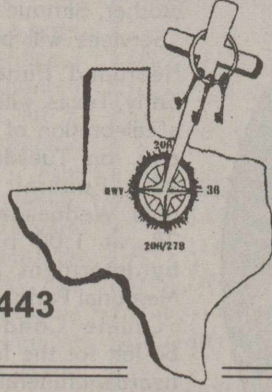


# Cross Plains Review

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Volume 108 • Number 43  
116 S. E. 1st St. • P. O. Box 519 • Cross Plains, Tx. 76443

December 29, 2016 • 12 Pages  
(254) 725-6111 • crossplainsreview@earthlink.net

## Happy New Year a new year is dawning 2017

### Blood drive in Cross Plains on December 29th

A blood drive will take place in Cross Plains on Thursday, December 29. The Meek Blood Center bloodmobile will be parked at First Baptist Church from 1 p.m. until 6 p.m.

"Blood shortages occur most often during the holidays," said Frances Baker, Meek Blood Center donor recruiter. The hour it takes to donate blood could give someone another Christmas or New Year with family and friends."

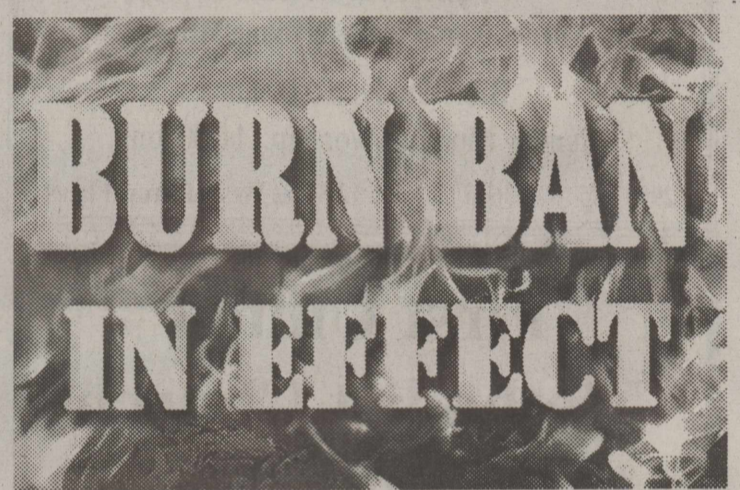
Each donor will receive a T-shirt, as well as a complimentary total cholesterol test. Those who have eligibility



questions may call 325-670-2880. For the latest news and updates follow us at facebook.com/meekbloodcenter.



The First United Methodist Church, December 27, 2005. Remembering the Cross Plains Fire, eleven years later. Photo and story inside.



### Burn Ban Reinstated; No Outdoor Burning

The meeting of the Commissioners' Court was held at its regular meeting place in the Courthouse on Monday, December 26, 2016 A.D., with the following officers present to wit: Roger Corn, County Judge; Harold Hicks, Commissioner Precinct No. 1; Bryan Farmer,

Commissioner Precinct No. 2; Tom Windham, Commissioner Precinct No. 3; Cliff Kirkham, Commissioner Precinct No. 4; Jan Windham, County Treasurer; and Donna Bell, County Clerk and ex-Officio of Commissioners' Court. Also attending: Terry Joy, Sheriff;

Chris Levens, Sheriff's Deputy; Sam Goldsmith, Goldsmith Solutions Inc.; Lewis Bergman, Texas Communications; Art Reed; and Tammy Walker, Tax Assessor.

The following items of business were transacted: The meeting was called to

order at 9:30 A.M. by Judge Corn. All commissioners were present.

—The minutes from the previous meetings were reviewed and signed.

—Under public comment Art Reed voiced some concerns he had. Mr. Reed was not happy with his county road and Commissioner Hick's response to Mr. Reed's phone call about the road. Mr. Reed had concerns with having no County regulations on the placement of private airports. And lastly he was upset about the newspapers used to advertise the property sold in tax sales. Mr. Reed feels the

Continued on page 2

### The Big Read "The Great Gatsby" 1920's ERA Postmark Design Contest Begins

In preparation for The Big Read in beginning February 28, 2017, the Cross Plains Public Library is holding a Pictorial Postmark design contest. It must include "The Great Gatsby Station", Cross Plains, TX 76443 and March 31, 2017. The design area is 2" tall by 4" wide. Deadline for entries

(in black and white only) is Thursday, January 5, 2017. Entries should be submitted to the Cross Plains Library. Any age can enter. The winning artist and their postmark will be announced in the Cross Plains Review. Contact person for this event is Helen Parson at 254-725-4422 (309 N Ave D).

### Callahan County Historical Commission elects new officers

On December 6, 2016 the Callahan County Historical Commission held their annual Christmas party at the Baird Depot. Delicious refreshments were served to attending members, Felix Manion, Beverly Ross, Cookie and Bob Robinson, Virginia and Billy Baird, Dana Voights, Judy Luter, Marlene and Hubert Donaway, Lee Abernathy and Elnora Scott. A great time was had by all!

During a short business meeting the minutes were read, the Orphan Train meeting, to be held in March, was discussed, and the resignation of long time commission member and secretary, Beverly Ross, was accepted.

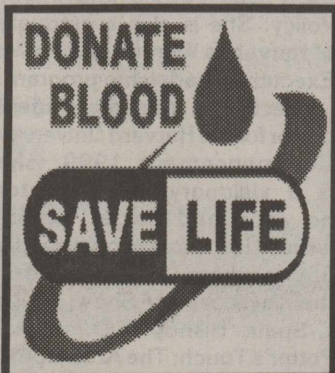
New officers were elected for the coming term-Chairman-Judy Luter, Vice-Chairman-Bob Robinson, Secretary-Cookie Robinson, and Reporter-Elnora Scott.

### Hanner Chevrolet to host blood drive Thursday, January 12th

Hanner Chevrolet will host a blood drive in Baird on Thursday, January 12. The Meek Blood Center bloodmobile will be there from 3 p.m. until 6 p.m.

"We appreciate the support we receive from the communities we serve," said Frances Baker, donor recruiter. "Blood donors play a vital role in the treatment of cancer patients, accident victims, surgical patients, newborn babies and people with blood diseases."

Each donor will receive a long-sleeve T-shirt, as well as a complimentary total cholesterol test. Those who



have eligibility questions may call 325-670-2880. For the latest news and updates follow us at facebook.com/meekbloodcenter.



CPHS Lady Buffs and Buffaloes Basketball is in full swing with district play resuming on Tuesday, December 3rd, at 4 p.m., when the teams and the Junior Varsity teams all play Baird here. Junior High plays Baird here two days later on Thursday, January 5th. Basketball photos and schedule inside. Above, Grace Goode (No. 23), Katie Jo Morgan (No. 22) and Macee Steigleder (No. 20) in December 20th's game against Merkel.

Texas Heritage Bank  
"We're Proud of Our Local Heritage"  
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Presents:  
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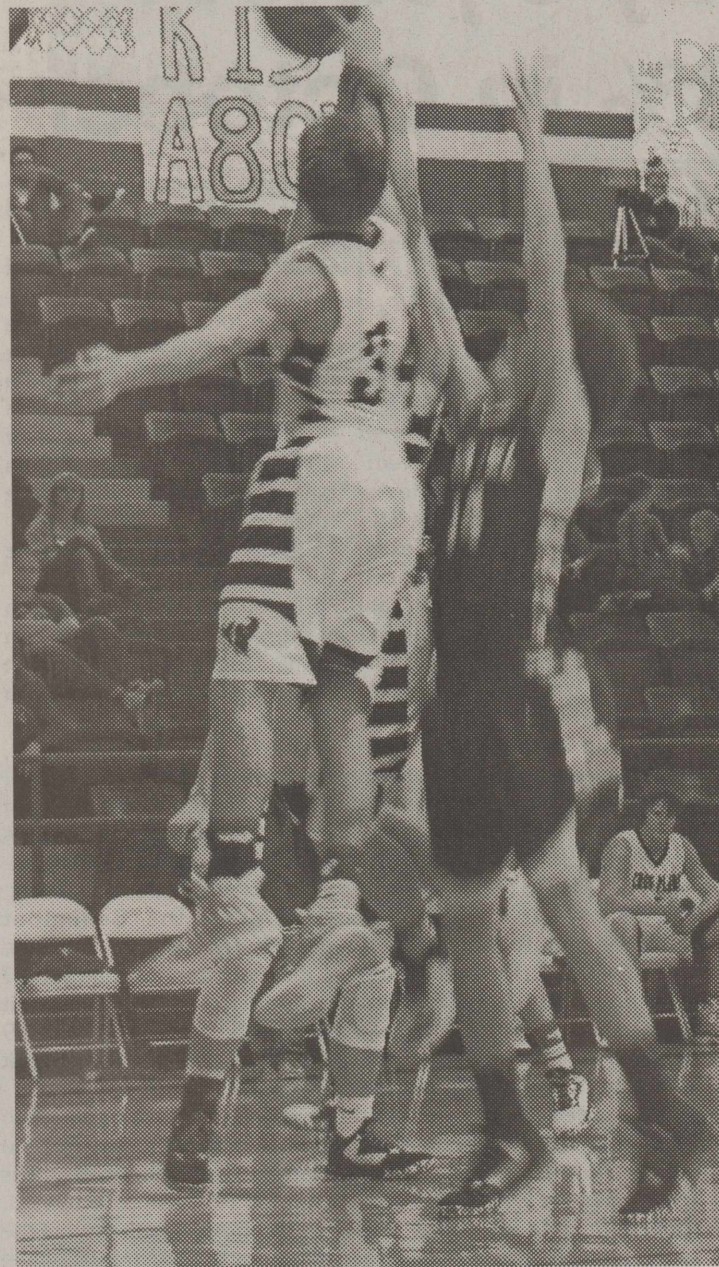




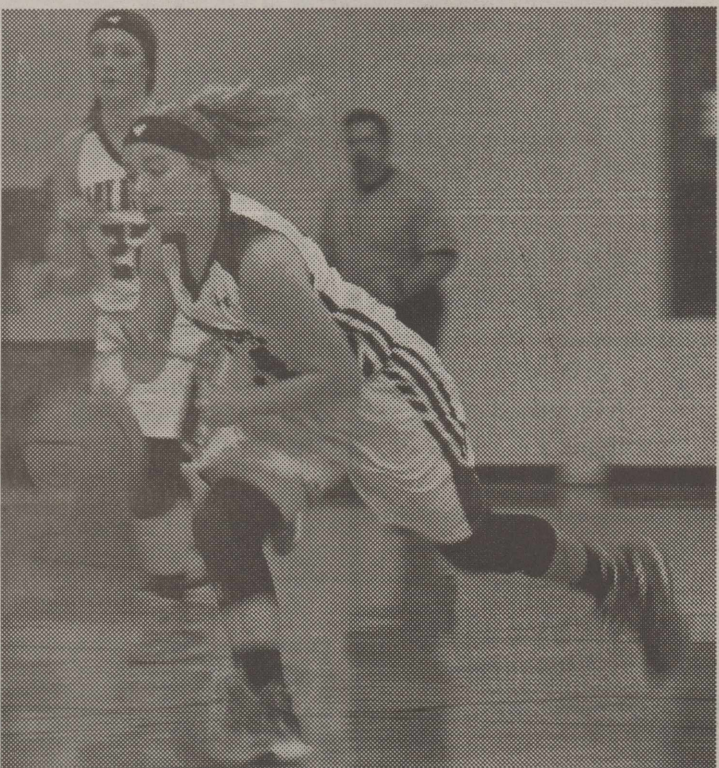
# Buffaloes vs. Merkel



# Lady Buffs vs. Merkel



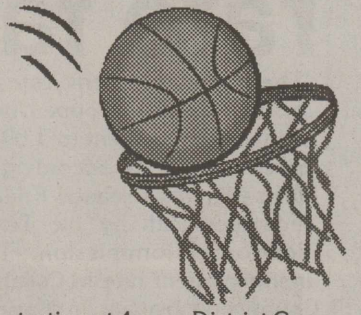
# Junior Varsity Buffaloes vs. Merkel



# Junior Varsity Lady Buffs vs. Merkel



# Junior High and High School Basketball Schedule



December 30, Friday - Varsity Girls and Junior Varsity Girls play Gorman there, starting at 1 p.m.

December 30, Friday - Varsity Boys and Junior Varsity Boys play Evant there.

January 3, Tuesday - Varsity and Junior Varsity teams (Girls and Boys) play Baird here starting at 5:00 p.m. District Games.

January 5, Thursday - Junior High Girls and Boys A and B Teams play Baird here starting at 5:00 p.m.

January 6, Friday - Varsity Girls and Varsity and Junior Varsity Boys play at Panther Creek starting at 5:00 p.m. District Games.

January 9, Monday - Junior High Girls and Boys A Teams play at Santa Anna starting at 6:00 p.m.

January 10, Tuesday - Varsity and Junior Varsity teams (Boys and Girls) play May here starting at 4:00 p.m. District Games.

January 13, Friday - Junior Varsity Girls play Brownwood 9th Grade at Brownwood, starting at 4 p.m.

January 13, Friday - Varsity Girls and Boys and Junior Varsity Boys play Santa Anna there, starting at 5 p.m. District Game.

January 16, Monday - Junior High Boys and Girls A and B Teams play May here, starting at 5 p.m.

January 17, Tuesday - Varsity Boys and Junior Varsity Boys play Anson there, starting at 5 p.m.

January 20, Friday - Junior Varsity Girls play Eula there,

starting at 4 p.m. District Game.

January 20, Friday - Varsity Girls and Boys play Rising Star there, starting at 5 p.m. District Game.

January 20, Friday - Junior Varsity Boys play in the Zephyr Tournament.

January 21, Saturday - Junior High Girls B Team plays in the Cross Plains Junior High Girls B Tournament.

January 23, Monday - Junior High Boys and Girls A and B Teams play Eula here, starting at 5 p.m.

January 24, Tuesday - Varsity and Junior Varsity teams (Boys and Girls) play Eula here starting at 4:00 p.m. District Games.

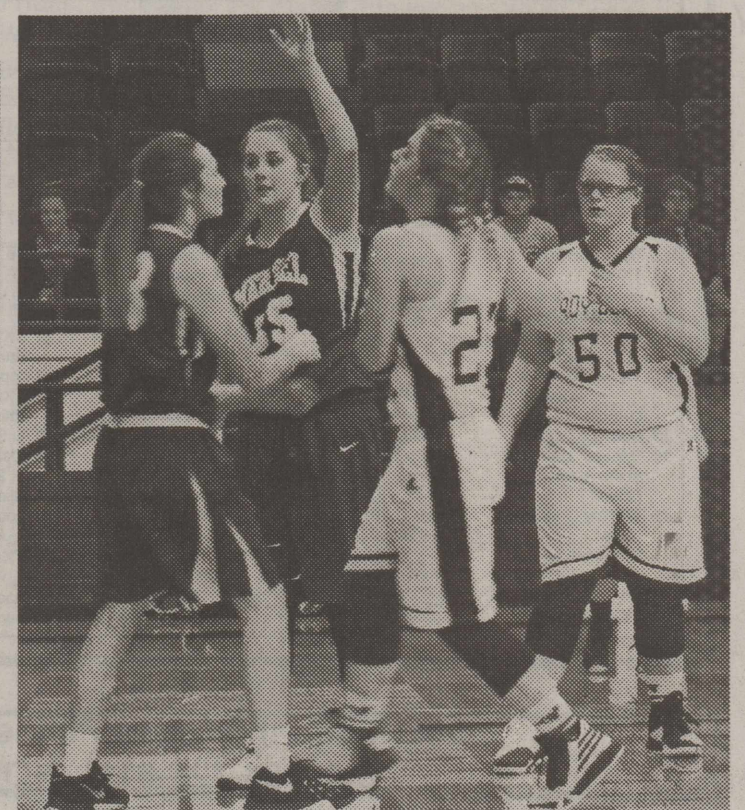
January 26-28, Thursday-Saturday - Junior High Girls Boys play in the Zephyr Tournament.

January 27, Friday - Varsity Junior Varsity teams (Boys and Girls) play Baird there starting at 4:00 p.m. District Games.

January 30, Monday - Junior High Boys A and B Teams and Junior High Girls A team play Eula here starting at 6:00 p.m.

January 31, Tuesday - Varsity Girls and Varsity and Junior Varsity Boys play Panther Creek here starting at 5:00 p.m. District Games.

Schedule subject to change.



Public Fax (254) 725-7225

Cross Plains Review  
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Dec. 29, 2016

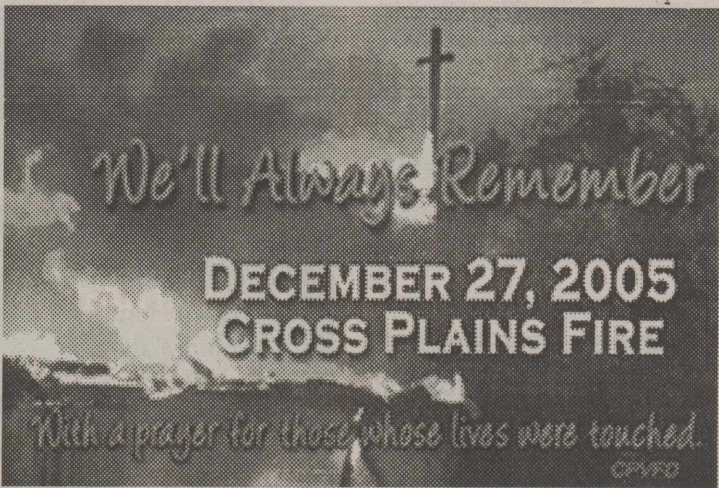




The remains of the McClure residence



The massive cleanup after the fire.



## Eleven Years Ago: Cross Plains Fire Storm Remembered

December 27, 2005 -- A day that will ever define Cross Plains' history into two parts "before the fire" and "since the fire".

It was a windy morning. The wind was blowing about 30 miles an hour with gusts coming in a lot stronger.

About 12:45 a fire call came in of a grass fire on Highway 36. In just a short time that grass fire became a wildfire and a raging inferno that ripped through Cross Plains.

The fire was everywhere - west side of town, near the school, north side of town, out 36 east, and in other parts of town - as the strong winds spread the fire storm.

Fire departments came from surrounding communities to render aid and try to help contain the fire. 29 departments were in Cross Plains that day: Cottonwood, Rising Star, Sipe Springs, Coleman, Brady, Lawn, Oplin, DeLeon, Stamford, Putnam, Burkett, Gorman, Dublin, Comanche, Santa Anna, May, Potosi, Anson, Merkel, Dyess AFT, Abilene Airport, Stephenville, Brownwood, Lake Brownwood, Early and Abilene.

30 hours later, by 6 p.m. on the 28th the fire was reported contained. After the loss of 116 homes, the First United Methodist Church, one business and two of our residents.

Ms. Mattie Faye Wilson and Ms. Maudie Shepard both

perished in the fire.

The First Baptist Church Family Life Center became the disaster headquarters. The local churches prepared food and fed the volunteers and works and prisoners who had come to help with the cleanup. The First United Methodist Church, whose building was destroyed in the fire, held services on Sunday morning in the parking lot.

People came from all over to help. Donations poured in from across the country. School children in other towns took up collections for Cross Plains. Mattresses and clothing and food came by the truckloads.

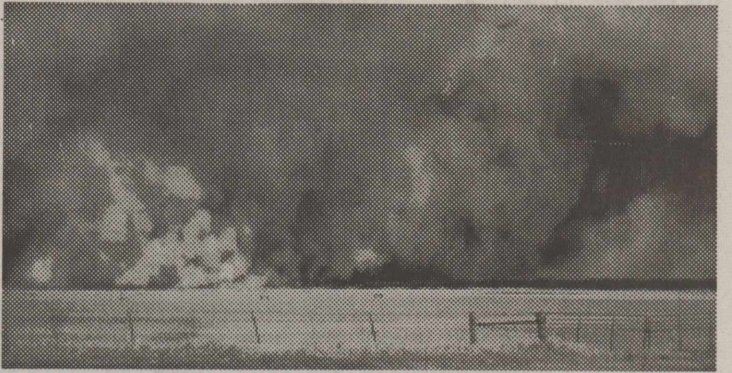
People came together, people helped each other; neighbors cared for neighbors. Cross Plains rebuilt. Our caring community became even stronger.

A year later, close to the anniversary of the fire, Cross Plains had made an amazing comeback. While some citizens left and some moved a few miles out to the country, many rebuilt.

Texas Forest Service noted on the first anniversary that, "As the initial shock of the devastation set in just days after the fire, some people had predicted the town could never rebuild. But that never crossed the minds of the city officials and volunteers who fumed at the thought and vowed even more vehemently to rebuild."



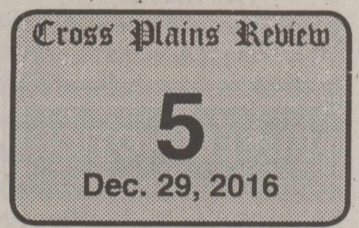
116 home were lost in the fire. Residents struggled to find mementoes among the ashes.



Covering the horizon, the fire storm burns wildly.



The First United Methodist Church held services in the parking lot the Sunday after the fire.



## Scrapbook Program for After School Adventure on Wednesday, January 4th

The After School Adventure Program will meet at the Cross Plains Public Library on Wednesday, January 4, 2017 at 4:00 p.m. Our program will

be on scrap booking and will be presented by Linda Burns and Sue Bennett. Come join us in learning how to scrap book. Hope to see you there.



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may occur 30 to 60 years after exposure to asbestos. Many workers were exposed from the 1940s through the 1970s. Industrial and construction workers, along with their families (second hand exposure) are among those at risk for mesothelioma, lung cancer or gastro cancer (throat, stomach, colon). Call us for professional insight.  
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• **Monday** - All you can eat Beans & Cornbread \$4.00 + tax  
• **Tuesday** - Senior Plate, 1/4 Meat, 2 sides, bread, peach cobbler \$6.00 + tax  
• **Wednesday** - Pulled Pork Sandwich \$2.00 + tax  
• **Thursday** - Loaded Baked Potatoes, choice of meat, w/ all the fixins \$6.00 + tax  
• **Friday** - Loaded Burrito choice of meat \$6.00 + tax

Now Offering Chicken & Sausage Gumbo or Crawfish Etouffe!  
**Only \$7.00 + tax**

**Senior Citizens Center Activities**  
**Jan. 2nd - Jan. 6th**  
Monday-2nd Exercise 11:00/Sing and Play Along 6:00 pm  
Tuesday 3rd Exercise 11:00/Game Night 6:00 pm  
Wednesday 4th Exercise 11:00  
Thursday-5th Exercise 11:00/Manicures by Kindred at home of Eastland  
Friday-6th Exercise 11:00 /Bingo 11:15  
Cross Plains Senior Citizens Center seeks to nurture our aging population through nutritional, social and educational programs our goal is for all seniors, both well and frail, to utilize our services to enrich their lives.

**SENIOR CITIZENS MENU**  
**Jan. 2nd - Jan. 6th**  
Monday 2nd-Hamburger Steak, Potatoes with Gravy, English Peas/Carrots, Bread, Dessert  
Tuesday 3rd- Vegetable Beef Soup, Cornbread Dessert  
Wednesday 4th-BBQ Chicken, Potatoes, Ranch Style Beans, Bread Dessert  
Thursday 5th -Enchiladas Lettuce & Tomato Salad, Refried Beans, Crackers, Dessert  
Friday 6th-Chicken Sandwich, Pea Salad, Chips, Fruit Cookie  
MEAL IS SERVED - 11:45 A.M. - 12:30 P.M.  
Monthly Menu may be picked up at the Senior Citizen Center

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**CROSS PLAINS I.S.D. WEEKLY MENU**  
January 2-6, 2017

	MONDAY 2	TUESDAY 3	WEDNESDAY 4	THURSDAY 5	FRIDAY 6
<b>BREAKFAST</b>		Breakfast Pizza Cereal 100% fruit juice Fruit Milk variety	Cheese Omelet Wrap Cereal 100% fruit juice Fruit Milk variety	Waffles Sausage Cereal 100% fruit juice Fruit Milk variety	Cinnamon roll Bacon Cereal 100% fruit juice Fruit Milk variety
<b>LUNCH</b>		Country Fried Steak Gravy Mashed potatoes Green beans Roll Peach slices Milk variety	Pizza Garden Salad Carrot coins Rosy Applesauce Milk variety	Soft Tacos Salsa Salad Refried beans Pears Cookie Milk variety	Beef or Chicken Patty on bun Hamburger garnish Coleslaw Sweet potato fries Apple slices Milk variety

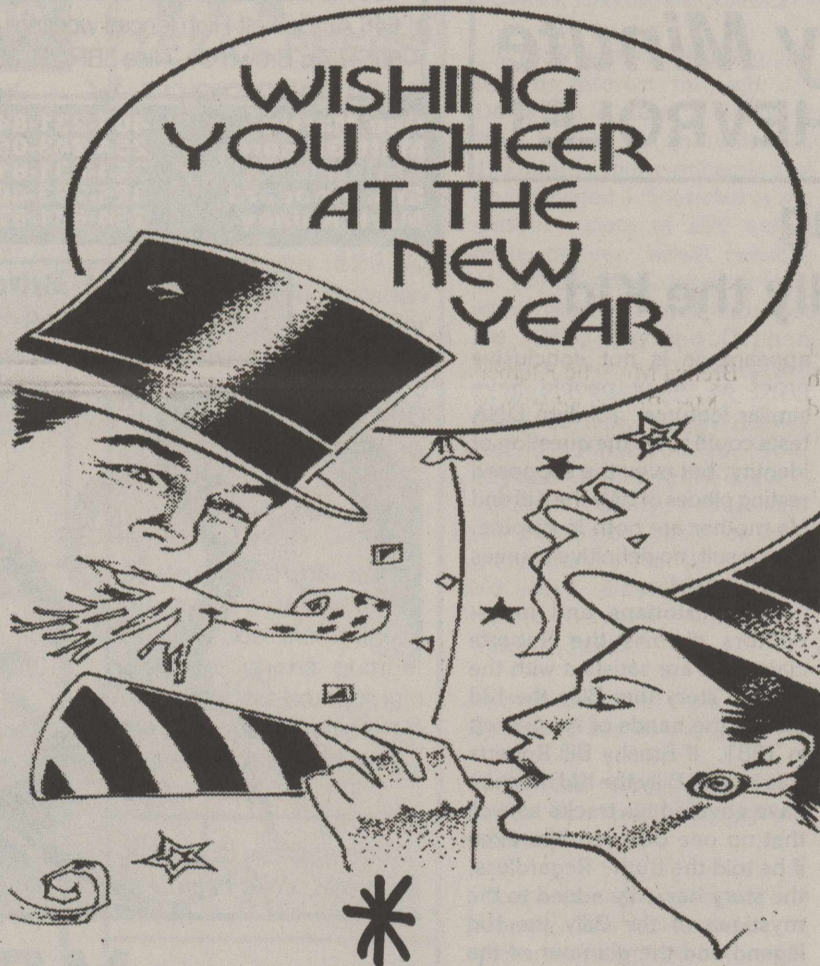




# RING IN THE NEW!

As another year draws to a close,  
we'd like to chime in with our warm wishes  
to all of you for a happy, healthy and  
prosperous new year.

We thank you for making this past year  
a ringing success for us.



# HAPPY NEW YEAR

# 2017

- R.G. MAXWELL CONSTRUCTION
- HIGGINBOTHAM FUNERAL HOME
- DALE MITCHELL BUILDING
- CROSS PLAINS FOOD PANTRY
- The Thumb Print
- LOWE'S
- REED CONSTRUCTION
- HIGGINBOTHAM'S BROS.

- AUTOWIRE- J.D. HUTTON
- CROSS PLAINS REVIEW
- RISING STAR NURSING CENTER
- SUSAN J. SCHAEFER, CPA

- CITY OF CROSS PLAINS
- LAWRENCE FARM & RANCH INC.
- COWBOY PUMP & SUPPLY
- METHODIST YOUTH GROUP
- T&K TIRE & ALIGNMENT
- TEXAS HERITAGE BANK
- TRINITY LIVEOAK REAL ESTATE
- J & L SALES



## Hollywood Legend Texas Bob Is Coming to Dinner

Plans are still underway, but we are excited to announce that Bob Hinkle, author of "Call Me Lucky - A Texan in Hollywood" will be our speaker at a fundraising dinner at First United Methodist Church on January 21st, so mark your calendars!

"From the rodeo to the studio, Bob Hinkle's career has spanned the latter half of the 20th century. Whether acting, directing or producing, Texas Bob has touched the lives of many of the entertainment industry's marquis names. His own accomplishments can be attributed to a passion for living, a talent for entertaining, and flair for the dramatic."

Hinkle had many roles in movies and TV, including "Hud," "Wagon Train," "Wells Fargo," "Gunsmoke," "Bonanza," and "Walker Texas Ranger," just to name a few.

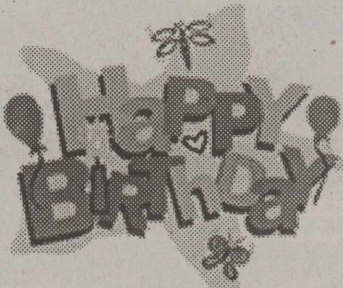
Then, in 1955, the classic movie "Giant" marked a turning point for Hinkle. His down-home drawl made him the perfect candidate to coach Rock Hudson, Carroll Baker, Dennis Hopper, Mercedes McCambridge and James Dean to "talk Texan." (Dean later presented his friend Hinkle with an Oscar for his contribution to the film's towering success.) Hinkle then took his experience from "Giant" to the set of "Hud"

and did for Paul Newman what he had done for James Dean by coaching Newman, Patricia Neal and Melvin Douglas to be Texans. Neal and Douglas won Oscars for their roles.

Hinkle's career was not limited to "talking Texan." He did a variety of notable things: creating and directing the pig scramble in "Hud," signing an unknown singer named Glen Campbell to a country music series, developing and promoting "Evel Knievel" as he became the world's best known showman-daredevil, and being the personal manager for Marty Robbins.

Hinkle says his most memorable achievement, however, goes back to winning a \$20 bet that he could get a date with the Queen of the Rodeo in Moses Lake. After introducing himself to Sandra Larson, he dedicated his bull ride to her along with a tip of his hat from the center of the arena. Sandra not only went to the dance with him that night, but married him a year-and-a-half later! The Hinkles raised three children and now live back in Texas.

After our dinner, Hinkle will be available to autograph copies of his book, which will be available for sale. Join us for a fun and entertaining evening!



### January 1

John Bagley  
Henry Wellmaker  
Joyce Williams

### January 2

Tami Hall  
Lessa Higginbotham  
Jimmy Harris  
Patsy Letney  
Cherilyn Fleming  
Linda Reed  
Camron Cobb

### January 3

Sandy (Bailey) Low  
Teck Whitney  
Cookie Robinson  
Kathy Pippins  
Mrs. Donald Baird  
Billy Joe Lofton  
Eddie Wade Dillard  
Jane Womack

### January 4

Shana (Bagley) Hinyard  
Myrna Mitchell  
Jim Forbes  
Armando Sifuentes  
Danny Myrick  
Micheal Chase Childers  
Nicholas Meador  
Troy Stone  
George Hoover  
Brian Odom  
Ronald Allen Steele  
Kayla (Cupit) Rogers  
Lowell Clark  
Douglas Bowden  
Michell Munson

### January 5

Sawyer James Hamilton  
Peggy Hilburn  
Donald Rhodes  
Ronald Rhodes  
Clara Smith  
Tye A. Flippin  
Vernon H. Simpson  
Debbie Sheppard

### January 6

Brenna Michelle Kleiber  
Mrs. Bob Henderson  
Kathy Parrish Cole  
Betsy (Bowden) Kington  
Troy Shane Knowles  
Betty Holland  
Mrs. Jerry Whiteside  
Mellisa (Clark) Mauricio  
Jessica Sue Hall

### January 7

Randall Kyle Foster  
Mrs. Roy Thornton  
Dick Koenig  
Glenda Lane  
Deloras Stover  
Karen (Ringhoffer) Combs  
Bobby Oliver  
Ricky Purvis  
Mrs. Carl King  
James Crowley  
Betty Strength  
Bridgette Allen  
Shae Connelly

### Weight Watchers meets every Thursday in Baird

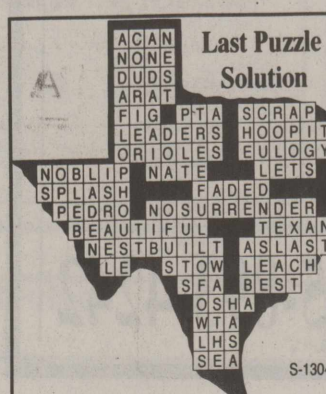
Weight Watchers Beyond the Scale Plan focuses on you being the best you've ever been. Come See what Weight Watchers has to offer to help you be the healthiest you can be.

Weight Watchers meets every Thursday at 5:00 p.m. at 401 Chestnut in Baird. Contact Sharon Ward at swardww@aol.com or just drop by! They would love to see you and help you lose weight, get healthier and live happier!

### Cross Plains Review

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Dec. 29, 2016



## Cottonwood News by Beverly Brown

Happy New Year! We wish you a happy and prosperous 2017. Be sure you have Black-Eyed Peas on New Year's Day for luck. The old traditions say that eating Cabbage on New Year's Day will bring money.

Brandon and Ethan Maxwell were here over the holidays visiting with their dad James Maxwell and their grandparents, Joe and Deana Terstegge.

Be really careful outside. We've had two fires here in Cottonwood in the past month. As of Monday, the Burn Ban is ON. No Control Burns, trash burning or welding. If you see smoke, it's a fire. Call the 911 to reach the Sheriff's Office to report the fire.

It's been eleven years since

the horrible wildfire that claimed homes and lives in Cross Plains. We all remember that day.

Our local Fire Control Group and the Cross Plains Volunteer Fire Department work hard to take care of Cottonwood. Please remember both of them with your end of year (or beginning of year) donations.

Diana Miller and former Cottonwood resident Fred Dill both were part of the program at the Christmas Eve Services at the First United Methodist Church. Regular church organist Joe Perry played "O Holy Night" on the piano and he was just fantastic. He brought a very special special. Everyone just raved about the performance.

WE HAVE  
SELF-INKING AND  
RUBBER STAMPS  
CROSS PLAINS  
REVIEW  
116 S.E. 1ST ST  
CROSS PLAINS, TX

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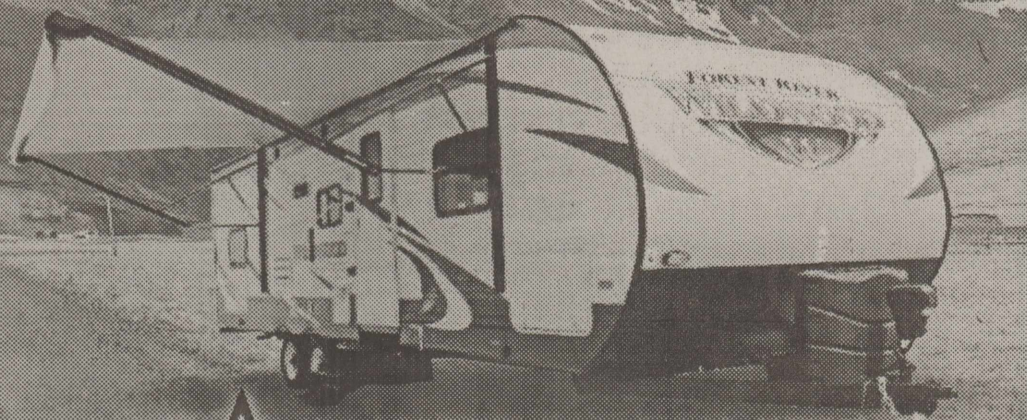
or email: [shadyoaksgolf@gmail.com](mailto:shadyoaksgolf@gmail.com)  
For more information

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# Cross Plains Chamber House and Business Decorating Contest - Darlene Meador and City of Cross Plains are 1st Place Winners

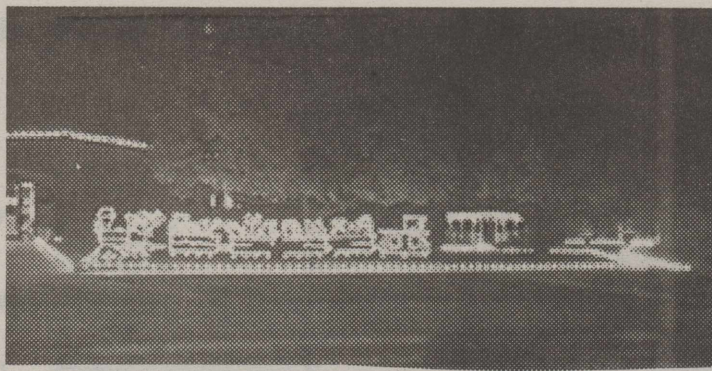
The Cross Plains Chamber of Commerce Christmas house and business decorating contest went fantastic. The Chamber hopes for this contest to continue to receive more entries with each year. Several homes were spotted that we hope will join in on this contest next year. Each winner received a "best decorated" sign to display with their decorations. Congratulations to our

winners and Merry Christmas from the Cross Plains Chamber of Commerce.

1st Place Business is City of Cross Plains

1st Place Home is Darlene Meador.

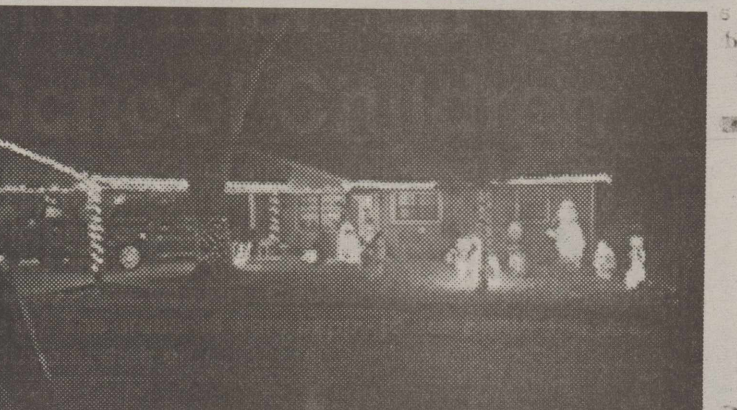
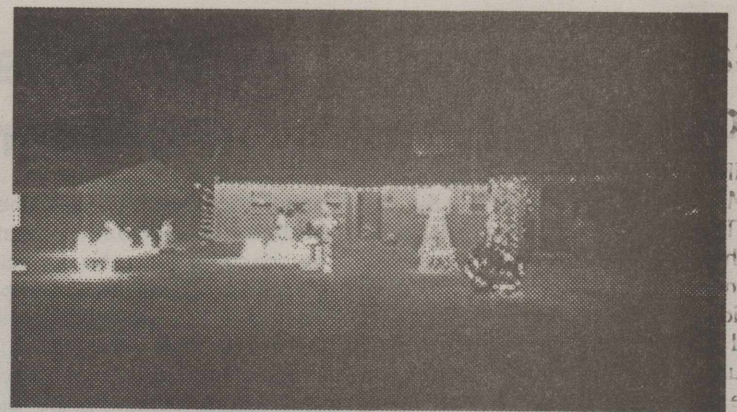
**10**  
Dec. 29, 2016



The City of Cross Plains won Best Decorated Business.



Darlene Meador's home won Best Decorated Home.



## Santa, Mrs. Claus and Their Elf Visit School Children

Santa and Mrs. Claus and their elf visited the school Friday, December 16. Santa, played by Coach John Ward, gave out candy canes to the children he saw 6th grades and he saw the seniors class at the High School. Sheena Apple was Mrs. Claus and Melinda Dixon played the elf. The students were happy to see Santa and Mrs. Claus and their elf.

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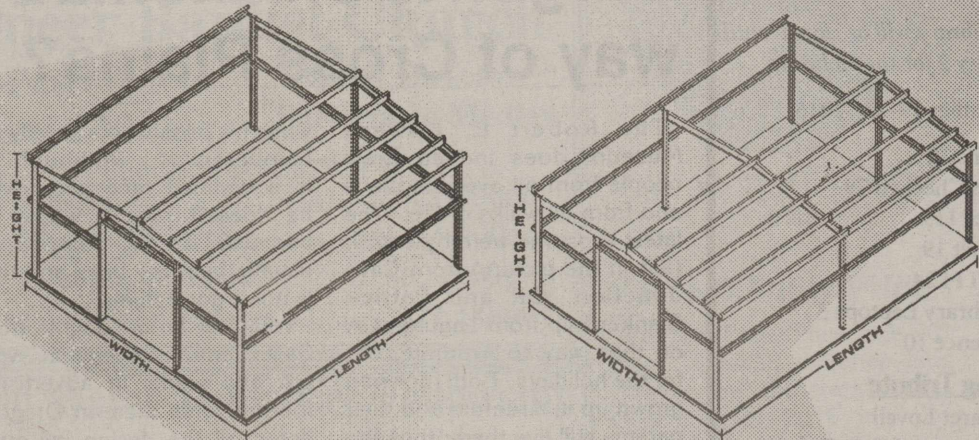
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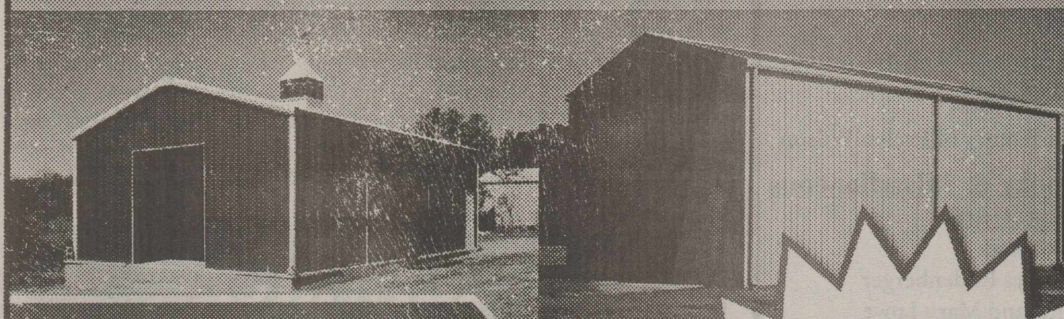
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Cross Plains Review

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Dec. 29, 2016

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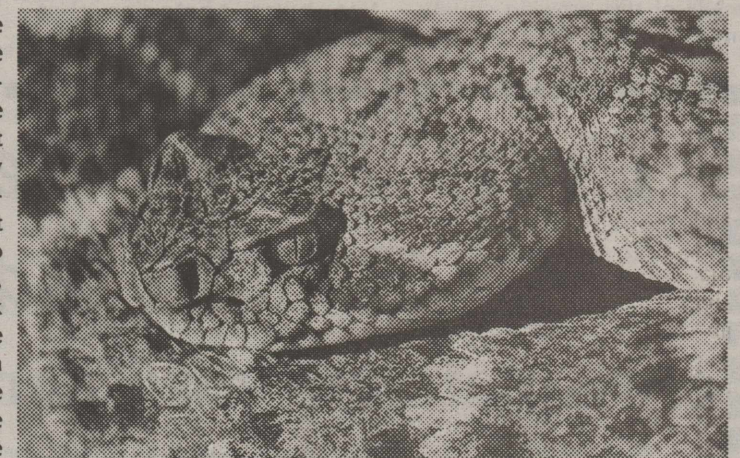
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## Email Fear-Mongering

Like many of you, I utilize the internet as a legitimate resource of doing business and communications. And like you, I receive emails from time to time that make me want to just toss my computer right out of the window. Generally, the ones that end with "forward this email to 10 of your friends, blah, blah, blah" are the ones that hack me off the most. However, there are some that frustrate me even more than the ones that make promises of prosperity and those are the emails that play on the fear and emotions of people in regards to the natural world. There are three in particular that I would like to use this column to address, and while the first one is actually several years old, the other two are relatively new to the fear-mongering scene.

The first email that I would like to spend some time on is the one with a photo attached of a man holding a large Western Diamond-backed Rattlesnake (*Crotalus atrox*) by the neck with the use of commercial snake-grabbers. The snake looks really big in comparison to the man, and story that usually goes along with the photo is that the man, who just happens to be someone's sister's husband from high school, was out in the wilderness minding his own business when this gigantic snake jumps out of nowhere and attacks him. Luckily, he has the snake-grabbers and a camera with him so he can document the whole thing on film. The email goes on to describe how big the rattlers in Texas are getting, and that this one is 8 feet long and weighs a whopping 100 pounds. And the photo is sent along to show how huge this animal is in comparison to this man.

However, the Western Diamond-backed Rattlesnake does not achieve lengths of 8 feet, and by no means do they weigh 100 pounds. The photo is an optical illusion, as the snake is held out away from the man towards the camera, giving the snake the appearance of being humongous. And common sense dictates that even the strongest of men are incapable of holding 100 pounds out straight four feet from their body! Add to this fact that the



Western Diamond-backed Rattlesnake  
(*Crotalus atrox*)

snake-grabbers are less than an inch in diameter and made of aluminum, and you can see how this story is getting far-fetched. This email has been circulating around the internet the past several years and every year the animal resides in a different Texas county, and amazingly enough, it is the same photo of the same man!

The second email is in regards to the myth that rattlesnakes are rapidly evolving to NOT use their rattle to sound a warning. This proposed evolution is due to the rampant numbers of feral hogs that are thriving in this state (this part of the email is true!) and these varmints are feeding on rattlesnakes. So to stay undetected by the pesky vermin, rattlesnakes are learning how to not rattle, thus becoming more deadly to humans because we don't even know that they are there.

The simple truth is this. Rattlesnakes would prefer to be left alone. Believe it or not, but they truly are much more afraid of us than we are of them. Over the last several years of field research in Texas, New Mexico, and most of northeastern Mexico (where there is not a huge feral hog problem) I have had the opportunity to observe literally hundreds of rattlesnakes in the field. And I would guesstimate that less than 10 percent of the ones encountered even rattled until they were thoroughly disturbed.

The last email came to me from a concerned lady from here in San Angelo in regards to a local radio station in the San Antonio

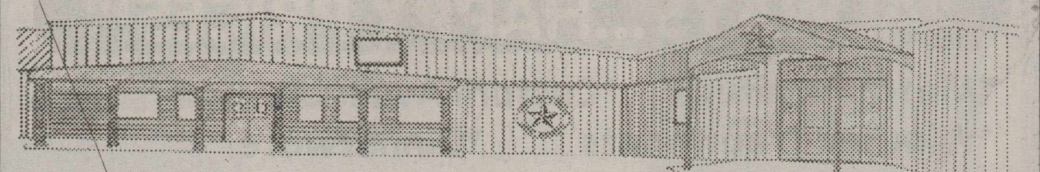
area interviewing a snake "expert" and this "expert" stating that due to the drought conditions, there was about to be an infestation of all kinds of snakes in neighborhoods throughout Texas. And of course with more snake encounters, more people are going to be attacked and bitten.

Now, I am not a "snake-snob" and I know that there are people who have a wealth of knowledge on the subject, many more than I do. However, this "expert" is giving out false information to apparently sensationalize what normally happens in the natural world. In all honesty, it is all about numbers and the time of the year. Most snakes in Texas breed in the spring and the evidence of these breeding events become apparent in the fall as baby snakes of all types begin to make their appearance. The more snakes that there are, there is more of a chance of an encounter with one. But this is nothing to fear as this is nothing new. This is how the cycle of things has been progressing for decades, and the drought does nothing more than LOWER the numbers of snakes as most do not reproduce as much in dry years as in years with more precipitation.

Basically what I am rambling about is to take a lot of the information that is passed along via email with a grain of salt, at least when it comes to animals that create fear among the general public.

###  
Editor's Note: Michael Price would love to hear from folks! He can be reached by email at [www.fullprice71@gmail.com](mailto:fullprice71@gmail.com).

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