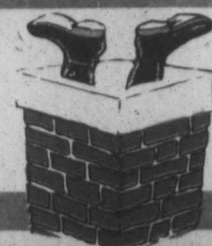




THE Lynn County News

MEMBER 2008 TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

Serving Lynn County since 1903



VOLUME 105, NUMBER 52

TAHOKA, LYNN COUNTY, TEXAS

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2008

SECTION 2

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- 24 Christmas Eve Candlelight Service**
First United Methodist Church of Tahoka, 6 pm
- 24 Christmas Eve Candlelight Service**
First Baptist Church of Tahoka, 6 pm
- 24 Christmas Eve Worship**
St. John Lutheran Church, Wilson, 6 pm, led by youth and children
- 25 Christmas Day Worship**
St. John Lutheran Church, Wilson, 10 am

Weather

Date	High	Low	Precip.
Dec. 17	56	16	
Dec. 18	62	42	
Dec. 19	65	42	
Dec. 20	62	41	
Dec. 21	34	17	
Dec. 22	37	16	

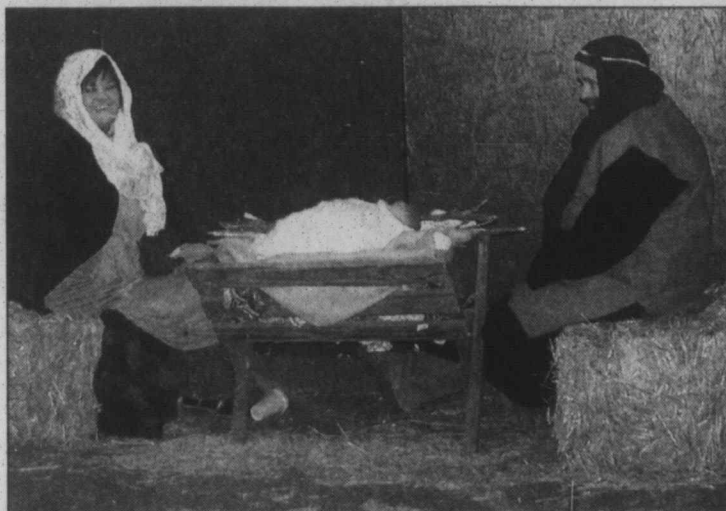
Total Precipitation Dec:	0.02"
Total Precipitation Nov:	0.01"
Total Precipitation Oct:	3.44"
Total Precipitation Sept:	6.73"
Total Precipitation Aug.:	6.36"
Total Precipitation July:	1.26"
Total Precipitation June:	1.68"
Total Precipitation May:	4.45"
Total Precipitation Apr:	0.38"
Total Precipitation Mar:	0.07"
Total Precipitation Feb:	0.26"
Total Precipitation Jan:	0"
Total Precip. Year to Date:	24.66"

Lynn County News

P.O. Box 1170 • Tahoka, TX 79373
Phone: 806-561-4888
Fax: 806-561-6308

E-mail address:
LynnCoNews@poka.com

News Office: 1617 Main Street in Tahoka
Open Monday - Thursday
9:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
(Open During Lunch Hour)
CLOSED FRIDAYS
(Drop Box available by front door)



Drive-thru nativity tells story ... First Baptist Church of Tahoka hosted a drive-thru nativity Saturday night that told the story of the life of Christ, in stations depicting scenes from his birth in the manger to his death and resurrection. Shown here are a few of the scenes, from top left: birth in a manger; the last supper with His disciples; carrying the cross to his crucifixion; the discovery of the empty tomb after Jesus' death; and Jesus' resurrection and ascension to heaven. The drive-thru nativity, held in the church parking lot, was a popular event as cars lined up for several blocks to wait their turn, and in fact the two-hour time slot went into overtime by nearly an hour to get all the cars through. (LCN PHOTOS by Jueheli Jones)

Investigation Underway In JP Office

An official investigation is currently underway in the Lynn County Precinct 1 Justice of Peace office, stemming from a financial audit report. Judge Ginger Henry, who was elected to the office in January 2007, has been placed on paid leave of absence during the investigation that is being conducted by the Texas Rangers. She was reportedly placed on leave in early December.

During the absence of Judge Henry, the JP office in the courthouse is remaining open, with Pct. 4 Justice of Peace Ed Follis Jr. assisting and clerk Dana McKay continuing in her duties.

As the investigation continues, county officials are not commenting on whether funds are missing or misappropriated from the Justice of Peace office, but County Judge H.G. Franklin indicated that any legal action considered would be undertaken through the District Attorney's office.

Traffic Accidents Reported In City

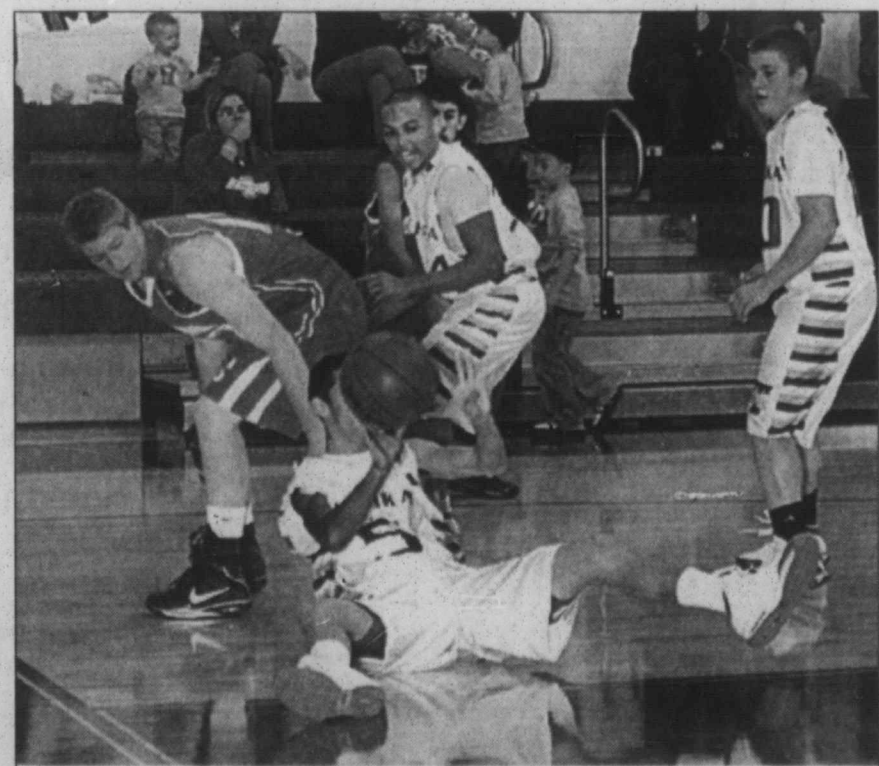
Tahoka Police investigated two traffic accidents in the city during the last week, with no injuries listed in either of the two.

Last Thursday at the downtown traffic light, Lockwood and Main, a semi truck tractor driven by Wilton Dale Thompson, 58, of Denver City, and a 2000 Ford Mustang driven by Julia Benavidez Ramos, 55, of Tahoka, collided as the truck was making a wide turn.

Sunday on private property on Lockwood, a 2001 Nissan Frontier pickup driven by Ira Collins, 90, of Tahoka and a 1991 Ford Probe driven by Dixie J. Tillman, 49, of Tahoka, were involved in a collision.

DPS officers investigated two accidents in the county last week. One was south of Tahoka on U.S. 87 and one was north of New Home. No details of either accident were immediately available.

A \$1,000 reward for information about the apparent shooting of a calf near Redwine has been withdrawn after the owner of the calf reported that two more calves had been found dead and that apparently all died from a disease, instead of being shot.



Down but not out ... Taylor Abell is down on the floor, but still focused on the ball as Tahoka hosted Coahoma last Friday. Other players here are Neiko Garcia and Matt Taylor, who scored 16 points for the Dogs. Coahoma beat Tahoka 46-44. (LCN PHOTO by Abraham Vega)



woodwork

by dalton



CHRISTMAS is finally here, and this year as always, this newspaper's Christmas edition is filled with letters to Santa Claus from youngsters in the county, most of whom want all the things that are being advertised, especially on television.

If they get even half of the things on their wish lists, some of that bailout money being conjured up in Washington surely will have to go to parents of kids who just know that Santa has deep pockets and a heck of a big sleigh full of good stuff. Here's hoping they all get enough toys and games to keep them happy.

Christmas 2008 has caused me to think about some things that used to be associated with Christmas that seem to have vanished, like fruit cake, which nearly everyone says they hate. Many people seem to think, in fact, that fruitcake was a very ungodly thing to have around at Christmas, and we are well rid of it.

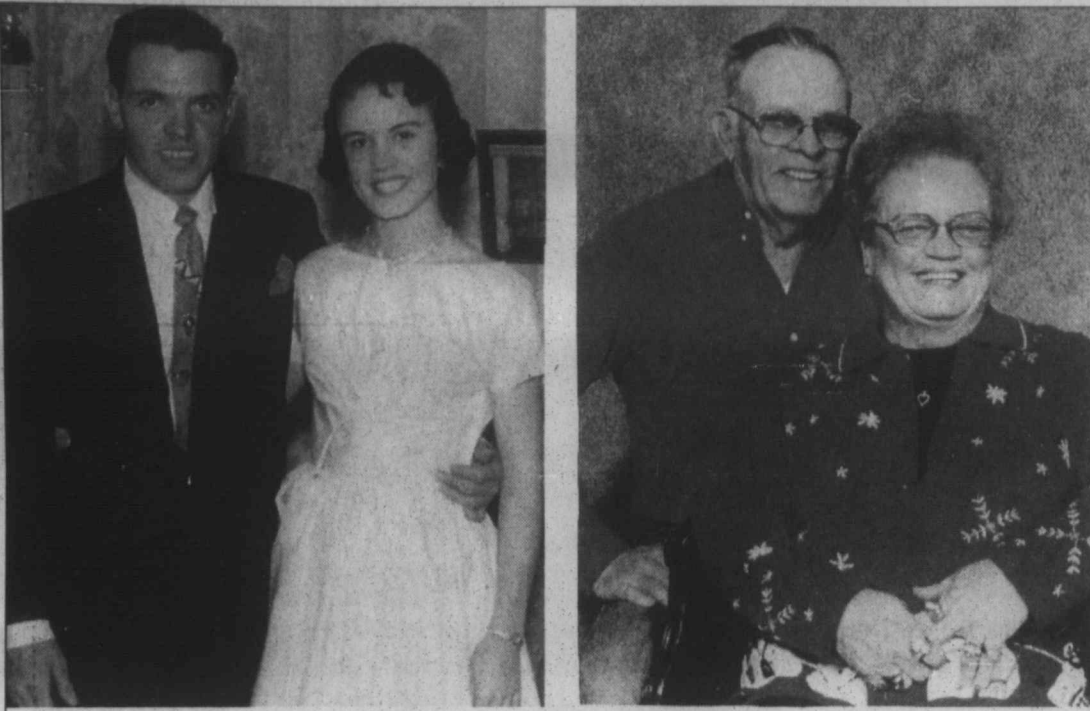
I haven't even seen a fruitcake in years, possibly 20 years or longer, as it has fallen from favor. I am a bit reluctant to admit it, but I sort of liked fruitcake, best I can remember. I do recall that it really isn't baked, like a real cake, but is just a mess of things thrown together with no apparent reason, like the bailout plan.

Another thing I recall from Christmases past that I liked, but which has vanished, was date loaf candy. I guess nobody makes it anymore. People do still make homemade fudge, which tastes great, only I'm no longer allowed to eat it.

Here's a tip for you younger folks: eat all the good homemade candy, cake, pies and cookies you can get. Pay no attention to calories and cholesterol and other evil inventions of modern medicine. Because one of these days when you go to see your doctor (whatever his name, you can call him or her Dr. Killjoy) and, the doctor is going to tell you to quit eating things which taste good.

By the way, when I said at first "Christmas is finally here," I was thinking in terms of the youngsters, for whom the term "slow as Christmas" has meaning. When you get up in years, you are more likely to say, "What? It's Christmas again, already?" because in later years, time moves much faster.

I know, because I had a birthday Dec. 4, then on Dec. 7, a family dinner with more birthday stuff, and a third birthday celebration (a surprise) on Dec. 14. That's three birthdays in 10 days. Folks, the birthdays really do come around in a hurry as you get older.



MR. AND MRS. MICKEY BERTREAU

Couple Celebrates 50th Anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. Mickey Bertreaux celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Saturday, Dec. 20 at the Life Enrichment Center in Tahoka, at an event hosted by their children. Bertreaux and the former Viola Lindsey married December 24, 1958 in Tahoka. Children of the couple are daughters Mickey Harcrow of Tahoka, Vickey McAllister-Ford of Lubbock, Nickey and Rick Tyler of Lubbock, Michelle and Ramiro Rodriguez of San Angelo; a son, Rickey Bertreaux of Tahoka. They have 12 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Tyler Hawthorne Accepts Position In Crosby County

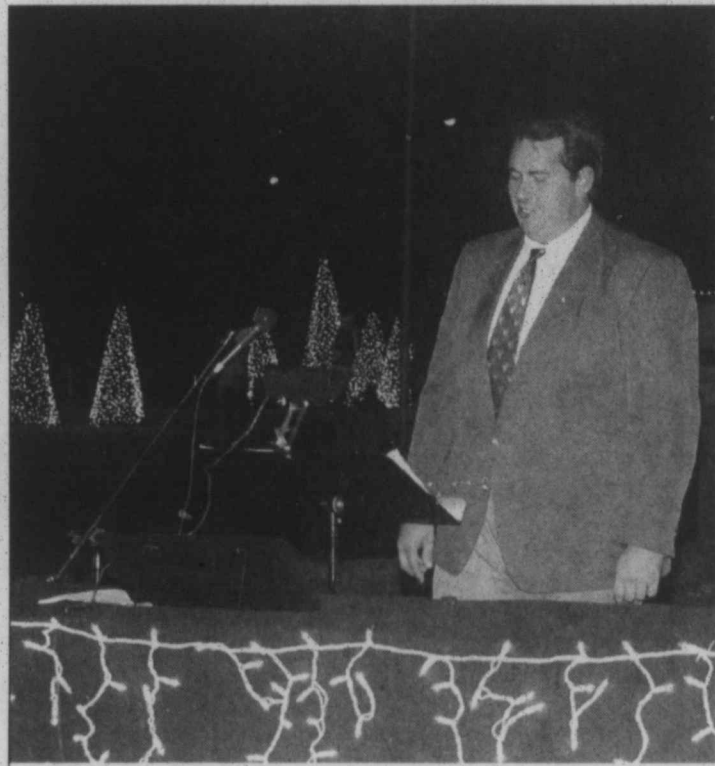
Tyler Hawthorne, of Tahoka, has accepted the position of AgriLife Extension agent for agriculture and natural resources for Crosby County, effective Feb. 1, 2009.

"He is one of the four individuals who is proof-positive that the South Plains district is maintaining its tradition of hiring what we feel are the best and brightest," said Jett Major, AgriLife Extension administrator at Lubbock.

Hawthorne was the top student in the college of agriculture at West Texas A&M University this past year and Adair worked as a research assistant under Dr. John Gannaway and Dr. Terry Wheeler here in the Plains Cotton Improvement Program while he completed masters level studies at Texas Tech.

"We are very fortunate to have Hawthorne compliment the South Plains district, and we look forward to the teamwork and ideas he will provide," Major said.

Hawthorne, a West Texas A&M University graduate, has served for several years as an



Singing Carols... James Craig, a member of the Tahoka First Baptist Church Choir, sings a Christmas song during Moonlight Madness held in Tahoka.

adult 4-H and FFA volunteer in Randall and Lynn counties. While attending college he was the manager of the school's Beef Carcass Research Center and Meat Lab. He was also on the president's honor roll during his last three years at the university

and was named the top student in the West Texas A&M University college of agriculture in 2007.

He is the son of John and Lisa Hawthorne and the grandson of Marlin and Diana Hawthorne, all of Tahoka.

Indigent Defense Contract Approved

Lynn County Commissioners met in regular session Monday morning at the courthouse, considering routine business including the annual contract for indigent defense representation in district court. The contract is shared by the four counties in the 106th Judicial District, with Lynn, Garza, Dawson and Gaines counties sharing pro-rata costs based on the previous year's number of indigent defendants represented in district court. This year, Lynn County's portion is about \$3,000 lower than the 2007 contract, at \$7,609 as compared to \$10,883 the previous year.

District-wide, the indigent defense contract totals \$66,000 for the 106th Judicial District. Based on pro-rata share by county, Dawson and Gaines counties carry the majority of the cost, with each paying just over \$24,000, and Garza County's share at \$10,058.

In other business, commissioners voted to approve a contract with Buy Board and named County Treasurer Pam Miller as program coordinator for Lynn County. Buy Board offers a cash rewards program for

counties purchasing through a credit card system.

Victim Services Coordinator Lena Cloe met with commissioners, presenting information on an application for a yearly grant which helps fund her program. Commissioners voted to approve the grant application for a proposed \$44,630. The county cash match is \$4,686 and the county in-kind match is \$6,472.

Tom Houle, President of Fremantle Energy, and Randy Sowell, manager of field operations, met with commissioners to discuss a possible transmission line to be built in the county, discussing the easement process and any problems that might arise. No action was considered on this issue.

Sheriff Jerry D. Franklin reported on his department's activities, and representatives from the Lynn County Soil & Water Conservation District presented a report for the past year.

County Judge H.G. Franklin presided at the meeting, with all commissioners present including Mike Braddock, Keith Wied, Don Blair and Brad Hammonds.



LINDSEY BARRIENTEZ

Barrientez On Dean's Honor List

Lindsey Barrientez, of Tahoka, was listed on the Dean's Honor List for the Fall 2008 semester at Texas Tech University, The College of Art and Sciences.

She is a 2008 graduate of Tahoka High School. She is daughter of Joe and Linda Barrientez.



Bells Will Be Ringing... The First United Methodist Church Joy Ringers Handbell Choir played Christmas selections at the Moonlight Madness event held December 1 at the square in downtown Tahoka. Directed by Tony McGowan (the reindeer in front), choir members include, from left, Pam Parker, Carol Fancher, Lou Ann McGowan, Juanell Jones, Betty Owens, Judy Holden and Vendell Elliott.

NEW AT THE CITY/COUNTY LIBRARY

Dashing through the Snow by Mary Higgins Clark

In Branscombe, N.H., novelist Nora Regan Reilly and her PI daughter, Regan Reilly, and their close friends Alvirah and Will Meehan, track down a missing employee of Conklin's Market who is connected with a \$160 million lottery and the winnings.

Your Heart Belongs to Me by Dean Koontz

For thirty-four-year-old Ryan Perry, life is good a year after the heart transplant that had saved him from certain death, until he begins to receive strange messages united by the theme, "Your heart belongs to me," and discovers that he is being stalked by a mysterious woman who bears a striking resemblance to the donor of his heart.

Crossroads by Belva Plain

The owner of a New England glassworks company, widow Cassie Wright struggles to raise her surviving child, Gwen, in the face of unbearable tragedy, but as Gwen blossoms into an independent young woman, dissension drives the two apart, until Gwen has her own child, a little girl who reunites the estranged family.

Deadly Gift by Heather Graham

Sent to America as an Irish nurse, banshee Caer Donahue yearns for a mortal life when she is submerged in a mystery of sunken treasure and attempted murder, which leads her into the loving arms of Zach Flynn.

We wish all of you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, too!

Kim Jones, FNPC
LYNN COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT CLINIC - SUITE B

Merry Christmas!

We will close early, on Christmas Eve, Wednesday, Dec. 24 at 6 p.m. and will be closed all day Thursday for Christmas.

Prices in last week's advertising circular are good through Dec. 31st.

Tahoka's
THRIFTWAY



Come to our **Family Christmas Eve Service**
A SERVICE OF CAROLS AND CANDLELIGHT

Dress Informally and Bring Your Family to This Celebration of the Birth of Christ!

6:00 p.m. on Christmas Eve

Tahoka, TX 1801 Ave. J

Trapped in Friday outscoring Kyra Hein

State Rep Recognize

Represent congratulated tors, teachers, ents of 17 high District 85 for among Ame schools in the of U.S. News

The 2009 Best High Sc following hig ed by studen House Distric Borden Coun Dawson, Flo County, Ham Loop, Mead O'Donnell, R land, and We of more tha analyzed nat ogized scho group of less ceive awards.

"Being li ica's Best Hig an accomplish Heflin. "Few schools natio honor, but on schools in E were recogni very well of teachers, stud West Texas."

The list High School schools that dents well, ne for college. make the list perform bett state standar the average s In addition, advantaged performing than their sta

"Public that our chi portunity to urd Rep. H of our rural the foundatio both now an am very plea of our area h nized for th he concluded

Rep. H House Distr cludes Bord Floyd, Garza Howard, Jon on, Reagan, and Terry C plete listing located in may be foun com/links/h Rep. Hef at his Capi



Trapped in a pack of Dogs ... Tahoka Lady Bulldogs surround a Coahoma player in Friday night's game at Tahoka. The Tahoka team added another win under their belt, outscoring Coahoma 58-22. Lady Bulldogs shown here are Cori Vega, Kalee Wuensche, Kyra Helm and Kaitlyn Reno. (LCN PHOTO by Abraham Vega)

State Rep. Heflin Congratulates High Schools Recognized Among America's Best For 2009

Representative Joe Heflin congratulated the administrators, teachers, students, and parents of 17 high schools in House District 85 for being recognized among America's best high schools in the December 4 issue of *U.S. News & World Report*.

The 2009 list of America's Best High Schools included the following high schools attended by students living in Texas House District 85: Abernathy, Borden County, Cotton Center, Dawson, Floydada, Glasscock County, Hamlin, Haskell, Irion, Loop, Meadow, New Home, O'Donnell, Ralls, Sands, Southland, and Wellman-Union. Out of more than 21,000 schools analyzed nationwide, the recognized schools were among a group of less than 2,000 to receive awards.

"Being listed among America's Best High Schools is quite an accomplishment," said Rep. Heflin. "Fewer than 10% of high schools nationwide received this honor, but one-third of the high schools in House District 85 were recognized. That speaks very well of the administrators, teachers, students and parents in West Texas," Heflin added.

The list of America's Best High Schools recognizes high schools that serve all their students well, not just those bound for college. For a school to make the list, its students must perform better statistically on state standardized testing than the average student in the state. In addition, the schools' least-advantaged students must be performing better statistically than their statewide peers.

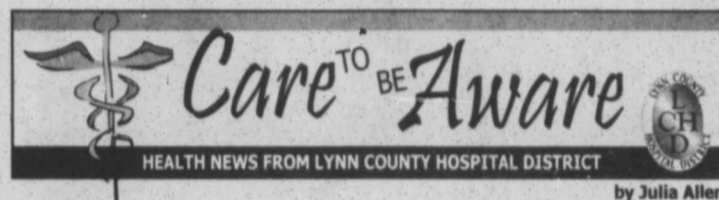
"Public education ensures that our children have an opportunity to succeed," continued Rep. Heflin. "For many of our rural communities, it is the foundation of economic life both now and for the future. I am very pleased to see so many of our area high schools recognized for their contributions," he concluded.

Rep. Heflin represents House District 85, which includes Borden, Crosby, Fisher, Floyd, Garza, Glasscock, Hale, Howard, Jones, Kent, Lynn, Irion, Reagan, Sterling, Stonewall, and Terry Counties. A complete listing of school districts located in House District 85 may be found at <http://johheflin.com/links/html>

Rep. Heflin may be reached at his Capitol Office in Austin, 512.463.0604, at his District Office in Crosbyton, 806.675.1583, or in Big Spring, at 432.213.2897.



Santa visits the Tahoka ISD childcare center ... Children pictures here with Santa are, from left to right, Brogan Stone, Nataly Taylor, Halle Stone, Caleb Erickson, Shane Wiseman, Bryson Stone, Landree Erickson, and Zane Garvin. Other children who visited with Santa but not pictured are Marlee Stone, Zole Garvin, Renleigh Kingham, Bek McCleskey, Grace Reglin, and Reese Wiseman.



2 hours, 2 inches & 4 days

Many home and office refrigerators will contain leftover holiday food after December 25. Before reheating these leftovers determine they are safe to eat. Here is an easy way to remember general food safety: **2 hours, 2 inches and 4 days.**

Were they refrigerated within 2 hours of cooking? If not, throw them out. Were the leftovers cooled properly, i.e. turkey and ham sliced into smaller portions and other leftovers cooled quickly in shallow pans less than 2 inches deep? How long

have they been in the refrigerator? 4 days maximum. Here's a list of common leftovers and recommended refrigerator storage times:

- soups and stews: 3 to 4 days
- gravy and meat broth: 1 to 2 days
- cooked turkey, meat and meat dishes: 3 to 4 days
- cooked poultry dishes: 3 to 4 days
- homemade pie: 2 to 3 days
- casseroles: 3 to 4 days
- pasta & potato salads: 3 to 4 days

To help ensure food safety, refrigerate perishable foods

quickly. Perishable foods include meat, poultry, dairy, fish, eggs, side dishes and casseroles.

Also remember that unless the container is labeled microwave safe, take the time to put the food on a plate when reheating your leftovers. "Cool Whip", cottage cheese containers, margarine tubs and most plastic storage containers are not heat stable.

Finally, if you don't know how long the food has set out or been in the refrigerator remember the old adage "when in doubt, throw it out."

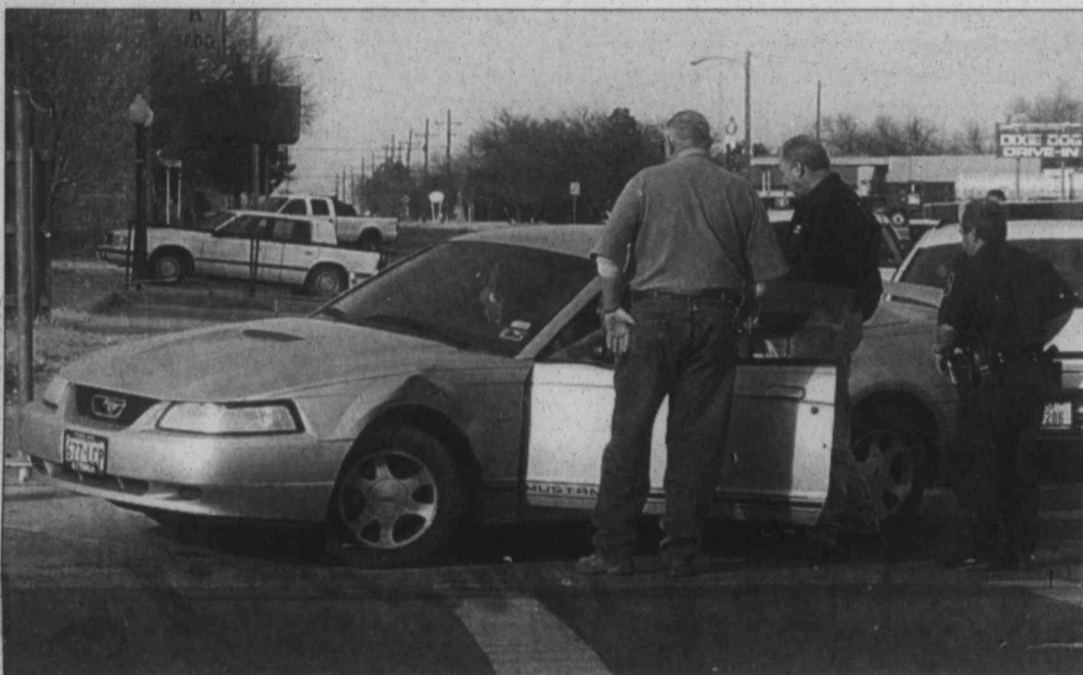
Merry Christmas to all!

ATTEND CHURCH IN LYNN COUNTY

<p>Draw First United Methodist Church (established 1907) P.O. Box 496 • O'Donnell, TX 79351 Phone (806) 428-3357 or Fern Barnes (806) 327-5583 PASTOR: REV. LARRY GAUMOND Sunday Morning Worship – 9:15 a.m. Sunday School following</p>	<p>TAHOKA St. Jude Thaddeus Catholic Church South 4th & Ave. M • Tahoka, TX 79373 (806) 561-4436 PASTOR: REV. EDUARDO TEO DEACON: FRANCISCO AGUILAR Mass – 9:30 a.m. Sunday, 7 p.m. Wed. & Thur. Rosary – 7 p.m. Tues. CCE Class/Confirmation Instruct. – 7 p.m. Wed.</p>	<p>TAHOKA Church of Christ 2320 Lockwood • Box 1177 • Tahoka, TX 79373 (806) 561-4060 • email: tooc@poka.com MINISTER: RON FANT Sunday School – 10:00 a.m. Sunday Worship – 11 a.m., 6 p.m. Bible Classes – Wednesday 7 p.m.</p>	<p>1801 Ave. J • Box 500 Tahoka, TX 79373 (806) 561-4503 email: functahoka@poka.com Tahoka, TX PASTOR: VERNON BAKER SUNDAYS: Praise Worship – 8:30 a.m. Sunday School – 9:45 a.m. Sunday Worship – 11:00 a.m. TUESDAYS: Branded Ministries – 6:30 p.m. WEDNESDAYS: Youth – 6:30 p.m.</p>
<p>Wilson St. Paul Lutheran Church 16th & Houston St. • Box 136 • Wilson, TX 79381 (806) 628-6471 • www.stpaulwilson.com PASTOR: DAVID W. ROLHE Sunday School – 9:15 a.m. Divine Service – 10:15 a.m. "Where Christ Serves People"</p>	<p>NEW HOME BAPTIST CHURCH Corner of Fourth & Smith "Serving the Lord for 100 Years" SERVICES: Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Sunday Worship.....11:00 a.m. Wednesday Bible Study.....7:00 pm Wed. Youth/Children's Activities.....7:00 pm Pastor: Calvin Gray</p>	<p>O'Donnell First Baptist Church 701 Standefer • O'Donnell, TX 79351 (806) 428-3236 PASTOR: SCOTT HENSLEY Sunday School – 9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship: 10:45 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Wednesday Prayer Meeting – 7 p.m.</p>	<p>First Baptist Church 1701 Ave. K • Box 1547 • Tahoka, TX 79373 (806) 561-4557 • www.fbctahoka.org PASTOR: REV. RICHARD HARBISON Sunday School – 9:45 a.m. Morning Worship Service – 11:00 a.m. Evening Worship Service – 6 p.m. Activities For All Ages – Call For Complete Schedule There's A Place For Me at FBC!</p>
<p>Grassland Nazarene Church 2885 CR 25 • Tahoka, TX 79373 (806) 327-5656, 327-5655 PASTOR: Rev. James Miller Sunday School – 9:45 a.m. Sunday Morning Worship – 10:45 a.m. Sunday Evening Worship – 6 p.m. Youth and Adults: Wednesdays – 7 p.m.</p>	<p>A Blessed Christmas 8And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. 9An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. 10But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. 11Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. -- Luke 2:8-11 (NIV) ATTEND THE CHURCH OF YOUR CHOICE FOR CHRISTMAS EVE AND/OR CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICES.</p>	<p>Sweet Street Baptist Church 1300 Avenue J • Box 751 • Tahoka, TX 79373 (806) 561-5310 PASTOR: LYNN LONG Sunday School – 9:45 a.m. (A Bible Study Class for all ages) Morning Worship – 10:55 a.m. (Uplifting Music – Message from God's Word) Evening Worship – 6 p.m. (Praise & Worship – Gospel Message) Wednesday Night – 7 p.m. (Prayer & Bible Study, Children & Youth Ministries) EVERYONE IS WELCOME!</p>	<p>Ambassadors for Christ 701 N. 1st • Tahoka, TX 79373 Phone 806-797-5132 PASTOR: LONNY LANGEHENNING SUNDAY SERVICES: Morning Worship – 10:45 a.m. Evening Praise & Worship – 6:00 p.m. Wednesday Bible Study – 7:00 p.m.</p>
<p>Wilson First Baptist Church 1403 13th St. • Box 67 • Wilson, TX 79381 (806) 628-6333 PASTOR: BILLY PARMER Sunday School – 9:45 a.m. Sunday Morning Worship – 11:00 a.m. Discipleship Training – 5 p.m. Sunday Sunday Evening Worship – 6 p.m. 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays: Fellowship Meal & Classes for all ages • Bible Study & Prayer Mtg • Youth</p>			
<p>Tahoka Trinity Church 1925 Lockwood • Box 1168 • Tahoka, TX 79373 Phone (806) 561-5317 PASTOR: PERRY SHUFFIELD Sunday School – 9:45 a.m. Sunday Morning Worship – 10:45 a.m. Sunday Evening Worship – 6 p.m. Youth – Sundays at 7 p.m. For a ride to Sunday School or Church, call 561-5317</p>	<p>New Home United Methodist Church 350 N. Main New Home, TX 79383 (806) 924-7549 PASTOR: RICK WOLFE Sunday School – 10:00 a.m. Sunday Worship – 10:45 a.m. Youth Activities</p>	<p>New Home Church of Christ St. address • Box 188 • New Home, TX 79383 (806) 924-7579 MINISTER: VICTOR ELLISON Bible Class – 9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship Service – 10:30 a.m. Sunday Evening Service – 6 p.m. Mid-Week Bible Study – 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Wilson St. John Lutheran Church 13th & Dickson • Wilson, TX 79381 (806) 628-6573 Sharing Christ's message of forgiveness and salvation with our community and beyond. LEADERS: REV. YVONNE KIEBLER TONDA FREITAG, PLM Sunday School – 10:00 a.m. Sunday Worship – 11:15 a.m.</p>



Low bridge ... Tanner Hall ducks through an opening in Tahoka's basketball game against Coahoma, although two of Coahoma's players are attempting to block his path. The Bulldogs lost by two points at the final buzzer, 46-44. The Bulldog at right is Neiko Garcia. (LCN PHOTO by Tina Wuensche)



Tahoka accident... A traffic accident at the intersection of Lockwood and Main in downtown Tahoka last Thursday resulted in no injuries. Above, Tahoka police officers Doyle Lee and Brent Lee are talking to the occupant of one of the vehicles involved. Driver of the 2000 Mustang above was Julia Benavidez Ramos of Tahoka, and driver of an 18-wheeler which struck the Ford during a turn was Wilton Dale Thompson of Denver City. (LCN PHOTO by Pam Elrod)



Greetings

In the true Christmas spirit, we join everyone in prayers for lasting peace. Gratefully, we thank everyone for the trust and confidence that has been extended to us.

THE LYNN COUNTY OFFICIALS

Carter T. Schildknecht District Judge	Pam Miller Treasurer	Kieth Wied Commissioner, Precinct 1
H.G. Franklin County Judge	Ginger Henry Justice of the Peace, Precinct 1	Mike Braddock Commissioner, Precinct 2
Sherry Pearce Tax Assessor-Collector	E.L. Follis, Jr. Justice of the Peace, Precinct 4	Don Blair Commissioner, Precinct 3
Susan Tipton County Clerk	Bill Schoemann Probation Officer	Brad Hammonds Commissioner, Precinct 4
Sandra Laws District Clerk	Donnis Scott County Attorney	Bryan Reynolds County Extension Agent
Ricky Smith District Attorney	Jerry D. Franklin Sheriff	Amy Baugh County Extension Agent

Crop Report Trims More From 2009 High Plains Crop Estimate

By Shawn Wade
Plains Cotton Growers

The United States Department of Agriculture has trimmed another 30,000 bales from the crop production estimate for the Texas High Plains region as 2008 crop projections. The decrease continues to inch the estimate toward the range that many High Plains cotton industry observers are discussing.

The latest NASS estimate has the region estimated to produce 3.38 million bales down slightly from the 3.41 million bales forecast the previous month. Revisions to the crop estimate at this time of year are typically small since there is a real mixed bag of data being used to form them. The nature of the process dictates that as ginning data becomes available to verify, or refute, previous yield forecasts based on in-field surveys it is safe to assume that future estimates will continue to narrow the margin for error.

The end of harvest is in sight for most producers as crop reports indicate the area has now harvested some 90 percent of the crop. Some of the region's gins, in fact, are already finishing their 2008 operations. Overall the ginning season is expected to be finished by the end of January in all but a few isolated areas.

The bad news is that the 2008 crop will produce a significant amount of low Micronaire cotton and an even larger number of bales discounted for bark. These two grade components, which also suffer the stiffest loan discounts, are the soft underbelly of the 2008 crop.

On the upside, though, is the fact that Color and Staple measurements have kept most of the crop firmly locked in the top right quadrant of the loan chart based on Color, Staple and Leaf grades and helped support loan values.

With a clearer picture of the 2008 crop emerging on a daily basis it is still hard to say whether or not the December 11 USDA Crop Production estimate is on the mark or if it is due for a few more slight revisions.

By the time USDA issues its next estimate on January 12, 2009 the picture should be considerably clearer and almost all the blanks ought to be filled in by the end of January as the last gins will either be wrapping up or about to finish their gin runs at that time.

Obituaries



JIMMIE DEAN GASS

Jimmie Dean Gass

Services for Mrs. Jimmie Dean Gass, 73, of O'Donnell were held at 2:00 p.m., Tuesday 23, 2008 at the Church of Christ in O'Donnell with Silas Short officiating. Interment followed in the O'Donnell Cemetery under the direction of White Funeral Home in Tahoka.

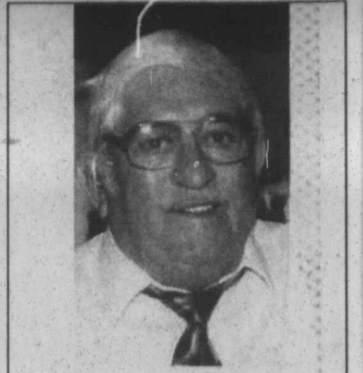
She was born February 4, 1935 in Knox City to Clyde Turner and Edith (Barton) Fultz. She moved to O'Donnell from Goree, Tx in 1938. She married Joyle Gass, November 4, 1953 in O'Donnell. She was a member of O'Donnell Church of Christ. She worked as a bookkeeper for eighteen years at Sears. She died on December 21, 2008.

She was preceded in death by her parents; one sister, Juanita Ballard and one brother, Theo Fultz.

Survivors include her husband Joyle of 55 years; three sons, Blake, Blane, and Lanny Gass all of O'Donnell; three sisters, Virginia Thompson of O'Donnell; Lois Coats of Lubbock; Cleo Brownlow of Lamesa.

Memorials may be made to the O'Donnell Church of Christ at 305 5th Street, O'Donnell, TX 79351 and the Lubbock Children's Home at Pioneer Park Cottage 1712 E 31st Street, Lubbock, TX 79404.

Online condolences may be sent to www.whitefuneralhome.com.



FELICIANO M. MARTINEZ

Feliciano M. Martinez

Mass was held for Feliciano M. Martinez, 77, of O'Donnell, at 1:00 p.m., Monday, December 22, 2008 at St. Pius Catholic X Church in O'Donnell with Father Eduardo Teo celebrate. Arrangements were under the direction of White Funeral Home of Tahoka.

He was born January 25, 1931 in Mexico to Jesus and Celia (Medrano) Martinez. Feliciano moved to O'Donnell from Sebastian, TX in 1968. He was a ginner at the Farmers Co-op Gin. He married Melida Cavazos in LaFeria, Tx on, February 9, 1958. He was a member of St. Pius X Catholic Church in O'Donnell. He died December 20, 2008.

Survivors his wife of 50 years, Melida; three daughters, Melida and husband Mark Casarez of O'Donnell; Patricia and husband Tino Salinas of O'Donnell; Rose and husband Joseph Dixon of Abilene; one son, Feliciano Martinez Jr. and wife Thelma of Lubbock; fifteen grandchildren; eighteen great-grandchildren; two sisters, Esperanza Garcia of Monterrey, Mexico; and Delia Gonzales of Ebano, SanLuis, Mexico.

Online condolences may be sent to www.whitefuneralhome.com.

Senior Citizens MENU

Dec. 29- Jan. 2

Monday: Hamburger on a bun, cheese, trimmings, oven fried French fries, chips, pears

Tuesday: Baked ham, steamed cabbage, carrot coins, biscuits, lemon pudding

Wednesday through Friday: Closed for holidays

Reminder: Domino Night is every Monday at 6:00 p.m.



Have a safe and Merry Christmas!

MANUEL

Peace
From
Earth

As the holiday nears,
we wish you the most treasured
gifts of all ... peace and love.

Wildcat Manufacturing
Leighton : JOAN

HAROLD GREEN

Practice of Law: May 24, 1951 - December 31, 2008

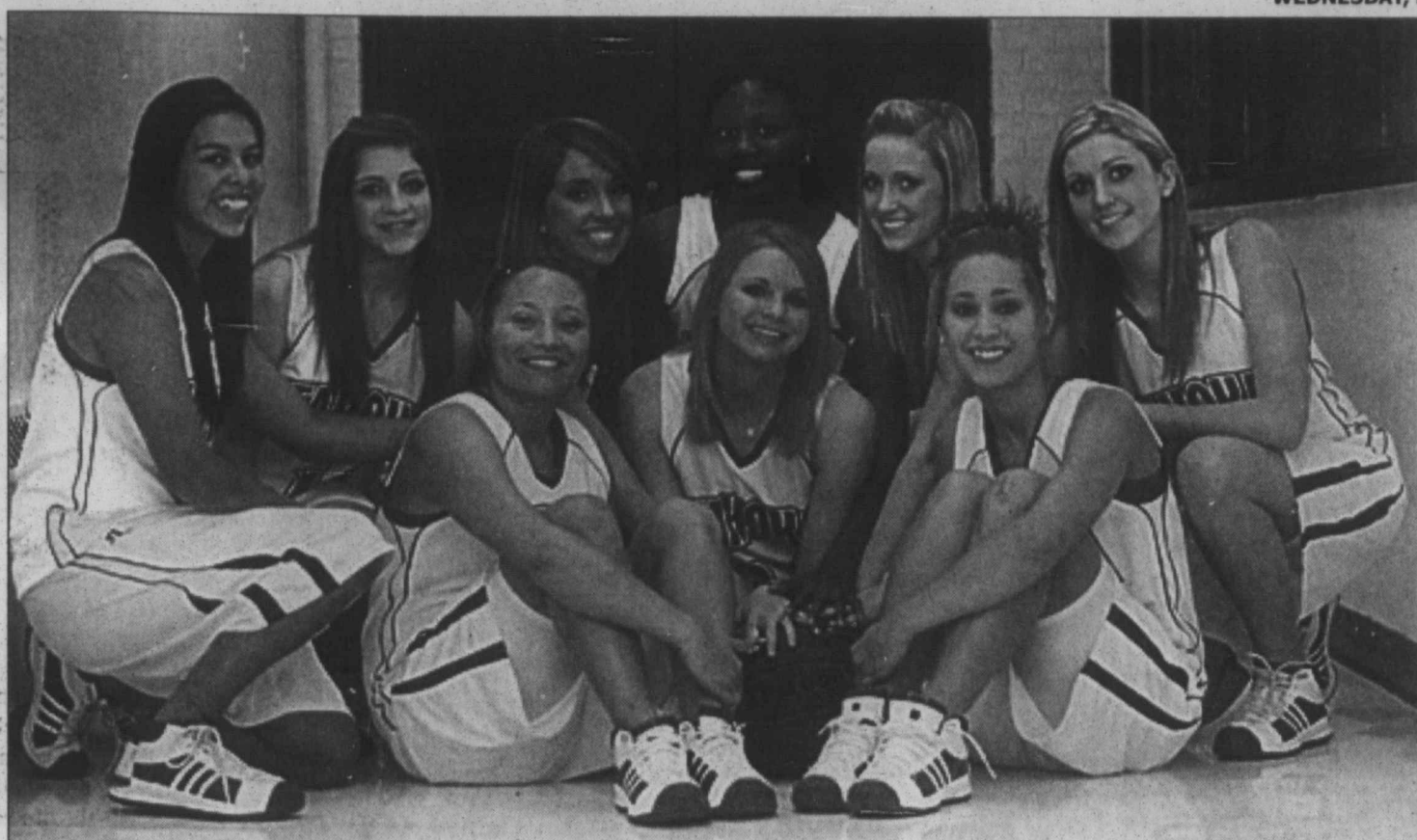


Congratulations to Harold Green on a long and very distinguished career in the practice of law.

Harold Green exemplifies the meaning of a gentleman lawyer. He always worked hard for his clients and dealt with others with a fair but stern hand. His word is his bond, and his actions were never less than honorable in all circumstances. I can say without question it was an honor to work for him and with him.

We at W. Calloway Huffaker, Attorney at Law and Lynn County Abstract congratulate you on your career and wish you and Bettye a long and wonderful retirement.

"THE SECRET OF SUCCESS IS TO DO THE COMMON THING UNCOMMONLY WELL."
J.D. Rockefeller



Lady Bulldogs ... The 2008-2009 Tahoka High School Varsity Lady Bulldogs include, in back from left, Sabrina Moralez, Kaitlyn Reno, Morgan Lockaby, Kyra Helm, Stormee Martin, Kalee Wuensche; and in front, Brittney Hair, Samantha Pridmore, and Cori Vega. Steve Fancher is head coach. The Lady Bulldogs were the Consolation champions in the Stanton Tournament on Dec. 11-13, with a 13-2 record as of Dec. 20.

Christmas Music Quiz

by Dean McIntyre

The following alphabetical list contains the 25 most popular Christmas songs in the U.S.—based upon a combination of recordings, performances, and sales. Number them in order of popularity, with number one being the most popular.

- ___ "Blue Christmas" by Billy Hayes and Jay W. Johnson
- ___ "Carol of the Bells" by Peter J. Wilhousky and M. Leontovich
- ___ "The Chipmunk Song" ("Christmas Don't Be Late") by Ross Bagdasarian (David Seville)
- ___ "The Christmas Song" ("Chestnuts Roasting on an Open Fire") by Mel Torme and Robert Wells
- ___ "The Christmas Waltz" by Sammy Cahn and Jule Styne
- ___ "Feliz Navidad" by Jose Feliciano
- ___ "Frosty the Snow Man" by Steve Nelson and Walter E. Rollins
- ___ "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas" by Ralph Blane and Hugh Martin
- ___ "Here Comes Santa Claus" ("Right Down Santa Claus Lane") by Gene Autry and Oakley Haldeman
- ___ "A Holly Jolly Christmas" by Johnny Marks
- ___ "Home for the Holidays" ("There's No Place Like") by Bob Allen and Al Stillman
- ___ "I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus" by Tommy Connor
- ___ "I'll Be Home for Christmas" by Walter Kent, Kim Gannon, and Buck Ram
- ___ "It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas" by Meredith Willson
- ___ "Jingle Bell Rock" by Joseph Carleton Beal and James Ross Boothe
- ___ "Let It Snow! Let It Snow! Let It Snow!" by Sammy Cahn and Jule Styne
- ___ "Little Drummer Boy" by Katherine K. Davis, Henry V. Onorati and Harry Simeone
- ___ "Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree" by Johnny Marks
- ___ "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer" by Johnny Marks
- ___ "Santa Claus Is Coming to Town" by J. Fred Coots and Haven Gillespie
- ___ "Silver Bells" by Jay Livingston and Ray Evans
- ___ "Sleigh Ride" by Leroy Anderson and Mitchell Parish
- ___ "Winter Wonderland" by Felix Bernard and Richard B. Smith
- ___ "We Need a Little Christmas" by Jerry Herman
- ___ "White Christmas" by Irving Berlin

The following questions require ten additional answers taken from the list above.

Name the two oldest songs on the list, both written in 1934:

1.

2.

Name the newest song on the list, composed in 1970:

3.

Name the three songs from movies:

4.

5.

6.

Which song came from a Broadway musical?

7.

Which song came from a television special?

8.

Who composed the most songs from the list?

9.

What is the most recorded song on the list?

10.

(SEE ANSWERS ON PAGE 6)



All I Want For Christmas... Santa and Mrs. Claus came to town during the Moonlight Madness events to visit children and wish all a Merry Christmas.

Pages from the Past

SANTA LETTERS

from Dec. 24, 1965

Dear Santa Claus:

Are you busy making by Baby First Step and ironing board and iron? I hope you are cause this is what I want for Christmas.

I love you, Mary Gayle Raindl

Dear Santa Claus:

I want a bike, baton, and nurse uniform for Christmas. Please remember other boys and girls, too. I hope everyone remembers that Christmas is Jesus Birthday and not only that but he was born.

Love, Sharon Ernst

Dear Santa Claus:

I want a new bike. I want a ball. I want a kite. I want some new men. I want a fram set. I want a new car. I want a new tree. I want a football.

Bobby Follis

Dear Santa Claus:

You are a jolly old fellow. I want a doll. Will you get me a doll? I want you to get me a toy. I want a white dress. I love you.

From -- Shirley Cross

Dear Santa Claus:

I am a good boy, Santa Claus. I want a Johnny O Seven for Christmas.

Your friend, Johnny Arellano

Dear Santa Claus:

Will you come to my home and bring some toys for us? And I love you Santa Claus. I want a bike for my birthday. I am a good girl. Merry Christmas, Santa Claus. I hope you will like it.

Your friends, Mary Rodriguez

SANTA LETTERS

from Dec. 24, 1965

Dear Santa,

Please bring me a Creepy Crawler set, Johnny express and super helmet seven, and bring my brother Carlton the same as me. My brother Kevin wants guns, boots and electric football game. Bring something to all little boys and girls.

Thanks, Kent Harvick

Dear Santa Claus:

I want a BB gun for Christmas night. I love you.

Frank Romas



Tiger Scouts Pack 793... In early November, these Tiger Scouts, Pack 793 in Wilson, spent a day hiking and exploring and learning lots of facts about Tahoka Lake Pasture. Pictured from left are, Ryan Isham, Gage Lewter, Ryan Hinojosa and Abigail Isham, and in front, Lathan Lewter.

SEASON'S GREETINGS



May joy, prosperity, peace and goodwill visit your home this holiday season.

THANKS FOR YOUR PATRONAGE.

JOHN WITT BUTANE

Guy, Pam, Lee & Mike • 561-4822

*Wishing you a wonderful holiday season
from our family to yours*



Gary Sackett, RN, BSN, Clinical Supervisor; Shea Stice, CL; Jeanette Hamilton, LVN; Mary Angel Bertreaux, CNA; Lana Stice, LVN, Office Manager; Sharmye Jonas, LVN; Staci House, RN. Not pictured: Tamyra Simmons, RN, Regional Director; and Shannon Allison-Boyd, LVN, Marketing Director.

TAHOKA STAFF:

Tamyra, Jerry, Casey, Cade and Colton Shannon and Brad Gary, Brandye, Brittani, Brecklynn and Gage Staci, Jessica, Tara, Nicholas and Abby Lana, Charlie, Keaton and Colton Sharmye, Rick, Brittany, Ashleigh and Gillian Jeanette, Mark, Storm, Ariel and Angie Shea, Hagan and Brody Mary Angel, Amanda, Ashlee and Trenton

**NURSCARE
HOME HEALTH**

1511 Conway • Tahoka

806.561.1115

Pages from the Past
SANTA LETTERS
 from Dec. 24, 1965

Dear Santa Claus:
 How are you doing? I think that many children have come to ask you what they want for Christmas. We are getting a new car some time in January. I hope you will come to our house and give Shere something to play with. Give Terri, marna and daddy and Rodd and me something on Christmas night.
 Your friend, Rand Nieman

Dear Santa Claus:
 I want a BB gun for Christmas. I want a pony for Christmas. I love Santa Claus.
 Love, Danny Emerson

Dear Santa Claus:
 I want a Johnny Eagle gun. I am a good boy. And I also want a calvary set. How are you and Mrs. Santa Claus doing? I also want a fort set. And I also want James Bond 007 set.
 Your friend, John Edwards

Dear Santa Claus:
 I want a bike for Christmas, and a rifle for Christmas, and a wagon for Christmas, and a one gun holster.
 Chris Ford

Dear Santa Claus:
 I want a Baby First Step doll. I wish you a Merry Christmas, and if you can bring this, I will give you something. I want a Baby Boo doll to if you can do that. And a bike for Christmas.
 Love, Ellen Rodriguez

Dear Santa Claus:
 I want a Baby Boo doll for Christmas and a bike and I want a Baby First Step and a ball. I'm a good girl. I think that is all for today.
 To Santa Claus from
 Mary Rose Escamilla

Dear Santa,
 I want a stallion bike and gun and holister. Santa, I hope you are doing good. Santa, tell Mrs. Santa I hope she gets to come to Santa Land. Santa, bring me some peppermint candy.
 Tony Spears, Rote 4, Tohaka

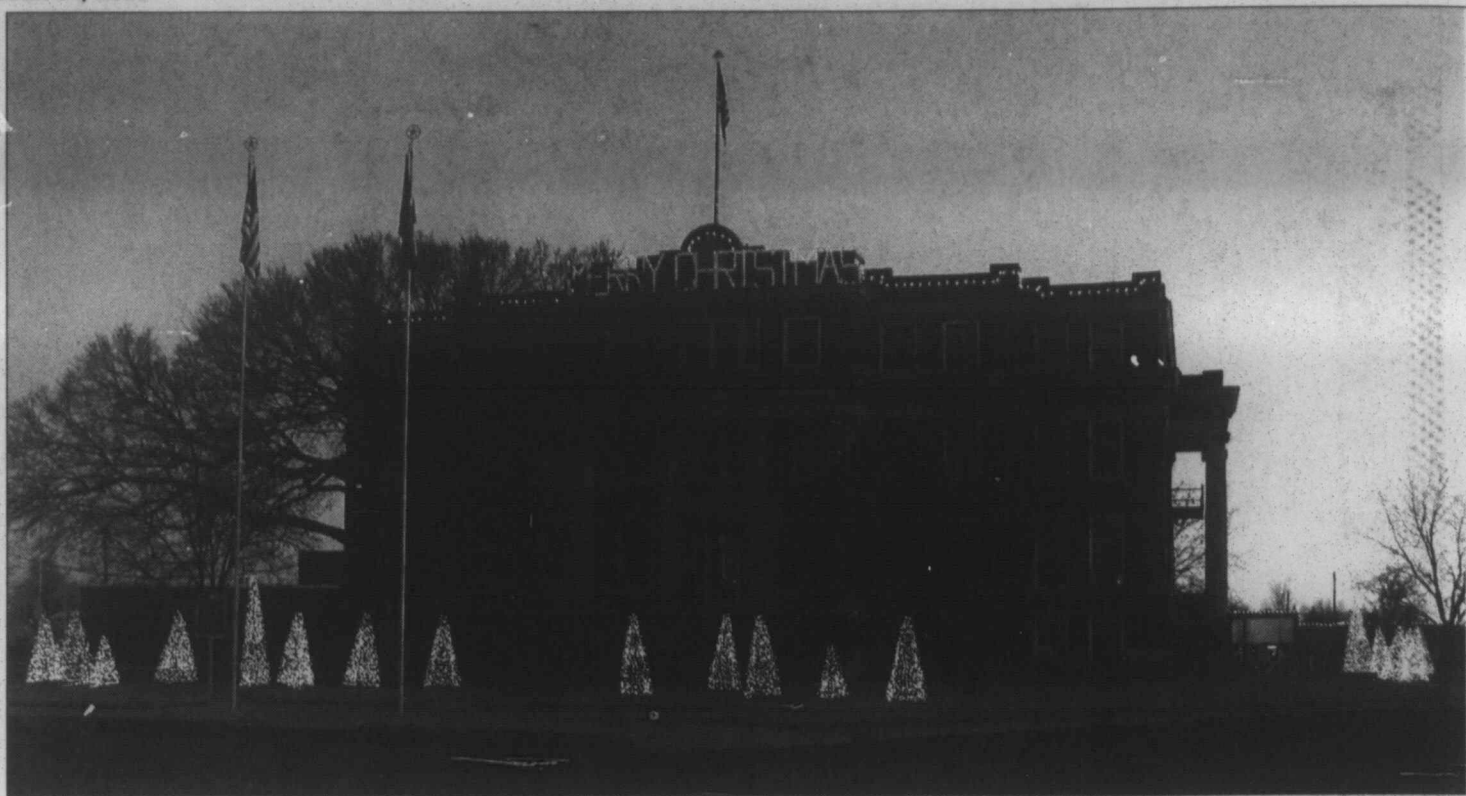
Dear Santa Claus,
 I want a airplaen that flies on gas. And in my stocking I want a superball. And don't forget Cheri. Thank you.
 Jim Bragg

Dear Saint Nicholas,
 I want a doll that walks. Please don't forget the other little boys and girls in the world. Thank you.
 Toi Bragg

Dear Santa Claus:
 How have you been doing? I am a good girl. I want a Baby First Step. Will you send it to me. And I want and kind of doll. And a bike so I can learn how to ride it.
 Your friend, Mary Ellen Escomilla

Dear Santa Claus:
 I would like a new bike for Christmas. I am good girl in school. I want a Baby Boo too.
 Your friends, Rosalinda Gomez

Dear Santa Claus:
 I'm six years old this month. Please, Santa, bring me a bicycle, shotgun, and anything else you have. I like nuts and candy. Don't



Merry Christmas From The Lynn County Courthouse... Lighted trees are found all around the Lynn County Courthouse for the holidays.

forget Sheila. She wants a piano.
 Love, Marty McClintock

Dear Santa Claus,
 I want a training-wheel bicycle and a "Baby-First-Step." A want a watch, too and a washer. Give me anything you want to give me and I want a paint set and some clay.
 Love, Deanya Lyn Wood

Dear Santa Claus,
 I want a training bicycle and I want toys. And now I want a real tractor. I want a little tractor like Daddy's.
 Love, Kevyn Wood

Dear Santa,
 I have been a good little girl. I think I want a baby name me. Ane a highchair. Please remember the other boys and girls.
 Love, Karen Meeks

Dear Santa,
 I have been a good boy. I want a creepy crawler set and a secret sam. Don't forget my brother Jerry. I love you Santa. I live at 1826 N. 7th St.
 Bye Bye, Randy Meeks

Dear Santa:
 I am six years old and have been a good boy. I would like for

you to bring me a watch, B-B gun, gun set and games. Please remember all the other boys and girls too.
 Love, Ricky Harston

Dear Santa:
 I am a big boy, age three years and have been good this year. Please bring me some chaps, gun set, rifle and cowboy clothes.
 I love you, Bryan Harston

Dear Santa Claus:
 I hope you a Merry Christmas! I want a bicycle for Christmas and my little brother wants a tricycle and my big brother wants a new chair 30 inches long or 28 inches long and my two sisters wants a tric-trac and a doll.
 From -- Joe Don Zant, Jr.

Dear Santa Claus:
 I want a fle and a pistol for Christmas. And Jesus was born on Christmas, it's just not for gifts.
 Your friend, Ronny Talley

Dear Santa Claus:
 I want some creepy crawlers. I am going to be a good girl. Would you please bring me some creepy crawlers, and I want you to bring me a super ball.
 Love, Gale Newman

Dear Santa Claus:
 I want a bicycle tire and tube. And a football. And I would like two football numbers and the two numbers to be 29. I hope that is not too much.
 Love, Joe Howard Stovall

Dear Santa Claus:
 For Christmas I would like to have a Baby Boo and a bicycle and a kenners easy bake set. I hope that is not too much. Well, good-by dear Santa Claus.
 Love, Sharon Todd



Wrappers For Kids... On Thursday, Dec. 18, Mary Angel Bertreaux, Shae Stice and Patricia Hogg gathered to help finish wrapping gifts for the Christmas For Kids in Tahoka.

Answers to the Christmas Music Quiz
 by Dean McIntyre (from page 5)

Here is the list of songs numbered in order of popularity:

- "White Christmas" by Irving Berlin
- "Santa Claus Is Coming to Town" by J. Fred Coots and Haven Gillespie
- "The Christmas Song" ("Chestnuts Roasting on an Open Fire") by Mel Torme and Robert Wells
- "Winter Wonderland" by Felix Bernard and Richard B. Smith
- "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer" by Johnny Marks
- "Sleigh Ride" by Leroy Anderson and Mitchell Parish

- "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas" by Ralph Blane and Hugh Martin
- "Silver Bells" by Jay Livingston and Ray Evans
- "Let It Snow! Let It Snow! Let It Snow!" by Sammy Cahn and Jule Styne
- "Little Drummer Boy" by Katherine K. Davis, Henry V. Onorati and Harry Simeone
- "Jingle Bell Rock" by Joseph Carleton Beal and James Ross Boothe
- "I'll Be Home for Christmas" by Walter Kent, Kim Gannon and Buck Ram
- "Frosty the Snow Man" by Steve Nelson and Walter E. Rollins
- "Blue Christmas" by Billy Hayes and Jay W. Johnson
- "Carol of the Bells" by Peter J. Wilhousky and M. Leontovich
- "It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas" by Meredith Willson
- "Here Comes Santa Claus" ("Right Down Santa Claus Lane") by Gene Autry and Oakley Haldeman
- "Home for the Holidays" ("There's No Place Like") by Bob Allen and Al Stillman
- "Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree" by Johnny Marks
- "I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus" by Tommy Connor
- "We Need a Little Christmas" by Jerry Herman
- "The Christmas Waltz" by Sammy Cahn and Jule Styne
- "The Chipmunk Song" ("Christmas Don't Be Late") by Ross Bagdasarian (David Seville)
- "Feliz Navidad" by Jose Feliciano
- "A Holly Jolly Christmas" by Johnny Marks

The two oldest songs on the list, both written in 1934:
 1. "Santa Claus Is Coming to Town"
 2. "Winter Wonderland"

The newest song on the list, composed in 1970:
 3. "Feliz Navidad"

The three songs from movies:
 4. "White Christmas" (Holiday Inn, 1942)
 5. "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas" (Meet Me In St. Louis, 1944)
 6. "Silver Bells" (The Lemon Drop Kid, 1950)

Which song came from a Broadway musical?
 7. "We Need a Little Christmas" (Mame, 1966)

Which song came from a television special?
 8. "A Holly Jolly Christmas" (Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer, 1962)

Who composed the most songs from the list?
 9. Johnny Marks with three ("Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer," "Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree," and "A Holly Jolly Christmas")

The most recorded song:
 10. "White Christmas," more than 500 versions in dozens of languages

Have a Sparkling White Christmas

We wish you all the very best!

Dr. David Midkiff, D.D.S.

Thank You!

The members of Phebe K. Warner Club wish to express their deepest appreciation to the contributors to the annual Community Christmas Greeting. We are very grateful for the assistance of the personnel at the First National Bank of Tahoka.

Christmas Greetings

Hallelujah! We're honored to join you in singing His praises as we extend our warmest wishes to you and your family.

Minnie Lou Ash	Milt and Dorothy Draper	Kent and Vondell Elliott	Cathy and Heath Ross	Arlys and Christine Askew
John, Carolyne, Jeanine and Jessica Wilson	Susan Draper	Gary and Juanell Jones	Charles and Mary Louder	Duane and Nan Howell
Gene and Rebecca Ingle	Arvak, Amy, Caden and Ryken Marshall	Allen, Pam, Tonya, Michael and Mitchell Elrod	Beryl and Joy (Brookshire) Tippit	John, Suzanne, Warren, Robert and Daniel Baker
Harold and Bettye Green	Wayne and Rachel Huffaker	Natt and Pat Park	Sis and Claudia Guin	Jimmy and Joy Bragg
Clifton and Joan Gardner	Harry and Deloris Short	Frank, Yolanda, Andrea and Adrian Aleman	Joe and Jerry Brooks	Robert and Shirley Draper
Steve, Carol, Chelsey and Cade Miller	Todd and Ginger Henry and family	Denny and Mary Belew	Mark and Vivian McAfee	Jerry and Veta Ford
Ike and Margaret Carter	Mitch, Donna and Brandi Raindl	Wayne and Loretta Tekell	Duane and Bennie Carter	Daniel and Tiffanie Garvin and Family
George and Wanda Glenn	Dalton and Lenda Wood	Robert and Sharron Smith	Jan Whitaker	Linda Huffaker
E.L. and Dink Short		Bill and Frances Chancy	Robert and Wilma Edwards	O.B. and Joyce Corley
			Catherine Barham	Leland and Barbara White and Debbie
			Jay Dee and Virginia House	Michael, Carol, Stephanie and Trevor White
			The Glen Anderson Family	

By greeting you this way, we have also honored you, our friends by contributing our Christmas Card money to the "Lady Stewart" and "Maurice Bray" Scholarship Funds.

Sponsored by
Phebe K. Warner Club



FCCLA has a big heart ... Tahoka High School FCCLA students present gifts to Judy Holden for the Lynn County Christmas for Kids program. Pictured from left to right are, in front, Sylvana Hernandez, Rochelle Salinas, Emily Garcia; and in back, Anthony Alvarez, Judy Holden, Jeremy Barrientez, Julian Morales, Paris Duran, Amanda Hernandez, Jessica Arriazola.



Parade of Homes...The parade of Homes was held Sunday, Dec. 14, with all proceeds benefitting Christmas for Kids in Lynn County. Greeting guests here are Tahoka High School students Taryn Bishop, Brandon Moss, A'Leesha Truelove and Sabrina Morales at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Donald Freitag.

Beware of Phone Phishing Scams

In a twist on the rapidly growing and evolving phishing scams, cybercriminals are increasingly turning to the telephone in their quest to steal sensitive bank account information from unsuspecting customers. In phishing scams, cybercriminals send out fake e-mails directing

consumers to look-alike Web sites, where they are asked to input bank account information, PIN numbers, passwords or other sensitive information.

In phone phishing, cybercriminals attempt to coax sensitive information from unwitting victims over

the telephone, often using Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP), which uses the same technology that delivers e-mail via the Internet. The criminals can spoof any phone number on the receiver's caller ID, and they can also give customers local numbers to call—even if those numbers terminate in another country.

To avoid becoming a victim of a phishing scam, the Texas Bankers Association offers the tips:

- Never give out your personal financial information in response to an unsolicited phone call, fax or email, no matter how official it may seem.
- Do not respond to e-mail that may warn of dire consequences unless you validate your information immediately. Contact the company to confirm the email's validity using a telephone number or Web address you know to be genuine.
- Check your credit card and bank account statements regularly and look for unauthorized transactions, even small ones. Some thieves hope small transactions will go unnoticed. Report discrepancies immediately.
- When submitting financial information online, look for the padlock or key icon at the bottom of your Internet browser. Also, many secure Internet addresses, though not all, use "https" to signify that your information is secure during transmission.
- If you have responded to an e-mail or phone call, contact your bank immediately so bank employees can protect your account and your identity.

Patrick J. Edwards

M.D., P.A.

Announces his relocation effective 12-29-08 to

2600 Lockwood, Suite C
Tahoka, Texas 79373
806-998-5501

Between 12-17-08 and 12-29-08 call
806-535-1022



Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Take some joy ... add some cheer ...
May it total up to a prosperous year!

Wishing you peace and good fortune this holiday season. Thank you for your valued business.

Joe F. Hays, CPA and staff

USDA Announces 2009 DCP Sign-Up Begins Today

Rodney Schoppa, Executive Director for USDA's Farm Service Agency in Lynn County announced that enrollment for the 2009 Direct and Counter-cyclical Payment (DCP) Program for farms with base acres begins today both online and at local USDA service centers and continues until June 1, 2009.

"I encourage all producers to make use of the eDCP automated website to sign up for this important program," said Schoppa. "This service makes DCP more accessible to the public, and I encourage producers with Internet access to use the system." However, producers can visit any USDA Service Center or their administratively assigned center, to complete their 2009 DCP contract.

The June 1, 2009 deadline is mandatory for all participants. USDA will not accept late-filed applications.

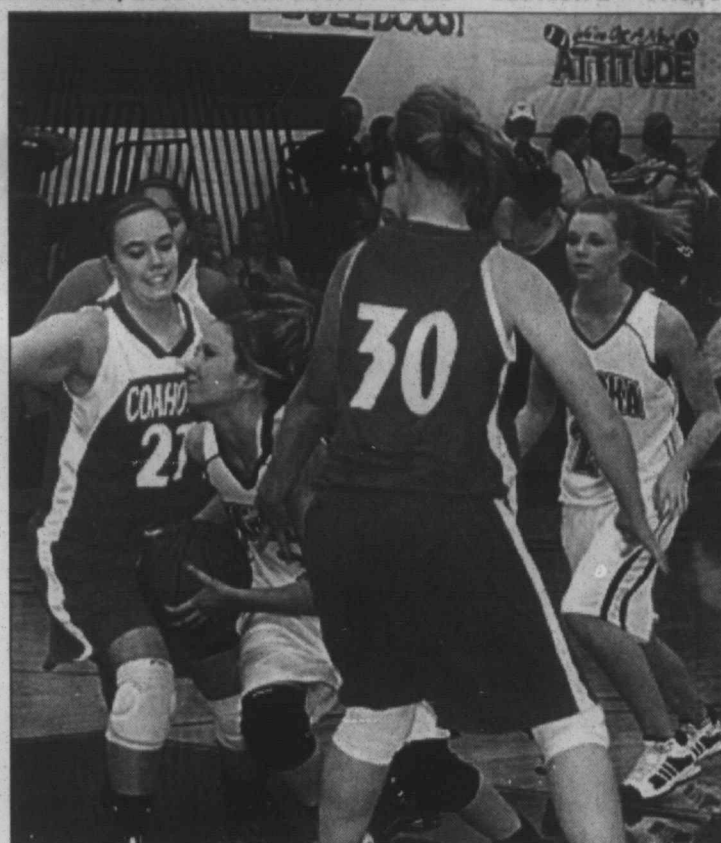
The electronic DCP (or eDCP) service saves producers time, reduces paperwork and speeds up contract processing at USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) offices. It is available to all producers who are eligible to participate in the DCP Program and can be accessed at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/dcp>. To access the service, producers must have an active USDA eAuthentication Level 2 account, which requires filling out an online registration form at <http://www.eauth.egov.usda.gov>.

USDA computes DCP Program payments using base acres and payment yields established for each farm. Eligible producers receive direct payments at rates established by statute regardless of market prices. For 2009, eligible producers may request to receive advance direct payments based on 22 percent of the direct payment for each commodity associated with the farm. USDA will issue advance direct payments beginning Dec. 2008. Counter-cyclical payment rates vary depending on market prices. Counter-cyclical payments are issued only when the effective price for a commodity is statutorily set below its target price. The effective price is the higher of the national average market price received during the 12-marketing year for each covered commodity and the national average rate for a marketing assistance loan for the covered commodity.

Producers who are eligible for the DCP Program will also be eligible to enroll in the Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) Program. The enrollment period for the ACRE Program will begin in the spring. Producers may first enroll in the DCP Program, elect to receive advance direct payments and then later modify their enrollment to include the ACRE program or they may wait and elect to enroll in DCP and ACRE at the same time in Spring 2009.

The optional ACRE Program provides a safety net based on State revenue losses and acts in place of the price-based safety net of counter-cyclical payments under DCP. A farm's payment is based on a revenue guarantee calculated using a 5-year average state yield and the most recent 2-year State price for each eligible commodity. For the 2009 crop, the 2-year price average will be based on the 2007 and 2008 crop years.

An ACRE payment is issued when both the State and the farm have incurred a revenue loss. The payment is based on 83.3 percent (85 percent in 2012) of the farm's planted acres times the difference between the State ACRE guarantee and the State revenue times the ratio of the farm's yield divided by the State expected yield. The total number of planted acres for which a producer may receive ACRE payments may not exceed the total base on the farm. In exchange for participating in ACRE, in addition to not receiving counter-cyclical payments, a farm's direct payment is reduced by 20 percent, and marketing assistance loan rates



Coming thru ... Tahoka's Stormee Martin rushes through a narrow opening in Friday night's win over Coahoma. The other Lady Bulldog is Samantha Pridmore. (LCN PHOTO by Abraham Vega)



Come on in... Jynna Askew sells tickets to Kaitlyn and Curry Lehman at the home of Aaron and Melissa McCleskey during the Parade of Homes held on Sunday Dec. 14.

NEW AT THE CITY/COUNTY LIBRARY

Night Shadow
by Cherry Adair

An anti-terrorist operative with the T-FLAC organization, wizard Alex Stone finds his life complicated by his gorgeous and enigmatic new partner, Lexi, who finds her own black-and-white attitudes toward good and evil thrown into turmoil by Alex's shadowy world as they confront the deadly threat of rogue wizards out to destroy everything they care about.

Dark Pursuit
by Brandilyn Collins

Kaitlan Sering's estranged grandfather, novelist Darell Brooke, was the legendary King of Suspense - until an auto accident left him unable to concentrate. Now she's begging him to protect her from a real serial

are reduced by 30 percent.

The decision to enroll in the ACRE Program is irrevocable. The owner of the farm and all producers on the farm must agree to enroll in ACRE. Once enrolled, the farm will be enrolled for that initial crop year and will remain in ACRE through the 2012 crop year.

killer. Can his muddled mind devise a plan to catch the murderer?

Born to Run
by James Grippando

An eighth installment in a popular series by the author of *Last Call* finds intrepid Miami attorney Jack Swyteck entreated by his former governor father for help representing him, and investigating the suspicious hunting death of the vice president.

Missing

by Lisa Jackson
(Omnibus) **Innocent by Association**

When a lot of money shows up in Garrett Reeves' bank account, it appears that someone is trying to frame him. Garrett will have to get very close to Megan McKearn, his former lover, to find out whether she's the guilty party. **Zachary's Law**: When Lauren Regis' children are kidnapped by her ex-husband, she exhausts every possibility of finding her son and daughter, until maverick attorney Zachary Winters agrees to take the case.

Visit our website at www.tahoka.lib.tx.us

Joy to All

In the spirit of the season, may we wish you a blessed Christmas.

White Funeral Home



Wilson Lady Mustangs ... The Wilson Lady Mustangs basketball team is pictured here, in front from left, Laura Villarreal, Juan Lopez, and Brittany Taylor; and standing from left, Manager Krystal Loftis, Coach Eddy Lopez, Xia Rios, Samantha Gill, Laura Joiner, Amber Valadez, Dominique Escobar, and Coach Cody Sandlin.

Sideways prices predicted for cotton in 2009, says economist

COLLEGE STATION - The current economic crisis coupled with decreased demand won't spark any immediate rally for cotton prices heading into 2009, according to a Texas AgriLife Extension Service economist.

"There are a couple of things that suggest cotton prices are going to be sideways and struggle to go higher," said Dr. John Robinson, cotton marketing economist. "Corn will likely go a bit higher since the last two years there's been this battle for acreage. Cotton has taken a cut in acres because prices didn't get high enough and that was predictable. Net returns suggested people were better off planting more soybeans, wheat, etc. Cotton is much worse off now."

Just six months ago, cotton prices were at 80 cents a pound, but now have fallen in the mid 40s. And large U.S. carryover stocks continue to loom, with ending stocks for 2008-2009 increased 900,000 bales, totaling 7.1 million bales.

"U.S. new-crop cotton is currently all going into the loan program, which has also been the case in four out of the last five years," Robinson said. "U.S. cotton sits in there, while the Chinese uses their cotton, then Indian cotton and all of these other countries that don't have a loan program, they can get rid of it."

When those countries do buy U.S. cotton, typically during the May-July period, traditionally it sparks a minor upward trend in

price, Robinson said. He predicts it will be June before there might be some positive trends affecting cotton prices.

"We're not really out of this financial crisis panic-mode yet," he said. "Real estate prices are not through unwinding and we've got a new administration that will be settling in. It will take quite a few months for normalcy to return. Cotton is going to continue to suffer because people are watching their spending and not buying clothes and automobiles, in which cotton is used for the interiors."

These factors will likely lead to 'sideways prices' and if cotton does rise in price, "it won't rise enough to compete with corn or soybeans," Robinson said. He also predicts a cut in Texas cotton acreage due to competing crops such as wheat, corn and soybeans receiving more favorable prices.

Input prices continue to be high due to expensive seed and chemicals. One bright spot is the recent decline in fuel prices. If fertilizer does become cheaper, Robinson predicts more farmers will increase corn plantings over cotton, particularly in the eastern cotton belt.

Boll Weevil Program Gets Nod From Caprock Zone

The Texas Department of Agriculture announced today that cotton producers in the Southern High Plains/Caprock Boll Weevil Eradication Zone have voted to continue program operations. Final results were 1,730 voting "for" and 272 voting "against" continuation.

TDA issued 4,905 ballots to cotton producers who were eligible to vote in the referendum. A total of 2,002 valid ballots were postmarked by the December 10 deadline and counted.

In addition to deciding if an eradication program should be continued in the zone, voters elected Joe Alspaugh to serve as the board member on the statewide board of directors for the Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation, Inc.

The Southern High Plains/Caprock Eradication Zone consists all of Cochran, Hockley, and Lubbock counties; that part of Terry County that is north of a line 1.25 miles south of the Hockley County line from FM 303 east to Highway 385 and all land north an east of a line with boundaries of County

Road 230, County Road 525 also known as Cemetery Road, and County Road 280 to the Lynn County line; that part of Lynn County north and east of a line 5 miles north of Hwy 380 following County Road 18 that extends from the Terry County line east for 10 miles, then turns south to Hwy 380, and runs east to the intersection of FM 212 before turning south to the Borden County line; that part of Crosby County that is above the Caprock Escarpment, that part of Garza County that is above the Caprock Escarpment; and that part of Dickens County that is above the Caprock Escarpment.

BALE COUNT REPORTED MONDAY, DEC. 22

New Home Coop-Lakeview.....	47,043
Texas Star Gin-Wilson/Union	39,120
Farmers Coop-Tahoka	22,366
Woolam Gin-O'Donnell.....	13,711
Wells Coop Gin.....	12,429
Farmers Coop-O'Donnell	6,315
Grassland Coop Gin	3,942
Close City Gin-Post	2,817
WEEKLY TOTAL.....	147,743



4-H Consumer Decision Making Contest Winners... The District 4-H Consumer Decision Making Contest was held Saturday, Dec. 6, at the First Baptist Church in Tahoka. Pictured back row from left are; Allison Burenheide, Trevor Gicklhorn and Jacob Bingham. Front row; Blake McCleskey, Harley Reynolds, Dane Rivas, Hadley Reynolds, Coy Mercer, Maci Dimak and Olivia Hammonds. Not pictured is Skyler McCleskey and Jesse Terry.

District 4-H Consumer Contest Held Dec. 6; Winners Announced

The District 4-H Consumer Decision Making Contest was held Saturday, Dec. 6, at First Baptist Church in Tahoka. All local teams placed 1st Overall in each of their divisions and the Senior Team will advance to the state contest.

In the Junior Division, placing in the Overall Individual, were Olivia Hammonds, 2nd, Hadley Reynolds, 3rd and Maci Dimak, 5th. These three individuals made up the Junior team which placed 1st Overall.

In the Intermediate Division, the team placed 1st Overall and included Blake McCleskey,

Coy Mercer, Dane Rivas and Jesse Terry. Those placing in the Overall Individuals were; Coy Mercer, 1st, Dane Rivas, 2nd, and Jesse Terry, 5th.

The Senior Team placed 1st Overall and will advance to the State Contest, which will be held in June at College Station at State Round-up. The Senior Team was Harley Reynolds, Allison Burenheide, Trevor Gicklhorn and Jacob Bingham.

Those placing in the Overall Individual were; Harley Reynolds, 2nd, Allison Burenheide, 3rd, and Trevor Gicklhorn, 5th.

NEW AT THE CITY/COUNTY LIBRARY

Santa Clawed
by Rita Mae Brown

Harry and her husband, Fair, have gone to fetch a Christmas tree at the tree farm run by The Brothers of Love, a semi-monastic organization that tends to AIDS patients, when they find the tree they've chosen grimly decorated with a dead body. Can Harry, the sleuthing cats Mrs. Murphy and Pewter, and corgi Tee Tucker save the season from a killjoy who's decided to gift the festive little town of Crozet, Virginia, with murder?



These Tahoka Firms Are Sponsoring This

FARM NEWS

AgTexas Farm Credit Services
Monty Bedwell and Mike Metzger

Capital Farm Credit (formerly First Ag Credit, FCS)
Clint Robinson
Jason Gandy

Farmers Co-op Association
No. 1

Lynn County Farm Bureau

We hope your Christmas runs smoothly ... no matter who's guiding your sleigh!

Merry Christmas

from Lynnco Automotive

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www.5starauctioneers.com

Wednesday, January 14, 2009—9:30 a.m.
Collins & Gilreath—Owners
Located: Dimmitt, Texas—Selling: 10 Tractors, Farm, Ranch Cotton Equipment

Thursday, January 15, 2009—Sale Time: 10:00 a.m.
Nix Implement—Owner
Located: Lamesa, Texas—Selling: 15 Tractors, Farm & Cotton Equipment

Saturday, January 17, 2009—Sale Time: 10:00 a.m.
Panhandle Farmers—Owners
Located: Panhandle, Texas—Selling: Farm & Ranch Equipment

Wednesday, January 21, 2009—Sale Time: 10:00 a.m.
Lamesa-Key Community Area Farmers—Owners
Located: Lamesa, Texas—Selling: Farm & Cotton Equipment

Thursday, January 22, 2009—Sale Time: 9:30 a.m.
Ricky Schneider—Owner
Located: Lamesa, Texas—Selling: Farm & Cotton Equipment

Tuesday, January 27, 2009—Sale Time: 10:00 a.m.
Mefford Farms—Owners
Located: Gould, Oklahoma—Selling: Farm, Ranch, Combine, Cotton Equipment

Thursday, January 29, 2009—Sale Time: 10:00 a.m.
Wayne McClaran Estate—Owner
Located: Bovina, Texas—Selling: Farm & Ranch Equipment

Saturday, January 31, 2009—Sale Time: 10:00 a.m.
Whitey Thompson Estate—Owner
Located: Edmonson, Texas—Selling: Farm & Ranch Equipment

Tuesday, February 3, 2009—Sale Time: 10:00 a.m.
David DeBusk Estate—Owner
Located: Idalou, Texas—Selling: Farm & Cotton Equipment

Thursday, February 5, 2009 Sale Time: 9:00 a.m. New Mexico Time
Willmon Farms—Owner
Located: Clovis, New Mexico—Selling: Farm & Ranch Equipment

Saturday, February 7, 2009—Sale Time: 10:00 a.m.
Lakeview Area Farmers—Owners
Located: Lakeview, Texas—Selling: Farm, Ranch & Cotton Equipment
Taking Consignments—Call Jim To Consign: (806) 864-3611

Tuesday, February 10, 2009—Sale Time: 10:00 a.m.
Butch Renfro Estate—Owner
Located: Matador, Texas—Selling: 10 Tractors, Farm, Ranch & Cotton Equipment

Thursday, February 12, 2009—Sale Time: 10:00 a.m.
Olton Area Farmers—Owners
Located: Olton, Texas—Selling: Tractor, Farm & Cotton Equipment

Jimmy Reeves.....(806) 864-3362
Clerk)

Jim Summers.....(806) 864-3611
(10006)

Donna Noel.....(806) 293-1124
(Secretary)

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FOR SALE: 1 well Centr 2500 3 Br/2 l brick hoi remod appliance large living wooden bli with spr covered p BBQ, lush trees, 9

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Call 561-4888
by Noon Tuesday

THE LYNN COUNTY NEWS DEADLINE FOR NEWS AND ADS IS NOON TUESDAY



Real Estate

FOR SALE:

3B/2B Brick home, large open concept living room & kitchen with dining area, separate formal dining room, 4-carport, storage building. 1712 North 3rd.

Contact
Kent or Jeanie Stone
at 806-561-5161
or 806-759-1369.

FOR SALE: 18x80 MOBILE HOME. 3 BR, 2 bath, lg. living room & kitchen; washroom, dining area. To be moved. Call 806-327-5546, leave message.

FOR SALE

well kept home in Country Club addition

2508 North 2nd

3 Br/2 bath/2 car garage brick home, new a/c, newly remodeled kitchen and appliances, large master BR, large living area with fireplace, wooden blinds, nice landscaping with sprinkler system, large covered patio with bricked in BBQ, lush backyard with lots of trees, 9 x 16 Morgan shop.

CONTACT
Austin or Teresia Simpson
at 794-4744 or 632-4344
for appointment.

DRASTICALLY REDUCED:
2410 N. 3rd - Tahoka:

is 2150 sq. ft. with 3BR, 3B, 1 car garage. Features include an eat-in kitchen, butler's pantry, large living area, glassed in sun porch, fenced backyard and 2 storage buildings. Seller now offering \$1000 CARPET ALLOWANCE and 1 year home warranty.

1829 N. 1st Street, Tahoka:

is an affordable 3 BR home, 1 bath, large living area with fireplace. Home has open concept, attached carport and large backyard. OWNER MAY CONSIDER FINANCING.

2303 N. 5th Street, Tahoka:

is a smaller affordable 3 BR, 1 bath home in a quiet neighborhood. Home is occupied. Contact real estate agent for a showing.

1807 S. 2nd, Tahoka:

is a brick 3BR, 1 bath with EXTRA HOUSE! If you need storage, this home has 2 boxcars. Home also has detached garage with storage, workshop, cellar and water well. This home is part of an estate and PRICED TO SELL QUICKLY!

PRICE NOW REDUCED!

1801 N. 7th:

is a brick home in Tahoka having over 3200 sq. feet, 4 BR, 3B, 2 car garage! Features include a large open concept family room with fireplace, kitchen and dining area with adjoining sunroom. Other benefits include a large finished basement, oversized backyard patio, mature landscaping, plenty of storage and a 6 ft. cinder block fence. UNBELIEVABLE HOME is waiting for a new owner!

2011 N. 4th - Tahoka: ... is an affordable smaller home in a great location. This home has 3 BR, 1 bath, wood floors, wainscot paneling and natural wood cabinets in the kitchen. Exterior has siding with a fenced backyard and close to school. Call today for a tour!

Toy Holland, REALTOR
438-9245
KELLER WILLIAMS REALTY



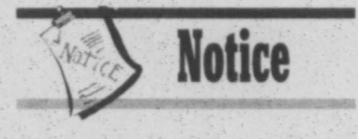
HELP WANTED: Experienced Farm hand needed. References requested. Near Wilson and Slaton area. Call 806-996-5421. 51-2tp

NursCare Home Health of Tahoka
is now hiring for ...
FULL-TIME RN CASE MANAGER

We offer:

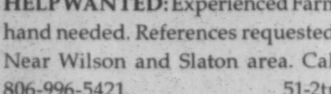
- Competitive Base Salary + Incentives
- Paid-Time-Off: 18 PTO DAYS ANNUALLY
- 7 PAID COMPANY HOLIDAYS
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- Gas Mileage Reimbursement
- + much more!

To apply, please call Gary Sackett, RN Clinical Supervisor, at (806) 561-1115.



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WANT TO PURCHASE minerals and other oil/gas interests. Send details to: P.O. Box 13557, Denver, CO 80201. 6-52tp



FOR RENT: 1812 N. 1st - 2/1; \$350/200 Deposit • 2127 S. 3rd - 2/1 \$400/250 Deposit. No smoking/pets. 806-894-9826 to apply. 30-1tc

BROKE KEY INVESTMENTS
has 1, 2, 3, & 4 bed rentals from time to time.

For info and applications, call 239-7350. 52-4tc



FOR SALE

ELECTRIC ADJUSTABLE bed & queen foam mattress. NEW!! \$990. 806-549-3110.

LEATHER couch, loveseat, & 3 pc table set. BRAND NEW. SELL \$645. 806-549-3110.

5-pc. microfiber sofa, loveseat & table set. BRAND NEW! Only need \$550. 806-549-3110.

Pub table & chairs -- heavy! Espresso finish. NEW!! \$399. 806-549-3110.

CHERRY bedrm set, complete 6-pc. NEW, BOXED, \$650. 806-549-3110.

COMPLETE bedroom suite, cherry bed, dresser, mirror, nightstand. List \$1990. SELL \$875. 806-549-3110.

CHERRY VICTORIAN sleigh bed. STILL BOXED!! \$250. 806-549-3110.

\$120. QUEEN size pillowtop mattress & foundation set, NEW! war. 806-549-3110.

NEW!! KING PILLOW TOP mattress and box spring. \$250. 806-549-3110.

CALIFORNIA KING 3 pc. pillow top mattress & foundation. Never used. Forfeit \$250. 806-438-0081.

DOUBLE/FULL orthopedic mattress set, in plastic. NEW!! \$110. 806-549-3110. 49-5tc



FOR SALE

CEMETERY PLOT FOR SALE IN WILSON: Two cemetery plots for sale-\$300, for both. Located in Green Memorial Cemetery in Wilson. Call 806-744-4278 52-2tp

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SHELLED 3 lb. bags - \$20

2 Lb. GIFT BOXES: \$15

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Early deadline next week: Get your ads in by 12 noon Monday!

May the wonder of the season fill you with Peace, Love and Joy.

Merry Christmas from The Lynn County News

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Letters to Santa
from children in
WILSON

Wilson Kindergarten

Dear Santa,
I have been very good this year. Please bring me a black motorcycle and some new boots. I would like a robot and some Spiderman clothes. Please bring my brother and sister some toys too. I love you and Mrs. Santa.
Love, Oscar

Dear Santa,
I was very good this year. Can you please bring me a Sonic Unleash for a Nintendo DS and can you please bring me a toy robot and can you please bring me a purple motorcycle? I love you and Mrs. Santa. I love the reindeer and I love the elves. Thank you Santa
Love, Garrett

Dear Santa,
I am 6 years old and I have been very good this year. Please bring me some new puzzles and new boots. I love the reindeer and I love Santa Clause. Thank you.
Love, Marissa

Dear Santa,
I would like to have some blocks and gloves. Please bring my sisters and brothers some new toys too. I have been a good girl this year. Thank you Santa.
Love, Mika

Dear Santa Clause,
I am 6 years old and I have been a very good boy. I would like a red and black and green race car. I would like some Legos and some blocks. Please don't forget my brothers and sister. I love you and Mrs. Santa and the elves. Thank you.
Love, JD

Dear Santa,
I am 5 years old and I have been very good this year. Please bring me a new coloring book and crayons. I would like a marker book and markers, too. Please bring some toys to my brothers and to my sister. I love you Santa.
Love, Britlyn

Dear Santa,
I would like to have a new game and a new blue bike. I need some new clothes and a Wii. I have been very good this year. Please don't forget my brothers and sisters. I love you and Mrs. Clause. Thank you Santa.
Love, Angel

Dear Santa,
I have been a very good boy this year. I would like a Nintendo DS and a bike. I would like a new game too. Thank you for coming to see us. I love you and the elves.
Love, Ramiro

Dear Santa,
Please bring me a bike and anything else you think I might like. I have been very good at home and at school this year. Bring toys to my brother too. I love you Santa Clause.
Love, Jochi

Dear Santa,
I have been very good this year. Please bring me a 4-wheeler and a bike. Please bring my sisters some toys too. I love you and the elves. Thank you for coming to see us.
Love, Gabriel

Wilson First Grade

Hi Santa,
I want to see you. I luv you Santa. How is Rudolph doing? I am going to put sum milk and a presit I am going to giv you sum cookies. I want a MPE player fr e ples. I want a IPOD ples. Santa can you bring me a turtle Santa and a toy Misis Clas.
Tapis

Dear Santa,
How are you Santa. How is Mrs Christmas. Please bring me a vidogame. I will leave you milk and cookies. I love Santa.
Nate

Dear Santa,
How is Rudolph? Is he well? For Christmas can I have a Brats secret sign journal? Can I pet Rudolph? He is nice. How is Mrs Clfas Can I see her. Can I have three more toys. Do you want to no wich grad I am in. I am in First grade. I love something new a toy that wags its tall. She walks and all that fun stuff.
Alex

Dear Santa,
I want lots of toys. 100. I think you're the best Santa ever. I want a remote control that I can push with my hands. I will leave you healthy food at my grandpas. Also, at my dad's.
Ryan I.

Dear Santa,
I want a Mario nintendos. How are you Santa? How are your reindeer It is nice. Well Santa will you bring me a mp3 and a laptop. I will leave you some cookies and milk.
Tony

Dear Santa,
How are your reindeer? Haw is Rudolph. I am going to leave you sum cookies. Can you bring me a please psp. Can you bring me a number line so I can count.
Araceli

Dear Santa,
How are ur reindeer How are is Mrs. Claus? I want for Christmas a for eelr and a ninga bike.
Ryan H.

Dear Santa,
How are your reindeer? How are you Santa? You are the best Santa. I will bring you mike od cookies. I want a mp3 player.
Justin



Wilson Mustangs ... The Wilson Mustang boys basketball team includes, in front from left, Rito Martinez, Felipe Ortega, Frederick Ramos, and Randy Rodriguez; and standing from left, Coach Eddy Lopez, Francisco Hernandez, Johnny Valdez, Michael Rowland, Ruben Balderas, Brandon Bassinger, Arthur Castillo, and Coach Cody Sandlin.

Dear Santa,
I want a DS. How is your Rudolph reindeer? I want a pen for you. I love you like my friend. Wen you or going to my house. Santa I love you so much. You ir the best Santa. You or a grat man.
Mariela

Dear Santa,
Santa are you are rite. I want a laptop. I want a computer so I can play games. I will lefe you sum cookies. Mak-up kit. You are the best of all Santa. Can you bring me lots of presents.
Emilie

Dear Santa,
I hope you don't crash. Please get me a hot wheels toy. Please get me a toy airplane. We will get you cookies.
Gage

Dear Santa,
How are reindeer. I am going to sing you a Christmas song. Will you bring me play make-up. Will you bring me a play station. I will leave milk and cookies for you.
Kaitlyn

Wilson Second Grade

Dear Santa,
I would like a Nintendo Ds, 4-wheeler helmet, Rudoph and a I-pod please! How is Mrs. Claus? Please Please! Can I have those toys? You are the best Santa ever. Happy Christmas!
Your friend, Brook

Dear Santa,
I would like a Bratz and a Barbie and a puppy. Hillo Mrs. Claus.
Diana

Dear Santa,
How is Mrs. Claus and your reindeers? Santa fro Christmas can I have a laptop and a computer? I love you Santa so much.
Love, Amber

Dear Santa,
How are your raindeer. Ceep Rudolph nose shining brite. I have been good this year. I would like a toy white tiger and a toy dog and barbies. Merry Christmas.
Your friend, Rebekah

Dear Santa,
I would like some heeley and a laptop. I would like a Nintendo Ds. I love Santa.
From, Fili

Dear Santa,
How is your reindeer. I would like a new bedspread, computer, I-pod, pincel sharpener, 4-wheeler and a helmet, printer and a hamster. I think your cool! Happy Christmas.
Your friend, Raygin

Dear Santa,
My name is Ashton. I live in a little town named Wilson, Texas. I would like you to buy me phone, I-pod, Laptop, car, make-up.
Love, Ashton

Dear Santa,
I would like to see Rudolph, Comet, Cupid, Donner, Blixen, Dasher, Dancer. I would also like an I-pod and a laptop and a Nintendo DS.
Love, Bryan

Wilson Third Grade

Dear Santa,
How are you? I love you. Here are somethings I want. I really want a nintendo DS and a new tv, makeup, playdough, cook pretend set, some new clothes, and some other things. I wish I could work with you in the north pole. I bet the elves are working hard. Tell the reindeers I love them. I even love you.
Love, Ebby

Dear Santa,
I want to see your reindeer for Christmas. I want a laptop and a ps3 for Christmas. I like to play with laptops and a ps3 because they're for dancing in the house and to dance outside because we have a party for Christmas.
Love, Alex

Dear Santa,
How are you? How are your elves? Are you doing good? Here are some things I would like. I would like some fake nails and a camera that would last for a long time and I could use. I would also like a computer that I could play games and write letters to you and my friends and most of all I would like a kitten with a bottle. It would be cool to have a kitten with a bottle. I hope I get a kitten with a real bottle too. I love you Santa.
Love, Brittany

Dear Santa,
Hi. How are the elves? For Christmas I would like Santa Claus 123, a wii, a Nintendo DS, with a lot of the Mario games, video games with Spireo all of them. Tell all the elves I said Hi. Have a Happy Christmas. How are the reindeer?
Love, Randee

Dear Santa,
I hope all of the reindeer do not get sick this year. I will probably stay up late year but my mom will tell me to go to sleep. We will leave a surprise for the reindeer and one for Mrs. Claus to take home. This Christmas I would like you to give everyone a surprise gift in my class, even my teacher, mom and dad. This year I would like a Ipod, Idog, laptop and Nintendo DS a dog and for it to snow a lot.
Love, Carrie Rose

Dear Santa,
How are you doing? Where do you live? Can you get me a train for Christmas? How are your reindeer? How is Mrs. Claus? Can you get my favorite toy and a helicopter?
Love, Xavier

Dear Santa,
Santa I need some wood for my house. I love driving games. I want a Nerf toy and a bike and a lot of clothes for my family. Santa how are you doing? My family loves you!
Love, Lance

Dear Santa,
Hi Santa! I want a psp and some clothes. I hope your elves are doing good. There are some other things I want a DELL and DS and what I really want is a PS3 and a big TV and a shotgun. I hope you bring all these things.
Love, Orlando

Dear Santa,
How are you doing? I would love for you to bring me a Playstation and the moto-comback please Santa Claus please. How are your reindeers doing? I would love for you to save me some healies. How is Mrs. Claus doing? I love you so much Santa.
Love, Charity

Dear Santa,
Hi Santa! I was so nice this year. How are you doing Santa? Is Mrs. Santa Claus ok? Santa I was going to ask you is Rudolph and the other reinderr ok? I like your sled. It is cool. I like how you fly the sled. I like one toy that I want you to bring me. It's my favorite toy of all. The toy is a teddy bear that's purple. I wish you a Merr Christmas Santa!!!
Love, Samantha

Dear Santa,
How are you Santa? How are your elves? How is Mrs. Claus? How are your reindeer? I am excited about Christmas this year. I would like a bow and arrow, a MP3 player and a JetX for Christmas please. I would also like one of those password journals, a laptop, and a tv for my room for Christmas please. I would also like frosty and Santa earrings, necklace and bracelet, and a little slot machine. I would also want a Nintendo DS and games and please bring me a Wii and games.
Love, Kylie

Dar Santa,
I would like the new motor comback VS DC world. Can you get my family movies and board games? Can you get me some Hot Wheels with a road? Hi how are you doing? Are you ok?
Love, Isaiiah

Dear Santa,
How are you doing? How are your elves? My family will bring cookies and a Coke. Here are the toys I'd like. I would like a nerf toy and a little army people, a airplane, a wooden helicopter, two wooden cars, a wooden fiertruck and a wooden town. Those are the things I would like.
Love, Anakin

Dear Santa,
I want a IPOD and a phone. How are you doing? I would like to see you. Can you get me a DS and a rabbit and some games for the DS please? Can you get me a horse? How are your reindeer and elves? I would like a fish and a dog for Christmas. I hope I can see you on Christmas. I would like to see you in real life.
Love, Meghan

Galveston Battle To Be Re-enacted

On January 10, 2009, the Galveston Historical Foundation (GHF) will mark the 146th anniversary of the most important military event in Galveston's history: the Battle of Galveston, which took place in the early morning hours of January 1, 1863. A living history encampment will be established on The Strand at 21st Street by the Nineteenth Century Living History Association, Inc. 1st Texas Infantry. The Celtaire String Band will provide music of the era. The public is invited free of charge to visit the encampment from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Civil War walking tours at 2 and 4 p.m. will be led by noted author and Civil War historian Edward T. Cotham, Jr.

Admission to the walking tours will be \$10 for adults, with proceeds going to support GHF's work in Galveston's recovery from Hurricane Ike. Reservations are recommended, and may be made by calling Jami Durham at 409-765-7834.

Warm wishes this holiday season!

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PEACE

May the inspiration of this Holy Season bring a new understanding of peace to the hearts of all good men this Christmas.

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SEASON'S GREETINGS

We'd like to take a moment out of this busy season to say "Merry Christmas" to all!

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HAPPY HOLIDAYS!