

MERRY CHRISTMAS



Have A Jolly Good Season!

May the meaning of Christmas be deeper, its friendships stronger, and its hopes brighter, as you and your loved ones revel in the magic of the holiday season.

It's been a privilege and a pleasure serving you this past year. We're really grateful for your kind support and look forward to your continued friendship.

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Polly Mills Is Honored On Birthday, Retirement

On Sunday, November 1, Polly Mills was honored with a reception at the Church of Christ Fellowship Hall, hosted by her four daughters, Patti, Debbie, Karla, and Kara.

This was to celebrate Polly's 65th birthday and almost twenty years retirement from Excel.

Polly's daughters and their families are: Patti and Mike Gencarelli and their daughters, Angella, Amber and Aubree, of LaPorte, Texas; Debbie and Dan Goldsmith and daughters, Rachel and Sarah of Dimmitt; Karla and Jarod Withrow and children, Layai, Emily, and Jordan of Littlefield; and Kara and Mike Fulcher of Lorenzo, Texas.

Polly's brothers and sisters attending the celebration were June Muse of Lubbock; Larry Webb of Hale Center; Al Webb of Dimmitt; Joyce Smith of Cleburne; Sam Webb of Farwell and Pam Clark of Bovina.

Three members of her family were not present, her brothers, Bob Webb of Burk Burnett, and Wayne Webb of Azle; and her sister Ann Lee of Bovina. Ann Lee passed away four days later.

Daughter Debbie made and decorated a peach colored three tiered cake with white roses. There were four tables, each portraying the girls' pictures while growing up and their families today. They were covered with clear plastic cloths so the pictures could be seen. Other tables had displays that reflected Polly's life.

She was born in Bellville, Arkansas and was one of ten children. Their parents were Hugh and Bessie Webb.

The Webb Family moved to Bovina in 1953, and Polly began working at a little cafe on Main Street, owned by Jack Hart.

Polly said Herman and Vernon Estes told her they had someone they wanted to 'fix her up with'. They introduced her to a young man, Alfred Mills and they had their first date on

December 1, and were married on December 24, 1953 at the Church of Christ on 21st Street in Clovis.

Alfred had worked at the Highway Department before going into the United States Armed Services and had just been back a short time when they married. He continued to work there for almost twenty years before his death.

On February 19, 1971, Alfred was working on his job in heavy blizzard conditions. His pickup truck became stuck in the snow and ice. As he was standing near his pickup, another vehicle came along and hit him, pinning him between the two vehicles. Alfred had a crushed leg, broken pelvis and multiple injuries. Dr. Alexander of Friona rode with him in the ambulance to Hereford, then Alfred was airlifted to an Amarillo hospital.

Polly rode with a policeman, who took her to Amarillo. Alfred underwent one surgery and was to have more surgery, but died on the operating table. Weldon Moody was managing Farmer County's highway department office and was with Polly at that time.

Polly had only worked as a housewife and mother but found herself with the great responsibility of raising four daughters, ages nine to sixteen years old.

She and Alfred and the girls had been working as janitors for the Church of Christ and Polly continued that job for a while. She then took a bookkeeping course and went to work for Birklebach Machinery in Bovina, which is now Bovina Pump Company.

She went back to work at the church as janitor for a time, then went to work for Riverside Chemicals. Later, she worked for Chemical Enterprises at Pleasant Hill and in July, 1979, she began working for Excel, where she continued to work for almost twenty years.

Three of Polly's girls had

four years of college and one graduated from beauty school. All of her daughters are active in church work.

When asked what it was like to raise four girls as a single parent, she said, "It wasn't very hard--oh well, a little at times."

Almost 100 people attended the reception, and Bovina people who signed the guest book were: Billy and Teen Marshall, Sue McClaran, Emmagene Calaway, Herb and Montie Howell, Melissa Taylor, Bubby and Linda Marshall, LaTrel Meihner, Barbara Cockerham, Scooter Russell, Jeff and Monica Procter, Martha Schilling, Isabelle Gilbreath, Brenda Riddle and Mary Evelyn Steelman.

Out of town guests who signed the guest book were: Garhett Sikes of Cleburne; Karen Smith of Clovis; Colt Calahan of Lorenzo; Jerry and Melony Early of Snyder; Ruth and Earl Dean Boyd of Amarillo; Glenna Monk of Brownfield; Dale Sikes of Farwell; Sue Ann Flowers and children, Michael and Daniel of Lubbock; Joe Beth and Caleb Renfro of Brownfield; and Laurie Vandiver and children.

Also, Lindsey Taylor of Farwell; Billy Don and Becky Hughes and son, Brennan of Lubbock; Scott and Patti Johnson and children, Drew, Abby, Jill, and Cari of Farwell; Esther Barber of Friona; Christa Garza of Friona; Byran Muse and children, Layna, and Storey of Lubbock; Kristi Blakley of Lubbock and Joe Withrow of Littlefield.

Also, Jan Gromosky Smith of Sudan; Katie Beth Morgan, and children, Emily, and Jaykin of Lubbock; Sheila Muse of Lubbock; Charles and Mechille Johnson and children, Josh and Kelsea of Farwell; Flo Davis of Farwell and Lupe Pena of Friona.

Besides the big crowd that attended there were many who called and sent cards.



POLLY AND DAUGHTERS....Polly Mills of Bovina (center) and her four daughters are shown here at her 65th birthday celebration. The celebration also honored her almost twenty years' retirement from Excel-Friona. Pictured are (left to right) Kara Fulcher of Lorenzo, Texas; Debbie Goldsmith of Dimmitt; Polly; Patti Gencarelli of LaPorte, Texas; and Karla Withrow of Littlefield.



BROTHERS AND SISTERS...Pictured are Polly Mills standing with her brothers and sisters at a reception in her honor. They are: L-R, June Muse of Lubbock, Larry and Patsy Webb of Hale Center; Kathy and Al Webb of Dimmitt; Joyce and Art Smith of Cleburne; Polly Mills, Sam and Rhonda Webb of Farwell and Pam Clark of Bovina.



A Message Of Thanks

Wherever you go throughout this festive season, know that our best wishes are with you, along with our heartfelt gratitude for your loyal support.

May you have a joyous time celebrating a warm holiday with family and friends!

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DEVOTED AMC FANS---Carol Ellis of Friona, left, presents Rose McCain of Bovina, right, with an "Erica Cane" doll as a thank you gift. Rose has been recording the popular soap opera "All My Children" for Carol every day for the past ten years. The ABC affiliate station in Amarillo does not carry the program. Rose gets the show from stations as far away as Denver or Chicago on her satellite dish.

Local AMC Fan Finds A Way To Watch Her Favorite Soap

What does an ardent soap opera fan do if the area network station refuses to air her favorite show? Give up and watch something else? No way! Not if you are like Carol Ellis of Friona. You simply find a friend who lives out in the country and has a satellite dish. That friend is Rose McCain of Bovina, who has been recording "All My Children" for Carol every day for the past ten years.

Both ladies have for many years been fans of this daytime soap opera and its popular star, Susan Luci who plays "Erica Cane" on the show. "All My Children" continues to be rated in the top three daytime soaps year after year.

"I don't have any vices," says Carol. "I don't drink, or smoke. I just want to see my one and only favorite soap."

Rose's two boys, Butch and Ben McCain are currently living in the Los Angeles area, have met Susan Luci, and have even played bit parts on the show in the past.

Susan Luci was asked to host last year's "Daytime Emmy Award Show."

Recently the Mattel Toy Company manufactured a doll in Miss Luci's image and put it on the shelves of toy stores around the country just in time for Christmas. Luci is the only soap opera star to have ever had a doll made of her. The doll is dressed in a replica of the ivory satin gown which Susan wore as the host of last year's award show.

This week, Carol presented Rose with an "Erica Cane" doll as a way of saying "thank you" for recording the show all these years.

Carol says when they took AMC off the air at KVII-TV in Amarillo, she called the station manager and the

program director, she wrote letters to the sponsors, and even wrote to Stanley Marsh III who owns the station, all to no avail.

At that time, Rose was already taping the show for Tami Kunselman because Tami was working and couldn't watch it during the day. Tami then passed the tapes along to Carol once she had watched them. Later Tami moved to Spearman, and Rose just continued taping the show for Carol.

How does that work since Carol lives in Friona and Rose lives six miles northwest of Bovina? Well, Rose records a whole week's worth of AMC shows on one tape and then drops it off at Dorothy's Beauty Shop when she comes into town. Then if anyone is going on to Friona, they take the tape with them and drop it off at the Friona Star office where Carol picks it up. Carol brings the tapes back to Dorothy's later, where Rose picks them up and leaves the new ones.

"I try to keep Rose supplied with new tapes from time to time," Carol says. "We've worn out quite a few tapes and several VCRs over the years."

"They've had some really nauseating talk shows like Geraldo Rivera running in the AMC time slot," Carol says, "And they seem to change them up once a year."

"I wonder what new people in the Amarillo area think when they move in here and can't get this well-loved show that is available everywhere else in the country."

"Thank goodness for a good friend and dedicated fan like Rose McCain," Carol added. "I'm thinking of nominating her for KVII's annual 'Seven Who Care' award next year, for people who go out of their way to help others."



RAFFLE WINNER Socorro Gonzales, right, receives her set of matching watches from Patti Widner of Prairie Acres. The raffle benefitted the Empty Stocking Fund and Friona's children.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Youngster Has Mature Approach To Scandal

Dear Editor:

I am 16 years old. Though I am not old enough to vote, I am writing this on behalf of my generation. The recent speech by the President and the reaction of our nation to it, gives me reason to write this letter in hope that those who read it will be challenged to look closely at the condition of our nation.

In the President's speech he admitted to having a relationship with Monica Lewinsky that was "improper" and "wrong." Then he said that it was time to move on.

Many people have said that the President's private affairs are his own business and people should not pry. Others have said that the President's private affairs do not affect the job he does. The President himself touched lightly upon the supposed injustice of prying into his personal life in his speech.

Hugo Grotius once said that a man cannot govern a nation if he cannot govern a city, he cannot govern a city if he cannot govern a family, he cannot govern a family unless he can govern himself, and he cannot govern himself unless his passions are subject to reason.

The President is accountable to the people. We must know whether he can control himself or not. If the President cannot control himself, he certainly is not capable of governing a nation. Yet we sit in our selfishness and refuse to look at the truth because it does not feel good. We look at the nation and see a booming economy. We look around and see prosperity and say, "Why should we mess this up?" And yes, Mr. Clinton has helped with all these things. But there are better things than financial security, and there are worse things than poverty. We give the control to a man who can make us feel good but cannot control himself.

I would like to call your

attention to a recent international affair where Pakistan and India were developing nuclear weapons. The President offered a deal to Pakistan saying that if they would stop developing nuclear weapons, the United States would protect them in the case of an attack. The Pakistani minister of foreign affairs said that he did not believe that the President (Clinton) would follow through on his promise. This was because he saw the character of our President and realized he could not be trusted. This endangered the lives of the citizens of Pakistan and India, more than 900 million people. Although war has not broken out, we must heed the warning: the character of the President affects the entire world.

The American people have chosen to become selfish, and my generation--your children--are growing up seeing the highest authority in America, a man who cannot control himself. Why should I put others first when the President himself will not even put his duty to his wife or his nation before his sexual desires? I'm asking you, the generation that holds the voting power, to think of your children and the future of the world. If we cannot trust our President to fulfill his marriage vows, can we trust him to do what he has promised us?

And if we cannot trust the man our parents elect, can we trust our parents? You owe it to the world, you owe it to God, and you owe it to your children to consider this.

Christopher Vincent

Editor's Note: The above letter by 16-year old Christopher Vincent appeared in the "Arkansas Democrat." It was sent to Bernie Gowens by his brother in Waco and Bernie thought it would be good to share this with the readers of the "Friona Star" and "Bovina Blade."

Parmer County S.W.C.D. Offers Windbreak Trees

Seedlings for conservation windbreaks are now available for order through Parmer County Soil and Water District (SWCD). Landowners in Parmer County are encouraged to purchase the one-year-old seedlings before preferred stock is sold out.

Windbreaks are trees and shrubs systematically planted adjacent to fields, homesteads or feedlots as a barrier to reduce or re-direct the wind. They create permanent natural protection and habitat for wildlife, reduce erosion and increase land value and aesthetics.

Wildlife packets for habitat establishment are available. Each of the four wildlife packets contain 100 bare-root trees and shrubs which cater specifically to the habitat needs of their labeled species.

*Quail/pheasant: Russian Olive, Aromatic Sumac, Nanking Cherry Plum

*Deer: Shumard Oak, Flameleaf Sumac Bur Oak and Fourwing Saltbush

*Turkey: Hackberry, Shumard Oak, Aromatic Sumac and Mulberry

*Squirrel: Little Walnut, Shumard Oak, Osage Orange and Bur Oak

Recommended planting of wildlife packets is in blocks on grassland at right angles on

dry corners, in "motts" along playas or parallel to irrigated crop land.

For example, on a dry corner five wildlife packets can be used to produce a four-row, right angle wildlife planting. The outside angle, the farthest from the circular cropland, would contain 1,250 feet (625 feet on each "leg") of plum trees; the second angle, Russian Olive; the third inside angle, Aromatic Sumac; and the fourth angle, that's closest to the circular crop ground, Nanking Cherry.

For best results 10-25 foot spacing between each deciduous tree within a tree row; 6 foot spacing between each shrub row; and 20 feet spacing between each row of trees.

Seedlings ordered this fall will be shipped or delivered to the Parmer County SWCD in the spring of 1999.

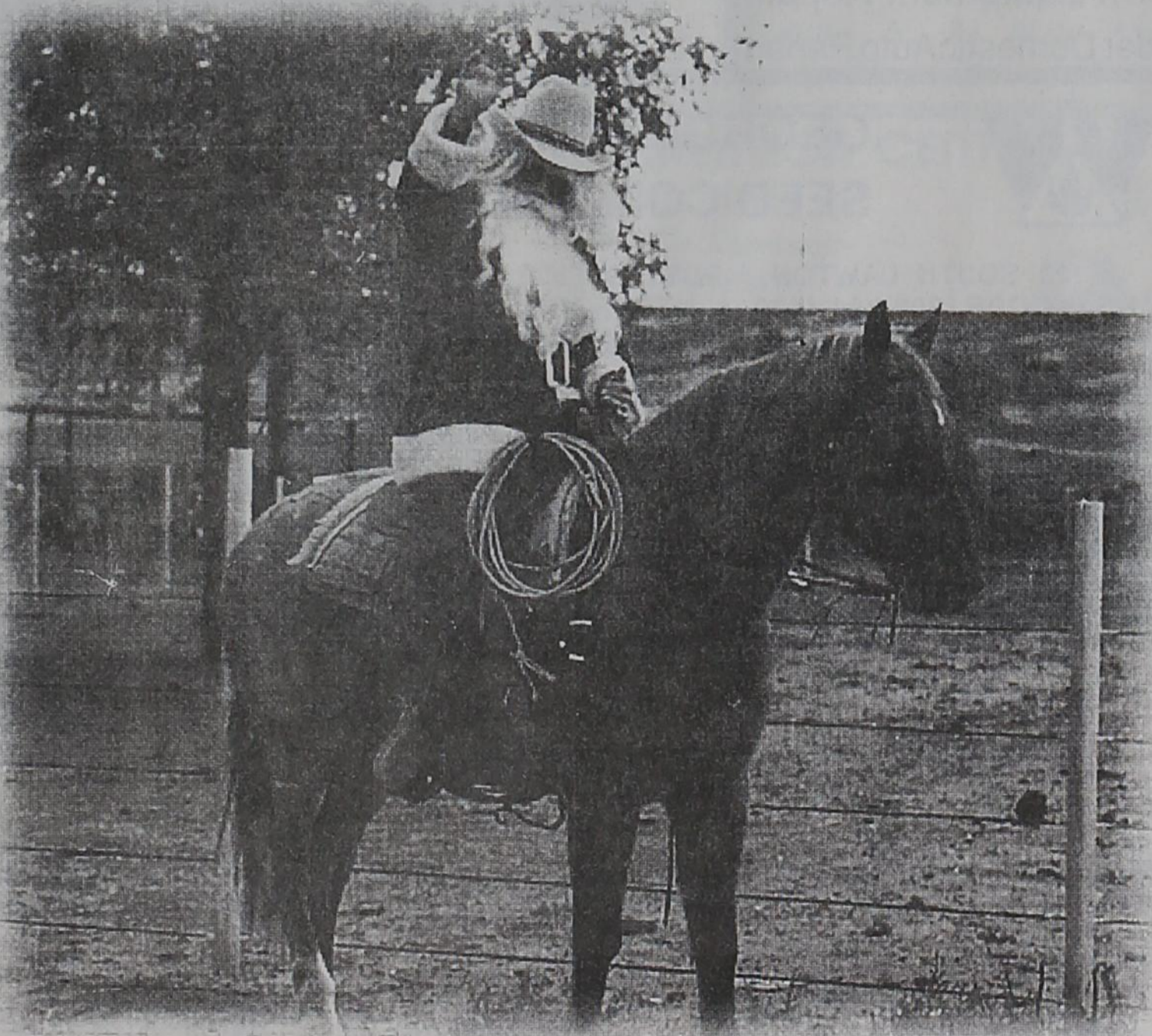
For best selection order your wildlife packets, evergreens and deciduous trees and shrubs for windbreak tree plantings today. For more information contact the Parmer County Soil and Water Conservation District, (806) 250-2220 or come by 1306 West Ninth Street in Friona.

Don't forget about our weed barrier and drip irrigation supplies. Deadline for ordering is March 1, 1999.

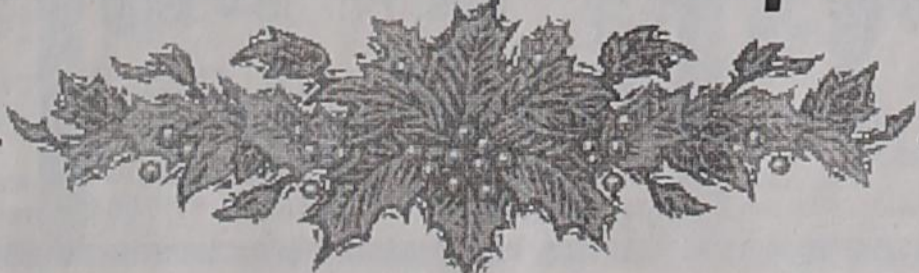
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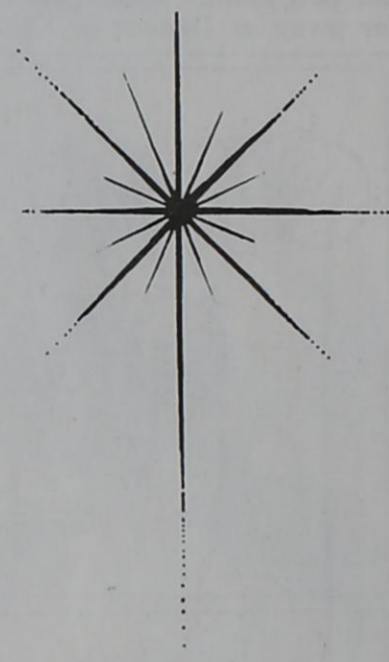
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BRAND NEW AMBULANCE...The City of Friona took possession of a new ambulance in December, complete with a Chieftain logo. Excel had contributed \$50,000 toward the purchase. Shown inspecting the new ambulance are, l-r, Excel general manager Scott Entz, city manager Paula Wilson, EMS director Dana Hendrix, Lori Clayton and Tom Randolph of Excel, EMS's Leland Harris, and Excel's Brad Churchill.

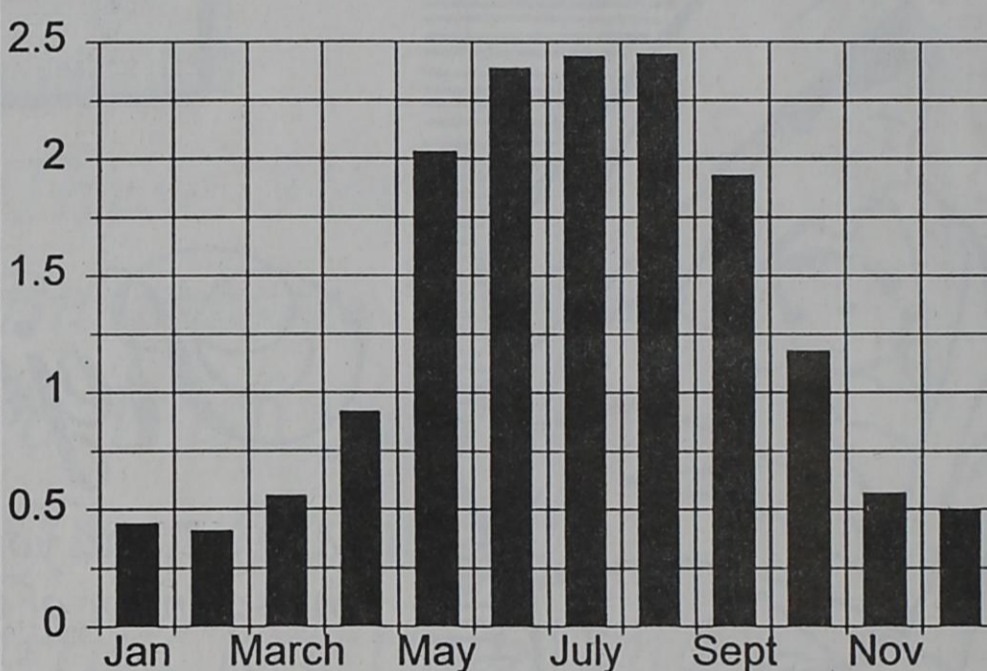


SOME HOLIDAY FUN...Prairie Acres board president Mike Hanes draws the lucky winner of two watches. Hanes' store, Bi Wize Drugs, donated the watches for the Empty Stocking Fund raffle to benefit Friona's children. With Hanes are, l-r, PA employees Rhonda Bentley, Dawn Widner, and Jennifer Baize.

Monthly Average Rainfall For Friona, Texas 1945 through 1997

(Courtesy U.S. Weather Bureau)

Monthly Average Rainfall



Greetings!

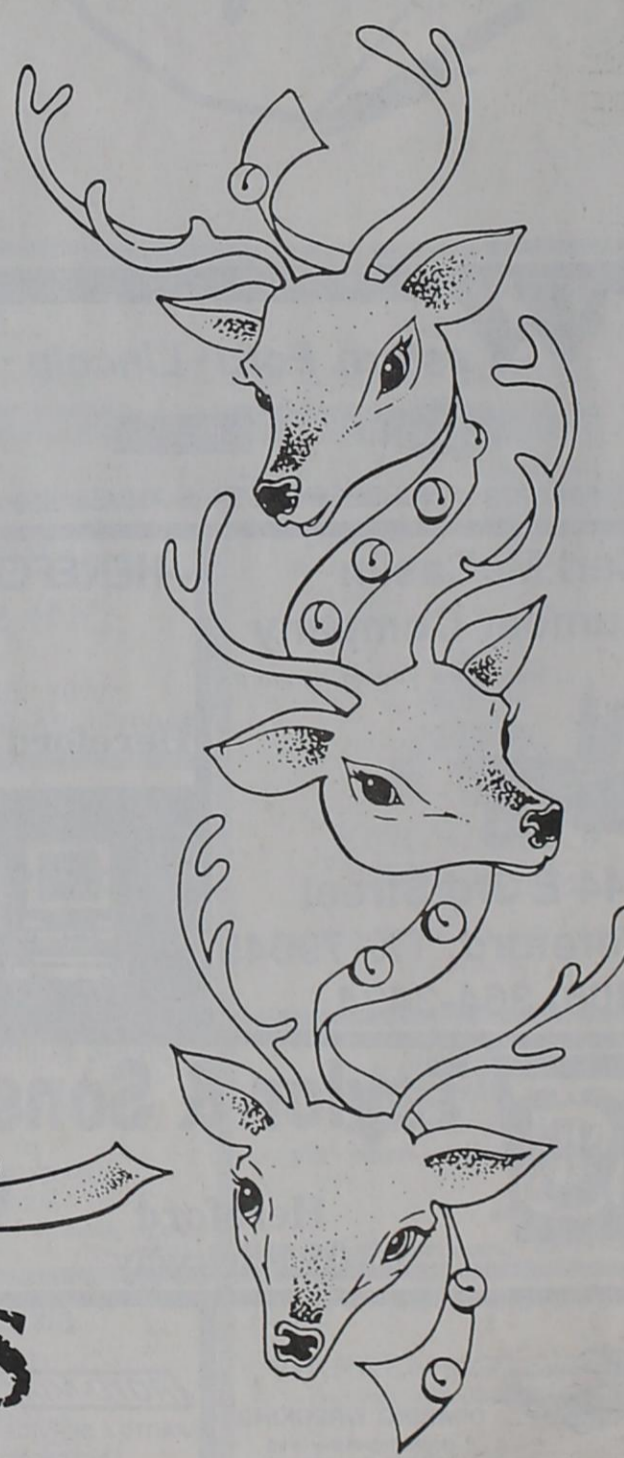
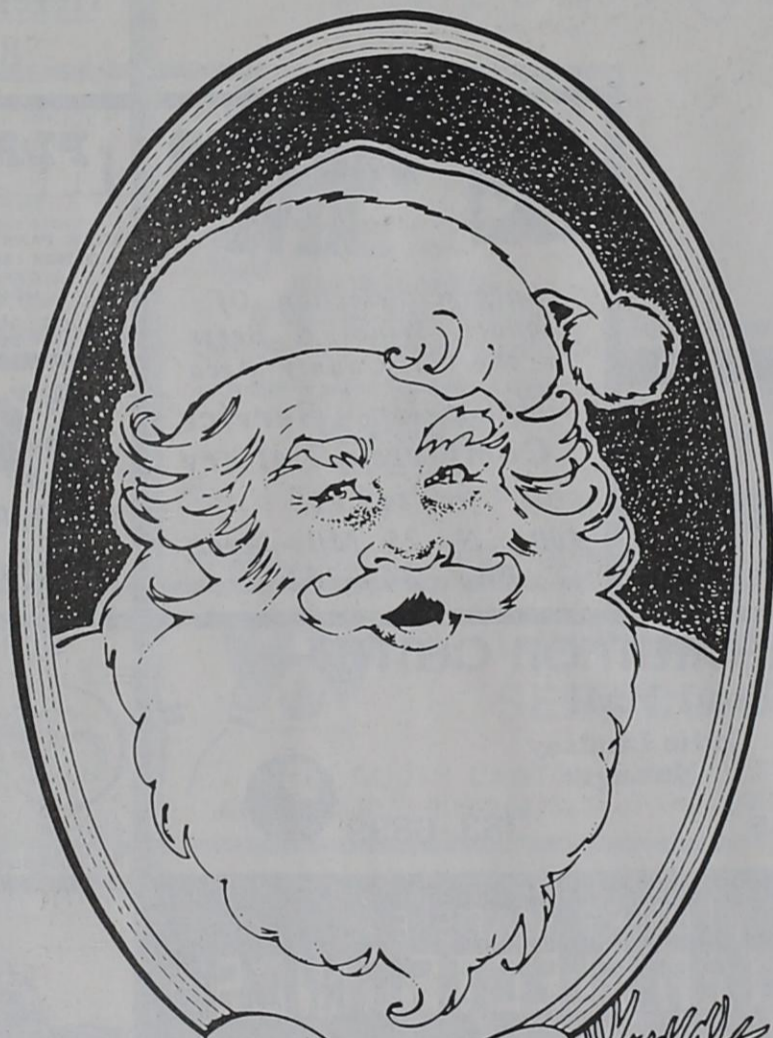
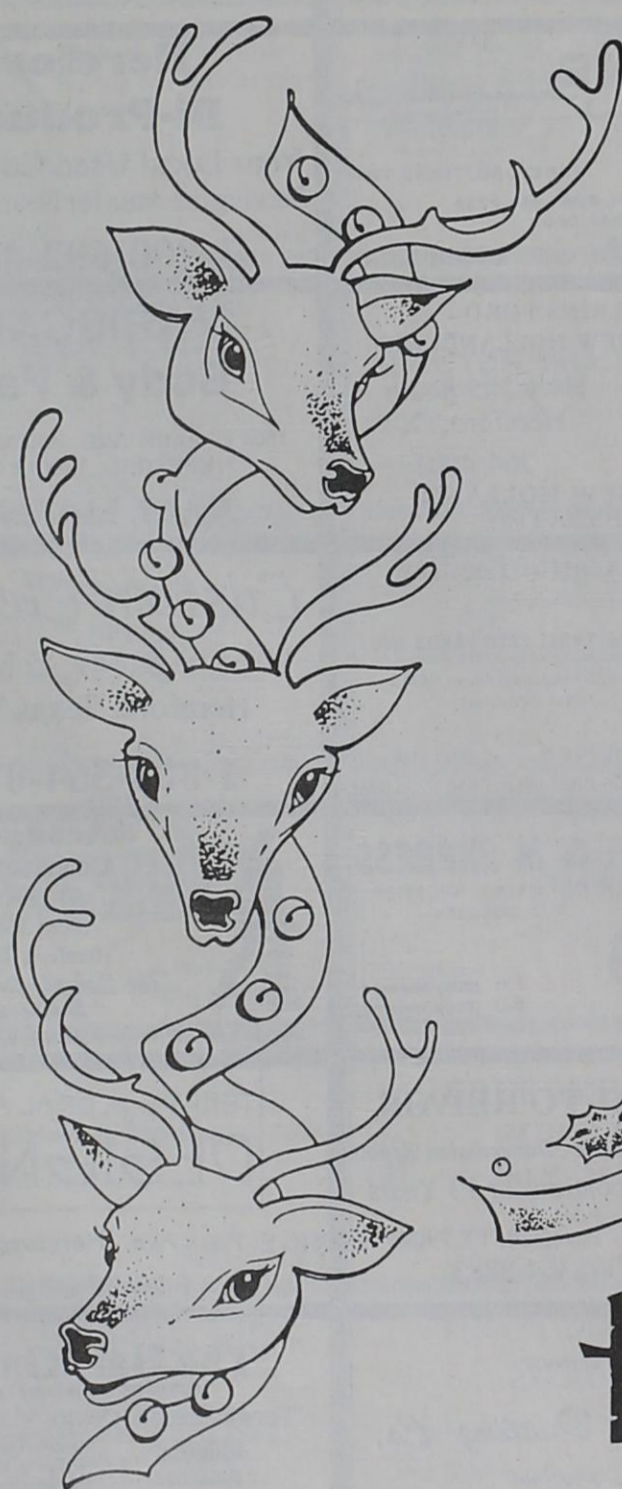
May the spirit of Christmas be always at your door.

just as you are always welcome at ours.

Happy holidays, everyone. We look forward to serving you again in the year to come.



PRAIRIE ACRES NURSING HOME



HOLIDAY GREETINGS

FROM THE WHOLE GANG!

Wishing you a season that's merry and bright, filled with laughter, love and much delight! It's been a privilege and pleasure serving you this past year. Thanks, friends!

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Holiday Celebrations Can Build Family Traditions

As the strains of "I'll be home for Christmas" play on the radio and the sounds of jingling bells echo through stores, the holiday season brings memories of times past and special symbols that represent family, friends and fun.

At the same time, the holiday season can mean stress, anger and depression, but building a sense of celebration, sharing and ritual to families can make such hectic days seem bright.

Dr. Gladys Hildreth, associate professor of family sciences at Texas Woman's University, says that the holiday season can be one of joy, giving and love-if family members, parents, children, relatives and friends take time to appreciate one another in the spirit of giving.

"The holiday celebration has a special meaning for children, and it helps to build positive family memories and cohesiveness among members. The season gives people an opportunity to renew and keep the bonds between family members--to create an environment of unity."

Often families have their own favorite rituals--special meals, gift exchanges, stockings and other symbols of the season--and today they should learn to blend traditions when couples marry or children leave home.

"We should learn to enjoy differences, maintain a family's system of values and adopt an attitude of 'the more the merrier,'" says Hildreth. "Be open-minded, too, and experience others' celebrations and cultures."

The holiday season also is a time when many people return home to their families, she adds. "Folks like to go home for Christmas--they get re-charged to go back into the world of work. Going home and remembering special times is the 'glue' that holds families together and encourages us to go back and work for another year," Hildreth explains.

For those who can't go

home, she suggests calling, writing and sending gifts (early!). "Create some contact and send some pictures, particularly if there's a milestone in your life--such as a new baby, graduation or a wedding," she adds.

"But whatever you do and however you choose to observe the holiday season, don't lose sight of its meaning and don't get caught up in other people's expectations," says Hildreth.

Listed below are some rituals that families might want to blend with their traditions, plus some other advice for the holidays:

- Put up the tree together and think about baking cookies with your children--even "grown-ups" can do that. (Hildreth's siblings, for example, have a Sisters' Day and a Brothers' Day during the holidays--a time when mothers visit daughters and fathers spend time with their sons. "My family has done this for as long as I can recall, and my mother and her sisters did it, too," she recalls.)

- Celebrate gift giving, but remember that handmade gifts are especially appreciated, and people often prefer to have you and your time rather than a gift. For those persons who have large families and who budget their funds, draw names.

- Remember that giving is better than receiving--and teach family members through activities that this old adage is true. "Find ways to give gifts, money or time to people who are in need or who are less fortunate than you," says Hildreth. "While you may want to emphasize visiting hospitals, children's homes, the elderly and others in the community during the holidays, you should do so with the hope that family members will continue to do these things throughout the year."

- Sharing food preparation with family members and enjoying meals together--at the same table, at the same time. Hildreth's family goes

one step further, setting out place cards and seating older and young generations together.

- Other holiday rituals can include preparing special dishes using favorite family recipes, decorating with poinsettias, choosing between real and artificial trees, collecting ornaments for each year that represent special times and even shopping (again!) the day after Christmas for bargains.

Through it all, Hildreth reminds everyone: "Set your own expectations, rituals and celebrations for you and your family. Establish your family's own direction and goals so that you are not driven by others' holiday expectations. Finally, don't lose sight of the meaning of the holidays--enjoy one another, share your time and celebrate!"

CCC Offers New Course

A new psychology class is being offered for the spring semester at Clovis Community College. Instructor Mike Brennan will be teaching Group Dynamics (PSY 211). This class is being offered on Wednesday nights from 6:45 to 9:15 p.m. at CCC.

Group Dynamics is a particularly interesting topic because groups tend to have a strong influence in the personal and professional development of most people throughout their lives. Classic and current theories of how small groups work will be presented in the class.

Students will also learn communication skills that emphasize how to work in groups. It is important to understand the complexity and challenges of working in a group, since groups are quickly becoming the American way of doing business.

For more information about this class, please contact Chris Walters at (505)769-4923.



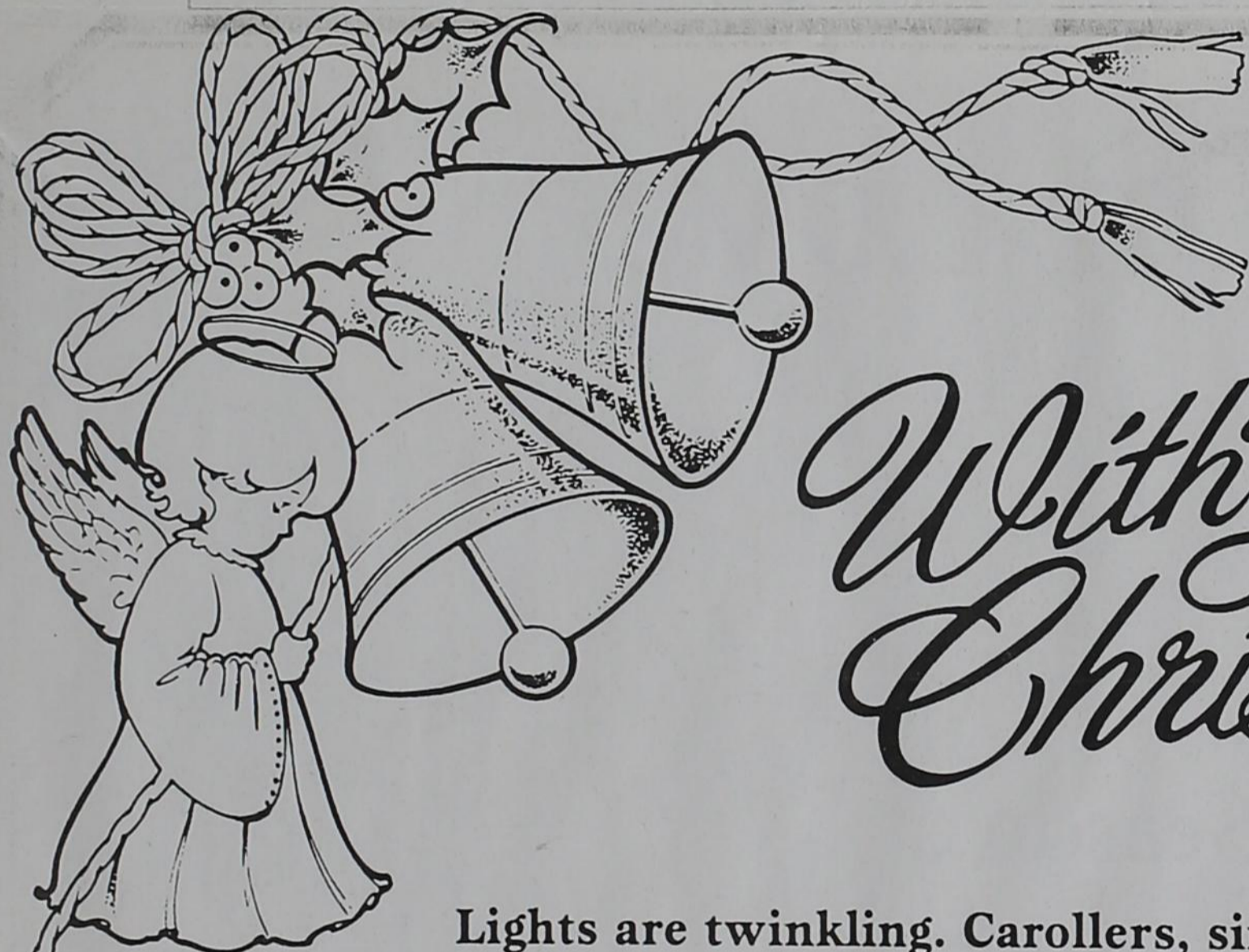
NOEL! NOEL!

We're Singing His Praises ... (And Yours, Too!) Merry Christmas!

We thank you very much for the opportunity to serve you this past year!

From the Board of Directors and Employees of:

PARMER COUNTY COMMUNITY HOSPITAL



With You in Mind
at
Christmastime

Lights are twinkling. Carollers, singing. Trees all aglow. And lots of snow!

Signs of Christmas are everywhere, bringing to mind all the good people we've had the privilege to serve this past year, and so we offer our warm wishes to all the familiar faces who make the holiday season so special for us.

Happy Holidays from all of us.

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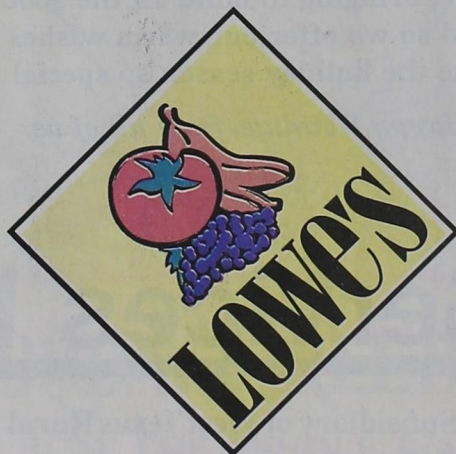


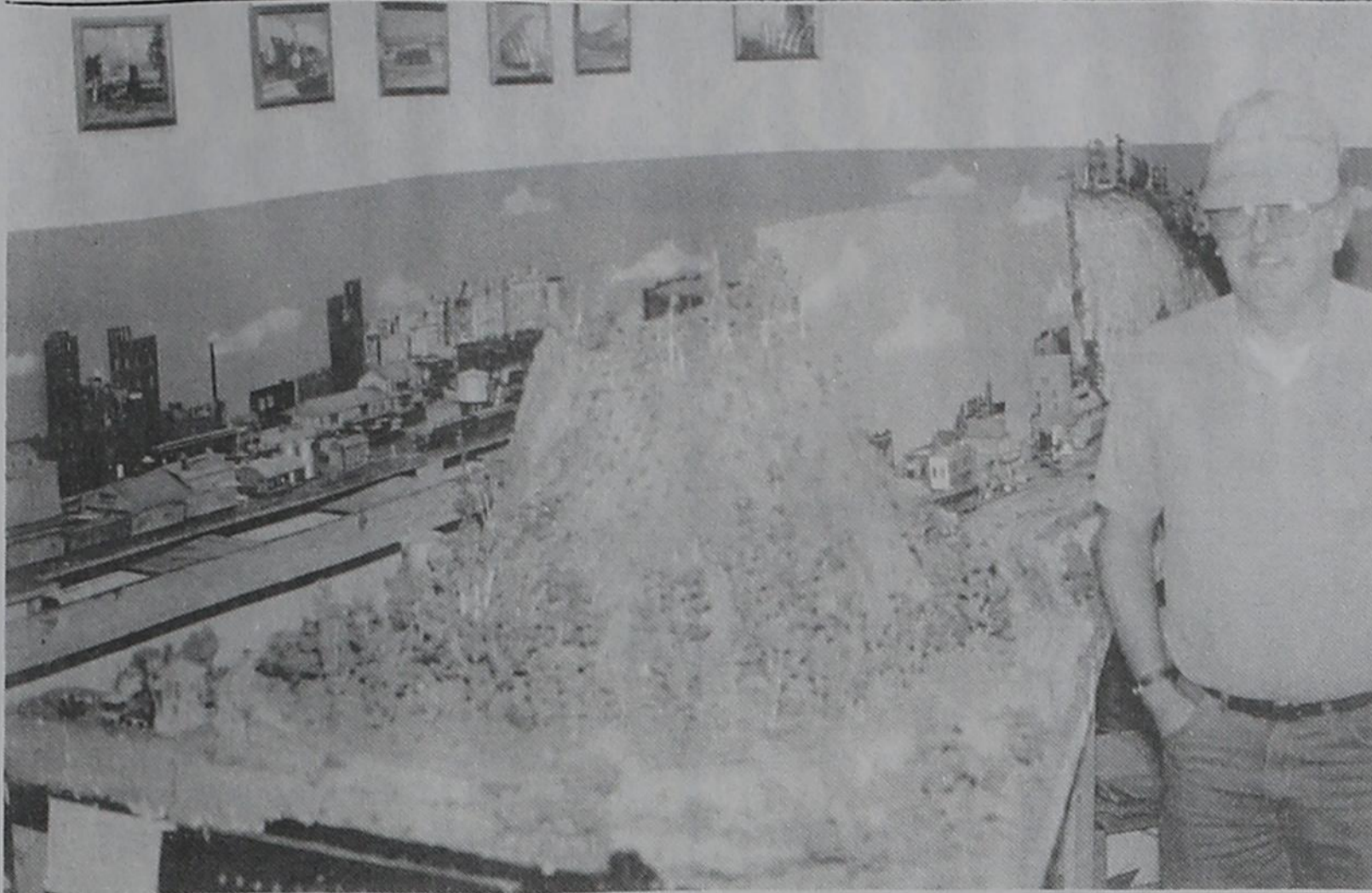


Load Up On Love



This Holiday Season at





YERGER MOUNTAIN dominates the landscape in the miniature village of Yergerville.



THE YERGER MANTEL is home to a growing collection of teddy bear Christmas stockings.

FAVORITE PASTTIME

photos by ron carr

Trains Are On Time & Folks Are Friendly In Yergerville

BY RON CARR

Every day he plays cops and robbers, then goes downstairs to play with his model trains.

Christmas stockings with bears on them line the fireplace mantel at his house, awaiting the arrival of Santa Claus.

Sounds like a normal way for a boy to spend his time during the Christmas season. It also could describe a routine day for Parmer County Sheriff Walt Yerger.

"We bought the house because of the basement," Yerger says. "It was the ideal place for my trains."

Yerger, who came to Friona almost two years ago as a captain with the Friona police department, ran unopposed in November for the Sheriff's job. He was appointed Sheriff last April to fill the unexpired term when former Sheriff Rex Williams resigned.

During his tenure as Sheriff, the department and its four deputies have taken on a new look and a more aggressive law enforcement effort throughout Parmer County.

With money gained from property seized in drug busts, the county now has a crime scene unit and two new sheriff's cars. All vehicles are now standard white with department markings and the deputies are wearing new, standard uniforms.

There is another plus for Sheriff Yerger in the county too. Lots of trains run through here everyday.

"My dad gave me an American Flyer train set on my 7th birthday and I have been hooked ever since," he said as he headed to the basement and his miniature train world.

The comfortable, cluttered basement room houses wall to wall miniature buildings, mountains, trees, people, animals, and train cars, all built by Yerger and assorted helpers.

One wall has floor to

ceiling bookshelves packed with various railroad manuals related books and magazines. Many framed pictures of old locomotives adorn the walls.

Needless to say, Yerger works in his train-land basement wearing, not a Sheriff's hat, but a train engineer's cap.

There is a telephone down there too. The ring of the phone is a locomotive whistle, the phone is shaped like an engine, and I think it even blows smoke when someone calls.

On another wall, ribbons from various train shows are proudly displayed. He is proudest of a set of ribbons from the 1997 Tri-State Train Show in Amarillo, where he swept first, second, and third place in the steam engines-maintenance of way category.

The only non-train related items in the basement were several models of and books on military airplanes from World War II to the Korean War.

Yerger is quick to point out that all his trains, engines and cars, are built from scratch by him. They are either kit built, or built from raw materials and a set of plans. "You can buy ready made models," he said, "but I had rather make my own. It's part of the enjoyment for me."

Yerger estimated he has nine steam locomotives, six diesel locomotives, about 175 different train cars, and at least 100 feet of track.

There are 40-50 buildings that make up the scenery, along with some 250 hand painted "little people" figures with more being made all the time. There is a lot of room for more residents here at "Yergerville."

He made all of this too. One train station is modeled after a train station in Pennsylvania where he lived as a boy.

The scenery, mountains, trees, grass, and sky, are made mostly from plaster of

paris which he shapes and carves while it is still wet. Colored and crushed styro-foam was used for for trees and shrubs, all of which he made by hand too.

He says he tried to figure out what to make the dirt out of, then in a flash of brilliance he had an idea. He uses real dirt.

There are several control panels around the display for maneuvering the trains through mountains and tunnels. He says he enjoys having other train nuts over for a round of competition as they each take a control panel and try to keep from having a major train wreck.

Walt Yerger has spent 30 years in law enforcement, beginning with 18 years with the Amarillo police. He also accumulated two years as director of security for Sears-Roebuck, four years as police chief for Amarillo College, and one and one-half years as a sheriff's deputy in Hemphill County.

Prior to coming to Friona, he spent three years at Caprock High School teaching the law enforcement program.

"After having 42 high school kids in class five times a day, it was nice to be able to relax and play with my trains," he said.

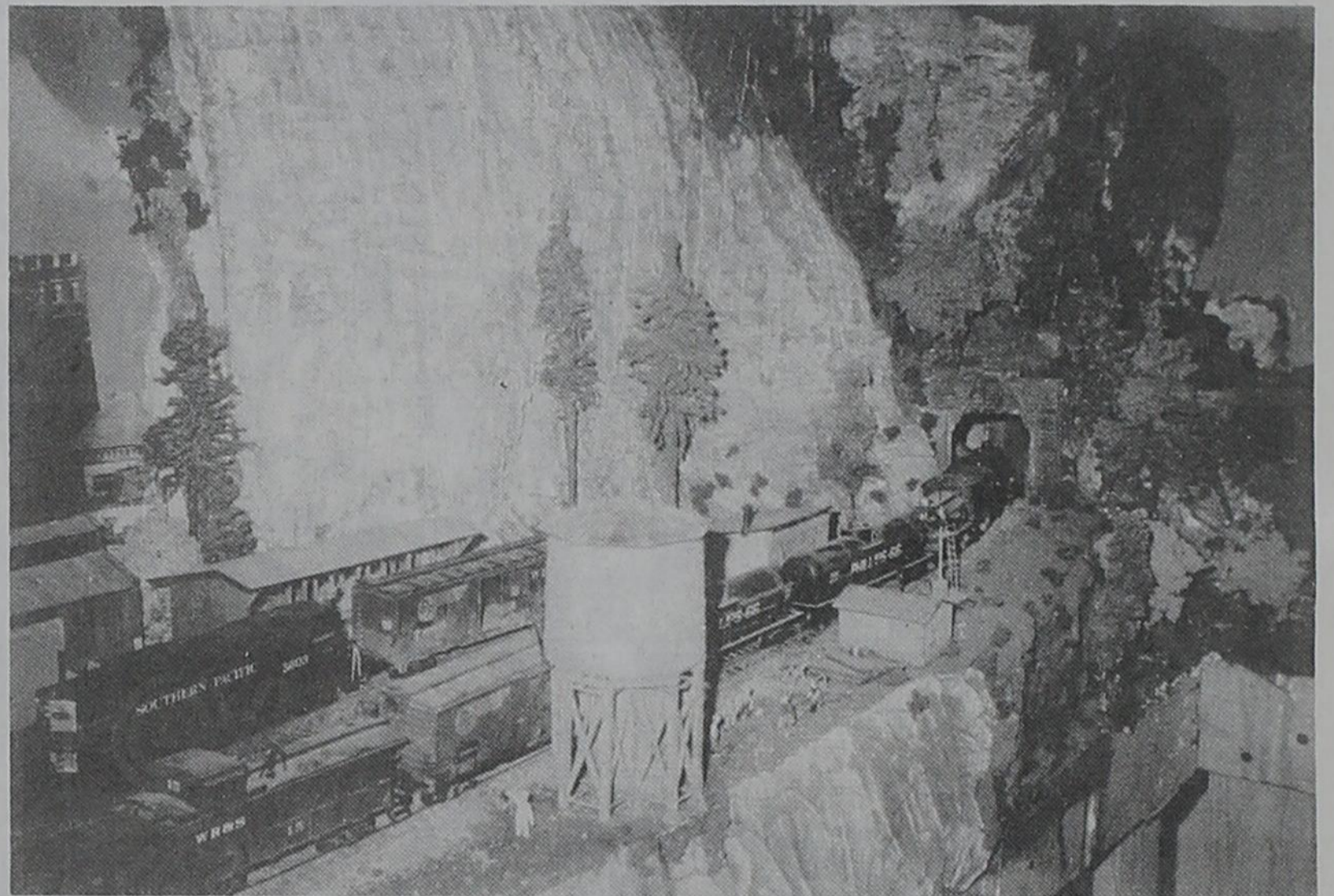
Yerger's oldest son, who lives in Amarillo, inherited an interest in trains and is adding to his own collection. His young grandson loves to visit, he says.

They spend a lot of time downstairs in Yergerville and chances are the tradition will continue.

As we left we couldn't resist a picture of the train engineer alongside a mantel full of bear stockings, another collectible at the Yerger household.

His wife Evelyn was finishing a huge afghan and no doubt has begun another by now. It is a good time of year at the Yerger house.

A good time to play cops and robbers and fire up the trains down in Yergerville.



ONE OF THE MANY trains in Walt Yerger's collection enters a tunnel in the man-made mountains in Yergerville.

SEASON'S GREETINGS

May the magic and mirth of the holidays bring many happy surprises!

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A CHRISTMAS WISH

Here's hoping our many friends enjoy a season filled with bundles of magic and love.

Thank you for being so nice to us!

Season's Greetings from Glen Morton, Wanda Reeve, Mitchell Smiley

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Warm Greetings

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FRIONA/BOVINA DEVOTIONAL PAGE

445 *Facts About The* **BIBLE** BY JOHN LEHTI

This is a dramatized version of facts taken from the book of I Samuel intending to show some of the customs of these ancient and traditional times

DAVID AND SAUL

SAUL, OUT WITH HIS TROOPS IN THE WILDERNESS TO FIND AND KILL DAVID, HAS SET UP A CAMP FROM WHICH HE WILL CARRY OUT HIS SEARCH, NOW....

...WITH THE CAMP ESTABLISHED SAUL AND HIS TROOPS PREPARE TO REST FOR THE NIGHT....

GUARD OUR KING WITH YOUR LIVES THIS NIGHT!

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WE MUST REPORT THIS TO DAVID AT ONCE!

BEHOLD, SAUL AND HIS TROOPS LIE SLEEPING ON THE SLOPES OF THE HILL HACHILAH!

AM I NOT ABISHAI, SON OF THINE OWN SISTER? I WILL GO WITH THEE, DAVID!

WHO NOW WILL GO WITH ME TO SAUL'S CAMP THIS NIGHT?

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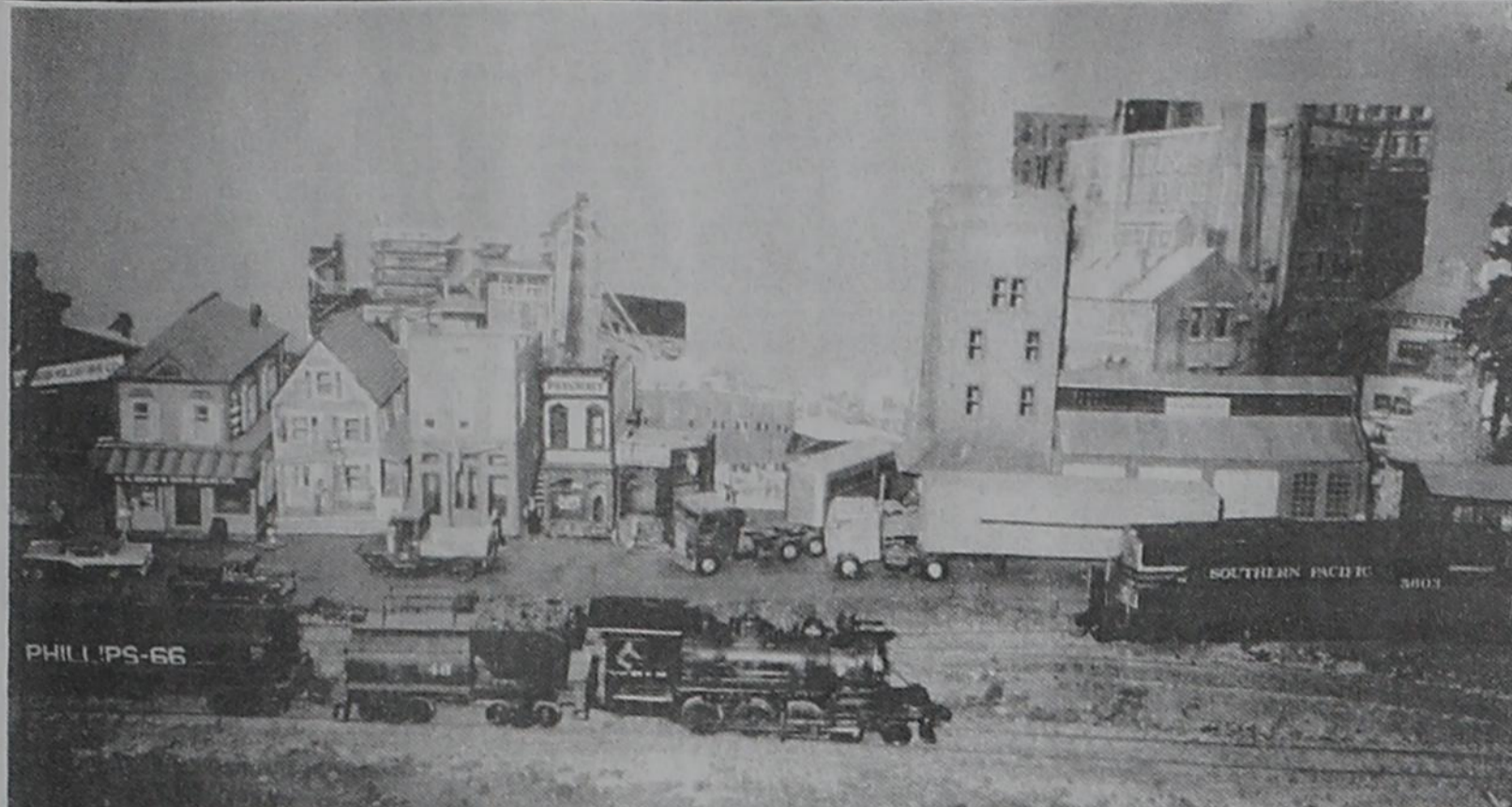
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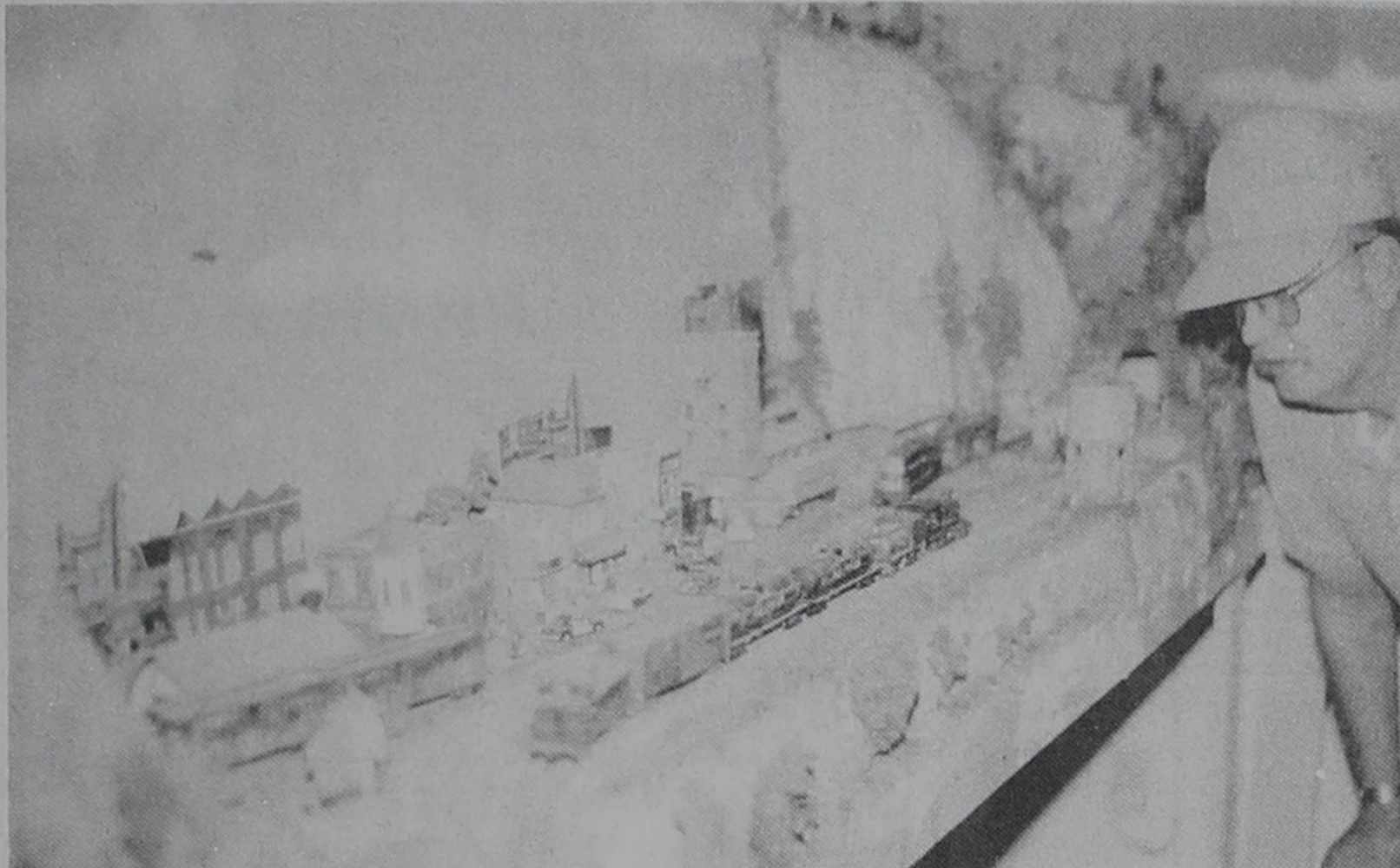


West Texas Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc.

Phone 364-3331
Hereford, Texas 79045



SOME OF THE buildings and trucks that are a part of the landscape as a miniature train passes by.



WALT YERGER observes his creations in motion as one of his many trains chugs past.

SPS Offering Carbon Monoxide Detectors

Human senses cannot detect the colorless and invisible, odorless and tasteless gas, carbon monoxide--the leading cause of accidental death by poisoning in the United States.

Only special devices, carbon monoxide detectors, can warn people that "The Silent Killer" is about--and is about to kill.

Deadly build-up of carbon monoxide gas concentrations in homes and businesses is especially common during cold weather. So, this month Southwestern Public Service Company is reminding homeowners and renters to protect themselves from the dangers of deadly carbon monoxide, and--for the first time--is selling carbon monoxide detectors.

"Nothing is more important to our customers than their families' safety," said SPS carbon monoxide products specialist Tommy Bonner. "So SPS surveyed the marketplace for the most accurate and reliable residential carbon monoxide detector available. We chose an electro-chemical sensing device that instantly detects the presence of carbon monoxide. It both sounds an audible alarm and flashes a lighted warning. It meets the strict new standards for performance set by the American Gas Association, the IAS 6-96 safety standard.

And it sells for under \$60. We believe it will be one of the best gifts anyone can give a family."

Bonner said the product SPS offers is not available in stores, but noted other products are. Because of the widely varying quality of carbon monoxide detectors, he cautioned customers, "Make absolutely sure any detector you purchase meets the tough new IAS 6-96 safety standard for home CO detectors set by the American Gas Association. Just look for the IAS 6-96 blue star of approval."

Carbon monoxide is generated by incomplete combustion of fuels such as natural gas, wood, kerosene, gasoline and coal. Potential sources of CO in a home include poorly maintained or poorly vented gas-fueled appliances and heaters, fireplaces, blocked chimneys, grills used indoors and automobile exhaust captured in attached garages.

SPS strongly recommends having gas furnaces and other appliances, and vents, checked annually by qualified contractors.

The Journal of the American Medical Association reports that carbon monoxide poisoning is responsible for approximately 1,500 deaths in the United States each year.

Exposure to the poison often is difficult to detect because symptoms of CO

poisoning resemble symptoms of the common flu--nausea, headaches, dizziness and fatigue. High concentrations of CO in the bloodstream result in loss of consciousness, brain damage and death.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission and other safety professionals recommend carbon monoxide detectors be placed in a home's hallway near bedrooms, and on each floor of a multi-story home.

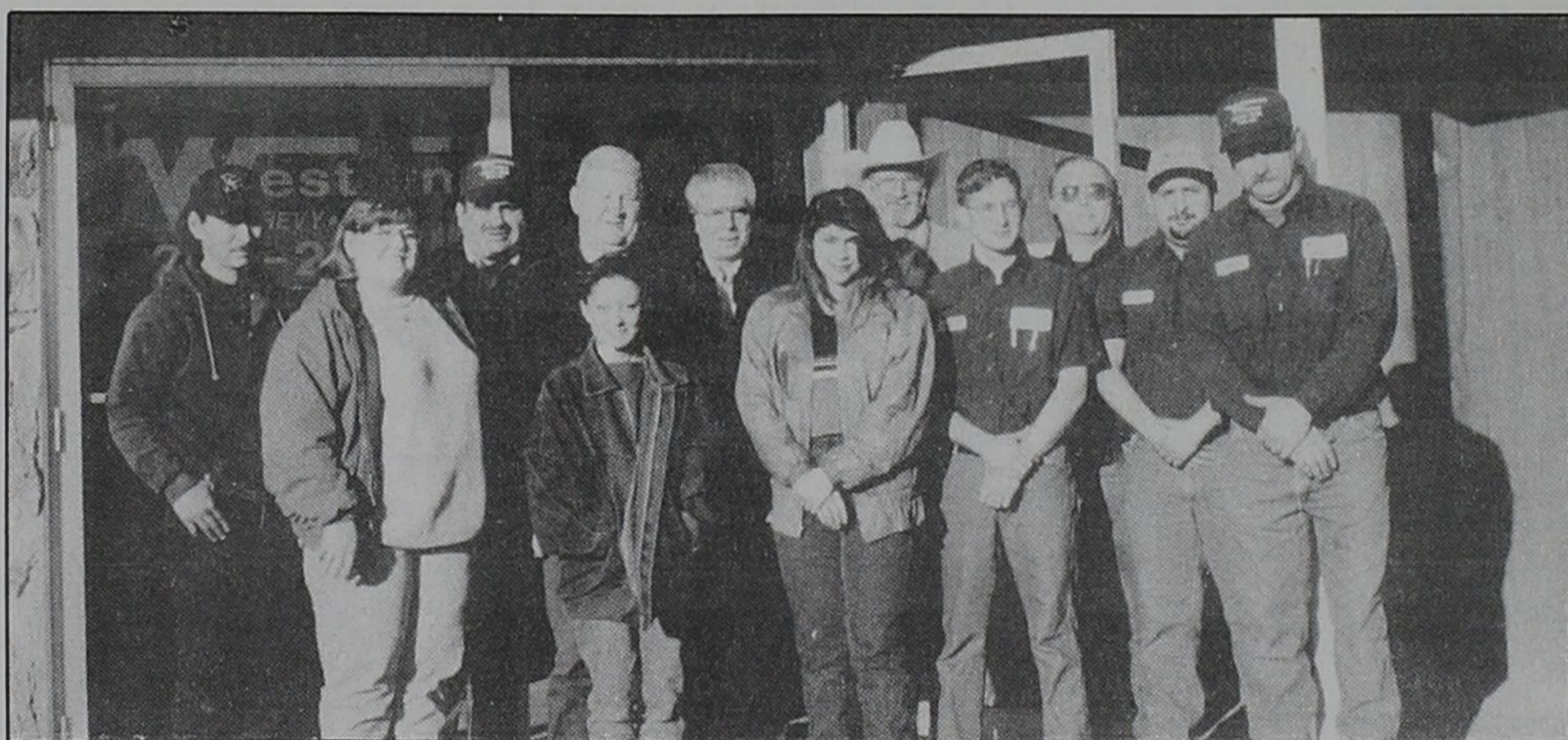
Information about the SPS-offered AIM Safe Air CO Alarm is available with this month's electric bill from SPS, or by calling 1-800-220-0121. Person's who are not direct SPS customers also may order the device, Bonner said.

"We want everyone to realize, there will not be a better time than now to provide this protection to yourself, your family and relatives," he said. "It's not important were you live or who provides you electric service. These detectors can be shipped anywhere. What is important is reliable protection against the poison, carbon monoxide."

Southwestern Public Service Company, a New Century Energies company, is a regional electric utility providing energy and energy services to about one million people in eastern New Mexico, the South Plains and Panhandle of Texas, the Oklahoma Panhandle and southwestern Kansas.

Western

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays from the employees at Western Chevrolet-Olds.



From left, Michael Aragon, Mauri Sanders, Leon Sandoval, Jerry Ripley, Sandra Mendoza, Dewayne Alexander, Marissa Trujillo, Jack Bryant, Robert Bridges, Mitch Terry, Antonio Rocha, and Daniel Mullins.

During the holiday break, come in and check out our Year-End Clearance Sale values.

30100P '98 Pont. GrandAM	35353 '98 Ford Ranger S/C	35034P '97 Geo Tracker 4X4	35337P '96 Ford Explorer Sport
30099P '98 Pont. Grand AM	30724P '98 Mercury Mystique GS	30082P '97 Chev. Cavalier	35341P '96 Ford Explorer 4X4
30098P '98 Olds Achieva	30720P '98 Ford Taurus	35033P '97 Geo Tracker	30577P '96 Ford Taurus
30097P '98 Olds Achieva	35352P '98 Ford Explorer 4X4	35004P '97 GMC Jimmy SLT 4X4	30703 '96 Mercury Sable
30096P '98 Olds Achieva	30721P '98 Mercury Sable	30015P '97 Chev. Cavalier Conv.	35332 '96 Ford Explorer
35036 '98 Chev. Tahoe	35347P '98 Ford Ranger	30053P '97 Buick LeSabre	30702 '96 Lincoln Continental
35041P '98 Chev. Astro Van	35348P '98 Ford Explorer	30074P '97 Chev. Cavalier	21333 '96 Ford Contour
35040P '98 Chev. S-10 Pickup	35349P '98 Ford Ranger 4X4	21635 '97 Chev. S10 Blazer	20106 '95 GMC Yukon 4-Door
35039P '98 Chev. Venture Van	30712P '98 Lincoln Town Car	21634 '97 Chev. Extended Cab	30076P '95 Geo Prizm
35042P '98 Chev. Astro Van	30714P '98 Ford Taurus	21629 '97 Ford F150	21614 '95 Lincoln Town Car
30089P '98 Chev. Cavalier	30715P '98 Ford Taurus	21631 '97 Ford Contour	21604 '95 Chev. 3/4 Ext. Cab
30093P '98 Pont. Grand AM	30716P '98 Ford Taurus	21627 '97 Ford F150 S/C	21605 '95 Mercury Mystique
35038P '98 Chev. Astro Van	30675P '98 Lincoln Mark VIII	35350P '97 Ford Expedition	21606 '95 Ford Explorer
30060P '98 Olds Aurora	35339P '98 Ford Ranger XLT	21576 '97 Ford F150	21584 '95 Mercury Grand Marque
35016P '98 Chev. 1500 Pickup	35340P '98 Ford Ranger XLT	30591P '97 Ford Taurus sho	21563 '95 Buick Riviera
30075P '98 Chev. Lumina 4-Door	30663P '98 Ford Escort	35317P '97 Ford F150	30586P '95 Mercury Cougar
30078P '98 Chev. Lumina 4-Door	30698P '98 Ford Taurus	30645P '97 Grand Marquis	21474 '95 Lincoln Town Car
30081P '98 Chev. Cavalier	30701P '98 Lincoln Continental	30684P '97 Ford Taurus GL	21277 '95 Ford Windstar
30079P '98 Chev. Malibu 4-Door	35309P '98 Ford Windstar GL	35237P '97 Ford Windstar	21163 '94 Mercury Villager
35024P '98 Chev. S10 Blazer	35272P '98 Ford Winstar	20107 '96 Mercury Cougar	21234 '94 Mercury Quest
30057P '98 Olds Eighty-Eight	20071 '97 Chev. Astro Van	20077 '96 Chev. Astro Van	20099 '94 Plymouth Voyager
30067P '98 Chev. Malibu	30070P '97 Chev. Cavalier	30092P '96 Chev. Camaro coupe	20087 '93 Olds Bravada
35023P '98 Chev. S10 Blazer	30059P '97 Buick Park Avenue	30071P '96 Buick Park Avenue	21615 '93 Chev. Caprice
35354 '98 Chev. S10 Blazer	35035P '97 Geo Tracker 4X4	35345P '96 Ford Explorer	20102 '92 Chev. Extended Cab

SE HABLA ESPANOL! *\$2,000 down & TTL - Less down will change payment

CHEVROLET-OLDS

(806) 247-2701

Grand Ave. at Hwy. 60, FRIONA



The Greatest Gift Of All

In the hustle and bustle of the holidays, let us remember the true meaning of Christmas, and the gift of His love. May you and yours be blessed with the peace and goodwill of the season. Thank you for the gift of your patronage.

Ellis-Blackwell Funeral Home

John & Jo Blackwell & Family
815 Main St. • 247-2729

All We Want For Christmas

Is To Thank Our Many Wonderful Friends!

The list may be long, but so is our gratitude for the great bunch of folk we've had the pleasure to know this past year.

To all of you go our very best wishes for a season that delivers everything you've ever wanted.



JOHN TANNAHILL

Tannahill Auction Service
Commissioner, Pct. 1

READ & USE

CLASSIFIED ADS

PHONE 250-2211

Reader Ads--First insertion, per word.....25 cents
 Additional insertions (no copy change, per word).....20 cents
 Minimum charge.....\$2.50

Classified display (boxed ads--10 pt. type under a specific heading, 1 column width only--no art or cuts. Per column inch.....\$3.50

Card of Thanks--same as classified word rate, 25 cents per word, minimum charge.....\$2.50

DEADLINE for classified advertising in Saturday's issue--Wednesday noon.

Check advertisement and report any error immediately. The Star is not responsible for error after ad has already run once.

All classified ads are CASH in ADVANCE. Only legal notices or continuous running ads will be billed. All other ads must be paid in full before they will be published.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Friona Masonic Lodge No. 1332
Stated Meeting-1st Tues.
 8 P.M., 7th & Ashland
 James W. Dixon, W.M.
 Larry J. Knowles, Sec.

THE CHILD ABUSE HOT LINE PHONE NUMBER IS 1-800-252-5400.
 Remember that our children today are our future tomorrow.
 F&B-tfnc

First Texas Federal Land Bank Association-Muleshoe
 316 Main St., Muleshoe (806) 272-3010
Long Term Financing for Farms, Ranches, Rural Housing, Operating and Improvements. Both Variable and Fixed Rate are Available.
 Call for quotes. Property Rights Advocate and Equal Opportunity Lender.

Carousel Day Care
 will soon be open and is now accepting applications for both enrollment and employment.

For information call Keeley, 250-5462 or 250-5631.
 F-4tp-12/4-12/11-12/18-12/25

Alcoholics Anonymous meetings every Saturday and Monday, 8 p.m. at Union Congregational Church on North Euclid St. in Friona. tfnc

WATKINS DEALERSHIP
 at 1006 Prospect, Friona
 Phone 247-3428
 Lela Mae George

ATTENTION; KIRBY SALES & SERVICE
 207 W. 7th Clovis, N.M.
 *We Service What We Sell
 *New Generation Self-Propelled Vacuum
 Call for **JOE ENNIS**
 (505) 762-4991
 Next to Sonic Drive-In, Corner 7th & Mitchell

For All Your Construction Needs--
 Call Terry Copley at 265-3427
 (just leave a message and I'll get back with you as soon as possible)
 I can build you a new:
 *Storage building *Covered patio
 *Carport *Barn
 *Concrete Patio or Driveway
 If you need a metal, pitched roof on your flat-top building or old barn, just call.

AUTOMOTIVE
 1988 Chevy Cavalier 4 door. Has AC and automatic transmission. Very well maintained. Has new tires and battery. Asking \$2500 or best offer. See at 701 Summit or call 250-3248.
 F-2tp-12/18-12/25

STEVENS
 Chevrolet*Olds
 Buick*Pontiac*GMC
Hereford 1-800-299-CHEV
 Our everyday prices are better than their sale prices!
FOR RENT

NOW LEASING
 Cottonwood Townhomes 13th & Walnut In Friona 1, 2 and 3 Bedrooms
NEW SPECIAL--- 1/2 OFF first month's rent
 *New Carpet *New Air Units *New Appliances
 For More Information: 250-5288

FOR SALE
FOR SALE....Nordic Trak, excellent condition, \$400.00. Call 238-1565.
 B-2tc-12/11-12/18-12/25

FOR SALE....Cardio Glide exercise equipment, \$100. Just like new. Call (806) 247-3409 after 5 p.m. dhh

HELP WANTED
 Mechanic needed at Friona Feed Yard. Must be able to do repair on gas and diesel trucks. Call (806) 265-3574. F-tfnc-12/25

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
Immediate Opening!!
 Qualified applicants must have:
Experience meeting clients, excellent telephone personality, knowledge of computers and MS/WORD. Knowledge of accounting, payroll preparation, file maintenance and delivery is a PLUS!
Salary commensurate with experience.

Send resumes to:
P.O. Box 673-KD Hereford, Texas

SERVICES
 Call your local used cow dealer for 7 days a week dead stock removal. Serving the cattlemen for the past twenty years. Call 247-2563 or 1-800-692-4043. 41-tfnc

*NEW LISTING-Super location 3/2/1 w/cellar & storage.....\$66,000
 *NEW LISTING-Secured warehouse w/dock on 4 lots.....\$18,000
 *NEW LISTING-3BR country home....CONTRACT PENDING
 *NEW LISTING-recently remodeled 3/2/2 near FHS.....\$65,000
 *NEW LISTING-2BR, 1bath stucco, corner lot.....\$18,000
 *CHEAPER THAN RENT, 1BR/1BA, near elementary....\$16,000
 *CORNER LOT, 2BR, 1bath w/loft.....\$22,900
 *GOOD INVESTMENT PROPERTY, has renter.....\$20,250
 *AFFORDABLE, 2 BEDROOM, 1 bath stucco.....\$20,750
 *TWO-STORY, 3 bedroom, 1 bath, needs some work.....\$23,450
 *FIRST TIME HOME BUYERS must see this darling 2 BR.....\$24,500
 *STUCCO HOME, close to FHS, 2BR, 1 bath.....\$27,200
 *LARGE 2 bedroom, 2 bath brick w/cellar-REDUCED..\$53,600
 *CLOSE to high school, NEW PAINT, new AC, 3/2/2.....\$59,900
 *MAKE AN OFFER, large 3/2/2 with sunroom.....\$63,000
 *ONLY 7 yrs old, 3BR, 2bath w/storage.....SOLD
 *PRICE REDUCED, 4/2/2, fireplace, near FHS.....\$99,500
 *RAMBLING RANCH home, corner, den, gmroom FHS..\$139,500
 *CUSTOM BUILT, 4br-2 1/2ba, basement, today's colors.\$235,000
 *NOW RENTING COTTONWOOD TOWNHOMES 1, 2 & 3 BEDROOMS AVAILABLE

RENTAL MANAGEMENT SERVICES AVAILABLE
 APARTMENTS, HOMES, AND COMMERCIAL PROPERTIES

R PROPERTY ASSOCIATES REALTORS

B.K. Buske, GRI Hal Ratcliff Janet Buske
 Broker/Owner Home: 250-3493 Broker/Owner Home: 250-2505
 Home: 250-2505

Hwy. 60 & Main Phone 250-2745
 EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY REALTOR

4 BR, 3 BA, 2 living areas w/fireplace, formal dining, kitchen, utility, new paint, new tile, new air conditioning, \$3,000 allowance for carpet.....\$72,000
 3 BR, 2 baths, 2 living areas, fireplace, kitchen, dining, utility with office space, double garage, 2 storages.....\$64,900
 3 BR, 2 BA, 3 living areas, 1 with fireplace, large kitchen, dining, utility, new carpet.....\$59,500
 NEW LISTING--3 BR, LR, kit., dining, utility, single garage..\$55,900
 3 BR, 1-3/4 BA, kitchen/dining/family room with fireplace, 2 car garage, storage building.....Contract Pending.....\$54,900
 3 BR, 2 BA, living room, kitchen, dining, double car garage with cellar.....Contract Pending.....\$53,900
 3 city lots, good location.....inside lots \$3,000/corner lot \$4,000
 Choice lots, Western Addition, 100' or 200' lots...CALL FOR PRICE
 3 lots on Washington.....\$7,500
 210 acres irrigated land. Good area.....Call For Price
 Main Street Lot.....\$3,750

NEW LISTING--3 BR, 2 BA in Bovina, large living room with fireplace, dining, kitchen, utility, large covered patio, double garage, basement.....\$84,500

CALL 250-2090

ANDY HURST JOHN MARS
 Home: 250-3123 Home: 295-6155
HURST REAL ESTATE & INSURANCE
 611 West 11th, Friona
 Also, Insurance Needs: *Health *Medicare Supplement *Crop *Life *Annuity

Letters To Santa

Dear Santa,
 I want a Bore car and a doll to play and a dog to play and a dress and a cap and a bow and a puppy and a rife crowd.
 Thank you Santa, Ilsy Vital *****

Dear Santa,
 I want a go car, nife and toys and bb guns and sa jerguns.
 Thank you, Isidro Aguilar

Call the Friona Star Office at 250-2211 by noon Wednesday to place your classified ads in the Friona Star & Bovina Blade.

YOUR EYES

Are You At Risk For Glaucoma?



In the United States, chronic glaucoma is one of the leading causes of blindness. If detected and treated early, it need not cause blindness or even severe loss of vision. Unfortunately, most people do not notice any symptoms (a gradual loss of peripheral vision is the biggest sign) of chronic glaucoma until there is permanent damage. For this reason, it's important to be aware of the following risk factors:

- Age--After the age of 40, your chances of developing glaucoma increase.
- Family history--glaucoma runs in families.
- Diabetes--diabetics are at greater risk of developing glaucoma.
- Ethnicity--certain ethnic groups have a greater chance of developing glaucoma. Be sure to check.

If you have any or several of these risk factors, bet sure to get an annual eye exam after the age of 35.
 Brought to you as a community service by:

DR. HAROLD W. BRIGANCE

Optometrist O.D.
 426 N. Main-Suite Hereford The Atrium 364-8755

Snead Realty

908 W. 11th St. Phone 250-2345 Fax: 250-3682
 Gary Snead, MFLA, MSA Home Phone: 265-3383

3 BR, 1 bath, storage building, unique, storm windows & door.....\$28,900
 3 BR, 2 baths, 2 living areas, 2 car, with large shop, large corner lot, basement, plus garden shed.....\$112,000
 3 BR, 2 baths, 2 car garage, assumable, heat pump, built 1993.....\$61,000
 3-BR, 2-1/2-baths, 2-car garage, 2 living areas, storage...SOLD...\$78,900
 3 BR, 1-1/2 baths, 1 car, fenced, ready to sell, ready to sell.....\$45,000
 Country home, 5 acres, new in 1991, basement, with 2 car garage, large shop plus large 2 car garage det.....\$195,000
 2-BR, 1 bath with siding, corner lot, GOTTA SEE.....SOLD.....\$23,400
 9.5 acres w/country home, 1.5 miles to Bovina, on highway.....\$65,000
 2 BR, 1 bath, plus 2 story rental unit, corner lot.....\$42,000
 2-3 BR, 1 bath, metal, shop, 2-car carport, nice & clean...SOLD...\$51,000
 1-1.5 ac. w/3-BR country home, 2 carport, 5 miles out...SOLD...\$35,000
 Duplex, re-done and really nice.....\$34,950
 3 BR, 2 baths, permastone, large corner lot, near FHS, 1-car.....\$49,900
 2 BR, 1 bath, newly re-done and nice.....\$27,000
 3-acres, 3-BR, 2 bath, 2-car, country home.....SOLD.....\$80,000
 3 BR, 1 bath, corner lot, good rental property, in Drake Subdiv...\$26,000
 3 BR, 1 bath, ready to sell, income property.....\$18,000
 3-BR, 2 bath, near high school, 3 car, basement.....SOLD.....\$64,900
 Small office/studio with 1/2 bath to be moved.....\$5,000
 298 acres with CRP, 2 wells, a real deal.....at \$400/Acre
 4 BR, 2-3/4 baths, 2 storages with garage, corner lot.....\$85,000
 3 BR, 2 baths, 2 car, corner lot, near H.S., storage building.....\$59,500
 3-BR, 1 bath, 1 car, utility, front and back fenced yards...SOLD...\$35,900
 3-BR, 1 bath, corner lot, new paint.....SOLD.....\$34,900
 4 BR, 3 baths, 2 car, storage building, lots of new items.....\$80,000
 3 BR, 1-3/4 baths, 3 acre country home, barn, new roof.....\$95,500

A HEAD ABOVE THE CROWD!

UNITED ARTISTS
Amarillo Star Theatre
 468-6500

ALL STADIUM SEATING
 With Comfortable High-Back Rocker Seats and Moveable Armrests for "Sofa-Style" Comfort

14 Wall-to-Wall Curved Screens
 Digital Sound in Every Auditorium
Indoor Box Office
NOW OPEN!
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MOVIES

NOW PLAYING!

★★★★
 PATCH ADAMS
 PG-13

★★★★
 STEPMOM
 PG-13

★★★★
MIGHTY JOE YOUNG
 PG

★★★★
 FACULTY
 R

★★★★
 AND MORE HOLLYWOOD HITS!

Located between I-40 and Amarillo Boulevard, Across from Westgate Mall.