

# MOTLEY COUNTY TRIBUNE

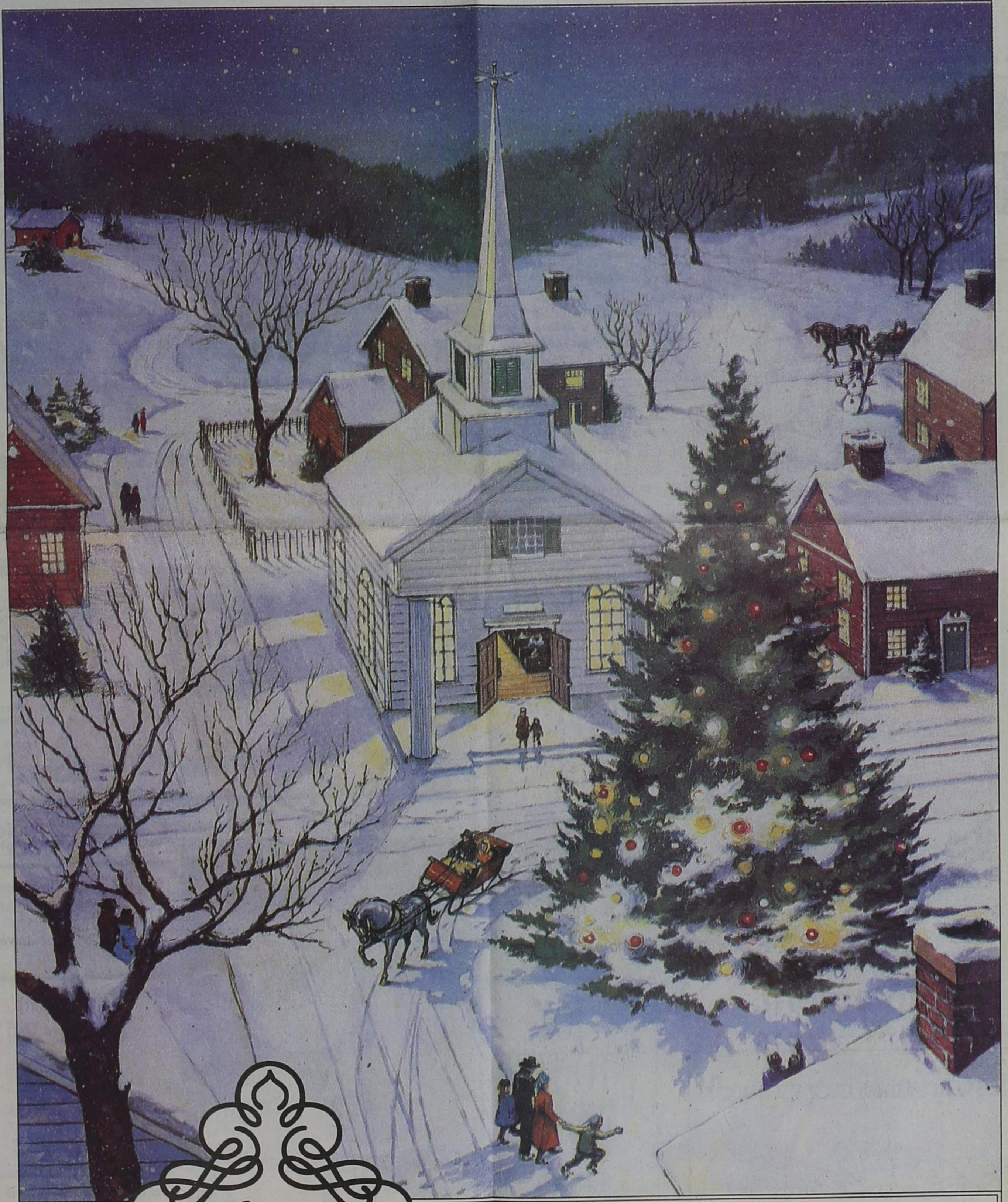
"VOICE OF THE FOOTHILLS"

75¢

Section 1, December 20, 2007

Established 1891

Issue No. 51



Have A  
Picture Perfect  
Christmas

REJOICE





## Santa's Coming!

And along with a sleigh full of goodies, he's bringing you our warmest holiday wishes and thanks for your support.

Matador Variety

**Peace & Brotherhood**  
Turner Outfitters 806-983-4301



## Christmas Angels

by P.Z. Mann



The Whittles lived in Humbleburg,  
As poor as poor can be,  
But all their neighbors loved them,  
For their generosity.  
For though the Whittles shelves were bare,  
Their cottage tumbledown,  
When Christmas came they made a toy,  
For every child in town.  
One Christmas Eve they climbed in bed,  
After all the toys were made;  
And while they dreamed of better times,  
The Whittles were repaid.  
That night three Christmas angels came,  
To give them a reward --  
For heaven won't let any act  
Of kindness be ignored.  
One angel searched the cupboard  
And found just a crust of bread;  
"Now, this won't do," she whispered  
"Let's prepare a feast instead!"  
The angels flapped their magic wings,  
As only they are able,  
And in a flash a flood of food  
Filled all the shelves and table!  
The tiny house still looked quite dab,  
It needed to be cheered;  
And as the angels waved their wings,  
A Christmas tree appeared!  
Two angels trimmed the pretty tree;  
The third flew to and fro,  
Hanging bells and holly boughs,  
And sprigs of mistletoe.  
Outside the angels dressed the house  
With icicles and snow,  
And on the door they placed a wreath,  
Complete with bright red bow!  
They finished all they came to do,  
Before the break of day,  
And as the Whittles roused from sleep,  
The angels flew away.  
Now, when the Whittles saw the food  
And all the decoration,  
They pinched themselves and wept for joy,  
Then danced in celebration!  
As word spread through the village  
Of their heaven-sent surprise;  
Every Humbleburger came  
To see with their own two eyes!  
The Whittles shared their Christmas feast--  
They emptied all the shelves;  
Their kindness wouldn't let them keep  
Good fortune to themselves.  
When everyone had cleaned their plate,  
They all joined in a song;  
And up above--though no one hard -  
The angels sang along!

## Child of Promise A Prayer for Christmas Morning

by Dr. Ralph F. Wilson

Who are you little baby? Who are you little Christ child,  
Lying so quietly in manger straw? Who are you that angels should  
herald your presence and stars announce your birth? That  
wiseman and shepherds--the high and the low--should bow be-  
fore you? Who are you, child of Bethlehem, son of David?  
What is your future? What is your promise?

Seven centuries before your birth the ancient scrip-  
tures speak of you....

For to us a child is born,  
To us a son is given,  
And the government will be on his shoulders,  
And his name will be called  
Wonderful Counselor,  
Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father,  
Prince of Peace.  
Of the increase of his government and of peace  
There will be no end.\*

What is this government? What is this peace, O Christ-  
mas baby? Are you a warrior-to-be? Are you a king? What prom-  
ise do you hold?

How can you be the Mighty God while flecks of straw,  
blown from the stable floor, dot your fine hair? How is this?

How can you be the Everlasting Father while not yet  
an hour old? How is it?

How can you be a Wonderful Counselor before you've  
learned? A teacher before you've been taught? What is this  
wellspring of your wisdom?

What is the mystery set before us, enigmatic newborn  
lying in a stable manger, born of parents poor, yet destined for  
this greatness? You must be the one we've hoped for, longed for  
all our lives. The one who will set us free from our depressions  
and oppressions, within and without.

Little wonder angels cannot contain their Good News  
of Great Joy. Little wonder heavenly host sing in chorus,  
Glory to God in the highest  
and on earth peace to men....\*\*

Be my peace, O Prince of Peace. Let its gentle, joyful  
blanket comfort my nervous soul, and still warring of your earth.  
Be my government, O Christ. Govern not my own heart  
only, but also this desperate world in which I live.

Be my Everlasting Father and my Counselor. By your  
counsel guide me out of confusion and turmoil into the sun-  
light that always shines above my low-lying clouds.

Welcome, Christ child. All my life I have needed you.  
O Child of Promise, this Christmas morning I give to you my  
heart. Amen.

\*Isaiah 9: 6-7a

\*\*Luke 2:14

Dear Santa,  
I want a MP3 player, a micro-  
phone, and a laptop. The most 2  
things I want are a laptop and  
MP3 player.

Love,  
Allison

Dear Santa,  
I believe in you. I want a Flip-  
ping Frogs game.

Love,  
Nathan

Dear Santa,  
I would like a bike.  
Love,  
Braeden

Dear Santa,  
I like you and want a present.  
Make my momma make some  
presents. I want a trampoline, a  
real horse, and Barbies.

Love,  
Elizabeth Sullivan

Dear Santa,  
I would love Star Wars Lego's  
and a Power Ranger Cape.  
Love,  
Matthew

## Christmas Is For Kids

**HOME IS WHERE THE HEART IS!**  
May yours be blessed this holiday season.

Matador Implement

It's Christmas Everywhere!



Celebrate with those you love.

Knowles-Taylor  
Cotton Company, Inc.



JOY TO THE WORLD

We'd like to join with all of you in praying for worldwide peace and harmony this holiday season.



Traveler's Inn  
Roaring Springs

## Greetings!

In the joyous Christmas spirit, we extend our greetings to those whose friendship we value so much.

### Motley County Courthouse Staff

JUDGE - Ed D. Smith  
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Ronnie Davis, Prec. I  
Donnie Turner, Prec. II  
Franklin Jameson, Prec. III  
Russell Alexander, Prec. IV  
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Chad Overton  
GAME WARDEN: Ted Davey  
COURTHOUSE MAINTENANCE  
Larry Markham







**SHERIFF MICHAEL & BUFFY CRUTCHLEY**

EXTEND HOLIDAY WISHES  
TO ALL THE RESIDENTS OF MOTLEY COUNTY.  
WE LOOK FORWARD TO GETTING TO KNOW  
EACH OF YOU FOR MANY YEARS TO COME.  
MERRY CHRISTMAS!

paid for by Sheriff Michael K Crutchley

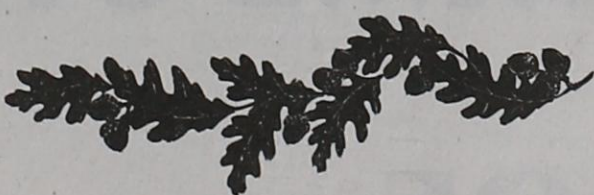
May the spirit of this joyous season touch all His creatures, bringing peace and serenity across the land.  
*Merry Christmas!*



May the miracle of His birth and the glorious message of His life be celebrated this holiday season

"Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.  
For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord."

We wish you and your family  
a Merry Christmas and  
Happy New Year



**Matador Branch**  
The First National Bank  
Local people, local service, local convenience

Equal Housing Lender

Member FDIC

**The Night Before Christmas**

By Clement C. Moore

**T**was the night before Christmas,  
When all through the house  
Not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse.  
The stockings were hung by the chimney with care,  
In hopes that St. Nicholas soon would be there;  
The children were nestled all snug in their beds,  
While visions of sugar-plums danced through their heads;  
And Mamma in her kerchief, And I in my cap,  
Had just settled our brains for a long winter's nap,

When out on the lawn there arose such a clatter,  
I sprang from my bed to see what was the matter.

Away to the window I flew like a flash,  
Tore open the shutters, and threw up the sash.  
The moon on the breast of the new-fallen snow  
Gave a lustre of mid-day to objects below;  
When, what to my wondering eyes should appear,  
But a miniature sleigh, and eight tiny reindeer,  
With a little old driver so lively and quick,  
I knew in a moment it must be St. Nick.

More rapid than eagles his coursers they came,  
And he whistled and shouted,  
And called them by name;  
"Now, Dasher! Now, Dancer! Now, Prancer and Vixen!  
On, Comet! On, Cupid!  
On, Donner and Blitzen!  
To the top of the porch, to the top of the wall,  
Now, dash away, dash away,  
Dash away all!"

As dry leaves that before the wild hurricane fly,  
When they meet with an obstacle,  
Mount to the sky;  
So up to the house-top the coursers they flew,  
With a sleigh full of toys,  
And St. Nicholas too.

And then, in a twinkling, I heard on the roof  
The prancing and pawing of each little hoof.  
As I drew in my head, And was turning around,  
Down the chimney St. Nicholas came with a bound;  
He was dressed all in fur from his head to his foot,  
And his clothes were all tarnished with ashes and soot.

A bundle of toys he had flung on his back,  
And he looked like a peddler just opening his pack.  
His eyes, how they twinkled!  
His dimples, how merry!

His cheeks were like roses; His nose like a cherry.  
His droll little mouth was drawn up like a bow,  
And the beard on his chin was as white as snow.  
The stump of a pipe he held fast in his teeth,  
And the smoke, it encircled his head like a wreath.

He had a broad face and a little round belly  
That shook, when he laughed, like a bowl full of jelly!

He was chubby and plump, — a right jolly old elf;  
And I laughed when I saw him, in spite of myself.  
A wink of his eye, and a twist of his head,  
Soon gave me to know I had nothing to dread.

He spoke not a word, but went straight to his work,  
And filled all the stockings; then turned with a jerk,  
And laying his finger aside of his nose,  
And giving a nod, up the chimney he rose.

He sprang to his sleigh, To his team gave a whistle,  
And away they all flew like the down of a thistle.  
But I heard him exclaim, as he drove out of sight,  
"HAPPY CHRISTMAS to all, and to all a Good-Night!"



**MERRY CHRISTMAS**

Happy Trails to you  
& yours



Matador Cattle Company  
a subsidiary of Bank of America, N.A.

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*The Holidays Bring The Most Wonderful Things*

Sleigh bells ring. Carollers sing. Magic fills the air as families and friends exchange greetings of joy and good will. Motley County is filled with the joy of Christmas and the magic of the season. May it live in our all hearts year round. Merry Christmas to all!

**THE CITY OF MATADOR**  
AND  
**THE CITY OF ROARING SPRINGS**  
CITY COUNCILS & EMPLOYEES



# MOTLEY COUNTY TRIBUNE



"VOICE OF THE FOOTHILLS"

75¢

Section 2, Page 1, Thursday, December 20, 2007.

Merry Christmas!



photo by Shonda Elliott

# STATE CHAMPIONS MOTLEY COUNTY MATADORS

## Matadors defeat Cowboys 44-38

The Motley County Matadors defeated the Woodson Cowboys 44-38 to win the 2007 Six-Man Football Division II State Championship.

The Matadors were down 24-8 in the first half in a back-and-forth game that saw several lead changes.

"Our kids never gave up," Head Football Coach Mike Bigham said.

"They fought hard until the end," he said. "We beat a great football team in Woodson; our hats are off to them."

"We couldn't be prouder of our boys; they didn't get rattled when things weren't looking good."

"We told the boys all week that turnovers and extra points could decide the ballgame, and that was the case."

"They have given us all an experience we will never forget. Our fans were incredible, we are so happy for them."

"We are the State Champs!" Bigham said.

Bradley Brown rushed 19 times for 184 yards and one touchdown. Brown also had four receptions for 93 yards, including a 36-yard touchdown pass from Jacob Blanco and a 29-yard touchdown pass from Isiah Archer. Brown was also 4-of-6 on extra points.

Isiah Archer rushed for 150 yards and three touchdowns on 26 carries. Archer also completed 4-of-10 passing attempts for 70 yards. Jacob Blanco completed 2-of-2 passing attempts for 49 yards. The Matadors racked up 453 yards of total offense.

The Matador defense gave up some yards but held the highest scoring offense in Division II to 38 points.

The Cowboys scored 89 points in a quarterfinal victory over last year's state champion Vernon Northside and scored 102 points in their semifinal win over Gustine.

After allowing 24 points with seven minutes and 54 seconds left in the second quarter, the Motley County defense clamped down to allow only 14 more points the rest of the way. The defensive effort was keyed by two critical second half interceptions by Jacob Blanco.

"We are so proud of our defense," Bigham said. "We have always been able to score, but knew we had to improve on offense."

"The old saying is that defense wins championships, and that was certainly true for us," Coach Bigham said.

## Motley County 2007 Division II District 7 All-District Selections

### 1<sup>ST</sup> TEAM OFFENSE

**Offensive M.V.P.:** Isiah Archer  
**Tight End:** Steven Webb  
**Center:** Casey Carnes  
**Running Back:** Bradley Brown  
**Spreadback:** Isiah Archer  
**Kicker:** Bradley Brown

### 2<sup>ND</sup> TEAM OFFENSE

**Wide Receiver:** Stacy Perryman  
**Quarterback:** Jacob Blanco  
**Running Back:** Eric Simpson

### 1<sup>ST</sup> TEAM DEFENSE

**Defensive Linemen:** Bradley Brown, Steven Webb  
**Linebacker:** Isiah Archer  
**Cornerback:** Stacy Perryman  
**Safety:** Jacob Blanco

### 2<sup>ND</sup> TEAM DEFENSE

**Noseguard:** Eric Simpson

### HONORABLE MENTION

**Tight End:** Will Butler  
**Center:** Justin Newman  
**Special Teams:** Andrew Martin

## Pep Rally sets the stage for Big Win

By Carol Campbell

The Motley County Matador Cheerleaders with sponsor Kay Bingham as Master of Ceremonies staged a rousing send-off to San Angelo with spirit-raising cheers, dances, and speeches, featuring the Motley Crew Rappers, and nine speakers, including guest speaker Pete Christy from KCBF Channel 11.

Large posters held by die-hard students and fans said, "Bring It on Home," "Don't Mess with the Best," and "Victory Is Ours." Spoofing on the rapper theme, one large red and black poster covering the west wall said: "UGOT to Play This Game Like Someone Just Hit Yo Mama with a 2 x 4."

And more than 650 iced cupcakes sat on a table at the west end of the gymnasium, representing the combined efforts of parents, students, and school cafeteria workers, who iced cupcakes well into the wee morning hours. Kay Bingham offered the cupcakes to the audience, calling them "Spirit Cup Cakes," and encouraged the audience to bring their spirit to the state football match.

Additionally, "back by popular demand," Bingham said, were the Motley Crew Rappers, consisting of Bingham, Bobby Brown, Courtney Alexander, Christy Smith, Kathy Blanco, Emma Knowles, Shane'a Russell, and Shonda

Elliott who rapped a crowd-pleasing rendition of original rhymes, dressed in funky getups, and bringing the crowd to their feet with "Just stay hungry; put Woodson on our plate!"

Motley County speakers consisted of Kayla Guest, David Stafford, J.D. Russell, Alan Bingham, Tina Brooks, Matt Washington, and Head Coach Mike Bigham.

David Stafford, who serves on the school board, said he had never seen Santa take a back seat in Matador like it has this December.

And J.D. Russell, dressed in boots, spurs and hat, carried his chaps over his shoulder as a prop, and told the audience,

"I've been around cowboys all my life. If they do something stupid, you say they got the 'shaft," Russell explained.

"So, if the Woodson Cowboys are stupid enough to get on the football field with us, they WILL get the shaft," he said, while slapping his chaps on the floor of the gym creating a loud boom. The crowd came to their feet, clapping wildly. "Show them what it means to have the heart of a Matador," he concluded, to enormous cheers.

Debra Scott read the Mayor's Proclamation, announcing the week of December 15-21 as the week of Motley County Matador Pride. Mayor

Continued on page 5



photo by Walter Taylor

**SPIRIT CUPCAKES**-Volunteers consisting of parents, teachers, students, and cafeteria workers baked and iced about 650 cupcakes and spelled out MCHS STATE. The cupcakes were distributed to students and guests at the pep rally.



# FOOTHILL COUNTRY CONNECTIONS

By Larry Vogt

Pride— Motley County Matador Pride.

Support—Support the team. History—A team that made history.

The first team from Motley County schools to advance to the final rounds of playoffs.

The first to make it to the semifinal; and then the first team to bring home the State Championship Division II 6-man football trophy.

We are so proud of the school football team and the coaches, faculty, and students as they worked together to succeed in this adventure.

We can see the ways in which we, the Motley County community-at-large, are also connected to the final game.

Support comes from everywhere; it comes from the taxes that support the schools, from the ways in which parents support the schools, the teams, the programs, and the academic studies.

by Laverne Zabielski

The Motley County Matadors' winning the State Championship Title created an action packed week. After the Mayor's Proclamation of Pride and Support Week for Motley County and Matador I looked up support in the dictionary.

support v.t. 1. To bear or hold up; serve as a foundation for; to maintain by supplying with things necessary to existence, provide for.

I think of all the ways we support, not only our championship football team, but also the school and the county, and I ponder how to increase that support. At first I viewed support as going to every game and cheering. Then I realized support is also about raising the funds necessary for sports equipment, academic supplies, and everything necessary for the school and team to exist.

As people called to put ads in the Motley County Tribune, I realized that not only were they sending visual messages to the team, the school and fans, the money that was paid for ads also supports the Tribune. Our commitment is to

We can take pride in the way our community supports the schools; we can take pride in the way we support each other.

We can see all the ways of connection, from the participation in the classes, the attendance at the games, and the pep rallies which urged the players on to their win in San Angelo.

There was a remarkable excitement in the air as the team came from behind to hold the Cowboys from scoring while the offense took care of business with their own touchdowns and extra points.

Our Motley County pride can reach right out into the community to acknowledge the efforts of local businesses to serve in the best interest of the town; we can take pride in the historic buildings that grace our downtown area, and we can be proud of the folks who kept up the booster effort with the team from the start to the finish of the game season.

Yes, Motley County Matador Pride. Keep it as long as you can.

make sure that we shop locally whenever possible. The more we purchase here in Motley County the more thriving the businesses will become.

While I'm thrilled that the Glittered Pig has chosen to repurpose the old Higginbotham-Bartlett Lumber Yard into an art studio, manufacturing facility and retail gallery, it saddens me that there is no longer a lumber yard. Shane Jones, of the Matador Variety frequently says, "If you don't use it, you'll lose it." Usually we hear that in relation to our bodies and exercise. However the same is true for our county. If we don't support our local businesses we are whittling away at the very foundation that supports our school and teams.

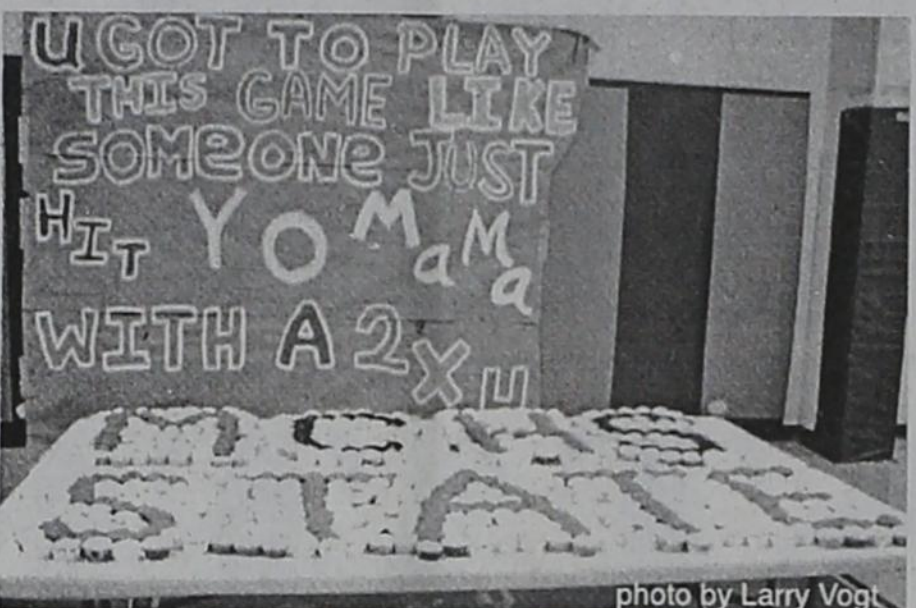
My brother, Julian, said he was sending me a bumper sticker that says, "Walmart-Killing One Small Town at a Time." Today, after experiencing the excitement and camaraderie of not only winning the state championship, but also the commitment of all the fans, friends and families, I realize that every purchase I make in a big box store of something I could have bought in Motley County is taking support away from the Matadors.



**MOTLEY CREW RAPPERS**—Back by popular demand, the Motley County Crew Rappers entertained the crowd at the pep rally with rhymes heralding the accomplishments of each player, written by Kay Bingham, set to music.



**STAGE MUSICIAN** Brendan Willshire accompanies the Motley Crew Rappers and cheers the team to victory.



**SPIRIT CUPCAKES**—Volunteers consisting of parents, teachers, students, and cafeteria workers baked and iced about 650 cupcakes and spelled out MCHS STATE. The cupcakes were distributed to students and guests at the pep rally.



**SHOWING SPIRIT**—Wearing a red paper vest with their favorite player's number, pre-kindergarten students Keygen Woolsey and Elizabeth Sullivan help cheer the team to victory at the state championship pep rally.

# The Great Season

By U.S. Sen. John Cornyn

The familiar red kettles and ringing bells at shopping areas across Texas this Christmas season are symbols of generosity to the less fortunate. In the Lone Star State, this holiday tradition originated from the spirit and determination of one man, a new Texan whose career led him from the navy to the army—the Salvation Army.

A captain in the Italian navy, Adam Janelli witnessed the Salvation Army's work in Calcutta, India. The outreach he saw made a permanent impression. After he emigrated to the U.S. and eventually to Dallas, Janelli was determined to establish the Salvation Army there.

That was nearly 120 years ago. The Salvation Army of Texas credits Janelli as its founder. He began sending letters and petitions to international Salvation Army founder Gen. William Booth. "His letter barrage got so thick that the official word was given and the Salvation Army of Texas opened in 1889."

At first, Janelli preached on street corners. "Janelli gave both material and spiritual help to the poor and homeless," reports the Salvation Army, "and to the people of Dallas, he became known as 'Mr. Salvation Army.' The people of Dallas could not recall a time that they did not see Janelli in his uniform. Many people doubted he had any other clothes in his possession."

One man on a Dallas corner eventually ripped out to communities throughout Texas, where the Salvation Army carries out its work today. Janelli is described as "one of the most unassuming Salvation Army personalities Texas and the United States has ever known."

Texas has countless organizations, large and small, founded and staffed by men and women like Adam Janelli. Their selflessness and service, and their willingness to share with those in need, provides an inspiration to all. The urgency of hu-

man need takes on greater visibility at year's end, and leads to broad support for the red kettles, Blue Santa and Brown Santa programs, Toys for Tots, food and clothing drives, and other efforts to help people.

The holiday period is a vital time for giving. Our collective generosity now is crucial to the year-round work of many nonprofit organizations, including churches. Many receive most of their annual contributions in the final three months of the year, "the giving season."

Texans are compassionate year-round, but more recently, the introduction of tax deductions for charitable giving has provided yet one more incentive for doing good works, especially at year's end.

While the government can provide a safety net under those who need assistance, there is no substitute for the loving, caring attention of a volunteer. Private efforts are particularly effective in combating hunger, poverty and homelessness.

If a need exists, a willing heart will usually move to help. This includes in education, health care, care for our troops and veterans, and an array of other endeavors at home and abroad. Giving of ourselves is an essential part of the real meaning of Christmas.

There are many faces of need in our world. Sometimes we see them, but often we do not. Nonprofit organizations help identify and call attention to unrecognized and unmet needs wherever they exist. They are on the front lines.

Twenty years ago, President Reagan noted that personal charity provides universal benefits. "And very often, it's the giver who receives the most precious gift," he said. "Personal, private charity humanizes a society. It makes us more aware of each other, of our hopes and needs, and of our sorrows and our joys." For those of us who are blessed to live in this great state, those are words to remember.



**COACH BIGHAM** being interviewed after leading the Motley County Matadors to the State Title.

## Motley County Tribune

(806) 347-2400

mctribune@gmail.com

Publishers & Editors

Laverne Zabelski & Larry Vogt

Copy Editor & Feature Writer

Carol Campbell

Office Manager & Photographer

Stachia Baxter

## TRIBUNE CLOSED NEXT WEEK

As in years past, the Motley County Tribune will be closed Christmas week, December 20 -26 and will not have a paper that week.

The next edition of the Tribune will be the January 3rd issue. The deadline for that issue will be Friday, December 28th at 10:00 a.m.

We wish each of our readers a very Merry Christmas and our most sincere wishes for a prosperous New Year.



## Letters to the Editors

To Whom It May Concern,

I am having a great many problems with my phone and Internet that is provided through Caprock Telephone. It has taken six months of complaining just to get them to fix my lines and remove the static and to have a reliable dial tone. I have been told that there aren't any problems with the phone system and that I should be lucky that I have Caprock but I know that there are far better phone systems out there.

When we moved from east Texas this summer we were shocked to find out that the phone company didn't offer voicemail and that the Internet was only 1.5 meg. We did have 3meg Internet and our phone service offered voicemail, call forward, conference calling.

I was told that none of Caprock customers want voicemail and that they don't want or need faster Internet. I don't believe that. I think that Caprock wants to believe that statement.

I run a small business from my home and I am exceeding the abilities of the current phone and Internet system. Caprock is limiting my ability to grow because I can't get reliable and current products from them. If I am exceeding the abilities of the phone company, with a one person office, how can the area expect to bring in other business's that put greater demand on the phone system?

Lubbock currently offers Internet that is 10 times faster than that offered by Caprock. It is also less per month

for this service. I know that Caprock can't compete with a large city but I know that they can provide a better service to their residential and commercial customers.

If you are having phone or Internet problems please call Caprock Telephone in Spur. They have said that I am the only one with a problem and the only one complaining. If you would like more products, such as voicemail, call them. They said that customers haven't asked for it. Also, if anyone knows what the policy is for electing board members I would like to know. I have asked employees from Caprock, the General Manager and a board member but know one knows or will tell me.

Mike Hackler

Letter to Editors:

STATE CHAMPS, WOW! Congratulations to the team, coaching staff, school and loyal fans of Motley County.

It was great to see a positive headline on the front page of the AJ (Motley County Celebrates State Title) and of course the headline of the sports page, (Motley Rules.) This is just what everyone in Motley County and all exes wanted for Christmas.

Thanks to the tribune for its new editors for the great coverage of all school activities, GREAT pictures Stachia and Carol. Thanks to the tribune for keeping us in touch with what is going on in our home towns.

Matador Ex "63"

Pete Davis and wife Kay

Season's Greetings

Thank you for putting your trust in us.

Panhandle-Plains  
LAND BANK

Plainview, Texas

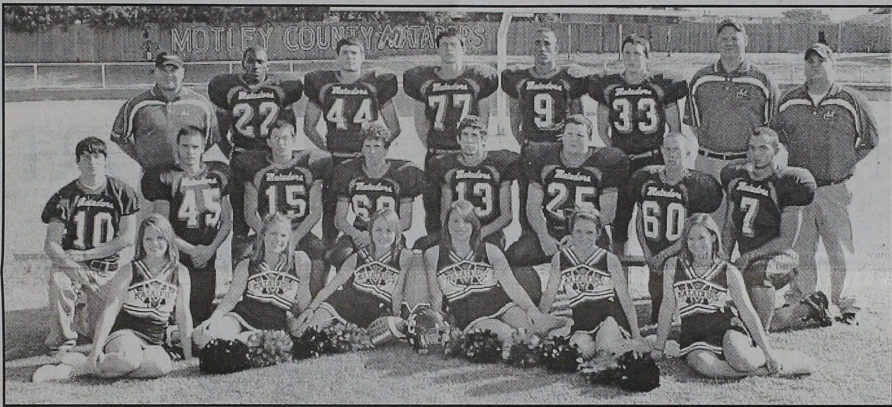
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www.travelersinnbandb.com  
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# Congratulations CHAMPIONS MOTLEY COUNTY MATADORS



From  
Motley County Tribune  
& Fans

Larry and Donna Hoyle

NEW TO YOU

RED BALL GIN

SMITH SOUTHERN  
BANC EQUIPMENT

TRAVELER'S INN  
BED & BREAKFAST

Bettye, Ashley, & John  
Stevens

MATADOR BRANCH  
*First National Bank of Seymour*

CAPROCK TELEPHONE

CAPROCK CELLULAR

CAPROCK TV

MATADOR VARIETY

City of Matador

THE HITCHIN' POST

THACKER JEWELRY

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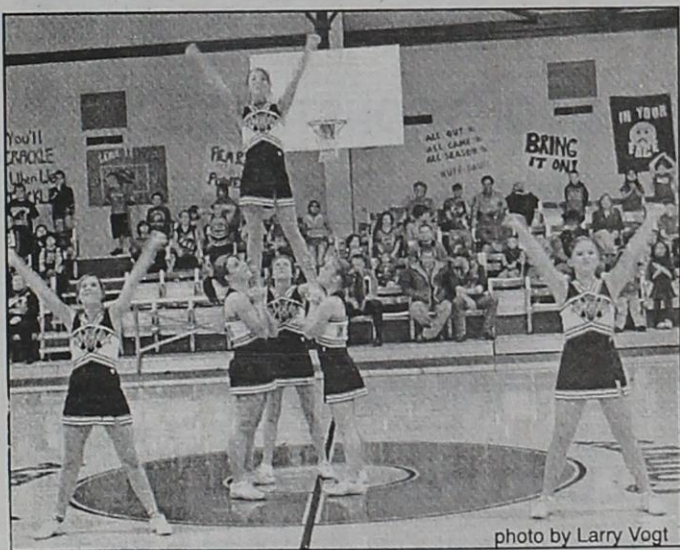
MATADOR MOTOR  
AND IMPLEMENT



# CONGRATULATIONS STATE CHAMPIONS Six-Man Division II Football



## 2007 MOTLEY CO. MATADORS ON A GREAT TEAM EFFORT



**From our team at  
Matador Branch  
and  
First National Bank Seymour**



# WRITING COMMUNITY

## State Finals Pep Rally Rap

By Kay Bingham

Hey all you fans out there  
Listen up close and you will  
hear,  
This here group's gonna rap  
for you  
Gonna talk more 'bout what  
this team do.

Since we wuz here they done  
lots more,  
Hurt some feelings, made lots  
of scores.  
The Follett Panthers made  
quite a fuss  
But the trophy still come home  
on our bus.

Number Seven's still quite a  
playah  
You know his name is ole  
Isiah.  
You always know the ones he  
hits  
Cause on the stretcher they  
gots to git!

Number Nine can twist and  
jump  
And his opponents he sure can  
thump.  
Steven hits and tackles and  
does his share  
And when we win he leaps in  
the air.

Stacy and Casey are quite the  
pair  
Cause 'bout their team they  
really care.  
They knock their foes right to  
the ground  
A tougher duo just can't be  
found.

This playuh ain't never been  
called a slug  
Number 13-his name is Bug.  
As a quarterback he's mighty  
fine  
Calls the bestest plays time  
after time.

Those Lefors Pirates thought  
they wuz tough,  
Till our Matadors went and  
showed their stuff.  
They bragged and bragged all  
over town  
Got 45ed and it all went down.  
Now Dayne and Colby are  
really mean,  
When they recover the ball on  
the kickoff team.  
If they play a lot, it don't really  
matter,  
They encourage the team with  
sideline chatter.  
Number 22 likes to juke and  
fake,  
Across the goal line the ball he  
takes  
Other teams get down and sad  
We don't care, cause Brad is  
bad!

Yeah, number 15's really  
coming alive  
On the ball-Andrew starts to  
dive.

Running and charging right at  
the ball,  
He loves to make his oppo-  
nents fall.

Number 33 is rough and  
tough,  
Sends 'em in the air with one  
big puff.  
Will likes to hit and steal the  
ball,  
Most of all, likes watching 'em  
fall.

Those Southland Eagles really  
tried to fly,  
Afraid our team just made 'em  
cry.  
Another gold trophy we had to  
win  
At the end of the game, there  
wuz lots of grins.

Number 45 likes to show his  
stuff  
When he charges in and gets  
real tough.  
On the field he's mean and  
lean,  
Yeah, Eric is a tackling  
machine.

Number 77 plays on the line  
And blocks his opponent every  
time,  
He helps our team to be  
complete  
Watching Justin play is quite a  
treat.

We beat Panthers, and Pirates,  
and Eagles and Birds  
Before those games, we heard  
lots of words  
But when it come down to it  
and we started to juke  
Now we know, it ain't no fluke!

Now did we mention Coaches  
Bigham and Brown?  
After winning the Semi's they  
hadn't come down.  
Lots of pride in the boys and  
also fame,  
But most of all they just love  
the game.

We got great fans supporting  
our team.  
When they go to state to live  
their dream.  
And for all our sports we have  
a plan,  
Cause we got Pete, and he's the  
man!!

For our six seniors, the time is  
right to help win the game,  
and the spotlight!  
Casey, and Stacy, and Zay, and  
Brad, Bug and Steven, we all  
so glad  
First time ever Motley goes to  
State

Just stay hungry; put  
Woodson on our plate!

## GROWING PAINS

By Laverne Zabielski

We didn't get to go to the  
game but we did get to drive  
around listening to KCTX on the  
radio. The last two minutes  
were all too familiar of a state  
championship soccer game that  
my son Johnny played in.  
"Strong teams are built on  
strong character," Jim Boles  
said after the game. It was ap-  
parent both teams had strong  
character. It's why I encouraged  
my son's to play sports. It takes  
determination, commitment  
and teamwork to take you to the  
semifinals. And it takes sup-  
port.

an excerpt from my jour-  
nal, 2003.

This morning Johnny  
woke up on his own, took a  
shower, dressed for school in  
khakis, shirt and tie. On game  
day all athletes wear a tie. He  
scarfed down cream of wheat  
with brown sugar, apples and  
soymilk, ate whole-wheat toast  
and drank a soy smoothie. He  
asked me to wash his uniform  
and threw it on the couch run-  
ning out the door as his ride  
honked.

He left his room in its  
usual orderly mess—"Mess" in  
that to look at it you would think  
nothing could be found, yet  
Johnny knows exactly where  
things are. His futon is on the  
floor. His alarm clock and a  
small bottle of lavender essen-  
tial oil which helps him relax is  
on a shelf laid across two con-  
crete blocks next to his bed.  
There are two reclining chairs  
facing the TV, VCR and  
Playstation 2. His stereo and  
CDs are stacked next to his high  
school soccer team photo and  
the "all senior players" photo. A  
large marijuana leaf poster  
hangs on the wall.

Johnny hardly played in  
the semi final, the first game of  
the final four. He went in for five  
minutes then dropped one knee  
to the ground signifying injury,  
limped off the field, sat down on  
the bench and began unlacing  
his shoes, pushing down his  
socks, removing his shin guards.  
He not only knew he was prob-  
ably out most of this game but  
would also be out of the final if  
they won. He put on his warm  
up jacket, then his pants. It was  
clear to the fans he would not be  
returning. At half time, as the  
team walked off the field past  
the bleachers, I caught Johnny's  
eye. He blinked back tears. Af-  
ter leading for the entire game  
his team gave up a goal in the  
last two minutes tying the game  
up. They lost in a shoot out.  
Johnny was able to return to  
kick a goal. It wasn't enough.  
The game became a metaphor  
for life, that uncontrollable  
realm where things can change  
at any minute and the only strat-  
egy is to adapt, to make the nec-  
essary adjustments and play on.  
"Growing pains," the doctor  
said, viewing x-rays the next  
day.

It was 11:30 by the time  
we arrived home. Johnny put

his brother, Donnie, in bed dis-  
cussing the game play by play.  
"We were so close," he said, lift-  
ing Donnie's right leg over his  
left so he could remove the foot  
rest from Donnie's wheel chair  
and allow him to push his foot  
on the floor when he slid him-  
self into bed. "I could taste it,"  
Johnny said. He removed the  
armrest, slid it under Donnie's  
desk and reached for the sliding  
board.

"I know how you feel,"  
Donnie said as he leaned to his  
left side, lifting himself off the  
chair cushion slightly. Johnny  
pushed the sliding board under-  
neath Donnie leaving half of it  
on the wheel chair and half on  
the bed which Johnny had al-  
ready lowered as far down as it  
would go in order to create a  
downward movement making it  
easier for Donnie to slide from  
his chair to his bed.

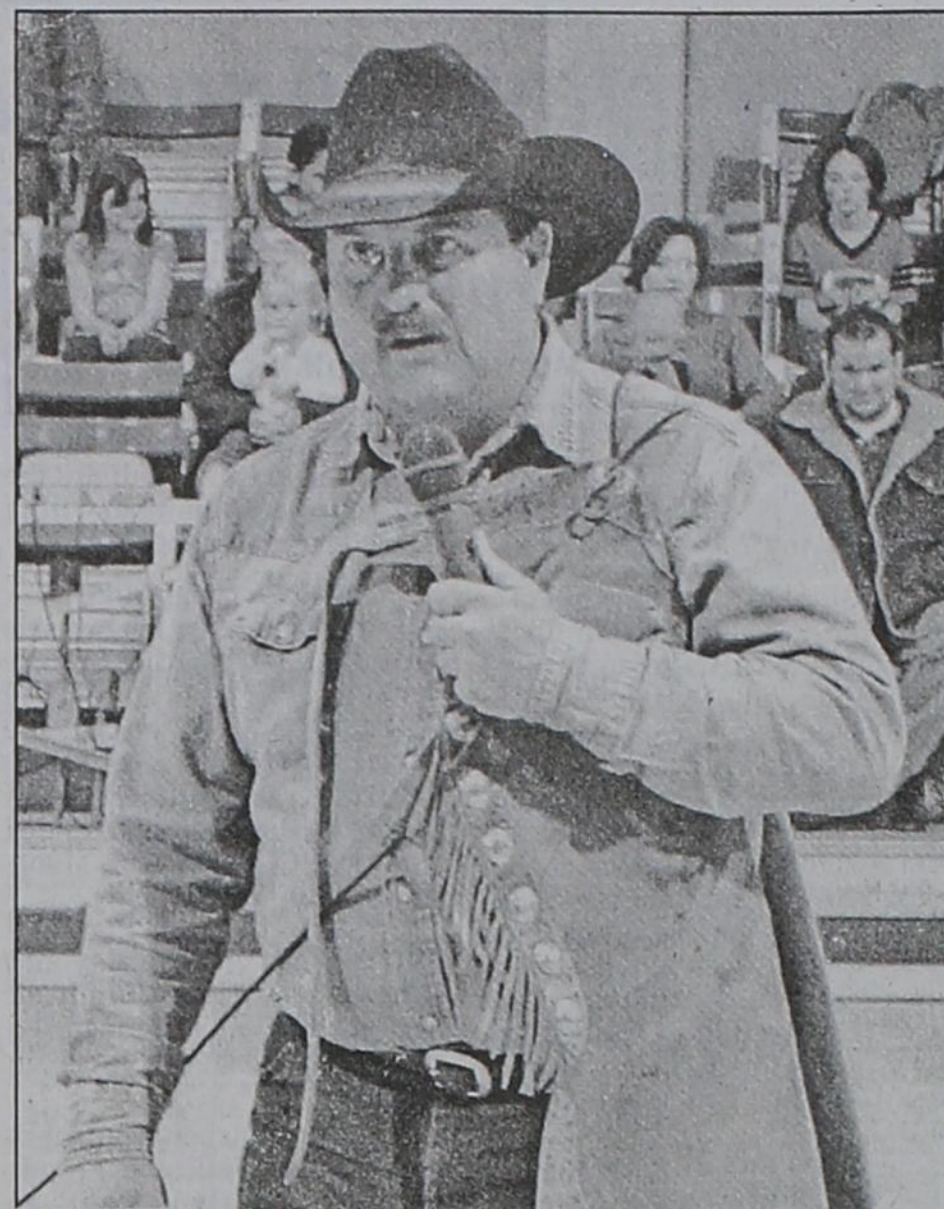
"Same thing happened to  
me in football my senior year,"  
Donnie said. He placed his  
hands on each side of his thighs,  
heaved, pushed, then slid onto  
the bed and quickly braced him-  
self while Johnny picked up his  
legs at the ankles and swung  
them up onto the bed. Donnie  
leaned back on his elbows.

"I can't believe we let  
them score in the last two min-  
utes." Johnny sighed. Donnie's  
legs shook for a while then be-  
came still. He lowered himself  
onto his pillow as Johnny un-  
laced Donnie's old scuffed hik-  
ing boots, then found the re-  
mote and placed it beside him.  
"We were so close," Johnny said.  
He plopped himself down in  
Donnie's wheel chair, grabbed  
the remote, surfed for a few  
moments then headed to bed.

"Mom?" He asked on his  
way upstairs. "Can you give me  
a back massage?" I sat down  
beside him, rubbed lavender oil  
on my palms, and massaged his  
back and shoulders for a few  
moments.

"I'm proud of you,  
Johnny," I said. He let out a  
deep breath. "I love you," I  
added, as I got up to leave.

"I love you, too," he whis-  
pered, as I turned out the hall  
light.



**COWBOYS GET THE SHAFT**—J.D. Russell gives a spirited warning to the Woodson Cowboys and encourages the team to "show them what it means to have the heart of a Matador."

Continued from page 1

Pat Smith encouraged all the fans and citizens to recognize the Matador's accomplishments by showing "Matador Pride" all week.

Finally, guest speaker Pete Christy brought the crowd to its feet with a rousing speech directing the athletes "to seize the win and bring it home." "If you give it 100 percent you will win this game," he said.

Christy reminded the Matadors of "when you were 'starving'—when one point took you out of the finals last year." "Stay hungry," Christy insisted, repeating the Matador's oft-repeated battle cry.

The senior players for the Matadors recognized the hard work of cheerleaders Courtney Alexander, Christy Smith, Emma Knowles, Melissa Gilmore, Shane'a Russell, Kyla Simpson, and sponsor Kay Bingham, presenting them with long-stem red roses.

The program ended with the presentation of the "Spirit Stix's" to the elementary classes that showed the most spirit during the rally, followed by the traditional rendition of the school song.



photo by Larry Vogt

**GUEST SPEAKER** Pete Christy from KCBD Channel 11, brings the pep rally crowd to its feet.

## Championship

### T-Shirts

Motley County Matador Football State Championship T-Shirts (short sleeve) will be sold for \$15.00 at the school office beginning Thursday, December 20. Orders will be taken for the purchase of long-sleeve shirts, hooded sweatshirts, caps, and visors.



photo by Larry Vogt

**MOTLEY CREW RAPPERS** Bobby Brown and Courtney Alexander "ham it up" at the pep rally on Saturday.

**REMEMBER TO SHOP AT HOME FIRST!**

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## Vocabulary Quiz

Bring your answer to the Tribune for a free gift.

- ally means
1. friend
  2. chute
  3. oddball
  4. workout

zealotry means:

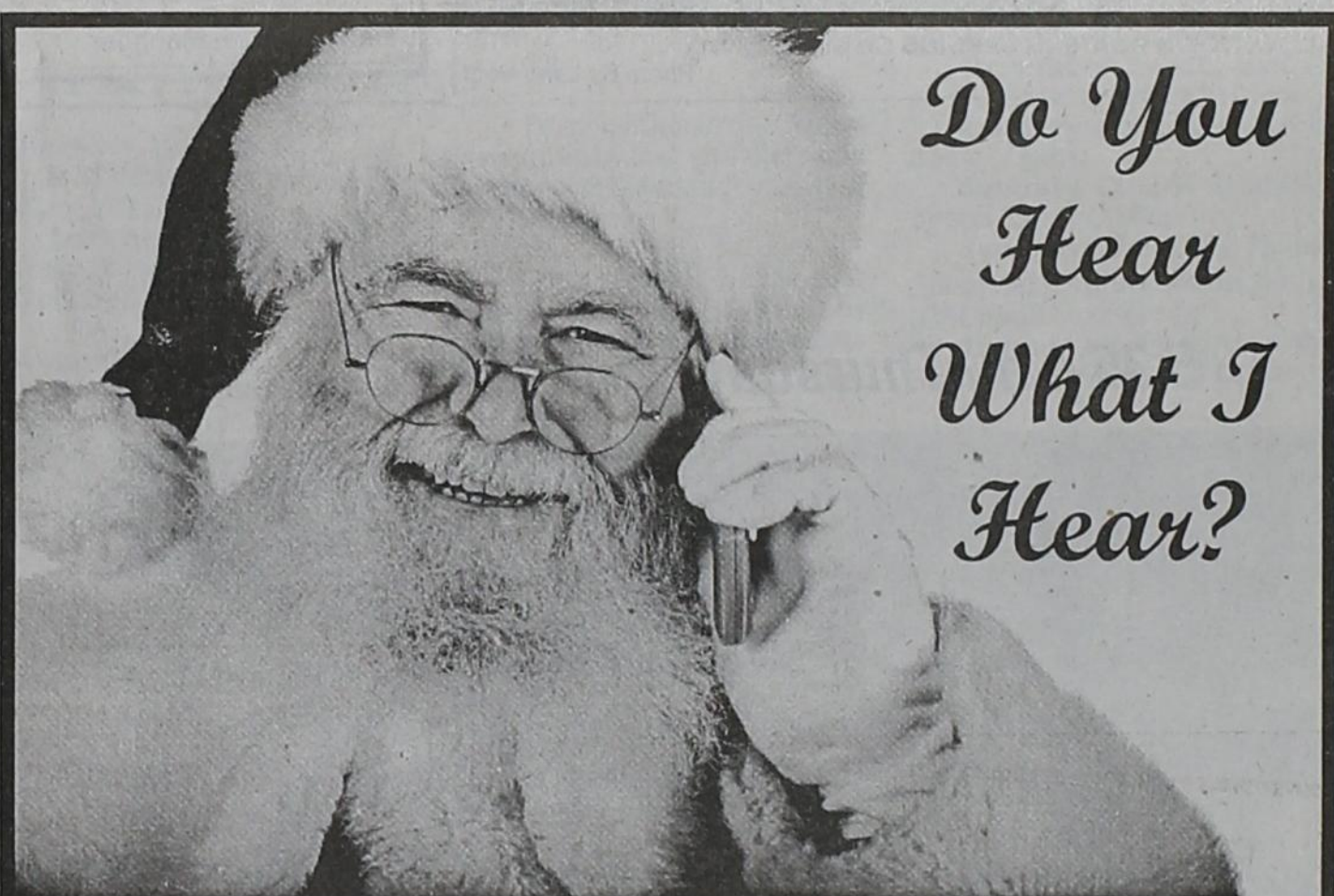
1. longshoreman
2. fanaticism
3. tag
4. underside

functionary means:

1. official
2. connection
3. leftover
4. saddlebag

magnate means:

1. hoodlum
2. porridge
3. song
4. tycoon



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# News Around the County

## Roaring Springs News

By Monta Marshall

Christmas is coming ready or not! I am not ready. My daughter, Kay Miller is back in the hospital and it looks like she will be having more surgery this week.

Yesterday Corky, my grandchildren, Sean and Kelsea Miller and I traveled in the ice to Bovina to the funeral of my McClaran brother-in-law, Wayne. I saw so many people who had meant so much to me in my life. It seems a shame that we only reach out to old friends and distant kin at funerals and at Christmas time via cards and letters. How about this year resolve to let one person a month know how much you care about them and how much that they mean to you. Life is short; many need an encouraging word now.

Another thing, is there someone you know who could use a simple act of kindness from you whether a pat on the back, a casserole, or a little bit of help? If so, do it. Our Lord said "For I was hungry and you gave Me no food; I was thirsty and you gave Me no drink; I was a stranger and you did not take Me in; I was naked and you did not clothe Me; I was sick and in prison you did not visit Me. Then they also will answer Him, saying, "Lord, when did we see You hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick, or in prison, and you did not minister to You?" And the He will answer them saying, "assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to Me." Matthew 25:35-40 NKJ version. Reach out and touch someone you ordinarily wouldn't make contact with.

The First Baptist Church held their annual "Christmas in Song" on Sunday morning. The highlight of the program was when Chloe and Dodi Gleghorn

sang "Angels We Have Heard on High." Chloe and Dodi are the daughters of Tommy and Kim Gleghorn of Matador.

Lila McDorman Montgomery was buried today in graveside services in the Roaring Springs Cemetery. She grew up south of Roaring Springs on the farm the Peacocks now own. She died on Saturday, December 15th at Crosbyton where she had resided a number of years. Mrs. Montgomery was 90 years old.

Visiting the Jeff, Pam and Jeff Thacker on Saturday and Sunday was Tince Fondy of Slaton, Texas. She attended church services with them on Sunday.

Darleen Fletcher, her daughter Darla McNeill and granddaughter Kaitlyn went to Nacodoches, on Friday to attend the pinning ceremony and graduation of Darleen's granddaughter Lauren Dunlap from nursing school. They returned to Lubbock on Sunday evening.

The annual outdoor Christmas decoration contest sponsored by the Texas Highway 70 organization will be judged one evening this week. Remember to turn on your lighting if you wish your yard display to be judged. All yards in town and those within five miles of Roaring Springs on TX HWY 70 can enter the contest. If you have decorated and want to be sure your yard is included, call Alex Crowder at 348-7336.

The First Baptist Church Women on Mission has about 50 cookbooks left. If you are needing one contact Jo Trammell or Barbara Alexander.

May your Christmas and New Year be wonderful, filled with friends and loved ones. See you next year!

## Flomot News

By Earlyne Jameson

### OVERHEARD

Faith, hope and love, which cannot be bought, sold or bartered, but given away are gifts without price, ornaments incapable of imitation, discovered only within oneself. They are not always easy to come by, but this Christmas try to have an unlimited supply and have a Merry Christmas!

\*\*\*\*\*

An inch of rain and snow, icy conditions and temperatures in the 20s was reported in Flomot and Whiteflat communities this week.

Travis and Linda Kendall visited in Midland from Thursday until Saturday with son and family, Mr. and Mrs. Cory Kendall, Chancey and Connor. They enjoyed attending Connor's school Christmas program.

Visiting Mrs. Tom (Ajeda) Ross Saturday and Sunday were her daughter, Mrs. Elisa Wigley of Lubbock and granddaughter, Aleda Elaine Ross of Castroville.

Mrs. Janice Hughes did Christmas shopping in Plainview, Wednesday.

Mrs. B. Rogers and son, Donnie Rogers attended the birthday party Saturday afternoon in Lubbock of great grandson and nephew, Kason Degan, son of Dane Degan of Crosbyton. He blew out his four candles on a beautifully decorated cake. Before returning home, B. and Donnie visited Ronnie and Lou Rogers and at the Carillon Health Center with Billy Hand.

Johnie Starkey returned home Thursday night from Lebanon, Missouri where he visited

the past week with his son and family, Mr. and Mrs. Ricky

Starkey. They had a severe weather storm with electrical outages during his visit.

Arnold and Carolyn Johnson and daughter, Mrs. Kayla Guest of Turkey attended the exciting football game of Matador vs Woodson Saturday afternoon in San Angelo. It was a time of jubilation when the Matador team won the state championship title in Division II.

Mrs. Kathy Shorter visited in Petersburg Friday with daughter and family, Christi and Dwain Milam, Emily and Haley. Joining her there to visit were another daughter and family, Keri and Kevin Sehon and Brian of Popesville. Emily, Haley and Brian returned home with her to visit until Saturday.

Visiting during the weekend with Mrs. Erma Washington were Mr. and Mrs. Cory Franks, Madison and Hudson of Lubbock, Cary Franks of Idalou, Tim and Dena Washington of Roaring Springs, Caleb, Mickey and Kenzie Clary of Matador, Clint Cowart of Post, Connie and Coy Franks and Cara Franks of Flomot.

Louis and Beverly Shorter of Fort Worth visited Sunday with his father, Everett Shorter and brother and wife, Clois and Kathy Shorter.

Wilburn Martin visited in Borger Thursday afternoon with his daughter and husband, Marilee and Fred Cooper. They attended their son, Carl Cooper, graduation ceremony from the Fire Academy in Amarillo Thursday night. Wilburn returned home Friday.

## OBITUARIES

### Janie Torres



Services for Janie Torres, 76, of Matador were held at 11:00 A.M. Monday at the Roaring Springs Cemetery in Roaring Springs, with Rev. Jose Relente of the Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church officiating. Arrangements were under the direction of Seigler Funeral Home of Matador. Mrs. Torres passed away in Lubbock on Friday December 14, 2007 under the care of hospice. Janie was a homemaker and a caregiver for several people in the Matador and Roaring Springs community over the years. Mrs. Torres was a Catholic.

She is survived by:

Her husband: Frank Torres. Her Children: Ben Saldana, Rose Ho-Gland, Juan Saldana, Tina Ho-Gland, Joe Saldana, Aurelia Salazar, Janie Espinoza, Casimira Ramirez, & Simona Chavez. Two brothers:

Pedro & Leon Gaytan. Two sisters: Sundie Diaz and Silvia Rodriguez. Sixty four grandchildren, 82 great-grandchildren, and seven great-great grandchildren. She was preceded in death by two sons: Eugene and Jesus Saldana. Pallbearers were: William, Alex Jr., Emilio, Geno, Joe Jr., Nano, Frankie, Zeke, Everett.

## Matador News

Dorothy Russell and her daughter, Linda Roy, attended pianist Jim Brickman's holiday concert recently at the Lubbock Memorial Civic Center Theater. Performing with Brickman was former Lonestar lead singer Richie McDonald of Lubbock, vocalist Victoria Shaw, and violinist David Klinkenberg.

On the evening of Monday, December 3, Dorothy, Linda, Marilyn Hicks, and Luke Roy, Linda's son, attended the 31<sup>st</sup> annual Texas Tech Madrigal Dinner in the Tech Student Union Ballroom. As described recently in the *Lubbock Avalanche-Journal*, the dinner plays "a major role in ushering in the Christmas season by transporting audiences to a British castle, where royalty in the form of king and queen celebrated the holiday with only their most loyal knights and subjects." Musical performances by talented Tech students and staff entertained guests as they enjoyed a delicious, candlelight banquet.

Lindy Stafford and son David, and grandsons Cameron and Andrew, and Ted Davey and sons Hance and Hayden traveled

to San Angelo for the state championship game. They picked up Wesley Stafford in Sweetwater on their way.

C. H. Murphy visited in the home of Mary Jones Tuesday morning. Joining them for a visit and coffee were Kay and Ronnie Bailey.

Lindy Stafford and Wesley and Tammy Stafford and sons, Connor and Collin will be headed to the slopes for Christmas, skiing Angel Fire.

The Monday Night Bridge Club met for a gift exchange, dinner, and card play at the Travelers Inn in Roaring Springs on December 17. The menu, served by Rhonda McClesky and prepared by Edith Daniell consisted of chicken casserole, steamed green beans and carrots, tossed salad, and homemade rolls. Pecan pie with ice cream was served for dessert.

Tom and Deanie Edwards and Guy and Di-Ann Campbell traveled to Lubbock on Saturday to have Christmas buffet lunch with Marge Edwards and Grace Campbell at Ventura Retirement Home. A good visit was had by all.

Kay and Ronnie Bailey met their son Lance and grandson Jason at the state game in San Angelo.



DOWNTOWN ROARING SPRINGS Christmas lighting. Photo By Larry Vogt

### RED BALL GIN

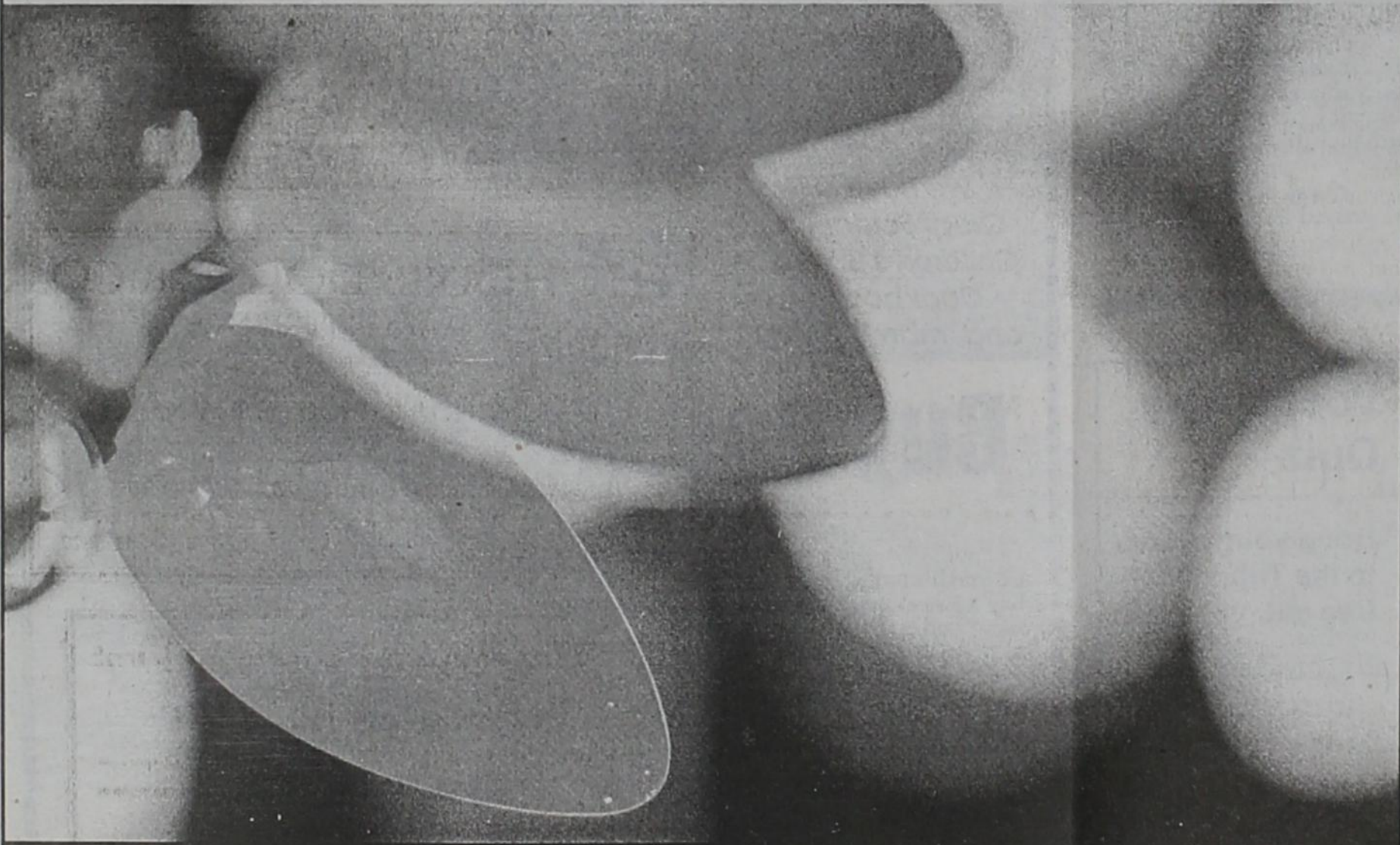
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Darrell Cruse, Manager 806-348-7221

5:35 p.m. Thursday



### Lighting up the holidays.

As you begin using decorative lighting in and around your home this holiday season, AEP Texas reminds you to keep safety in mind. Check light strings for frayed cords, and use only UL-approved lights and extension cords. Remember not to overload circuits, and remind children not to touch lights or outlets. And on behalf of all of us here at AEP Texas, please enjoy a safe, bright holiday season with your family and friends. **AEP Texas is there, always working for you.**



A unit of American Electric Power

For more information about electrical safety, visit [AEPTexas.com](http://AEPTexas.com)

### THE HACKBERRY CREEK CARE CENTER, INC.

Annual Members Meeting

January 8, 2008

6pm

New board members will be elected

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## Ashley Stevens Graduates from Texas Tech

Ashley Stevens, 2001 Motley County graduate, graduated from Texas Tech University on December 15, 2007. Ashley graduated with a major in Public Relations and a minor in Political Science. She is the daughter of Bettye Stevens, Borger, Texas and Steve Stevens, Matador.

She is the granddaughter of the late Johnny and Helen Stevens of Matador.



## TEXAS LAUGHING GULL WRITING CONTEST TAKES FLIGHT

For the fifth year the Texas Laughing Gull Writing Contest seeks submissions for prizes in Fiction, Non-fiction and Poetry. First prize in each category is \$100, Second Prize is \$50 and Third Prize is \$25. Submissions must follow the set guidelines and be received by February 29, 2008. Each category will have a separate judge. Judges will be announced at a later date. The submission fee of \$5 USD or \$5 CDN for each entry remains a bargain. Winners will be announced at a reception in mid-April 2008. All winners will be contacted prior to the reception, and they will be invited to attend and read their winning entries.

The contest originates in the resort town of Port Aransas, Texas, famous for beaches and fishing, but now The Texas Laughing Gull Writing Contest will put Port Aransas on the literary map.

See your writing in print. This year the winning entries will comprise an anthology that will be sold at the reception and later at the Art Center. Proceeds will defray contest expenses. For complete writer's guidelines or more information e-mail [txlaughinggull@hotmail.com](mailto:txlaughinggull@hotmail.com), call the Art Center @361.749.7334, or download the guidelines from the EVENTS section at [portaransasartcenter.org](http://portaransasartcenter.org).

## Chamber News & Views

By Marie-Louise Liebe-Harkort



Consider:  
On the 12th day of Christmas, my True Love gave to me:  
12 drummers drumming, for \$2,397.85; (in 2006, it was \$2,301.00)

11 pipers piping, for \$2,213.40, (up from \$2,124.00)  
10 lords-a-leaping, for \$4,285.06 (up from \$4,160.25)  
9 ladies dancing, for \$4,759.19, the same as last year  
8 maids-a-milking, for \$46.80, (up from \$41.20)  
7 swans-a-swimming, for a cost of \$4,200.00, (no change from 2006)

6 geese-a-laying, for \$360.00 (way up from \$300.00)  
5 gold rings, for \$395. (up from \$325.00)  
4 calling birds, running \$599.96, (way up from \$479.96)  
3 French hens, still a bargain at \$45  
2 turtle doves, still for a mere \$40.00  
and a partridge (\$15.00) in a pear tree (costing \$164.99) (quite a jump from 2006's \$129.99)

Well, the numbers are in, and it's official--your True Love is going to have to pay \$19,507.25 or 3.1% more for this gift on the 12th day of Christmas.

And if your True Love sends you all the gifts listed in the song on each of the 12 days, the cost will be a whopping \$78,100.10 or 4.0% more than last year.

This is still a bargain compared to the \$128,886.37 your True Love will have to shell out if he does his shopping over the Internet.

**A Christmas Tradition**  
Compliment at least three people every day in December. This is a gift that's always appreciated.

To what can these price rises be attributed? Well, of course the rise in the minimum wage makes itself felt, with the milk maids, the only unskilled workers in the group, getting a pay raise.

An commodity prices have gone through the roof, as witnessed by the 20% increase for the geese-a-laying. The turtle doves and the partridges have not gone up, since these are not birds that wind up on the table. But the calling birds have gone up, too, even though canaries are not part of the average diet.

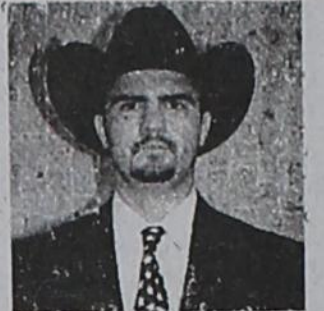
Still, demand is up, so the prices have risen 25%. That other commodity, gold, has gone up as well, so the 5 gold rings have gone up 21.5%. Still, this is nowhere near the all-time high of \$750.00 that they cost in 1989.

These figures and more can be viewed on the web at [pncchristmaspriceindex.com](http://pncchristmaspriceindex.com). PNC Wealth Management has been calculating the cost of the 12 Days of Christmas for the last 23 years, and presents a wealth of historical information on their website. They also have games on offer, as well as a media kit and help for educators who want to use their light-hearted look at the economy in the classroom.

The cheapest year for the True Love occurred in 1995, when the cost for all the gifts on all the days was a mere \$51,000. Since then, as the cost for goods has decreased, the cost of services has escalated. With inflation and the decrease in the value of the dollar, expect your True Love to have to set aside even more of his paycheck for the 12 days next year.

## County Agent's News

by Ryan Martin, Extension Agent



### 2007 Census of Agriculture Your Voice - Stand up and be Counted

Every U.S. farmer and rancher has the responsibility to stand up and be counted in the 2007 Census of Agriculture. Your input can help influence decisions about community development, funding availability, farm policy and other key issues. No matter how large or small your operation—and no matter what, where or how you farm—your response matters.

Look for the Census in your mailbox in early January 2008, and please make your response a top priority. Complete and return your form by February 4. This is your chance to help ensure a better future for your operation, your family and your community.

Below are a few points that illustrate the importance of your participation and explain why completing the Census is your voice, your future, and your responsibility.

- By participating in the Census, farmers can demonstrate the value of U.S. agriculture, which many farmers feel is undervalued and underappreciated.

- The Census provides the information that is used by all of us who provide services to farmers and rural communities—federal, state and local governments, Extension agents, agribusiness and many others.

- Census data is used to make decisions about many things that directly impact farmer, including: community planning, store/company location, availability of operational loans and other funding, location and staffing of service centers and farm programs and policies.

- By responding to the Census, producers are helping themselves, their communities and all of U.S. agriculture.

- The Census is the responsibility of every farmer and rancher, regardless of how large or small.

- Participation in the Census is required by law, and that same law protects the confidentiality of all responses.

- This year will be the first year producers will have the opportunity to fill out the Census online.

### Cancer Prevention: Towards No Tobacco

Fifth graders at Motley County ISD are going through a 10-series study on Cancer Prevention: Towards No Tobacco. These series are designed to educate youth on tobacco and the harm it causes. Students will learn how tobacco can affect their bodies, health and future. They will also learn how tobacco is a "gateway" drug that can lead to the use of illegal and deadly substances, what ingredients are present in tobacco, and what diseases are caused by tobacco.

This series was started by the Texas Cooperative Extension service in Motley County in collaboration with the Texas Cancer Council in response to the substance abuse issue being identified in the Texas Community Futures Forum by Motley County residents. If you have any question or want more information on this class series please contact the Extension office at 806-347-2733.

### 4-H Members

If you have a livestock project you need to contact the Extension office to make sure we know about it. Livestock animal validation for the Motley County Stock show will be December 22. Motley County Livestock Show directors will validate animals that morning. If you want to show your animal at the county stock show, it must be validated, therefore, we need to know who has animals. You can call the Extension office at 806-347-2733. If no one answers, please leave a message.

### 4-H Shooting Sports

A shooting sports safety clinic will be held on January 12, 2008, from 1-4 p.m. in the courthouse. If you want to participate in the 4-H shooting sports program you must complete a safety training before you can compete. The training will consist of a classroom meeting on rules and laws then a hands-on training at the shooting range.

### Upcoming Events:

**December 22**, Livestock Show Animal Validation;  
**December 24-26**, Extension Office closed for Christmas;  
**January 4-5**, Odessa Stock Show - Goats;  
**January 12**, 4-H Shooting Sports Safety Clinic;  
**January 21**, Rolling Plains Chemical Conference in Spur (CEUs will be offered);  
**January 24-27**, Fort Worth Stock Show—Goats and Lambs

## Roaring Springs Community Volunteers Meet

The Roaring Springs Community Volunteers, Inc. met on December 11, 2007. Visitors were Perry, Deannette and Lexie Gullede. Supper was served and the short meeting consisted of reports on the shotgun raffle that Jerry Sedgwick won and which netted the Volunteers \$1,111.92 in income.

The Highway 70 Christmas Lighting contest is now underway and the City of Roaring Springs has received a grant for \$300,000 for five new houses for low income families.

Nominations were made for officers for the ensuing two years which will be voted on at the upcoming annual meeting on January 8. It is the annual meeting when the members are to pay dues of \$10.00 each, however visitors are welcome to any meeting and there will be a simple potluck meal each month.

## New State Guide Available for Emergency Services

The Office of Rural Community Affairs is pleased to announce the availability of the new "Emergency Services Districts Operating Guide", a manual of helpful information covering all aspects of ESD creation and operation.

The guide is a one-stop resource for local governments, volunteers and citizens and is available FREE online at [www.orca.state.tx.us/index.php/Home/ESD+Information](http://www.orca.state.tx.us/index.php/Home/ESD+Information).

ORCA would like to remind ESDs to update their district information by January 1, 2008, as required by the Texas Health and Safety Code, by using the agency's website at: <https://www.quickbase.com/db/bbr3tgpv9?a=nwr>.

As the state agency dedicated solely to rural Texas, ORCA makes the broad resources of state government more accessible to rural communities. ORCA was created by the 77th Legislature to ensure a continuing focus on rural issues, monitor governmental actions affecting rural Texas, research problems and recommend solutions, and administer rural-focused state and federal resources. ORCA is the door to Texas government for rural citizens. For more information, visit ORCA online at [www.orca.state.tx.us](http://www.orca.state.tx.us).

## KILLING A BUSINESS IN 10 EASY STEPS

1. Don't Advertise! Just pretend everybody knows what you have to offer.
2. Don't Advertise! Tell yourself you just don't have the time to spend thinking about promoting your business.
3. Don't Advertise! Just assume everybody knows what you sell.
4. Don't Advertise! Convince yourself that you've been in business so long customers will automatically come to you.
5. Don't Advertise! Forget that there are new potential customers who would do business with you if they were reminded and urged to do so.
6. Don't Advertise! Forget that you have competition trying to attract your customers away from you.
7. Don't Advertise! Tell yourself that it costs too much to advertise and that you don't get enough out of it.
8. Don't Advertise! Overlook the fact that advertising is an investment in selling - not an expense.
9. Don't Advertise! Be sure not to provide an adequate advertising budget for your budget.
10. Don't Advertise! Forget that you have to keep reminding your established customers that you appreciate their business.

**ADVERTISING WORKS!!**  
Call 806-347-2400

**WE CAN HELP YOU KEEP YOUR BUSINESS ALIVE!!**  
**MOTLEY COUNTY TRIBUNE**

## School Menu

**Thursday, Dec. 20**  
Breakfast: Cereal, Toast, Juice, Milk.  
Lunch: Popcorn Chicken, Gravy, Salad, Oven Fries, Mixed Fruit, Milk.

**Friday, Dec. 21**  
Breakfast: Scrambled Eggs, Bacon, Biscuit, or Cereal, Toast, Juice, Milk.  
Lunch: Hamburger, Lettuce, Tomato, Pickle Slices, Potatoe Chips, Dessert, Milk.

**We have a Great Selection Children's Books, Cookbooks, and many others**

**Motley County Tribune**

**A Christmas Tradition**  
Buy a Santa hat and wear it when Christmas shopping at the mall.

**A Christmas Tradition**  
Invite a foreign student or single person without family close by to share Christmas dinner with you.

## Blessings Of The Season

May God's love shine down upon you this Christmas



**Petticoat Junction**  
Roaring Springs

**OPEN SUNDAY**  
**DECEMBER 23**  
**1 - 6 PM**  
  
also open  
**CHRISTMAS EVE**  
**9 - 5:30 PM**  
**Matador Variety**

## Truck Wrecks

Trucker negligence is the major contributing factor in many fatalities nationwide. Maybe they were distracted or didn't adjust for road conditions. Maybe they were late, sleepy or did not maintain the rig. If you have been in a truck collision or other automobile collision, call us for professional insight.

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*Some changes are coming at First Baptist Church of Matador!*  
806-347-2399  
**Starting Jan. 2, 2008**  
**Sunday Morning**  
Sunday School 10 am  
Morning Worship 11 am  
**Sunday Night**  
Prayer Ministry 7 pm  
**Wednesday Night**  
Meal 5:30-6:30 pm  
Choir Practice 5:50-6:50 pm  
Contemporary Service, RAs, GAS, Concentric (youth group) all at 7 pm  
  
*Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen. Ephesians 3:20-21*  
**Come Join Us!**



## Attorney General Abbott Reaches Agreement with WebSite That Collects Personal Information from Minors

### Santa.com Implements stronger privacy measures to protect young Internet Users

AUSTIN- Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott today reached an agreement with Santa.com that will protect the privacy and safety of children who use the California-based web site, the Attorney General's legal action ensures that Santa.com complies with the Texas Deceptive Trade Practices Act (DTPA) and the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA). COPPA is a federal law that generally prohibits web sites from unnecessarily collecting personal information from children under 13.

Under the terms of the agreement, Santa.com, which is operated by Small's Seed Company, L.L.C., must obtain verifiable parental consent before collecting personal information from children, such as names, home addresses and email addresses. The web site also must clearly disclose how it intends to use the collected information, including whether it will be shared with third parties or other Internet users. Santa.com also agreed not to require children to disclose excessive personal information as a precondition to participating in the site's online games and features.

"Today's agreement ensures that a popular children's holiday web site will fully comply with laws that protect young Internet users," Attorney General Abbott said. "Under federal law, web sites that cater to young children

must obtain parental consent before collecting young users' sensitive personal information and must take steps to limit pass-through access to inappropriate content online. The Office of the Attorney General will continue aggressively enforcing laws that protect Texas children."

Under COPPA, web sites that cater to children must make a greater effort to ensure that parents consent before their children younger than 13 provide personal information online. The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) offers several options for web site operators to obtain verifiable parental consent. Among them, the FTC recommends that web sites maintain a toll-free telephone number staffed by trained personnel for parents to call in their consent or provide a form for the parent to print, complete, sign, and mail or fax back to web site operators.

Today's agreement requires Santa.com to maintain link on every page of its web site, including homepage, that collects children's personal information. The link must direct users to a disclosure statement that provides the types of personal information. The link must direct users to a disclosure statement that provides the types of personal information the web site collects from children; how the information may be used; and whether it is disclosed to third parties. The link should inform parents that

they may decline the collection and use of a child's personal information.

Today's action is Attorney General Abbott's third legal action under COPPA. Earlier this month the Attorney General filed enforcement actions against TheDollPalace.com and Gamesradar.com for unlawfully collecting personal information such as names, ages, and home addresses from children. Investigators also discovered that the sites' parental consent features were easily manipulated and circumvented. The lack of reasonable controls readily allow children to access the sites' various features, including interactive chat rooms and forums, without their parents knowledge. Both lawsuits are pending.

Attorney General Abbott's has earned a national reputation for protecting children online. He reminded parents to closely monitor their children's Internet activities by using the following safety tips:

- Teach children never to give out personal information such as their last name, birthday, home address or telephone number, especially in a chat room, over an online bulletin board, or to an online pen pal, without your permission.
- Make sure your children know never to agree to a face-to-face meeting with someone they meet online.

-Instruct your children never to respond to e-mail or chat messages that make them feel uncomfortable or from someone they don't know. Stress that they should show such message to you.

-Surf the Internet with your kids. If it is not possible for you to actually surf with your children, at least talk to the about the web sites they are visiting.

-Place the computer in a public room of your house so that even when you are not surfing online with your children, you can monitor their use. Do not allow computers in a child's bedroom or permit the use of web cams.

-Establish ground rules for your children's Internet usage, including the hours they may surf and the kinds of web sites they may visit. Post the rules near the computer.

-Learn how to use parental controls and archiving features. You should be able to check your child's email account and review the sites your child has visited on the Internet.

To find out more about Attorney General Abbott's efforts to protect children, visit the Attorney General's web site at [www.oag.state.tx.us](http://www.oag.state.tx.us) or call (800)252-8011

## GOV. PERRY CONGRATULATES ILLINIOS ON PROJECT

Gov. Rick Perry issued a statement congratulating the U.S. Department of Energy's selection of Illinois to host the FutureGen project; and commends Texas for submitting an impressive proposal.

"I congratulate the City of Mattoon, Illinois, on its winning bid for hosting the FutureGen project. And though Texas was not selected, our teams in Jewett and Odessa and our state officials deserve to be commended for developing impressive proposals to attract this project to the Lone Star State. I am certain that the public-private partnerships identified and leveraged in our bid process will be valuable as Texas looks to take on future alternative energy projects."

"Though Illinois submitted the winning proposal, the benefits of this research will span the nation. The more we invest today in alternative energy sources like clean-coal, the better equipped we will be to

keep up with an ever-growing population, while keeping our environment clean and further utilizing domestic fuel sources."

Texas' effort to attract FutureGen was directed by Texas Railroad Commission Chairman Michael L. Williams, who chairs the FutureGen Texas team, and by state geologist Dr. Scott Tinker, director of the Bureau of Economic Geology at the University of Texas, which reviewed and assembled Texas' two proposals. Hoxie Smith led the Permian Basin FutureGen team and Tom Wilkinson directed the Jewett team.

"It is disappointing to Texans that the FutureGen Alliance ultimately chose a project site in Illinois. However, I vow to begin working as quickly as possible to make FutureGen-like projects a reality in Texas," said Williams. "There are many clean energy projects on the drawing boards and I, for one, am ready to get busy."

## Thank You, Motley County

### Retro News

excerpt from **Matador Tribune**

December 10, 1931

#### In Appreciation

I wish to take this means of thanking the merchants and business men of Matador who have gone so far to make this first issue of the Tribune possible. I am sure there is no place on the face of the earth where people are so loyal as the people of Matador.

This honor and responsibility with which you have entrusted me, conducting a news medium for you, places me under eternal obligation to you. This is your newspaper, not mine, because without you it could remain nothing but plans... hopes. With you there is no limit to its possibilities, providing I am capable of making the Tribune the kind of news paper you want. From now on my every effort shall be to that end.

B.D.M.

Thank you Motley County. We cannot say it better than Douglas Meador wrote in 1931.

Christmas is a sparkling wine that is sipped in anticipation with increasing warmth in the heart as the interval shortens. The irony is that the casks of love are always available, but avoided at other seasons.

Christmas is a drift fence across prairies of the past to keep friends from wandering too far from our range.

-Douglas Meador

### TWO PART FORMULA FOR READING

THE MORE YOU READ, THE BETTER YOU GET AT IT, THE BETTER YOU GET AT IT, THE MORE YOU LIKE IT; AND THE MORE YOU LIKE IT, THE MORE YOU DO IT.

AND THE MORE YOU READ, THE MORE YOU KNOW, AND THE MORE YOU KNOW THE SMARTER YOU GROW.

-FROM THE READ ALOUD HANDBOOK

#### A Christmas Tradition

Let the youngest child in the family who's old enough read the Christmas story on Christmas Eve. Record it on tape and save it for them when they are grown.

#### A Christmas Tradition

If you can't fit all your guests at one table for Christmas dinner, set up a second table in another room and have them exchange places between dinner and dessert.

#### A Christmas Tradition

Every year, buy a tree ornament for each of your children. Choose ones that represent important events that happened to them during the past year. When they move away from home, give them their collection of ornaments to put on their own tree.



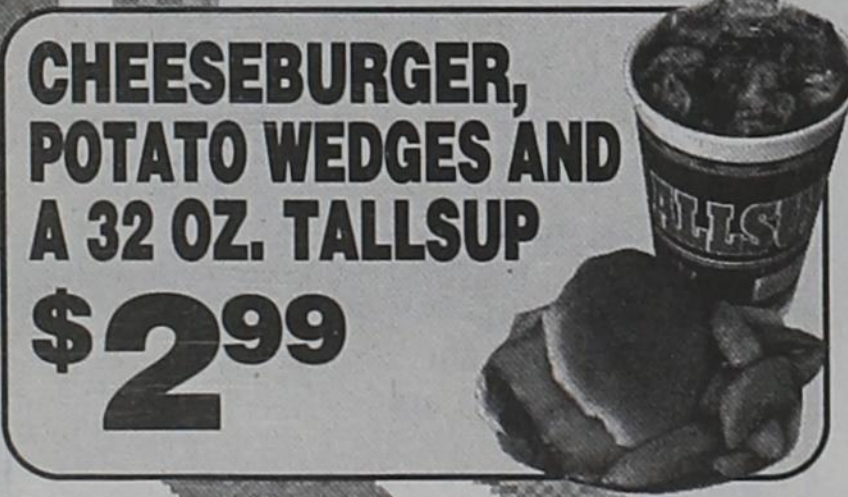
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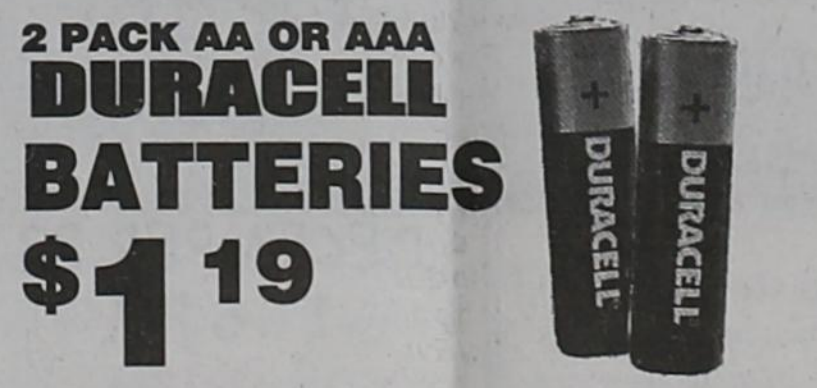
**TENDER CRUST BROWN 'N SERVE ROLLS**  
12 COUNT PKG.

**\$1.29**



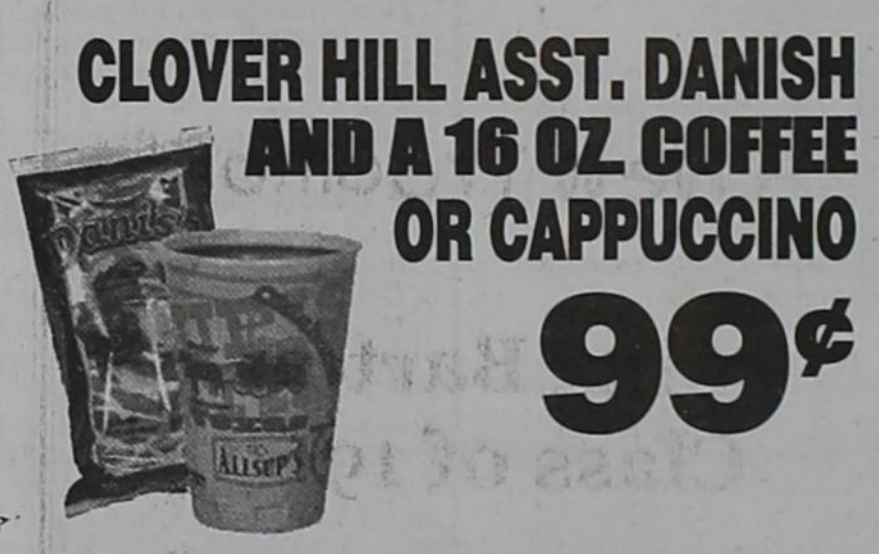
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ALLSUP'S SANDWICH BREAD 89¢ EACH OR	2 FOR \$1.49
ALLSUP'S WHEAT BREAD 99¢ EACH OR	2 FOR \$1.69
NYQUIL LIQUID 6 OZ.	\$4.99
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SO DRI PAPER TOWELS 1 ROLL PKG.	79¢

COMBO MEALS					
COMBO NO. 1	BACON/EGG BISCUIT & 16 OZ. COFFEE	\$1.99	COMBO NO. 6	3 TAMALES, HOWLERS & 32 OZ. TALLSUP	\$2.59
COMBO NO. 2	SAUSAGE/EGG BISCUIT & 16 OZ. COFFEE	\$1.99	COMBO NO. 7	2 HOT LINKS WITH BREAD & 32 OZ. TALLSUP	\$2.49
COMBO NO. 3	BBQ SANDWICH & 32 OZ. TALLSUP	\$1.99	COMBO NO. 8	2 CORN DOGS & 32 OZ. TALLSUP	\$2.59
COMBO NO. 4	HOMESTYLE POPCORN CHICKEN & 32 OZ. TALLSUP	\$2.69	COMBO NO. 9	CHIMICHANGA & 32 OZ. TALLSUP	\$2.39
COMBO NO. 5	SPICY POPCORN CHICKEN & 32 OZ. TALLSUP	\$2.69	COMBO NO. 10	2 BEEF & BEAN BURRITOS & 32 OZ. TALLSUP	\$2.59



## WILLIAMS FILES FOR RE-ELECTION TO THE RAILROAD COMMISSION

AUSTIN - Michael Williams filed the necessary paperwork today to place his name on the March 4th Primary ballot. He is running for reelection to his current post on the Railroad Commission of Texas.

Joined by U.S. Senator John Cornyn and Republican Party of Texas Chairman Tina Benkiser, Williams spoke about the need to continue his record working to insure and inspire:

- Environmentally sound and safe oil, natural gas and coal exploration and production,
- Research, innovation and investment in pro-growth, affordable and clean energy solutions,
- Texas alternative transportation fuels, and
- The next generation of Texas scientists, technologists, engineers and mathematicians

Williams began, "Affordable and reliable electricity are key ingredients for economic growth. Economic growth yields prosperity. And natural gas, nuclear power, clean coal, wind and solar are all part of providing Texans with affordable and reliable power. Without affordable, reliable energy, Texas cannot attract the business, industry and jobs to sustain the level of economic growth that has made Texas a leader".

Williams heads the Texas FutureGen effort to build a power facility that is capable of producing hydrogen and sequestering carbon dioxide (CO2). The \$1 billion research project is intended to create the world's first near-zero-emissions fossil-fuel power plant.

Texas is a finalist for the project along with Illinois. A decision is expected to be announced in the coming week.

He noted that "Major research projects like FutureGen will require the knowledge of sharp thinking scientists, technologists, mathematicians and engineers at a time when many of the best and brightest baby boomers will be retiring. For example, in the energy industry, up to half of the workforce will likely retire within the next five to ten years.

"As a result, we must inspire the next generation of scientists, technologists, engineers and mathematicians and commit Texas to becoming the global leader in these fields. I say this as the son of a mother who earned a bachelors degree in math, a father who earned a masters degree in math and the husband of a mechanical engineer.

"Without a new generation of sharp technologists, we will not develop the cutting edge energy innovations for tomorrow," concluded Williams.

Williams and Cornyn make up the Republican non-judicial statewide ticket in Texas in 2008. The Primary will be held on March 4, 2008.

Williams was appointed to the Commission in December of 1998 by then-Governor George W. Bush to complete an unexpired term. He was elected to complete the term in November of 2000 and won election to a full term in November of 2002.

## OIL & GAS REPORT

BY THOMAS MUSSER



### Bankers Petroleum (US) Inc:

Five Bankers Petroleum (US) Inc. Wells have status changes listed on the December 2007 Railroad Commission of Texas Oil and Gas Proration Schedule.

The Briscoe County R.I. Montgomery Lease (196514) Well # 1 has changed status from 14(B)(2) Denied to temporarily Abandoned.

The Briscoe County M.J., Hamilton Lease (197044) Well #1 has changed status from 14(B)(2) Extension to Temporarily Abandoned.

The Motley County D.M. Cogdell, Jr. Estate Lease (201274) Well #10-01 has changed status from 14(B)(2) Extension to OZ, well not eligible for an allowable.

The Motley County Echols "2" Lease (216243) Well # 1 has changed status from 14(B)(2) Extension to Temporarily Abandoned.

The Motley County M. Bursleson Ranch "60" Lease (216247) Well #1 has changed status from 14(B)(2) Extension to Temporarily Abandoned. While the RRC currently lists the M. Bursleson Ranch "60" well #1 as temporarily abandoned this well is currently being test

pumped by Bankers Petroleum (US) Inc.

### Floyd County:

The BASA Resources, Inc Foster Lease (69173) Well #1 has been assigned a Lease number by the Railroad Commission Of Texas, Oil and Gas Division and is Listed on the December 2007 Proration Schedule as Shut-in. The RRC notes that they received the Form W-2 Completion Report on the Foster #1 on November 1, 2007. The Foster Lease (69173) Well #1 has been Shut-in since December 2006.

### Floyd County:

On Monday morning December 17, 2007 Schlumberger Equipment began rigging-up on the PertoGlobe Energy USA Ltd. McIntosh Lease Well #176 to begin testing the well this week. Mr. Bill Powers, Chairman of the Board of Directors of PetroGlobe, Inc. stated that along the testing with the McIntosh Well # 176 that PetroGlobe has scheduled additional work on the McIntosh Lease Well #1077 for January 2008.

### Motley County:

Completion work has begun on the Bankers Petroleum (US) Inc. Cogdell "64" Lease Well #1.

**A Christmas Tradition**  
Start a family tree-trimming tradition. Serve the same refreshments and play the same holiday music every year.

**A Christmas Tradition**  
Instead of giving gifts at the office, take up a collection to give to a designated charity.

## COW POKES® By Ace Reid

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"Evidently no one wuz impressed!"

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At Roaring Springs location  
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60% off tag price of most other items  
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Thacker Jewelry in Lubbock  
Open 6 days/week  
We appreciate you business  
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## MOTLEY COUNTY CHURCH DIRECTORY

### First United Methodist Church

902 Dundee, Matador  
Sunday  
School 10:00, Worship 11:00

### Church of Christ

Highway 70, Matador  
Sunday  
Bible Class 10:00, Worship 11:00, Evening 6:00  
Wednesday Evening 7:00

### Assembly Of God

910 Bundy, Matador  
Sunday  
School 10:00, Worship 10:50, Evening 6:00  
Wednesday Evening 6:00

### Macedonia Baptist Church

230 Hunter, Matador  
Sunday  
School 9:45, Worship 11:00

### Flomot Baptist Church

Flomot, Tx  
Sunday  
School 10:00, Worship 11:00, Evening 6:30

### Flomot Church of Christ

Flomot, Tx  
Sunday  
Worship 10:30  
Wednesday Evening 7:00

### Roaring Springs Full Gospel Church

603 2nd St., Roaring Springs  
Sunday  
School 9:30, Worship 10:30, Evening 6:00  
Wednesday Evening 7:00

### First United Methodist Church

Downtown on Broadway, Roaring Springs  
Sunday, 9:30

### Roaring Springs First Baptist Church

310 Broadway  
Sunday  
School 10:00, Worship 11:00, Evening 6:00  
Wednesday Evening 6:00

### Church of Christ

3rd & Walnut, Roaring Springs  
Sunday  
Worship 9:00, School 10:00  
Sunday and Wednesday Evenings meet at Church of Christ in Matador

### Matador First Baptist Church

1401 Main  
Sunday  
School 10:00, Worship 11:00, Evening 7:00  
Wednesday Evening 7:00

### Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church

701 Bundy, Matador  
Sunday  
Mass 9:45



## God's Word Is Reliable

Season's Greetings and Happy Holidays

"I asked for all things, that I might enjoy life; I was given life, that I might enjoy all things. I got nothing that I had asked for, But everything I had hoped for; Almost despite myself my unspoken prayers were answered. I am among all men, most richly blessed."

Our family wishes the very best to you in this holiday season. We know the God whom we serve will bless all those who diligently seek after him. In the Bible the expression "worthy of God" is found concerning the care for those who preach. My family and I have been well cared for by the congregations which we serve in Motley County. It is not surprising, fine people do fine things. That is a principle which has withstood the test of time. You folks do fine things. I thank God for each of you.

This time of the year, most of our communities' thoughts are to some degree, turned toward God. It is you people and our work together that keeps our family's thoughts turned toward God all the year long. We are blessed among men. It is with gratitude and love we serve among you in the Kingdom of God.

Allow us, the Crowley's, to thank you for your kindness and Christian love shown for us. May your holiday season be rich toward the God whom we serve.

Michael G. Crowley, Sr.

## Roaring Springs Church of Christ

Michael G. Crowley, Sr.

BIBLE STUDY - 10:00 A.M. WORSHIP - 9:00 A.M.



# THE CLASSIFIEDS

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Matador, TX 79244

## Motley County Tribune

Laverne Zabielski & Larry Vogt  
Publishers & Editors



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ALL OTHERS, \$32  
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P.O. Box 490, Matador, TX 79244

## FOR SALE

**FOR SALE:** Sweet Potatoes. Contact Joe Edd Helm 806-469-5387, 6 miles north of Flomot, FM 599.

**FOR SALE:** Pecans - 1 lb. bags, \$5.00. Contact Judy Renfro 806-269-2830

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## NOTICES

**NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS** OF PROPOSED TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (TxDOT) CONTRACTS

Sealed proposal for contracts listed below will be received by TxDOT until the date(s) shown below, and then publicly read.

Dist/Div: CHILDRESS  
Contract 0925-00-056 for STRIPING in CHILDRESS County, etc. will be opened on January 08, 2008 at 1:00 pm at the State Office.

Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or Dist/Div Offices listed below. If applicable, bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on project. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available from TxDOT's website at [www.dot.state.tx.us](http://www.dot.state.tx.us) and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor. NPO: 25653

### State Office

Constr./Maint. Division  
200 E. Riverside Dr.  
Austin, Texas 78704  
Phone: 512-416-2540

### Dist./Div Office(s)

Childress District  
District Engineer  
7599 U.S. 287  
Childress, TX 29201-9705  
Phone: 940-937-2571

Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the rates will be part of the contract. TxDOT ensures that bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin.

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Motley Co. Sr. Citizens  
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Ronnie Vandiver  
Mary Jones  
Billy Green  
Lisa Stone  
Jackie Smith  
Kathryn King  
Paul Westbrook  
Stuart Dixon

Roaring Springs:  
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E. G. Reed, Quitaque  
D. D. McBride, Allen  
Burrell's/Luce, Dallas  
Dale Estes, Diana  
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Ruby Jones, Groveton  
Peggy Martin, Ft. Worth  
Karen Bumpus, Henrietta  
WK "Rusty" Birchfield  
Don Cox, Andrews  
Mary Crider, Odessa  
J Fish, Woodland Pk, CO  
Bill Smith, Silvertown  
Turner Cattle, Lubbock  
Ann Townsend, Lubbock  
Howard Gwinn, Lubbock  
Virginia Martin, Lubbock  
First National Bank, Seymour  
Bob York, San Angelo  
Charlene Durfee, Montgomery  
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Gary Markham, Manvel  
Christina Rickard, Unversl City  
Jim Irwin, San Antonio  
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State Rep Rick Hardestle  
Bama Oliver, Pampa  
Willie Chambliss, Plainview  
Dumont Bridge, Plainview  
Mary McMahan, Amarillo  
Pat Groves, Menlo Park, CA  
Shirley York, Williamsburg, VA  
Sandra Moody, Jacksonville, FL  
David Griffith, Clearbrook, MN  
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## WANTED

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## SERVICES

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4tp-51

## Events Calendar

### December

- 17-21 Hwy. 70 Assoc. Christmas Lighting Contest
- 21 Early Release - 12:20 p.m.
- 22 Christmas Break Begins
- 23 Matador First Baptist Church, Children's Choir, A Night to Remember, 7pm
- 24 First Methodist Church RS Annual Candlelight at 6:00 pm
- 25 Christmas Dinner at RS Methodist Church Served at 12:30

### January

- 3 RS Lions, Hitchin Post, 11:30
- 7 School Resumes
- 8 Roaring Springs Volunteers, 6:30, Community Center
- 14 RS City Council, City Hall, 6:30 Library Performance & Review By Laverne Zabielski & Larry Vogt

Friday Deadline for Events Calendar



# BUSINESS REVIEW

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Guided by the Star of the East, three wise men traveled far to see the newborn child, bringing their precious gifts.

As we celebrate the miracle of His birth, let us extend our heartfelt Christmas blessing to you.

FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD  
MATADOR

MACEDONIA BAPTIST  
CHURCH  
MATADOR

CHURCH OF CHRIST  
ROARING SPRINGS

FIRST UNITED METHODIST  
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MATADOR

FULL GOSPEL CHURCH  
ROARING SPRINGS



# HAVE A MOTLEY COUNTY MERRY CHRISTMAS!

## Yes Virginia, Why Christmas Trees Are Not Perfect There is a Santa Claus

By Francis P. Church, first published in *The New York Sun* in 1897. (See *The People's Almanac*, pp.1358-9.)

We take pleasure in answering, thus prominently the communication below, expressing at the same time our great gratification that its faithful author is numbered among the friends of *The Sun*:

Dear Editor—

I am 8 years old. Some of my little friends say there is no Santa Claus. Papa says, "If you see it in *The Sun*, it's so." Please tell me the truth, is there a Santa Claus?

Virginia O'Hanlon

Virginia, your little friends are wrong. They have been affected by the skepticism of a skeptical age. They do not believe except they see. They think that nothing can be which is not comprehensible by their little minds. All minds, Virginia, whether they be men's or children's, are little. In this great universe of ours, man is a mere insect, an ant, in his intellect as compared with the boundless world about him; as measured by the intelligence capable of grasping the whole of truth and knowledge.

Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give to your life its highest beauty and joy. Alas! how dreary would be the world

if there were no Santa Claus! It would be as dreary as if there were no Virginias. There would be no childlike faith then, no poetry, no romance to make tolerable this existence. We should have no enjoyment, except in sense and sight. The external light with which childhood fills the world would be extinguished.

Not believe in Santa Claus! You might as well not believe in fairies. You might get your papa to hire men to watch in all the chimneys on Christmas eve to catch Santa Claus, but even if you did not see Santa Claus coming down, what would that prove? Nobody sees Santa Claus, but that is no sign that there is no Santa Claus. The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor men can see. Did you ever see fairies dancing on the lawn? Of course not, but that's no proof that they are not there. Nobody can conceive or imagine all the wonders there are unseen and unseeable in the world.

You tear apart the baby's rattle and see what makes the noise inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world which not the strongest man, nor even the united strength of all the strongest men that ever lived could tear apart. Only faith, poetry, love, romance, can push aside that curtain and view and picture the supernal beauty and glory beyond. Is it all real? Ah, Virginia, in all this world there is nothing else real and abiding.

No Santa Claus! Thank God! he lives and lives forever. A thousand years from now, Virginia, nay 10 times 10,000 years from now, he will continue to make glad the heart of childhood.

York Times and had worked on the *The New York Sun* for 20 years, more recently as an anonymous editorial writer. Church, a sardonic man, had for his personal motto, "Endeavour to clear your mind of cant." When controversial subjects had to be tackled on the editorial page, especially those dealing with theology, the assignments were usually given to Church.

Now, he had in his hands a little girl's letter on a most controversial matter, and he was burdened with the responsibility of answering it.

"Is there a Santa Claus?" the childish scrawl in the letter asked. At once, Church knew that there was no avoiding the question. He must answer, and he must answer truthfully. And so he turned to his desk, and he began his reply which was to become one of the most memorable editorials in newspaper history.

Church married shortly after the editorial appeared. He died in April, 1906, leaving no children.

Virginia O'Hanlon went on to graduate from Hunter College with a Bachelor of Arts degree at age 21. The following year she received her Master's from Columbia, and in 1912 she began teaching in the New York City school system, later becoming a principal. After 47 years, she retired as an educator. Throughout her life she received a steady stream of mail about her Santa Claus letter, and to each reply she attached an attractive printed copy of the Church editorial. Virginia O'Hanlon Douglas died on May 13, 1971, at the age of 81, in a nursing home in Valatie, N.Y.

by Dick Schneider

They say that if you creep into an evergreen forest late at night you can hear the trees talking. In the whisper of the wind you'll catch the older pines explaining to the younger ones why they'll never be perfectly shaped.

There will always be a bent branch here, a gap there.... Long, long ago evergreens were perfect, with each taking pride in branches sloping evenly from crown to symmetrical skirt.

This was particularly true in a small kingdom deep in Europe beyond the Carpathian mountains.

On the first Saturday of Advent the Queen's woodsmen would search the royal evergreen forest for the most perfect tree. It would then reign in honor in a great castle hall, shimmering with silver balls and gold angels that sparkled in the light of thousands of candles. While a huge Yule log chuckled and crackled, the royal family and villagers together would dance and sing around the tree in celebration.

Out in the hushed forest every evergreen vied for this honor, each endeavoring to grow its branches and needles to perfection. All strained at the task, fully concentrating on their form and appearance.

One cold night when a bright white moon glittered on the crusty snow as if it were strewn with mil-

lions of diamonds, a small rabbit limped into a grove of evergreens its sides heaving in panic. Beyond the hill rose the yelping of village dogs in the thrill of the hunt.

The rabbit, eyes wide with fright, frantically searched for cover but found nothing among the dark trunks extending upward into branches that were artfully lifted from the snow.

Faster and faster the cottontail circled as the excited yelping sounded louder and louder. The trees looked askance at this interruption of their evening (when growing was at its best).

And then a small pine shuddered. Of all the young trees, it had the promise of being the finest of the forest. Everything about it from its deep sea-green color to the curl of its branches was perfect.

But now...its lower branches began to dip, down, down to the ground. And in that instant before the slavering dogs broke into the clearing, the rabbit found safety within the evergreen screen. In the morning the bunny found its burrow. But the little pine could not quite lift its branches. But no matter, perhaps a little irregularity in a tree so beautiful would not be noticed.

Then a powerful blizzard lashed the land. The villagers slammed shutters closed while the birds and animals huddled in nests and dens. A small wren, flown astray, desper-

ately sought sanctuary in the evergreens. But each she approached clenched its branches tight like a fist.

Finally, in exhaustion, she fell into the little pine. The pine's heart opened and so did its branches, and the wren slept within them, warm and secure. But the pine had difficulty rearranging its branches. There would be a gap evermore.

Weeks passed and winter deepened, bringing a gale such as never before experienced in the mountains.

It caught a small fawn who had wandered from its mother. Head down, blinded by snow, it inched into the evergreen seeking a windbreak. But the trees held their branches open so the wind could whistle through them without dangerously bending or breaking their limbs.

Again the little pine took pity and now tightly closed its branches, forming an impenetrable wall behind which the fawn huddled out of the gale. But alas, when the wind ceased, the small pine had been severely and permanently bent out of shape.

A tear of pine gum oozed from a branch tip. Now it could never hope for the honor it had longed for since a seedling.

Lost in despair, the little pine did not see the good Queen come into the forest. She had come to choose the finest tree herself.

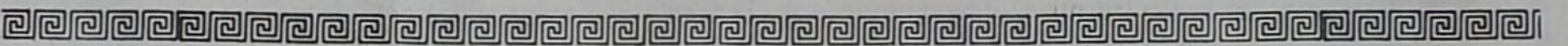
As her royal sleigh slowly passed through the forest her practiced eye

scanned the evergreens now preening themselves. When she saw the little pine, a flush of anger filled her. What right had a tree with such defects to be in the royal forest? Reminding herself to have a woodsman dispose of it, she drove on, but then stopped and glanced back at it. As she gazed on it, she noticed the tracks of small animals that had found shelter under it and a downy feather within its branches where a bird had nested. And as she studied the gaping hole in its side and its wind-whipped trunk, understanding filled her heart.

"This one, she said. Her attendants gasped. And to the astonishment of the forest, the little pine was born to the great hall. And everyone who danced and sang around it said it was the finest Christmas yet. For in looking at its gnarled and worn branches many saw the protecting arm of their father, others the comforting bosom of a mother, and some, as did the Queen, saw the love of Christ expressed on earth.

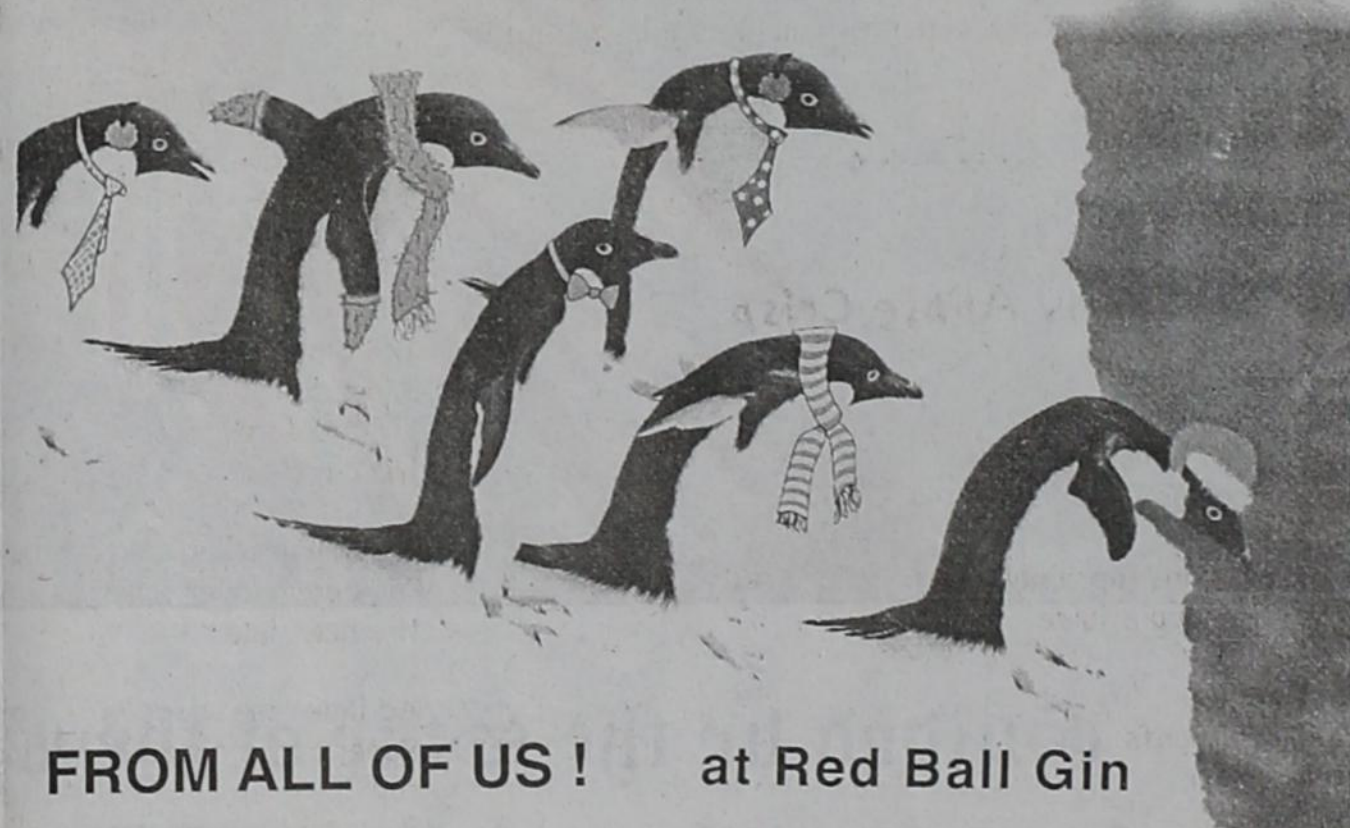
So if you walk among evergreens today, you will find, along with rabbits, birds and other happy living things, drooped branches providing cover, gaps offering nesting places, forms bent from wrestling winter winds.

For as have many of us, the trees have learned that the scars suffered for the sake of others make one most beautiful in the eyes of God.



Oh, you better watch out,  
you better not pout,  
you better not cry ... I'm tellin' you why,  
Santa Claus is coming to town!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



FROM ALL OF US! at Red Ball Gin

Love,  
Avery Logsdon

Dear Santa,  
I love you. I've been really, really, quite contrarily good this year. I've never ever been in time out at school. I want a toy jet and another toy car. And I want some new video games like Sonic the Hedgehog. I also want a big trampoline and a color wonder book.

Hugs and Kisses.

Love,  
Chuck Logsdon.

BLESSINGS TO ALL

May your Christmas be filled with good will, abundance, and the tranquility of faith.  
Happy Holidays to all!

New to You  
downtown Matador

GREETINGS

Behold His blessing for it brings hope to all mankind.

In appreciation of your continued good will and patronage. Have a very joyous season.

**MEREDITH GAS & SUPPLY**  
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\*\*\*\*\*



# Have a Yummy Christmas!...



\*\*\*\*\*

## Oatmeal Chocolate Chip Cookies

1 c all purpose flour  
1/2 t baking powder  
1/2 t baking soda  
1/2 c butter softened ( 20 sec in micro wave)  
1/2 c sugar  
1/3 c brown sugar  
1/4 t salt

1 egg  
2 T milk  
1/2 t vanilla  
1 c quick rolled oats  
1/4 cup walnuts (Optional)  
1 c chocolate chips

Mix dry ingredients. In mixer bowl beat butter for 30 seconds; add sugars and beat till fluffy. Add egg, milk, and vanilla; beat till well combined. Stir in oats, nuts and chocolate chips. Drop on ungreased cookie sheet. Bake in a 375' oven for 10-12 minutes.

◆◆◆◆

## Chocolate-Chestnut Truffles

One 16-ounce can whole chestnuts  
6 ounces bittersweet chocolate, coarsely chopped  
6 tablespoons (3/4 stick) unsalted butter, at room temperature  
1/2 cup sugar  
2 1/2 tablespoons brandy  
1 teaspoon vanilla extract  
14 ounces semisweet chocolate, coarsely chopped  
1/2 cup Dutch-process cocoa powder.

1. Drain the chestnuts and pass them through a potato ricer set over a medium bowl; set aside.
2. In a double boiler over gently simmering water, melt the bittersweet chocolate; let cool slightly.
3. In a medium bowl with an electric mixer at medium speed, cream the butter and sugar together until fluffy. Add the chestnuts, brandy, and vanilla, and blend well. Stir in the cooled chocolate until well combined. Chill the mixture until it is set.
4. With a melon baller, roll the mixture into 1 1/2-inch balls. Set the truffles on an ungreased baking sheet. If the mixture becomes too soft, chill in the refrigerator for a few minutes. Refrigerate the truffles for 10 minutes.
5. In a double boiler over gently simmering water, melt the semisweet chocolate; let cool slightly. With a fork, carefully immerse each truffle in the melted chocolate, then place it on a rack over wax paper. Allow to set for several minutes. Dust the truffles with cocoa before serving. Makes about 5 dozen truffles.

◆◆◆◆

## Crunchy Apple Crisp

8 green apples  
juice of 1 lemon  
1 t cinnamon  
2 T flour  
3/4 c raisins (optional)  
water or apple juice

TOPPING  
3 c rolled oats  
1/2 c flour  
1/2 t salt  
2 t cinnamon  
1/2 c brown sugar  
1/2 c butter or oil

Preheat oven to 375°F. Slice apples until you have enough to fill a greased 9x13 baking dish. Mix the apples in a bowl with lemon juice, cinnamon, flour, and raisins. Return them to the baking dish, adding enough water or juice to cover the bottom. Mix topping in a bowl and press onto top of apples. Bake for 25 min.

## Grace's Cheesecake

Preheat oven to 400'  
Room soften 8 oz cream cheese

Butter 8-9" sq pan

Crush 16 graham crackers  
Add 1/4 cup butter and 1 tsp sugar  
Press into pan and bake 10 or until lightly browned

Blend softened cream cheese  
Add 1/2 c sugar  
1 egg  
1/2 c canned milk (or 1/4 c milk and 1/4c cream)  
1 tsp vanilla

Pour on crust and bake at 325' for 40 min.  
Let cool  
Blend 1/2 pt sour cream  
1 T sugar  
1 tsp vanilla  
Spread on cake and bake 5 min at 450'



## Laverne's Pumpkin Pie

1 3/4 c cooked pumpkin, squash or sweet potato  
1/2 c brown sugar  
2 eggs  
12 oz canned milk or 6 oz milk and 6 oz cream  
1/2 c unsalted butter  
1 tsp nutmeg  
1/2 tsp cinnamon  
1 pinch salt

Preheat oven to 400'  
Place all ingredients in blender.  
Pour into home made or store bought pie crust.  
Bake 45' (or a little longer)

Whole Wheat Pie Crust

1 c flour  
2 T sugar  
1/2 c butter

Cut butter in to flour with pastry cutter, then work with fingers adding 1-3 T ice water. When it forms a ball press it into pie pan.



## Lou's Coconut Brownie Mix

1/3 c copped walnuts  
1/2 c chocolate chips  
1/3 c coconut  
2/3 c brown sugar, packed  
3/4 c sugar  
1/3 c baking cocoa  
1 1/2 c flour

Layer ingredients in a wide-mouth, one-quart canning jar. Pack each layer down as tightly as possible before adding the next layer.

Add mix to 2 eggs, 2/3 c oil, 1 t vanilla. Blend well. Spread in greased 8" baking dish. Bake at 350 degrees for 30 minutes or 'til center test done. Makes 12 brownies.



## Christmas Cappuccino

Ingredients:

- \* 1 1/2 cup Espresso Beans
- \* 3 cups Boiling Water
- \* 2 TBS. Sugar
- \* 1 Vanilla Bean, split
- \* 4 cups Milk
- \* 4 oz. bittersweet chocolate chopped
- \* Whipped cream - optional

Instructions:

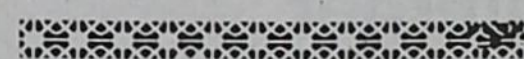
In a coffee mill, finely grind the beans. In a coffee maker, brew the espresso with the boiling water. Meanwhile, in a small bowl, combine the sugar and cinnamon and set aside. Using a small knife, scrape the seeds from the vanilla bean into a medium saucepan. Pour in the milk and scald over moderate heat, about 5 minutes. Remove from heat, add chocolate and stir until melted. Cover and keep warm over very low heat. Divide the hot espresso into 4 cups. In a blender, begin whipping half of the warm chocolate milk at low speed. Gradually increase the speed to high and blend until frothy, about 1 minute. Pour the chocolate milk into cups of coffee, stir briefly and top each serving with some of the milk froth. Sprinkle the reserved cinnamon sugar on top. Serve immediately with a dollop of whipped cream, if desired.



## Grandmother's Sugar Cookies

3/4 c sugar  
2/3 c veg oil  
2 t vanilla  
1 t grated lemon peel  
1/4 t lemon extract  
2 eggs  
2 c unbleached flour  
1 t baking powder

Mix wet ingredients. Add dry. Drop heaping teaspoon on ungreased cookie sheet. Flatten with buttered bottom of small glass dipped in sugar. Bake 400' 8-10 min. ("Watch 'em so they don't burn.")



## Winter Breakfast Frittata

2 tablespoons unsalted butter  
1 medium onion, halved and sliced  
Salt, to taste  
8 large eggs, beaten  
1/4 cup milk  
1/4 cup grated Parmesan cheese  
1/2 cup chopped mozzarella  
2 tablespoons chopped fresh chives  
1/2 teaspoon freshly ground pepper  
1/2 each red and green bell peppers, cored, seeded, and chopped

★ Preheat oven to 350° F. Generously butter a deep 10-inch ovenproof skillet.

★ In a medium skillet over medium-low heat, melt the butter. Add the onion, season with salt, and saute' for 7 minutes, or until it is lightly golden. Remove from the heat and let cool slightly.

★ In a large bowl, combine the eggs, milk, cheeses, chives, 1/2 teaspoon salt, and the pepper, mixing well. Add the onion and peppers and stir gently to combine the ingredients.

★ Pour the mixture into the prepared skillet and bake for 30 minutes, or until it is golden brown on top and set in the middle. Remove from the oven and let cool on a wire rack for 5 minutes. Serves 4 to 6.

## Merry Motoring!

Hope you have the best Christmas on wheels!



Oden Chevrolet  
Floydada



## SEASON'S GREETINGS

Christmas Day is near.  
The time of joy and cheer.  
Now all that's left to do,  
Is thank each and every one of you!

Wylie L.P., Inc.  
Matador

On behalf of myself and  
Dean Osborn, we would  
like to thank everyone in  
Precinct 4 for your support

**Best Wishes for a  
Merry Christmas  
and a  
Happy New Year!**

**Russell Alexander  
Commissioner Precinct 4**

Pol. ad paid for by Russell Alexander





**At the Holiday Season our thoughts  
turn gratefully to those who  
have made our progress possible**

**Local  
&  
Long Distance  
Telephone Service**

**High Speed  
&  
Dial Up  
Internet**



**Cellular  
Service**

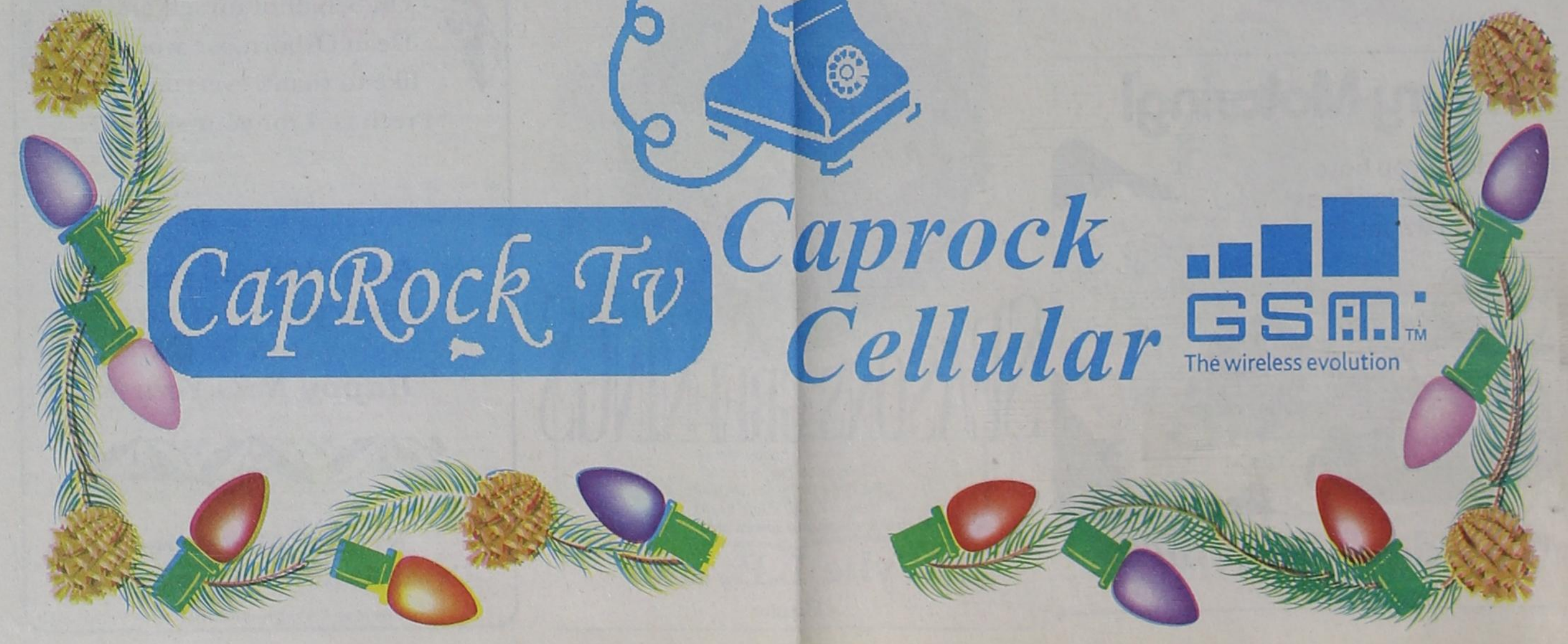
**Digital  
Television**

**Thank you from...**



**CapRock Tv**

**Caprock  
Cellular**





# Merry Christmas!

## The meaning of Christmas

Just a week before Christmas I had a visitor. This is how it happened. I just finished the household chores for the night and was preparing to go to bed when I heard a noise in the front of the house. I opened the door to the front room, and to my surprise, Santa himself stepped out from behind the Christmas tree. He placed his finger over his mouth so I would not cry out. "What are you doing?" I started to ask him.

The words choked in my throat, as I saw he had tears in his eyes. His usual jolly manner was gone. Gone was the eager boisterous soul we all know. He then answered me with a simple statement, "TEACH THE CHILDREN! I was puzzled: What did he mean? He anticipated my question, and with one quick movement brought forth a miniature toy bag from behind the tree.

As I stood there bewildered, Santa said, "Teach the Children! Teach them the old meaning of Christmas. The meaning that a now-a-day Christmas has forgotten!"

Santa then reached in his bag and pulled out a FIR TREE and placed it on the mantle. Teach the Children that the pure green color of the stately fir tree remains green all year round, depicting the everlasting hope of mankind. All the needles point heavenward, making it a symbol of man's thoughts turning to-

ward heaven.

He again reached into his bag and pulled out a brilliant STAR. Teach the Children that the star was the heavenly sign of promises long ago.

God promised a Savior for the world, and the star was the sign of fulfillment of that promise.

He then reached into the bag and pulled out a CANDLE. Teach the Children that the candle symbolizes the Christ is the light of the world, and when we see this great light we are reminded of He who displaces the darkness.

Once again he reached into his bag and then removed a WREATH and placed it on the tree. Teach the Children that the wreath symbolizes the eternal nature of love. Real love never ceases. Love is one continuous round of affection.

He then pulled out from his bag an ornament of HIMSELF. Teach the Children that Santa Clause symbolizes the generosity and good will we feel during the month of December.

He reached in again and pulled out a HOLLY LEAF. Teach the Children the holly plant represents immortality. It represents the crown of thorns worn by our Savior. The red holly berries represent blood shed by Him.

Next he pulled out a GIFT from the bag and said, "Teach the Children that God so loved

the world that He gave His only begotten Son. Thanks be to God for His unspeakable gift. Teach the Children that the wise men bowed before the holy babe and presented Him with gold, frankincense, and myrrh. We should give gifts in the same spirit as the wise men."

Suddenly I heard a soft twinkling sound, and from his bag he pulled out a BELL. Teach the Children that as the lost sheep are found by the sound of a bell, it should bring people to the fold. The bell symbolizes guidance and return.



Santa then reached in his bag and pulled out a CANDY CANE and hung it on the tree. Teach the Children that the candy cane represents the shepherd's crook. The crook on the shepherd's staff helps bring back strayed sheep from the flock. The candy cane is the symbol that we are our brother's keeper.

He reached in again and pulled out an ANGEL. Teach the Children that is was the angels that heralded in the glorious

news of the Savior's birth. The angels sang 'Glory to God in the highest, on earth, peace and good will.'

Santa looked at the tree and was pleased. He looked back at me and I saw the twinkle was back in his eyes. He said, "Remember, teach the Children the true meaning of Christmas, and not to put me in the center, for I am but a humble servant of the One who is, and I bow down and worship Him, our Lord, our God."

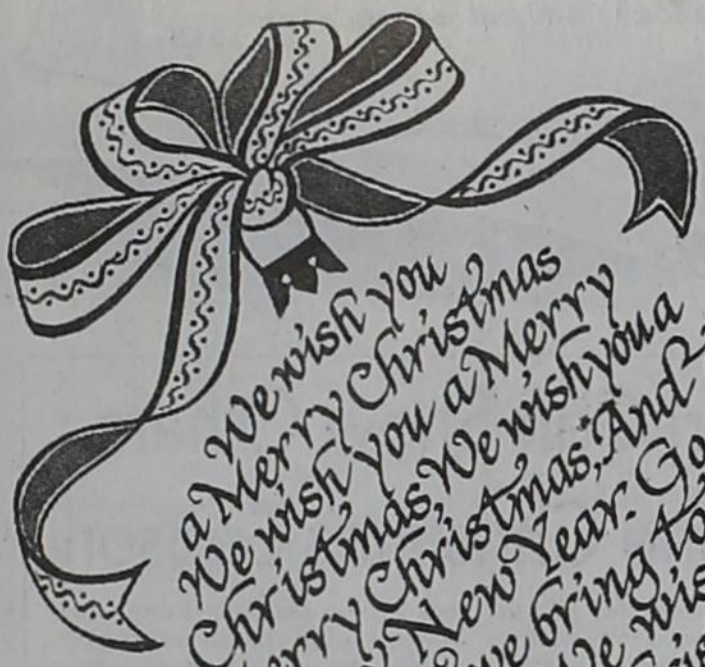


### Winter Solstice

Winter Solstice, usually December 21 or 22, is the longest night of the year. It marks the beginning of winter; but it also marks the turning of the year, when days start getting longer again and the earth heads back toward spring. In older times, when lives were more dependent on the cycles of nature and agriculture, this was celebrated as the rebirth of the mighty Sun, the Lord of Light.

The Christian Church absorbed many pagan traditions in the effort to win folk over to the new faith. Many of the aspects of the ancient mid-winter Yule celebrations became Christmas traditions, part of celebrating "Christ Mass," the birth of the mighty Son.

Today, there is a renewal of interest in the ancient traditions among people who feel that modern life has become unhealthily separated from the cycles of nature, and who celebrate the ancient traditions of Yule on Winter Solstice.



May your holiday reflect all the joy you've given us.

**Tom Edwards - Law Office**

Tom & Deanie Edwards  
Marge Edwards

We Wish You a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



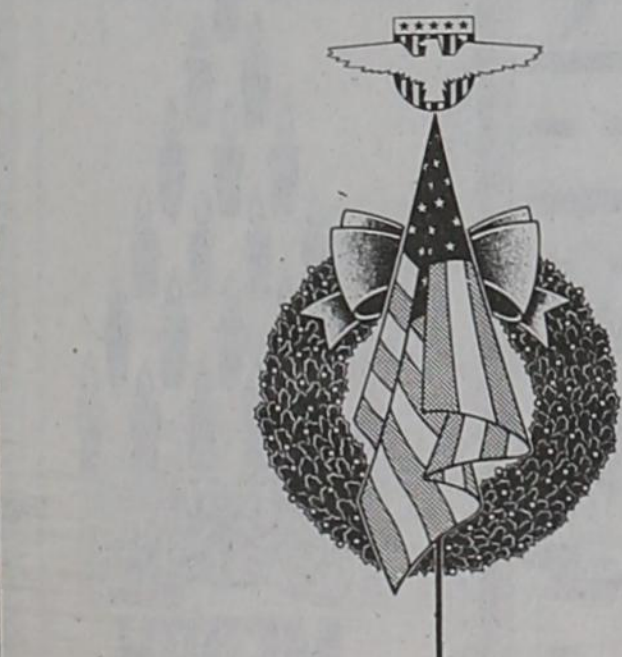
D A and Ruby McGuire



Santa's Coming!

And along with a sleigh full of goodies, he's bringing you our warmest holiday wishes and thanks for your support.

Matador Variety



**SEASON'S GREETINGS**  
We wish you all a great American Christmas.

**American Legion & Auxiliary**

**Yuletide Cheer**

Warmest thoughts and the best of holiday wishes to you and yours. We are proud to have you as our customers.

**Graham's Supply**

Roaring Springs



Wishing you an old fashioned Country Christmas!



Our best wishes for a wonderful holiday season, with much thanks for your friendship.

**Motley Mill & Cube**

Roaring Springs



# DEAR SANTA

## I LOVE YOU, AND I HAVE BEEN VERY VERY GOOD.

Dear Santa & Mrs. Claus,  
Hope you are doing well. We are all doing fine and waiting for you to make your trip on Christmas Eve. We have tried to be very good this year. Our PreK class has been learning about your reindeer and elves. Our teachers, Mrs. Parks and Brittany has been helping us countdown the days until Christmas. Here is a list of what each of us would like for you to bring.

Braeden Moncrief would like a blue bike, blue power ranger, and a red car. Kenzie Clary would like a Peanut Butter horse, clothes, jewelry, doll and whatever else you think I need. Tansy Pollard would like play food for her kitchen, a talking baby doll, Tinkerbell clothes and a trampoline for my family.

Cheyenne Mount would like a talking Elmo, shoes, clothes, baby doll and a bike.

Krysta Guerrero would like a Princess game, Pretty Ponies, tennis shoes and a Barbie House.

Keygan Woolsey would like a guitar, airplane, motorcycle and roller skates. Autumn my sister would like a Hannah Montana guitar also.

Sydney McCoy would like a Dora movie, Barbie dolls, roller skates and clothes. She would like for her family to have something also.

Braxton Salazar would like Pirates of the Caribbean, power rangers, tennis shoes and a red bike. Please bring my brother and sister something also.

Elizabeth Sullivan would like a toy horse, clothes and a bike.

Soraya Davey would like an American girl, Barbie doll and clothes.

Santa would you please remember all the other boys and girls all over the world and bring them the things they want.

Wish Mrs. Claus and everyone a Merry Christmas from us here at Motley County I.S.D.

Your friends,  
Mrs. Parks & Prek

Dear Santa,  
I want a dirt bike and a mp-3 player and a bow and arrow and an iPod Nano for christmas and an x box 360 for christmas and halo 2 and football x box game.

From,  
Eli Marshall  
Written By Eli Marshall

Dear Santa,  
I want an otter and a lizard and alot of toys OH! I forgot something else. I want a dinosour that isn't alive and my Brother Dawson he wants two dogs for christmas and I want a MP3 player for christmas.

Your friend,  
Gage Baker  
Dawson Baker  
To Santa at the North Pole.

Dear Santa,  
What I want for Christmas is and iPod, Mp-3 soccer goals, an xbox 360, Dallas Cowboys Jersey, a bike, a new football, new soccerball, a pistol for my Dad a game for the xbox and Halo 2 for me. I want a Number 6 uniform of the Broncos and a new Helmet.

From,  
Wyatt Hackler

Dear Santa,  
I want an xbox 360 for christmas and a psp. I am trying to be good and yes we all love you and we all hope you stay safe.

From your friend,  
Bryson Reed Elliott

Ho Ho Ho  
Dear Santa,  
How are you? I am good. I would like a ninetendo and a toy helicopter. and a k-nex thing.

Your friend,  
Cade Drum

Dear Santa,  
I would like some glasses and new clothes and a play station 3.

From your friend,  
Rumaldo Chavez

Dear Santa,  
I want a snowboard for christmas because I want to be able to go snowboarding when it snows. It will be really fun for me because they are like \$150 at Riodoso and I didn't get to but one. I only had \$60 and it was a disaster because I really wanted to buy one but it was still fun. And I really want the whole series of Harry Potter. I think Harry Potter's really awesome because I really get into them. I've already read 2 so far I'm working on my third one right now. Oh I almost forgot I want a X box 360 and the games I want are Guitar Hero III legends of rock and Crash and the Titans for it because they are really awesome to me. oh and I want a PSP cause I heard that they were really awesome and also I've played one before.

Sincerely,  
Shelby Elliott

Dear Santa Clause,  
What I want for Christmas is a Xbox 360. WWE John Cena spinner belt, and a football jersey.

From,  
Tanner

Dear Santa,  
For christmas I want a cellphone, Labtop, Wii, CD's, Nitindo Ds, new bed spread.

From,  
Gabby Silva

Dear Santa,  
For Christmas this year I want a PSP.

From,  
Hayden

Dear Santa Claus,  
I want soccer and a new set of drums double Bass drum, and a Tony Hock game for my psp, and a X box 360 and a wii and a horse.

From,  
Luis

Dear Santa Claus,  
This year I would like a shotgun, a seven piece drum set, a Wii, a game called "Trophy Bucks" for my PSP, a halter for my horse, a show stick for my pigs, and some blankets for my lambs, and two halters for them.

From,  
Seth Baxter

Dear Santa:  
This year I will admit I haven't been to good, but I only want one thing, and that is for my dad, Sargent Pollard, home from Iraq. I love him so much that I need him home safe and sound.

Sincerely,  
Tallon Pollard  
p.s. I absolutly need that.

Dear Santa,  
I would like for christmas is a football game and football jersey and a longhorns football and gameboy.

Your friend,  
Brendan Cory Fisk

Dear Santa,  
What I want for Christmas is a iPod and a little cat and a doggy diary. And a Pet Shop with lots of animals and a bike and a baby that if you ffeed him you can burp it and a DS anda pen and a phone. And a laptop that is pink and hanna montana clothes and London clothes. Hanna montanas stuff and Londons stuff and a soccer stuff.

Love,  
Samantha

Dear Santa,  
I want a Nintendo DS.

Love,  
Case Drum

Dear Santa,  
I want a cash register with check out and cards, a Disney cash register please. And I want a Hanna Montana wig with head set. P.s. I am going to have milk and cookies for u...

Love,  
Lauryn

Dear Santa,  
I have been nice to my friends. For Christmas I want a nerf long shot and a regular nerf.

Your friend,  
Armando

Dear Santa,  
I've been a very good girl. For Christmas I want a red Nintindo ds and a suit life of Zack and Cody and Hanha Montana Nintindo games and Hanha Montana Nintindo and Hanha Montana Wig.

Your good girl,  
Sage Guerrero

Dear Santa,  
I want a dog and cat and a diary, bike, moon sand, cd player, and a Streak and Style.

Love,  
Ruby

Dear Santa,  
I want a ipod and a Ds, laptop, a Basketball.

Love,  
Macie

Dear Santa,  
I have been prety good this year. I want a recurve bow, hand release, x box 360, Halo 3, Halo 2, 125 Y2, Helment, cowboy boots, horse.

Love,  
Michael Seigler

Dear Santa,  
I would like 2 army sets, a nerf long-shot gun, and a sandwich! (subway)

Your Friend,  
Grant Lee Potts

Dear Santa Claus,  
I have tried to be good. I want a Dora kitchen, Barbie computer. I will leave milk and cookies for you.

Love,  
Journi Salazar

Dear Santa,  
I would like for Christmas for my dad is a pillow. I would like for me some chaps without fringe on the chap and I would like a new swing set too. I would like a karf for christmas. I would like for christmas is a BB gun too.

Your friend,  
Brody Rankin

Dear Santa,  
I would like a little pet shop diary and a laptop and a dresser and an iPod, new makeup, stuffed animals, Hannah Montana set, London's closet, and cheer leader suit.

Ho ho ho!  
From,  
Dode

Dear Santa,  
Yo Santa Claus, how are you doing? Im doing fine. Have a mery cristmas. Im going to have you some milk and cookies. how are your elves doing? How are your raindeer, are they okay. Im Matador it's a little town. I want a MP3 and a camoflage bike. Im trying to stay out of trouble so I can get my presents.

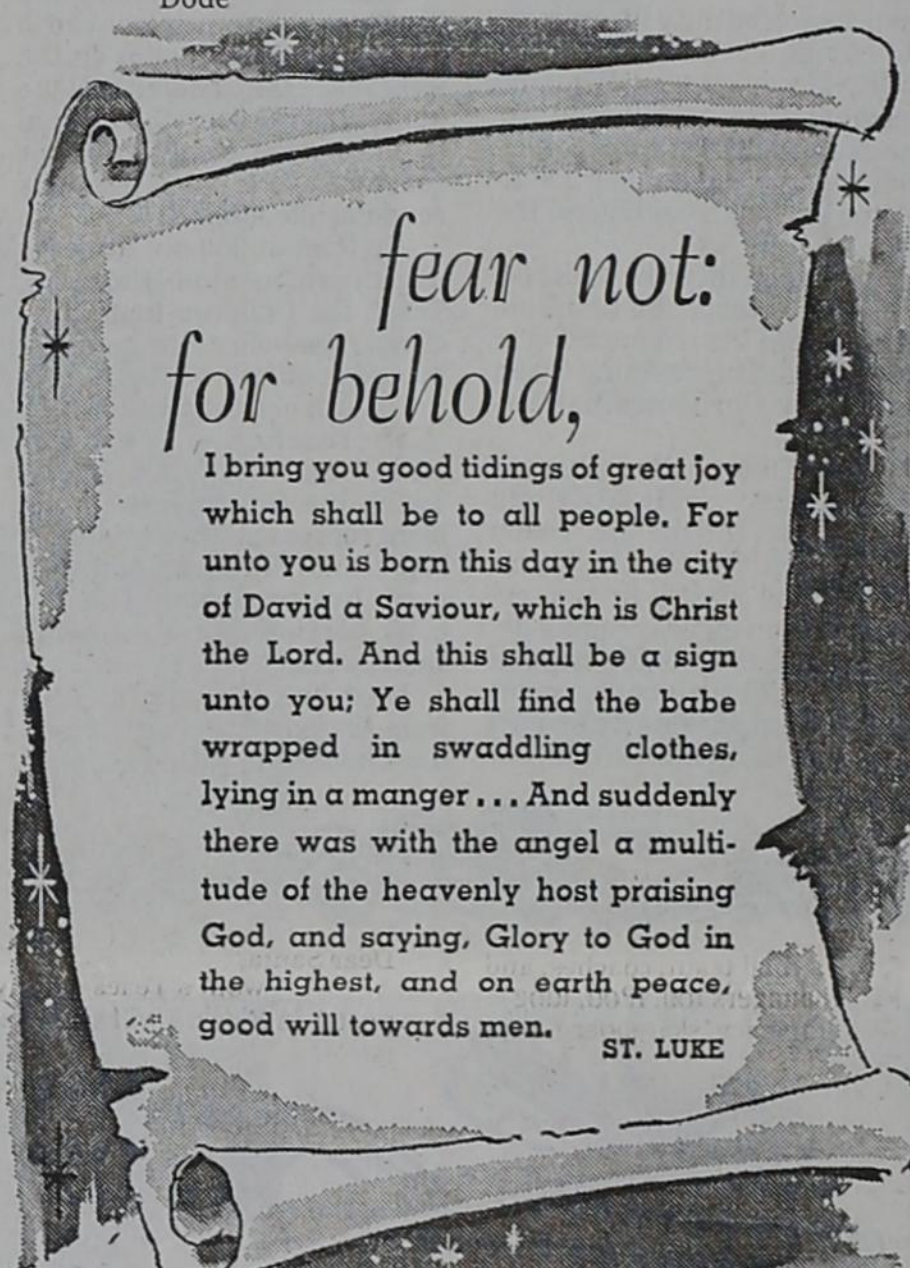
Love,  
Bryant

Dear Santa,  
I would like a iPod and Ds and some barbie stuff and some games. A pink stuff and pink dots laptop. A stuff animals that have clothes that go with it. and new shoes.

From,  
Mikenna Ford

Dear Santa,  
I wish you can come down for Christmas and get me a psp and a x box and I want a car, gun and glasses and for my mom dad and for my baby. I have been good for the whole week. Saturday is my birthday. I wish you can come down for Christmas. I want clothes, shoes, an iPod and army toys. What do you want for christmas santa?

Your friend,  
Micheal



We wish you the very best Christmas!

Lavene  
Zabieski  
Lamy  
Voff

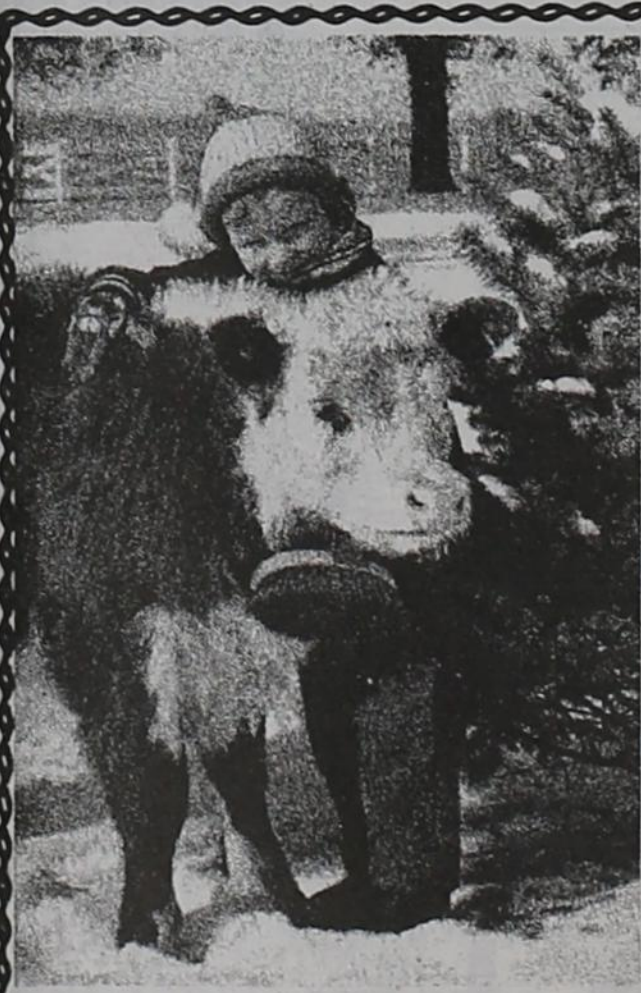
Motley County Tribune



**O HOLY NIGHT**  
May God bless you and keep you in the circle of His precious love now and forever. Have a wonderful Christmas season.  
**Lighthouse Electric Cooperative, Inc.**

### A Gift From the Heart Can Show Others The True Meaning of the Christmas Season

Exchanging Christmas gifts has become a highlight of the holidays. From making out a wish list to shopping for the perfect gift for that special someone, there is a feeling of anticipation throughout the season. Buying gifts is a fine way for people to show others how much they care; the time and thought put into the selection expresses love and appreciation. However, giving a present that they made themselves can be even more meaningful. The handmade gift is always eagerly received, and it doesn't have to be a complicated project. Baking cookies and packing them in a holiday tin or making preserves and putting them in a decorative jar is a wonderful gift that brings the flavors of Christmas to life. For those who aren't talented in the kitchen, there are many other gifts to make. A hand-knit sweater or scarf is always well-received, as is a needlepoint pillow, an embroidered wall hanging or a handmade sachet. While these projects may seem difficult, people can use simple patterns that are easy to create. Even if the gift isn't homemade, the wrapping paper and card can be. Nothing will bring a smile to someone's face faster than receiving a gift wrapped with a personal touch. One way to be creative is to wrap a gift in a gift. For example, if giving presents for the kitchen, people can wrap them in fabric napkins or decorative place mats. They also can decorate plain sheets of paper in their own way. A personalized card is the best way to show people how much they are loved. The givers can say exactly what they want to say in their own words. Whether using crayons and markers, pictures cut out from magazines, or handmade bows, they can add a sense of warmth to their holiday greetings. Another way to make Christmas-time even more special is for people to give of themselves. They can help older relatives decorate their home, work in a soup kitchen for an afternoon, organize a toy drive for needy children, or deliver gifts to people in hospitals and nursing homes. This will give them a sense of joy that they may not have thought possible. The true spirit of the season is happiness and goodwill — sharing a sense of love with others. Giving a gift from the heart this Christmas will bring a special sense of joy to those receiving the presents and to those giving them. SX950025



Let's savor the special moments of this loving season.  
**HP FEED & SEED**  
Roaring Springs

**CHRISTMAS**

**MERRY CHRISTMAS**  
May your season be merry and bright.





ZANE AND LATHAN CLINE, sons of Travis and Sarah Cline, Roaring Springs, gets some one-on-one with Santa Claus at the recent late night shopping event in Matador.

# DEAR SANTA

Dear Santa,  
I want moon sand, and hellets, and an American doll, closs and shoss, and a pupedog, a bell off your slay.  
From,  
Rivers Marshall

Dear Santa,  
Santa wil you get me some Helys if not it dot meter you can get me some thaing els. I love you by. But wat I will probly wont a moder bike.  
From,  
Ethan Mason

Dear Santa,  
I want a Tomas calendar.  
From,  
Zachary Brown

Dear Santa,  
I want for christmas a hat with a blue string around it.  
Your friend,  
Mickey

Dear Santa,  
I have been a good girl, I want a WWE vs. Raw game, Xbox 360, a dog, shoes, clothes, and a basketball.  
From,  
Thalia Mendoza

Dear Santa,  
I want a PSP, some pant's, shoe's, and t-shirt, and Smack Down vs. Raw 2008 featuring Ecw, and a red and green jingle hat.  
From your jolly friend,  
Christopher Ward

Dear Santa,  
I want a chopper bike that has flames and a rifle and MP3 player. Mrs. kautz said i need glasses and I want longhorns and I want my cousin to come down. I want a Texas Longhorns jersey. I like Mrs. Kautz she is my favorit techer. I love santa, I want a rill radir.  
Your friend,  
JoJo Lee Lopez

Dear Santa,  
All I want for Christmas is to move back to Iowa.  
Sinsely,  
Seth

Dear Santa,  
I want a MP3 Player. I want a Idog to and a pony.  
Love,  
Lexy

Dear Santa,  
I want a psp, mp3, four wheeler, shotgun, gameboy.  
Love,  
Braden

Dear Santa Claws,  
I want a laptop, mp3 player, Ds nintendo, video, DVD, new shoes, Raven, Hannah Montana, Jacksen, Chelsy, Eddie to come here. I want lots of presents this year. I want a gutar, and a new bike.  
Love,  
Thalia

Dear Santa,  
I want a Nintendo Ds in my stocking. I hope it goes great coming to Matador.  
Love,  
Joshua

Dear Santa,  
I want a ipod, Nintendo DS, and Wii.  
Love,  
Big MC fan, Marcus

Dear Santa,  
I want a Nintendo and these games, Suite Life, Hannah Montana. Here are other things a laptop, some gameboy games, a Wii, gutar lesons.  
Love your friend,  
Natalie Jameson

Dear Santa,  
I want a game boy d.s. I want a MP3 player.  
Love your friend,  
Matthew

Dear Santa,  
I want a scooter, trampolion, books, Nitindo ds, books, a dog, and ipod.  
Love,  
Kaylee

Dear Santa,  
I want the game Crash for my Nintendo, a Wii, a horse, a trampoline, a iPod, a singing voice like Hannah Montana, and a good leg.  
I also hope my faily has a good Christmas, for you to have a good Christmas, for the Matadors to go to state, and for the orphans to get what they want. Take care of people who need to be cared for.  
Love,  
Mattie

Dear Santa,  
How are you? What are you doing? What I want for Christmas is a pink Nentendo DS, a new American Girl Doll and a jewelry box.  
Love,  
Chloe

Dear Santa,  
I have been good this year. I want a guitar, Bratz, new boots, cowgirl hat, and some clothes. I can't wait til you come.  
Yours truly,  
Autumn

Dear Santa,  
This year I want a PSP and a Ipod and I want Maddon 2008 and Smackdown VS Raw 2008 with the PSP and with the Ipod I want all the songs by Soulja Boy and a Play Station 3 with lots of games.  
From,  
Korbyn Simpson

Dear Santa,  
X box game called Street Football, and Madden 2008, and I need Goat halter, and goat buckets, brown jacket, and Merry Christmas.  
From,  
Caleb

Dear Santa,  
I want a zune and a nitindoe ds and games, and snow boots.  
Love,  
Catherine Ward

Dear Santa,  
I want a pair of boots for Christmas and a pair of skates too. What do you want for Christmas. What did you say nothing. Kelly Anne doesn't have but one pup now.  
JN Fletcher  
1939

Dear Santa,  
I would like DS lite games, a desk orginizer, DS lite case, a flash-light, Christmas socks, gloves, loop earrings, Notepads.  
Thanks,  
Meagan

Dear Santa,  
I would like Walkie talkies a Ready-Bed, a necklace with my berstone is June, and I want a fire fly cell phone. 12 Days of Christmas of Dogs with music, digital camera.  
Thanks,  
Hannah Mason

Dear Santa,  
I think that i have been very good this year. I would like Video ipod, and a red little camera that is digital, and a Matador Cheerleading Suit.  
Thanks,  
Katie Barton

Dear Santa Claus,  
What I want for Christmas is a mountain bike, x box, Wii, playstation 3, basketball goal, football sighned by all Longhorn football team, coaches, and managers too, iPod, idog ampe, icy, skateboard, psp, and labtop.  
Sincerly,  
Micheal Martin

Dear Santa,  
I want a book, binder, ruler, pencil, paper, dictionary, desk, chair, and a pen.  
Sincerly,  
Logan Ferguson  
p.s. I also want a X box 360 and Wii.

May I have for christmas a X box 360 and cover for my MP3 and a state championship for my dad.  
From,  
Braden Bigham

Dear Santa,  
I would like an snow boots, leather steer halters, saddle blanket, bridal with my name on it.  
Sincerly,  
Cassidy

Dear Santa,  
sand box a mp3 player I want a boy barbeay I want a american girl doll nikker.  
From,  
Carley Turner

Dear Santa,  
I want a Dol anda calendar for crismis.  
From,  
Alycia Silva

Dear Santa,  
I wont a pet dog.  
From,  
Mercy Klebahn

Dear Santa,  
I like santa. I want a football, a truck, a bike, that is it.  
Leon Quilimaco

Dear Santa,  
I wataer a bike.  
From,  
Zane

Dear Santa,  
Moon sand, mp3 player, tools, and puppy.  
From,  
Erin G.

Dear Santa,  
I wunt 1 skabrde and 1 monster truck and 1 bell off your slay.  
From,  
Tucker Barton

Dear Santa,  
wont a Texes Tecsyuy poster in Black. I will shuw do poster.  
From,  
Jonathon Flores

Dear Santa,  
I want toy pupy. and a BarBie house. and a pet pig. and a that max Book. and a video of win i waz a baby.  
From,  
Kensye

Dear Santa,  
I want a Xbox 360 please sin gams.  
From,  
Logan Salazar

Dear Sant,  
I want to see a reindeer.  
From,  
Joseph Chaves

Dear Santa,  
I love you so much, I sometiem want to sea a reindeer.  
From,  
Cameron Stafford

Dear Santa,  
I want a horse, toy mya, toy baby grechen, MP3 player, toy bryer horses, but most of all I want to see my daddy.  
To a good Santa,  
Bailee Perryman

Enjoy The Timeless Beauty Of The Season

Love, laughs, joy and contentment... Christmas and you are a natural.

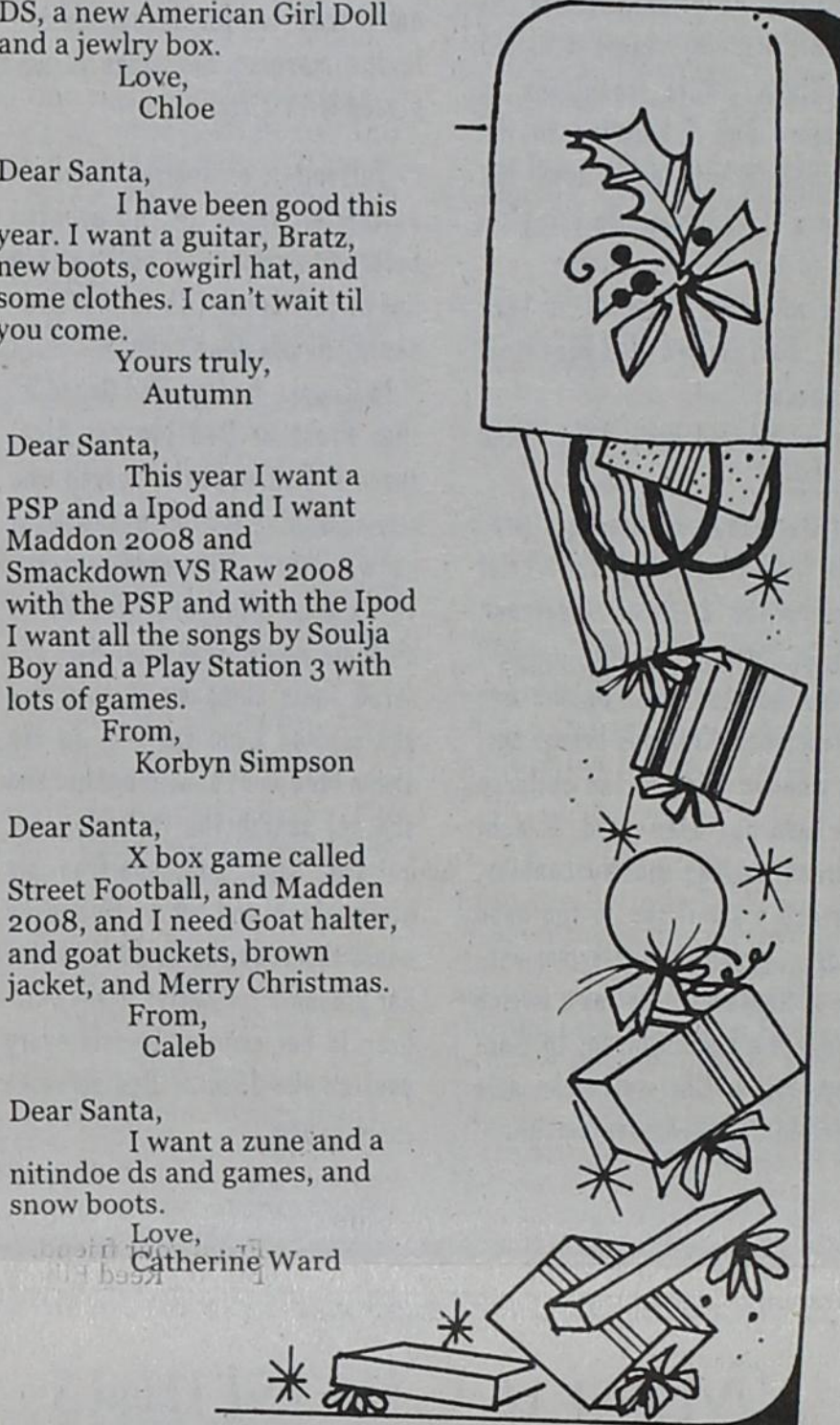
**Zacha and Betty**

Share The Spirit!

Hoping you experience all the love and joy that is Christmas

**Quality Discount Outlet**

Matador 347-2702



Here's hoping this holy season will bring blessings to you and your loved ones, and peace to everyone!

**Rejoice**

We will be closed Dec. 24-25 and reopen Dec. 26

**MAIN STREET CAFE**

Hope Your Season Is Indescribably Great!

**Seigler Funeral Home**

Matador & Paducah

This brings a wish at Christmas time that you always will be blessed, with the Peace and Hope this season brings and with lasting happiness.

**Script Printing**

Floydada

**Christmas Memories**

As we experience the warmth and wonder of this festive season, may all that is Christmas embrace you and yours.

**First Ag Credit, FCS**





Christmas is a very special time for many children — the day presents are left by a magical person.

\* In the United States and Canada, his name is Santa Claus. He flies through the sky in a sleigh pulled by eight reindeer.  
 \* In England his name is Father Christmas. He looks much like Santa Claus, but he has a longer coat and a longer beard.  
 \* In Wales (a principality in the United Kingdom), Santa is called Sion Corn - this translates as "Chimney John" relating to the story that Santa comes down the chimney of each house to bring his gifts to the children within.  
 \* In France, he's known as Pere Noel. He is also called Pere Noel in Canada.  
 \* In Brazil and Peru, he's called Papai Noel.  
 \* In Germany, children get presents from Christkind, the Christ Child on the 24th of December. Also, in Germany Knecht Ruprecht and his helpers come on the 6th of December. Krampus brings coal or a wooden stick to the children that have not been good, Knecht Ruprecht brings mostly cookies, nuts and a small toy to the good children. Belsnickel - German version of Santa who carries a switch to beat the bad children. In Germany, Father Christmas can also be called der Weihnachtsmann.

\* In Poland, Santa is "Gwiazdor" ("star man") — for the North Star. He visits children on Christmas Eve, bringing presents. The Christmas Eve meal begins once the first star is seen. "Swiety Mikolaj" (Saint Nicholas) was a cardinal in the Catholic Church, he visits children on December 6th and he brings presents, mostly sweets, which he leaves in children clean (it is very important) shoes.

\* In Costa Rica, Colombia, and parts of Mexico, the gift bringer is El Nino Jesus, "the infant Jesus."

\* In Puerto Rico, children receive gifts from the Three Kings on January 6th. Each child puts grass under their bed for the camels and in the morning the grass is replaced with gifts.

\* Jultomten or Tomten Sweden. Jultomten visits in the evening before Christmas day, pulling a big bag of julklappar (Christmas presents) in the deep snow.

\* In Russia, he is called Grandfather Frost or Ded Moroz. Also, there is Babooska the person who was searching for Christ the night he was born. She spoke to the Three Wise Men or Three Kings on their way to find him, they offered their company to her. But she replied I am too old, so the Three Men went on without her and she set search the following day but the "King" had gone from his birth place and when Babooska heard the news she decided to give her presents for Christ to the children in her country Russia every year on the 13th of Dec to make them happy.

\* På norsk (in Norwegian) "Julenissen" arrives on the evening of the 24th.

\* In the Netherlands, he is called Kerstman. He flies through the sky with his reindeers and puts gifts under the Christmas tree on the 25th of December. De Kerstman lives in Finland. His counterpart "Sinterklaas" is another saint, who is celebrated on the 5th of December. Sinterklaas comes back every year from his home in Spain by steamboat, together with him are a whole group of "zwarte pieten" who help him while he's riding on the roofs - distributing gifts through the chimney.

\* In Finland, he is called Joulupukki and his home is in Lapland in the north part of Finland called Korvatunturi. Also in Finland, the Swedish-speaking Finns (finlandssvenskar) call him Julgubben.

\* In Spain the children the night of January 5th put their shoes under the Christmas tree and have presents from the Three Kings (Los Reyes Magos: Melchor, Gaspar and Baltasar). Santa Claus is called Papa Noel and there are children who have presents both days on December 25th (from Papa Noel) and on January 6th (from the Three Kings).

\* He is also called St. Nick origin Turkey.

\* Karácsony Apó, is Santa in Hungarian.

\* In Italy, he is called Babbo Natale. Also, they receive their presents on January 6th from the gift bringer an old lady called Befana.

\* Black Peter, St Nick's helper which originates from Morocco or Liberia.

\* He is also called Kriss Kringle - origin unknown.

\* In China, he is called Shengdan Laoren.

\* In Denmark they call him, Julemand.

\* In Hong Kong they call him Sing dan lo ian in Cantonese.

\* In Slovenia they call him Bozicek.

\* In Latvia Santa Claus is called Ziemassvētku vecītis.

\* In the country Uruguay he is called Papá Noel.

\* In Lithuania Santa Claus is called Kaledu Senis.

\* In Portugal Santa Claus is known as Pai Natal. He brings presents on Christmas Eve. However, the Portuguese tradition says the presents in that night are brought by the Newborn Jesus "Menino Jesus".

\* In Estonia he is called Jouluvana.

\* In Ireland he is called Santa Claus and children abbreviate this to just Santy.

\* Many children in the Hindu religion receive gifts from their god Ganesha during the Holiday Season.

\* In Austria, children get presents from Christkind, the Christ Child on the 24th of December.

\* In Greece, Santa Claus is called "Aghios Vassilis" and he comes on the night of 31st December leaving the presents under the tree for the children to find them on New Year's Day.

\* In Hawaii, Santa Claus is known as Kanakaloka.

\* In Armenian, Santa Clause is Gaghanat Baba and he brings presents to all the good girls and boys.

\* The name for Santa in Yugoslavia is Deda Mraz.

**A Christmas Tradition**  
 Adopt a needy family for the holidays. Let members of your family buy a present for the person closest to their own age.

**A Christmas Tradition**  
 May you have the gladness of Christmas, which is hope; the spirit of Christmas, which is peace; the heart of Christmas which is love. —Ada V. Hendricks

**A Christmas Tradition**  
 Don't forget our feathered friends during the holidays. Spread peanut butter on pine cones, then roll them in bird seed and hang them on a tree near your kitchen window.

**A Christmas Tradition**  
 Take the family out to eat at the same restaurant every year before picking out and bringing home the Christmas tree.

### You don't have to dine alone on CHRISTMAS DAY

The First United Methodist Church of Roaring Springs invites everyone, regardless of race or religion, who do not have family or friends to share Christmas lunch with, to come dine with us in celebrating Christ's Birth.



There will be no collection or donations asked for.

Lunch will be served at 12:30 p.m. on Christmas Day at the First United Methodist Church in Roaring Springs.

For more information call 348-7336

*Of Christmas Traditions*  
 by H. Jackson Brown, Jr., Rosemary Brown, and Kathy Peel

Bake Christmas cookies while a Johnny Mathis Christmas album plays in the background.

**A Christmas Tradition**  
 Take a holiday family photograph each year in the same spot, such as by a favorite tree in your yard. In years to come, you'll have a wonderful record of the growth of your family, as well as of the growth of the tree.

**A Christmas Tradition**  
 Organize a neighborhood progressive holiday dinner. Have appetizers at one home, the main course at another, and dessert at a third.

**A Christmas Tradition**  
 Instead of the usual bedtime stories, read to your children about the Christmas customs in other countries.

**A Christmas Tradition**  
 Wait until Christmas morning to place the infant Jesus in your Nativity scene.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



L & K, PK

Greetings of the Season!



Calico Treasures Matador

Season's Greetings



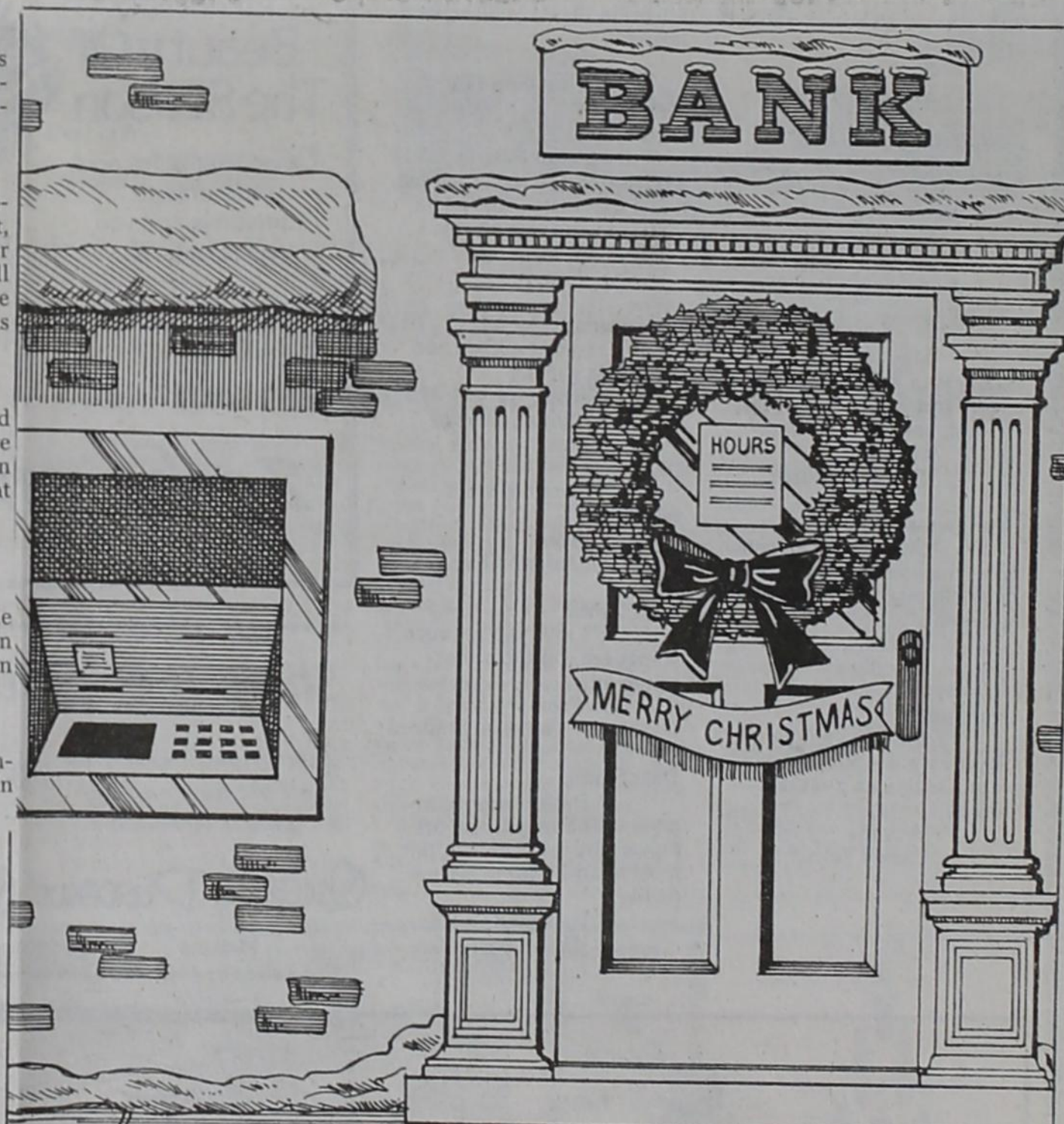
Payne Pharmacy  
 Floydada

Merry Christmas to All

May the gentle blessings of the holy season touch you and yours this Christmas and always!

Thacker Jewelry

Downtown Roaring Springs  
 806-348-7546



Happy Holidays

Here's hoping your Christmas yields big returns! We value your business and your friendship!



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Member F.D.I.C.



# MAY THE MIRACLE OF CHRISTMAS BLESS OUR WORLD WITH PEACE

## Christmas Eve Of 1944

Condensed from Gannett Westchester Newspapers, George H. Brooks From December 1990 Reader's Digest, page. 63.

Christmas Eve, 1944. I was a sailor in the U.S. Navy, on a one-day leave in San Francisco. I had won \$300 at poker that ordinarily would have burned a hole in my pocket, but I couldn't shake an overwhelming sadness. Scuttlebutt had it we'd be pulling out before the New Year for the South Pacific. I'd just received word that another friend had been killed in Europe. And here I was, an 18-year-old alone in a strange city. Nothing seemed to make any kind of sense. What was I going to be fighting for, anyway?

I spent most of the day in a mental fog, wandering aimlessly through crowds of laughing, happy people. Then, late in the afternoon, my vision suddenly focused, and for the first time a scene registered.

There in a department-store window were two electric trains chugging through a miniature, snow-covered town. In front of the window a skinny boy around nine years old, his nose pressed against the glass. He just stood there, fixed on those trains.

Suddenly the boy was me nine short years before, and the store was Macy's in New York City, my hometown. I could see, could feel the same longing, the same desperate hoping. I could hear the sigh of resignation—the frail attempt to hide the disappointment that Dad could not afford those trains. And I saw the reluctant turning away and then the one last look.

Not this time! I don't know what came over me, but I grabbed the boy by the arm, scaring him half to death.

"My name is George," I told him.

"Jeffery Hollis Jr.," he managed to reply.

"Well, Jeff Hollis Jr.," I said in my best grown-up voice, "we are going to get us those trains." His eyes grew wide, and he let me lead him into the store. I knew it was crazy, but I didn't care. Suddenly I wanted to be nine again and have a kid's dream come true. The salesclerk looked at us suspiciously, a scuffy black boy and a black sailor in ill-fitting dress blues.

"Those trains in the window," I blurted before he could speak. "The whole setup. How much is it?"

His snorting response was interrupted by the arrival of a

much older man wearing a warm Christmas smile. "One hundred and sixty-five dollars and sixty-three cents," the elder man replied, "delivery included."

"We'll take it," I said. "Right now, if we can."

"Sailor," he said, "we can! What about the rest of the family?"

I leaned down, and Jeff Jr. whispered that he had two little sisters as well as his mom and pop. I gave him \$50.

"I'll have someone help him out," the elder man told me. And he called over a cheerful woman who took Jeff Jr. by the hand.

While the trains and other purchases were being wrapped, the man told me he had two sons of his own in the service. After a lot of "Merry Christmases," a de-

ivery truck was assigned to take us to the boy's home.

Jeff Hollis Sr.'s reaction reminded me of what my own father's would have been if I had shown up with a stranger and a whole lot of gifts. I could see he was a hard-working man, breaking his back to make ends meet and knowing he couldn't give his family all he wanted.

"I'm just a sailor a long way from home," Mr. Hollis, I said respectfully, explaining how I had seen myself in his son's longing gaze at the store display.

"You couldn't have spent the money any other way?" he asked gruffly.

"No, sir," I replied.

His face softened, and he welcomed me to share their table. After supper, I read to Jeff Jr. and his sisters until they went off to bed.

"I guess you know we've got a lot to do before morning," Jeff Sr. said. His words startled me for a moment. Then I understood. I was no longer a child; I was a man now, with adult responsibilities. So I joined him at what turned out to be nearly an all-night job of getting the trains put together and set up. His wife, Marge, made sandwiches and coffee and kept me talking about growing up in New York. At midnight we paused to wish each other a Merry Christmas, then went back to the task of making a boy's dream come true.

When we finished, I was bone-tired. Jeff Hollis Sr. looked for a long time at what we had done, then signed and sat back in a worn easy chair.

"Mine was a bike," he said quietly. "A big two-wheeler with shiny spokes and bright-yellow

handlebars. The seat was real leather. I loved that bike. I dreamed about it and wished for it."

"Mine was a Christmas dress I'd seen in a dressmaker's window," Marge said. "I wanted everyone to say, 'What a pretty little girl in that fine dress.'"

Dreams I thought sleepily. Kid dreams. I guess I dozed because the next thing I knew it was five o'clock, and Jeff Jr. was shaking me. He had remembered I had to be back by eight.

"It's time," Jeff Sr. said. "Merry Christmas."

"Wow!" Joy mixed with disbelief. We hadn't done as spectacular a job as the window dressers, but we got the trains laid out all right.

"Dad?" Jeff Jr. asked. "George?"

I exchanged glances with his father and nodded my agreement. This was the honored, official first outing. With Jeff Sr. at one control and me at the other, we set the trains on their way. On the second circuit I eased Jeff Jr. into my place. For about five minutes he ran his train. Then abruptly, he stopped and, without a word, left the room. He returned with the presents he had bought, a look of pride on his face. He'd had some help, but he'd made the choices himself.

I thought he was finished when he turned to me with a package in his hand. "Merry Christmas, George," he said quietly.

I was totally surprised. The gift was a comb-and-brush set, along with a case for other toilet articles. He held out his hand, then changed his mind and hugged me warmly. The moment

of parting was bittersweet, for I knew I would probably never see the Hollises again. Jeff Sr. and Marge thanked me, but I was the grateful one.

As I made my way to the station to catch the bus back to the base, I realized I had no more nagging doubts. I had found more in this experience than I had received from all the pep talks and patriotic speeches I had ever heard.

For me, it was a revelation. I knew now what this war and the fighting was about. It was something at once wonderful and simple. This country, my country, was a place of dreams, and of dreamers who had the faith and the will to make dreams come true.

**The Miracle of Christmas**  
From *Trail Dust*  
by Douglas Meador

The miracle of Christmas comes again as rich mysterious incense carried on the crest of brittle north winds to find a way into the sickroom of an ailing world. The glorious fume is from the altar of love to arrest once each year the aches of trouble and greed, subdue the chronic bane of selfishness. The heart breathes a new freedom in the pure air of children's laughter.

**Aboard a Train on Christmas**  
From *Trail Dust*  
by Douglas Meador

Cold steel rails before the whinnying locomotive seemed to stretch on into eternity, with nothing but whistling posts between, and my lurching day-

coach was reluctant to follow the thundering steel-hearted horse snorting steam through lofty nostrils. The lights had lost strength each time the brakeman, with shiny blue-serge suit, had passed down the aisle and the fretful baby had ceased to cry. Shoe laces had been untied and the swollen, tired feet dangled from hard chair arms. It was Christmas eve and homesickness was a burning limepit with invisible flames against my heart. Sleepless and staring at the swaying whistle-cord, I flinched as each mad wheel struck the rail joint, but the heartbreak express roared on through the night toward adventure's shabby depot.

Miles, like vicious guards, with cruel, cold eyes, rose in formidable array beside the thought roads of retreat and the thick, foul air chafed my spirit while back in Texas the clean attar of sage lay gently over the friendly hills to the doorstep of home. If

the wheels would change their course, I might hear my mother's hesitant footstep coming to greet me and caresses lost in the tide of joy—and feel her soft hands holding my face as if fearful I move.

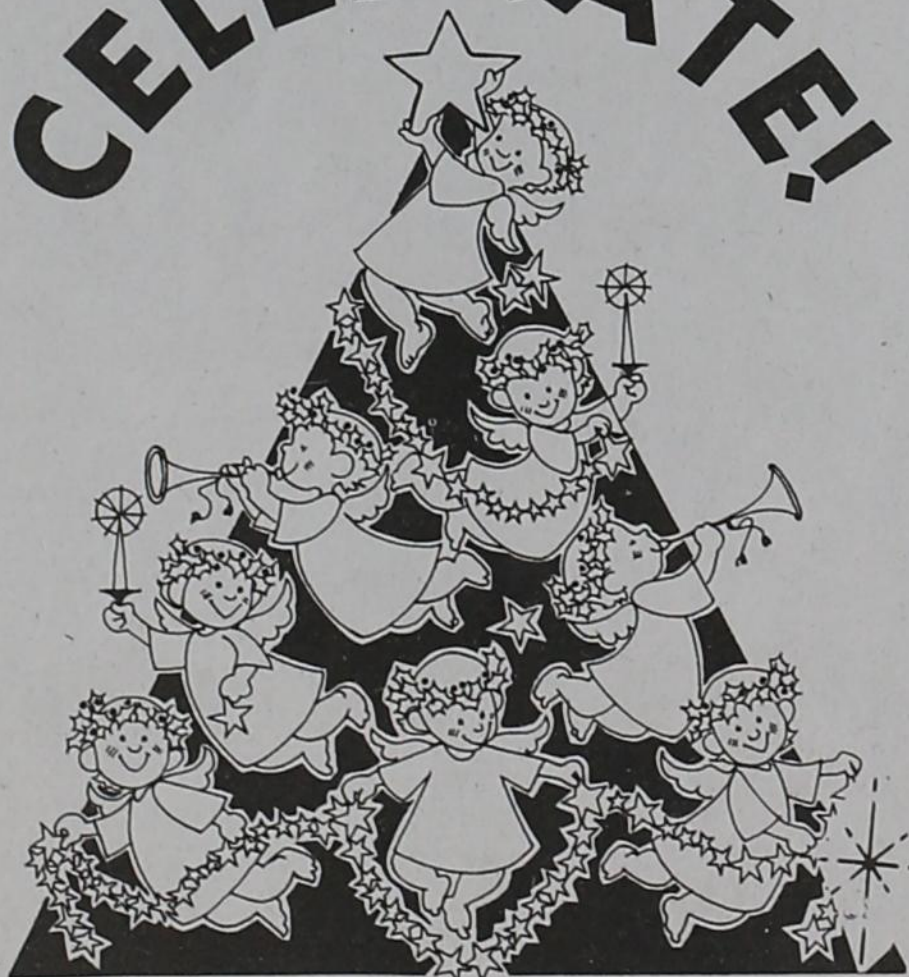
The train lunged in starting from the Arizona tank-town to awaken me from the reverie in time to mop the brimming tears away. A pencil of light lay across the night canvas beyond the cold window pane and grim mountains cut into the eastern skyline. Dawn and Christmas Day aboard a train speeding away from home.

The Law Office  
of Lex Herrington  
Floydada, Texas  
Lex & Dana Herrington  
Emery & Everett  
wishes you a

Merry  
Christmas



# CELEBRATE!



A NIGHT TO REMEMBER

Presented by the First Baptist Church Children's Choir  
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 23, 7:00 P.M.

Join us as we Present a Celebration  
of the Savior's Birth, A Night to Remember  
Fellowship following the program  
**EVERYONE WELCOME**

For more information contact Carla Meador, 347-2240



May the miracle of His birth and  
the glorious message of His life be  
celebrated this holiday season

"Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of  
great joy, which shall be to all people.  
For unto you is born this day in the city of David  
a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord."

We wish you and your family  
a Merry Christmas and  
Happy New Year



**Matador Branch**  
The First National Bank  
Local people, local service, local convenience

Equal Housing Lender

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# Happy Holidays!



December 25  
From *Trail Dust*  
by Douglas Meador

## A Politically Correct Poem

It is easier to remember incidents that occur at Christmas time although they may have happened in connection with our first disillusion, yet it seems that the greatest extremes of happiness and heartache I have known, transpired on December 25th, some ten or twelve years separating the two days. The happy day was connected with a battered little tug of the highways, a tent pole through several joints of rusty stove pipe swung to her starboard side, that docked at the strange port of a vacant lot near my employment.

Only one glance at the three small children left an uncomfortable feeling in the heart. The snow and a tired motor caused the human flotage bound with the invisible ropes of relationship, to remain in our none-to-friendly harbour. They did not use the parched corn and beans cooked without meat for Christmas dinner. My own board was lighter that day but so was my heart. The smallest blue-eyed girl, after she had looked in the package I gave her, dropped the stocking stuffed with cotton which she had been holding for a doll.

The other Christmas day was long ago and my first one away from home. Stretched on the floor of my room, I looked at the bottle of milk, two rolls and spice cake from my mother's own oven, and tried to eat. My hunger could not be quieted with food. The spice cake lay untouched in its package, when I awoke later. It was too sacred. The sleeve of my coat was moist. Outside and below my window was the din of traffic noise, lights, raised voices, singing and laughter.

\*\*\*\*\*

**A Christmas Tradition**  
Regardless of the temperature, if there's a fireplace in your home, have it blazing Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

'Twas the night before Christmas and Santa's a wreck... How to live in a world that's politically correct? His workers no longer would answer to "Elves", "Vertically Challenged" they were calling themselves. And labor conditions at the north pole were alleged by the union to stifle the soul. Four reindeer had vanished, without much propriety, Released to the wilds by the Humane Society. And equal employment had made it quite clear that Santa had better not use just reindeer. So Dancer and Donner, Comet and Cupid, were replaced with 4 pigs, and you know what looked stupid! The runners had been removed from his sleigh; The ruts were termed dangerous by the E.P.A. and people had started to call for the cops when they heard sled noises on their rooftops. Secondhand smoke from his pipe had his workers quite frightened. His fur trimmed red suit was called "Unlightened." And to

show you the strangeness of life's ebbs and flows, Rudolf was suing over unauthorized use of his nose. And had gone on Geraldo, in front of the nation, demanding millions in overdue compensation. So, half of the reindeer were gone; and his wife, who suddenly said she'd enough of this life, joined a self-help group, packed, and left a whiz, demanding from now on her title was Ms. and as for the gifts, why, he'd ne'er had a notion that making a choice could cause so much commotion. Nothing of leather, nothing of fur, which meant nothing for him. And nothing

for her. Nothing that might be construed to pollute. Nothing to aim. Nothing to shoot. Nothing that clamored or made lots of noise. Nothing for just girls. Or just for boys. Nothing that claimed to be gender specific. Nothing that's

warlike or non-pacific. No candy or sweets...they were

bad for the tooth. Nothing that seemed to embellish a truth.

And fairy tales, while not yet forbidden, were like Ken and Barbie, better off hidden. For they raised the hackles of those psychological who claimed the only good gift was one ecological. No baseball, no football...someone could get hurt; Besides, playing sports

exposed kids to dirt. Dolls were said to be sexist, and should be passe; And Nintendo would rot your entire brain away. So Santa just stood there, disheveled, perplexed; He just could not figure out what to do next. He tried to be merry, tried to be gay, but you've got to be careful with that word today. His sack was quite empty, limp to the ground; nothing fully

acceptable was to be found. Something special was needed, a gift that he might give to all without angering the left or the right. A gift that would satisfy, with no indecision, each group of people, every religion; every hue, Everyone, everywhere...even you. So here is that gift, it's price beyond worth... 'May you and your loved ones enjoy peace on earth.'



Here's hoping your holiday is one-of-a-kind!  
We appreciate your continued loyal support.

**Merry Christmas!**

**ARVIS DAVIS CHEVROLET**

1010 9TH ST. - PADUCAH

**ARVIS DAVIS USED CARS**

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**HAVE A BLESSED  
CHRISTMAS AND  
NEW YEAR!**



**HOTEL MATADOR**

Marilynn Hicks Linda Ray Caron Perkins

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