

The Eastland County Newspapers' offices will be closed on Christmas Day, Friday, December 25. Due to early printing of the Sunday, December 27 edition, our deadline for that edition will be noon on Wednesday, December 23.

# Merry Christmas



# CISCO PRESS

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Midweek Edition

News Of A Proud City Reported By Your Hometown Paper

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Volume 105 Number 103

Cisco, Texas

Thursday, December 24, 2009

## Eastland's King Kong Project To Cause Public Traffic Detour To EMH, ER Beginning January 4, 2010

All citizens traveling to the Eastland Memorial Hospital beginning January 4, 2010, should be aware of the disruption of normal traffic flow along Daugherty Street in front of the hospital's public and emergency room entrances.

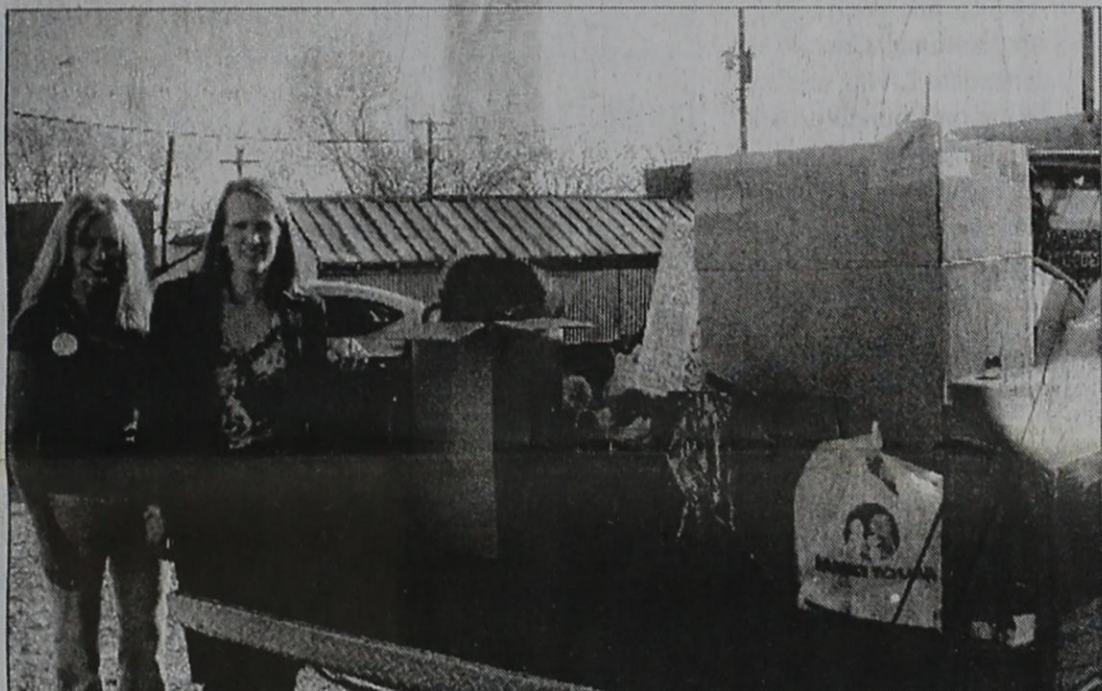
Portions of Daugherty Street will be trenched while crews remove and replace water lines from Commerce to Plummer Street during this time.

Persons visiting the hospital for NONEMERGENCY visits should be aware of the street closure and detour via Walnut Street to the Church of Christ parking lot directly across the street from the front hospital entrance. You may also park in the Wellness Center lot on Plummer Street and enter through the Wellness Center.

EMERGENCY traffic ONLY should enter from behind the hospital using

the Olive Street entrance and proceed to the Ambulance entrance into the emergency room. Once you have delivered your passenger seeking emergency treatment, you must immediately remove your vehicle to one of the hospital parking areas. This will allow the ambulances free access to and from the E.R.

With good weather, and good luck, this inconvenience should only last a week or so.



State Farm staff members Cindy French and Kimberly Fullen are shown with the toys that were collected going to the Cisco Goodfellows.

## Eddie McMillan And Staff Says Thank You For Toy Contributions

Eddie McMillan, along with his staff, would like to thank everyone who contributed to their 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Food & Toy Drive. The food items went to the Cisco Food Pantry and the toys went to the Cisco

Goodfellows. Once again, everyone was blown away by the contributions that were made by businesses and individuals in Cisco to help make a Merry Christmas for families in need. Eddie McMillan State Farm

Agency is already planning on doing this again next year and asks that you please remember these programs throughout the year. Once again, Thank You and Merry Christmas!

## Cisco ISD Board Hold Regular Meeting

The Cisco ISD held their Regular Meeting on December 16, 2009.

Board President, Tim Barton officially opened the meeting.

Open Forum: 2008-2009 AEIS Report, other accountability matters.

2009 AEIS/AYP: Cisco ISD Recognized/Meets AYP

CHS: Exemplary/Meets AYP

CJHS: Academically Acceptable/Meets AYP

Cisco Elementary: Exemplary/Meets AYP

CLC: Academically acceptable/Meets AYP

The Board praised staffs/student/parents for this and all of the other recent successes recently announced involving our school system and the students!

The CISD Board approved the 2008-2009 Independent Audit as presented by Cam Gulley, C.P.A.

The CISD Board approved the "Letter of Engagement"

with Cam Gulley, C.P.A., for the 2009-2010 CISD Independent Audit.

The CISD Board approved the Accounts Payable Report, the Investments Report, the Financial Status Reports, and the Trust-In-Agency Accounts Report as presented by Ms. Hanlon, CISD Finance Director. The Board discussed some upcoming budgeted projects.

The CISD Board approved 2009-2010 Budget Amendments as presented (additional revenue).

The CISD Board took no action regarding Tuition/Tuition Waiver Request.

The CISD Board took no action at this time regarding facility/fleet improvements.

The CISD Board received other financial information but took no action.

The CISD Board approved the minutes from the following Meeting:

Regular Meeting November

18, 2009

The CISD Board received information from the Campus Administrators and Program Directors.

The CISD Board took the listed action on the following policy items:

Received information and discussed:

The status/progress of existing CISD Corrective Action Plans including: RF Tracker & SSP Indicator 12.

Took Action Upon: CISD Comprehensive needs assessment.

CISD BE/ESL Monitoring System Template

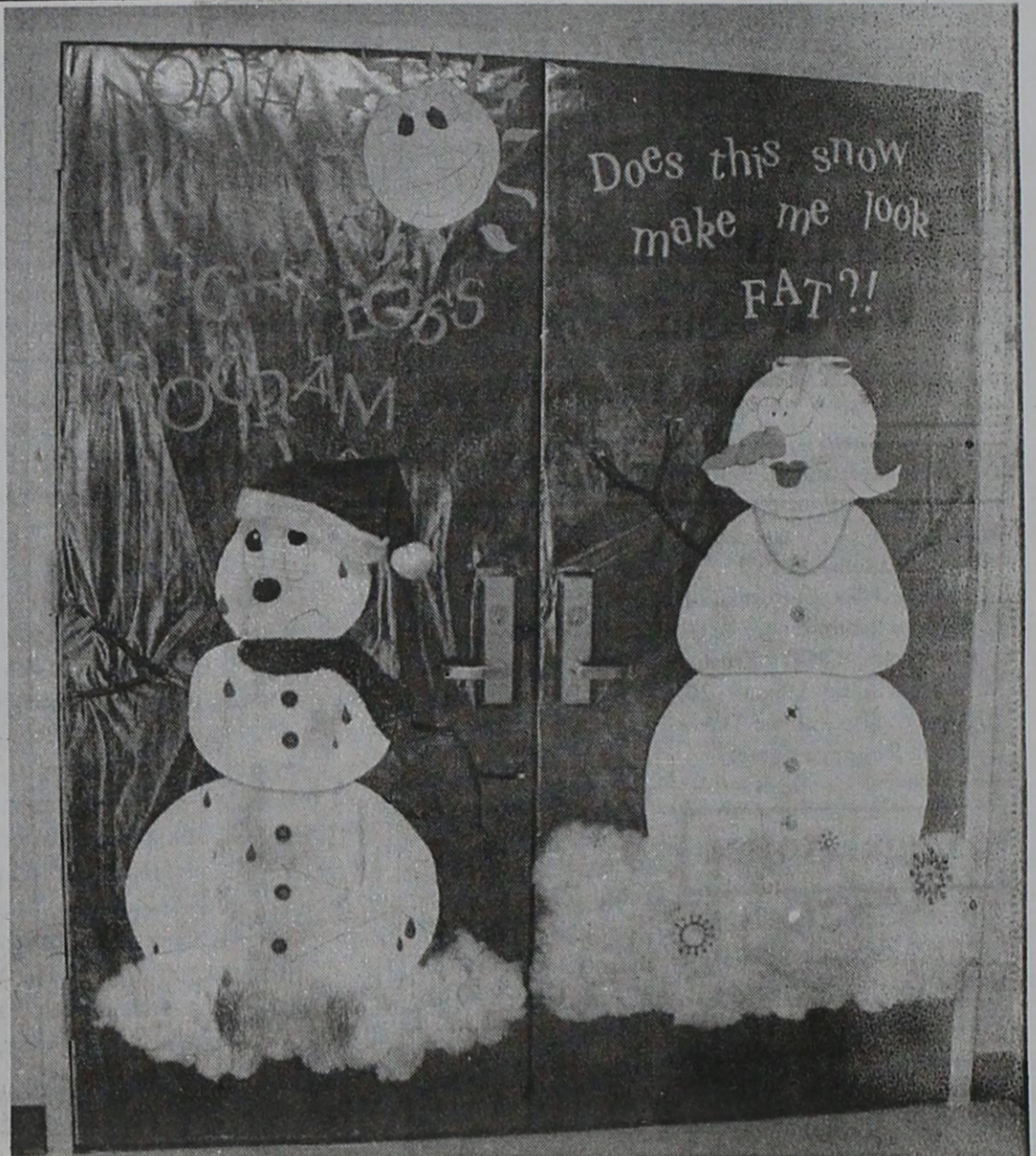
2010 Census Partner Proclamation

The CISD Board received other information regarding policy matters.

The CISD Board took no action regarding facilities/transportation fleet.

The CISD Board of Trustees

(Continued Inside)



A door decorating contest was held at Eastland Memorial Hospital. This door decorated by the Wellness Center won 1st place for Most Whimsical.

## Eastland Memorial Hospital Holds Door Decorating Contest

Grand Prize \$100-Respiratory Therapy, Christmas Cards collage

Most Attractive

1<sup>st</sup> Place, Surgery, Wrapped gift with large silver bow

2<sup>nd</sup> Place, Patient Care Services, Bright blue door

3<sup>rd</sup> Place, Admissions, JOY

Honorable Mention

Ultrasound, Bright gold paper

Most Creative

1<sup>st</sup> Place, Emergency Dept., Fireplace scene

2<sup>nd</sup> Place, Lab, Military theme

3<sup>rd</sup> Place, Human Resources, Mommy Kissing Santa (fireplace)

Hon Mention, PT, Silver door with bells and gingerbread

Most Whimsical

No 4th Friday Musical For Dec.

There will not be a 4th Friday night Musical in December, as it falls on Christmas Day.

The next musical will be

1<sup>st</sup> Place, Wellness, Two large snowmen

2<sup>nd</sup> Place, Cardiac Rehab, reindeer heads mounted

3<sup>rd</sup> Place, Housekeeping, Christmas tree with ornaments

Honorable Mention

Acute Care, Grinch

## Leeann Barron New Representative For Edward Jones In Cisco

Leeann Barron knows the value of a comfortable pair of shoes. That's because she has been pounding the pavement, ringing doorbells and knocking on doors in Cisco.

Edward Jones provides financial services for individual investors in the United States and, through its affiliate in Canada. Every aspect of the firm's business, from the types of investment options offered to the location of branch offices, is designed to cater to individual investors in the communities in which they live and work. The firm's 12,000 - savings to retirement -- and create long-term investment solutions that emphasize a

well-balanced portfolio and a buy-and-hold strategy. Edward Jones embraces the importance of building long-term, face-to-face relationships with clients, helping them to understand and make sense of the investment options available today.

Edward Jones, which ranked No. 2 on FORTUNE magazine's "100 Best Companies to Work For 2009," is headquartered in St. Louis. The Edward Jones Web site is located at [www.edwardjones.com](http://www.edwardjones.com), and its recruiting Web site is [www.careers.edwardjones.com](http://www.careers.edwardjones.com). Member SIPC.

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## Gov. Perry Appoints Eight To Housing And Health Services Coordination Council

AUSTIN — Gov. Rick Perry has appointed eight members to the Housing and Health Services Coordination Council. Pursuant to Senate Bill 1878 of the 81st Legislative session, the council will coordinate and increase state efforts to offer service-enriched housing for seniors and people with disabilities.

Felix Briones of Austin is a benefits case manager for the Mary Lee Foundation,

### From Page One Board Meeting

received and accepted the resignation of Barbara Luster effective January, 2010. The Board commended Mrs. Luster for her loving service to the children of the community and prayed that God would richly bless her always!

The Board received information regarding:

TEA and other state agency/professional association communications.

Other misc. local information & communications.

The next CISD Trustee meeting will be January 20, 2010 at 6:00 p. at the Davis Learning Resource Center.

### Legal Notice

The Cisco Fire Department will be accepting sealed bids on a 1967 Kaiser Jeep. Was running when taken out of service; AS-IS; Current Working CONDITION UNKNOWN; This item is USED and may contain defects that are not immediately detectable. Text description given is meant to be used as a guide only. You are responsible for inspecting item before bidding. All information provided is believed to be correct but NO warranty as such is either intended or implied. All items are sold AS IS - WHERE IS AND WITH ALL FAULTS AND DEFECTS THEREIN. **MINIMUM BID IS \$500.00.** The Cisco Fire Department has the right to reject any or all bids. **THE VEHICLE MAY BE INSPECTED BY APPOINTMENT ONLY. Bids must be turned in no later than 5PM on January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2010. Bids will be opened at 6PM the same day at The Cisco Fire Station. Please Contact Fire Chief Walter Fairbanks at 254 442 3078 for more information.**

12-24, 12-27, 12-31, 1-3, 1-7, 1-10, 1-14, 1-17

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an advocacy and education non-profit organization for children and adults with special needs. He is a member of ADAPT of Austin, a disability rights group. He is appointed for a term to expire Sept. 1, 2013.

Jimmy Carmichael of Brownwood is chief executive officer of Austin Bancshares Inc. He is a member of the Texas Tech University National Alumni Association Board and Howard Payne University Board of Trustees, and a board member and inductee of the Gordon Wood Hall of Champions. He is also a past member of the University of Texas-Permian Basin Development Board and West Texas Regional Center for Innovation and Commercialization Board of Directors, and past executive vice president of business development for the Midland Chamber of Commerce. Carmichael received a bachelor's degree from Texas Tech University. He is appointed for term to expire Sept. 1, 2015.

Kenneth Darden of Livingston is pastor of Macedonia Baptist Church. He is founder and chief executive officer of the Abundant Light of Livingston Inc., a non-profit job training organization. Darden attended Massey Business College in Houston. He is appointed for a term to expire Sept. 1, 2015.

Amy Granberry of Portland is director of organization development for Charlie's Place, a non-profit drug and rehabilitation center. She is a member of the

Association of Substance Abuse Programs and Homeless Issues Partnership of Nueces County, and a board member of the Texas Homeless Network. She is also chair of the Planning and Networking Advisory Committee and Citizens Concern Subcommittee for Mental Health and Mental Retardation of Nueces County, a member and past president of the Corpus Christi Southside Kiwanis Club, and past vice president of the Corpus Christi Business and Professional Women Association. She is also past chair of the Homeless Issues Partnership Inc. and a past member of the Corpus Christi Human Relations Commission and Corpus Christi Human Resource Management Association. Granberry received a bachelor's degree from Amberton University. She is appointed for a term to expire Sept. 1, 2015.

Michael Goodwin of Boerne is a self employed real estate consultant specializing in affordable multifamily housing. He is director of the Cibolo Ridge Estates Home Owners Association, past president and director of the Southwestern Affordable Housing Management Association, and past vice president of the National Affordable Housing Management Association. He is also a volunteer

for Boerne Toys for Tots and the Texas Patriot Guard Riders. Goodwin served in the U.S. Navy. He received a bachelor's degree from the U.S. Naval Academy at Annapolis, and a master's degree in financial management from the U.S. Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey. He is appointed for a term to expire Sept. 1, 2013.

Jean Langendorf of Cottonwood Shores is executive director of United Cerebral Palsy of Texas (UCP). She is secretary and treasurer of the UCP Austin Housing I and II Inc. programs, and a member of Austin Women in Housing. She is a past member of Leadership El Paso Class XIV and the Fannie Mae Housing Impact Advisory Council, past volunteer fundraiser for Dancer's Edge Austin, and a past den mother for the Boy Scouts of America of El Paso. Langendorf received a bachelor's degree from the University of Texas at Austin. She is appointed for a term to expire Sept. 1, 2013.

Paula Margeson of Plano is a grant writer and youth outreach coordinator for REACH Resource Center of Dallas. She is a member of the National Council on Independent Living and Rehabilitation Council of Texas, and chair of the Spring Creek Community Church Disability Ministry. She is also past chair of the Texas State Independent Living

Council and a past member of the Texas Commission for the Blind. Margeson received a bachelor's degree from California State University at Fullerton and an associate degree from Golden West College. She is appointed for a term to expire Sept. 1, 2015.

Doni Van Ryswyk of Arlington is manager of aging programs at the North Central Texas Council of Governments. She is president of the Texas Association of Area Agencies on Aging, and a member of the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging, Texas Association of Regional Councils Human Services Committee, Tarrant Area Gerontological Society, Denton Geriatric Services Work Group, and Texas Promoting Independence Advisory Board. She is also a past volunteer with Dallas Senior Source as a certified long-term care ombudsman, and past certified crisis counselor with Foundation 2 in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Van Ryswyk received a bachelor's degree from Coe College and a master's degree in gerontology from Baylor University. She is appointed for a term to expire Sept. 1, 2013.

### You Don't Say

There are two types of tons. A regular ton is 2,000 pounds, and a long ton is 2,240 pounds.

\*\*\*

On average, there are three million earthworms per acre of fertile soil.

\*\*\*

The stegosaurus, a dinosaur that was more than 18 feet long, had a brain that weighed only two ounces and was no bigger than a walnut.

\*\*\*

On average, a person spends 52 hours a day reading the newspaper.

\*\*\*

The wig craze which swept England in the 18th century died out in 1795 when a hair-powder tax made their upkeep too expensive.

\*\*\*

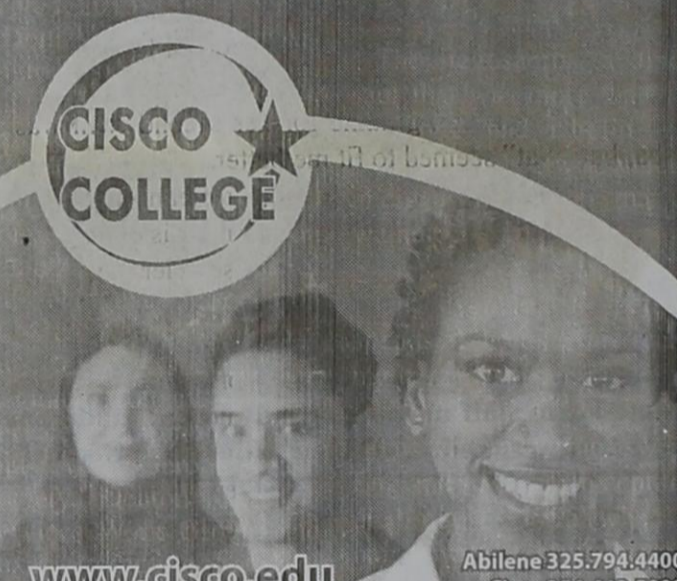
Goldfish will lose their color if kept in dim light or are placed in a body of running water. However, when kept in a pond or bowl with enough light, they retain their color.

\*\*\*

Before the 6th century B.C., Chinese coins were cast in the shape of miniature shells, spades, and knives.

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# CALLAHAN COUNTY STAR SPOTLIGHT WRITERS SHOWCASE

(All submitters retain ownership)

## Double Vision

by Ruth York

"Patsy," I had said over the phone, "You've got to come to Roswell! We'll go camping in the mountains above Ruidoso. I'm off work next week. . . Oh, yes, you can! My neighbor has a cute little trailer we can use, and you can relax under the pines in camp, and paint to your heart's content. Anywhere you look there's a picture just waiting to be painted. You'll see! And the air's so fresh! You'll love the mountains."

Maybe I'd oversold Patsy. Patricia, really. Pat, I usually called her. She'd seemed a little reluctant. But we were twins. Shouldn't I know what was good for her?

She just didn't like sudden change. Pat, the careful, the neat, the organized. I'd always been the tomboy. She was the intuitive one, with her wide brown eyes and sensitive mouth.

But with Pat off work to recover from corrective eye surgery, I wanted to try the mountain remedy on her. They had certainly been good for me. I'd left Texas six months ago with what I'd thought was a broken heart. I wasn't so sure of that anymore.

"I'll do the cooking and camp stuff, Pat. OK, OK, you can wash the coffee cups and such, but? No. You won't ruin my vacation. I won't let you! I promise to hike every day. You'll be perfectly safe in camp by yourself for a few hours."

I didn't mention the challenge I'd set myself. I wanted revenge on John Edgar, the smarty-pants who'd edged me out in the last Roswell Art Federation competition. He was good, no doubt about it. Just sometimes seemed to me he might be a little smug about being that good.

Now, across a small campfire, Pat sighed with contentment. Behind her the small trailer gleamed in the firelight.

"Smell those pines. I can see why you love it here, Nat."

Mother's matching name for her second twin was Natasha, but "Nat" seemed to fit me better.

Patsy hugged her knees and sipped steaming cocoa. Compared to Texas hill country, mountain air is chilly.

We talked about painting, of course. Her job at the University of Texas Fine Arts Department. My job as staff artist for a printer in Roswell. She was by far the better painter, but she disliked the hurly-burly of commercial art. In her quiet, tenacious way, she would succeed. Me? I'd always get by.

Next morning I woke early, brewed coffee, and left Pat yawning over scrambled eggs and toast. I had my watercolors and planned to catch the early morning mists in the valleys.

To be continued in next edition ...

**WANTED: Poetry and/or short stories for this page each week. Mail to: Star P.O. Box 29 Eastland, TX 76448 or e-mail to thebairdspotlight@att.net**

## Writers And Poets!

The Eastland/Callahan County Newspapers announce that the Baird Star will be publishing submitted poetry and short stories. We will also be publishing a literary journal in the near future.

1. We ask for first-time publishing rights. All other rights will remain with the author.
2. There will be no payment, but you will get your works before the general public. We will be sending sample copies to other organizations, the literary world and libraries for their archives and your notoriety.
3. Short stories should be brief. Poetry should be no longer than 24 lines.
4. Each submission should be typewritten, single spaced, with author's name and contact information in the top right hand corner. You must include a SASE for the return of the submission.
5. Please address all submissions to:

**Literary Editor  
Eastland/Callahan County  
Newspapers  
P. O. Box 29  
Eastland, TX 76448  
email: thebairdspotlight@att.net**

Submissions sought to:

**Star  
P.O. Box 29  
Eastland, TX 76448**

email: thebairdspotlight@att.net

S.A.S.E. for returns

--WANTED--

20 lines,

double spaced or less

Poetry

Fiction or Non

**Each entry with brief biography notes. All must be family oriented; no smut, slander or libelable material.**

## As If Nature Talked Back To Me

A Notebook.  
By Ange Mlinko  
Poetry Media Service

"In the light of the moon, a little egg lay on a leaf." The Very Hungry Caterpillar is a great favorite at the moment; my two-year-old son, Gray, seems to have it memorized. He gets very concerned when he reaches the end of the long list of foods the caterpillar has eaten, for there he is, the little creature, sad-faced in the illustration. "That night he had a stomachache!" "Oh no!" Gray exclaims, bending over very close, wearing a pained look. "He's sad! The caterpillar is sad!"

"Since that first morning when I crawled / into the world, a naked grubby thing, / and found the world unkind." A few months ago, I happened on Stanley Kunitz's "Hornworm: Autumn Lamentation." By coincidence, I had seen my first hornworm around the same time—it was my first foray into growing tomatoes—and the thing, thick as a man's finger and green as goo, almost turned me to stone then and there. It was covered with white—what looked like eggs. I looked it up on the Internet and learned that they were parasitic wasp pupae eating their host alive. The caterpillar was en route to being a splendid sphinx moth when its future was usurped by the hymenoptera, but I wasn't supposed to pity it; gardeners hate these tomatovores. Gardeners rejoice at the wasps. The distinction of Kunitz's poem, of course, lies in its taking the hornworm's side, telling the story of creation's injustice in the hornworm's own voice.

You can't judge a work's value by whether it moves you to tears. When Gray bursts into tears at renditions of Brahms's Lullaby and tells me, "The song is so sad," I know that weak vehicles can stand for a tenor so vague and tremulous it is unknowable. My tears spring unbidden at the third verse of Schiller's "Ode to Joy" as well, the vision of a holistic, animate, feeling world: "All thy works with joy surround thee." I realize that the very word "creation" moves me deeply. It touches the feeling I've always had that making things was what I was for (the root of poetry is simply making), and the vision of the world as made, and continually being made, and en-

dowed with consciousness of its making—all this was an early glimpse into the power that unifies the subterranean ground between making poems and making new human beings.

The flip side is a sort of naked terror I never felt before I had sons to feel terrified for. There's something marvelously true to experience in Laura Kasischke's work—I'm thinking of her book *Lilies Without*—which locates this terror beneath the surface of suburban motherhood: poems such as "May," where a cherry tree planted outside a school in memory of a dead kindergartner "shrieked into blossom" in "New Dress (3)," a suburban mother and a mall security guard eerily end up in the same nightmare, "screaming" during a friendly exchange over a trapped pigeon. While gothic suburbia was captured—practically trademarked!—by David Lynch a couple of decades ago, Kasischke gives it a fuller treatment from the point of view of the mother who stands between her child's innocence and death, negotiating the narrow space between them. It is a tonic to the notorious visions of suburbia as wasteland or graveyard of sexuality, as in the famous Larkin poem "Afternoons," where "Young mothers assemble / At swing and sandpit" and "Their beauty has thickened."

Something is pushing them To the side of their own lives.

While suburbia is—to put it mildly—unlibidinal, there's something trite at this point in Larkin's poem, something that feels too much like a man playing to others' prejudices. There's an appearance of sympathy toward the women, but the melancholia is misplaced. Women with young children still have a lifetime ahead of them.

Ange Mlinko is the author of two books, *Matinees* (Zoland Books, 1999) and *Starred Wire* (Coffee House Press, 2005). The latter was a National Poetry Series winner in 2004 and a finalist for the James Laughlin Award. Excerpted from "As if Nature Talked Back to Me," originally published in the September 2009 issue of Poetry magazine and available at [www.poetryfoundation.org](http://www.poetryfoundation.org). Distributed by the Poetry Foundation.

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## American Life in Poetry: Column 247

BY TED KOOSER, U.S. POET LAUREATE, 2004-2006

Family photographs, how much they do capture in all their elbow-to-elbow awkwardness. In this poem, Ben Vogt of Nebraska describes a color snapshot of a Christmas dinner, the family, impatient to tuck in, arrayed along the laden table. I especially like the description of the turkey.

### Grandpa Vogt's—1959

The food is on the table. Turkey tanned to a cowboy boot luster, potatoes mashed and mounded in a bowl whose lip is lined with blue flowers linked by grey vines faded from washing. Everyone's heads have turned to elongate the table's view—a last supper twisted toward a horizon where the Christmas tree, crowned by a window, sets into itself half inclined.

Each belly cries. Each pair of eyes admonished by Aunt Photographer. Look up. You're wine and dined for the older folks who've pined to see your faces, your lives, lightly framed in this moment's flash. Parents are moved, press their children's heads up from the table, hide their hunger by rubbing lightly wrinkled hands atop their laps. They'll hold the image as long as need be, seconds away from grace.

American Life in Poetry is made possible by The Poetry Foundation ([www.poetryfoundation.org](http://www.poetryfoundation.org)), publisher of Poetry magazine. It is also supported by the Department of English at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Poem copyright ©2008 by Benjamin Vogt, whose most recent book of poems is *Indelible Marks*, Pudding House Press, 2004. Reprinted by permission of Benjamin Vogt. Introduction copyright © 2009 by The Poetry Foundation. The introduction's author, Ted Kooser, served as United States Poet Laureate Consultant in Poetry to the Library of Congress from 2004-2006. We do not accept unsolicited manuscripts.

### My Prayer

Hello Lord, This is me again, giving You a call

Just to talk awhile if You have the time I know You are always there and I know You already know my every care.

You sure are good to me and I would like to thank You for it. I don't know what would happen without the love You so freely share.

You know this time of year well it gets me to thinking about being so thankful for Your wonderful and perfect blessings.

I just can't imagine not having You guiding me daily in all that I do and say.

Lord please help me take care of my family they all love You too that's why we pray every night the way we always do.

I love them all Lord You know I do Give me the strength and the wisdom to teach them all about You.

Well Lord this talk was short but You know every word comes straight from my heart So thank You for listening And always being there.

by Joe Herring

## Wanted: Writers & Poets

The pen is mightier than the sword





# Obituaries

## Beverly Stubblefield Dudley, Jr.

RANGER - Mr. Beverly Stubblefield Dudley, Jr., 89, a lifelong resident of Ranger, passed away December 16, 2009, at the Ranger Care Center where he resided for the past 5 years.

Services were held at 2 P.M. Saturday, December 19, 2009 at the First United Methodist Church. Burial followed in the Evergreen Cemetery directed by Edwards Funeral Home.

Mr. Dudley was born in 1920 in Plano, to Beverly S. Dudley, Sr. and Ola Mae Horn. After 4 months, he and his mother joined his father at their home on Spring Road in Ranger, where his father was a lawyer. Mr. Dudley's two-block walk to attend Young Elementary turned into a couple of miles to walk across the railroad tracks to Ranger High School. After school hours, he would care for the chicks at his father's hatchery, located a half block from school. He graduated in 1937.

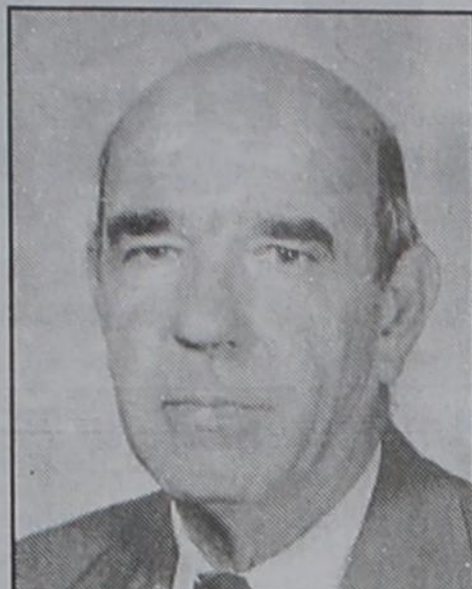
Mr. Dudley attended Ranger Junior College and Texas A&M University, graduating in 1942. He served in the United States Marine Corps, achieving the rank of Captain. He fought in the Pacific in World War II, with action at Guadalcanal.

After the war, Mr. Dudley returned to Ranger where he taught for 2 years at the Vocational School in Eastland. The secretary there, Hazel Harrell, won his heart and they were married in 1948. Beverly and Hazel's only child, Teresa, was born in 1952. The three of them moved from their apartment in town to their land west of town that Mr. Dudley's father had bought for one dollar an acre.

Probably best known as a respected (and feared) vocational agriculture teacher, Mr. Dudley began teaching at Ranger High School in the spring of 1950, taking over from his brother-in-law, Mr. R.B. Thomas, Jr. of Strawn, who took a position with the Purina Feed Company. Mr. Dudley continued in this position until his retirement in 1980.

Mr. Dudley earned his master's degree from Texas A&M University during summer semester commuted together with Strawn and Desdemona agriculture teacher, Mr. Keith McDonald.

Boxed of slides and photos of FFA and judging teams can be found in the Dudley home. During his 301/2 years



at R.H.S., Mr. Dudley took numerous judging teams to the district, area and state meets with several teams earning a trip to the national contest in Oklahoma City. One team slept overnight through a tornado that destroyed a building across from their motel.

Students learned many practical skills in vocational agriculture classes. An item that all classes built has recently found its way back to Mr. Dudley's house - one of those famous shoe shine kits.

Mr. Dudley served in various capacities in the First United Methodist Church of Ranger. Though he could be heard singing the hymns with gusto, carrying a tune was not one of his strong points.

Mr. Dudley is preceded in death by his wife Hazel, on the very same date in 2002. He is also preceded in death by his parents, Beverly S. Dudley, Sr. and Ola Mae Dudley. He is survived by his sister, Doris Dudley Thomas and her husband R.B. Thomas, Jr. of St. Louis, Missouri; and by his daughter, Teresa Ann of Saginaw, TX.

A special expression of thanks goes to all those wonderful, kind, and understanding employees and residents of Ranger Care Center, and to those Ag boys (and girls) who continue to tell tall tales.

## Ronnie Bullock

CISCO - Ronnie Bullock, 55, of Cisco, passed away Saturday, December 19, 2009 in Abilene.

Graveside services will be held at 10 A.M. Wednesday, December 23, 2009 at the Eastland City Cemetery with Rev. Jerry Maston officiating and under the direction of Edwards Funeral Home in Eastland.

## Odesa Collins

CISCO - Odesa Collins, 95, of Cisco died Saturday, December 19, 2009 at Homestead Nursing Home.

Funeral services were held at 2 p.m. Monday, December 21, 2009 at 2 p.m. in Kimbrough Funeral Home Chapel.

Odesa was born September 20, 1914 near Moran, Texas to Harris Allen and Belle (Yeager) Coats. She graduated from North Texas State University with a Masters in Education and taught in the Burleson Schools for many years. She married William F. (Bill) Collins August 14, 1937 in Abilene. He preceded her in death August 5, 1997. Odesa was a member of First Baptist Church, The Birthday Club and Texas State Teachers Association.

Survivors include daughters,



Charlotte Barnes and husband Royce of Levelland, Maedean Dodds and husband Roy of Brownwood; brothers, James (Bud) Coats of Cisco and H.L. Coats and wife Jeanne of Arlington; sisters, Winona Watson of Twin Falls, Idaho, Toni Raines and husband Joe of Cheshire, Conn., and Jean Fitzgerald and husband Jim of Cisco; five grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

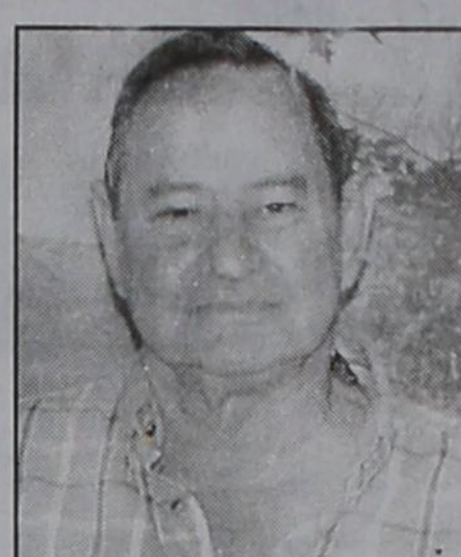
## Arvol Doyle 'A.D.' Stuard

CISCO - Arvol Doyle Stuard of Cisco passed away at his home Monday, December 21, 2009.

Funeral services were held at 3:00 PM Tuesday, December 22, 2009 at Kimbrough Funeral Home Chapel, officiated by Reverend Bob Ferguson; burial was in Oakwood Cemetery directed by Kimbrough Funeral Home.

Mr. Stuard was born in Cisco on July 2, 1936 to Arvol George and Bernice Rachal (Doyle) Stuard. He was a mechanic and owned and operated a transmission repair shop in Cisco. He married Iva Nell Borders on February 23, 1983 in San Angelo.

He is survived by his wife Nell of Cisco; son, Rickey Joe Stuard of Albuquerque, New Mexico, Farrell Dean Stuard of Milsap, Texas, Daryl Lynn Stuard of Big Lake, Texas; sons by marriage, Lewis L. Dear of Dublin, Texas, daughters by marriage, Karen Allen



of Cisco, Texas, and Brenda K. Leach of Dublin, Texas; brothers, Randy Stuard and Ronnie Stuard both of Pittsburg, Texas; 14 grandchildren and 17 great grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by a daughter, Marilyn Joyce Burns.

Memorials may be made to The ALS Association, North Texas Chapter, 1231 Greenway Drive, Suite 270, Irving, Texas 75038.

## Mary Vasquez

Mary Vasquez 68, of Lake Dallas, TX received her angel wings December 19, 2009. Her final days were spent surrounded by family and friends that Mary had touched throughout her memorable life.

Viewing was Tuesday, December 22, 2009 at Edwards Funeral Home in Ranger, Texas from 5 - 8 p.m.. Services will be held Wednesday, December 23, 2009 at First United Pentacostal Church in Ranger, Texas at 2 p.m.

Mary was born June 21, 1968 in Dallas, Texas to Alvin and Geneva McCain. She married the love of her life 44 years ago and was a devoted wife to her husband Luis Vasquez for 44 years. She was an amazing mother to her son Tim Vasquez. Mary was a woman of many talents; she had a deep love for the arts and was an accomplished artist early in her life. Everyone that came in contact with her immediately was taken by her grace and beauty. Mary never met a stranger and was a friend to all. She was a giving woman, and never thought twice about helping someone in need. Mary was a strong woman who had fought cancer 12 years of her life she never gave up and in the end won the battle. She was a devoted Christian and found peace reading the bible. Mary leaves this earth on a new journey with our lord; a she took with her the parts of our hearts that broke they day she became an angel.

Mary is preceded in death by her parents Alvin and Geneva McCain, siblings Francis Andrade Charles McCain. She is survived by her husband Luis Vasquez, son Tim Vasquez and fiancé Lesley Davis I; sisters Ruth Knighton, Bar-

bara Green, Joyce Vickers, Geraldine Boykin, Charlotte Denby, brother Jerry McCain, Gene McCain. Grandson Coltin Whitehead. Close Friends Paula Dunklin and Karen Mauer, numerous nieces and nephews.

**The Day God Called You Home.** by Unknown

God looked around his garden,

And He found an empty place.

He then looked down upon this Earth,

And saw your tired face.

He put his arms around you,

And lifted you to rest.

God's garden must be beautiful.

He always takes the best.

He knew you were suffering.

He knew you were in pain.

He knew that you would never.

Get well on Earth again.

He saw that the road was getting rough,

And the hills were hard to climb,

So He closed your weary eyelids

And whispered, "Peace by Thine."

It broke our hearts to lose you,

But you didn't go alone.

For part of us went with you,

The day God called you home.

Funeral Services are pending at Edwards Funeral Home, in Ranger, Texas

## William Glen Kelso Stubbs

CISCO - William Glen Kelso Stubbs, 72, of Cisco, passed away Sunday, December 20, 2009, at his home.

Burial was Monday, December 21, 2009 in the Romney Cemetery.

A Memorial Service will be held at a later date.

Mr. Stubbs was born January 3, 1937, in Oklahoma City, OK to Glen Fearnow and Donie Kelso. He married Sharon Kay Rodgers on January 15, 1967, in Los Vegas, Nevada. He worked as a carpenter, and

attended the Assembly of Yahweh, Seventh Day Church.

Mr. Stubbs is survived by his wife, Sharon, of Cisco; seven children: Richard Halford, Cherylee Clark & husband, Cliff, Cherelle Hawkins and husband, David, Matthew Stubbs and wife, Laura, Joshua Stubbs and wife, Crystal, Shoshana Carr and husband, Timothy, Nathan Stubbs and wife, Katrina; sixteen grandchildren, two great-grandchildren and two expected.

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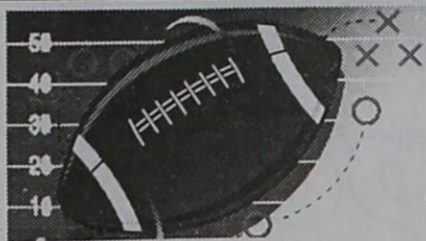
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**MAVERICKS LOBOES BULLDOGS PANTHERS WILDCATS**

# Eastland County Sports

**State Championship Scores:**

ABILENE HIGH BEATS KATY, 28-17

CARTHAGE BEATS GRAHAM, 13-12

DAINGERFIELD BEATS BUSHLAND, 62-14

CAYUGA BEATS ALBANY, 38-24

**Eastland Mavericks Fall To Jim Ned**

The Eastland Mavericks have only two losses for the 2009-10 season, and both of those have come at the hands of the Jim Ned Indians. Last Friday night, the Mavs traveled to Tuscola to take on the Indians for the second time this season. After a slow start, the Mavs found themselves down 30-18 at halftime. But there was no 'quit' in the Maverick squad. Battling back the Mavericks outscored the Indians 17-13 in the third and pulled to within 4 points during the fourth quarter. With Jim

Forrest Robinson, Coach Doug Galyean went to more strength under the bucket with Russell Williams. But the Mavericks sent the Indians to the free throw line 25 times and finally came up short by the score of 55-45. Scorers for the Mavericks were Forrest Robinson with 20, Jett Johnson with 9, Russell Williams with 8, Billy Bob Brown with 5, and Austin Felts with 3. After a weeklong Christmas break, the Mavs will resume play Monday, December 28 in the Eula Holiday Tournament.



Jett Johnson shoots from the corner in the Mavs loss to Jim Ned Friday night. Johnson hit 3 three pointers in the loss. Pic 046 - The Maverick's defense kept them in the game until the end. Pictured is Senior Marcus Bartee guarding a Jim Ned point guard. Photo provided by Rusty Maynard.

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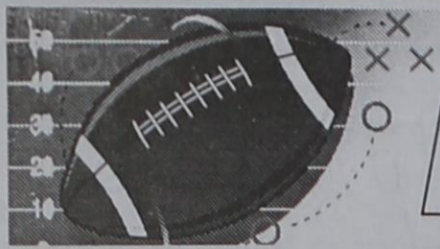
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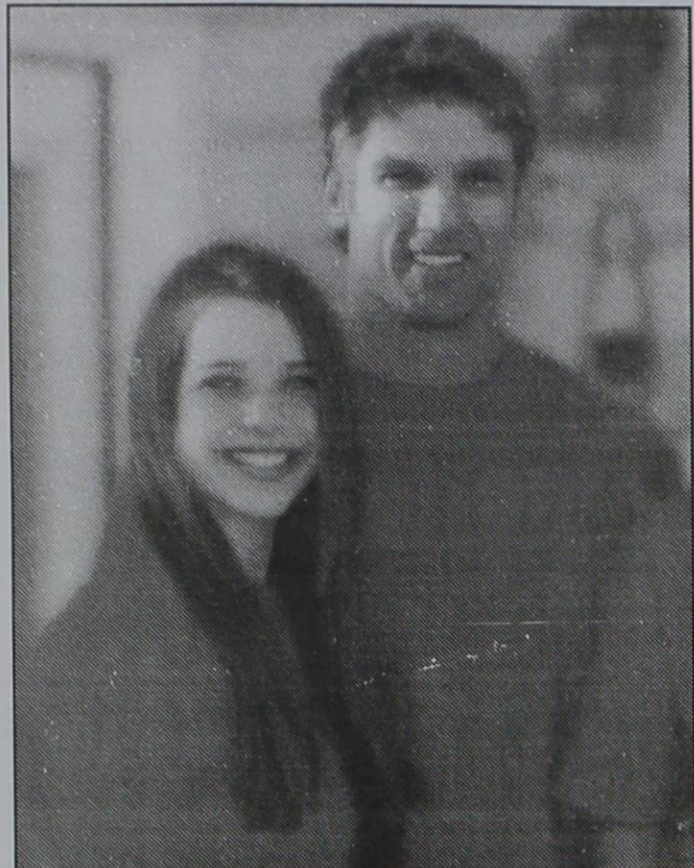
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**MAVERICKS LOBOES BULLDOGS PANTHERS WILDCATS**  
**Eastland County Sports**



Jayci and Jay Hess

**Catching Up With Jay Hess**

By: Rusty Maynard

Well it took me some time, but I have finally found the man that led the Eastland Mavericks to the 1982 State Title. Jay Hess's accomplishments both as a high school player and a collegiate athlete could make for a great story themselves, but we will get to that later as I want to fill you in on what he is doing these days. He currently lives in Arlington, where he has lived for the past four years, with his daughter Jayci. Jay started a weight company called Lone Star Fitness two

years ago and also works as a personal trainer. During the day, he coaches and teaches physical education at the Middle School level in the Mansfield area. Prior to that, he coached and taught on the varsity level for 18 years. His daughter, Jayci, is 15 years old and was a starter on the varsity volleyball team, as only a freshman, at Brookshire Royal High School. She was also a varsity cheerleader this past fall. Jay says that he moved away from high school coaching to spend more time running

his company, personal training, and to watch Jayci play sports.

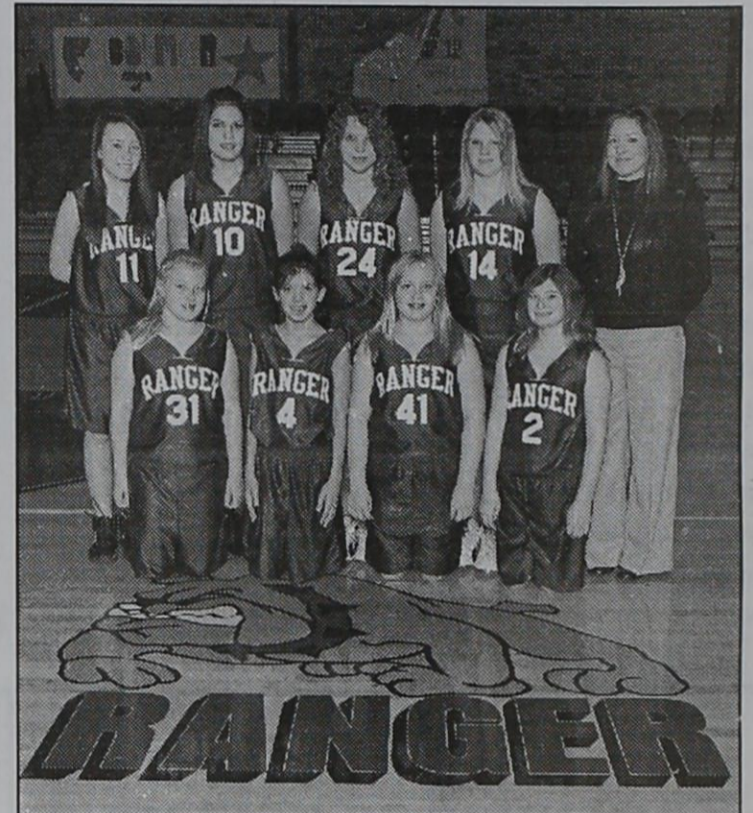
To begin with his achievements, Jay received his General Business degree from the University of Iowa in 1988 followed by taking courses to gain his teaching certificate in the fall of 1989 and spring of 1990 from Sam Houston State. While at Iowa, he was a member of the Hawkeye football team. He was a versatile player and played 3 different positions during his time there (Quarterback in 1984 and 1985, Strong Safety in 1986, and Free Safety in 1987). The Hawkeyes reached 4 straight bowl games, winning 55-17 over Texas in the 1984 Freedom Bowl, losing 45-28 to UCLA in the 1985 Rose Bowl, winning 39-38 over San Diego State in the 1986 Holiday Bowl, and winning 20-19 over Wyoming in the 1987 Holiday Bowl. His best year and most memorable moment came in the 1987 season, when he was told he would be the starter at Free Safety the last half of the season. His senior year, with the Hawkeye football team, was capped off when he would score the winning touchdown on a blocked punt in the 1987 Holiday Bowl that aired on national television.

His path to Iowa, after transferring from Texas

A&M, was in large part from the tremendous amount of success he had as an Eastland Maverick. He would showcase his talents for three years on the football field as the varsity starting quarterback. Jay was a 3 time All-District ('80, '81, '82), 2 time All-Area ('81, '82), 2 time Abilene-Reporter News Offensive Player of the Year ('81, '82), and 2 time 1<sup>st</sup> Team All State ('81, '82) all as a quarterback. Putt Powell named him the Texas High School Player of the Year, in all classifications, his senior year of 1982. He broke the single season passing yards record held by Todd Dodge (Former Southlake Carroll and Current North Texas Head Football Coach), at the time, finishing with 3,154 yards for the season. In his three years as a starting quarterback, Jay would throw for a total of 5,766 yards. He was listed as the #9 recruit on the Fab 55 Blue Chip List his senior year. As a team, the Eastland Mavericks would finish as District Champs going 9-2 his sophomore year in 1980. In 1981, the Mavs would finish as Quarterfinalists with an 11-2 record. The 1982 year would mark the most successful season ever by a team representing Eastland as the Mavericks would become State Champions

with a 15-0-1 record. After football was finished each season, Jay wasn't too bad on the basketball court either as he was a four year starter. He was named All-District two of those years and the Mavericks would reach the finals of the Regional Tournament in 1981. They would be Bi-District Champs the following season after getting started six weeks late due to the success they were having on the football field.

I would like to thank Jay Hess for taking the time to send me his information and Lydia King for letting me know where I can get in touch with him! If you would like to see previous athletes featured in this article or want more information on your Eastland County Sports teams, go to my website at [www.ecsports.net](http://www.ecsports.net). Please send your nominations to [rmaynard3@yahoo.com](mailto:rmaynard3@yahoo.com).



Ranger JH white team girls basketball pic. Standing L to R: Brittany Boyd, Candace Munoz, Ashley Lawrence, Hailey Hodges, Coach Diaz Kneeling L to R: Kati Rutledge, Andrea Archer, Summer Boyd, Brittany Destro - Photo provided by Rusty Maynard

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MAVERICKS LOBOES BULLDOGS PANTHERS WILDCATS

# Eastland County Sports



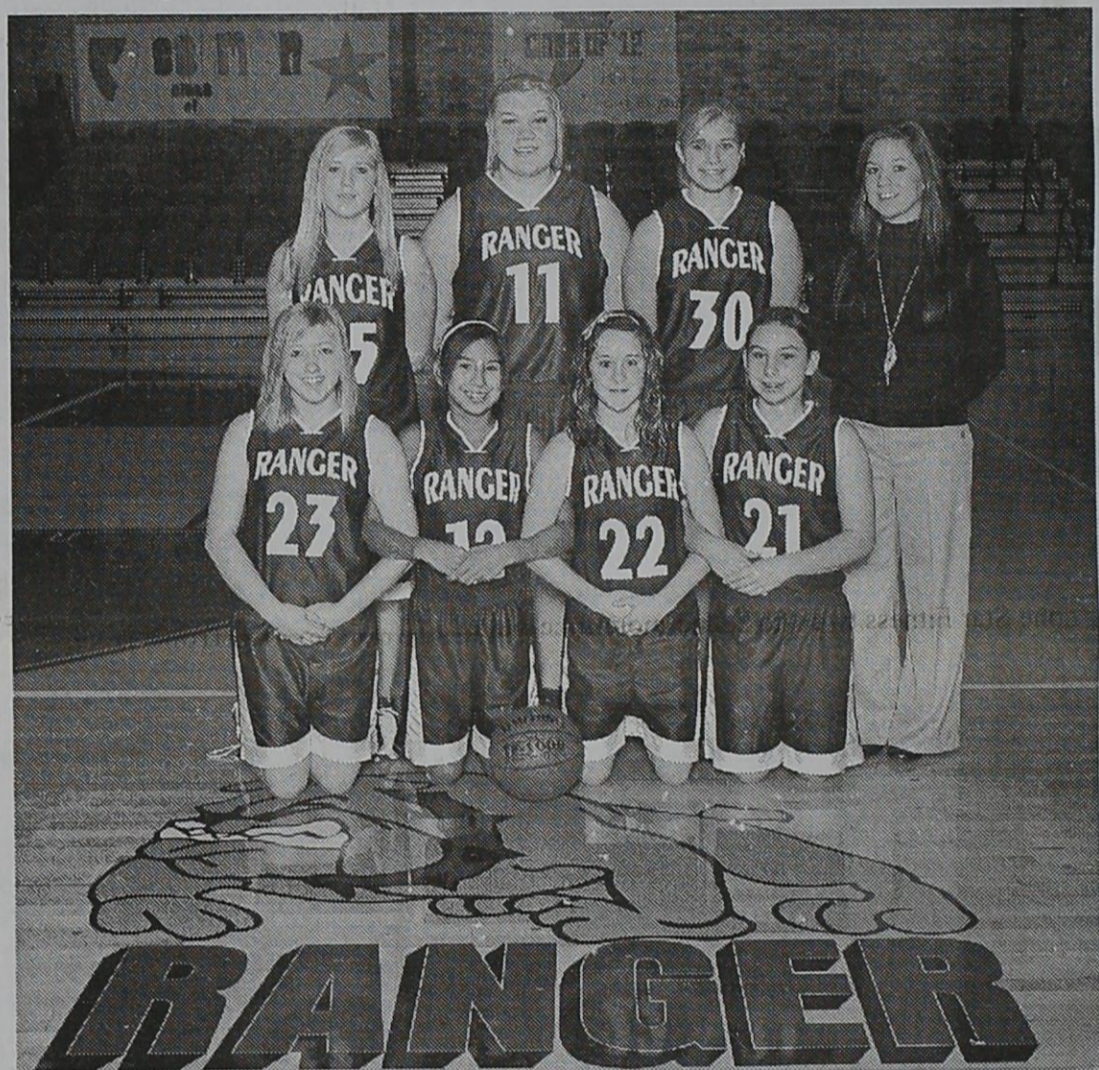
Eastland versus Jim Ned basketball game



Eastland Maverick 7th Grade Girls Basketball Team won the Hico Tournament on December 5th. Back row L to R: Coach Sue Gulley, Brittany Sharp, Mattie Moyland, Sidney Addy, Erin Farmer, Sloan Ahrllett. Front Row L to R: Cheryl Howie, Mercedes Contreras, Lexie Whaley, Alexis Menzies .

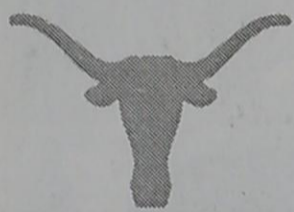
### Upcoming Basketball Games:

- Dec. 28-31 - Cisco Loboes and Lady Loboes compete in the Eula Tournament
- Eastland Mavs and Lady Mavs compete in the Eula Tournament
- Gorman Panthers and Lady Panthers compete in the Priddy Tournament
- Ranger Lady Bulldogs compete in the Breckenridge Tournament
- Jan. 1 & 2 - Ranger College Women's Basketball compete in the Kilgore Classic
- Jan. 1 - Cisco College Lady Wranglers play Clarendon in Hobbs, New Mexico and tip-off is at 1:00
- Jan. 2 - Cisco Lady Loboes play Santo at home and tip-off of games starts at 2:00
- Cisco College Lady Wranglers play New Mexico JV in Hobbs, New Mexico
- Ranger College Men's Basketball play D&D Sports Fed. at home and a time has yet to be determined
- Jan. 5 - Cisco Loboes play Breckenridge in Breckenridge and tip-off of games starts at 5:00
- Cisco Lady Loboes play Wall at home and tip-off is at 6:00
- Cisco College Lady Wranglers play Midland College at home and tip-off is at 3:00
- Eastland Mavs and Lady Mavs play Goldthwaite in Goldthwaite and tip-off of games starts at 4:00
- Gorman Panthers play Perrin in Perrin and the games start at 6:00
- Ranger Lady Bulldogs play Santo at home for a district matchup and tip-off for the games start at 6:00
- Jan. 6 - Ranger College Women's Basketball play the Cisco College Lady Wranglers in Cisco starting at 5:30



Ranger JH Maroon girls basketball team. Standing L to R: Crystal Westover, Holly Needham, Skyi Rhyne, Coach Diaz, Kneeling L to R: Ashley Hill, Chanda Leal, Sage Franks, Tessa Chancellor. Photo provided by Rusty Maynard

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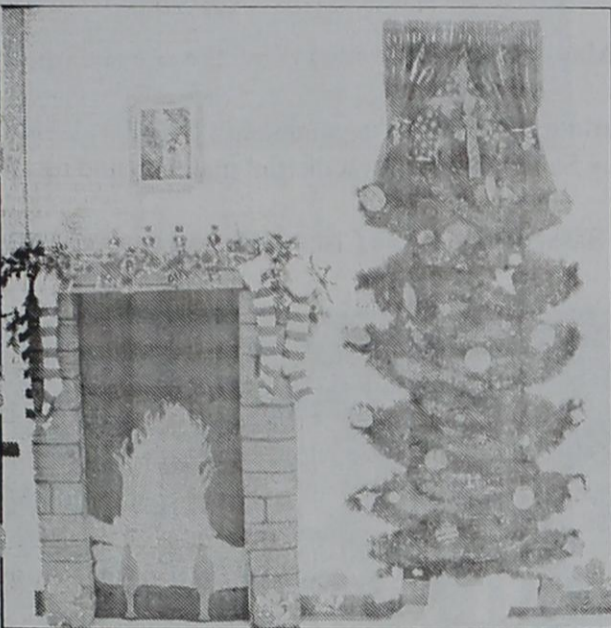


# CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

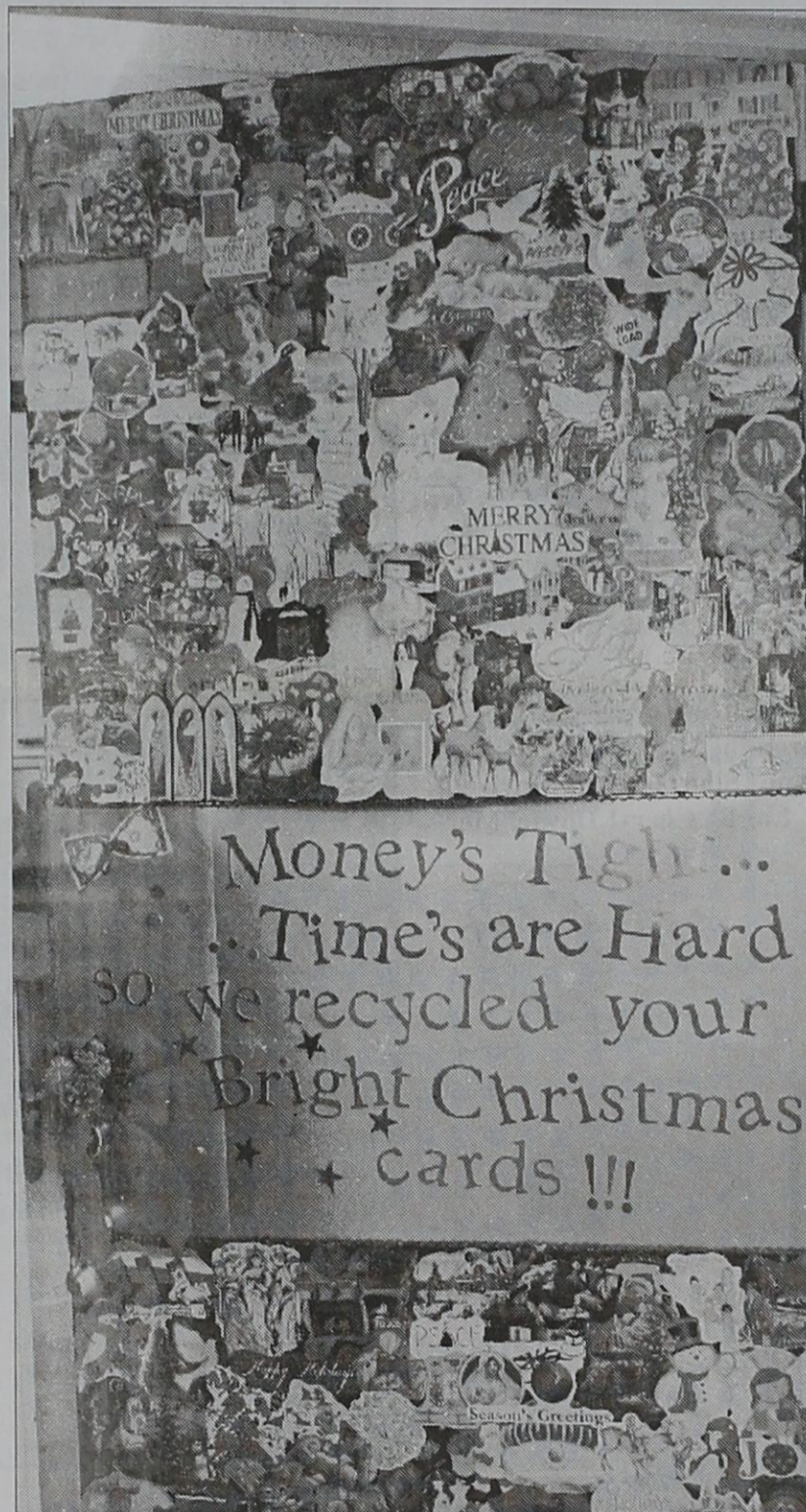
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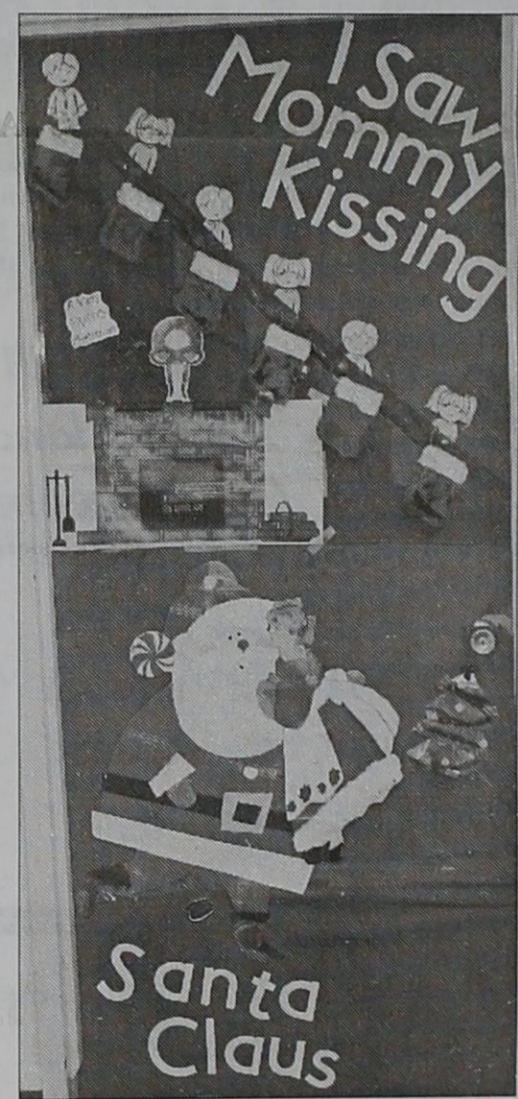
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# AREA MEDICAL DIRECTORY

## Holiday Travels And Child Passenger Safety

With Christmas just around the corner, this means that we will be traveling to visit friends and family. You may only be going a few miles or a few hundred miles, either way you need to make sure that your children are riding safe for the trip. Motor vehicle crashes are the #1 killer of children! Why? Either the child is not properly secured in their child safety seats or seat belt, sometimes it's neither.

One needs to remember, that in the event of a crash everything in the vehicle is moving at the same speed as the vehicle is traveling. So, if you are holding a 10 lb

child in a vehicle that is traveling at 30 MPH, the child will feel like a 300 lb object being ripped from your arms, or from the seat if they are older and not secured in any way. Unrestrained children or adults for that matter can be ejected from a vehicle during a crash, most of the time through a side window, or even the windshield or rear window. No one wants to spend their Christmas or New Years in the hospital or making funeral arrangements because someone was not secured in a seat belt or child safety seat.

Under the new Texas child

restraint law, children under 8yrs old and 4 foot 9 inches MUST ride in a booster seat. This new law went into effect September 1, 2009, but there is a grace period in there, so tickets won't be issued until June 1, 2010. However, police can still issue and will issue you a ticket for having an unrestrained child, which can carry a fine of \$150 or up verses' a free child safety seat. Also, as of September 1, 2009, everyone in the car must wear a seat belt, whether in the front or back seat.

Also, as apart of this new law, 15 passenger vans are now covered under this law, prior to this they were not. This includes those used by day care centers, and they are also required to attend a 1-2 hr training on the proper use of child safety seats and booster seats in these vans. So, if your child is transported in one of these type vans, make sure that the center

personnel has received the required training.

I would also like to point out this current car seat recalls that you may have seen on TV. There have been at least three injuries to babies in the United States, including bumps, bruises and a head injury, but there have been no complaints or injuries reported in Canada.

Dorel Juvenile Group Inc., has received reports that the child restraint handle is fully or partially coming off the products.

The U.S.-based company is offering a free repair kit to fix the loose handle.

The recall involves Safety 1st, Cosco, Eddie Bauer and Disney branded infant car seat carriers with certain model numbers.

The seat was manufactured from January 2008 to April 2009.

Consumers can order the repair kit by contacting Dorel

Juvenile Group at 1-866-762-3316 during business hours or visit the firm's website at HYPERLINK "http://www.djgusa.com" At "blank" www.djgusa.com. If you have one of these seats, please check either web-site to see if your seat is one of the recalled seats.

If you need a child safety seat or booster seat, please call us at 254-734-5989 as we still have some booster seats and regular car seats available. Please have a safe and Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

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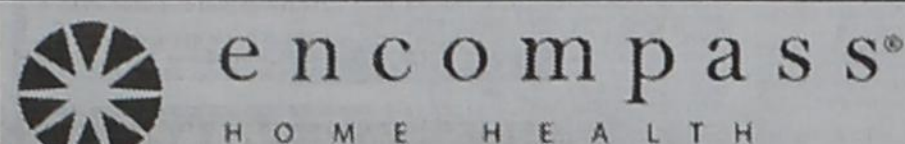
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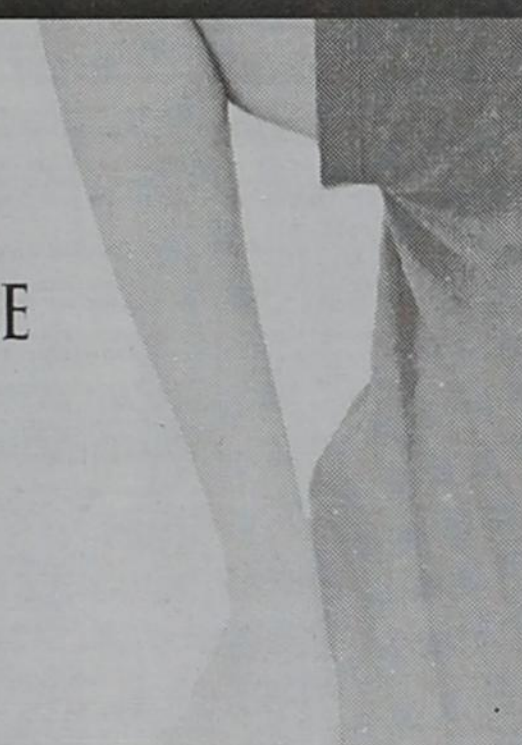
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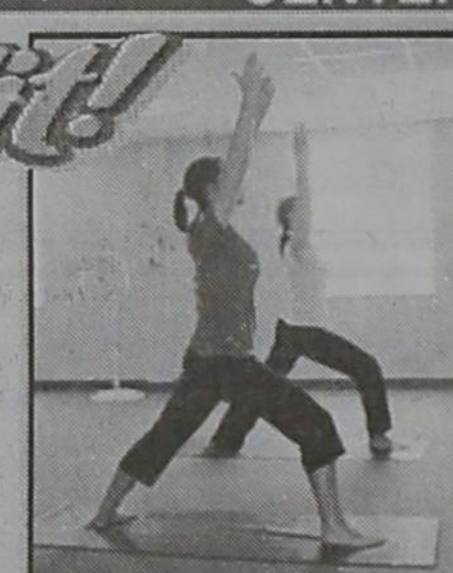
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| *Basic Plans Pd Mo. 6 mo. 12 mo.                                  |                     | Jazzercise 5:00am-6:00am | Spinning 5:00am-6:00am   | Jazzercise 5:00am-6:00am | Spinning 5:00am-6:00am  | Jazzercise 5:00am-6:00am |          |
| Indiv. Rate   | 33.00 180.00 346.00 | Spinning 6:00am-7:00am   | Kickboxing 6:00am-7:00am | Body Pump 6:00am-7:00am  | Body Pump 6:00am-7:00am | Body Pump 6:00am-7:00am  |          |
| 2 persons   | 60.00 330.00 640.00 |                          |                          |                          |                         |                          |          |
| Each addt.  | 10.00 60.00 120.00  |                          |                          |                          |                         |                          |          |
| Senior (>65)  | 25.00 140.00 270.00 |                          |                          |                          |                         |                          |          |
| Senior (2 Persons)  | 50.00 280.00 540.00 |                          |                          |                          |                         |                          |          |
| *Single session workouts can be purchased for \$5.00 per session. |                     |                          |                          |                          |                         |                          |          |
| **Prem. Plans Pd Mo. 6 mo. 12 mo.                                 |                     |                          |                          |                          |                         |                          |          |
| Indiv. Rate   | 50.00 280.00 540.00 |                          |                          |                          |                         |                          |          |
| 2 persons   | 75.00 425.00 820.00 |                          |                          |                          |                         |                          |          |
| Each addt.  | 20.00 120.00 240.00 |                          |                          |                          |                         |                          |          |
| Senior (>65)  | 42.00 240.00 463.00 |                          |                          |                          |                         |                          |          |
| Senior (2 persons)  | 63.00 365.00 720.00 |                          |                          |                          |                         |                          |          |
| *Includes access to exercise classes.                             |                     |                          |                          |                          |                         |                          |          |
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Gentle Yoga - A gentle and safe approach to traditional yoga designed for those new to this practice or with limited mobility. This class is formatted to help individuals achieve and maintain a healthier, stronger, active and more balanced lifestyle - Bev

Yoga Core - Build strength and improve balance while increasing overall body flexibility - Beverly

Yoga Edu. - This class will target teachers who need a de-stresser, yoga basics, and deep breathing - Beverly

Body Pump - A muscle pumping, full body workout for women who want to firm those troubled areas - Tessa

Just Abs - A fun way of getting that firm core you've always wanted by using mats, stability & weight balls. If needed, modifications will be offered - Tessa

Yoga Burn & Firm - This workout begins with flowing yoga-based exercises blended with traditional fitness moves to tone muscles and burn calories. Then it will progress into Pilates-style exercises to firm the lower body & abs, ending with yoga stretches to improve flexibility and posture - Corinne

Jazzercise - Customize your exercise routine to your life-style. Jazzercise includes a little bit of jazz, hip-hop, and country. Start at a lower impact and work your way up - Jaime

Groovin Slow (Jazzercise) - A fun and exciting way for those who are less active to keep your workout interesting

Zumba - Zumba eliminates the "work" from "working out" by combining amazing irresistible Latin and international music with dynamic, yet simple exercise moves, using their unique intermittent training format. Everyone is invited, from teens to seniors, and sports men and women. Everybody loves Zumba! - Terra

Everybody loves Zumba! - Terra

Kickboxing - A high impact aerobic workout, combined with punching and kicking that helps target those hard to work areas. Includes a 5 minute warm up & stretch, a 35 minute aerobic workout, ending with a 20 minute cool down including abs - Suzanne

Visit [www.eastlandmemorial.com](http://www.eastlandmemorial.com) for more information.



# Desdemona News

By Vonnie Guthery

Desdemona monthly musical will be canceled for December due to the busy "Holiday Season". This monthly musical will start back on Saturday, January 23, 2010 and will continue on the 4th Saturday of each month. All area musicians, singers and visitors are invited to attend. This is a "Smoke Free" environment and the admission is "Free".

held on Monday, January 11th at the same location. Visitors are welcome.

Issac Diez of Desdemona is #11 in the world of Saddle Bronc Riding. He rode in the National Rodeo Finals in Las Vegas recently. Only the top fifteen bronc riders gets to ride in the National Finals. Congratulations to Issac Diez.

Recent visitors with Humpy and Betty Duke were John and Ronda (Duke) James and daughter, Emily of Whitney, Rodney and Debbie Duke of Pantego, Katie and Elise Duke of Early.

Hello to our friends, Pete and Alla Rae (Friday) Kelley in Sealy and to Rex and Billie Tilly in Gatesville. Alla Rae and Rex were classmates with this reporter in the Class of 1951 of Desdemona.

Get Well wishes to Betty Duke from Desdemona friends. She has been on the sick list for over a week.

Take time out from your busy daily schedule to remember the sick and shut-ins of our community with your cards and prayers. Holidays are a lonely time of the year for our shut-ins.

Karen Fair hosted a birthday party on Tuesday, December 22nd for her granddaughter, Lorin. Several family members and friends attended to enjoy a good meal followed by a birthday cake to help Lorin celebrate her 16th birthday.

Sorry to miss writing last week's news --this reporter was on the sick list or maybe you could say the "lazy" list. In order to keep this Desdemona News article going--you need to contact this reporter with your weekly news. Thank you.

Ladies monthly social was a covered dish Christmas luncheon at the Community Center last Monday. Several ladies attended to enjoy the good food and fellowship. Next ladies social will be

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all of our friends and neighbors from Pug and Vonnie Guthery.

## Clarification

In a recent announcement it was stated that the name of Carrie Goodman's new

son is Zayden Goodman. The child's name is Zayden Urijah Robertson, according to Carrie.

## FUMC, Eastland Christmas Eve Candlelight And Communion Service

First United Methodist Church of Eastland would like to invite you to Come Home for Christmas. The church will be holding Christmas Eve Candlelight and Communion Services at 6:00 pm and 11:00 pm. Both services are identical with the exception of a children's time at the 6:00 service. The services will be composed of traditional Christmas Carols and a unique sharing of the Christmas Story from the Gospels. FUMC celebrates an open communion table.

All are welcome to take part in the Lord's Supper. You do not have to be a United Methodist to celebrate Holy Communion. We hope you and your family will take time to celebrate the real gift of Christmas, the birth of a Christ child. The church is located at 215 S. Mulberry and you can see us on the web at www.fumceastland.org. The prayers of our church are that you have a Merry Christmas and blessed New Year.

## Agricultural Viewpoint

By Heath Begeman  
Eastland County Extension  
Agent-Ag  
Wildfire

With all the cold dry weather we have had in December, a fire could happen very easily. So this time of year it is very important to know what you can do to prevent a fire and help protect your home or property. If you see a wildfire, call 9-1-1. Do not assume that someone else has already called. Describe the location of the fire, speak slowly and clearly, and answer any questions asked by the dispatcher.

To prevent from starting a wildfire you need to do the following. Dispose of cigarettes correctly. Cigarettes cause a large portion of wildfires every year. Do not burn garbage or any other material during a burn ban. Eastland County is in a burn ban along with surrounding counties. Burn bans are put in place by the County Commissioners Court for your safety. Avoid driving over tall grass or brush. It only takes one spark to cause thousands of dollars in damage.

Before a fire approaches your house, evacuate your pets and all family members who are not essential to preparing the home. Anyone with medical or physical limitations and the young and the elderly should be evacuated immediately. Clear any items that will burn from around the house, including wood piles, lawn furniture, barbecue grills, tarp coverings,

etc. Move them outside of your defensible space. Close outside attic, eaves and basement vents, windows, doors, pet doors, etc. Remove flammable drapes and curtains. Close all shutters, blinds or heavy non-combustible window coverings to reduce radiant heat. Shut off any natural gas, propane or fuel oil supplies at the source. Fill any pools, hot tubs, garbage cans, tubs or other large containers with water. Place valuable papers, mementos and anything "you can't live without" inside the car in the garage, ready for quick departure. Any pets still with you should also be put in the car.

If you get caught in the path of a wildfire you can survive by doing the following. If you get caught in your car, roll up windows and close air vents. Drive slowly with headlights on. Watch for other vehicles and pedestrians. Do not drive through heavy smoke. If you have to stop, park away from the heaviest trees and brush. Turn headlights on and ignition off. Roll up windows and close air vents. Get on the floor and cover up with a blanket or coat. Stay in your car, do not run! Engine may stall and not restart. Air currents may rock the car. Some smoke and sparks may enter the vehicle. Temperature inside will increase. Metal gas tanks and containers rarely explode.



William "Liam" Adams Roach

William "Liam" Adams Roach enjoyed a serious visit with Santa Claus recently. Liam assured Santa he is a good boy and would like a toy for Christmas. Liam was born February 24, 2009 at Dallas Presbyterian Hospital and is the son of Jeff and Cathy (Thomas) Roach of Arlington.

Grandparents are Tommy and Janet Thomas of Lake Leon, Eastland.

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| FMCC .....              | 1000            |
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| <b>SALE PRICE .....</b> | <b>\$43990</b> |

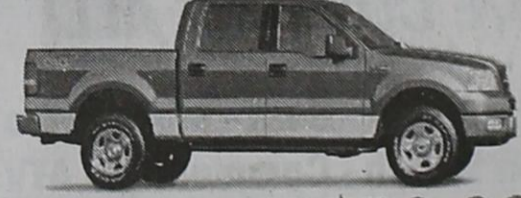
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in the city of David a Saviour,  
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Luke 2:11

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Merry Christmas and  
Happy New Year!*

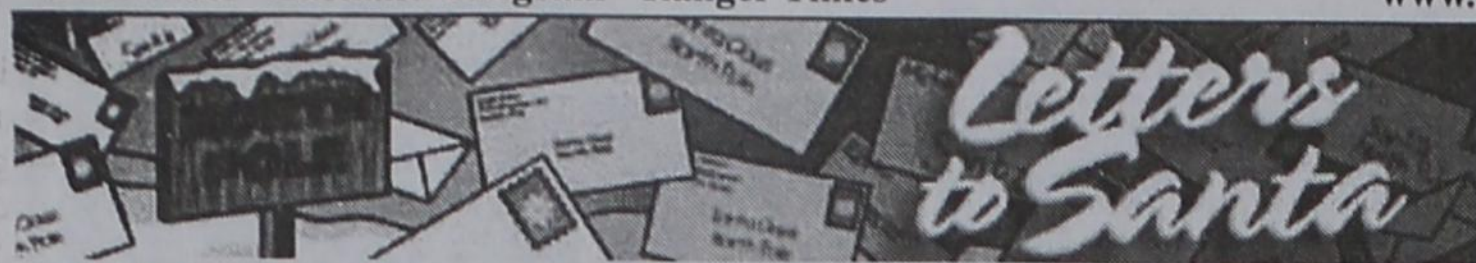
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**Mrs. Yarbrough's 1st Class**

Dear Santa Claus,  
For Christmas I want a Nintendo DS and some games for boys and girls. I want a big bike just my size and a trampoline. I would like to have a big stuffed bear to sleep with. I will leave some popcorn, cookies, milk, candy and cake. My sister and I want one pink and one red ball. We want a PSP also.  
Love, Israel Resendiz

Dear Santa,  
I want a toy computer and for Tommy and Himan Cruz and Sandra too, lots of good things. Tommy wants a car, Himan wants shirts and a coat. My mom would like a new jacket. Roy Health want a new pillow. We will leave a note for you.  
Love,  
Ashley Heath

Dear Santa Claus,  
I want a Wii and an X Box and a DS for Christmas. I want my daddy to come home for Christmas. I want my mom to have a laptop. Please bring my dad some clothes. I want some clothes for my mom, too. Hannah wants some Barbies and some baby dolls. I am going to leave milk and cookies for you.  
Love,  
Marcus Green

Dear Santa,  
Thank you for all the toys you give out to all the children in the world. This year I want devastator and a Star Wars game. I want a Spark scooter. I would like to have a big water gun. I want a Bakooogun gun like they have at Wal-mart and some toy cars for me and my brother. We al need new clothes.  
Love,  
Chance Norris

Dear Santa,  
I want a puppy and a toy horse like Butterscotch that some kids got last year. I am going to ride on it and feed it pretend apples and carrots. I will leave you milk and chocolate chip cookies.  
Love,  
Alyx Black

Dear Santa Claus,  
For Christmas I want to go with my daddy, Savannah, Caleb and my Mimi to Six Flags. I would love to have a lap top of my own. Savannah wants a Wii. Caleb like cars, balls and bears. I want to get a god for my daddy. I think it is like a bulldog. I will probably be a my Mimi's for Christmas. I will leave chocolate chip cookies that we bake for you. My Mimi needs a new and bigger fridge. I also want a cell phone. Could you put internet on my computer?  
I love you,  
Macey Fortenberry

Dear Santa,  
I want a skateboard, a DS, and a bike because Dusty my twin wrecked my bike. I want a bone for my dog, Bandit.  
I love you,  
Benjamin Porter

Dear Santa Claus,  
Can I please have a Spiderman skateboard? For my brother, I want a remote car to drive. Daddy needs a band new blue shirt. Nanna wants pink and purple socks. I want new boots for my daddy too. Uncle Alan wants brand new boots. I love Santa Claus.  
Caden Kitchens

Dear Santa Claus,  
I want a Spark scooter and a green plasma car. I want a transformer. Bring my mom a beautiful ring and my dad a new saw and an ax. He needs to cut firewood. What do I need to feed your reindeer? I will leave you cookies and milk.  
Love,  
Pete Jameson

Dear Santa,  
I want a track with race cars on it. I want a Scooby Do toy also. I will be at my grandma's house with my momma and brother for Christmas. My brother wants a game for Sponge Bob. We all want new socks. I want an I Pod so I can listen to music. I will leave you some cookies and milk.  
Love, Eric Hernandez

**Mrs. Rice 1st Grade**

Dear Santa,  
For Christmas I want a scooter and a Barbie house, a hat and boots.  
Love, Savannah

Dear Santa,  
Have a very nice Christmas. How are you and the elves and Mrs. Claus doing? I would like a Barbie jeep, dollhouse, a skateboard and roller skates for Christmas. Thank you.  
Love, Elyana

Dear Santa,  
Thank you for giving me a lot of presents and how are you and

**Greetings From Eastland**

Mrs. Claus doing? This year I would like a lot of wrestling stuff and thank you for that. Merry Christmas, I love you.  
Love, Luke

Dear Santa,  
I would like a house for my dolls to live in. I would like a Hannah Montana doll for Christmas. Thank you Santa and Merry Christmas.  
Love, Heather

Dear Santa,  
How is Rudolph doing? I would like a skateboard and a DS for christmas and also a MP3 player. I hope I get these things.  
Love, Pipper

Dear Santa,  
How are Rudolph and Mrs. Claus? I want a X-Box 360 and a football game. My mom likes dolphins and my dad likes to hunt and fish. Please bring something for them. God bless you,  
Blake

Dear Santa,  
How are you and your reindeer? Merry Christmas! Thank you for bringing me lots of presents. This year I want a Play Station 2, a skateboard and a computer. Thank you.  
Love, John

Dear Santa,  
How are the reindeer and Mrs. Claus doing? Thank you for giving me presents. This year I hope you have a great Christmas. I would like a dollhouse and roller skates.

Love, Kiya  
Dear Santa,  
Have a happy New Year and thank you for giving our presents that we wanted for Christmas. I want a ripstick and I want two toy cars and a guitar to play music.  
Love, Ryan

Dear Santa,  
How are Rudolph and Mrs. Claus? What is she doing? Is his nose blinking red? This year I want a Barbie and a Bratz doll. I also want a poster with Jonas Brothers and Edward. Merry Christmas. Tell the elves too.  
Love, Evie

Dear Santa,  
I hope you have a good time with your reindeer. I would like a lightsaver and snake eye sword. Merry Christmas!  
Love, Andrew

Dear Santa,  
How is Rudolph doing and Mrs. Claus? I want an I-Pod and a Play Station 2 for Christmas. Merry Christmas to you and all of the reindeer and Rudolph too.  
Love, Kush

Dear Santa,  
How are the reindeer? Please send me a picture of Rudolph the red nose reindeer. I want a fishing pole and I want a 4-wheeler. I also want a big stuffed Rudolph the ed nose reindeer. Merry Christmas.  
Love, Hunter

Dear Santa,  
How is Rudolph doing? Is his light glowing? How is Mrs. Claus doing too? This year I would like an I-Pod for Christmas and a dollhouse and a pink toy horse and a big puppy.  
Love, Merissa



*May The Love Of Jesus Christ Fill Your Heart And World. Wishing you a Merry Christmas & A Happy New Year*

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Dear Santa,  
What have you been doing at the North Pole? Are you working? Have a happy Christmas. I would like a Moped and I would like my brother to be nice to me and don't forget an I-Pod too.  
Love, Kayleigh

Dear Santa,  
You are kind and nice. I would like the Raiders CS35, a weather station, Monopoly and that is it. Have a happy New Year.  
Love, Joseph

Dear Santa,  
How are you doing? How is Mrs. Claus? I want a robot reindeer. Can it please do thing like a real reindeer? I also want a bow and arrow to go hunting. Thank you. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.  
Love, Miguel

Dear Santa,  
How is Rudolph doing and Mrs. Claus? Are the elves doing well? I would like ripstick and a scooter. Merry Christmas.  
Love, Mason

Dear Santa,  
I hope you have a Merry Christmas. I wish for a Barbie care, a Barbie girl, and a Barbie boy. I also want a toy Rudolph the red nose reindeer. Happy New Year to you and you family.  
Love, Jessie

**Hollisk's Class**

Dear Santa,  
I have been a good boy. I would like Transformers action figures and I would also like some new shoes for my Mommy. I will leave cookies and milk. I love you. Ho Ho Ho.  
Love, Danny

Dear Santa,  
I want a bike and a Niddosi and bandaroos.  
Love, Andrea

Dear Santa,  
I would like Ninja Turtles, a computer, a scooter, sunglasses, and movies.  
Love, Will

Dear Santa,  
I want dolls and baby stuff. And a baby alive. Thank you.  
Love, Justice Dove

Dear Santa,  
I would like a barbie and a horse.  
Love, Vada

Dear Santa,  
I would like a Leon car and a

Dear pool.  
Love, Jared

Dear Santa,  
I would like that this Christmas you would bring a bicycle and a train and clothes and a spiderman and shoes. Receive kisses from Yahir.  
Love, Yahir Ojeda

Dear Santa,  
I would like a playstation and a transformer game. Also the Bumble Bee helmet and blaster,

and Ben 10 toys. Also I have been very good this year. Thank you.  
Love, Billy

Dear Santa,  
I want a big truck, scooter, 4 wheeler, Wii match, big TV, cars, a big train, candy, games, toy people, songs, Sponge Bob games, and a big robot.  
Love, Joshua Adams

Dear Santa,  
I would like Baby doll and other things.  
Love, Michelle



*Merry Christmas*

*"Behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people."*

*Luke 2:10*

**First Baptist Church of Eastland**  
405 S. Seaman St.  
254-629-3355

**holiday greetings**

AlphaGraphics, Inc. - a print, graphics and marketing communications provider - reports that it experienced significant business growth in 2008 and continues to show positive results for this year. It reports that acquisition assistance programs have increased revenues and its business centers, including the local location, have provided attractive marketing services to help local businesses boost their results.

"We are proud to be part of an organization that has made strides in the industry, despite the challenges of the economy," Cary Meeks, owner of the local AlphaGraphics, said. "Not only does this news about the company's achievements make me feel secure with my business here in Eastland, it also encourages our local customers to continue doing business with us."

AlphaGraphics reports that it experienced total gross sales of over \$300 million for fiscal year 2008. The average gross sales for an AlphaGraphics location open for one year or more is \$1,108,585; the average gross for a location open for three years or more is \$1,140,670, the company reports.

In addition, Vice President of Global Development Art Coley says that this year, AlphaGraphics had the highest number of locations it has had in five years, with 265 centers worldwide. And, the number of new franchises grew more than 30 percent from last year.

"People joining AlphaGraphics are leaving corporations to have more control over their lives, to be their own bosses, and to be part of a successful network," Meeks said. "Plus, AlphaGraphics offers an acquisition assistance program that has helped current franchise owners acquire close to \$10 million in revenues this year. The program helps franchisees, like me, identify and purchase other print facilities so that they can then be converted into the AlphaGraphics network."

The attraction towards AlphaGraphics' full-service marketing and communication services is also a contributing factor to the company's success, Coley says. "We're not just a print provider; we offer marketing solutions to businesses, including design, consultation, marketing strategy, targeted marketing with personalized URLs and more," Coley said.

"Our centers also offer traditional printing services such as a color, large format, offset and digital printing, as well as copying, finishing, binding and kitting."

AlphaGraphics business centers offer a complete range of print, visual communications and marketing products and solutions, including full-service digital, offset and large format printing; design services; mailing and one-to-one marketing services; promotional products and digital archiving. For more information about AlphaGraphics of Eastland, please contact Cary Meeks at 254-629-2626.

**From Cary Meeks and All Of Us Owners - Managers & Employees**

**alphagraphics**

**& Victor Cornelius Inc.**

406 W. Main • Eastland • 254-629-2626



# A Holiday Story

A man named Bob May, depressed and brokenhearted, stared out his drafty apartment window into the chilling December night. His 4-year-old daughter Barbara sat on his lap quietly sobbing. Bob's wife, Evelyn, was dying of cancer.

Little Barbara couldn't understand why her mommy could never come home. Barbara looked up into her dad's eyes and asked, "Why isn't Mommy just like everybody else's Mommy?" Bob's jaw tightened and his eyes welled with tears. Her question brought waves of grief, but also of anger. It had been the story of Bob's life. Life always had to be different for Bob.

Small when he was a kid, Bob was often bullied by other boys. He was too little at the time to compete in sports. He was often called names he'd rather not remember. From childhood, Bob was different and never seemed to fit in.

Bob did complete college, married his loving wife and was grateful to get his job as a copywriter at

Montgomery Ward during the Great Depression. Then he was blessed with his little girl. But it was all short-lived. Evelyn's bout with cancer stripped them of all their savings and now Bob and his daughter were forced to live in a two-room apartment in the Chicago slums. Evelyn died just days before Christmas in 1938.

Bob struggled to give hope to his child, for whom

he couldn't even afford to buy a Christmas gift. But if he couldn't buy a gift, he was determined to make one - a storybook! Bob had created an animal character in his own mind and told the animal's story to little Barbara to give her comfort and hope. Again and again Bob told the story, embellishing it more with each telling. Who was the character? What was the story all about? The story Bob May created was his own autobiography in fable form. The character he created was a misfit outcast like he was. The name of the character? A little reindeer named Rudolph, with a big shiny nose.

Bob finished the book just in time to give it to his little girl on Christmas Day. But the story doesn't end

there. The general manager of Montgomery Ward caught wind of the little storybook and offered Bob May a nominal fee to purchase the rights to print the book. Wards went on to print, Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer and distrib-

ute it to children visiting Santa Claus in their stores. By 1946 Wards had printed and distributed more than six million copies of Rudolph. That same year, a major publisher wanted to purchase the rights from Wards to print an updated version of the book. In an unprecedented gesture of kindness, the CEO of Wards

returned all rights back to Bob May.

The book became a best seller. Many toy and marketing deals followed and Bob May, now remarried with a growing family, became wealthy from the story he created to comfort his grieving daughter. But the story doesn't end there either.

Bob's brother-in-law, Johnny Marks, made a song adaptation to Rudolph. Though the song was turned down by such popular vocalists as Bing Crosby and Dinah Shore, it was recorded by the singing cowboy, Gene Autry. "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer" was released in 1949 and became a phenomenal success, selling more records than any other Christmas song, with the exception

of "White Christmas."

The gift of love that Bob May created for his daughter so long ago kept on returning back to bless him again and again. And Bob May learned the lesson that, just like his dear friend Rudolph, being different isn't so bad. In fact, being different can be a blessing.

*Have a Blessed Holiday Season!  
Jim, Aaron, Angela, and the KFS Staff*

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- CLUES ACROSS**
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  - Make lacework
  - South American country
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  - British order of honor member
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  - Ivanhoe author
  - About the skull
  - Put in jail
  - 60's college Civil Rights group
  - Window parts
  - Poster paints
  - Winglike structures
  - Train track
  - Finale
  - Tooth caregiver
  - 9th Greek letter
  - Starch from the cuckoo-pint root
  - 1st Islamic republic
  - Back side of the neck
  - Maple genus
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  - Mexican coin
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## Greetings From Eastland

### Mrs. Marwitz's 1st Grade

Dear Santa,  
How have you been? I really want a zoo pet for Christmas. I would also like a Wii. Could you please bring my brother some clothes and a train.  
Love, Annika Rust

Dear Santa,  
How is the North Pole? I want an Alive, a gumball machine, and a zoo pet for Christmas.  
Love, Hallie Hagan

Dear Santa,  
I want a spider toy and a Batman Wii video game, I would also like a Z-thing and a dirt bike.  
Love, Gage Gumfory

Dear Santa,  
How are you reindeer? How is the North Pole? Please bring me a X Box 360 and Playstation games.  
Love, Luke Tinkle

Dear Santa,  
Please bring me a Spiderman and Ben 10 game for my Leapster.  
Love, Dillon Fruit

Dear Santa,  
I would love to have a laptop and a Barbie house. I would also like some Barbies for my Barbie house and a Bratz game for my Leapster. Thank you for everything you gave me last year.  
Love, Miranda Gilkey

Dear Santa,  
I want rocket ships, dinosaur maps, a robot, and a puppy. I would also like some rocket science stuff and snow globe. Thank you for all the stuff. Have a good time!  
Love, Blake Russell

Dear Santa,  
I want a Princess table and a Nintendo DS Princess game.  
Love, Catherine Hernandez

Dear Santa,  
I want some unicorn books, some briar horses, some cheetah toys, zebras, and some giraffes. Have a good Christmas.  
Love, Piper Mickish

Dear Santa,  
I would like PSP, Xbox 360, a Wii, and a Nintendo DS. Have a great Christmas!  
Love, Erik Hernandez

Dear Santa,  
Please bring me a Barbie and a baby. I love you Santa!  
Love, Claudia Alegria

Dear Santa,  
I would like a Maverick cheerleading suit and a Barbie. Hope you have a great ride!  
Love, Baylee Jackson

Dear Santa,  
I want a Xbox 360, a sparks scooter, and Tony Hawk skateboard. I would also like a Wii. Thank you for my presents last year you brought me.  
Love, Trent Odum

Dear Santa,  
I would like to get a Wii, Tony Hawk bike and skateboard for Christmas. Have a great Christmas!  
Love, Eihan Foster

Dear Santa,  
How are you doing? I would like a puppy, a horse, and a gumball machine. Have a safe trip!  
Love, Isabella Earle

Dear Santa,  
I would like a Hanna Montana wig, a Wii, and a pet shop. Merry Christmas Santa!  
Love, Wynter Johnston

Dear Santa,  
I would like a football and a soccer ball. I love you very much Santa!  
Love, Edgar Velez

Dear Santa,  
I want a car scooter and a remote control car. Have a good Christmas!  
Love, Reid Price

Dear Santa,  
I want some drums, a Wii, and a Star Wars action figure. Please bring my mom some rings and a guitar for my dad. Thank you Santa.  
Love, Kiedis Lavender

Dear Santa,  
I would like a Wii and Wii football game. I would also like a Playstation 2 with a baseball game. Have a great trip!  
Love, Payton Freeman

### Mrs. Blackwell's Kindergarten

Dear Santa,  
I want a football, PSP, a really fast go-kart and a dinosaur for Christmas. I have been a really good boy. Thanks and Merry Christmas!  
Love, David Perez

Dear Santa,  
I would like to have a laptop computer and some Barbie dolls for Christmas. I also want some make-up and toy horses. Thank you and Merry Christmas.  
Love, Maegan Cherry

Dear Santa,  
I want a hamster, Princess Singer and a Hanna Montana microphone. I need a microphone so I can sing. I would also like for you to bring me a picture of yourself. Thanks Santa!  
Love, Scarlett Hosley

Dear Santa,  
I want a dirt bike and Pokeman battle cards. I would also like to have an ipod so I can listen to music. A new lunch box and some animal toys would be nice too. Merry Christmas!

Love, Christian Gouge

Dear Santa,  
I would like a computer for Christmas. I would also like a Barbie doll, a spiral notebook and a necklace. Thank you very much and Merry Christmas!  
Love, Laisha Marentes

Dear Santa,  
I want an ipod, blue bull riding chaps, a Texas Rangers necklace and a Play Station 2. I would like some games for my Game cube. I have been a good boy.  
Love, Blane Brooks

Dear Santa,  
I want a football and a race track. I would also like a skateboard and a Nerf Sharpshooter. I have been very good and nice. The last thing on my list is a shooting gun. Thank you.  
Love, Jayden Justice

Dear Santa,  
I want 2 Barbie dolls, a Barbie car and some Barbie clothes. I also want a boy Barbie doll. I will leave you some milk and cookies. Please leave me a new stocking full of presents.  
Love, Hannah Reyes

Dear Santa,  
I want a real slide phone and a real BB gun. I also want some riding chaps and a matching vest. I have been pretty good this year. I wish I could fly like you. Merry Christmas!  
Love, Cooper Wright

Dear Santa,  
I want a football helmet, jersey, pants and shoes. I have been a good boy this year. Thank you.  
Love, Edwin Gutierrez

Dear Santa,  
I want a toy horse for Christmas. I would also like for you to bring me a reindeer and a toy turkey. A pink flamingo would be nice too. Thank you very much.  
Love, Logan Mares

Dear Santa,  
I want a toy unicorn, a girl and boy Barbie, a teddy bear. I also want a crown, necklace, notebook and some candy canes. I hope my family has the greatest Christmas ever!  
Love, Ariel Hernandez

Dear Santa,  
I would like a football and some clothes. I also want some Christmas lights to put on my house. A remote control car would also be nice to have. Merry Christmas!  
Love, Hunter Lee

Dear Santa,  
I would like a pair of earrings, Barbie dolls and a baby doll for Christmas. Merry Christmas Santa!  
Love, Alex Wheat

Dear Santa,  
Why do you not get stuck in the Chimney? You must be magic to squeeze through the Chimney's. Thank you for my bike you gave me last year. This year I want a Baby Alive, please. I would also like a beaded curtain that hangs down from the door, and a new pink chair. Don't slip on the ice or snow. I hop your reindeer don't get stuck.  
Love, Cameron

Dear Santa,  
Do you have dogs and cats? Thank you for what you gave me last year. I hope you know I like dogs. Could I please have a baby Robot, a Kitten and Maia? Fly safely! Don't slip on the ice and snow.  
Love, Bradlee

Dear Santa,  
How are you doing, Santa? Thank you for giving me the presents from last year. Please bring me a bike this year. I will leave you some cookies on the table.  
Your friend,  
Love, Yoana

Dear Santa,

How is Rudolph doing? I appreciate all the toys from last year! This year I would like a Spiderman or Houk bike and a Xbox 360 with games for it. I hope you don't forget. Watch out for the birds. Drive safely.  
Love, Abraham  
P.S. Do you have any cute puppies?

Dear Santa,  
How is Rudolph doing? Thank you for the presents last year. Can I please have a Plokecar and train and phone. Watch out for my dog. Don't slip on the ice or snow.  
Love, Jett Whittington

Dear Santa,  
How are you? Can I please have a Play Station? And a two Wheeler that is green. Thank you.  
Love, Hector

Dear Santa,  
How is Rudolph doing? Thank you for my Dolly you gave me last year and the dollar. Please can I have a new scooter. Would you please bring me a Hanna Montana Doll? I'll leave you some cookies and milk. You might want to look at our Christmas tree. Don't slip on the ice or snow.  
Your friend, Stephanie

Dear Santa,  
How are Dasher, Dancer, Prancer, Vixen, Comet, Cupid, Donner, Blitzen and Rudolph doing? Thank you for my Wii last year. Could I please have a new bike? Would you please make me a Dallas Cowboy shirt with the list name Romo?  
Love, Garrett

Dear Santa,  
Are you stuck in the chimney? Thank you for the Guitar Hero last year. It was fun playing Guitar Hero. Can I please have a dog, rabbit, and a cat. I'll leave cookies and milk for you. I'll leave carrots for your reindeer.  
Love, Makenna

Dear Santa,  
I want to see Rudolph the Red Nose Reindeer. Thank you for giving me presents. I would like a toy. We believe in you! Could I please have a puppy? Would you please bring me a Ritter? I'll leave cookies and milk by the fire place. Be safe!  
Love, Kerrigan

Dear Santa,  
How are you doing? Could I please have a guitar? This year I might like an ATM machine. Would you please bring me a bumper ball? Be careful because my dogs get out a lot! I'll leave the front door open since we don't have a chimney.  
Love, Hannah Weaver

Dear Santa,  
How are you and Mrs. Santa doing? Thank you for the presents you gave me last year. May I please have 80 baby cats and dogs and fish.  
Love, Ralene

Dear Santa,  
How are your reindeer and elves doing? Thank you for all the toys you gave me last year. Do you have room for my pajamas, jewelry and make-up in your sleigh? Don't let your reindeer get you stuck. You might want to look at our Christmas tree.  
Love, Bailey

Dear Santa,  
How are your reindeer and elves doing? I enjoy playing with the toys that you gave me last year. I would like to have these toys. A green Bionical, toy cars, and a red Bakugan. I'll leave you some cookies on the table.  
Love, Jayden

Dear Santa,  
How is Rudolph doing? Thank you for the computer you gave me last year. Thank you, Santa. Do you have room for a coloring book in your sleigh? This year I might like a baby doll. Can I please have another goat? Make sure the reindeer watch where they are going. Don't slip on the ice or snow.  
Love, Kandra

Dear Santa,  
How are you doing Santa? Thank you for giving me my bike last year. Could I please have a Nerf gun for Christmas? Could I please have a telescope? Could I please have a toy race track? I am going to leave my door open. Don't

slip on the ice or snow.  
Love,  
Your friend, Chance

Dear Santa,  
How is Rudolph doing? Thank you for the toys I got last year. I would like all of the transformer action figures, Hot wheels track, and a game board. I'll leave cookies by the fireplace. Watch out for my dogs in the back!  
Love, William Woodruff  
\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
Do you train your reindeer? Thank you for the fun things you gave last year. I would like a swimming pool Thank you for bringing us toys this year. Have a safe trip. I love you Santa. I wish you a Merry Christmas.  
Love, Bibiana

Dear Santa,  
I have been enjoyed playing with the toys you made me last year. Has Dasher been doing good this year. This year I would like a paint ball gun and a air soft gun. Could I please have a cell phone for Christmas. We'll leave cookies by the chimney. We'll blow out the fire.  
Love, Morgan

Dear Santa,  
Do you train your reindeer? What does Rudolph do? Does he sleep a lot? Could I please have a BB gun? Have a safe trip. Thank you for bringing us toys last year.  
Love, Alex

Dear Santa,  
How are the elves? Are you feeding the reindeer? Could you please send me a monster truck, race cars, and an are set? I like to draw. Maybe you could bring a rocket and moon rover. We will leave cookies for you.  
Love, Dalton

Dear Santa,  
How are your reindeer and elves doing? Thank you for my Hell Boy you gave me last year. Could I please have a wolverine USA my GI Joe. It's on wolverinetoys.com. This year I might like another Big Hell Boy. I hope you don't fall off the house or get stuck in the chimney. Don't slip on the ice or snow.  
Love, Douglas

Dear Santa,  
I have enjoyed playing with the toys you gave me last year. Am I on the good list this year? This year I would like a real cell phone, real camera, and a Baby Alive that walks. Tell the elves that I said "Hi."  
Love, Payton Menzies

Dear Santa,  
Thank you for the toys you gave me last year. I love you for what you have done for us. Would you please bring me petshops. I hope you have a safe flight. My family and I will make cookies for you.  
Love, Kagin

Dear Santa,  
How many elves do you have. Am I on your naughty or nice list this year? Would you please bring me a Nintendo DS, 1 chapter book. I'll leave cookies at my house. The door will be unlocked because I don't have a chimney. Tell the elves and Mrs. Claus "Hi."  
Love, Jesus

Dear Santa,  
Thank you for the presents you gave me last year. I have enjoyed playing with the presents you made me last year. Could you please make me a Monster Truck. This year I would like a Guitar Hero. Would you please load presents in your sleigh. I will be at somebody's house. You can find me there. Thank you for bringing us toys this year.

Love,  
by Adrian  
Your biggest fan!

Dear Santa,  
Thank you for the puppy you gave me last year. Do you have any new reindeer? Could I please have Hannah Montana the movie, Baby Alive that walks? Have a safe flight. Tell the elves and Mrs. Claus "Hi."  
Love, McRenna Lynn Cavalier

Dear Santa,  
Thank you for the Ben 10 things you gave me last year. Could I have a bike DS Transformers, and DS Starwars?  
Love,  
Ethan

Dear Santa,  
I have enjoyed playing with the puppy you gave me last year. This year I would like a purple cellphone. Would you please load your sleigh with toys. Tell the elves and Mrs. Claus "Hi." Thank you for bringing us toys this year.  
Love, Julissa Romero

Dear Santa,  
How do you make all of our toys? Do you train your reindeer? Did you take a lot of naps? Is it always cold in the North Pole? Would you please bring me Littlest Pet Shop and some surprises. Have a safe flight!  
Love, Laura

Dear Santa,  
Is it always cold at the North Pole? It is still warm here but getting colder. Would you please deliver me a new Barbie house, an art set, and a new hat? I'll leave you a chocolate chip cookie. I hope you have a good flight!  
Love, Sierra

Dear Santa,  
How are you? I have a few questions to ask you. Does Rudolph sleep a lot? Do you drink chocolate milk? This year I would like American Girl stuff, the Hannah Montana Movie and pictures of Case and Colt McCoy. Have a safe trip!  
Love, Kendall

Dear Santa,  
Hey, Santa, how are you doing? How are your reindeers? Are they healthy. Could I please have a DJ. Hero and a nerf gun? Thank you for the presents!  
Love,  
Your Friend Matthew

Dear Santa,  
How are you Santa. I hope you know the things that you gave me last year I liked. Could I please have a puppy? I might name it Sandie. Maybe you will bring me some Hot Wheels. What out for my cousin's dog.  
Love,  
Braeden

### Mrs. Yarbrough's 1st Class

Dear Santa Claus,  
I want a dirt bike and a big dog. William wants a bunch of cars and Brooke wants Barbies. My mom likes irons, brushes, and my dad wants tools. We will leave you some chocolate chip cookies with cold milk. The most thing I've wanted for my whole life is to have joy and goodness.  
Love, Wriley Ainsworth  
Ranger, Texas

Dear Santa,  
I would like to have a new army game for Christmas. I also want a Spark scooter. I will leave some chocolate chip cookies and hot chocolate for you.  
Love, Halsten Hodnett

Dear Santa,

How is Rudolph, and what is he really like? Please bring my momma a vase. My daddy really likes guns. Timmy likes model cars. Travis will want a gun. That is all he talks about. I want a Hannah Montana PSP. It is brand new. At my house you can find cookies and milk. There won't be a fire in the fireplace.  
I love you,  
Ellie Pitts

Dear Santa,  
I love you. My momma's name is Debbie, my daddy's name is Jason and my big brother is Devantae. I would love to have a tea pot and cups, a bicycle (pink), a play house, some makeup for little girls, and a little brown baby. I would like to have a Spark scooter. I can ask for 6 things. I might leave you a snack.  
Love, Jasmin Short

Dear Santa,  
I want a lap top, a red bike and a Hannah Montana microphone. I would like a Barbie doll and a basketball. My brother Jayden likes Lightnifng McQueen cars, Caleb likes trucks. We will leave you some cookies and milk. I hope my whole family has a very nice Christmas and you too Santa Claus. Momma and Daddy just want us to have Christmas. My Pawpaw and my Grandma take care of all of us.  
Love, Shaiden Justice

Dear Santa,  
I want a laptop, an Angel Lamp for my new room and I hope my momma has a baby boy. We will name him Joe. Jaidyn wants a Dora play house and a little pink car that she can drive herself. Momma want our house to be finished. Daddy never wants much, but he needs clothes. My momma is a nurse and she needs scrubs. I hope we have a great Christmas party in our room. My momma is planning it. We will leave you milk and cookies. I wish I could have a lot of Christmas movies and my very own pink wagon with Hannah Montana, Jonas Brothers and Barbie stickers on it.  
Love, Jaelay May

Dear Santa,  
For Christmas I would like to have my very own laptop. I have been wishing for some good warm boots. Could you please bring these for me, and bring the rest of my family presents that you choose. I will leave some cookies and milk for you.  
Love, Elodia Romero

Dear Santa Claus,  
I would like to have Nintendo DS and some games like Super Mario and Crash and a few more if you can. I would really like Mario and the Haunted House II. I will leave some Oreos and milk for your snack. They are my favorite. I also want some Hot Wheels and a remote control car. I still have the blue Mustang, but I lost the controller. Could I also have the Nickelodeon Playset. I want the game Left For Dead II.  
Love, Bradan Brooks  
P.S. I also want Rock Ban II. I have been really good.

Dear Santa Claus,  
For Christmas I would really like to get a 4-Wheeler. Leave it at my Nanny's because she lives in the country. I want a Barbie, a car and some clothes for her. Could I have a real puppy since we are moving into a new house. My sister and I both would love to have a Wii. I will leave you out some milk and cookies.  
Love, Harley Neal

## Holiday Greetings From Valley View Health Care Administrator - Dept. Heads - Staff



Donna Isenhower - Assistant Director of Nursing; Jo Beth - Administrator; Liz Singleton - MDS Coordinator; Johnna Boucher - Medical Records; Theresa Clarkin - Social Worker; Joy Archer - Activity Director; Kathy Rainey - Business Office Manager; Kim Stephenson - Dietary Manager

### These are the caring people at Valley View

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <p>Employees: Courtney Archer,<br/>Doris Berquist, Tavia Bogner,<br/>Cherrie Brooks, Georga Carpenter,<br/>Rosa Cerbantes, Sara Duck,<br/>Genevivi Enos, Debra Floyd, Joann Fraley, Doris Grumbles, Sandra Harwell, Clairra Hernandez,<br/>Vicki Histed, Maria Inocencio,<br/>Ima Klaus, Linda Knighton,<br/>Tammie Leker, Carl Lewis,<br/>Shirley Livingston, Shawntana Lowe,</p> | <p>Claudie McKinney, Ashley McPherson,<br/>Marty Perkins, Christina Pitts,<br/>Virginia Roberts, Raena Shepard,<br/>Erika Shoe, Elizabeth Singleton,<br/>Sandra Stutts, Kimmerly Stephenson,<br/>Lindsay Sullivent, Debi Theriot,<br/>Elizabeth Trader, Darlene Walston,<br/>Rhonda Wells, Dina Whately, Minnie Willkins, Christine Williams,<br/>Patsy Wilson, Andrea Brown, Kim Koger, Karen Williams, Stacey Fraley,</p> |
|--|---|

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All of us at Bird Electric would like to wish each and every one of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

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**Holiday Driving Through Ranger Hill**

By Sandra Parker  
 Brownwood District PIO  
 Christmas is just around the corner and the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) is working to make the trip to Grandma's house - and back - easier than it was at Thanksgiving for the many

motorists who were caught in the traffic jam on IH 20 near Ranger Hill in Eastland County (mile marker 356).  
 The last day of Thanksgiving weekend saw traffic backed up as an unprecedented number of vehicles began to negotiate the

one lane construction area near Ranger Hill. Fans going home from high school and college play-off games, Black Friday shoppers and college students headed back to school joined heavy holiday traffic to create a tsunami of vehicles for several miles in both east and west bound lanes.

It is very common to have highway construction on the interstate but the project at the foot of Ranger Hill is particularly challenging because the lack of service roads on the hill means all traffic must stay on the interstate. The proximity of the project to the hill requires a longer than normal single lane construction zone causing delays even under normal traffic conditions. Once away from the hill, there are no connecting service roads to accommodate high traffic volumes.

TxDOT officials believe that while there may be traffic delays in the construction area, Christmas traffic will not create the same congestion problem that was experienced at Thanksgiving. Many colleges have already dismissed classes for the holiday and students have gone home. Public schools have a different winter break schedule therefore, not everyone should be traveling the same day.

Regardless of what traffic volumes are, TxDOT has developed a plan to improve traffic movement. Two west bound lanes will be open but east bound traffic will continue to use a single lane from the top of Ranger Hill to the end of the work zone (work zone is approximately 3 miles).

Portable and permanent message boards will be strategically placed along IH 20 from west of Abilene to Ft. Worth to advise motorists to consider taking an alternate route in case of congestion or long delays. TxDOT employees will monitor traffic and activate message boards as needed to help divert traffic before it reaches the congested area.

When traveling in winter weather, regardless of how long or short the trip might be, it is always a good idea to have an emergency plan in place. Plan ahead by taking account of the weather and road construction or conditions, keep a full tank of gas, leave early and have an alternate route marked on a map as a back-up to in case your GPS doesn't work. It is always safer to stay on a well-traveled roadway. Make sure there is room among the Christmas presents for warm clothing, blankets, water, an emergency kit, and food. A little preparation goes a long way to keep you and your family safe and comfortable in an unexpected situation.

TxDOT's Brownwood District is responsible for IH 20 in Eastland County, where Ranger Hill is located.

**Farm Service Agency News**

Submitted by John Bird  
**RESULTS FOR THE 2009 COUNTY COMMITTEE ELECTIONS**

On December 10 the Farm Service Agency County Committee counted the election ballots. Thank you for the great response.

The results of the election are as follows: Danny Snider of Gorman was elected as member. Johnny Gann of Ranger will be the first alternate. Thanks to both of them for their willingness to run and serve the farmers and ranchers of Eastland County.

The FSA County Committee will be as follows for 2010: Danny Snider, LAA1, Ralph Berry, LAA2, Brandon Geyer, LAA3, and Wynelle Brown, Advisor.

These are your representatives. They serve as a link between farmers and ranchers and the USDA. If you are unsure of the LAA (area) that you are in or who your representative is, come by or call the office.

**2009 Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP)**

The Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP) compensates eligible

livestock producers who suffer grazing losses for covered livestock due to drought conditions.

In order to qualify for program benefits, the applicant must have purchased 2009 coverage through FSA's Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) or through the Pasture, Rangeland and Forage Insurance (PRF-RI) program offered through the

Risk Management Agency (RMA).

For 2009 and subsequent years, applications must be filed no later than 30 calendar days after the end of the calendar year in which the grazing losses occurred. The deadline to file for 2009 is January 29, 2009.

Land must be owned or cash-leased. If cash-leased land is used, proof of the lease must be provided to the office.

Please call the local FSA office for more information or to make an appointment.

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Remember to shop locally this season and keep your hard-earned dollars working here at home. These area shops have plenty of great holiday gifts in store for every name on your list.



# COUNTRY WIDE CLASSIFIEDS

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ecn@att.net

Thursday, December 24, 2009

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\$200 SECURITY  
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Accessible  
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254 East, Ranger,  
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R104\*

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Olden, Strawn, Cross  
Plains, Gordon,  
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Pinto  
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or fax 254-629-2092  
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net. There could be  
renumeration.  
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E105\*

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low package. Ex-  
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Open Meetings  
Wednesday 12:00 noon  
Friday 6:00 p.m.  
Book Study  
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**NOTICE**

**NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS OF PROPOSED TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (TxDOT) CONTRACTS**  
Sealed proposals for contracts listed below will be received by TxDOT until the date(s) shown below, and then publicly read.  
**CONSTRUCTION/ MAINTENANCE/ BUILDING FACILITIES CONTRACT(S)**

Dist/Div: Brownwood Contract 0007-03-083 for SEAL COAT in EASTLAND County, etc will be opened on January 05, 2010 at 1:00 pm at the State Office.

Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or

**NOTICE**

Dist/Div Offices listed below. If applicable, bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available from TxDOT's website at www.txdot.gov and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor. NPO: 31613

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

Dist/Div Office(s)  
Brownwood District District Engineer  
2495 Highway

**NOTICE**

183 N Brownwood, Texas 76802-3227  
Phone: 325-646-2591  
Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the rates will be part of the contract. TXDOT ensures that bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin. (12-17, 12-24-09)



**MERRY CHRISTMAS**

Ill Customs and bad Advice are seldom forgotten.-- B. Franklin

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IF YOU ARE HONEST, HAVE A GOOD PERSONALITY, ABILITY TO BE A POSITIVE INFLUENCE FOR GOOD BUSINESS AND THE ECONOMY OF THIS AREA:  
Apply with written statement of your education, qualifications, knowledge of the economy of this area, and have squeaky clean personal record and superior personal references, bring to EASTLAND COUNTY NEWSPAPERS, 215 S. Seaman St., Eastland, TX. 76448 or mail to E.C.N., P.O. Box 29, Eastland, TX, 76448. NO TELEPHONE CALLS PLEASE.  
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Pictured is Olga Fay Parker at her 95th birthday celebration. She wanted to thank everyone for flowers, cards and parties.

**MERRY CHRISTMAS**

*Tidbits...*  
by H.V.O.

Christmas! Christmas!  
MAY WE all once again always emphasize the first syllable!  
The Nativity is the Star, the Shepherds, the Stable, but most of all the obedient parents and the Holy Child.  
This has been portrayed in so many ways, neglected in so many ways, and when all is said and done, it's really just a matter for a person's heart. One either gets the message, or one doesn't.  
We old timers are bad about "remembering them" and

lamenting that it's not like it used to be. What is? Certainly the year 2009 surely must give us all pause to wonder. Wasn't there once a time when we could pretty well at least have an inkling of what's in the road ahead?  
Political correctness and privacy policies have made reporting local news and happenings more difficult.  
The local paper would dearly love to print all school honor roll lists as most other local papers do, but because some parents in some towns don't want their children's names on anything but the A roll, one school doesn't release any. Is that cricket?

We once printed the names of hospital patients as a public service to those who wanted to visit, send flowers and otherwise show concern. No more! To do so would violate privacy, according to federal mandate. (When we did print, patients always had the option for privacy.)  
Telephone operators once found the person we were trying to contact. Ice cream cones once sold for a nickel and on Saturday you could see two westerns, a serial and four cartoons at the old Connellee Theatre for a quarter, and set in the balcony and smoke cigarettes if you wanted to. So very few things are "like they used to be". Progress?  
Some things are so cloudy now, and many are wondering, "what next?" It's especially bad for those who are out of work for whatever reason, and were it no for those who have benevolent

hearts, things could be even worse.  
All are feeling the pinch in one way or another, and looking for a brighter tomorrow. The world and national news isn't terribly encouraging, and invariably we all tend to wonder: are our leaders leading or are they as confused as we are?  
On the local level folks still work together and move forward with hopes and plans for meeting needs for now and in the future.  
And for those of us who

understand that the Nativity is a major phase in the Master's Plan which was culminated at Cavalry, there is another day. Scary is the fact that we are seeing those important events being "plowed under" and "pushed aside" in favor of what is often called political correctness.  
Consider: Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed people can change the world. Indeed it is the only thing that ever has.  
-Margaret Mead.

Crossword Answers



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| 98 Dodge Ram 1500 V6, 5 sp., air, extra nice, 27K, actual miles..... | \$4950   |
| 94 Chevy Pickup Ext. Cab, Short Bed, 4x4, 5 sp., air.....            | \$2500   |
| 06 Ford F350 Super Duty Penske Moving Van.....                       | \$7950   |
| 01 Chevy Venture Van, fully loaded, nice.....                        | \$3950   |
| 04 Ford Freestar Van, fully loaded.....                              | \$4950   |
| 06 Chrysler PT Cruiser, fully loaded, convert., 20,000 miles.....    | \$9000   |
| 05 Ford Escape 4 dr., auto, air, loaded, 106k miles.....             | \$6950   |
| 06 Chrysler PT Cruiser, auto, air, 62K, x-nice.....                  | \$6250   |
| 04 Dodge Stratus 4 dr., loaded, V6, 30K.....                         | \$6150   |
| 04 Trail Lite 5th Wheel 30', extra nice.....                         | \$11,000 |

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|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|   | 3 |   |   | 5 | 8 |   |   |   |
| 8 |   |   | 5 | 2 |   |   | 9 |   |
| 4 |   |   | 9 |   | 2 | 1 |   |   |
|   | 2 | 5 | 4 |   |   | 1 |   | 6 |
|   | 4 |   |   |   | 9 | 3 |   |   |
|   | 9 |   |   | 5 | 2 |   |   |   |
|   |   | 2 | 1 |   |   |   |   |   |
| 6 | 1 | 3 | 9 |   | 5 | 7 | 2 |   |
|   |   |   | 2 | 7 |   |   | 3 |   |

Here's How It Works:  
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

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Kelcey Borden

## Giving Thanks For Life

By Kathy Floyd  
The Lindsay Letter

This time last Thanksgiving, Valley View student Kelcey Borden was battling for her life. She was diagnosed Oct. 17, 2008, with Stage 3 Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, an aggressive cancer that affects the body's immune system through the lymph nodes. A scan last year showed black spots throughout Kelcey's neck and under her arms.

A strong round of chemotherapy was started immediately on Kelcey. Those were the hardest on her. She suffered all the sickness associated with the treatments, and lost her hair. But the worst blow was having to withdraw from school because of her weakened immune system. She missed her friends, being a cheerleader and playing basketball.

Kelcey was featured in the Dec. 19, 2008, Lindsay Letter — a story of hope as she underwent treatment. Her Christmas wish was to be back in school.

This Thanksgiving and Christmas, the Borden family is writing a different story.

After a year of chemotherapy and hospital stays, on Oct. 29 this year, Kelcey's doctor gave the family the news that she was cancer-free.

"I felt like it was the first time in a year that I had let my breath out," said Kelcey's mom Christie Borden. "That was the best news we could get."

On Nov. 8, Kelcey celebrated her 16th birthday in a big way, literally, by being surprised with a big red truck. The family took her to Babe's in Sanger for a birthday celebration dinner. When the family left the restaurant, the 1993 red Chevy jacked-up pickup was waiting outside.

"I didn't know I was getting a truck," Borden said. "I thought I was getting my Mom's old red Saturn."

Although Kelcey did not expect the truck, she had been hinting for a four-wheel drive jacked-up pickup. Making that wish come true was a group effort that might not have happened without help from friends. Gary Conaway and his son Shane installed the lift kit that makes the truck one giant step off the ground. Jon Forshee and Phil Reiter at Phil's Body Works donated a paint job and bodywork.

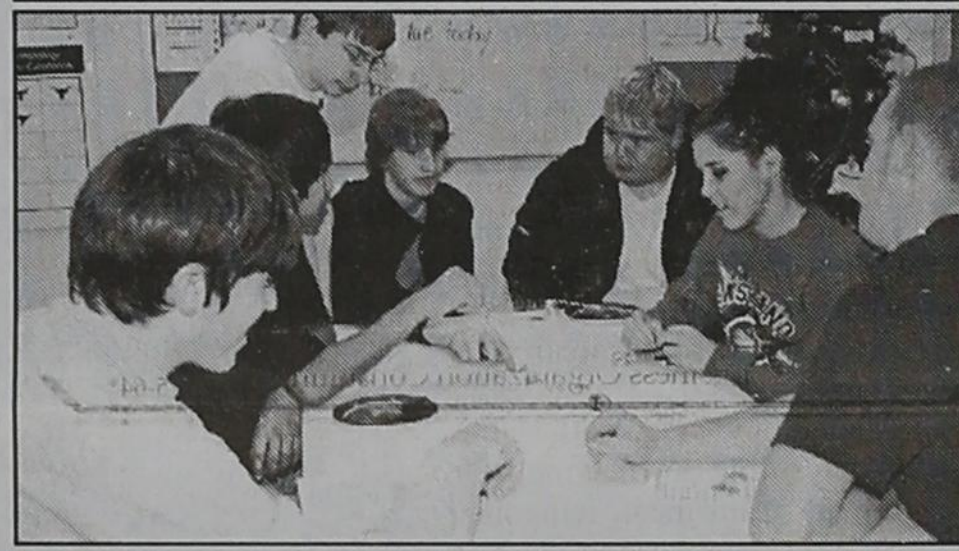
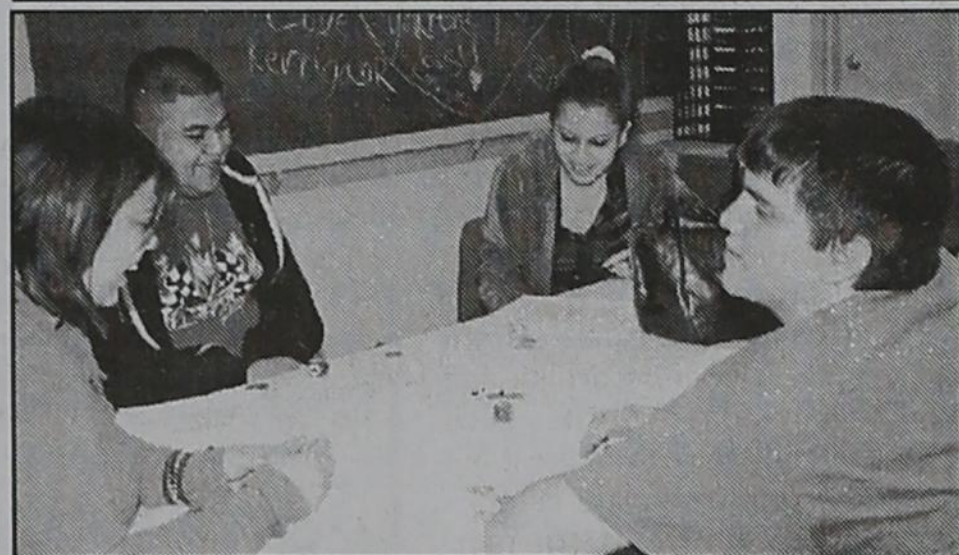
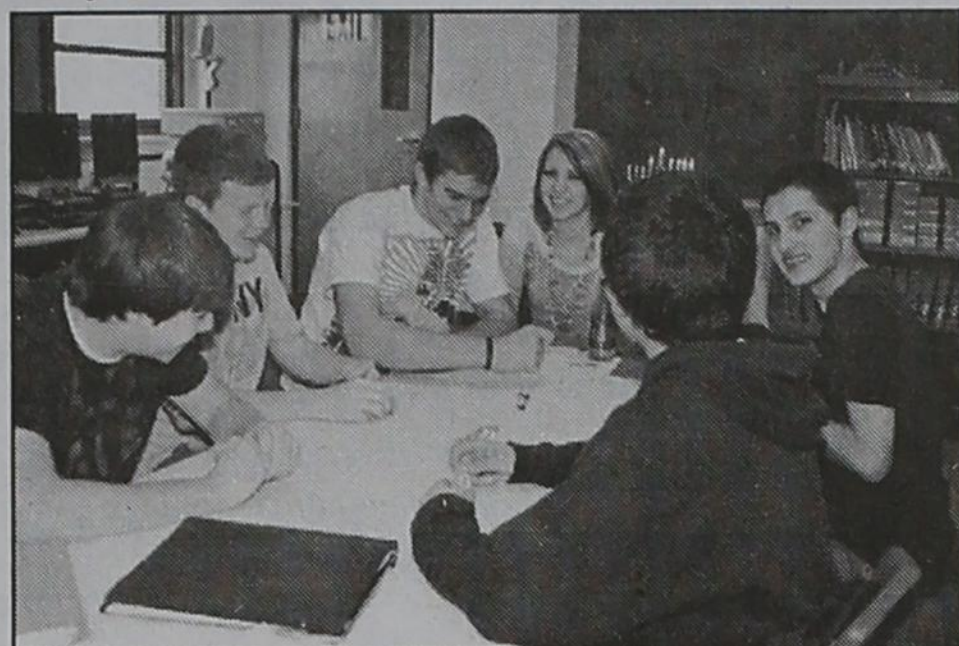
Donating the work was an easy decision for each.

## Happy Hanukkah At EHS

Students in the Bible/English/History Class at Eastland High School celebrated Hanukkah, the Hebrew Festival of Lights, by sampling traditional holiday foods prepared by Mrs. Gay Hart, teacher. The classes also played the dreidel (spinning top) game with gelt, chocolate coins covered with gold foil. In 167 B.C. Mattathias Maccabees and his five sons led a small Israeli army to defeat the vast military forces of Antiochus IV Epiphanes of Syria. In the Jerusalem

Temple, the joyous band of victors found the oil lamp which was supposed to burn consistently. Only enough oil was found to keep the wick burning for one day, but miraculously the flame continued to burn for eight consecutive days. The Menorah, the eight place candelabra, which is lit during the eight days Hanukkah is symbolic of this miracle.

As a Jewish child, Jesus would have celebrated this Festival of Lights with his family and friends.



Students in the Bible/English/History Class at Eastland High School celebrated Hanukkah.



The Dunn family would like to announce the graduation of Danetra Nichole Dunn. She graduated from Texas State Technical College in the Associates degree in Applied Science Program in Chemical Dependency Counseling with honors on December 12, 2009. Danetra was involved in many organizations while attending TSTC. She was a member of Phi Theta Kappa, President of the REACH Club (Real Education on Addiction Can Help), Reporter for the Student Government Association and an active member of the leadership program. Danetra plans on pursuing her education at Texas A & M to obtain her Bachelors degree in the Chemical Dependency program.

## Merry Christmas

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## Pig Tales From Hogtown

I would like to take this opportunity to give a huge 'thanks' to everyone who has supported the DAC this year - the ones who come to take part in our activities and the ones who do all the work to make our activities happen! We have great folks here in Desdemona and we do have fun when we get together!

And speaking of getting together, we will have a game night on New Year's Eve again


this year. If you don't like to go out on that evening, Desdemona is not far away. Bring your favorite game and a snack food if you would like and come and join us. There is no charge for the fun and games! Bring your instruments and we will jam also. The doors will open at 7:00 and we will ring in the New Year!  
**MERRY CHRISTMAS!!**  
Carol Pell

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| 701 W. 9th, Cis    | 3BR-2B duplex. Great investment opportunity. Corner lot 48,000    |
| 1204 W. 15th, Cis  | 3BR-1.5B brick home. Great neighborhood. Reduced 40,000           |
| 1704 Ave. N, Cis   | 3BR-2B on 1.44 ac. Lg. rooms. Enclosed back patio. Reduced 59,500 |
| 517 S. Main, R.S.  | 3BR-3B spacious <b>SOLD</b> 3 acres. Hardwood floors 68,000       |
| 5 Ac & Home, R.S.  | 700 W. Pione <b>UNDER CONTRACT</b> sed front porch 68,000         |
| 5 Ac & Home, Cis   | 4BR-2B REDUCED! 3,500 landscaping allowance. 140,000              |
| 8.6 Ac & Home, Cis | 3BR-1B. Charming. Totally updated. Large oaks 127,900             |

| HOMES FOR RENT     |  |
|--------------------|--|
| 219A FM3363, Olden | 2BR-1B \$500 deposit. Central heat & air 500/mo. |

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## Curbing Holiday Weight Gain

Halee Mitchell  
County Extension Agent-  
FCS  
Eastland County

It's that festive and joyful time of year again...the holiday season! The holidays are a time to celebrate and spend time with family and friends alike. However, the holiday season and winter months often bring more high calorie "party" and "comfort" foods to the table and less physical activity which can result in weight gain.

To help curb holiday weight gain, shift the focus of your holiday celebration away from food and more on the people you are celebrating with. Use these tips to make your holiday celebrations a little easier on your waistline:

- Plan before your feast. If you are going to a holiday party, do not go on an empty stomach. Skipping meals may cause you to overindulge on high calorie, high fat foods. Instead, eat small amounts of healthful foods such as fresh fruits and vegetables, cereal, yogurt, or a small wrap or sandwich before the event. Once you arrive at the party, take a look at the foods being served and decide what you will eat ahead of time. Also, consider if there will be a main meal later in the day. This will help you maintain control of your eating while still enjoying your favorite foods.

- Avoid extra calories from drinks. Alcoholic drinks and other holiday favorites such as eggnog may taste great but provide lots of extra calories and few nutrients. In fact, an 8 ounce glass of eggnog provides 350 calories! In addition, regular sodas contain on average, 140 calories per can. Consider skipping these high calorie beverages, or limiting yourself to just one small glass so that you can save most of your calories for the main meal or appetizers.

- Control yourself at the table. When sitting down at the table for the main meal, remember to keep your portion sizes in check. Choose small portions of the foods you want to eat, then take your time and enjoy your meal. Remember to take small bites, chew slowly and savor your food. Once you have finished eating, get up from the table. If you remain at the table, it will be easy to continue eating. Instead, offer to clean the table or put away leftovers. Once the work is done, suggest a walk outside or a fun game to take the focus off of food. Another good tip is to avoid being near the buffet table at parties which can lead to over eating as well.

- Be a healthy helper. One way to ensure that a healthy option will be available at the party is to offer to prepare and bring a dish. Your host will appreciate your help and you will have one dish that is a healthy alternative. If you are in the kitchen preparing foods, also be conscious of all of those tiny tastes you sneak when on one is looking. For example, that taste of sugar cookie dough packs 40 calories and that lick of frosting adds another 25 calories! The calories from these tiny tastes can add up quickly.



**4-H Community Service --Members of the Rising Star 4-H worked diligently to decorate the Christmas Tree in the lobby of the Courthouse. Eastland County Judge, Rex Fields was present to offer advice on decorating the Christmas tree. 4-H members present were Mickey Wright, Jill Keierleber, Sam Keierleber, Aubrey Lawrence, Matthew Lawrence, and Karen Lawrence. For more information on how you can join 4-H and participate in community service projects, contact the Eastland County Extension Office at 254-629-2222.**

- Stick to your routine. The holiday season can be challenging for anyone trying to maintain their weight but especially so for a person trying to lose weight. Do your best to stick to your routine during the holiday season. Continue to be physically active as much as

possible, ideally for 30 minutes five days per week. Maintain your healthy eating habits at home by focusing on fruits, vegetables, whole grains, lean protein sources, and low fat or fat free milk products.

Use these tips to curb holiday weight gain while still enjoying

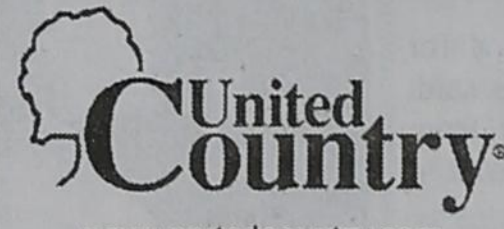
your favorite foods in moderation. Remember to focus on friends and family and stick to your routine!

For more about food and nutrition topics, contact Halee Mitchell, Eastland County Extension Agent at 254-629-2222.


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**EASTLAND HOMES AND LOTS**

\$16,500 - 2 BR, 1 bath frame home, corner lot.  
\$30,000 - 3/2 frame home, Workshop, CHA, storage bldg., fenced back yard, close to schools and hospital. Approx. 1743 sq. ft.  
\$72,000 - 3/2/1 Brick & wood siding home. Central heat/air, carpet, 2 lots, storage room in carport. Good neighborhood.  
\$78,500 - 4 BR, 2 bath frame home. CHA, 2 car carport attached. Storage room. Close to hospital and clinic. Approx. 1956 sq. ft.  
\$99,900 - Fresh on the market! Back 3/2 on 18 lots with lg. oak trees, it has a detached 2 car garage, 2 car carport, p. lg. living room and fenced backyard.  
\$425,000 - 3 BR, 3 1/2 bath, 2 car garage, 2 car carport, 1/2 golf course at Lone Cedar Country Club. **SOLD**  
\$72,000 - 3/2 frame home, approx. 1800 sq. ft. central heat & air. Hardwood floors, big back yard.

**RANGER HOMES AND LOTS**

\$28,000 - 3 BR, 1 bath frame home on main street. Needs work.  
\$27,500 - LOTS 11 Lots in subdivision with great views. These lots are different sizes and have city utilities. They will be sold as a package.  
\$16,000 - 8 nice lots located in good location with available utilities.  
\$32,500 - 2 BR, 1 bath, garage, shed, metal shop, carport, large fenced backyard with metal privacy fence on one side. Window units and space heaters. Approx. 1244 sq. ft.  
\$43,500 - 4/1.5 frame home, 2 car carport, approx. 3896 sq. ft.  
\$69,900 - You need to see this very nice 3/2 with lg. living/dining room, den, covered patio, privacy fence and lg. heavy duty metal carport. This home is very nice and priced right.  
\$79,900 - 4 BR, 3 bath, 2 car garage, approx. 3,600 sq. ft. 2 car garage, 2 car carport, **UNDER CONTRACT** nice corner lot in a good location.  
\$98,000 - 3/2/2. Brick, move-in ready home. Well groomed yard, covered parking for RV/boat, 3 storage bldgs., vacant lot in back goes with property.  
\$158,000 - 5 BR, 5 bath frame home. Located on Main St. close to town, CHA, 2 car garage, 2 car carport, lot which could be rented. Lots of potential. **SOLD**

**RISE STAR-OLDEN-CARBON-CISCO**

**STRAWN-GORMAN-MINGUS-BRICKENRIDGE**

Strawn - \$69,500, 3 BR, 2 bath, CHA, 2 car attached garage w/closed in back. **SOLD**  
Kokomo - \$49,500 - 3 BR, 2 bath frame Ranch/large home. One acre, close to Gorman on FM 2683, guest quarters, handicapped ramp in two entrances, 2 car detached garage.  
Strawn - \$42,500 - 1/1.5/2 frame home. Metal roof, new counter tops in kitchen, new storm windows, bathroom fixtures updated. Above ground pool. Guest house. Several lots.

**HOMES WITH ACREAGE**

\$295,000 - Approx. 90 acres with 3/2 frame home. Approx. 10 acre lake stocked with bass, crappie, catfish. Remainder of property is covered with various trees including large oak trees.  
\$150,000 - 2/1 frame home with siding on 3.81 acres. CHA, very nice kitchen, den, formal **SOLD** lots of closets, small apartment in back. **SOLD** closed in breezeway in between. Corral, great location S. of Eastland.  
\$240,000 - 3/2 rock home on 6 acres. Garage and 2 car carport, corral, cattle shed, large metal building w/2 drive doors. Large metal shed. One 5/8 acre pond. Water well. In Stephens County.  
\$250,000 - 3/2/2 Brick home. Approx. 3 years old, 5 acres, Sprinkler system, water well, garden spot. In Ranger off 571.  
\$310,000 - Approx. 50 acres with 2 BR, 1 bath, totally remodeled house, wood floors, central heat/air, ceiling fans, barns, workshop, cellar, new pump-house, all with electricity. Perfect weekend getaway or hunting property.  
\$315,000 - Feel at home in the country in this 3/3 frame home with a jacuzzi great room, large metal carport that will house 2 motor homes, 4 cars, 72 acres with large pond. Survey available. Very scenic.  
\$400,000 - 3 BR, 2 bath brick home. Approx. 4100 sq. ft. Built in

**1980s. Rugged 100 acres, great hunting. Private setting. \$499,900 - GREATLY REDUCED! BRING US AN OFFER!** - Very nice brick home on 134.69 acres. Located only 1 1/2 hours from Fort Worth. Home is located on a hill and has a very beautiful view of the country. The home has a covered patio and courtyard with an extra building that could be an office, craft room or playhouse. There is also a large metal building **SOLD** for workshop or game room. It has electric for power tools. The property is excellent deer hunting and has 3 tanks with one stocked with bass and catfish. There is some coastal bermudagrass in the back of the property. This would be a great horse, cattle or hunting place.  
\$1.2M - Approx. 10 to 200 acres with a 4300 + sq. ft. brick home. Covered patio, courtyard, servant quarters, 100 by 100 barn, Workshop, two studios and much more. Acreage includes good soil, coastal bermuda, 15 acre lake and ponds. Owner financing and lease options available.

**ACREAGE**

Reduced to \$590,000 Nothing Like This!!! 200 acres of well established Coastal and Tifton with two large ponds. Irrigation equipment and electricity. Water available. Great frontage would make excellent homesite. Located on 2526, call for details!  
\$480,000 - Approx. 160 acres coastal grass, 2 stock ponds, water well, working pens. Will owner finance.  
\$304,350 - Approx. 101.45 acres, all coastal grass, 3 water wells, irrigation equip. goes. Near Carbon.  
\$1,358,000 - Approx. 560 acres. 92 acres of cultivation. Good for livestock or hunting. Lots of hog 4 ponds, community water, rolling elevation. Access from I-20 and FM 2945.  
\$736,000 - Approx. 320 acres. Beautiful oak trees, approx. 70 acres of coastal grass, Cross fenced. Farm house is used for rental, 2 barns, 4 ponds. Good hunting and good land for cattle grazing.  
\$679,000 - Approx. 280 acres. Beautiful terrain with high elevations. Very secluded and excellent hunting. 2 food plots. Small catch pen. No minerals and no production.  
\$621,000 - Approx. 270 acres. 1/2 mile of paved road frontage. Versatile hunting or grazing. Ponds are stocked with fish. Morfon Valley water supply membership paid. Scattered trees.  
\$552,000 - Approx. 240 acres. Coastal grass and improved pasture on 65 acres. Excellent hunting in this area. Access to city water. County road fronts two sides.  
\$517,000 - Approx. 225 acres. County Road frontage. Over half of the property is heavily wooded.  
\$282,500 - Approx. 713 acres. 30 acres is wooded at back side. Balance is improved coastal. Located on Hwy. 2731, Off of Hwy. 183.  
\$249,775 - Approx. 103 acres coastal grass. 3 irrigation wells. fenced. CR 253 Carbon.

**LOTS, COMMERCIAL**

\$750,000 - NORTH SHORE RV PARK, 56 hookups, power house pedestals make hook up quick & easy. Wireless internet. Stocked pond. Lake Leon waterfront.  
\$33,000 - 7R Ranch Lot - 1.12 acres, incredible canyon view from this lot, stock racks, horse stables, trails, hiking, biking and other amenities.  
\$52,500 - Cisco, old bank bldg. on Conrad Hilton, own a piece of history. Still has old safe.  
\$41,900 - 7R - Ranch Lot - 1.15 acres, beautiful canyon & valley view, many amenities in developments.  
Carbon - \$8,000, graveled and fenced lot, near Leon Valley Gate Co. bldg.  
Carbon - \$6,000, lot that could be used for dbiw, etc.  
\$26,000 - Large commercial building on Main Street, corner lot. Fixtures and inventory **SOLD** general store. Garage bay with roll up door.

\$250,000 - Mobile Home Park, approx. 7 acres, 24 lots, new water lines, aerobic system.  
**PRICE REDUCED \$57,000** - Great Eastland location on West Main. Rock building previously used as office on Main Street. Building is one room. Bathroom entrance is on the exterior. Larger lot suitable for additions.  
\$220,000 - Self serve gas station on 574 ac frontage on 3 sides. Two 10,000 gal. underground tanks. Both tanks meet all current standards from state. Located in growth area of Eastland.

**Linda Martin 433-1398**  
**Broker - Johnny Shawn Wells 631-1652**  
**Jan Smith 629-2954**

Come by our office and pick up a United Country Sampler and review all our listings.