airplanes or any of my favorite characters.

I love you Santa. I really love that you can fly. I hope you and the baby reindeer have a safe trip. Don't forget to visit all my little friends. I will leave you a treat by the Christmas tree.

Santa. Santa. Ho.Ho.Ho. Love, Nathan Martin

2 1/2 years old

Dear Santa Claus, This is what I want for Christmas

a Longhorn blanket, some new clothes and new shoes. And a new DVD player and I want a teddy bear and see my sister.

Love, Gabby ***

Dear Santa,

I'm Kyler. I'm 7 years old and

live in Haskell, Texas. I want a bike, gameboy game, bat, and a razr cell

phone. I've been good this year. We also need a new fence and a girl dachsund.

Be careful and don't let grandma get ranover by a reindeer, Kyler

*** Dear Santa,

I have been good. Please bring

me a pink Christmas tree that says Barbie in the middle. I want a Brat house, a Brat airplane, a Brat car and a computer. I also want some roller skates. Love, Allie Andress, age 6

Mrs. Washburn's Kindergarten Haskell Elementary

Dear Santa,

My name is Breezy, and I'm ten years old. I also live in Haskell, Haskell Elementary

I would like an electronic sudoku, an ear piece for my sony ericsson cell phone, a zoombox projector, new earrings, a cell phone cover, and the movie John Tucker Must Die. Can you also bring me a surprise?

Have a safe trip! Your friend, Breezy

Santa, I have been good. I want a monster truck and a motorcycle for Christmas. Bring my sister, Vanessa, a Barbie doll house and a little Barbie. And please give me a bracelet for my big sister, Valerie. For my baby sister bring her a baby doll.

Love, Abraham Gonzalez, age 6

Dear Santa,

I have been a good boy most of the time. I would like a red DVD player and a red IPod, a house that tells a story, headphones that do not have wires, clothes, new boots, work gloves, a cowboy hat and pirate toys. Please bring mom something. Bring Brittney a stereo. Bring Vicki twin barbie dolls. Bring dad a game. I will

have milk and snowball cookies and chocolate peanut butter cookies that have sprinkles for you to have a snack.

I love you,

Wyatte Hertel, age 7 Mrs. Washburn's Kindergarten Haskell Elementary

Dear Santa,

I have been good. Please bring me a Care Bear and a pony. My little sister has been a little bit mean, but please bring her some baby dolls. My big sister, Tessa, likes Bratz. My little brother likes cars and Patrick from Sponge Bob.

Love, Macey Santos, age 6 Mrs. Washburn's Kindergarten Haskell Elementary

Dear Santa.

I want a John Deere telephone and a John Deere belt. I would like some tools, and a fake knife. I also would like a cross necklace, a baseball machine, and a Haskell Indian football uniform. I will leave you some cookies,

turkey, and some chicken. My mom said we would also make you some barbeque. I love you!

James Robledo Mrs. Burson's Headstart/ Early Childhood Class

Dear Santa.

I have been good. I want a BB gun and a chalk easel and a paint easel.

Love, Hayden Guzman, age 5 Mrs. Washburn's Kindergarten Haskell Elementary

Dear Santa.

I have been a good girl. Bring me boots and a hat and a gate, 4 dogs, a horse, a real umbrella, a Barbie doll and roller skates.

Love. Kelsie Tidrow, age 5 Mrs. Washburn's Kindergarten Haskell Elementary

Dear Santa, I have been good. I want some

cowboy clothes and boots and spurs. Please bring me a real pistol with 1000 bullets. And I want a little motorcycle with no training wheels. Love, Ty Coleman, age 6 1/2

Mrs. Washburn's Kindergarten

Dear Santa, I have been good. Please bring me a Barbie dollhouse and a Barbie. My big brother, Hayden, wants a BB gun. Can you bring my little sister a Winnie the Pooh doll stroller so she will leave mine alone? Thank you. Love, Katelyn Hudson age 6 1/2

Mrs. Washburn's Kindergarten Haskell Elementary

Dear Santa,

I have been good. I want a dog for Christmas and a white board to write on and a motorcycle. Please bring my brother Ace a motorcycle too.

Love, Harley Valverde, age 6

Dear Santa.

I have been good. Please bring me a Barbie doll house and a butterfly necklace. I want something special for my little sister.

Love, Areli Torres, age 5 Mrs. Washburn's Kindergarten Haskell Elementary P.S. Bring my puppy something

special too.

Dear Santa, I have been a good boy this year.

I want a monster truck and a teddy bear.

Love, Brison Tullos, age 6 Mrs. Washburn's Kindergarten Haskell Elementary

Dear Santa. I am Autom. I'm five years old, and I live in Haskell, Texas. I would like a newborn Cabbage Patch doll with diapers, a scooter, new earrings, and a play cell phone.

Love, Autom *** Dear Santa,

I want some new movies, and anything from the movie Cars. I want some boots that Mrs. Burson can take off easy for me! I think that I have been a good boy and would like anything that is cool! I will leave you some gold fish to eat if you get

hungry. I love you! Will Swinney Mrs. Burson's Headstart/ Early Childhood Class

Dear Santa, I want a batman, and some black

toys. I also want a chicken, and maybe a new bike. I will leave you some rice. I Love you!

Mihir Bhakta Mrs. Burson's Headstart/ Early Childhood Class

Dear Santa,

I want a new baby, and a koosh ball. I also want a new bike, and some new movies. I will leave you some French fries to eat! I love you! Cassie Pierce Mrs. Burson's Headstart/ Early Childhood Class

Dear Santa, I want a red ball, and a pink power ranger. I would also like a bike, and a red car. I will leave you some cookies! I love you! Dylan Souther Mrs. Burson's Headstart/

Early Childhood Class

Dear Santa, I want a red power ranger, and a little car to play with. I also want a dinosaur, toy horse, and a fire truck. I want tractor, truck, and some food. I will leave you some water and cheese and crackers. I love you, J.J. Rubio Mrs. Burson's Headstart/ Early Childhood Class

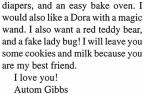
Dear Santa,

I would like some Power Rangers, a big truck, and a purple ball. I would also like a game, a toy that makes noise, and a skate board. You could also bring me some movies.

I will leave you out some pizza to eat.

I love you, Tommy Spells

Dear Santa



I want a cabbage patch doll with

Mrs. Burson's Headstart/ Early Childhood Class Dear Santa,

I want a red, blue and purple car.

I also want a power ranger max, and

a power ranger movie. I would also

like a batman game, and a blue

power ranger toy. I will leave you

some chili peppers out for you!

Mrs. Burson's Headstart/

I want a green mean car, and

some toys for school. I also want a

spider man toy, and some skates. I

need some new clothes. I will put

you some cookies out for you to eat.

I want an easy bake oven, and a

Little Mermaid Kitchen. I want a

snowman, and I really want some

I will leave you an easy bake

I want a Barbie and a play puppy.

I also want a baby, new shoes that

fit, and a new shirt. I would also like

a new purse. I will leave you some

oven with a cake in it for you!

Mrs. Burson's Headstart/

Early Childhood Class

Mrs. Burson's Headstart/

Early Childhood Class

Early Childhood Class

I love you!

Ramio Olvera

Dear Santa,

I love you,

Dear Santa,

I love you!

K'lee Pace

Dear Santa,

cookies to eat!

I love you!

Dear Santa,

hole to dig dirt with.

juice and tea out.

I love you!

Dear Santa,

I love you! Bobby Nieto

Dear Santa,

my grandma's house.

Matthew Salazar

I love you!

eat!

Steven Crain

Aubrianna Masias

Mrs. Burson's Headstart/

I want a tractor, wagon, and a

I will leave you some milk and

I want a soldier with a mask, hat,

and black shoes, and that is all that I

want. I will leave you some fruit to

Mrs. Burson's Headstart/

I want a blue power range, Mr.

Incredible, and a new vacuum from

Richardson's. I also want a fan like

my moms, and some letters from

Walmart. I also need a vacuum for

I will leave you come cookies.

Mrs. Burson's Headstart/

Early Childhood Class

Early Childhood Class

Mrs. Burson's Headstart/

Early Childhood Class

choo-choo train. I also want a back

Early Childhood Class

hot sauce for my family.

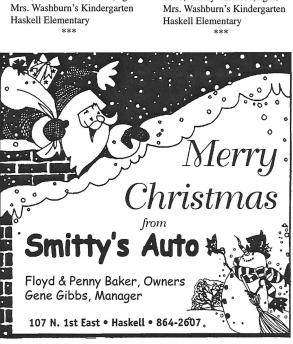
Michael Clayton

Dear Santa



G & G Carpets

108 N. Ave. D • 864-3966



Mrs. Burson's Headstart/ Early Childhood Class

Dear Santa,

I want a red power ranger, and a green power ranger, too. I would also like a blue power ranger. I really like power rangers! I will leave you a carrot to eat. I love you!

Benjamin Rodriquez Mrs. Burson's Headstart/ Early Childhood Class

Dear Santa,

I want a chicken to play with, and a blue power ranger. I also want a scary monster, a toy that looks like a snowman, and a big barbeque grill! I would also like a basketball, and a ninja. I will leave you some bread, chicken, and a drink! I love you! Alfredo Flores Mrs. Burson's Headstart/ Early Childhood Class

I would like a work bench for Christmas. A gun and a horse I saw at the boot store and a kitchen like aunt Sara's and a new small fishing pole so it won't get caught in the bushes. Love, Madison Smith

4 years old Triple S Ranch, Winters

Dear Santa,

I have tried to be a very good boy this year. I would like a mini fourwheeler, a gummi-bug making kit, some Pokemon cards, some floam, and Mario Party 7 for my Game Cube. I hope all the other little boys and girls get what they have asked for too.

Your Friend, Dalton Meinzer P.S. I will leave you milk and cookies by the fireplace.

Merry

Christmas!

Dear Santa,

How are your raindeer are they fin. I have ben very goo Santa. I miss seing you. I like you more than inything you are a great man. My brothe likes you more than inythan too even my sister. We all like you more than inythag than a snowman. I like you more than me but, I like you more than the holl wide world you are the best man ever. Can I have a new bike or a new game sistum, or a new army game. Mary Chrismas Santa.

Love, Chancey 2nd grade, Rule

Dear Santa,

I've been very good. I've been wondering how is it boing. All I want is a fuzzy phone please and a alive hiding seek Haley and a Fear Real friends horse please. May I have those please

Love, Alysia Hollabaugh 2nd grade, Rule

Dear Santa,

Santa, I want what I wrote all in a box. Will I be abel to see you some day and I hope I can because It might be fun and I might be abel to see what you are going to give other kids and I hop you have a mary Christmas.

Mary Christmas Santa, Your Friend, Ian 2nd grade, Rule

Dear Santa,

I want a Power Ranger dressed in black, a blue and yellow gun, cars, Star Wars Legos, and a camera. I am 8 years old, and I have been good. Please bring Alfonzo cars and a Teddy bear and bubbles. He is 3 years old, and has be good.

Thank you. Abel and Alfonzo Rule

Deer Sata,

How are you dowing. Is rodoff go for crismiss. I want a dog and a woch and a Texas loghon Footballs or I want a Ps3 with one game and new shos. I wnat Nickez and a phon and a mocan show car and san it for mom. Love, Devin

2nd grade Rule

Dear Santa,

I hope I have been good this year. Dear Santa this year I want a giga ball, bratz laptop, a hair sallon set to, and a I pod, new shoes, a tea set, a new game boy, a new Bratz campin set, a new Bratz perss and the new Bratz kid. I want a new doll that the hair changes color.

All our best wishes to you

Mary Christmas, America Shelton 2nd grade Rule



I have been a pretty good girl this year. Could you please bring me some Dinasaur Books, Horses and a Doll House. And for my little neice Karcin, she would like a Barbie Doll.

Thank you, and have a safe trip. Madalyn Navarrette Rule, Pre-K

P.S. I will you some cookies and milk. ***

Dear Santa,

I am 2 years old and I have tried to be a good girl this year. I want a baby doll and bed. I will try to go to bed early, so you won't skip my house. I will leave you some cookies. Merry Christmas! Love, Lenzi Manske, age 2 Rule ***

Dear Santa,

I hop I hve ben good this yehr and how are the randeer goen and rouldolf all I want is a nitindo D.S. and gams. Your frend, Mare Cristmiss,

Austin Redden 2nd grade, Rule

Dear Santa,

My name is Rowdy Raynes. I am 3 yrs. old. I want a golf cart and a 4wheeler and that's all! I want a big golf cart for mama and Big golf cart for Daddy! And no more! Don't be cold Santa! Love, Rowdy Kountry Kids Preschool & Daycare

Dear Santa, My name is Chambray Jean Jabberbox Phemister, I am 4 yrs. old and I need a Fairy Tale Dora for Christmas. We need a Buckin Bull for Pate (Rosenquist). Cassidy needs a Princess Dora and I need a for real glass bowl with sugar in it and a lid. Sweetie Pie needs his momma and daddy back in his yard and thats it. Love, Chambray Kountry Kids Preschool & Daycare ***

Dear Santa,

My name is J.J. Rubio. I am 5 yrs. old. I want a red Power Ranger. A Christmas tree and some fire truck toys. Be careful! Love, J.J. Kountry Kids Preschool & Daycare ***

Dear Santa, My name is Grayson Cloud! I am 3 yrs. old. I want a Spiderman and a movie with Spiderman! And an airplane. And bring Baylee my sister a Spiderman puppy and bring mama a Spiderman shirt! Love, Grayson Kountry Kids Preschool & Daycare



Dear Santa

I want a pair of fast shoes, new pillow, and a gun with a telescope. I would also like a new room with bunk beds and I will sleep on top with a ladder. I will leave you some cookies and milk out!

I love you! Christian Cardenas Mrs. Burson's Headstart/ Early Childhood Class

Dear Santa,

Santa are you having great time and Santa are the raindeers are having a great time. Merry Christmas Santa and have a great time. I want a yellow and blue gun and I want cars, bubbles and a vido a game.

Your friend, Abel Sandoval 2nd grade, Rule

Dear Santa.

How is Roodolf. I but he is doing good and you are to and how is Jackson. I he is doing good to and how is all the athers rainders doing. I bet they have being good to and my sister has being good to. I have being good to and my mom and dad have bing good to. Your friend, Hunter Threet 2nd grade, Rule

Mary Chricmus

Dear Santa I want a spider man movie, a snowman, and a red trophy. I also want a new football and soccer ball. I would really like a new picture with me sitting on your lap. I need a red power ranger cup, too. I will

leave you out some Christmas cookies! I love you! A.J. Torres

Mrs. Burson's Headstart/ Early Childhood Class

Dear Santa, I have been nice this year. Will you please bring me a Sponge Bob back pack. A clock. A box of crayons.

Jessica Ramos Rule, Pre-K

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This Week's Devotional Message:



ON EARTH AT CHRISTMAS The time has come for us to deck the hall, And greet our friends and relatives who call.

The holly and the pine cones in our home, Along with angels made of styrofoam And colored bulbs that light the entryway, Proclaim that it will soon be Christmas day. The presents, gaily wrapped, beneath the tree Are further symbols of festivity,

The world conditions should be kept in sight. While many lands their freedom did obtain, Yet others under tyranny remain. So let's enjoy this gala holiday, But also let us not forget to pray, That when the Yuletide comes around again, We'll celebrate true peace, good will to men.

ATTEND CHURCH THIS SUNDAY

-HASKELL East Side Baptist Church Danny Manross, pastor Sun. 9:45 a.m., 11 a.m., 6 p.; Wed. 7 p.m. 600 N. 1st East, Haskell Christian Church Richard Barr, minister Sun. Morn. 9:45 a.m., 10:45 a.m.; Thurs. 7 p.m. 107 N. Ave. F, Haskell Church of God Bruce Ray, pastor Sun. 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 6 p.m., Wed. 7:00 p.m. 714 North First East, Haskel Trinity Lutheran Church Ron Rennegarbe, pastor Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Worship 10:30 Hwy 380 East, Haskell Iglesia Bautista El Calvario Art Flores, Interim pastor Sun. Morn. 9:45 a., 10:45 a.m., 5 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m. 607 S. 7th, Haskell First United Methodist Church Rev. Daniel Echols, 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 George Roney Sat. Mass 7 p.m.; Sun. Morn. 9:00 a.m. 901 N. 16th, Haskell Church of Christ Jim Yates, minister Sun. Morn. 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m. 510 N. Ave. E, Haskell First Presbyterian Church Kelly Pigott, interim pastor Sun. Morn. 9:30 a.m. 306 N. Ave. E, Haskell **Trinity Baptist Church**

Greater Independent Baptist Church Sun, Morn, 9:30 a., 11:00 a., 6:30 p.; Wed, 7 p. 301 N. 3rd St., Haskell New Covenant Foursquare Bill and Renee Glass, pastors Sun. Morn. 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 6:30 p.m.; Wed. 7 p. 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 Greg Gasaway, pastor Sun. Morn. 9:45 a., 10:55 a., 6 p.m.; Wed. 6:30 p.m. 301 N. Ave. E, Haskell Church in the Wind C.C. Curran, pastor Sun. fellowship 5 p.m. Church 5:30 p.m. Tues. Bible Class 7:30 p.m. 203 S. 1st East, Haskell Cornerstone Fellowship Baptist Church Dr. Larry Nail, pastor Sun. 9:30 a.m. 10:45 a.m., 6 p.m., Wed. 7 p.m. 1600 N. First St., Haskell ----WEINERT--

First Baptist Church Dan Bullock, pastor Sun. Morn. 10 a.m., 11 a.m., Wed. 7 p.m. Weinert Weinert Foursquare Church Rev. Robert Harrison Sun. Morn. 10 a.m., 11 a.m. Wed. 7 p.m. Weinert -ROCHESTER-Church of Christ Steve Wills, minister Sun. Morn. 9:45 a., 10:45 a., 6 p.m.; Wed. 6 p.m. West on Main Street, Rochester First Baptist Church Fred Garvin, pastor Sun. 11:00 a.m., 6 p.m.; Wed. 6:00 p.m. 500 Main, Rochester

First United Methodist Church Rev. Daniel Echols, pastor Sun. Morn. 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m Rochester •—SAGERTON—• Sagerton Methodist Church Terry O'Rear, pastor Sun. Morn. 9:45 a.m Sagerton Faith Lutheran Church Deborah Nissen, pastor Sun. Morn. 9:15 a.m., 10:30 a.m.; Wed. 7 p.m. Sagerton -RULE-First Baptist Church Josh Stowe, pastor Sun. Morn. 9:45 a., 11:00 a., 5 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m. 1001 Union Ave., Rule Primitive Baptist Church Dale Turner Jr., pastor 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 Terry O'Rear, pastor Sun. Morn. Worship 8:30 a.m. 1000 Union Ave., Rule Primera Iglesia Bautista Alfa y Omegs Manuel Marin, pastor Sun. Morn. 10 a., 11:00 a., 5 p.m.; Wed. 6 p.m. 500 Elm Street, Rule Sweet Home Baptist Church Larry Neal, pastor Sun. Morn.11 a.m., 5 p.m.; Wed. 5 p.m. Gladstone Ave., Rule West Bethal Baptist Church

Rev. Clovis Dever Sun. Morn. 10 a., 11 a., 8 p.m.; Wed. 7:30 p.m. 300 Sunny Ave., Rule —PAINT CREEK—

LET US PRAY FOR TRUE PEACE

But at this time, when loved ones reunite,



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Drive

Friendly!



Please don't drink and drive. ...(And watch out for the other guy!)

Here's to good judgement and common sense.

zones. Haskell Co-op Gin 864-2046 Leon Jones, Manager Haskell, Texas

read by more people in Haskell County than any other print media.



BEST WISHES FOR A HAPPY AND SAFE NEW YEAR!