

Nichols
Worth



Who did I call?

This time of the year is hectic and crazy. It's the time of year when I need to be calling dozens and dozens of people asking them about their Christmas greetings and Renewals are pouring in, and there are parades, parties and events that need to be photographed.

As much as I love it, I'm tired. To top it all off, one of our best employees, Mike Francies, has been made a job offer he "can't refuse" and is leaving. Yes, if you are looking for an almost-full time job, call me at 652-4205. It requires that you be able to work late on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, but you don't have to come to work at all on Fridays!

But, back to my other story. I've managed to get so many calls going to advertisers that I shorted out. Here I am, taking call backs, and suddenly I haven't a clue who these people are. Then, it gets worse. I can't remember whose number I just dialed, and when they answer I'm stumbling around trying to remember who I'm talking to!

It was terrible. I quit for a while and went to work on something else, trying to clear my head.

It didn't clear, and I ended up misspelling words like Alignment. When did it get an "H" in it? Of course, it doesn't.

So, I decided to stroll down the street and get away from it all for a little while.

I did, and enjoyed visiting with a few people on Main Street. Did you ever notice how nice it is to do that? It's one of those small town joys.

After about twenty minutes I came back to the real world and began making phone calls again. The very first one I made I did my stumbling, forgetful act again. I didn't sound professional, I sounded like an idiot! Hopefully, they want to help the handicapped!

Any way, I stopped. It was apparent that this particular job would have to wait for another day. I'm okay today, I think.

But, if you are one of the people that I stuttered and stumbled at over the phone, please accept my apologies...I promise I'll get it all scraped back together again! Could it be I'm getting old?

RHS Choir/Band Concert Dec. 15

The Rivercrest Rebel high school, junior high and 6th grade bands and choir will hold a concert on December 15, 2002.

The concert will begin at 2:00 p.m. at Rivercrest auditorium. Everyone is invited to come and enjoy the students talents. The band and choir are under the direction of David Terry.

Bogata Rodeo Association to hold meeting

The Bogata Rodeo Association will meet on January 6th, Monday night at 7:00 at the Bogata Community Center.

They will have a stew supper. All members need to attend and anyone wanting to become a member is invited to attend also.

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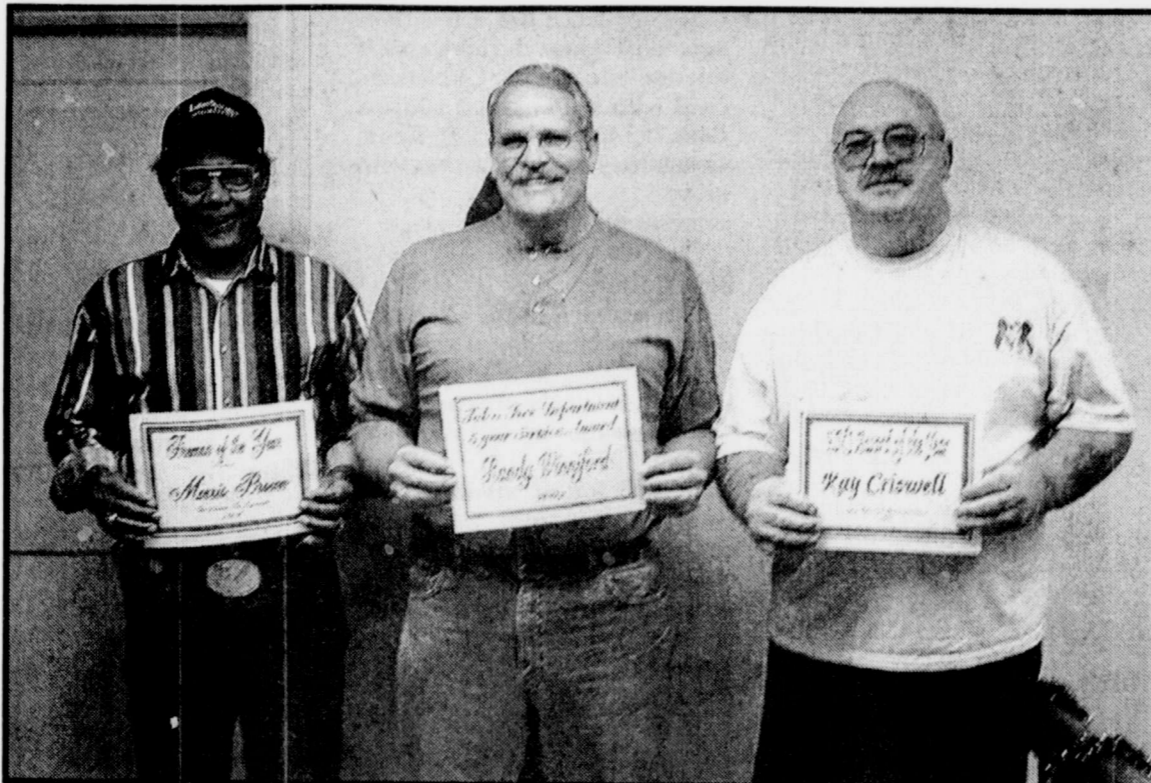
Talco Times

67TH YEAR, No. 2

TALCO, TITUS COUNTY, TEXAS

Thursday, December 12, 2002

50¢



2002 AWARDS- Receiving awards at the annual Talco VFD/EMS Christmas party for this year were; (from the left) Morris Brown who received Fire Man of the Year; Randy Winniford who received a certificate for 5 years of service and Ray Chriswell who received Emergency Medical Services Man of the Year. Congratulations to all three! (Staff Photo Nancy Brown)



SANTA-stopped by the Talco City Hall at the annual Talco EMS/VFD Christmas party Saturday night. Pictured giving him a list is "Little Richard" Forsyth. (Staff Photo Nancy Brown)

Talco VFD/EMS celebrate

The annual Talco VFD/EMS Christmas party was held Saturday night, December 7, 2002 at the Talco City Hall. Serving as cooks for the occasion were Randy Pitts and Randy Hollis who provided smoked brisket, chicken, pork chops, hot links and more along with all the wonderful desserts and vegetables provided by the members.

Following the meal awards for the year were made. Receiving "Fire Man of the Year" was Mor-

ris Brown. "Emergency Medical Service Man of the Year" went to Ray Chriswell and honored with a Five year certificate was Randy Winniford.

After the awards program the group enjoyed playing games including bingo for prizes and then the highlight of the evening for the children came when Santa paid a visit. All had a wonderful time and congratulations are extended to the award winners.



FIRST PLACE-in the Float Division at the annual Talco Christmas Parade went to the Talco Sugar Bakers Holiday Express. (Staff Photo Nancy Brown)



FIRST PLACE-in the 4 wheeler division at the annual Talco Christmas Parade went to Seventh Grade Christmas King and Queen Aaron Rolan and Emily McCuller. (Staff Photo Nancy Brown)

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Rivercrest Elementary Calendar of upcoming events

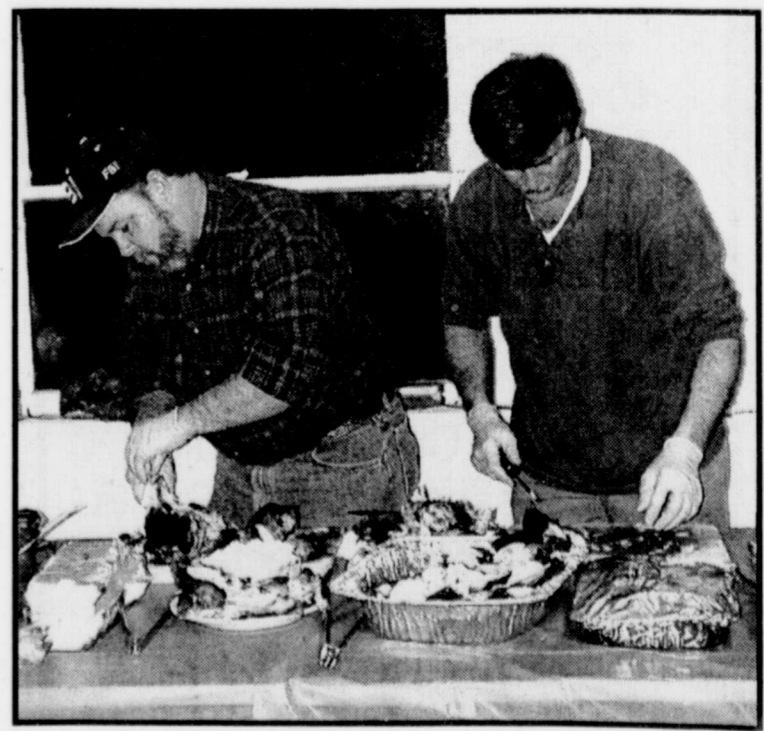
- December 17-Music Program in the cafeteria at 1:30 p.m.
- December 18-School will dismiss at 2:15 p.m. Because of Semester Exams at the high school, buses will run at 2:30 p.m.
- December 19-School will dismiss at 2:15 p.m. Buses will run at 2:30 p.m.
- December 20-Christmas Music Program in the cafeteria at 9:00 a.m. School will dismiss at 2:15. Buses will run at 2:30 p.m.
- January 3-Teachers workday at each campus.
- January 6-Classes resume from Christmas/New Year Holidays.

"A Night to Remember"

Calvary Baptist Church, Talco, will present a Christmas musical, "A Night to Remember" on Sunday, December 15 at 11 a.m. Everyone is invited to attend this special musical program.



FIRST PLACE-in the car division at the annual Bogata Christmas Parade was Mr. and Miss Rivercrest Elementary, James Don White and Kelsey Franks. (Staff Photo Nancy Brown)



DOUBLE THE FUN-Randy Pitts and Randy Hollis were busy Saturday night at the annual Talco VFD/EMS Christmas Party serving as cooks for the occasion. The two Randys did a wonderful job and everyone enjoyed the evening. (Staff Photo Nancy Brown)

Country Cooking
By Liz Irwin



Well, here we are.....thirteen days before Christmas.....so, I have declared this week, Thunder Prairie Christmas Cookie Week! That's right, just cookies this week and I think I have found some "doozie" Christmas recipes that you will love. So, here goes! See you in the kitchen!
lizrwin@hotmail.com or tppub@Istarnet.com
CASHEW MERINGUES- twenty minutes top prep time.....2 grams fat; no cholesterol; 10 grams carbs and 1 gram saturated fat!
PEPPERMINT MERINGUES-

crush the peppermint to give these a minty flavor!
PEANUT BUTTER AND CANDY COOKIES-these can be made ahead of time and frozen!
SESAME-PECAN WAFERS-these are thin crunchy cookies with chocolate drizzled over the tops if you desire!
FROSTY SNOWBALLS-roll in powdered sugar and candy sparkles after baked!
CHOCOLATE-COVERED CHERRY COOKIES-bite into these cookies for a wonderful surprise!



* The Post is open Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 3:00 p.m. until 12:00 midnight and Saturday from 1:00 p.m. until 1:00 a.m. Pool tables and shuffle board are open to enjoy all the time.
*The Ladies Auxiliary will meet the 2nd Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. Members are urged to attend.
* The VFW men will meet the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. Members are urged to attend.
*The Post has a shuffle board tournament every Saturday beginning at 3:00 p.m. Everyone is invited to come out and share the fun. The board has recently been renovated and is ready for play.
*The Cook Books are here. If you have one ordered or would like to have one contact Phyllis Duffer at 903-632-4312; Margie Garrett at 903-632-5890 or Zelma Mauldin at 903-632-4135. Books may also be purchased at the Bogata VFW Post. They cost \$10 each and will make wonderful Christmas gifts.
*Back by popular demand the Blyne-Eye Band will play for a dance on December 14. The group will also be at the VFW on New Year's Eve. Make plans to come out and enjoy the music, dancing and fellowship.
*Happy December Birthday to: Bobbie Hervey, Jeri Knowles, Jeanett Morris, Zelma Mauldin, Wootie Harville, Dennis Carr, Linda Gray, Todd Duffer and Richard Rainey.
* Get Well Wishes are sent to: Mitzy Swinford, Jean Mullin, Daphney and Melvin Pointer, Georgia Hudson, George Smith, Bill Farris, Betty Mullin and Marie Carr.

Letter to the Editor

To the editor:
I enjoyed your Nichols Worth column about putting on Christmas lights. We just enjoy people's decorations and don't think of all the frustration. I would like to share with your readers that part of our family visited in Alabama this past summer with Rozell relatives. Some of the family still live on grounds the Rozells, who left Alabama for Texas in 1884. One of them is Louise Rozell Dugan. We received a Christmas card from her a few days ago. How about the address? If anyone receives a Christmas card with a more neat address than 193 Butter and Egg Road, I wish they would share it with us.
Frances M. Rozell

Obituaries

Margaret Wood dies December 8

Margaret Wood, age 86, formerly of the Woodland community, died Sunday, December 8, 2002 in Fayetteville, AR. Services were held Wednesday, December 11 at 1:30 p.m. in Woodland United Methodist Church with Rev. Lee Everett officiating. Burial followed in Woodland Cemetery under the direction of Clarksville Funeral Home.

Mrs. Wood was born August 13, 1916 in Woodland, a daughter of Amos Gordon and Marguerite Virginia Stuart Phillips. She was preceded in death by her husband, Clem Wood. She was a member of the Woodland United Methodist Church and a homemaker.

Pallbearers were Ken Posey, Vince Shirley, Brock Posey, Boyd Harming, Jim Gatlin and Dr. Ralph Brown. Surviving are three nephews, Billy Phillips of Abilene, Rex Phillips of Houston and Boyd Harming of Addielou; two nieces, Sandra Posey of Fayetteville, AR and Dianna Stubblefield of Lubbock; numerous great-nieces and great-nephews.

Robert Lee Smith dies December 8

Robert Lee Smith, age 77 of Detroit, died December 8, 2002 in Christus St. Joseph South.

Funeral services were held Tuesday, December 10 at 10:00 a.m. in Lindeman Chapel of Clarksville Funeral Home with Benny Cogburn officiating. Burial followed in Bluff Cemetery under the direction of Clarksville Funeral Home.

Pallbearers were Matt Burchinal, Steve Jones, Johnny Maynard, Johnny, Thomas and James Elrod and Wesley Alley.

Mr. Smith was born March 27, 1925 in Bogata, a son of Gilbert and Viola Richardson Smith. He was a retired highway department employee.

Surviving are his wife, Evelyn Helms Smith of Detroit, whom he married October 9, 1943; sons, Jimmy Wayne and wife Peggy Smith of Detroit and Jerry Von and wife Josie Smith of Detroit; daughter, Jan and husband Tommy Chesshire of Detroit; a sister, Mae and husband Hugh Pratt; brothers, Jessie Skaggs and James Skags, both of Texarkana; seven grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren.

Maurine Hill Nash dies December 6

Maurine Hill Nash, age 80 of Clarksville, died December 6, 2002 at ETMC, Clarksville.

Services were held Sunday, December 8 at 2 p.m. in Lindeman Chapel of Clarksville Funeral Home with Rev. James Brown officiating. Burial followed in Detroit Cemetery under the direction of Clarksville Funeral Home.

She was born in Detroit on August 21, 1922, a daughter of Albert Sidney and Essie Brown Hill. She was a homemaker.

Surviving are her husband, Harry "Happy" Nash of Longview, whom she married in Clarksville on August 6, 1945; a brother, Billy M. Hill of Clarksville; and several nieces and nephews.

Pallbearers were James Pryor, Billy R. Hill, Ed Wadley, Bill Simpson, Brian Hill and Mike Hill.

Opal B. Duncan dies December 5

Opal B. Duncan, age 93, formerly of Red River County, died Thursday, December 5, 2002 at Crest Care Nursing Home in Longview.

Funeral services were held Saturday, December 7 at 1:30 p.m. in the First Baptist Church of Bogata with Rev. Wayne Ramsey officiating. Burial followed in McCrury Cemetery under the direction of Clarksville Funeral Home.

She was born in Red River County on July 19, 1909, a daughter of Lemuel Jasper and Mary Alice White Cooper. She was a member of the Catholic faith and a retired school teacher. Her husband, Marvin Luther Duncan, preceded her in death in 1982.

Pallbearers were William, Harry and Mark Duncan, Dale Crawford, Jeff Cameron and Scot Fate.

Surviving are sons, Kirby Duncan of Nacogdoches, and Marvin E. Duncan of Mansfield; daughters, June Cameron of Sulphur Springs and Patricia Duncan of Flint; a sister, Lois Tipping of Hughes Springs; a brother, L.L. Cooper of Waco; 15 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren.

Card of Thanks

A huge thank you to the Daisy Troop 175, Troop 131, Troop 254, Cub Scout Pack 135 of Bogata and the wonderful parents of these kids for some of our clients who wouldn't have had a Thanksgiving dinner. You made it possible with your generous donation of food baskets. We deeply appreciate all that you have done. Again, thank you for the effort and hard work in getting these baskets together.

Northeast Texas MHMR Staff of Red River County

Conscience is the inner voice that warns us that someone may be looking.
-H.L. Mencken



Dear Editor,
I keep watch in the Country Cooking section for a vinegar cobbler recipe, the kind that you have to roll out the crust and cut into strips that are all through the cobbler. I have found all kinds of vinegar pie recipes, but that is not what I want. If any of your readers has the recipe, I would sure appreciate having a copy of it.
Thanks,
Jeanette Bivens

Attend the Church of Your Choice



Looking for a dog or cat?

Are you thinking of getting a dog or cat? Please visit the Clarksville shelter first. There are many darling puppies and very friendly cats and kittens available. Call Joe Cain, Animal Control Officer if you can provide a good, loving home for any of these animals.

The Red River County Humane Society will spay or neuter shelter animals at no cost. 903-427-3836.

Flashes.....Walking Home

I never, never will forget the moment on the walk that day my friend Rita came running out from her front door onto the porch and shouted news to me as I strolled down the street. For me, many after school days were memorable because I walked home from school.

The bells rang. Another hard workday at Deport Elementary School was finished. Kids rushed from the schoolyard like birds set free from a cage. Those big yellow buses were always parked in their standard long straight lines awaiting hyperactive afternoon passengers.

Most days my first stop was across the street at Mrs. Wright's grocery store. Waiting there were Dr. Pepper and Baby Ruth. After a snack, I would grab up my satchel full of books, homework and such and head out for home.

I would always walk over near the side of the street. Safely out of traffic's path I could have the choice of the smooth pavement, gravel or the softness of the grassy yards and ditches. Deport pecan and elm trees had been around for years so the street walking path was mostly shaded from the rays of the harsh afternoon sun.

While a young fellow, being built close to the ground had its advantages. I could stroll by the yards enjoying the blades of grass, the leaves on the trees and the blooms in the gardens. My route home that day took me by the old Methodist church and Dr. Brittain's dentist office. Big porches and big dogs many times were full of adventure.

Oh, yeah. The news that Rita shouted to me from her porch. It was November 22, 1963.

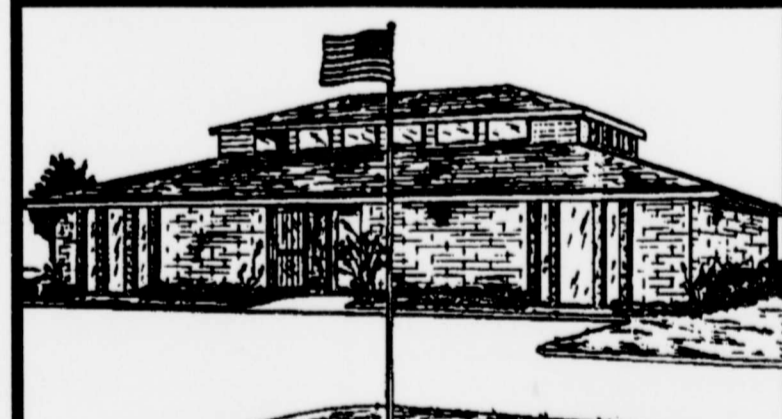
Fulbright community to hold Christmas dinner

The Fulbright Community will hold a covered dish Christmas dinner at the Fulbright Community Center on Monday night, December 16 at 6 p.m.

Everyone is invited. If you live in Fulbright, have family or friends living here, or just want to come visit with others, come join in the fellowship and food.

Volunteer Fire Fighters Lay It On The Line

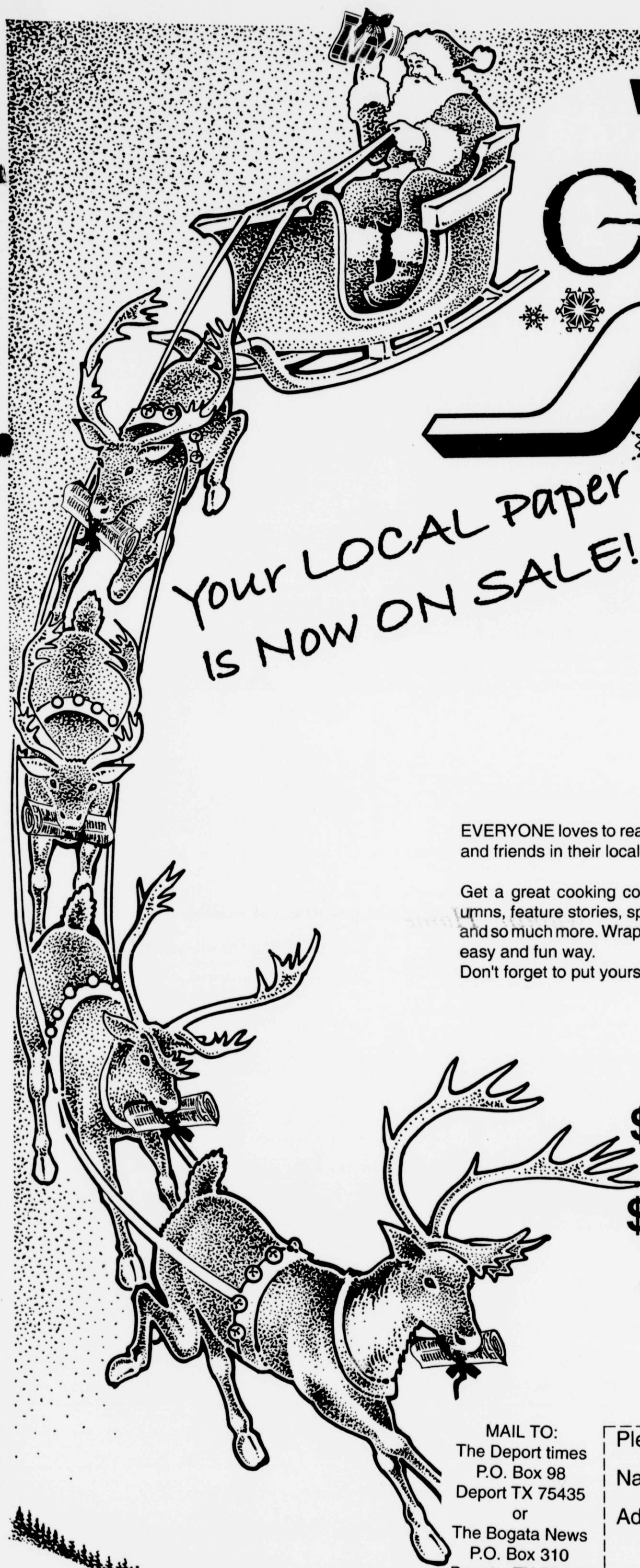
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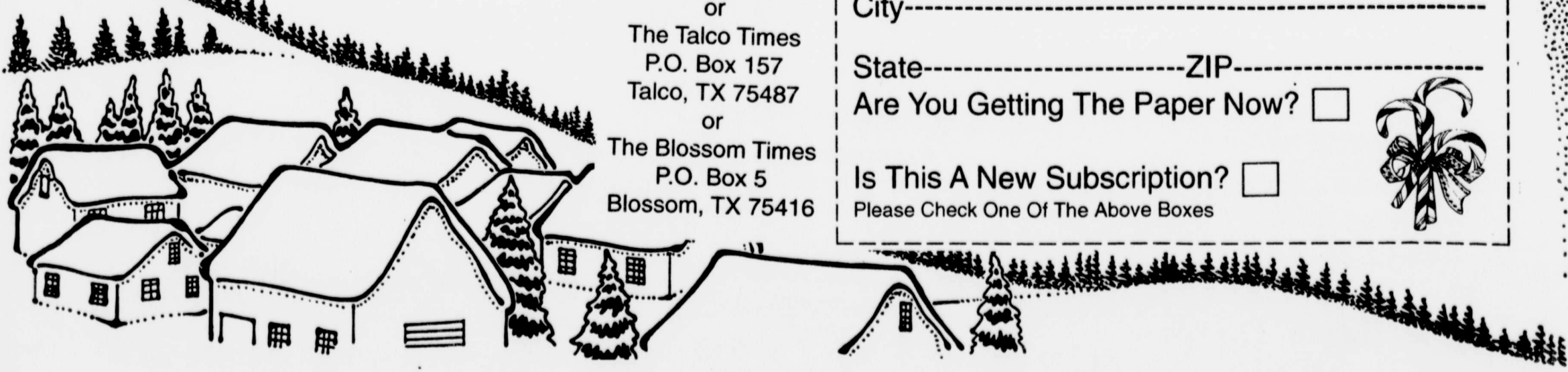
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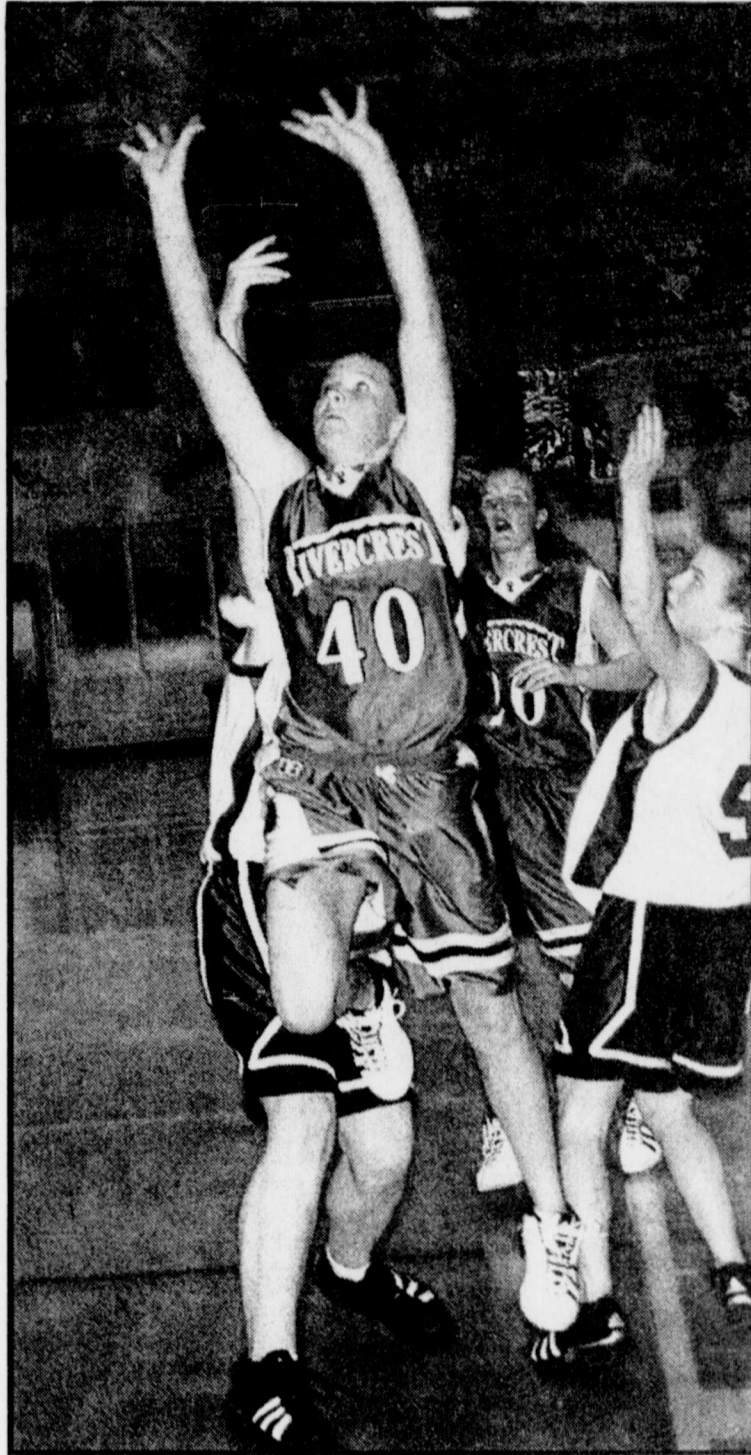
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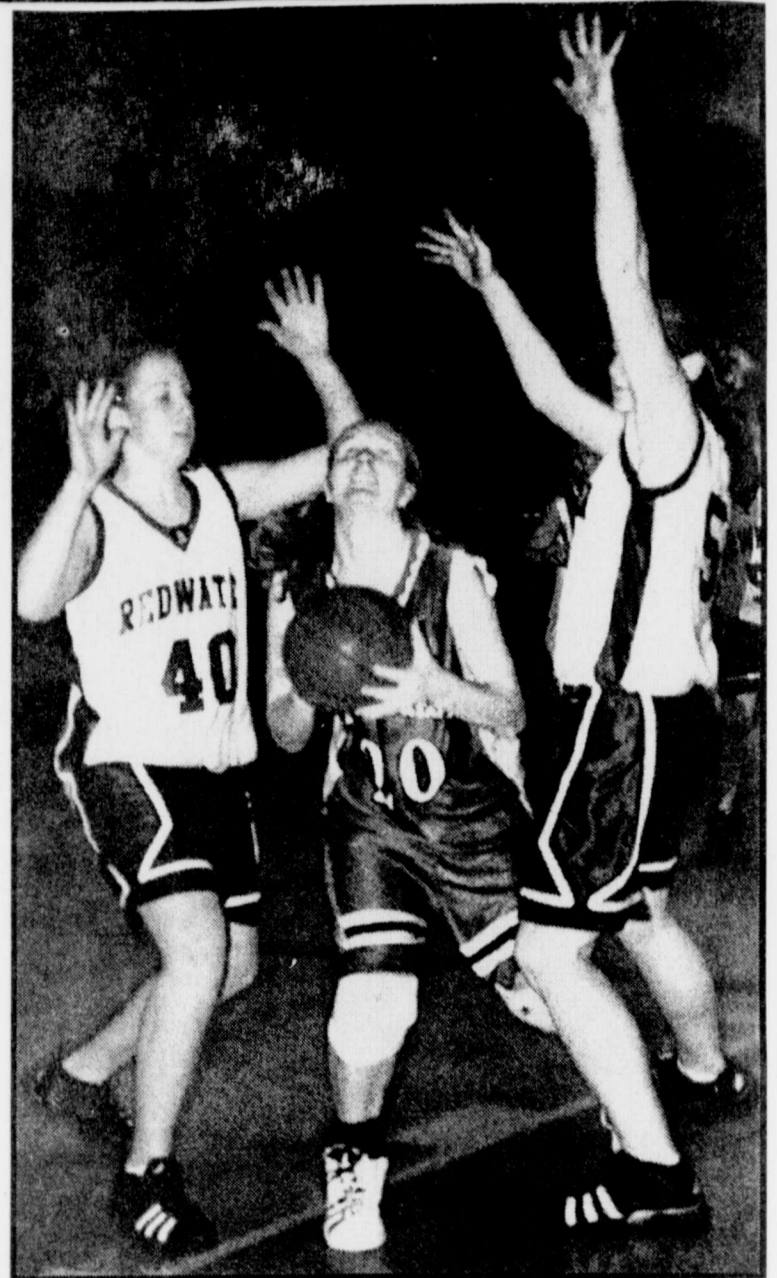




JOSH CABELL-gets off the floor for a jump shot as the Rebels played for the Consolation trophy at the Prairiland Tournament this weekend. (Staff Photo Nancy Brown)



LAY-UP-even in traffic, Lady Rebel Rachel Case was able to make a clean lay-up as the team competed for Third place in the Prairiland Tournament Saturday. The Lady Rebs took the win and the Third place trophy. (Staff Photo Nancy Brown)



DOUBLE GUARDS-were no trouble for Lady Rebel Erica Williams who is pictured about to make one of many inside shots in the Lady Rebels final game of the Prairiland Tournament on Saturday. The Lady Rebs won Third place in the tourney and Erica received All Tournament honors. (Staff Photo Nancy Brown)



ALL TOURNAMENT-Erica Williams and Molly Hare received All Tournament honors at the Prairiland Tournament held this weekend. Erica is the daughter of Lee and Fred Booker and Brian Williams of Bogata. Molly is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Mark Hare of Bogata. (Staff Photo Nancy Brown)

Rebel JV continuing to win

by Steve Weddle

The Rivercrest JV boys obtained two victories this past week with the wins, the young Rebels move their record to 6-2.

The Rebels played Chapel Hill Monday night and used a 4th quarter comeback to obtain a 40-36 victory. The Rebels entered the 4th trailing by 7 points but used a press (full court) to regain the lead and the win.

The team continued their winning ways with a victory over the Cooper Bulldogs Friday. The

Rebels were able to win by holding Cooper's 6' 4" Freshman post to only two second half points. The Rebels began to blockout and eventually were able to draw several over the back calls.

JV team members are: Payden Franks, Clinton Vandever, Chris Cannon, Jake Raulston, Jonathan Ridents, Troy Morris, Adam Horn, Keith Williams, Dustin Perry, Brad Rollen, John Ed Graf, Keith Perry and Jake Needham.

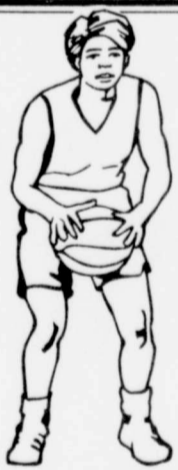
Rebels to hold food drive

We need your help! was the statement made by Rivercrest Rebel Head Coach, Steve Weddle this week. Coach Weddle, his staff and Rebel players are sponsoring a food drive to help those in need during the holidays.

Canned food donations are being taken by the coaches and players or they will be glad to come by and pick up any donation you would like to make. Everyone is

asked to please give any donations directly to a Rebel player or Rebel coach. Coach Weddle said, "We hop to learn a very important life lesson through this drive; it is better to give than receive".

All items received will be given to a local charity for distribution. Please help us help others during this special time of year. Your donations will be double appreciated.



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Member F.D.I.C.



GENEROUS GIFT-The Red River Genealogical Society presented Thomas and Nanalee Nichols a framed front page of the *Deport Times* from February 11, 1909. The publishers of *Thunder Prairie Publishing* have been helping out with getting the early editions of the newspapers microfilmed for posterity. From left are Miriam Stephenson, Nanalee Nichols and A.D. Stephenson. (Staff Photo by Mike Francies)

Genealogical society meets for Christmas

The Red River County Genealogical Society met for a finger food buffet December 9 at the Bogata Methodist Church Fellowship Hall.

After the bountiful buffet, the group toured one of the oldest homes in Bogata. A short history of the home was given to each member. Hot cider was served as the group was hearing the history of the home.

Thirty-five members enjoyed

the evening.

The society entered a Texas State Genealogical Society Grant contest. The Red River County Society was one of three in the state to be selected as a winner. To enter, a society had to present history through preserving history by book, fiche or microfilming of county materials.

The January 13 meeting will be held at the Red River County Library at 7 p.m.

Bogata Methodist Women meet

The Bogata Methodist women met Wednesday, December 4, 2002 for their regularly scheduled meeting and Christmas program. Mary Kathryn Cotten opened the meeting with a prayer and presided at the business session.

Anita Stubblefield, program chairman, presented the Christmas program. A Christmas Song game was played. Given pictures and clues, members were to name the Christmas songs. Anita read two modern versions of the Christmas stories: "Joseph's Letter Home" and "The Birth of Jesus".

Fun, fellowship and a delicious taco salad meal was enjoyed by Roberta Anderson, Mary Kathryn Cotten, Dorothy Gill, Gale Hervey, Eleanor McCluer, Judy Marshall, Marjorie Myers, Virginia O'Donnell, Jimmie Lou Pope, Betty Puckett, Frances Rozzell, Anita Stubblefield, Edith Ruth Swaim and the church pastor, Rev. Joe Gist.

The next meeting will be January 8, 2003 with Stephanie Adkins from the Paris Women's Shelter as guest speaker. Our quilters will also begin work in January.

Grief Support group meets

The Bogata Ladies Grief Support Group met December 5, 2002 for dinner at the Bogata Bakery for a fun night and a wonderful dinner made by Wanda Lou Bradley. There were 18 in attendance.

The next meeting will be held at the Bogata Methodist Church Library on Thursday, January 9, 2003 at 3:30 p.m. At that time it will be decided where our next dinner will be held. All members will be notified. Anyone wishing to attend is welcome. For more information call Anaya Phillips at 903-632-5596 or Ruth Reynolds at 903-632-5781. The group wishes everyone a Very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

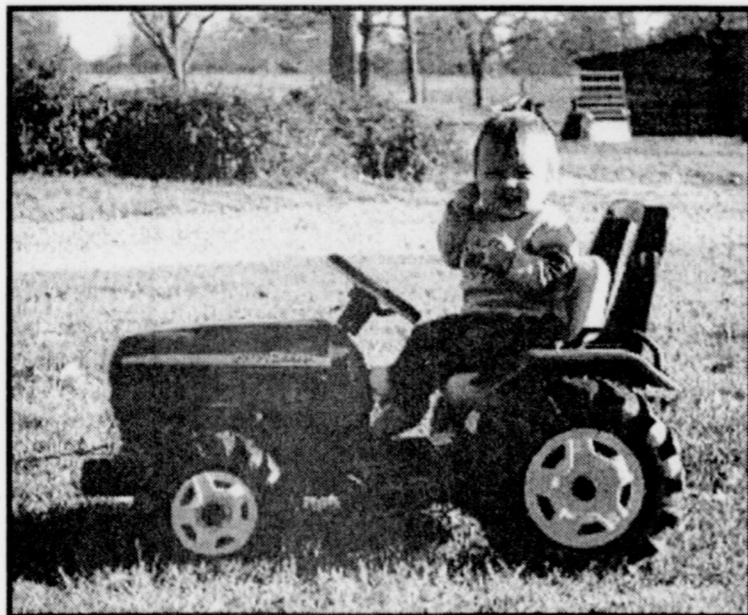


ALL TOURNAMENT-Rebel Calan Wilcox received the honor of All Tournament at the Prairiland Tournament this weekend. The Rebels received the Consolation trophy after a win on Saturday. (Staff Photo Nancy Brown)

Karson Damron celebrates one

Karson Ray Damron, son of Ray Lou and Kristie Damron celebrated his 1st birthday at his home in Bogata on November 8, 2002. The party theme was John Deere and was carried out in the decorations and cake. Guests were served hamburgers and hot dogs with all the trimmings as well as birthday cake and ice cream.

Attending were: Nanna Linda Wisinger, Pee Paw and Granny, Buddy and Bobbie Damron, Granny Maxine, Aunt Shari Wisinger, Uncle Rusty and Aunt Michelle, Courtney and Gracee Damron, Uncle David and Aunt Deanna, Cody and Faith Vickery, Aunt Terry Howell, James Don and Scott White, Stoney Davis, Haley and Jacob Eudy, Rick, Cylenea and McCartney Holeman, Brad, Teresa and Chance Alison, Jamie and Claire, Gary and Beverly Holeman. Unable to attend but sending birthday wishes were Uncle Scott and Aunt Dusty, Haley and Devon Pettiet and Uncle Bobby and Aunt Stephanie Davis.



Karson Ray Damron

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Rivercrest Schools Menus Dec. 16-20

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Breakfast
Cereal
toast
condiments
juice & milk
Lunch
Chicken pot pie
salad
Jello w/fruit
milk

TUESDAY

Breakfast
Oatmeal
biscuits
condiments
juice & milk
Lunch
Bar-B-Q sandwiches
tator tots
pickle spears
fruit
milk

WEDNESDAY

Breakfast
Sausage & biscuit
condiments
juice & milk
Lunch
Burritos w/chili & cheese
salad
beans
chocolate cake
milk

THURSDAY

Breakfast
Breakfast pizza
condiments
juice & milk
Lunch
Spaghetti w/meat sauce
corn
salad
garlic sticks
milk

FRIDAY

Breakfast
Cereal
toast
condiments
juice & milk
Lunch
Cheeseburgers
beans
burger salad
chips
ice cream
milk

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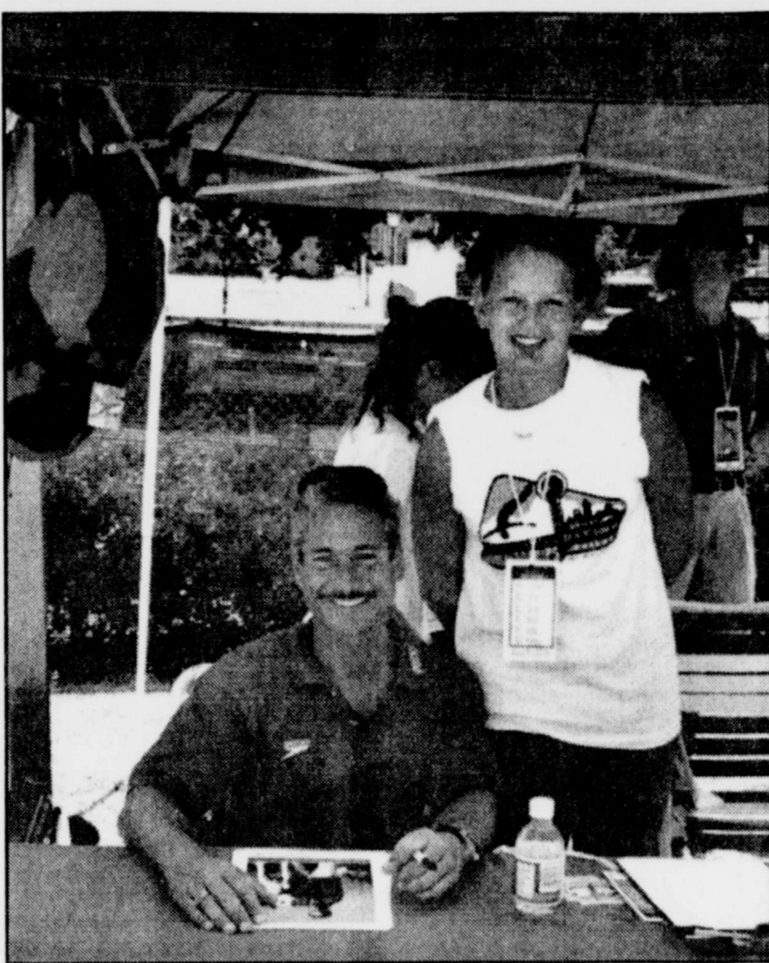
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MANDY CRAWFORD, pictured with Greg Louganis, will be Rivercrest's first Varsity UIL diver. She will compete 4A in District 11 Region III.

W.R. Shaw to be honored on 90th birthday

The children of W.R. Shaw, born December 19, 1912, are honoring him with a reception celebrating his 90th birthday. The reception is on Saturday, December 14 from 2 to 4 p.m. at St. Mary Catholic Church Fellowship Hall, 2108 Ridgewood Drive, Longview.

He rose in the ranks, so to speak, with American Liberty Pipeline Company. Starting as a truck driver, he advanced to gauger, to roughneck, to Assistant Superintendent to District Superintendent. He served his country in the war effort during World War II by staying home and helping to keep petroleum moving and available to the armed forces overseas. Retiring from American Petrofina Pipeline Company in 1977 after 44 years in the pipeline business, he remained another 10 years as

consultant to the company when it sold to Dorchester Pipeline Company.

A former resident of Talco, Mount Pleasant and Athens, he is the widower of Frances Hornischer Shaw and Ila Bailey Wheat Shaw. His children are Lois Jordan of Kilgore, Rita Reindl, with whom he resides and Linda Weisinger of Longview and Richard Shaw of Aurora, Colorado. He has 15 (including 1 deceased) grandchildren, 25 great-grandchildren and 1 great-great-grandson.

Friends of Wilson Shaw are encouraged to attend the celebration. If you can't attend, send an anecdote/memory of Wilson to be displayed at the reception to R.S. Reindl, 103 Kimberly Lane, Longview, TX 754604 or e-mail rreindl@cablelynx.com.

Finish Your Christmas Gifting!

GIFTS FOR EVERYONE, birdhouses in wood, tin, more. Porcelain decorative plates, detailed picture frames, Angels of wood, antique "ceiling tile" gifts and so much more.

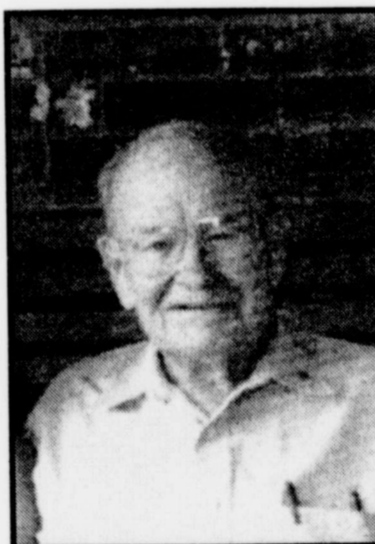
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W.R. Shaw

More Parade Pictures Next Week

Public Notices

REQUEST FOR BIDS
On behalf of the Blossom Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department (BVFD), the City of Blossom hereby solicits sealed bids from qualified responders for the following Personal Protective Equipment:
The BVFD has been awarded a FEMA Firefighters Grant to purchase six (6) sets of Bunker Gear. Responders must provide bids on equipment that is equal to or better than specifications and/or nomenclature required below:
BUNKER COAT AND PANTS (6 SETS)
(Structural Clothing)
*Kevlar 60%/40% Nomex rip stop, 7.0 oz. (advance outer shell)
*Meta Aramid/Basofil 2-layer thermal liner (Meta Aramid facecloth 3.6 oz. w/ 2 layer Basolite spunlace 3.0 oz.)
*Moisture barrier--RT7100/PTEE
*Reinforced knees and elbows of same material.
*Coat and pants cuff-reinforced with additional layer fabric
*New York trim placement--3" chest/back, sleeve and hem (coat) 3" cuffs (pants), both with lime, two-tone Scotchlite
*Color--Khaki
Additional separate specifications for coats and pants detailed below:
COAT
*Length, mid-thigh (approx. 35"0)
*Lettering, 3" sewn Scotchlite, lime in color, placement at shoulder (in arch design) to read "BLOSSOM"
*Wristlet w/fabric covered thumbhole
*Closure, 2" hook & pile ext. with zipper int.
*Outer pockets, two (2) 9x9x1.5 bellow style with wide oversized flap closure, radio pocket, left chest w/radio antenna notch both sides, mike tab above radio pocket. Reverse clip on right chest.
PANTS
*High back bib style (approx 6")
*Two (2) postman slide take-up straps
*Two (2) large bellow pockets, 10x10x2 with wide oversized flap closure

*Closure, rev. hooks & D ext. 2/1.5 hook & pile int. narrow fly
*Suspensers, H-style, heat resistant, fully adjustable (approx 2") wide, red in color
GLOVES (6 PAIRS)
*Shelby, gauntlet style-elk skin
*Certified to meet NFPA standards
BOOTS (6 PAIRS)
*Ranger, firewalker traditional fire boot
*Insulated
HELMETS (6 EACH)
*Cairns, 660 modern style, thermoplastic with adj. chin strap, adj. headband, earflaps, liner, 4" face shield
*Yellow in color w/ Scotchlite reflective yellow markings
*Compliant to NFPA standards
PROTECTIVE HOOD (6 EACH)
*Nomex/Lenzing FR blend, long front w/back draped design
*NFPA compliant
Bids should quote total cost of above six (6) complete sets of turnout gear, including: 6 sets coats and pants, 6 pairs of gloves, 6 pairs of boots, 6 helmets with protective hoods, meeting or exceeding the above specifications and/or nomenclature, without regard for any detailed specific brand, delivered to the City of Blossom.

Sealed bids marked "Bunker Gear Bid" must be received at the Blossom City Hall, 1240 W. Front St., P.O. Box 297, Blossom, TX 75417, prior to 4 p.m., Thursday, January 2, 2003, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud.
The Blossom City Council intends to award the contract at its regular meeting to be conducted at 6 p.m., January 9, 2003, to the most responsive, qualified, lowest bidder that provides the best value to the BVFD. The City reserves the right to reject any or all bids, or to waive any technicality that may benefit the City and/or BVFD.
For additional information, or to receive a bid response form, contact the City Administrator at the above address or call 903-982-5900.
12-19

Eighth annual Cousins reunion held

After a wonderful weekend in 2001, on the shores of Cedar Creek Lake, in the home of Vicki Armstrong, the Baker cousin reunion returned to Bogata, TX, for the eighth year.

On Saturday, November 10, the afternoon began with shopping on the Plaza in Paris. After shopping, dinner was enjoyed by all at TaMolly's restaurant.

Chicota was the next destination to see the new and beautiful weekend home of Lisa and Joe Slagle.

Finally, everyone gathered at Donnie Lewis's home in Bogata to celebrate with the usual traditions of exchanging gifts, snacking, and reminiscing. The highlight of this year was a style show performed by the Aunts. This style show was unlike any style

show ever seen before. It was a spoof, in the literal sense, of fashions from the past. Pill boxes were adorning a hat, to represent the "pill box" hat. Baby dolls were attached to pajamas, for those "baby doll" pajamas. Paper pleats on a box, for those "box pleats". These were just a few of the hilarious examples of fashions from the past. The reunion was enjoyed by all and plans are the works for the next year.

Those attending this year were Bea White, Vicki Armstrong, Nell Baldwin, Lisa Slagle, Donna Gifford, Donnie Lewis, Donita Embrey, Jenita Baker, Jenissa Hogan, Dean Ogden, Janie Hawkes, Ronda Smith, Judy Shew and Linda Baker with her mother, Jane Malone.

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The Deport Housing Authority is currently taking applications from individuals who qualify for 1 bedroom apartments. All units have central heat and air conditioning. There is a community building and laundry room at each site. All 1 bedroom and 2 bedroom units have washer/dryer connections. Cook stoves and refrigerators are furnished. Water, sewer and trash pickup is provided. Tenant is responsible for lights, gas, phone and cable TV.

Current vacancies are 1 bedroom units designated for elderly. If there are no elderly applicants consideration will be given to family applicants. All persons are invited to apply for housing and are considered without regard to race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin.

The Deport Housing Authority operates under guidelines set by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Applications can be made at 232 3rd Street. Call 903-652-2744 to arrange a time convenient for the applicant and the management office.

The Deport Housing Authority is interested in your housing needs.
 Melba G. Ladd, Executive Director



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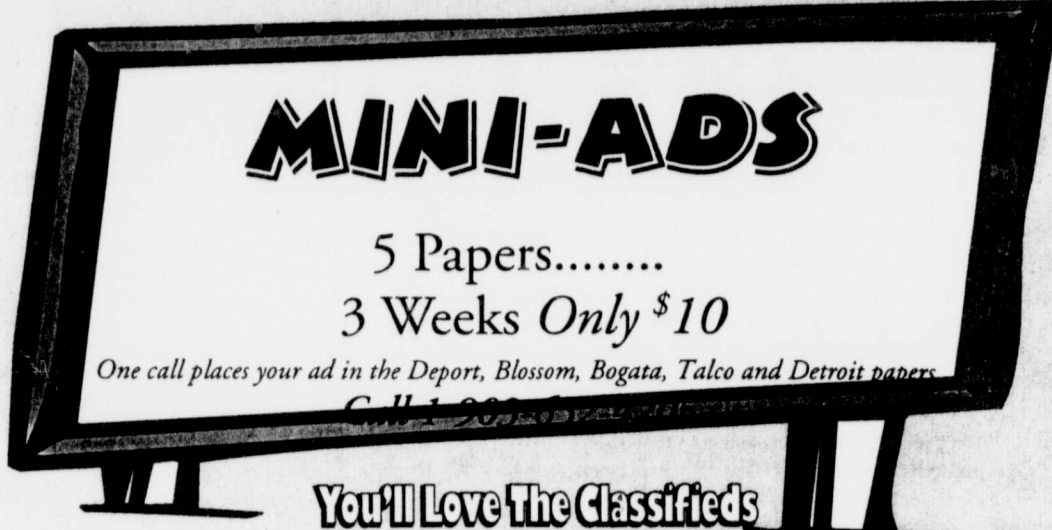
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BRICK APARTMENT for rent in Talco on FM71E, 2 blks. off Hwy. 271. Available January 1, 2BR, 2B, dishwasher, microwave, laundry room, \$350 per mo. and \$300 deposit. Need references. 903-379-9161. MA 1-3

FOR SALE: 3BR, 2B home, newly remodeled w/hardwood flooring, garden tub, gas log insert, large lot with Pecan trees. 607 Clarksville St., Bogata. 903-632-0367. MA 1-9

Livestock & Supplies
FOR SALE: New tractor specials, TN5542hp Syncro-Shuttle, 1 remote, WAC \$1530 down, \$230 for 72 months. Conroy Tractor, Inc., Mt. Pleasant, 903-572-2629.

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FOR SALE: Christmas pony for kids, 5 yr. old female, broken to ride. Call nights 903-632-4168. MA 12-19

MATTRESS SALE: Twin set, \$19 down; full, \$29 down; queen, \$39 down; king, \$49 down. Instant credit, no interest charges, free delivery. Save-More Furniture, 1806 W. Main, Clarksville, TX. M-F, 9-6; Sat, 9-5. MA t/c

271 MOTEL: Open 7 days a week, reservations appreciated, walk-ins welcome. 903-379-5411. MA t/c

THANKS FOR 7 years. God bless. Merry Christmas to all. Have a safe holiday. Gene Robinson & staff, The Garage Sale, Mt. Pleasant.

GREAT LOW PRICES! 310 E. 9th @ N. Washington, Mt. Pleasant, 903-572-3700. Tues-Sat, 8:30-5:30. New shipment of hardware supplies. Used & new furniture (household & office) plus lots of other good stuff. Used merchandise shipments weekly. The Garage Sale. MA t/c

THE PAMPERED CHEF. In need of kitchen tools? Trying to buy for someone difficult? Let me help you with a gift certificate. Order your Christmas items NOW!! If you need to see a catalog, please let me know. I will be turning in a Christmas order December 10. Please call Rachel Ward, 903-632-4728. MA 12-12

NOW OPEN: The Looking Glass, Family Hair Salon. Owner/operator, Laquita Crawford, 8 mi. east of Talco off FM71 on private road 1932 in Sugarhill. For appointment, call 379-4701. MA 1-9

FOR SALE: Whirlpool washer, large capacity, 1 yr. old. David Rozell, 632-5617. MA 12-19

Real Estate
FOR SALE: Meadowbrook Gardens Cemetery, Lot 90, Section F, spaces 3 and 4. Both lots for \$500.00. 903-652-6052. t/cnc

FOR SALE in Deport: 3BR, 2 full baths, brick, large den, formal living room, lots of ceramic tile floors, walk-in closet, custom cabinets, fenced yard. Could be 4-car carport w/privacy fence. Will sell with or without adjoining lot. 903-784-4047 or 652-4983. MA 12-12

HOUSE FOR SALE: 3BR, 1B, carport, wall panel heat A/C in wall. 125 Circle Drive, Bogata. 903-632-5816 or 632-5444. MA 12-19

HOUSE FOR SALE BY OWNER: 3BR, 2B, carport, completely remodeled, hardwood floors, new paint, central heat and air, two acres. 711 Clarksville St., 903-632-2057. \$54,000. Must see. MA 1-3

Garage Sale in Jothtown, CR1473, Saturday only, Dec. 14, 8 a.m. to ?? Lots of movies. 12-12

CHRISTMAS HORSE, TACK & Saddle Auction this Sunday, December 15, 1 p.m. at MT. VERNON AIRPORT. Inventory reductions for Sulphur River Saddlery. All kinds of Billy Cook tack and over 30 new saddles. A lot of western decor, something for everybody. One of every item will be sold, regardless of price. Norwood Auction #7994. For info call 632-0956, dealers welcome. 12-19

BIG CHRISTMAS AUCTION, Tuesday night, 6 p.m., Dec. 17, Stanley's Store, Hagansport. Some miscellaneous items including all kinds of toys, Christmas decorations. For info call 632-0956. Norwood Auction #7994. 12-19

SHERRY'S HOME INTERIORS & GIFTS will be hosting an Open House Saturday, Dec. 14, 10-8, open for touring and shopping. Lot of Christmas mds. and gift items. also open the week of Tues., Dec. 17-Sat., Dec. 21 from 10-8. All merchandise will be 10-50% off. For all your last minute shopping, contact Sherry Huddleston, 607 Clarksville, Bogata, TX 75417, 903-632-0367. 12-12

Lost & Found
REMEMBER, we don't charge for free pets, or for your lost or found animals, we want them to have a home! Call 652-4205 or 632-5322.

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FOR SALE: 1999 Ford Taurus. White, auto, loaded, clean. Judy Ward, 632-4931 or 674-4355. MA 1-3

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TWO OPENINGS in Detroit for full time and/or after school child care. Great location, references available. Call Misty, 674-9091. MA 12-12

HELP WANTED: Red River Healthcare, Bogata, evening cook, 11:30-6:30 shift. Experience preferred but will train. Please apply in person with Alice Perry at RRH. MA 12-19

REGENCY NURSING HOME has an opening for a medication aide, 3 days on, 3 days off. Call Benny or Donna, 903-427-3821. 12-19

FREE
PUPPY TO GOOD HOME: 8 mo. old free, black Lab mix, is great watch dog, trainable, healthy, 55 lb. +, will be large dog, needs home with lots of land. Already spayed and current Rabies shot. 632-4493. 12-5nc

FREE TO GOOD HOME ONLY! Handsome, black and white, friendly male cat. About 5-6 months old. Sweet natured and loving. Is litter box trained but could also be an outside cat. 427-5616, days and ask for Denise. 12-19nc

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SELLING OUT: Store & warehouse merchandise, 803 E. Main St, Clarksville, TX. Smith Trading Co. 10 AM - 5:00 PM daily. Holiday shopping at wholesale prices or below. Tee shirts, leather vest, decorative home accessories, southwest, water-fall pictures, lighted pictures, silk flowers, swags, grapevine wreaths, decorative flags, fiber optic eagles, porcelain dolls, teddy bears, skate boards, metal signs, John Deere, Ford, Lots more merchandise. Dealers welcome. 12-19

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 00 GMC 1500 TX/OK
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Eternal Life is Conditional

There are those in the religious world who contend that once a person becomes a Christian and is saved from past sins, he can never lose his salvation. This view is known as the impossibility of apostasy, or perseverance of the saints; it is also referred to as "once saved, always saved." Although it is a popular view, it is a radically false and dangerous one. Hundreds of passages in the Bible teach that we must remain faithful to God's word or we will be lost (Romans 11:22; Galatians 5:4; Hebrews 3:12ff; 6:4-5; James 5:19-20; 2 Peter 2:320-22; Ezekiel 18:1ff).

Some argue that the Bible teaches believers cannot possibly be lost since God has already given them eternal life. Jesus said in John 5:24, "Most assuredly I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life." The Lord said a believer "has (present tense) eternal life." Eternal life has already been given to us; it is already ours. If we possess it right now, then how could we be lost?

The truth is that when the Bible says a believer has eternal life, it means he has it in prospect, in promise. Jesus said if we faithfully follow him we shall "receive a hundredfold now in this time...and in the age to come, eternal life" (Mark 10:30). Notice that eternal life is not something we have now; we receive it in the age to come.

Another text forever settles the issue of how the child of God possesses eternal life. Note 1 John 2:24-25: "Therefore let that abide in you which you heard from the beginning. If what you heard from the beginning abides in you, you also will abide in the Son and in the Father. And this is the promise that He has promised us-eternal life."

Here we learn that eternal life is something God has promised us, but it is a conditional promise. If we abide in him, then we will have the promise of eternal life. If we do not, we will be lost (2 John 9).

So believers have eternal life, but they have it in promise, and that promise is a conditional one. Do not be led astray by the damning doctrine of "once saved, always saved." Contact us if we can help you understand how to inherit eternal life in heaven through Christ.

The Church of Christ in Talco meets at 5th and Lide. Please join us for bible study: Sundays-9:45 a.m., 10:45 a.m., 6 p.m.; Wednesdays-7 p.m.

Talco Locals

Please call your locals news in to 379-4445

Arthur Smith underwent back surgery in a Texarkana hospital Monday. He is reported doing well.

Visiting Ruby Horn on Wednesday last week were Doug and Carol Jean Chidress of Idabel, OK, Bobby, Patty and Kristin Kuhl and Chad, Michelle, Kasey and Braison Kuhl of Snyder, Rickey and Callie Howard and Ashley Mankins of Mt. Pleasant.

Lee Antone is a patient at East Texas Medical Hospital in Tyler where she underwent surgery Tuesday. She is reported improving.

Visiting Jo Horn on Wednesday of last week were; Bobby, Patty and Kristin Kuhl, Chad and Michelle Kuhl, Braison and Kasey all of Snyder; Rickey, Vickie and Callie Howard and Ashley Mankins all of Mt. Pleasant; Joe, Trish and Maria Kuhl of Mt. Vernon and Barry Gage of Talco.

Karen Jones and Alex Wright and a group of members from the Calvary Baptist Church in Talco attended a Christmas program at Prestonwood Baptist Church in Plano Saturday. They report a wonderful time.

Happy December Birthday to: Steve Hall and Jesi Navia.

Mr. and Mrs. Eddie Brown were in Plano Tuesday where he is being treated at the Texas Back Institute.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Wilson entertained guests from California and spent 6 days in Branson, Mo. Upon returning all went on to El Paso, Tx. for a week to have Thanksgiving with relatives.

Thanksgiving Day guests at the home of Ruby Horn and Jo Horn in Talco were; Vickie and Callie Howard and Ashley Mankins all of Mt. Pleasant; Bill Stevens of Detroit, Joe, Trish and Maria Kuhl of Mt. Vernon, Bobby, Patty and Kristin Kuhl, Chad and Michelle Kuhl, Braison and Kasey all of Snyder, Joey and Becky Buster of Lufkin, Jean Horn of Lufkin, David and Jeannie Jones of Houston, Jerry and Alta Horn and Maragret of Medera, California, Lewis, Christy, Christian and Jordan Reid of Dallas, Patrick, Brandi and Ethan Wicks of Dallas, Barry, Susan, Conner and Hanna Gage, Stephen and Gena Gage and Hoyt and Gene Taylor all of Talco.

Enjoying a Thanksgiving hunting trip to south Texas were Karen and Johnny Jones, Shane, Leslie, Alex and Jacob Wright, Marta and Robert Carl Rhoades and Troy Morris. Troy killed his first deer while there.

Bogata Locals

(Call your news in at 903-632-5322. If the machine is on please leave a message)

Helen Williams and Patty Barton were in Huntsville over the weekend for the wedding of their granddaughter and niece, Susan Hobbs and Ryan Templeton at the First Presbyterian Church in Huntsville Saturday evening. They also enjoyed Sunday morning breakfast at the Elkins Lake Club house with George and Janet Hobbs of Huntsville, Jeff and Rosann Miller of Humble and Jerry and Mary Alice Stewart of Clarksville.

Enjoying seeing the Rockettes at New Stage in Grand Prairie on Friday were Sherrie Boyd and Allison, Misty Gage and Lillian Taylor.

Doyle and Nina Smith of Denton visited Saturday and Sunday with Chrystine Baker. They enjoyed a meal at El Mexicano. Also visiting were Tommy Corbell and Billie Welch of Blossom.

Happy December birthday to Pam Fenner, Rita Westbrook, Chelsey Gideon, Ike Roach, Terry Watkins, Ray Tabb, Johnnie Clyde Adcock, James Lee, Kaylee McIntire, Rusty Screws, Elizabeth Ro-

zell, Christine Cruise, Wesley Davidson, Mac Bell, Jarrod Miller, Randy Edge, Kaitlyn Clark, Misti Simmons, Colby Horn, Jeff Vaughan, Kayla Duffee, Clay Pirtle, Joe Stewart, Judy Screws, Sherry Smith, Lawrence Wood and John H. Parrish.

Happy December Anniversary to: Charley and Donnie Lewis and Joe and Angela Rose.

Enjoying Thanksgiving lunch at the home of Misty and Clint Gage were Lillian and Pete Taylor, Alan, Sherrie, Shannon and Allison Boyd, Larry, Gail, Lindsey and Logan Taylor of Red Oak and Lance Taylor and friend Leslie of Denton.

Thanksgiving dinner guests of Randy and Barbara Gibbs were Dorothy and John Townes, James and Pauline Gibbs, Lisa and Russell English, Shane, Michele, Alley and Leah Gibbs, Sonny and Lauren Gibbs, Bubba, Tiffany, Colin and Jaxon McGuire, Jana, Heather, Haley and Hana Hawkins. Shannon Gibbs, stationed in Ft. Benning, GA unable to attend.

Junior High Rebels competing

by Coach Pasternak
Basketball for the Junior High boys has begun with wins at every level A & B teams. The A team is 3-1 while the B team is 4-0 with wins over Cooper twice,

Honey Grove and Prairiland. "Both teams are improving every day. Their shooting fundamentals and their hustle have been a big contributor to our success".

Huddleston DRAWING \$50 in Groceries Saturday, 5:00 p.m.

HUDDLESTON'S GROCERY

We Honor Manufacturers COUPONS

SPECIALS GOOD EVERY DAY

Thurs., Dec. 12th thru Wed., Dec. 19th

OPEN Mon.- Fri. 7:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m. Sat. 8:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. Sun. 9:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m.

BOGATA

632-5624

7 Days A Week

TIP TOP HAM Butt Half \$1 ⁵⁹ Lb. Shank Half \$1 ²⁹ Lb. Whole Ham \$1 ³⁹ Lb.		BRISKETS 99¢ lb. FRESH GROUND CHUCK \$1 ⁹⁹ Lb.		OWEN'S SAUSAGE 2 Lb. Roll Reg. & Hot \$3 ⁴⁹ OWENS SMOKED SAUSAGE \$1 ⁹⁹ 1 Lb. PK.		PARADE SUGAR 4 Lb. \$1 ³⁹ LOU ANNA PEANUT OIL Gal. Jug. \$5 ⁹⁹	
RIB EYE STEAK \$5 ⁹⁹ Lb.	HENS 4-7 Lb. 59¢ Lb.	BUTTERBALL TURKEYS 12-14 lb. 59¢ lb.	JIMMY DEAN SAUSAGE 2 Lb. Roll Reg. & Hot \$3 ⁴⁹	HORMEL CURE 81 HAM HALVES 3-4 Lbs. \$2 ⁹⁹ Lb.	PARKAY MARGARINE 4 Stick or 12 oz. Squeeze Bottle 79¢	MRS SMITH'S PECAN PIE 24 Oz. \$2 ⁹⁹	EDWARDS PECAN & LEMON MERINGUE PIES 32-34 Oz. \$4 ⁴⁹
VIVA PAPER TOWELS Reg. Roll 99¢	OAK FARM'S ICE CREAM 1/2 Gal. All Flavors \$2 ⁹⁹	KRAFT COOL WHIP 8 Oz. Reg. & Lite 99¢	KRAFT VELVEETA CHEESE 2 lb. Box \$4 ⁹⁹	MIRACLE WHIP 32 Oz. \$2 ³⁹	PARADE BUTTERMILK BISCUITS 4/\$1	PILLSBURY GRAND BISCUITS 16 Oz. 8 Ct. 99¢	BETTY CROCKER CAKE MIXES 18 Oz. All Kinds 99¢
EGGS Grade A Large 99¢ Dozen	GOLDEN ROYAL MILK Gal. 2% & Homo \$2 ⁹⁹	CAMPBELL'S CREAM OF CHICKEN Or CREAM OF MUSHROOM SOUP 10 Oz. 79¢	KRAFT CHEEZ WHIZ 15 Oz. \$2 ⁷⁹	KRAFT MARSHMALLOW CREAM 7 Oz. 99¢	SWANSON CHICKEN BROTH 14 Oz. 2/\$1	CHINET PLATES Dinner & Compartment 15 Ct. \$1 ⁸⁹	PLANTER'S MIXED NUTS 11 Oz. CASHEW HALVES 9.25 Oz. 2/\$5
KRAFT PHILADELPHIA CREAM CHEESE 8 Oz. \$1 ¹⁹	LAY'S POTATO CHIPS Reg. \$1 ⁴⁹ All Kinds 99¢	DORITO CHIPS All Kinds Reg. \$3 ²⁹ \$2 ⁶⁹	GLADIOLA CORN BREAD MIX White & Yellow 3/\$1	FRITO LAY BEAN DIP 9 Oz. \$2 ¹⁹	TIDE DETERGENT 31-40 Ld. \$6 ⁵⁹	OCEAN SPRAY CRANBERRY SAUCE 16 Oz. 99¢	KINGSFORD CHARCOAL 20 Lb Bag \$5 ⁹⁹
Parade Evaporated Milk 12 Oz. Can 2/\$1	PARADE LIGHT CORN SYRUP 32 OZS. \$1 ³⁹	NABISCO NILLA WAFERS 12 OZ. BOX \$2 ²⁹	KRAFT CHEESE NIPS 13 OZ. BOX \$1 ⁹⁹	SOLO PARTY CUPS PLATES 20-16 OZ. 15 - 9 INCH. 99¢	HIDDEN VALLEY RANCH DRESSING 16 OZ., REG. & LITE \$2 ¹⁹	TOWN TALK BROWN & SERVE ROLLS 2/\$1	NABISCO OREOS ALL KINDS 16-20 OZ. \$2 ²⁹
BANANAS 49¢ Lb.	CARROTS 1 Lb. Bag 39¢	PRODUCE POTATOES 10 Lb. Bag \$1 ⁹⁹ ORANGES 49¢ Lb.	APPLES 59¢ Lb.	PET RITZ PIE SHELLS Reg. 99¢ Deep Dish \$1 ³⁹	BLUE BELL ICE CREAM & YOGURT 3/\$10	COKE, DIET COKE, SPRITE DR. PEPPER, DIET DR. PEPPER	
MRS SMITH'S PIES Apple, Peach & Pumpkin 37 Oz. \$2 ⁹⁹	PILLSBURY PIE CRUST 15 Oz. \$1 ⁹⁹	WISCONSIN RED RIND CHEESE \$2 ⁹⁹ Lb.	POST RAISIN BRAN 20 Oz. \$1 ⁹⁹	FOLGER'S COFFEE 39 Oz. \$5 ⁹⁹	LIPTON TEA BAGS Family Size 24 Ct. \$1 ⁴⁹	KELLOGG'S APPLE JACKS & CORN POPS 19 Oz. \$2 ³⁹	