Apples of Gold
PEACE–To will what God wills brings peace.

Santa Letters
Pages 6 & 7

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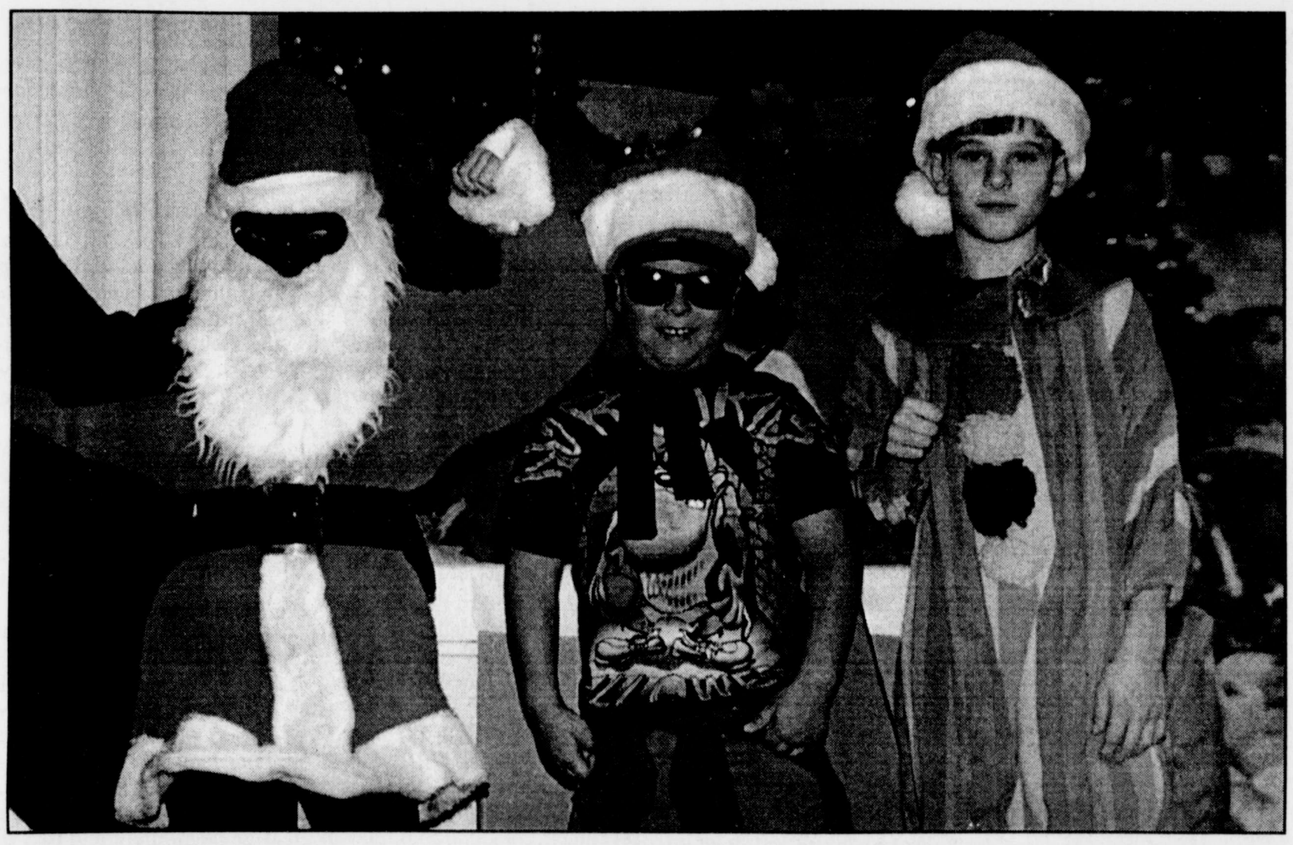
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The Winters Enterprise

Serving Winters and North Runnels County

Volume 8, Issue 52 | Thursday, December 25, 1997 | Winters, Texas | 50¢

SANTA IMPOSTERS



TRYING TO PULL A FAST ONE during the 4th grade Christmas program were (left to right) Aaron Colburn, Armando Nava, and L. J. Nitsch. More pictures appear on page 3.

Hurry! Rock Hotel brick deadline is Dec. 31

by KAY COLBURN, Friend of the Hale Museum

In an informal meeting, the Friends of the Museum reviewed names turned in for the Rock Hotel sidewalk. The response has been really great.

The review also brought to mind other possible honorees: past ministers, coaches, mayors, chamber officers and honorees, school teachers, early businesses, and pioneers.

Anyone wishing to honor a person or event can pick up forms or call the Rock Hotel at 754-2036 from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m.

The deadline is December 31. No bricks may be purchased after this date.

We want to thank those who have so generously given to this project.

The Friends also ask that anyone having artificial Christmas trees and decorations they don't want to pack away again to donate them to us for decorating the Rock Hotel next year.

Just call 754-2036 and we will be happy to pick them up.

Merry Christmas from the Friends of the Z.I. Hale Museum and Rock Hotel.

Crews to get ELC by Feb. 12

According to Earl Laird, office manager for Taylor Telephone Cooperative, five area towns will be included in the toll-free dialing for residents of the Crews exchange by February 12, 1998.

Included in the Extended Local Calling package will be Abilene, Ballinger, Coleman, Lawn and Tuscola.

This information was recently received by Dennis McBeth, local coordinator for ELC for the Crews telephone customers. The Crews exchange presently services 112 customers.



CARMELA POLSTON and BOBBIE COLLOM (right) were named Employees of 1997 by North Runnels Home Health and North Runnels Hospital, respectively.

Hospital and home health agency name Employees of the Year

The Employees of the Year for North Runnels Hospital and North Runnels Home Health Agency were announced recently at the annual employees' Christmas party.

Bobbie Collom was selected by the hospital staff while Carmel Polston was the choice of home health personnel.

Bobbie has worked at the hospital in several capacities since joining the staff in 1991. She currently is the Director of the Emergency Medical Service and also works as a Nurses Aide. Last summer, she completed her courses at Texas State Technical College and became certified as a Paramedic. Bobbie lives in Winters with her husband, Larry.

Carmela joined the staff at North Runnels Home Health in March 1996. Her duties have gradually expanded to the point where she is responsible for most of the agency's computer operations. Carmela and husband, Bill, live in Winters and have one son, Brendon.

Fitness & Fun fitness center opens Dec. 29

Folks in Winters and the surrounding area will be able to get a jump-start on that proverbial resolution to lose weight and shape up — and they can have a great time doing it.

Debbie and Randall Sudduth are proud to announce the opening of Fitness & Fun fitness center at 144 S. Main on December 29.

The newly decorated facility sports treadmills, Cardio Glides, stair steppers, Airdyne bicycles, a home gym for leg and arm exercises and strengthening, ab rollers, and hand-held free weights. Air Gliders are scheduled to soon be added to the present equipment.

According to Debbie, the mission of Fitness & Fun is "to provide adults with a convenient location and a variety of workout techniques, combined in an atmosphere of unity and fellowship."

Members must be at least 18 years old. Anyone completing a membership agreement and paying the membership fee prior to January 1 will become an active member, effective through February 1.

Memberships are $20 plus tax per person per month. This entitles the member to unlimited use of facilities. A trial membership can be obtained for one visit to the fitness center for only $3.00 plus tax.

Beginning Monday, December 29, Fitness & Fun will be open Monday through Friday from 5:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. and Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The center will also be open New Year's Eve from 5:30 -9:00 p.m. and New Year's Day 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Call 754-5830 for further details.

Early Deadlines for New Year's edition— All news & ads due Friday, Dec. 26

WHAT'S HAPPENING ?

Dec. 25-**CHRISTMAS DAY**
"Merry Christmas to You and Yours!"
The Winters Enterprise Closed
Dec. 27-7:30 p.m., Winters Squares, Community Center
Dec. 29-11:30 a.m., Senior Citizens Meal
6 p.m., City Council
Dec. 30-11:30 a.m., Senior Citizens Meal
Noon, Lions Club
7 p.m., Athletic Boosters, Blizzard Field
7 p.m., WVFD
Dec. 31-11:30 a.m., Senior Citizens Meal
Jan. 1-**NEW YEAR'S DAY**
Happy New Year To All!

Oil Bidness

By Reg Boles ©1997

It's the end of 1997, and this is our opportunity to discuss the outlook for oil and gas prices for the coming year.

A quick review of prices through the year just completed would seem to be a good place to start.

Prices began the year a couple of dollars above $20 per barrel. I, among others, expected a good year for prices, and we weren't too far wrong—until the last quarter.

Prices stayed in the $20-$22 range through nine months, but as the problems in Baghdad raised their ugly head, prices increased then fell. The psychology of the situation is curious. As the expectation of a confrontation increased, so did prices, but, after things settled down, prices fell below where they were before things got tense.

It seems that the market penalized oil prices for not rising. This, in my opinion, has set prices up for a shot upward due to their current undervaluation, as we will discuss shortly.

In any event, prices are now below $19, the lowest range of the year. Although activity hasn't yet suffered to any large extent due to this fall in prices, it may put a damper on 1998 spending for development.

My feeling is that oil prices will stay at or below $20 unless something disrupts the market. That disruption could be another Iraq problem, or it might be a fall in inventories, or it may possibly be just a heavy driving season or really cold winter.

In the event of such a disruption, prices could reach $25 for a meaningful period. There is still an underlying strength in the market despite the Asian money crisis and shakier American stock market. Business is good, so the market has a spring under prices ready to jump for any reason.

I don't see a big downside to prices. There is too much demand out there and too much need for cash from the producers to fight for market share at the expense of prices.

Gas prices will follow along for the most part They have maintained their strength throughout the year and seem to have found their own identity apart from oil prices. I look for gas prices to remain above $2.00 with some flirtations with $3.00 and greater during peak usage months.

I hope this price forecast brings you some cheer for the new year. Although I felt much more optimistic this time last year, 1998 still looks to be a year of relative stability in product prices.

HIGHLIGHTS OF AREA DRILLING ACTIVITY COMPLETIONS

Taylor County

James K. Anderson, Inc. has completed the Perini #7 in the Kirby Field (1 mile W of Buffalo Gap) at an initial rate of 28 BOPD & 28 BWPD in the Cook Sand (perfs 2313-19). Loc. is 358 FEL & 2078 FSL of J. Vaughn Sur. No. 61, A-416.

Tom Green County

Byrd Operating Company has completed the Schuch -B- #1 in the Schuch Field (18 miles N of San Angelo) at an initial rate of 27 BOPD in the Caddo (perfs 6228-56). Loc. is 1680 FEL & 1930 FSL of J. M. Whitaker Sur. No. 5-1/2, A-7633.

STAKINGS

Coleman County

Sojourner Drilling Corp. has applied to plug back the C. Horn #1-A in the County Regular Field, 2 miles S of Glen Cove (Depth 3160). Loc. is 990 FSL & 2310 FEL of Sec. 12, Blk. 2, T&NO Sur.

Concho County

Bowerman Exploration has staked the Choate/Sorrell Unit #1 in the Arena Field, 7 miles SW of Eden (Depth 4000). Loc. is 56 FWL & 935 FSL of Sec. 3, C&MRR Sur., A-1068.

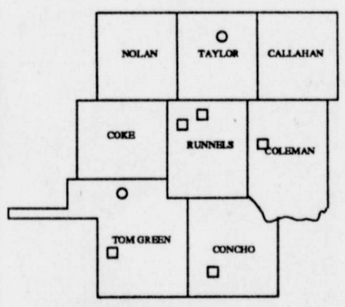
Runnels County

Hudgens Operating Co., Inc. has staked the W.T. Colburn #1 as a Wildcat, 7 miles W of Winters (Depth 4800). Loc. is 700 FWL & 467 FSL of Sec. 95, Blk. 64, H&TC Sur.

Nautilus Exploration has staked the Kurtz #2 in the Little Boot Field, 2 miles NW of Winters (Depth 2900). Loc. is 1525 FEL & 1150 FNL of J. Warner Sur. No. 76, A-928.

Tom Green County

PetroData Resources, Inc. has applied to deepen the Jones #2 in the East Dove Creek Field, 8 miles SW of Knickerbock (Depth 1300). Loc. is 2318 FNL & 1513 FEL of Sec. 22, Blk. 20, H&TC Sur. RULE 36.





AREF HASSAN, Winters City Manager, looks as though he's trying to convince Santa that he's been good all year and deserves something nice from Jolly Old St. Nick (alias Jimmy Buttler), who made an appearance at the recent fire department Christmas banquet.

Letters to the Editor

Father urges everyone to attend Christmas service

God, in His Divine Mercy, has given me many years to celebrate His Son's coming to our world. I like to tell my people about Midnight Mass in our Parish Church in St. Joe, Missouri.

My parents, David and Mary Homsey, would go to Midnight Mass and leave me at home. I even cried, but Mother told me that all I did was sleep all through the service.

In those days, Mass was all in Latin.

So, I used to go to sleep at home while my folks went to Mass thinking all the while: "When I grow up, I'll show all of them. I'll go to Midnight Mass every year and no one is going to stop me."

Well, now that I am grown up, I am fulfilling the prophecy a little boy made many years ago. I do attend Midnight Mass every year on Christmas Eve and I just love it.

So, may I invite all who read this paper to go to your church and thank God for sending His Only Begotten Son, Jesus Christ, as the Saviour of all humanity.

Merry Christmas to all who believe in God's love for us all.

Fr. Sam Homsey, C.P.S.
Mt. Carmel Church
Winters, TX

Why buy at home?

Dear Editor:

I have found myself in an unusual place the last few weeks. With the Country Cobbler no longer taking payments for telephone or gas, several people have dropped in to my shop to complain that they now have to spend a stamp to mail their payments.

I would like to use this media to answer them. They (the people of Winters) brought this on themselves. They would rather spend money for gas and food to go to Abilene or San Angelo to get something they want rather than shop for it here in Winters.

I have been watching the fliers being sent out at this time of year. I will give you an example. Lowe's had a Black and Decker Wizard on sale for $65.00. You could have stayed home and saved the food and gas to go to Lowe's, and gotten it for $59.99 at Higginbotham's. I find the same thing true with buying groceries. Many times Lawrence Bros. will have them for the same price or lower than H.E.B.

So why not spend a little and shop at home before you run off and shop out of town then wonder why we lose another service here in Winters.

Bill Ray

Senior Citizens Activity Center Menu

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Dec. 29 thru Jan. 9
Subject to change

Monday, Dec. 29: Mexican cornbread, tossed salad, hominy, crackers, and apple pies.

Tuesday, Dec. 30: German sausage & sauerkraut, pinto beans, carrot salad, cornbread, and Jello w/cream.

Wednesday, Dec. 31: Ham & gravy, black-eyed peas, beets, cornbread, and fruit.

Thursday, Jan. 1: New Year's holiday. Happy New Year to all of you!

Friday, Jan. 2: Stew, vegetable sticks, fruit salad, cornbread, and chocolate pudding.

Obituaries

Thyra Wallace

BALLINGER—Thyra Wallace, 57, died at 3:15 a.m. Thursday, December 18, 1997, at Ballinger Memorial Hospital.

She was born January 20, 1940, in Mountain Air, New Mexico, to Wheeler Meadows and Etta Walker. She married Vernon Wallace on February 24, 1960, in Ballinger.

Mrs. Wallace was an adult care giver and a member of the Seventh Street Baptist Church in Ballinger. She made and collected porcelain dolls.

She was preceded in death by her father; two sons, Glen and Gregory; and a granddaughter, Angela Wallace.

Survivors include her husband, Vernon Wallace of Ballinger; three sons, Douglas Wallace of Ballinger, Randell Wallace of San Angelo, and Michael Wallace of Odessa; one daughter, Michelle Rasmusson of Cleburne; her mother, Etta Wallace of Ballinger; three brothers, Phil Meadows of Winslow, Arizona, John Meadows of Ballinger, and Jimmy Meadows of Gallup, New Mexico; four sisters, Bernice Haygood of Satilla, Phyllis McCoy of Flora Vista, New Mexico, Virginia Holley of Gallup, New Mexico, and Margaret Kirk of Ballinger; and six grandchildren.

Services were held at 2:00 p.m. Saturday, December 20, at Seventh Street Baptist Church in Ballinger with Reverend Tony King officiating. Burial was in the Garden of Memories in Ballinger, directed by Rains-Seale Funeral Home.

Pallbearers were nephews, Raymond Haygood, Bob Kirkwood, Dale Haygood, Delbert Holley, Phillip Meadows, Jackie Meadows, Rusty Franklin, Mark Franklin, and John Meadows.

Mary Agnes Madison

BELTON—Mary Agnes Madison, 86, died Tuesday, December 16, 1997, in Hearthstone Senior Assisted Living Facility in Temple.

She was born February 12, 1911, in Holland to James and Mollie Harris. She married Johnie Madison Sr. on December 16, 1933, in Abilene. The Madisons moved to the Belton area in 1947 from Coleman. She graduated from the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor in 1948 and received her masters degree from Baylor University 25 years ago.

Mrs. Madison started her teaching career at the age of 18 at Wilmeth where she taught 1st grade elementary. She also taught at Sparta, Killeen, and Belton. She was a diagnostician for the Belton Independent School District until her retirement. She also taught Sunday School at the First Baptist Church in Belton until September 1997, and was a member of the Golden Age Group. She was also a very active member of the Phi Kappa Gamma sorority.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Johnie Y. Madison Sr. on June 16, 1997, and a granddaughter, Tammie Diann Brock.

Survivors include three sons, Johnie Y. Madison Jr. and wife Alma of Austin; James L. Madison and wife Margie of Commack, New York, Mark A. Madison and wife Judy of Sapulpa, Oklahoma; three daughters, Golda M. Brock and husband James of Austin, Donette Street and husband Coleman of New Martinsville, West Virginia, and Juanita Krupicka and husband Wayne of Birmingham, Alabama; seventeen grandchildren; eleven great-grandchildren; and two step-great-grandchildren; and a host of nieces, nephews, and friends.

Visitation was Thursday, December 18, at Heartfield Funeral Home in Belton. Services were held at 2:00 p.m. Friday, December 19, in the Heartfield Funeral Home Chapel with Reverend Andy Davis of First Baptist Church officiating. Burial was in the North Belton Cemetery, directed by Heartfield Funeral Home.

Memorials may be made to the First Baptist Church Building Fund in Belton.

Florentina Garcia Ortiz

SAN ANTONIO—Florentina Garcia Ortiz, 66, died at 12:30 a.m. Saturday, December 13,1997, at Wilford Hall Hospital in San Antonio.

She was born June 21, 1931, in San Antonio to Juan Garcia and Herminia Hernandez. She married Daniel Ortiz on June 17, 1947, in Lancing, Michigan, and divorced in 1971.

Mrs. Ortiz was a homemaker and attended Jesus Christ Lives Church.

Survivors include two daughters, Olga Reyna of Winters and Herminia Aragon of San Antonio; five sons, Juan Ortiz of Abilene, Daniel Ortiz Jr., Raymond Ortiz, Rudy Ortiz, and Richard Ortiz, all of San Antonio; three sisters, Julia Cantu and Augustine Villela of San Antonio, and Inez Vega of Detroit, Michigan; four brothers, Eusebio Garcia of Eden, Cecilio Garcia, Salome Garcia, and Remigio Garcia, all of San Antonio; twenty-four grandchildren; and nineteen great-grandchildren.

Services were held at 9:00 a.m. Tuesday, December 16, at Castillo Missions Funeral Home with Sister Dora Luevano officiating. Burial was at San Fernando #2 Cemetery, directed by Castillo Missions Funeral Home of San Antonio.

Honorary pallbearers were Ramiro Reyna, Jessie Reyna, Felix Aragon Jr., Alex Aragon, Mark Aragon, and Richard Ortiz Jr.

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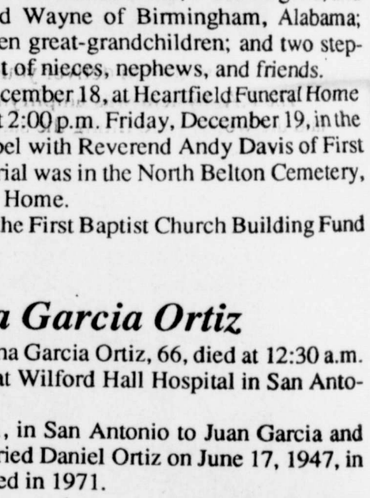
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Susan Ripple .....Production Manager
Kristi Johnson .....Office Manager

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POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *The Winters Enterprise*, 104 N. Main, Winters, TX 79567-5108.

TPA MEMBER 1997
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Peace on Earth

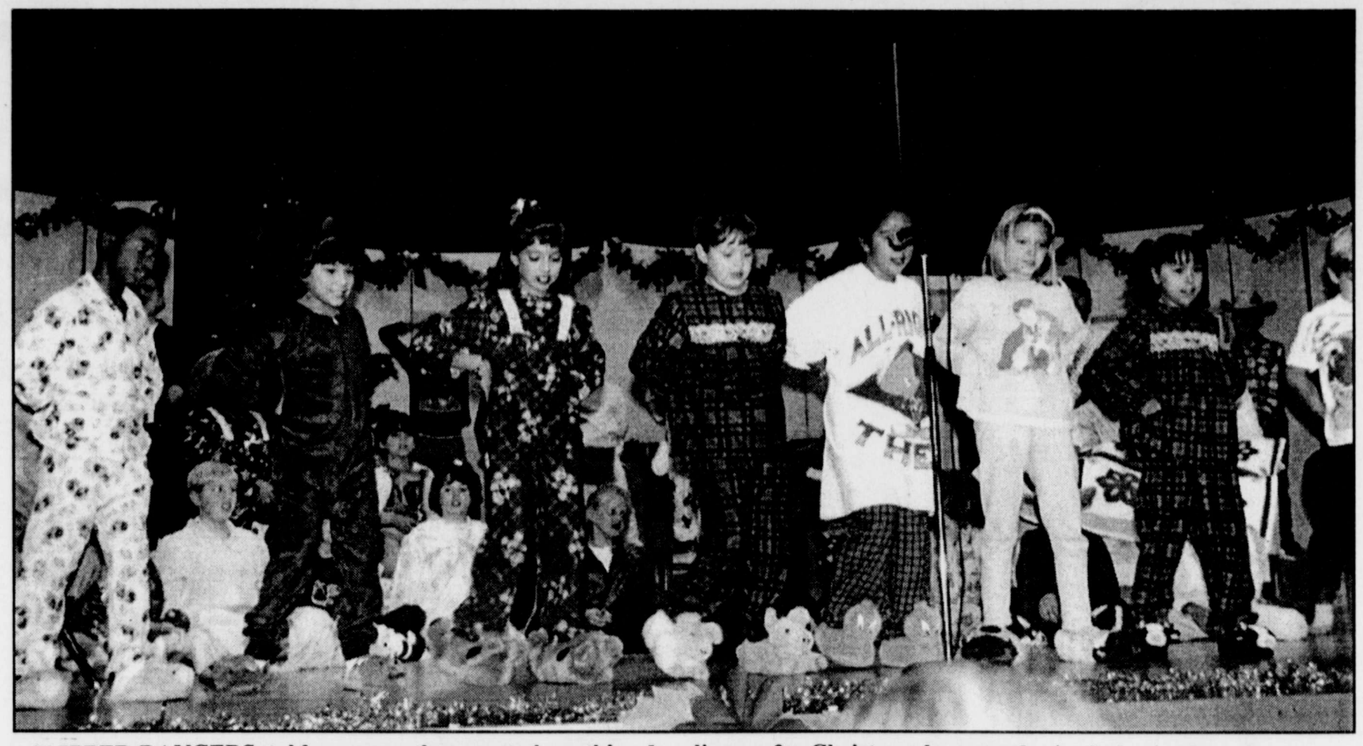


May the age-old Christmas story bring its spirit of love and joy to you and your family during this holy season.

With sincere thanks and best wishes from all of us. Noel!

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SLIPPER DANCERS told everyone they wanted anything *but* slippers for Christmas because that's all they've been getting. Sporting slippers and pajamas during the fourth grade program were (left to right) Michael Liggins, Cory Martinez, Miranda Lara, Erica Lujano, Anjelica Campos, Amber Toten, Vickie Santoya and Randy Jackson.



AUNTIE JUNE (Rebecca Morrison) begs her sweet nephew (Bryce Wilkerson) to "give me a big 'ole kiss" when she arrives for a visit but Bryce calls Motel 6 and shouts, "Quick, I need a room for my aunt." Rebecca and Bryce are 4th grade students performing in their class Christmas play.



From The Well

By Pastor Jim Hanson

Pastor Jim Hanson

What is the true spirit of Christmas?

I think I know, now. Rather, I should say it was revealed to me. Just last Saturday.

No, I didn't have an angel visitation. Like Mary. Or a dream like Joseph did. But I did see something. And that something I saw was indeed the true spirit of Christmas.

It happened in church. Not on Sunday morning, during a sermon of mine, when all of a sudden the room filled with light. No, it happened on a Saturday morning during the children's practice for their Christmas program. Up front. In the chancel area. In front of the altar.

Now, chancels are a special place in some churches. They are a kind of carry-over from Old Testament times...a kind of "holy of holies." It is on this raised platform, actually you might call it a "sacred stage," where the priest or pastor does holy things. It is here where communion is served, from the altar. It is from this area that the Scriptures are read, facing the people. Sacred space. Reserved for the pastors and the ladies who care for the altar, who dress the table with fine linens and altar hangings, and who set the table for communion.

Years ago, when I was a boy, I was taught how special a place it was. My kid brother, John, and I, were playing football outside on a cold, wintry type day. We got cold, so we went into the church that Saturday morning. After we warmed up a little, I threw John a pass, right down the center isle. He didn't quite reach it, but did deflect it. It landed in the chancel. Close to the altar. John giggled as he crossed over into that space. All of a sudden the silence of the sanctuary was broken..."What on earth are you doing?" One of the ladies of the Chancel Guild appeared out of nowhere, and we learned, even if we were "the preacher's kids," we had no business being in the chancel.

Anyway, back to last Saturday. We were well into the rehearsal. The adults were gathered by the organ in front of the chancel. The children were clustered close by. On the ground level. And they were all singing the song, "Mary, did you know?" It's a beautiful song and the heart of the program. Some of the words are:

"Mary did you know that your baby boy
would one day walk on water.
Mary did you know that your baby boy
will save our sons and daughters
Did you know that your baby boy
has come to make you new.
This child that you delivered
will soon deliver you."

The P.A. system was amplifying the accompaniment. The music and the words were filling the sanctuary. The children were singing. Adults, too. All but one small boy.

This boy, about five years old, was in back of them all, in the chancel. In the holy place. "What on earth was he doing there?" I thought. I almost said so — out loud. Fortunately a wiser Spirit shut me up, and I watched. Here's what I saw.

I saw a little boy of five, filled with the Spirit of God. He was singing softly, but more than that. He was moving with the music. His little body became a Temple, housing the spirit of God. He danced! Free form ballet! It was truly beautiful. He twisted and turned. He leapt and he laughed. His arms and hands made big rainbow like motions - gracefully, in time with the music. Eyes aglow, face beaming, he circled the chancel. He was so into that song that the song was into him. He was doing Mary's song, the Magnificat, in his body. "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior." He was, in that brief span of time, the embodiment of "Joy to the World." For truly the Spirit of the Lord had come into him. The Spirit of Christmas.

The music ended. The little boy knelt and faced the altar. I heard him say, "Thank you, God." My heart was strangely warmed. My eyes brimming full, washed with the grace I had just seen.

I didn't tell anybody there. I didn't even tell the boy what I had seen. I didn't need to. God had seen the performance. The show was for Him, alone. I thank God for letting me see. The "gift." The spirit of Christmas. "Where the meek souls will receive Him still, the dear Christ enters in." Right here on earth. In the chancel. On a Saturday morning. In a little boy dance in the holiest place of all...his heart. Merry Christmas.

FUMC annouces Christmas Eve service

The First United Methodist Church of Winters will have a Christmas Eve service at 6:00 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 24, in the church sanctuary.

This is a meaningful service of carols, candles, and Holy Communion.

Everyone is welcome to bring family and friends to this special Christmas service.

Dr. Gary Torian is pastor.



Christmas Greetings

Wishing you a sterling holiday season, with an unbroken chain of golden moments.

You've been real gems, and we really appreciate your business.

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We will be open till 10 pm Christmas Eve and
1-9 pm Christmas Day
and till 12:00 New Years

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Happy New Year

Ring in the New, Ring out the Old at a Festive Evening of Dining & Dancing with the Clarion Hotel

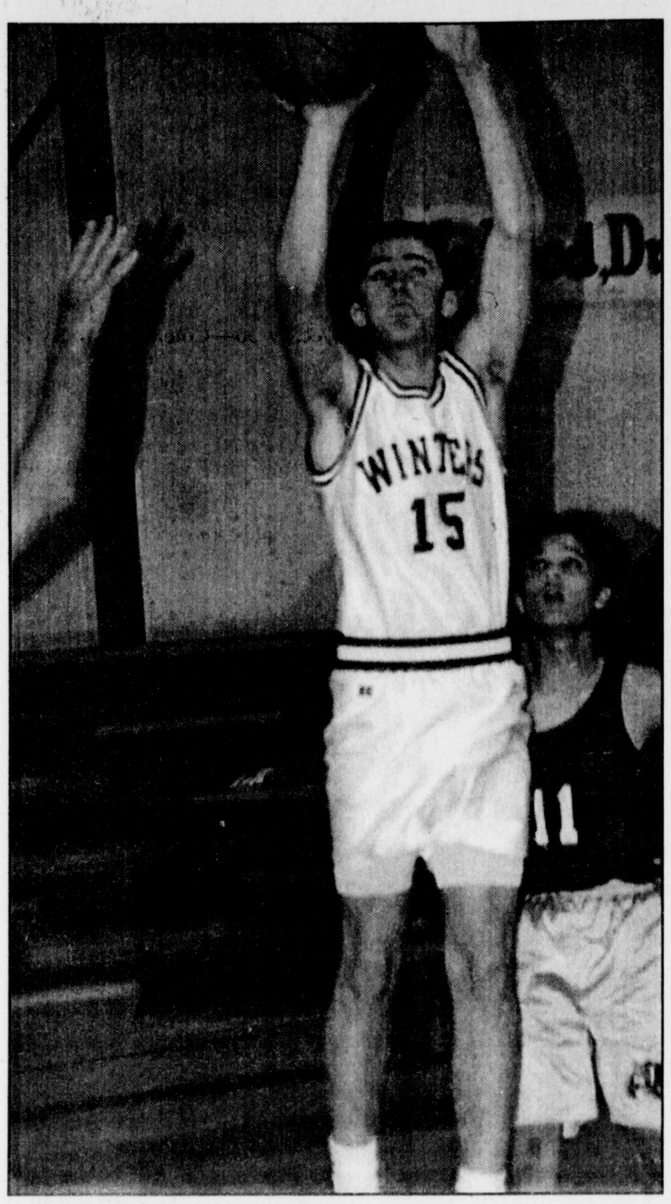
•Buffet Dinner of Prime Rib, Stuffed Chicken, Rice Pilaf, Garden Salad, Black-Eyed Peas, Broccoli, Carrots, Rolls & Cornbread, Tea & Coffee, Assorted Desserts
•Dance to the sounds of the "Big Bands"
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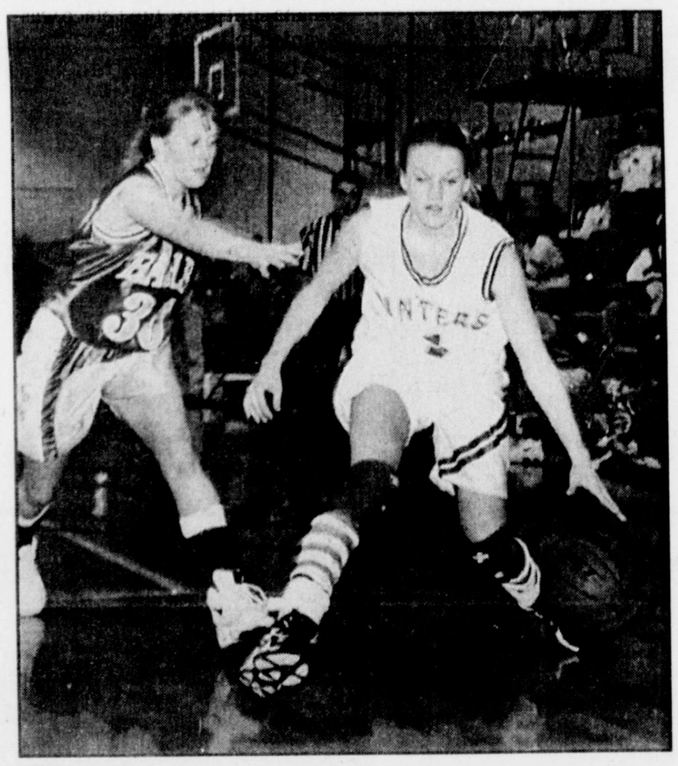
Without Room
For Two: $52.98
For One: $39.98

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BLIZZARD BASKETBALL



MATT ANGEL uses intense focus and all of his 6'1" frame to shoot the 3-pointer for the JV Blizzards against the Clyde Bulldogs.



CRISTIN CORLEY keeps the dribble low to get around the Lady Eagle from Eldorado during varsity Lady Blizzard action last Friday night.

Basketball Hoopla

Team: 8th Boys **Coach:** Chuck Lipsey
Opponent: Coleman B **Date:** Dec. 12, 1997
Place: Jim Ned Tournament

POINTS SCORED EACH QUARTER

	1	2	3	4	OT	FIN.
WINTERS	16	9	8	15		48
OPPONENT	4	4	8	4		20

Free throws made: 3 of 14 for 21%

Players Name	Points	Rebounds	Steals	Assists
Jared Airhart	2	0	0	0
Travis Grohman	0	0	0	0
Jeremy Hope*	22	8	6	1
Chris Hoppe	8	9	1	0
Joseph Joeris	3	0	1	1
Chris Kraatz	0	1	0	0
Wade Parramore	13	8	2	0

*Denotes high point individual for Winters

Team: Freshmen Boys **Coach:** Chris Bearden
Opponent: Eula **Date:** Dec. 13, 1997
Place: Abilene High Tournament

POINTS SCORED EACH QUARTER

	1	2	3	4	OT	FIN.
WINTERS	11	18	15	12		56
OPPONENT	11	10	16	11		47

Free throws made:

Players Name	Points	Rebounds	Steals	Assists
Tony Aguero	11	1	2	2
Ben Blaine	0	0	0	0
Taylor Brown	0	0	0	0
Justin Calcote	0	1	1	0
Tanner Donica	0	0	0	0
Jason Esquivel	0	0	0	0
G.G. Hernandez	0	0	0	0
Gabriel Hernandez	10	0	4	3
Samson Jackson	4	9	0	3
Craig Jacob	0	0	0	0
Jeffrey Jordan	0	0	0	0
Zeek Martinez	0	0	0	0
Josh Minzenmayer	14	12	1	1
Kasey Murphy	0	0	0	0
Aaron Pritchard*	15	7	3	1
Jimmy Rodriguez	0	0	0	0
Juan Santos	0	0	0	0
Clay Trojcak	0	0	0	0
Colby Walker	3	1	1	2

*Denotes high point individual for Winters
Coach's comments: First truly well played ball game of the year. I am very proud of the boys' effort.

Team: Varsity Girls **Coach:** Will Corley
Opponent: Albany **Date:** Dec. 12, 1997
Place: Albany Tournament

POINTS SCORED EACH QUARTER

	1	2	3	4	OT	FIN.
WINTERS	8	8	16	7		39
OPPONENT	12	7	12	10		41

Free throws made: 10 of 13 for 78%

Players Name	Points	Rebounds	Steals	Assists
Debbie Baize	0	0	0	0
Jamie Bishop	0	0	0	0
Cristin Corley	6	5	1	2
Amanda Cross	0	1	1	0
Jeanna Kozelsky*	19	3	1	1
Desireé Mathis	0	2	0	0
Karen Oats	2	7	0	2
Monica Parramore	2	1	0	2
Jana Presley	8	3	0	3
Noemi Vega	2	0	1	1
Heather Watkins	0	1	0	0

*Denotes high point individual for Winters

Team: Varsity Girls **Coach:** Will Corley
Opponent: Zephyr **Date:** Dec. 13, 1997
Place: Albany Tournament

POINTS SCORED EACH QUARTER

	1	2	3	4	OT	FIN.
WINTERS	7	8	8	12		55
OPPONENT	12	10	7	15		44

Free throws made: 7 of 12 for 58%

Players Name	Points	Rebounds	Steals	Assists
Jamie Bishop	2	2	0	2
Cristin Corley	10	4	3	1
Amanda Cross	0	0	4	2
Jeanna Kozelsky*	11	4	3	1
Desireé Mathis	5	2	0	0
Karen Oats	0	2	2	0
Monica Parramore	2	0	0	1
Jana Presley	0	1	0	0
Heather Watkins	5	4	0	2

*Denotes high point individual for Winters

Team: Junior Varsity Boys **Coach:** Biff White
Opponent: Rising Star **Date:** Dec. 19, 1997
Place: Rising Star

POINTS SCORED EACH QUARTER

	1	2	3	4	OT	FIN.
WINTERS	7	16	16	13		52
OPPONENT	8	8	10	9		35

Free throws made: 6 of 11 for 55%

Players Name	Points	Rebounds	Steals	Assists
Matt Angel	2	3	1	2
Courtney Collom	0	5	2	1
Ruben Garcia	1	3	1	0
Larry Hoyle	14	7	0	0
Arthur Martinez	6	1	7	0
Robert Medina	6	3	6	1
Joe Ortiz*	17	4	6	1
Felix Portillo	0	0	2	1
Chris Santoya	4	1	3	1
V.J. Santoya	2	0	2	0

*Denotes high point individual for Winters

Team: Junior Varsity Boys **Coach:** Biff White
Opponent: Clyde **Date:** Dec. 15, 1997
Place: Winters

POINTS SCORED EACH QUARTER

	1	2	3	4	OT	FIN.
WINTERS	13	14	16	4	7	64
OPPONENT	14	22	14	7	4	61

Free throws made:

Players Name	Points	Rebounds	Steals	Assists
Matt Angel	2	3	0	0
Courtney Collom	14	4	2	2
Ruben Garcia	0	0	0	0
Larry Hoyle	11	11	0	0
Arthur Martinez	6	2	7	1
Robert Medina	0	0	0	0
Joe Ortiz*	24	10	5	0
Felix Portillo	2	0	0	0
Chris Santoya	4	1	0	0
V.J. Santoya	1	1	0	0

*Denotes high point individual for Winters
Coach's Comments: This was a much better week, especially if you win in overtime. But what I am more proud of is we are starting to jell and play good TEAM ball. Another bonus is we are cutting down on our turnovers. Thanks to the fans.

Team: 8th Boys **Coach:** Chuck Lipsey
Opponent: Coleman A **Date:** Dec. 13, 1997
Place: Jim Ned Tournament

POINTS SCORED EACH QUARTER

	1	2	3	4	OT	FIN.
WINTERS	6	7	4	10		27
OPPONENT	12	8	7	11		38

Free throws made: 4 of 10 for 40%

Players Name	Points	Rebounds	Steals	Assists
Jared Airhart	0			
Travis Grohman	0			
Jeremy Hope*	16			
Chris Hoppe	4			
Joseph Joeris	2			
Chris Kraatz	0			
Wade Parramore	5			

*Denotes high point individual for Winters

Team: Freshmen Boys **Coach:** Chris Bearden
Opponent: Clyde **Date:** Dec. 15, 1997
Place: Winters

POINTS SCORED EACH QUARTER

	1	2	3	4	OT	FIN.
WINTERS	11	17	14	16		58
OPPONENT	16	10	8	20		54

Free throws made: 12 of 28 for 60%

Players Name	Points	Rebounds	Steals	Assists
Tony Aguero	2	2	0	2
Ben Blaine	0	5	1	2
Taylor Brown	0	0	0	0
Justin Calcote	0	1	1	0
Tanner Donica	0	0	0	0
Jason Esquivel	0	0	0	0
G.G. Hernandez	0	0	0	0
Gabriel Hernandez	9	9	3	1
Samson Jackson	0	8	1	3
Craig Jacob	0	0	0	0
Jeffrey Jordan	0	0	0	0
Zeek Martinez	0	1	0	0
Josh Minzenmayer	0	15	4	2
Kasey Murphy	0	0	0	0
Aaron Pritchard	9	5	4	2
Jimmy Rodriguez	0	0	0	0
Juan Santos	0	0	0	0
Clay Trojcak	0	0	0	0
Colby Walker	10	3	4	1

*Denotes high point individual for Winters
Coach's comments: Record: 4-4. These guys did an incredible job. I am very proud of them. Clyde was the team that beat us in the Abilene Tourney by 20. Great job!

Team: Varsity Girls **Coach:** Will Corley
Opponent: Munday **Date:** Dec. 10, 1997
Place: Albany Tournament

POINTS SCORED EACH QUARTER

	1	2	3	4	OT	FIN.
WINTERS	10	12	14	11		45
OPPONENT	6	13	9	15		43

Free throws made: 18 of 38 for 47%

Players Name	Points	Rebounds	Steals	Assists
Debbie Baize	0	0	0	0
Jamie Bishop	0	0	1	0
Cristin Corley	6	0	2	1
Amanda Cross	2	1	0	0
Jeanna Kozelsky	6	2	1	2
Desireé Mathis	3	4	1	1
Karen Oats	6	4	4	0
Monica Parramore	8	6	1	1
Jana Presley*	11	3	3	1
Noemi Vega	3	5	3	3
Heather Watkins	0	2	0	0

*Denotes high point individual for Winters

Team: Junior Varsity Girls **Coach:** Deb Whittenburg
Opponent: Eldorado **Date:** Dec. 19, 1997
Place: Winters

POINTS SCORED EACH QUARTER

	1	2	3	4	OT	FIN.
WINTERS	7	11	8	10		36
OPPONENT	7	4	4	8		23

Free throws made: 6 of 11 for 55%

Players Name	Points	Rebounds	Steals	Assists
Lori Bredemeyer	1	1	0	0
Kayla Colburn	2	1	0	0
Jessica Corley	5	0	2	0
Jessica DelaRosa	2	1	2	0
Jackye Dexter	0	0	1	1
Kendra Hope*	9	3	7	2
Kacy McCuistion	6	5	2	1
Michelle Paschal	6	6	4	1
Kelli Slimp	5	7	3	1
Brittney Tekell	0	0	0	0

*Denotes high point individual for Winters

Team: 8th Boys **Coach:** Ed Henley
Opponent: Eula **Date:** Dec. 13, 1997
Place: Jim Ned Tournament

POINTS SCORED EACH QUARTER

	1	2	3	4	OT	FIN.
WINTERS	3	9	0	8		20
OPPONENT	14	6	33	9		62

Free throws made: 3 of 10 for 30%

Players Name	Points	Rebounds	Steals	Assists
Jared Airhart	0			
Travis Grohman	0			
Jeremy Hope*	11			
Chris Hoppe	5			
Joseph Joeris	4			
Chris Kraatz	0			
Wade Parramore	0			

*Denotes high point individual for Winters

Team: Varsity Girls **Coach:** Will Corley
Opponent: Roscoe **Date:** Dec. 15, 1997
Place: Roscoe

POINTS SCORED EACH QUARTER

	1	2	3	4	OT	FIN
WINTERS	8	12	12	13		45
OPPONENT	12	11	10	10		43

Free throws made: 7 of 7 for 100%

Players Name	Points	Rebounds	Steals	Assists
Debbie Baize	ill			
Jamie Bishop	0	1	0	0
Cristin Corley	8	0	2	2
Amanda Cross	2	2	1	0
Jeanna Kozelsky*	15	3	3	2
Desireé Mathis	4	1	0	0
Karen Oats	2	1	2	1
Monica Parramore	4	0	0	0
Jana Presley	6	3	2	3
Noemi Vega	2	3	1	6
Heather Watkins	2	1	0	0

*Denotes high point individual for Winters
Coach's comments: Our girls played tough and hung in even when they were behind. They kept their composure and scored with 4 seconds left to win the game. District: 1-0.

Team: Varsity Girls **Coach:** Will Corley
Opponent: Ballinger **Date:** Dec. 9, 1997
Place: Ballinger

POINTS SCORED EACH QUARTER

	1	2	3	4	OT	FIN.
WINTERS	5	7	8	9		30
OPPONENT	12	14	7	5		38

Free throws made: 5 of 13 for 38%

Players Name	Points	Rebounds	Steals	Assists
Debbie Baize	1	0	0	0
Jamie Bishop	0	2	0	0
Cristin Corley	4	2	0	1
Amanda Cross	0	3	1	0
Jeanna Kozelsky	4	3	4	1
Desireé Mathis	0	3	2	0
Karen Oats	2	4	1	3
Monica Parramore*	10	4	2	1
Jana Presley	5	6	0	0
Noemi Vega	0	2	4	0
Heather Watkins	4	1	0	2

*Denotes high point individual for Winters

Team: Varsity Girls **Coach:** Will Corley
Opponent: Eldorado **Date:** Dec. 19, 1997
Place: Winters

POINTS SCORED EACH QUARTER

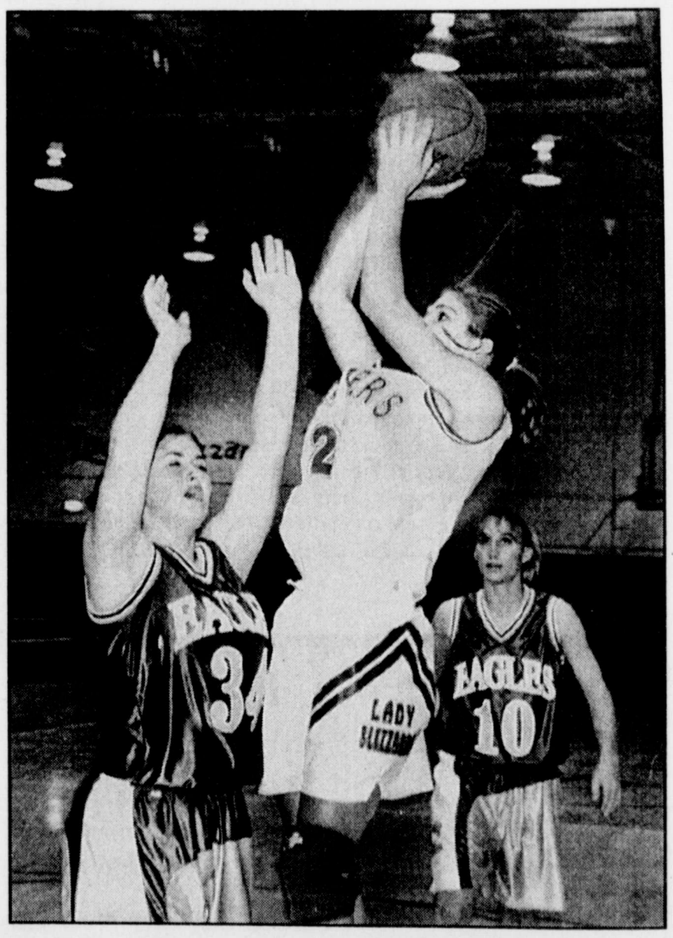
	1	2	3	4	OT	FIN
WINTERS	11	7	15	20		53
OPPONENT	7	15	9	10		41

Free throws made: 19 of 31 for 62%

Players Name	Points	Rebounds	Steals	Assists
Jamie Bishop	0	3	1	1
Cristin Corley*	16	3	0	0
Amanda Cross	2	7	1	0
Jeanna Kozelsky	12	2	3	3
Desireé Mathis	7	8	1	0
Karen Oats	4	5	2	0
Monica Parramore	1	6	0	0
Jana Presley	8	4	4	1
Noemi Vega	2	2	0	2
Heather Watkins	1	2	3	0

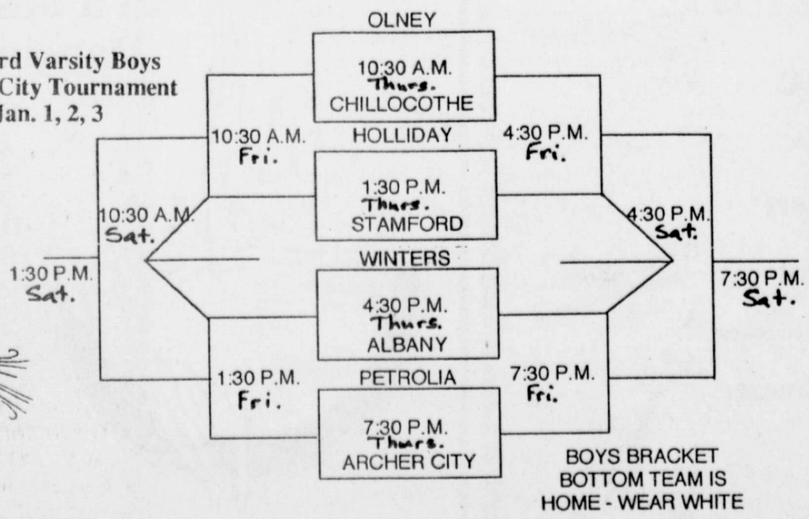
*Denotes high point individual for Winters

GO BLIZZARDS !



JEANNA KOZELSKY puts up the jump shot over the Eldorado defender during the 53-41 win for the varsity Lady Blizzards who now stand 2-0 in district play.

Blizzard Varsity Boys
Archer City Tournament
Jan. 1, 2, 3



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1997-98 Lady Blizzards



Sitting, left to right: Noemi Vega, Jamie Bishop, Heather Watkins, Amanda Cross, and Karen Oats. Standing, same order: Head Coach Will Corley, Jeanna Kozelsky, Monica Parramore, Desiree' Mathis, Cristin Corley, Jana Presley, and Asst. Coach Deb Whittenburg.

Basketball '97

Catch the Action

Dec. 27—Brady, 3:00, There, JVG, VG
Dec. 27—Comanche, 2:00, Here, 9B, JVB, VB
Dec.29-30—Coleman Varsity Tourney, TBA, There, VG
Dec. 30—Stamford, 5:00, Here, JVB, VB
Jan. 1-3—ARcher City, TBA, There, VB

VG Varsity Girls VB Varsity Boys
JVG Junior Varsity Girls
JVB Junior Varsity Boys
9B Freshmen Boys
8B 8th Boys 8G 8th Girls
7B 7th Boys 7G 7th Girls
*Denotes District Games

Student Council hosted "Toys for Tots" party

Winters Student Council was busy the last week of school before Christmas with many projects.

Tuesday was Teacher's Appreciation Day at WHS. Bobbie Collom and Zelda Stewart were available for blood pressure and blood sugar checks.

Wednesday, students gathered old newspapers to recycle as a project sponsored by the Energy Committee.

Friday, the Student Council sponsored a "Toys for Tots" banana split party. Secondary students had to bring a new toy to attend the party. Mr. Hale's art class participated in a poster contest to announce winners of the banana split party. First place was awarded to Isaia Lara.

Also recently, Michael Pritchard, president, presented Mr. Kazuo Yamada of Japan with a Blizzard cap during his visit to Winters High School. Council members met with Mr. Yamada in a roundtime discussion about education in both countries.

Members met for snacks and exchanged "white elephant" gifts on Sunday, December 14. The party was held at the home of Mrs. Parramore. Everyone had a good time.

Congratulations to Kelli Slimp, Miss Sno-Queen.

A very Merry Christmas to one and all!

December city sales tax rebates decrease 8.56%

As reported by the office of State Comptroller John Sharp, December sales tax rebates for the city of Winters decreased 8.56 percent as compared to the prior year's December payment. Rebates totaled $10,693.15 this reporting period. For the prior year's reporting period, rebates totaled $11,695.34.

This month's payments include sales taxes collected by monthly filers on October sales and reported to the Comptroller in November.

Receipts in Miles decreased 23.11 percent; Ballinger decreased 9.58 percent and reported $32,279.93 in payments.

City sales tax rebates to date for Runnels County for the 1997 reporting period total $746,962.71, a 1.27 percent decrease as compared to last year's period total of $756,600.48.

The current city sales tax rate for Winters and Ballinger is 1.5 percent. Miles is 1.00 percent.

Students of the Month

Each month the junior high teachers select students from the 7th and 8th grades to be Boy and Girl of the Month. These selections are made on the basis of academics, leadership, and citizenship.

Mark Moreno, 12, is "Boy of the Month" for October, 1997. His parents are Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Moreno.

Mark is in the seventh grade where his favorite subjects are math and science. He has been listed on the "A" and "A-B" Honor Rolls.

He enjoys playing sports and fishing. To pass the time, Mark helps his brother with homework.

His duties include keeping his room clean, feeding the dog, and washing the dishes.

Mark most admires his father.

He plans to attend college and study in the computer field.



Mark Moreno
October Boy of the Month

Staci Bishop has been chosen as the "Girl of the Month" for October, 1997. She is the daughter of Ms. Joy Bishop.

Staci, 13, is in the eighth grade and enjoys English. She is honored to make the "A" Honor Roll and has received several track awards.

Staci enjoys watching T.V. and talking on the phone.

Her favorite pasttime is playing basketball.

Her duties include keeping her room clean and helping with housework.

She plans to attend college and work with children.

Staci most admires her mother.



Staci Bishop
October Girl of the Month

Wade Parramore, 14, is "Boy of the Month" for November, 1997. His parents are Mr. and Mrs. John Parramore.

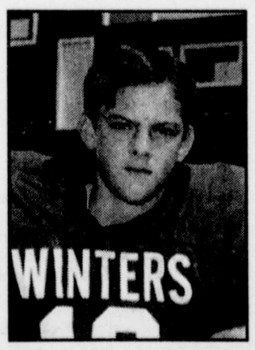
Wade is in the eighth grade where his favorite subject is Algebra I. He makes the "A" Honor Roll.

He enjoys hunting and playing sports. To pass the time, Wade watches T.V. and talks on the phone.

His duties include yard work and keeping his room clean.

Wade most admires his father.

He plans to attend college and go into the field of medicine.



Wade Parramore
November Boy of the Month

Stacey Sneed has been chosen as the "Girl of the Month" for December, 1997. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Randall Sneed.

Stacey, 12, is in the seventh grade and enjoys life science. She is honored to make the "A" Honor Roll.

Stacey enjoys talking on the phone.

Her favorite pasttime is watching T.V.

Her duties include keeping her room clean and completing chores around the house.

She plans to attend college.

Stacey most admires her parents.



Stacey Sneed
December Girl of the Month

Guy Slimp, 13, is "Boy of the Month" for December, 1997. His parents are Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Slimp.

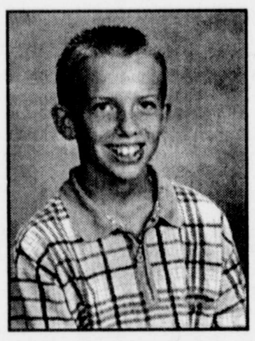
Guy is in the seventh grade where his favorite subjects are Texas history and life science. He has been listed on the "A" Honor Roll.

He enjoys hunting. To pass the time, Guy rides his go-cart.

His duties include feeding the animals and keeping his room clean.

Guy most admires Kelly Thompson.

He plans to seek a career in the military and attend college.



Guy Slimp
December Boy of the Month

Stefanie Davis has been chosen as the "Girl of the Month" for November, 1997. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Mike Davis.

Stefanie, 13, is in the seventh grade and enjoys history. She is honored to make the "A" Honor Roll and has received several 4-H awards.

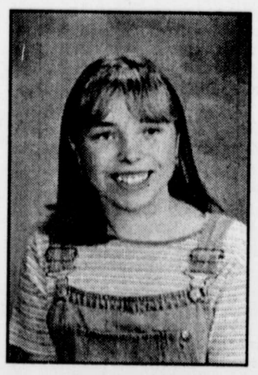
Stefanie enjoys reading and watching T.V.

Her favorite pasttime is playing piano.

Her duties include completing her homework, helping her parents, watching her younger sister, and taking care of the animals.

She plans to attend college and pursue a teaching degree.

Stefanie most admires her parents and coaches.



Stefanie Davis
November Girl of the Month

BLIZZARD WINTERS

Letters to Santa

PAT FENTER'S DAYCARE

Please bring me a Baby Born, Doodle Bear, Rampunzel Barbie, Baby Go Bye-Bye, and a Sing and Snore Ernie.
Kelsea Garcia

I have been good. I want Pound Puppies, a two-stack truck like daddy's, Talking Bubba, and Tickle Me Elmo.
Kolton Garcia

I am a very quiet little girl. I want a baby doll, Winnie the Pooh book, a doll buggy, and a ball.
Kara Heathcott

I love you. I want a computer, calculator, Rampunzel Barbie, Pound Puppies, Barbie care, and a Cabbage Patch doll.
Justice Hubbard

Hi, my name is Charly. I want a Cozy Coup car, Sing & Snore Ernie, and a ball.
Charley Lipsey

I want some farm tractors of my own that I don't have to share with my brothers. A tricyle and some farm animals. I love you.
Carey Pritchard

I have a new brother. I want a Rampunzel Barbie, Baby Born, a stroller doll that kicks, and a purple cat.
Tori Reyna

MISS SUMMERLIN'S HEAD START CLASS

I want a basketball, a big straight bike, a big straight motorcycle, and big straight skates! I want to say I love you and I'll get a present too!
Love, *Mikah Shipman*

I love you and I want you to bring me presents like a shirt, new socks, and new shoes. Have a Merry Christmas!
Love, *Cheyenne Smith*

I want a Power Ranger and a Batman. I also want a car that turns around. I want to tell you Merry Christmas and I want you to come to my house. I've been a good boy!
Love, *Riley Ripley*

I want a motorcycle book to read, and a birthday cake because my birthday is this month. I also want some Nike clothes. I have been good.
Love, *Fabian Esquivel*

I would like a motorcycle, a drum, a guitar, and a Batman. That's all I want. Please bring them because I am trying to be a good boy.
Love, *Christian Lincoln*

I want some toys like a truck, a Batman, and a Christmas tree. I will try to be good.
Love, *Justin Bryson*

Please bring me some toys, a football, a football helmet, and a dinosaur for my brother. I will leave a snack for you. I have been trying to be good!
Love, *Tyler Potter*

I would like to get a car, some clothes, and a train for Christmas. I have been a good boy!
Love, *Sebastian Martinez*

I would like to have a basketball, football, Power Ranger for Christmas. I have been good all year long!!
Love, *Jesse Butler*

I want some Power Rangers, a new house, some socks, pants, and new shoes. I have been good through the year.
Love, *Andrew Chavis*

I would like to have some candies, a police car, a puppy, a computer for Christmas. I would like it to snow if possible!! I have been a good girl.
Love, *Sara Perez*

I would like to have a gun, motorcycle, gloves, computer with a lot of games, a Batman car, Sega, new shoes, a football helmet, and cleats. I have been a fairly good boy all year. I'm going to leave you some new mittens.
Love, *Jarred Briley*

I would like to have a motorcycle, football, Power Rangers, plastic blocks, and new clothes. I have been a good boy.
I love Santa, *Dillan Martinez*

I want a Barbie doll, clothes, socks, new shoes, and pajamas. I have been a good girl.
I love you Santa,
Caroline Rodriguez

My wish this Christmas is that all of my students here at Head Start will grow up to be strong, healthy, happy children and that the love of God would fill their lives. I wish for all of their wishes to come true. I pray that even a small portion of what I have taught them will stay with them for the rest of their lives and help in their development.
Thanks Santa!
Miss Valerie Summerlin

MRS. BUTLER'S KINDERGARTNERS

I want some paint, some Barbies, a plastic swimming pool and some games. I also want some books to read, a coloring book with a caterpillar in it and color words. Kenny wants a Bat Man car that lights up. I have been really, really good this year. I will leave you chocolate chip cookies and white milk.
Love, *Danielle*

I want the movie Lost World, a bike with different colors, a Buzz Lightyear. Bring Kimie a Barbie doll and a bike. Della wants a Barbie, too. Mom and Dad need exercise stuff. I have been real good this year. I will leave you some ice cream and a brownie with a glass of water.
Love, *Kevin*

I want a fightgame, a red ball, a new book, some new clothes. Anthony would like cars and a new book. My baby brother wants cars, too. I ahve been really, really good this year. I'll leave you cookies and milk.
Love, *Sarah*

I big giant Power Ranger Robot, a Bat Man robot and a Superman one. How about a race car that you push the button and it goes "swoosh." My mom wants a big robot Santa. Bring my sister a big Teddy Bear robot she can play with when she grows ups. I have been good. Bring Uncle Scott a Superman robot, too.
Love, *Shane*

I would like a Race Car Track, a Power Ranger Robot. I would like a special present for my Mom. I would like my Dad to have a new pair of Jeans. Would you please send Erica a Leanne Rimes tape. I think I've been good this year.
Love, *Josh*

I would like to have a Little Brown Dog, a real dog not a toy one. A My Size Barbie and a CD for my Barbie. A slow pink go-cart and a little car. A Barbie Nintendo, and a Barbie book. Please send a go-cart so Jennifer can ride too. I've been good.
Love, *Allison*

I would like a football, football tee, Rudolph Reindeer toy, a Soccer ball, a play gun, a football helmet, shirt, pads, pants, shoes, tractors, and plows. Batman and Superman toys, a stick horse and stick cow. I've been real good this year.
Love you Santa! *Coltyn*

I would like to have a Nintendo, a Dinosaur, a Race Car, Race car Track, a Slid, Rollerblades. Please give Jimmy a new Alien Shirt and a new pair of Nike shoes and a wallet. A necklace for my mom and a belt for my Dad. I've been kind of good this year.
Love, *Orlando*

I want a doll with rollerblades, Star Castle, Sabrina, and three little babies in a crib like my sister's. Oh, I also want a trampoline. My mom would like a dresser to put her makeup on. My sister likse Star Castle, too. Dad likes race, but I don't think you could make him one that fast, so bring him a race car shirt.
Love, *Jennifer*

I want some new Sega games, a steam engine train, a Taz game, Pac Mann II, and Sonic the Hedge Hog III. Mom want a musicbox. Dad wants a new music tape. JoAnn would like a jewelry box and Jenave wants a new CD. I have been really good this year. I will leave you cookies and milk.
Love, *Marcus*

I have been good. Well, I want a baseball, a play gun, a remote control truck and my own house. My mom wants a Barbie doll. My dad wants a pocket watch. Grandma wants a globe with water in it that plays music. I will leave you cookies and milk like you always wants.
Love, *Ryan*
P.S. I will give the reindeer hay.

I want a Roller Skating Barbie, a Basketball goal, a big Trampolin, a Barbie house, a Santa Hat. Please send Corbin all the things he ask for. I even want some paint brushes, paint, necklaces, and rings. I've been kind of good this year.
Love! *Candace*

I want the doll that crawls and when she falls she cries, the Shopping Barbie and a nail kit that puts glitter and stickers on it. My Grandmother wants a necklace. My sister lost her ring with a heart and a cross, so she needs another one. Bring my brother a motorcycle. My mom needs new clothes. I have been a little bit good and a little bit bad.
Love, *Ursula*

I would like to have a real reindeer, a game called Wave Race, a big basketball goal, a bean bag that is blue, the game Donkey Kong Race, two controllers, also a Nintendo 64. I've been really good this year. And I would like a Play Robot. Love you!
Braden

I want a dollie, a ninetendo, a Teddy Bear, a play Santa Claus and a desk. My mommy wants a Taz. My baby sister wants a doll. I also want a Taz like my mom! I have been pretty nice this year. I will leave you cookies and milk.
Love, *Ali*

I want a super nintendo, a basketball and goal. I want shoes for my baby brother and shirts for mom. I want dad to have a Dallas Cowboy cap. I have been very good this year.
Love, *Nicco*

I want cowboy boots. Red boots with "thingses" going down the boots, a Christmas shirt, a number ball and a Christmas vest. Bring my momma some jewelry and daddy some new boots. My brother needs some new shirts and new boots. I have been really, really good at home.
Love, *Brianna*

MRS. DAVIS' KINDERGARTNERS

I have been a good a good boy. I would like to have a Rottwei dog and a Bull Dog. I'm naming one Dennis Rodman and the other, Michael Jordan. Anthony would like a play station. Mom wants clothes and Dad wants clothes, too. They have been pretty good. I am making you some Christmas cookies to go with you milk and I will put them on the coffee table.
Addam Ramirez

I have been a good little boy and I want you to bring me some toys. I would like a little Rottweiler dog. I will name him Joseph. I would also like a remote control truck. My Dad would like a horse. My Mom wants a little baby puppy. My brother wants a big Ninja Turtle. Everyone would like new clothes. Your milk and cookies, I will leave on the table in the kitchen.
Francisco Herrera

I have been a good little boy. I help my Mom by washing dishes, and cleaning up the house. I would like to have some new shoes, pants, & shirt. I would also like to have a toy robot that I saw at the store. My whole family would like a new couch and TV. I am going to leave you a Coke and some crackers under the Christmas tree.
Joshua Valdez

I have been a good little girl this year. I've helped my Mom wash the dishes, cook pancakes, and clean the house. Would you lease bring me a bike — a red & green one, and a Christmas Tree. Maria wants a Bike, Lucia would like a doll house, Jose would like a football and Crensencio, some clothes. I'm leaving you some Santa cookies and milk on the table.
Cindy Chavez

I have been a good little boy and I would like a basketball, new shoes, a doll house like the one we have at school and some blocks and a computer. Hector and Christian have been good, too. Please bring them new shoes, pajamas and a new chair to sit in while watching TV. I'm leaving you some cookies and milk on the table in the kitchen. I will leave a light on for you.
A.J. Tamez
P.S. I really would like a little spotted dog, too. I will name him Kenneth, like my best friend at school.

I have been a good girl this year and I want a little white puppy. Whoopsi Do is what I will name it. I would also like a Barbie Doll that talks and walks. I also need some shoes and some Barbie pajamas. Justin, my little brother is 2 years old, and he would like to have a car, truck, balls, some clothes & shoes and a Bat Man Video. I help my Mom around the house, because she tells me to. I'm going to leave you some cookies, a Coca Cola, some milk and a green thing that looks like carrots. It is good. I hope you like it.
Amanda Reyna

I have been a good little girl. I clean my room and I help my Mama clean the house. Can I please have a Power Ranger puzzle, a doll house like we have at school, and a basketball. My little brother Jessie is 4 yrs old and he has been kind of good and he wants all the Power Ranger dolls and a basketball. If you can't bring 2 basketballs, you could just bring one and I can share mine. Jessie & I want a real middle sized dog, like a Dalmation. We will call it Pongo. Send me a note telling me what kind of sandwich you want and I'll leave it on the desk,
Lucy Butler

I have been a good girl. I help my Mom wash dishes, make biscuits, and wrap the presents. I would like to have some new clothes — some new shoes like the ones I have on now. I would also like to have a medium sized, white teddy bar. Ricky would like to have a computer to play games. Paige is four years old and she would like some new books. She has been good, too. Bring her some new shoes, too. Your milk and cookies will be on the couch in my living room.
Maritza Bowden

I have been a good little boy. I help my Mom take out the trash and get myself ready to go to school. I would like to have a little puppy, that I want to name Lucky. I would also like to have a Tickle Me Elmo, a pick up pulling a trailor with a car on it. Justin wants a horse to ride and Ashley wants a Tickle Me Ernie and some clothes. I am going to leave you some cookies and milk on the couch by the tree so you can see by the lights of the tree.
Jason Laird

I have been a good little girl. I help my Mom wash the dishes, make the beds and bring in the trash cans. I would like a little Chihuahua dog, that I am going to name Maritza. I need some clothes — some pants and a shirt. I am going to leave you some milk and some cookies in the kitchen on the table.
Melanie Bailey

I have been a good big boy. I helped Mama make spagetti and meat sauce. I also help make all the beds. I would like to have a remote control motorcycle and a Hot Wheels car. Amber has been good, too. She wants a Bee Magic Set. I am leaving some milk and cookies for you on the table in the kitchen.
Joseph Stoecker

I've been good. I mind my Mom. I help her by picking up pecans and by making my bed. I want a bike without training wheels and a little Chihuahua dog — a brown one, please. I'm going to name it Hoopsie Do. My Mom wants some cothes. My Dad wants some coveralls and some wind pants. My sister wants a Barbie and a little doll house. J.T. wants clothes and Justin wants a wind suit and a pick up. I'm going to leave 2 orange and 5 cookies for you on the coffe table by the tree.
Tia Davis

I've been a good boy. I clean everything my Mom tells me to. I even take a bath by myself. Santa, please bring me a puzzle of numbers, some legos and a real puppy, a little black one. Julie, my little sister, has been good and she wants Wennie, the Pooh Bear. She's real little. She's only one and she bites me. Santa, I'm going to leave you some cookies to eat when you come to my house. They will be on the table in the kitchen.
E.J. Hendricks

I have been a good boy, Santa, and I would like to have a Bat Man car. My Daddy would like a new hat and my Mother, new shorts. I'm leaving your cookies and milk in the kitchen. My Mother brought the cookies at the big store and they are good. My sister, Ericka, has been real good and she wants a new bike.
Manuel Roman

I have been a good boy. I do what my Mom says. When she tells me to clean my room, I pick up all the stuff that's on the floor. I'd like to have a toy soldier like the one I saw at Toys R Us. I would also like to have some clothes. I would like to have some new jeans, shirt and tee. Carla would like to have a new dress, but she has not been as good as I have. I am going to leave you some cookies and milk. I hope you enjoy it.
Kenneth Reel

I have been a good girl. I want you to bring me a little Barbie doll I would like to have the Barbie car, too. I would also like some new shoes like the ones I saw at Sears. Jacob has been pretty good and he wants some new video games. I would like for my Dad to have a new shirt and my Mom to have a new dress. Your cookies and milk, I will leave on the little table in the lving room. I hope you enjoy them.
Sybil Bridgeman
P.S. Uh, Oh. I forgot about Kimble. He would like a new toy truck. He's only one year old, so make it small.

I've been good. I do everything my Mom says, I put my soccer ball in the closet and clean around the house. I want a live dog — a baby Rottweiler and a football. I am going to leave some cookies and milk on top of my house, so it will be easy for you to get since you park up there.
Roman Garcia

MRS. TEKELL'S KINDERGARTENERS

I want a Sega game and a computer. A puppy and a train set. I also want an airplaine that really flies. A basket ball. A new boat for my dad. I have been a good boy. I will leave out some milk and cookies for your!
Love, *John Rodriguez*

I would like a My Size Dancing Barbie with a blue dress. A baby doll that laughs and cries and open her eyes. I also want a ballet suit with tights and slippers. A doll house with little people and a little cat. I love you Santa. I tried to be good!
Love, *Tiffany Cravens*

I really want a bike, roller blades, and a cheer leader doll. I also would like a Christmas movie. A brown teddybear. I have been a good girl and I will leave you milk and cookies. I love you Santa!
Love, *Ashley DelaCruz*

I want a Sega game and a computer. I would also like a toy motorcycle. Some markers and coloring books. A Gingerbread Man book. A Power Ranger movie. I have beena very good boy and I love you!
Love, *Randy Carrillo*

I want a swimming Barbie, a Barbie car, a red one, and Rudolphy the Red-Nosed Reindeer doll, and a volley ball that yo play in water, a robot and a cute teddy bear. I want a jewelry box with a singing ballerina that sings when you open it because my is broken.
Love, *Xylephanie Blackshear*

I want a Ninetendo, a bike, a computer, some cartoon movies, Rugrats and some toy cars. Some new crayons for my house, new pencils and some new books, some new glue. I want some baby toys for my sister.
Love, *Justin Childers*

I want a baby that you push the bow and she laughs, and a teddy bear, and a new nightgown, a new coloring book and a toy Santa Claus. I have been good! I want a book to read and a new umbrella that is a Barbie umbrella and some new crayons. Santa, I love you!
Love, *Tana Gibbs*

I want four robots that are Power Rangers. I want a race car that has a remote control and a play mouse for my cat. I want a Barbie moving van for my sister. I want a submarine house for my sister. I want a real race car.
Love, *Aaron Grenwelge*

I want some clothes, a Barbie doll that is a Mermaid, and I want you to bring something for my daddy. He won't care what it is. I want him to bring my mom some flowers. I have been good this year. I want a new Teddy bear. Have a good Christmas Santa!
Love, *Devon Rodriguez*

I have been good. Mrs. Tekell has been good too. I want a Barbie and a Barbie Jeep. I want asome Rollerblades and my own cat. Brittany wants some Barbie Roller Blades and Robin want a Barbie and the Barbie store. I hope you have a good Christmas.
Love, *Jaimie Montez*

I would like Sega game. A computer, SpaceJam, and a soccer ball so I can play soccer. I really want cool toys. I love you Santa a lot. Please come see me. I will leave you milk and some cookies. Bring my sister some toys.
Love, *Josh Arispe*

I want an X-Man that floats in the water. I also want Domino Rally. I want a Spiderman that has two good guys and two bad guys.
I have been a good boy. I will leave you milk and chocolate chip cookies.
Love, *Scooter Winfrey*

I want a stuffed teddy bear. I want a real puppy that will stay little forever. I also would like a real horse that I can ride I have been a very good girl and I really love. I need two more Barbies. A computer that has games.
Love, *Haylee Purdy*

I want a computer for Christmas. I also want a play telephone I would like a stuffed teddy bear. I want an airplane. I have been a very good boy. I will leave some milk and cookies. I Love You!
Love, *Jonathan Patton*

I want a real live horse that I can ride. I need a computer to play games on. I also want some finger paints. I want an M&M candy machine. A new leash for Odie. I have been a good girl. I need a Ken doll and Barbie. I Love You Santa.
Love, *Chelsy Lipsey*

I would like some finger paint. I also want a radio with headphones. A baby doll stroller. Please bring my mom and dad a present. Bring a baby present for Jordan. Dalton would like a play gun. I have been a very good girl. I need a Bingo Game too.
Love, *Jacie Frierson*

MRS. CAVAZOS' FIRST GRADERS

Please bring me a bear and a baby doll that cries.
Love, *Kim Jackson*

Please Bre me a Brown Sled and a red Bike
Love *Samuel Valdez*

Skablord wees white black
Loe *Luis Flores.*

please. I wunt a bike and a wotch and a sled and a per uf sisr and a supr intendo
Love *Daniel Jacquez*

please bring me a real pet kitten and. I want a computer with the barbie hiar styeler. and a nintendo 64 with the video game frogger. and a pop up book with 7 pages have a nise cristmas.
love *Sandy Esquivel*

I want a fun buboo baby bath doll and a yellow tweety toy and a Rugrats dolls But I reely want all of the Rugrats. stuf and a are nig boor danda a radooi. and a magick sabrana Barbie and sockr Stickr and a doll haoos
Love *Sonia Armendariz*

I wed like a stickr Boo Book please and a play hous and a kite please.
Love *Krystal Perry*

I wont a cron. brng mom a ring. brng dad a neckles.
Love *Nicki Hubbard.*

please giv me a scatebord and a gargls.
Love *Timmothy Prescott*

I wont a skatbord, and a nuther kap gun and kaps and mote krol kor and a soopr ninto and a nitido 64
by *Wesley Wyatt*
Hav a maree chismis Santa

I wont a ekx speed raser toneu 500, nintindo 64, roellr blades, volcaeno blo-out that is red, Munopole game.
Love, *Stefan Kitchen*

I wont a game six four. I wont a bike, truck.
Luf, *Anthony Martinez*

I wont a wotch. I wont a cat. I wont a book. I wont a doll.
Ashley Garcia

I yet a red toy yoyo and a green toy pnsl and a brown tent and a belt and a toy rabet.
Aaron Myrick

Please bring me a monster truck.
Love, *Matthew Ball*

I lik a brown tede ber. Lik a red dol. Lik a piNK wagn. blue Swim pool. a gren has. Lik a purpl kite. Lik a yellow duck. Lik a blue kor. Lik a brown tint.
Love *Marie Perez*

MRS. COLBURN'S FIRST GRADERS

I want a cool tools firetruck. I want you to know that I have a dog to play with me. How cold is it at the north pole? Please bring me a doodle baer and a exman acshun figyr? I have bin good.
love *Matthew Doty*

I want rmee clos for Christmas. I want cowboy clos. I want a box of red tools. Most of the time I hav bin good.
Love, *Corey*

I have bin a good girl. I want a poodles Sliprs and I wunt a baby that trns in to four things How is it like to fly Santa Claus?
Love *Ariel Diaz*

I want a CD plare with speecrs and a mountin remree bike. I bin a good boy this yir. How is Rudolph? Is he O ka? Wil you send me a lid. How are you Santa how mis is Claus
Love *Ryan Meyers*

I want a brbee and a liene bear and compur. Santa Caus I bent a good girl and I want a wagon and a lonshbox and a box for my craons box and a Rolerbads.
Love *Nohemi Castro Ortiz.*

I like nintendo, You are all red. I want a blke and a toy rein deer. Bring mY sisters some toYs. I have been good this year.
Love *Antonio*

how do yuor reindeer fly? What do yuo feed yuor reindeer? I want a beest wor for Christmas. I want an army set. I hav bin a good boy. Is it 15 dugees at the North Pol?
Love *Kevin Bredemeyer*

I want the tree trip leb dols for christmas and I am wundering how Rudolph is doing and wunt a wock man for Christsas and a noo nike. Huw hav your elfs bin doind Santa I haf bin good.
Love *Brittany*

I want a brbe. I like toys I Want some clos. I lou you.
love *Beatrice Ramirez*

I wot too hav a dol, a dog. too havv u micemas toy. I wot a elf. I have binn a bagirl. I wot too see yor elves.
Love, *Loren Garcia*

I want two army helmets. I want a helmet for my jet. I want a two play musheen guns. I haf bin a good boy. haw are you doing.
Love, *Reece Springer*

I wont you to breeg me a Kase crtwheel. Santa I have bin good lately. Santa how are you doing. Santa is it cold up at the north pole.
Love, *Lacye Briley*

I wot to go with you. I wot to see one uf yur elf. I wot some rolerblade. I wot to see Roodof. I wot a gtutar. I wot a reel tape plaer.
Love *Aaron*

I've ben a very good girl. This is what I wont. a wolkman, a kickingtee, a Dalliss cowboy jersey. and a art kit. I wonted to ask you some things. How do your reindeer fly? How do your reindeer see wher to go with out Rudolph?
Love *Julie England*

I want a wolke tolke. how are your reindeer I have bin good.
Loov *Primo*

MRS. PARRAMORE'S FIRST GRADERS

I wot a Bike. I wot a four4 weelr. I wot a Bebe gun and bebes. I wot a Knex. I will lev coockes and milk Santa.
love *Marty Lee Torres*

I wut a noo Nintendo Sixfour and a red bike and a reslr dol frum WCW Rasrmon and a Saga Satrn. Roodof is nis.
Love *Alex Lara*

Give me a bopit plece. Plece give me a moove jungl 2 jungl. Plece give me the game cold les go fishing. Plece give me sum more crayolas. Plece five me a bike. I wood leev sum cookees by the tree. Plece five me those books cod Highlights.
By, *Corey*

Wood you ples get me a game for my nunitdo sixed four. If you do I will leve you sum cookis.
Love, *Raphael Gallaway*

I wont a barbe Jep and a noow klos and a barbe and a blak cat and astuft berw. I Love you Santa Clos.
Love *Robin Montez*

I wish you will give me my one trapuleen. I wish you will giv me one size Barbi. I wish I had a dog. I wish to git a deer. I wish I had a bike. I wish I had a socrball. I wish I had a cresmes tree. I wish I had a bat. I wish I had a rabbit. I Love you Santa Clos.
Juana Harrison

I wont a big truck that is 4300,000 with a slepre that is rill with a tralur that is green in white. I was a good boy ol yer. I have Bin good. I wont a gadr that is 1000,000 dolus. I mede sum cawboy straps for my legs.
Love, *Brendan Polston*

I wont a barbe. I wood like a randeer. I wont a swemeeing pool. I wont a sweneenset. I wont a game trobule. I wont a book Snowy days. I wont a bike. I wont tena shoos. I ben good.
Love, *Andrea Smith*

I wish you will get me sum Skis and a new bike. Plece give me a new backpack to. Plece plece give me a Chistmas moovi. Will you give me my own tramplen. Will you give me a teddy bear to sleep with Plece plece plece plece plece get me all the little critter books. Will you plece give me all the zachary books to. I will be hopeing to see you on Christmas eve.
Love your friend, *Camille Kruse*



I hav ben good. I wont a dog. I wont sum rolrblads. I wil lev you cookes.
Love, *Linda Trevino*

Will you bring 4 weelr bike. Will you giv me a toyt motrsikll. Will you git me a toy bebe gun. I want a rel tv. Santa you deers are prety.
love *James Medina*

I wunt a Moterbole and a Divr soot. Lev th presins undrt crismus threy. Cookes wil be on the desk.
Love *Brian Ozbirn*

Will you get my toy for me. Breg a toy Kor for my mom. Can you Bren a naclas. Can You Bren a iscrm. Can You Bren a rabet.
Love, *Diana Hernandez*

I wont a big raponsl Barbe. I wot a Big wacun clenr thats fac. I wot a Big craolus. I wot sum plado.
Love *Alisha Wagner*

MRS. SNEED'S FIRST GRADERS

I want a cumputr. I want a sds. Nick I want connects for Christmas.
by *Virgil Horton.*
I have bin good.

I want a pae of skinte spers and chaps.
love *Dalton Shackelford*

I want a pellet Gun and a Gun case and pellets, bike and a Jackit and a fishing polle, fishing stuff, and spers and chaps and a paer of Boots, and a football and a football tee, puzlls, games, farm animals, and connects, and pets, watch, cowboy hat, clay, pladeowe, tent, gogools, taz pelowe, basball and a basball mit.
Love *Colby*

I whood like a fodgraffe of you and mrss Clos and bareby dolls and a bubl baby and some errings and a gliter bton whith gliter strings on it a tv four my room a tedy bear that can tock to me at night and a big doodl bear . i v bin good.
Love *Amber Garduno*

I want a cumPutr! I want two pones! I want a BaBY cat. I want a Batlfli. I im six. I have Ben good. I Luve you I wish you wil, Breng me my! presents!!!
this is *Destiny Torres.*

I want a pupee tnake you four a toy so I luva yeu and I luva you to so tnake you for a losus toys thake you
Jose Carrillo

I want some dolls. I want a doll pretty and blond and a sparkuling play horse. five barbies. a play cat. and a play baby. some papper.
Love *Jami Harris*

I want a remote control car and a watch and a Jet and a toy zoo.
Love *Justin Ray Hollis*

I want a toy like woody and bzz give me a pet belt and by me a cool book and close. and crayons and sum candy and one notebook, and one globe. i am six I hav ben good give me a hug and a kiss. happy holdays. mery crismis.
Trevino

I want a toy airplane, the Lost world race track, bee bee gun, and a train, and a globe.
Love *Zack Kraatz*

I wont A pupee and I bin Very good and I want to sace, hapee December.
Luv, *Celisha Jackson*

I ned some panys and one traplenalen. Love Santa.
by *Kasi Lewis*

I want a My size Barbe doll and a giant dog and a giant flindr. I Love you
Angela Gann

Hy My name is Anthony. I wunt a tint and a dog and a scatbrd and I wil leve a cuke and a glas uv milk and I wunt litido sikste four that is ol
Sindee Anthony Johnson

I want a Barbe Bubba and a Barbe car. I want Bug and Taz.
Love, *Amanda Rodriguez*

I want a new game for Nintendo 64 Goose Bump Beard game and new clothes.
Love, *JJ Carithers*

MRS. BEARDEN'S SECOND GRADERS

I want my one T.V. for my room and I want a sleigh, hamster I want to go to Egept and Disnyworld and I want a baby loin for a pet and a puppy to and my one desk and one room for my T.V. and my one bed and a nather barby doll and a carpet for my room that has a picture of me and my mom and dad.
Love, *Sheyann Gadberry*

I want a Toy spaceship and 1,000,000 dollars and a slik pants and a waterbed and boxing gloves and Man in black and my own swimming pool and I want to be a Hollywood star ardoomy tank and a goal cart and a antir car from the 70s and my own HUGERADIO and my own Alarm SERCURITY SISTEM and a JET and a Jet ski and a seecret under grown clud house and a cool Robot and Roller skates and a Jet car and.
Love, *Alex Harrison*

I want a play station. With a Mega man x4 and mega Man 8. a yoyo. a dog teddybear a art sett a pigy bank. a Baseball bat and a ball. a Christmas Book. a lock. a ring a shirt That got a box with a swon a fake sword.
Love, *Patrick Escalona*

I want jrasik park paly lasorw and a Beast wor and a jet ski.
Love, *Kevin Cook*

I want a goalcart and a new bike and a snake and a real mytorcyle and a real Nintindo 64 and a real Big screan T.V ride in a Jet I want my own hot tub I want to go to Hollywood and I want to ride in limosene and I want a swimming pool with a bar I want to be rich a cd player and I want a Jeep that turns into a stage and a Jet ski and my own band and a gutar and drums and a maid. and a manchian.
Love, *Britny Fisher*

I want a Hamter a brand new bike, and a T.V plus some rolar blades and a swimming pool and a waltman and my own hot tub and I want to go to HollyWood and I want to ride in a limosene and I want to be rich and a C.D player and some brand new shoes and clothes and a Jeep that turns into a stage and a jet sci and my own band and a desk and a maid and a manchen.
Love, *Lillian Garcia*

I want a nintendo 64 and a dike ten sp and a foodtdall and a soccer and a HAMSTER.
Author Ramirez

I love you, Santa. please Bring me some toys. I want a Jeep whith a taelufone that I can call my friends. and a tint whith balls in it. playdowdo and a coputuere whith Bierby Cusets, majic stroller baby. a new bike whith a telluvishun and a radodeyow and take care of me triplets, and 10000000 dasiess. a water bed. Some supriyses, a Dog for a pet please.
Love, *Kelsey Leigh Jones*

I would like a moving horse. And a intindo Sixd for. And a play station. And I would like to have you santa. And thank you santa.
Love, *Christina Marentes*

Pleas Santa I would like a hamster or a stufed toy. And a waterbed all by my self and I don't wont to share with anybody not even my sister or my brother. I won't let anybody on it and I meen it.
Love, *Sarah Lorian Rodriguez*

Hundred dollar biys and Niti 64 and a turbo cord. and I wunt a fant Ranger and men in blqlk and I want a modsik bike. the End.
R. Torres

Please Santa give me a Nintindo 64 and a hamster a bike that is a 30speed thank you
Love, *Garrett Nitsch*

I want a very very very cinde hamsters & some food for the Hamsters to eat & I want a happy Chrismes day With my family & some shoes & cloths to. Thank you for this stuff.
Love, *Erica Roman*

I would love to have a sword, and a gun, but not a real sword a toy sword. I want a computer that I can fly airplanes on. The airplanes need to be green, red, blue, and yellow
Love, *Trayson Lange*

I want a real Barbie Jeep car, a new bike, and a hamster, nentendo sixyfour, a big screen tv, nike clothes size (8). Nike socks size (8), Niek shoes size (8), Nike panties size (8), a new for the worth truck back seat and front seat, Christmas books, a cage for my hamster, a cd player, dog santa clause, christmas lighTs, santa's order ments, Micky mouse clothes size (8), Micky mouse sock size (8). I will leave cookies and milk for you.
Love, *Asenette Lenette Vasquez*

I want a sleigh, big screen T.V., Hampster, Teliscipe, water bed, Nintedo 64, ride in a jet, my own hot tub.I want to got to Holly Wood. I want to ride In a limoseen. swiming with a bar. I want to be rich. CD player, Jetski, seeda, desk, bells, drums, maid, and a manchen.
Love, *Shelby Walker*

I want a NenteNdo. 60,000,000,000,000,000,000,000 if there is one like that, a LAZER-GUN, LEgos, A ARMY TANK and a cart, an my own sercurity alarm system, a underground cLuB house, jet, a jet ski.
Love, *Roy McBeth*

I want a truck With a toper and a JoHn DeeRe set.
Love, *Kyle Patrick Rotharmel*

I want a bebe GUN and a bird and a mustash like you. can I have a bike. can I have a stopwoch. I want a dryerase bord and a markers.
Love, *Caleb Pringle*

MRS. LINCYCOMB'S SECOND GRADERS

houw are you What I want for Chrismas is a Juomonje game and the Lost World and a baskit ball and a baskit ball gole and a Nerf football and evey thing of the Lost World.
Love, *Anthony Esquivel*



How's Mrs. Santa Clause, the elfs, the raindeer, oh I ol most for got hows rodph. can you do me faver can make it snow on chrismas please. and I will leave some more moilk and cookies this year again. In my stocking all I want 100 dollars. If can't you do a beauty and the beast the enchanted Chrismas Snowdones. I want Angelica, Tommy, Chukey, Phil Jil, and Spike. The beauty and best the enchanted chrismas cd, the bane toy, and the salam the cat gigga pet. good thats all I want have Merry Christmass.
Love, *Clinton Schwartz*

How are you Santa are you having fun over ther how is the raindeers and how is Mrs. Cloese how are you find Ill make you a present today But I miss my dad Maybe Ill make you some milk and cokies I Like a tic & tweety and a twett dolk pack a skates and a bike I Lik a game of Sweety.
Love, *Becky Nuñez*

how are you and I wonder if you're elf's are working very hard this year. Are you're reindeer doing fine? I remember some of there names Rudeoff, Dancer, Comit, Brancer, Dickson, Dasher, Cubit, Fixit. Now I want a five speed bike, then I want Casey Cartwill, then a Milloins of dollars, and my best of all I want a big fat jar of bunches and a bunches of pickles because pickle are My best of all. See you at Christmas and I'll see you're name on some of My presents. Thank you.
Love, *Juanita Rashae Martinez*

How is Mrs: Clause and how are the deer's Santa how is everybody Santa how is your life is Mrs: Clause baking you some cookies and some milk. I love you Santa and Mrs: Clause. Santa I do not have a chimanie oh and Santa I have Christmas tree. Santa now I am going to tell you what I want I want some books to read and some cloths and some pujomous and want a loony toon backpack. I want some shoos and some sock you could get me whatever you want. I want a play Santa and a play Clause. I want a poster of Selena and her family. And a Marry Christmas to all.
Love, *Aracely Flores*

New belt and new boots and new underwear and new underwear and a wife. I will get a new big pickup truck.
Love, *Cory Ray*

haou are you Doing oca haou are the elfes Deing are they working yes they are working sant I want a new football and a new sockerball I want a new bike.
Love, *Ricky Silva*

How are you. I wonder if the elf's are working hard. If you are not working hard will you please gt me a doll coeled casey cartwill. I like her becuase she does cartwills. Please olso get me a comuter so I can work in my room. And I want a doll coeled Caluforna Roller girl., oh Santa don't wary about me I'm all right. And I am being have because I lik to get my allouns. Thank you.
Loe, *Kristine Leann Lopez*

How is Mrs. Santa is every thing fine up there. I would like to have the x-men bike and the Batman and robin car the big one. and a voluno bloout and sonic The Hechog vityo game. and a scatebord and roler bades. and a serf bord. thats all I whant.
Love, *Matthew Tucker*

How are you doing Santa and Ie'm fine and How about your elfes santa and I want some presents far christmas and I hope you get me a five speed bike and I want Kaci cartwheel and bew belt and boots and I want some stickers and I want some crayola and that all I want Santa.
Love, *Courtney Hubach*

How are the elfs santa and The red nose reinder. I wish I was an elf I would Love to make Toys. Santa this is that I want for christmas I want a Talking Tommy from Rugrats It is at K-Mart at Abilene so you don't have to make him oh! and bring me a angelica even fil and lil and chukie. I Love you santa claus. I want a Talking santa santa my mom says she is going to buy it. I Love you santa claus and mrs. santa claus. goobye
Love, *Rigoberto Nava*

Hay Santa how are you doing and how are the elvs I hope rootoff is doing ok. ps tell Mrs. claus bakes me a blue barry pie know to the prezunts I would like Lego piret ship and maby a nen tendo 64. and somemore arme men. and one of those nerf gun that shoots twelve boolets. and a kid lap top.
Love, *Tory Blain Burns*

How are you doing. How are your raindeer. How is Mrs. Santa Claus. I love you. I want the movie man of the house. Some clothes. How are your elfs. A tweety backback. A tickle me tweety. I want some candy. Some books.
Love, *Susan Lea Sneen*

how are you and the elfs. Hos is Mrs. Closs too. And how are the raindeer too. I wish I had a kin, and a barbie, and a barbie car and a new bike. I love my mommy Gigt and my daddy Dave and my brother and my to baby sisters Heather and Abegell.
Love *Catalla Kitchen*

how are you Santa I want a big doll and a dras and a new shews and a colring book a crans and my own bifrint colr paper what is blanc and a pinsl shorpin and a new bike and a umbrala and a barbe car.
Love, *Christina Guerrero*

Can you get a skateboard for me and may you bring your efls and wake me up when you leve my home but if I don't wake up you can pull me of my bed and say Wake up perhaps. will you take me to the North pole with you can you get me lots of cool clothes and please will you get my right size and can you get me the gun that shoots twelve bullets and another glow in the dark footballs.
Love, *Chris Smith*

How are you doing santa and how is Mrs. Santa and how are the elfes doing are they making good toys for us. How is rudoff doing is he ready to deliever presents yet. I wish I was at the north pole with you right now because I want to meet the elfes. I want a greenbay gersey too and I to ride in your slay.
Love, *Justin Medina*

I would liek a new pair of Brown Boots and soem money. I want a skinny coat like Susan's coat and a new pair of cloths. And make it a Seven. Or a Eight of the size. And some nittins and sweters and a sled for winter on Christmas.
Love, *Brittany Nichole West*

MRS. MEYERS' SECOND GRADERS

My sister wants a light bright doll and the triplits. I want a walkman and a trampalene.
Love *Wiley*

I want a mirkron gutire driarnn rugrat backpack computer mikles card stupler
Formton

I want a baseBall and a bike and socker ball and 21 baseball cas and 10 car and 10 dinoraur an one rocket that gose to the moon. an a compoter a nise freren plis and a rilk wat 3,000 bors and som skase and a kite som toys from trisk part. old 20, A, A, books and new graze and toy from Star Wars and amorrsikte Make me wer glaeses superintendo
Love, *Diego Caraova*

I thank I been good you can ask my teacher. I want a geegapet. More work from my teacher but not coloring sheats. A barbe close store and a food store one too. Some pants and shirts and my own room. An other bed because I have a bump bed but I don't like it. Selur Phone Elmo stuff. Santa say hi to Mrs. Close for me.
Your friend *Adriana Rodriguez*

I want a robins modercikle a batmans car and a saga sene and a water gun and pules guns and a nike shirt and a tv and new clos and new pants. and niky shorts and felax shoes and a cap and a new car and how is meses Santa.
Love, *Jerardo*

Pesint, bolls, a little brother. Love you Jerardo. are you rill. I love you Santa. Laura and Adriana and Juanita are my friend. color, brother, sister, friend, Mom, Mrs. Meyers, Dad, tittle bird.
love, *Lillianna*

Please give me a sega nintindo, ninga, space station, nikey shoes, miscetode, boloons, skates, a bike, choo choo chrane, good luck frankinstine, conputer, nintindo 64.
Love, *Cody*

I wote a modeusikel fur Chismims and. I wote a shokgun and. I wote some chr and I wote some mens likrmemen fur Chrismims. I Love you Situ and I wote wviubiase and I wote a woch and I wote a clock and I wote a selfone 2 micufone fur my mom and my dad and my and my sieus and and my sister and my doll and roman and Jason and my niner and popu and my okcool bill e and a siim in pool and a sweaset and I wote a bike and I wote some moovs.
Love *Michael*

Thank you for all the toys that you gave me last year. I want a dress for christmas. I want a doll, for christmas. I love you Santa. I want perfume. Thank you for all the food you gave me. Swimin Poole.
Love, *Tamrah*

I thank I been very good this year and this is what I want for chrismis a doll all of the Rugrat stuff I still want some more thangs and that is a T.V, a magic Subreana Barbie, a Mooven grooven Barbie and that is all I want. say Hi too your Elfs.
Love *Laura Armendariz*

are you ok I wont chrample eng and a bick and markers and books and foldrs and cronls and cams and Buzzes ship and a cunpoter and druther and a sister and mony and los of bers and a hamster
Love, *Vincent*

20 thousen dollar, colors, codr, cat, rabbit, cards, 49ers cap, kite, play house, pencils, bike, telephone, umbrella, watch, x-ray, selluler phone, sight wont cards, micphone, bed, belt, ice creams
Love *Matthew*

I would like a computer, and a nice sumer dress. I also want a new tire for my bike.
love, *Juanita*
P.S. I live at West pierce.

This is wute I wunt I wunt a big brbby hows and a babby bruther. And a my sis berby and 6 parsofwid zag jens and a plastashin and. nintindo with a t.V aniny hat. And a som short sherts and her diy that is drck brawn some now wid shats tik that is short and wid thazarblack and. I wunt a par of nikeshows. And that is it.
Brandi Hill

its me Zachary this is what I want for christmas a dog some legos and a bike how is Mrs. Santa and you how are your elves santa please right back
love, *Zachary*

I whant a soney play stashone and a pelet gun and a tevy and a bike and a Nike shirt and a par of Nike shoes and a par of rolerblase
Love *Cameron Burson*

I want a Nintindo 64, a ril whatch, a millyin dolers, a telufone, a new bike, a nice frend, I want to be lucky, Santa how are you, rite back, PS are you real.
love, *Kaighan*
PPS I live at E, broadway.

I want a counpryter and cunpruter games haw are you haw is MRs Closs and thee raindeer P.S. Plese write bach.
Love *Dalton J Frierson*

MRS. OLIVER'S SECOND GRADE

I want my oin room because I dont want to sleepwith my sister. I want for Chistams that I owese want for chistams is a dog that looks black and wite and thats a babby dog. And one more I want a toy car that is a red car like my brother. But last thang I want a footboll to play with my brother.
Love, *Nissa Ontiveros*



He's checking his list twice to see who's been naughty or nice .....

I wont, my, sise, Dort, bike, And, I, Wont, rodoph, ther, randire, And, I,. Wont, Enny, thang, you, give, me,. And, I, wont, A, cowBoy, Jackit,. And I wont you to
Love, *Shane Ventress*

I want a Santa Claus toy and and i want to vist to the North Ple and i want an angle, elf toy and a bunch of present and a roudoth the reindees and a Mickey mouse and a Minnie mouse sirt and and gife form my uncle's' and aunt's and a baby pupie and a baby cat that love eachother and a V.C.r. and a t.v. and a i want a christmas pin. and a
Love, *Samantha Sanchez*

I want a hapter that exercises and it's pretty and I will name it wildrice I all so want a trampling and a puppy that is a girl and I will call it Jubbely and I will trane it too soo it will listin too me. I will have cookies and for Santa so he wont get hungry and get thirsty.
Love, *Cassi Mendoza*

All I want four christmas is my to front theeth and a real car and my own house whith a lot of money and I want to go to the North pole for. All so I want nintindoe 64.
Love, *Christopher Jay Smith*

I want a r-c racer witha remote controll and I want a hamster and I wish I can be rich, and aHelechopter, super Mario 64, Knex, football, baseball .and a derect TV with 800,000 chanles. And I want a Dinousor Land with a buntch ofDinousors. And I wont a gega pet that is salum the cat.
Love, *Christian Jacquez*

I want a red car, a tent, a play monkey would also like a truck. I wanta puppy a cat. and
Love, *Eddie Cortez*

I want a play station. A bike. A punching bag with glofs.AiR Nike shoes. A skate bord. A pare of skates. A tent. And walkie tolkies.
Love, *James Phillips*

I wont a beb rum I wont a vecour a toy fo a checers and a toy box and a mucy. I like musy and a Ntenboe 64 and a toy truc feet bol a socer bol a fish a trterl a bol a burd Dinousor Lenb
Love, *Jessie Fernandez*

I wont a puppy and a cat and a barbe for I can plawithite and I wont Santa to cume to scool becer I wont Sant to give us sum presints becer we bine nice!
Love, *Reina Aragon*

I want a hamster. A computer. A Cocacola truck. A six speede bike. A rutball. A punching bag. A nintindo 64.
Love, *Andrew Blackerby*

I wan't a car with the doors open and the hud and the trunck and when you pull it back it will go strait for Christmas eve. Dear Santa I wan't a Tjorboman for christmas eve. Dear Sana I wan't Booster for christmas eve. Dear Santa I wan't the Bad guy for christmas eve. Dear Santa I wan't the trops for christmas eve I wan't a sled for christmas eve. Dear Santa an dog that is nice and his name is ed for christmas eve.
Love, *Wendell Blackshear*

I want 2000 puppys for christmas. Give me lotsoftoys for christmas. I want a rill moldersile and a dirt bike for christmas.
Love, *Jason Sherman*

All I want for christmas is a bar of sope and a tooth brush. All I want for christmas is a volcano. All I want for christmas is a angel. All I want for christmas is a shongle. All I want for christmas is a ocean. All I want for christmas is my 2 frunt tooth. All I want for christmas is a hamster. All I want for christmas is a tint
Love, *David Lara*

I want a bed because my bed is a couch and is not so comfortable to sleep on. A get roxie a bed, mommy a T.v and get Gayle a cat that looks like Midnight our old cat. Get Kristy, Krissy, Fluffball and Bobby Collars. And you can choose for Me Cause I don't no what I want.
Love, *Jennifer Smith*

I want a remote control car. And a jet toy. And a picture of you. And a train. And a christmos tree. And a kite. And a toy rabbit. And two robots. And a rell puppy. And a Hamster.
Love, *Jorge Ortiz*

I wont a BaBy cat and a BaBy dog and a BaBy sister and a pin and a angel and a elf and toys and a gift from my Grandparents and a gift from my sister and a gift from my my mom and a gift form my daddy and a gift from my Brother.
Love, *Samantha Arispe*

I want an angel for Christmas. And a TV and a deer with a baby one too. I want roler blades too.
Love, *Judy E. Cangiolosi*

I want a baton for Christmas & a Casy Kartweel & hamster that is brown. and I want some new clothes. and I realy want a little puppy named Oreo. and I want some new shoes Nike & some new boots that are black.
Love, *Tiffany Hall Mullis*

Merry Christmas!



HAPPY HOLIDAYS

There's magic to be found,
And joy and cheer abound.
We loved having you year-round,
'Cause you're the best customers around!

Melanie & Glenda at
THE HAIR POST

...and the lion shall lay down with the lamb.

Peace be with you this holiday season.

Flowers Etc.

Mary Ellen Moore



Immunization Clinic Jan. 7

The Texas Department of Health has scheduled their January Immunization Clinic.

The clinic will be conducted Wednesday, Jan. 7, 1997, from 9:30 a.m.-12:00 noon and 1:30 p.m.-3:00 p.m.

Location is in the Professional Building, Suite 108, on Grant Street Entry.

For more information, call 754-4945 between the hours of 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Monday-Friday.

Championship t-shirts on sale

Area Championship Blizzard football T-shirts are now on sale from the Athletic Booster Club.

Adult sizes are medium, large, extra large, and extra extra large. The price for all sizes is $10 per t-shirt.

The tees are gray with "Men in Blue" featured in white letters, outlined in blue, on the front. Also included are "1997 Winters Blizzards." Scores of this year's games are listed on the back of the tee.

Please contact Susan Conner at 754-5760 or Renee Calcote at 754-5600 if you would like to purchase a t-shirt.



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Wishing you a high-powered holiday loaded with extras like good times, great friends and fond memories. We thank you for your steadfast support.

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All The *Best*
To You And Yours

With heartfelt gratitude for the pleasure of serving you this past year. We hope everyone enjoys a very happy and healthy holiday season.

Hatler Insurance Agency

Jim & Kim
Abie & Heidi

HARK!

Wishing you a glorious season, with our thanks.

Craig & Kelly Gehrels
Gehrels and Associates



Deck the Halls!

May it be a beautiful season for all our friends and neighbors. Thank you for stopping by!

INSTANT WHEELS
242 S. Main
1-888-733-4318

Health Notes

At North Runnels Home Health our focus is providing the best care possible for patients and helping them care for themselves. We believe the more our patients know, the better care they can receive.

High Blood Pressure

Most people are surprised to learn they have hypertension **(high blood pressure)**. "But I feel just fine!" they say, and often think that it can't be serious as long as they don't have symptoms. You can have it for years without knowing it, but all the time it is making your heart work hard and raising your chances of heart attack and stroke. For this reason, high blood pressure has earned the title of "The Silent Killer."

What Is Blood Pressure?

Every time your heart beats, it pumps out about 5 ounces of blood, less than a cup. But because the blood must travel through about 12,400 miles of blood vessels, the heart pumps with a great deal of force. This produces a high-pressure wave of blood through your arteries.

Normally, the arteries are elastic and expand with each heartbeat. When the heart relaxes between beats, the arteries also relax, and the pressure is lower.

What do the Numbers Mean?

Blood pressure readings are always given as two numbers, for example, 120 over 82 (written as 120/82).

The first number **(systolic blood pressure)** is always higher and measures the pressure during the heartbeat.



Sharon James, LVN

The lower second number **(diastolic blood pressure)** is the pressure in the arteries while the heart is relaxed.

These two numbers tell much about how hard your heart is working and the condition of your blood vessels. The harder it is for blood to flow through your arteries, the higher both the systolic and the diastolic readings will be.

Remember, patients always have the right to choose their Home Health Agency.

Brought to you as a service of
North Runnels Home Health Agency
106 N. Main, Winters, Texas 79567
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P. O. Box 128, Robert Lee, Texas 76945
(915) 453-2290
(800) 687-3305 (Toll Free)

Poe's Corner

By Charlsie Poe

The beggar and the star

What more appropriate time than this week to feature this story by Vivian Laramore Rader. I hope you enjoy reading it as much as I have over the past 30 years.



Charlsie Poe

There came to my door a beggar, in the dim December light, to ask for a crust and a corner where he might stay for the night.

My house was already crowded, my food, a meager store; so I said," I'm very sorry, but you'll have to ask next door,

With Christmas due tomorrow, and all that word implies, I'm sure you will excuse me..." A shadow touched his eyes,

And I saw, as he turned to leave me, he lacked the strength to go. "Come in," I cried, "and forgive me; somehow, I didn't know

How spent you were from your journey, how faint for want of food." The answer that he offered was a look of gratitude.

A night bird in the shadows sang out with a sudden note, as though an unseen spirit had dropped a star in his throat.

And I was filled with wonder that one small breast could hold such rippling exultation that flowed like molten gold.

"Make haste," I said, "it is chilly, and the darkness settles down." But I noticed, as he followed, a light was on the town

As though the purple evening had given way to dawn. Or was it a passing fancy, as quickly come as gone?

He sat in the glow of embers, a stranger from afar, wrapped in a cloak of silence intangible as a star.

And I dared not ask of his journey, or what it was he sought, for there was that about him which left my mind untaught;

A subtle understanding of syllables unsaid, a pertinent reminder of something seen or read.

Had we met when the year was younger? Had I brushed his sleeve in the mart or touched the hem of his garment in the quiet of my heart?

"Who are you?" I asked; and he answered, "Have you not known the root that brings to the singing blossom the pattern of the fruit?"

His words were a song of remembrance beyond the moment's mold, the rustle of aspens shaken in forests of green and gold.

Then I lighted a single candle the better to see his face, and found that, in spite of its sorrow, it held an inner grace;

The look of a man who had journeyed a long and tedious road, with little thought for comfort, and less for the weight of his load.

And I was stirred by pity for one so much alone, although the words I uttered were casual in tone:

I can bring you tea I've been saving for a very special moment,..."Not dressed as I am dressed?"

"Oh, no," I said, "to be honest, I've never liked beggars much. They've always seemed unworthy, unclean in thought and touch.

For I hold that a man of purpose can wrench from life his share." The stranger smiled in the firelight as if I were not there.

He offered no objection, nor called my boldness rude, but I felt a cold wind blowing from the hills of solitude.

While the screen of doubt between us was solid as a wall through which the night bird's singing was like a distant call.

Perhaps you think me heartless, immune to sympathy, but one must walk with reason...." my words became a plea.

But the gulf between us widened, while the silence grew as deep as the cavern called Forgotten, in the empty pit of sleep.

So I left him to his musing and went to fetch him food, saving the better portion for the hungy mouths of my brood;

Resenting the nameless beggar and his unspoken way of claiming my attention on such a busy day.

He had risen and was standing when I brought him tea and toast. "I am going now," he told me, "The night shall be my host."

But you haven't eaten a morsel, and you haven't rested enought." "Only that bread can nourish which has been mixed with love;

Only that tea can hearten whose seasoned taste attests her patience who has waited for the humblest of all guests."

There was a glow about him, an iridescent light. "Don't go," I said; "I am certain I can fix a cot for the night."

Only that sleep refreshes which wells form peace of mind; better the leaves for cover than linen sheets that bind;"

Better a stone for pillow, under the starless skies, than cushioned ease that offers a dream the heart denies."

His words were alive with music, like wind in the sycamore. "But you haven't the strength," I told him, "to carry you next door."

And you'll find they're just as crowded, and just as pressed for time.""I know," he answered gently, "but one can only climb

And climb until the burden he bears becomes so great he falls by the way and slumbers, and in his dream the gate

To compassion opens slowly and he enters on his knees.""Who are you?" I asked, and he answered, "Only the least of these."

And I saw that his rags were glowing like garments of finest gold, and his face was as young as tomorrow, though I knew that the man was old;

And his eyes were like stars that glimmer in pools where ripples flow, and there was about him a passion of peace that was good to know.

And I cried, "O sir, have mercy! I have been blind so long, and deaf to inner music; restore in me life's song.

Redeem my house by being contented to remain, renew my hope by saying: Now are you whole again."

But the rhythm of his silence was like a psalm of doom, and I thought of the face of Mary and the inn that had no room;

And I thought of the homeless thousands who trudge the world today, and I said, "Forgive me, Master, I'm begging you to stay.

My house was never so honored, my door was never so wide. Abide with me, Beloved; deep in my heart abide."

Then the candle I had lighted flared up with a radiant glow, like the star that led the shepards to the manger long ago;

And I saw the Wise Men moving across the desert night, wrapped in a shining glory that filled the world with light;

And I heard a far-off thunder that rose to a mighty roar, and all the people shouting: "The Child we have waited for!"

The Prince of peace whose coming shall save the world from sin; born in a lowly manger, no room, no room in the inn!

And I saw the eyes of the beggar were burning like the star, and I said in a voice that trembled, "At last I know who you are!

He for whom I have waited a long and weary while, the light that shines in the darkness mile after blinding mile.

Speak to me, Lord and Master, I should have known before; I should have known the instant You knocked upon my door..."

But only the embers answered with a sound like shifting sounds, and I saw, as the Stranger left me, There were nailprints in his hands.

Then I dropped to my knees in the silence that was sharper than a sword: "Now am I lost forever, who have denied my Lord;

Now must I grope unaided through dark that has no day, and drown in a pool of weeping, who turned my Lord away."

But the silence was filled with singing, and there came the voice of a Friend: "Lo, I am with you always, even unto the end..."

And I felt a soaring gladness no language can impart, for love itself lay cradled in the manger of my heart.

And a thousand bells were ringing from a thousand towers tall: Glory to God in the highest! And peace unto all.

To the 80 million of you who volunteered time and money last year, thanks for all you've given. Imagine what more could do. Call 1-800-55-GIVE 5. It's what in the world you can do.

INDEPENDENT SECTOR Ad Council

FESTIVE *Greetings*

We hope the holidays bring much laughter, warmth, and good fortune for all those you hold dear.
Thank you for helping to make our year truly worth celebrating.

Happy holidays to all our friends and neighbors!

BFI Waste Systems™

We will operate on regular schedule during the Christmas and New Year's holidays.



TIFFANY CRAVENS, kindergarten student, sees her heartbeat reading on the monitor as LVN Cyndi Ashley places the scope in just the proper place. Mrs. Tekell, teacher, watches and gathers the printouts for the children. The pre-kindergarten and kindergarten students toured North Runnels Hospital on Thursday, Dec. 18, and were also treated to refreshments before departing.

Central Texas Opportunities Center to close for the holiday

Central Texas Opportunities, Inc. Multi-Purpose Centers will be closed December 24-26 to observe the Christmas holidays.

In addition, City And Rural Rides will be closing at 12:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 24. Transportation services will resume on Monday, December 29.

CTO will also be closed on Thursday, January 1, in observance of the new year. Thank you for your continued support during 1997. CTO looks forward to seeing you in the new year.





Love
Is All Around

In the spirit of peace and brotherhood, we thank you for being such great neighbors.

Happy Holidays!

Margarette Smith
Runnels County Treasurer

Happy Holidays

We thank you for your patronage and hope you will be surrounded by good fortune, good friends and good health throughout this festive season.

From the employees of

Dairy Queen

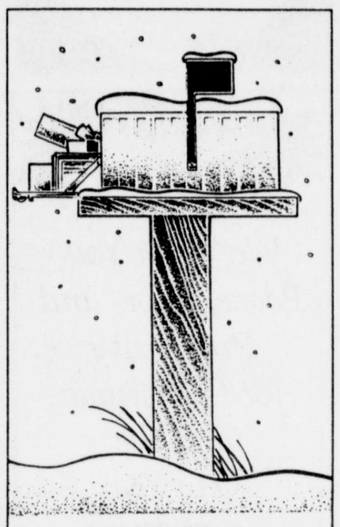
Donna, Chris, Brandi, Kathie, Virginia and Leo



WE THREE KINGS

With our best wishes and thanks for the cherished gift of your friendship.

Runnels County Judge
Marilyn Egan



SENDING OUR BEST

Just dropping you a line to say, "hope your season delivers in every way!" Merry Christmas!

Precinct 2 Commissioner
Keith Collom

Bushels Of Thanks!



We wish all our neighbors and friends a joyous holiday season.
We're very grateful for your valued business.

HIGGINBOTHAM'S

Employees
Dawn, James, Bob, John, Ken, & Melinda



Let Us Adore Him!

May your Christmas be filled with the joy of Christ's birth and the light of His love. With warm gratitude we wish you peace, and ask His blessing for you at Yuletide. We feel truly blessed to share your kind friendship.

CASA CABANA RESTAURANT

Closed Dec. 24 & Dec. 25



In the Spirit of Christmas

May this season of spirituality and miracles bring serenity and joy to all those near and dear to you, and may Heaven shine its grace down upon you.

North Runnels Home Health Agency

Greetings!

We hope your Christmas is decorated with fun and laughter. Thank you all.

Mac Oil Field

1007 W. Dale, Box 668 • Winters, TX
754-5565 • 1-800-588-5565

WISHING YOU EVERY HAPPINESS AT

Christmas

May peace, joy, love, laughter and hope be yours during this most miraculous season.

We're pleased and proud to have served you and look forward to your continued support.

TCA CABLE TV
28 W. Concho
San Angelo, TX 76903

Now a local call from Winters **(915) 655-8911**

Makes a Great Christmas Gift !

USA

18½¢

ANYWHERE IN THE U.S.A.*



UNIWORLD — the telephone calling card you can use anywhere, anytime. Great for emergencies and convenient to use.

- *Call from any phone*
- *No phone bills*
- *You control what you spend*
- *No coins needed*

52 MINS. FOR $10

106 MINS. FOR $20

35¢ inception fee for domestic calls.
*Alaska and Hawaii 26¢.

Available at
Winters Enterprise
104 N. Main • Winters, Texas 79567
(915) 754-4958 FAX (915) 754-4628

SHARE THE Love!

We're putting on the dog to say, "We hope you enjoy a great holiday." Merry Christmas to all God's creations. And many thanks to you, for your support.

The Staff of



Pioneer Veterinary Clinic



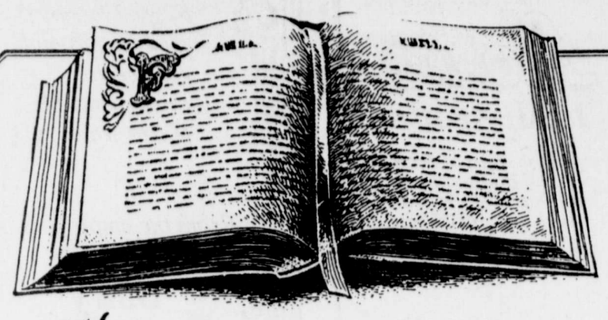
Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.
Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.
— Matthew 5:8,9

May this holy season bestow a multitude of blessings upon you and yours.

Your Hair Place
504 W.Dale 754-5108

Notice

the office of
Tommy L. Russell, D.D.S.
will be closed
Dec. 22nd thru Jan. 5th



Holy Blessings Unto You

May your heart and hearth be filled with the blessings of peace, love, faith and harmony, as we celebrate the Miracle that is Christmas.

Winters Funeral Home
Mike Meyer
Linda Dry



PEACE and JOY

...And many thanks from us!

LG's Place



Magic Night

May all your dreams come true this Christmas.

Runnels County Clerk
Linda Bruchmiller

Early deadlines set for next week's edition of *The Winters Enterprise*

Due to the New Year's holiday on January 1, *The Winters Enterprise* has changed deadlines for the January 1st edition.

General news and retail advertising are due in our office no later than noon on Friday, December 26. Classified ads will be taken through 5 p.m. Friday, December 26.

Also we will print Tuesday, December 30, one day ahead of our normal schedule. Papers will be delivered to the newsstands on Tuesday and mailed that afternoon so that our local readers will hopefully receive *The Enterprise* before the actual New Year's holiday.

The management and staff of *The Winters Enterprise* hope that you have a safe and enjoyable Christmas and New Year's Day! If traveling, take extra caution and remain an alert driver at all times.



Hope the holidays bring much love and laughter.
Thanks so much for your patronage.

Calcote Dirt Contracting
Bill, Linda,
Christy & Kayla



Happy Holidays From All Of Us



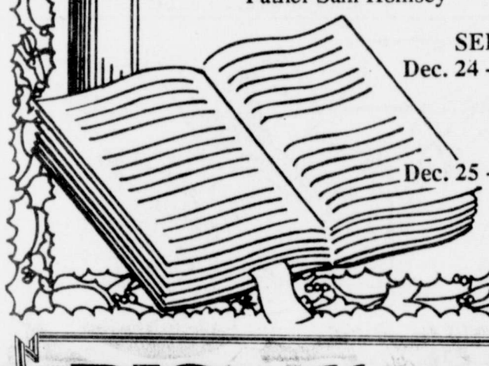
With best wishes to you and your flock for a holiday season that's brimming with glad times and good fellowship. Your warm friendship makes us proud. Thank you!

The Employees of
Benny Polston, CPA

GREETINGS

May the light of Christ's life and words bring you a sense of peace and hope.

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Catholic Church
Father Sam Homsey



SERVICES
Dec. 24 - 11:30 p.m. Carols & Midnight Mass
Dec. 25 - 9 a.m. Mass
11 a.m. Spanish Mass

A Message of Thanks

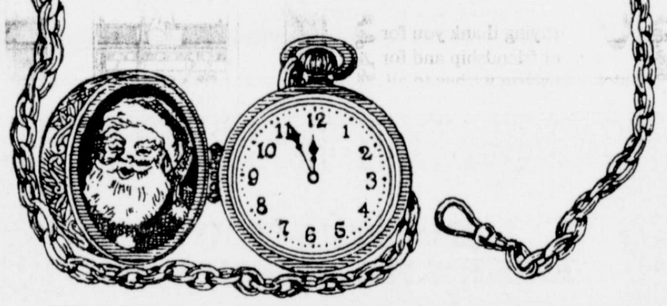
Best wishes to all of you who have made this past year so heavenly for us. Hope your season is simply divine!

Kristian's Hair Gallery
Peace and Prosperity from Our House to Yours
Kristian, Dee Dee, & Cary

TIME OUT TO SAY "THANKS!"

We don't want to let another minute go by without expressing our gratitude and best wishes to our valued customers and friends.

Y.K. Lee, M.D.
Y.K., Soon, John, Patsy & Charlotte



We Wish You Peace, Love, and Prosperity for Christmas and the New Year

Robin Burgess and Employees of the
Runnels County Tax Office



Joy!

Here's hoping your season is filled with fun and tradition.
Thank you all for making our year such a good one.

S & L Motor Co.
Ovalo, Tx
Stan Boulter
554-7222

BIG *Year End* **Clearance Sale**



SAVE
20-30%

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to All!

Bill's Woodworks & Locksmith
107 North Main • Winters, Texas 79567
Phone: (915) 365-6193

Sale Prices Effective Thru December 27, 1997.
In Stock Items Only. Includes All Show Room Items.



Away In A Manger

May you rejoice in the splendor of His many wondrous creations in this season of love. Merry Christmas!

Bob Loyd LP Gas
104 E. Parsonage • 754-4555

Gene, Jeanie, & Doug Wheat



HALLELUJAH!

We'd like to join you and your family in celebrating this most holy occasion.

Saint John's Lutheran Church

Please join us for Christmas Eve services at 6:00 p.m. & 11:00 p.m. and Christmas Day services at 10 a.m.

NOTICE OF General ELECTION
(AVISO DE ELECCION General)

To the Registered Voters of Runnels & Taylor Counties, Texas: Elm Creek Water Control District
(A los votantes registrados del Runnels & Taylor Counties, Texas:) Elm Creek Water Control District

Notice is hereby given that the polling places listed below will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., on January 17, 19 98, for voting in a general election, to elect 4 Directors.

(Notifíquese, por las presente, que las casillas electorales citadas abajo se abrirán desde las 7:00 a.m. hasta las 7:00 p.m. el 17 de January de 19 98 para votar en la Elección para elect 4 Directors)

LOCATION(S) OF POLLING PLACES
(DIRECCION(ES) DE LAS CASILLAS ELECTORALES)
Precinct 1 at Ballinger City Hall, Ballinger, Texas
Precinct 2, First Baptist Church, Bradshaw, Texas
Precinct 3, Chamber of Commerce, Winters, Texas
Precinct 4, Elm Creek Reservoir Headquarters Bldg., Winters, Texas

Early voting by personal appearance will be conducted each weekday at
(La votación en adelantado en persona se llevará a cabo de lunes a viernes en)
Winters Area Chamber of Commerce, Winters, Texas (location) *(sitio)*
between the hours of 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 Noon beginning December 31, 1997
(entre las 9:00 de la mañana y las Noon de la tarde empezando el December 31, 1997 (fecha))
and ending on January 13, 1998 (date).
(y terminando el January 13, 1998 (fecha).)

Additional early voting will be held at the same location as follows:*
(La votación en adelantado además se llevará a cabo en el mismo sitio de tal manera:)

Date *(Fecha)*	Hours *(Horas)*

Applications for ballot by mail shall be mailed to:
(Las solicitudes para boletas que se votarán en ausencia por correo deberán enviarse a:)
Jean Brown
(Name of Early Voting Clerk) *(Nombre del Secretario de la Votación En Adelantado)*
118 W. Dale, Chamber of Commerce Building
(Address) *(Dirección)*
Winters Texas 79567
(City) *(Ciudad)* (Zip Code) *(Zona Postal)*
Recommended but not required

Applications for ballots by mail must be received no later than the close of business on
(Las solicitudes para boletas que se votarán en ausencia por correo deberán recibirse para el fin de las horas de negocio el)
January 2, 1998 (date) *(fecha)*.

Issued this the 16th day of December, 19 97.
(Emitada este día 16th de December, 19 97.)

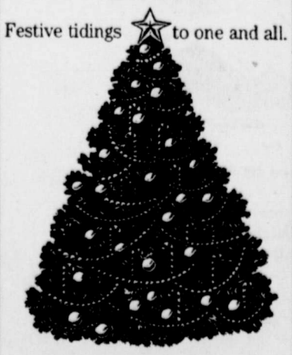
Signature of Presiding Officer *(Firma del Oficial que Preside)*

*If early voting is not going to be conducted on either Saturday or the last Sunday during the period of early voting, delete this part.



O Christmas Tree

Festive tidings to one and all.



Kenneth Slimp
Attorney At Law

Seasonings Greetings

Our special of the day is to wish you a very special holiday season. Hope you enjoy being at our place, as much as we enjoy serving you!

Burger Hut Cafe
754-4181

Bobby Mayo and Staff

We will be closed Dec. 25th and Jan. 1st



Crews News

By Hilda Kurtz



Hilda Kurtz

Quiet people aren't the only ones who don't say much.

Melissa and Scott Gerhart of Winters were visitors Sunday at Hopewell Church.

Ladies Bible Study had no study Dec. 22, but will meet again on Dec. 29.

Juanita Shields' daughter, Jennifer Howes and husand Dave of Houston, and Jennifer's daughter, Vickie Howes of South Carolina, spent the weekend.

Margie and Brenda Jacob attended the girls basketball game in Winters against Eldorado Friday night.

The Gerhart and Kruse families had their Christmas in the Donald Kruse home with Debbie King and Rhonda Kruse as the hostesses. Around 24 attended.

Brenda and Richard Chambliss of Blackwell spent Sunday with Pat and Earl Cooper. Pat enjoyed the phone visit with son Ronnie Bennett of Arkansas.

Hildegarde and Calvin Schovajsa of San Angelo came to see me Saturday. They fixed my Maytag washer, loaded a pickup of firewood, and left for home in the rain. I had a little over an inch of rain.

Desireé Mathis spent Saturday with Shane Stone and his family in Rising Star. They celebrated Christmas.

The Bill Mathis family spent Saturday in Denton with Marqué's folks, the Whaleys. All enjoyed Christmas dinner and the exchanging of gifts. On Sunday, they helped Charlotte Whaley celebrate her birthday.

Maurine and Sara Scott of Sweetwater spent Monday night with Mildred Morrison. They returned home a little after 2:30 p.m.

On Thursday, Selma and Viron Wilkerson of Bangs came by for awhile. They are in the process of moving back to the Crews community. Welcome back.

Helen Alexander's Sunday dinner guests after Hopewell Church services were Bro. Akins and Ramona of Ballinger, Nila and Therin Osborne, Fairy and Wilbert Alcorn, and Juanita Shields.

The Faubion families annual Christmas reunion was held at the Ivey Lake Community Center. Around 30 attended. This year they brought canned goods for the food bank instead of exchanging gifts. Lynn and Carol Faubion of Fort Worth spent Saturday night with Noble and Harvey Faubion after the reunion.

Brad and Ruth had a nice phone visit Sunday morning. Brad had four doctor's appointments last week and one this week. He is having x-rays made at Shannon Hospital in San Angelo.

Those celebrating early Christmas on Sunday in the home of Georgia and Connie Gibbs were Connie Mae and Jean Gibbs; Saffron, Kenny, Tana, and Lane Gibbs; Tamy, Haley, Justin, and Mark Kaczyk;Travis and Lynda Ford of Rising Star; Scotty and Lisa Ford of May; Shane Ford and friend Teresa Mayberry of Belton; and Norma Joe Sudduth.

Seventeen ladies enjoyed the brunch Saturday in the home of Juanita Shields. Present were Nila Osborne, Melvena Gerhart, Janie Fanning, Ramona Akins, Adeline Grissom, Helen Alexander, Margie Jacob, Ginger Test, Sue Shields, Carolyn Webb, Brenda Jacob, Carolyn Kraatz, Doris Wood, and Fairy Alcorn.

Mr. and Mrs. Billie Kurtz of San Angelo visited with Adeline Grissom in Ballinger on Wednesday.

On Wednesday night, Marqué, Desireé, and Will Mathis attended a Christmas party in the home of Kay Millican in Robert Lee. They also went out to see the Christmas lights at Bryan's Barn.

On Thursday, Dr. Russell's office staff all attended a luncheon and Christmas party in the Russell home. Mrs. Russell fixed delicious Mexican food. Desireé and the team of basketball girls played Roscoe in Roscoe and won.

On Friday night, Marqué's parents, Charlotte and Allan Whaley of Denton came for Marqué's graduation at Angelo State University. She received her masters degree in science biology.

Afterwards, all visited the Don Mauldins and also saw the beautiful Concho River Christmas lights.

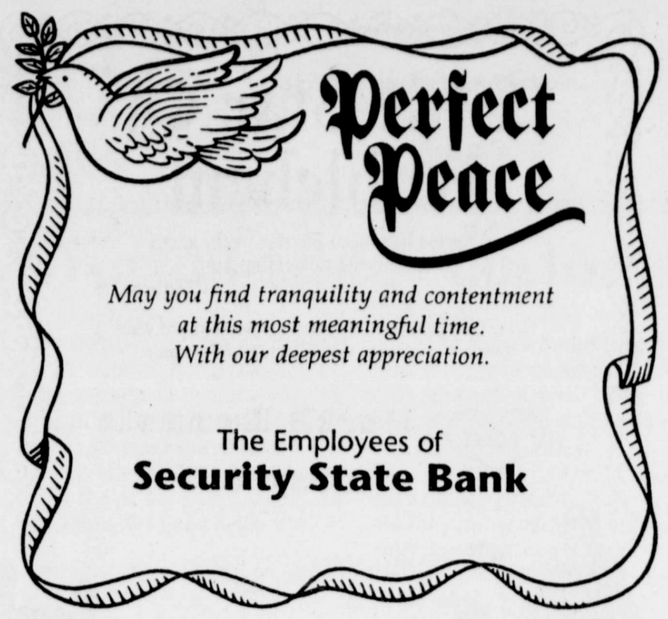
Desireé and the team played in Winters against Eldorado.

Marqué and her mother, Charlotte, attended the morning brunch in the home of Juanita Shields.

Most farmers enjoyed the slow rain Friday and Saturday.

Janie Richie of Content stopped in for a nice visit with Josie and Bill Hoppe. She brought a beautiful white cake.

Merry Christmas folks!

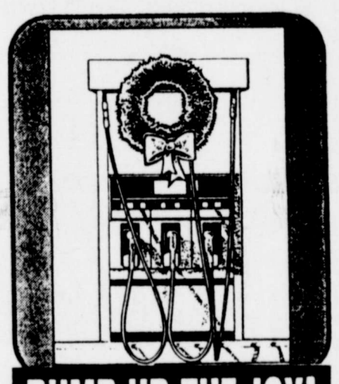








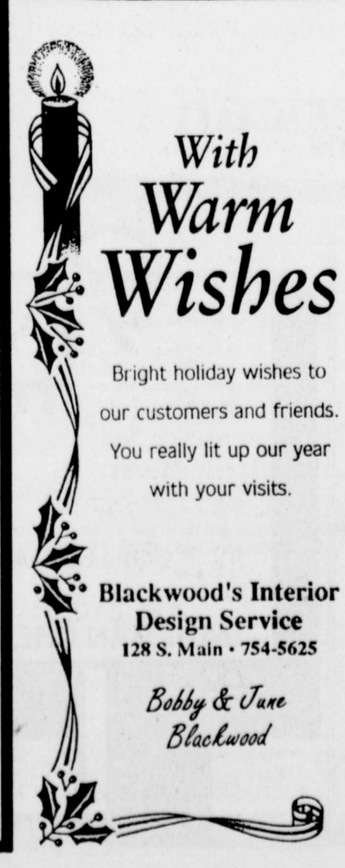


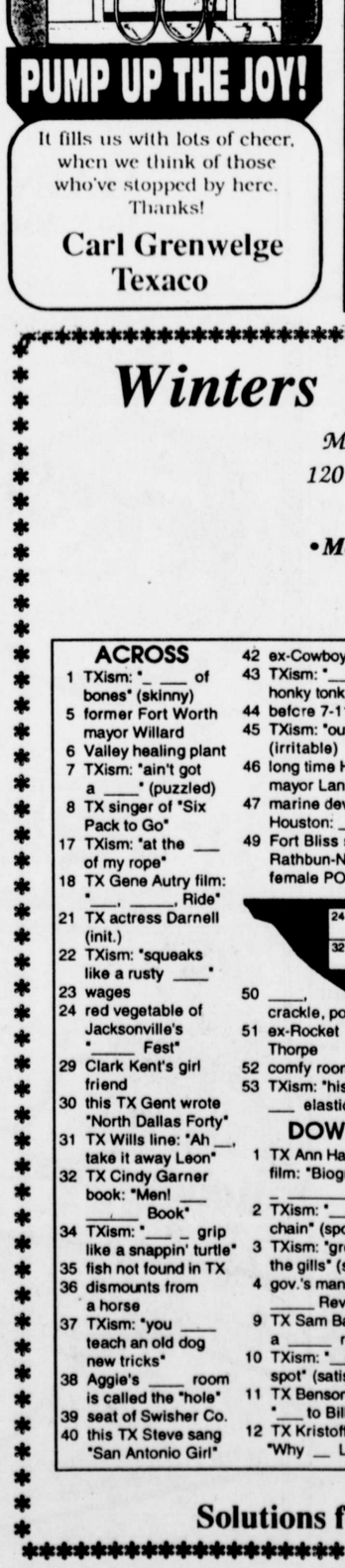








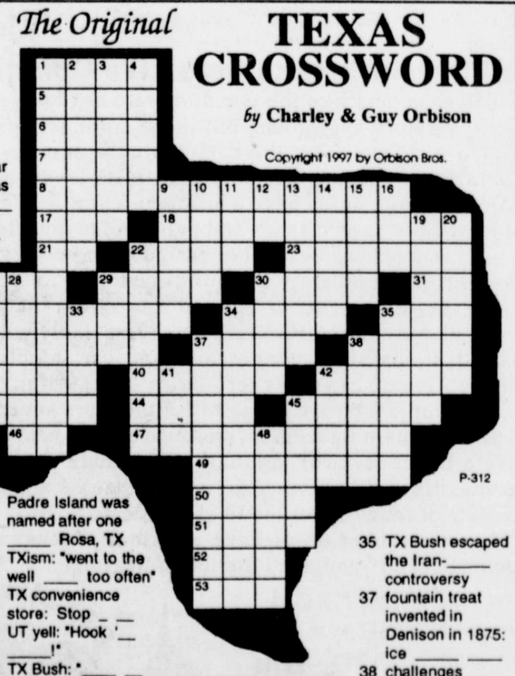




The Original TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison

Copyright 1997 by Orbison Bros.



ACROSS

1 TXism: "_ ___ of bones" (skinny)
5 former Fort Worth mayor Willard
6 Valley healing plant
7 TXism: "ain't got a ____" (puzzled)
8 TX singer of "Six Pack to Go"
17 TXism: "at the ___ of my rope"
18 TX Gene Autry film: "___, _____, Ride"
21 TX actress Darnell (init.)
22 TXism: "squeaks like a rusty ____"
23 wages
24 red vegetable of Jacksonville's "_____ Fest"
29 Clark Kent's girl friend
30 this TX Gent wrote "North Dallas Forty"
31 TX Wills line: "Ah __, take it away Leon"
32 TX Cindy Garner book: "Men! ___ _____ Book"
34 TXism: "___ _ grip like a snappin' turtle"
35 fish not found in TX
36 dismounts from a horse
37 TXism: "you ____ teach an old dog new tricks"
38 Aggie's ____ room is called the "hole"
39 seat of Swisher Co.
40 this TX Steve sang "San Antonio Girl"
42 ex-Cowboy Noonan
43 TXism: "____ under a honky tonk moon"
44 before 7-11's Slurpee
45 TXism: "out of _____" (irritable)
46 long time Houston mayor Lanier (init.)
47 marine development near Houston: __ _____ Texas
49 Fort Bliss soldier _____ Rathbun-Nealy was only female POW in Gulf War
50 ____, crackle, pop
51 ex-Rocket Thorpe
52 comfy room
53 TXism: "his facts ___ elastic" (liar)

DOWN

1 TX Ann Harding film: "Biography of _ _____ ____"
2 TXism: "____ __ chain" (spouse)
3 TXism: "green ____ the gills" (sick)
4 gov.'s mansion is _____ Revival style
9 TX Sam Bass was a _____ robber
10 TXism: "____ the spot" (satisfying)
11 TX Benson film: "___ to Billie Joe"
12 TX Kristofferson's "Why __ Lord?"
13 Padre Island was named after one
14 _____ Rosa, TX
15 TXism: "went to the well ____ too often"
16 TX convenience store: Stop _ __
19 UT yell: "Hook '__ _____!"
20 TX Bush: "____ __ lips, no new taxes"
22 TXism: "what's good for the _____ __ good for the gander"
24 TX choreographer Tune (init.)
25 TX Orbison hit: "__ Pretty Woman"
26 TX singer: ___ Loaf
27 honky tonk (2 wds.)
28 garment maker
29 TXism: "a heap of"
30 window unit
33 TXism: "lower ___ a snake's belly"
34 in Hale Co. off I-27
35 TX Bush escaped the Iran-_____ controversy
37 fountain treat invented in Denison in 1875: ice _____ ____
38 challenges
41 TXism: "got an ___ in the hole"
42 they race at the Ballpark in Arlington
45 short cuts
48 John Steinbeck's TX wife

P-312

Solutions for this puzzle appear in this issue.

Little Star Of Bethlehem

...for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him.
Matthew 2:2

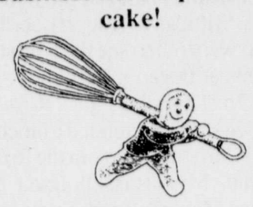
May faith guide you, and may enlightenment be your constant companion throughout this holy season.

NRH North Runnels Hospital



Sweet Times

Here's to a delectable season for you and yours. You make doing business here a piece of cake!



Winters Bakery



Greetings, Friends!

With old-fashioned warmth and lots of good cheer, we wish you a Merry Christmas, and thank you for your continued friendship and patronage.

So we may enjoy the holidays with our families, we will be closed from noon Wednesday, Dec. 24, thru Sunday, Dec. 28.

All of us at
Winters Flower Shop
...& More
Janice, Betty, Marie, Tommye, and their families

THE BEST Gifts

From the opening of the season to the wrap-up, may you enjoy many good times. You're the best!

Winters Beauty Salon

Sheryl Webb



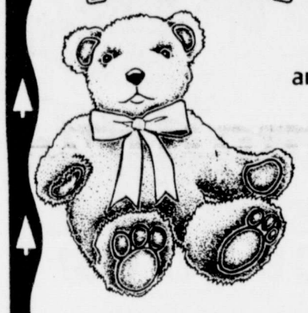
It's Sew Wonderful...

to have customers like you.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

The Stitchin Post
Richard & Kay Sharpes
Hazel, Clint, Juanita & Mandi

IT'S CHRISTMAS!

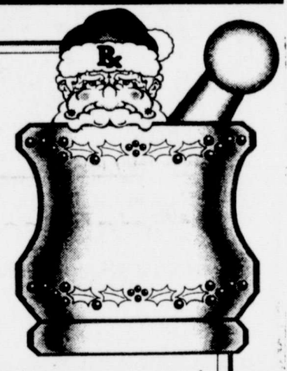


We can't bear to wait another minute to wish you a merry Christmas and to express our thanks.

The Head Shed

1019 N. Main 754-4393

WISHING YOU Well



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SEASON'S GREETINGS

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January 2 deadline set for director nominations in regional boll weevil vote

Cotton producers in the Southern Rolling Plains Boll Weevil Eradication Zone who wish to represent the 9-county area on the Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation's statewide board of directors have until Jan. 2 to officially place their name into nomination.

The deadline comes as cotton farmers and landowners with cotton production get set to decide in a Feb. 2 referendum whether a boll weevil eradication program should continue in the Southern Rolling Plains zone as well as electing a board member.

Cotton producers who farm in the zone and who have grown cotton for a least seven years may place their names on the Feb. 2 ballot for the board member position. Those wishing to be placed on the ballot must fill out a nomination form and have it postmarked by Jan. 2 to the Texas Department of Agriculture at P.O. Box 12847, Austin, Texas, 78711 or fax the form to (512) 463-1104.

Nomination forms are available at local county extension service offices; the Texas Department of Agriculture in Austin at (800) 835-5832 or (512) 463-7593; and the Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation office in Abilene at (800) 687-1212 or (915) 672-2800.

Changes in the law made by the 75th Legislature require a retention referendum be held allowing eligible voters to confirm they want to continue a boll weevil program in the zone. In addition, voters will elect a board member from the zone to serve on the statewide board of directors for the Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation, Inc.

Growers in the Southern Rolling Plains Zone initially approved a boll weevil eradication program in 1994 and a maximum assessment to fund it. If producers vote to continue the program in the zone, the current assessment rate will not be affected.

Unlike establishment referenda where two-thirds of all voters must approve a proposition, a majority of those returning ballots will determine whether an eradication program will continue. The Texas Department of Agriculture will mail ballots to all eligible voters in the zone in mid-January.

The Feb. 2 election for the zone was established by new legislation that corrects a constitutional problem found by the Texas Supreme Court with the statewide boll weevil eradication program. Under the new statue, the Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation continues to carry out the program. However, TDA takes on additional responsibilities that include setting new elections on assessments and eradication programs in regional zones and appointing advisory committees for each zone.

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What is Influenza?

Influenza is not the stomach flu or the common cold which we all get. It is a serious viral infection which occurs in epidemics and contributes to the death of about 20,000 people each year in this country. The "1918 flu" was influenza .

Shots are given each fall to immunize against the expected strains of the virus. The shots should be given by November to be ready for the epidemic season which occurs later in the winter.

At First, Influenza Acts Like Common Cold

Influenza acts like the common cold at first with coughing and respiratory symptoms, but the symptoms rapidly worsen. Influenza differs from the common cold in many other ways too. Influenza usually causes a significant fever which lasts for 3-4 days, while colds have a minimal fever. A person with the flu has rather severe aches and pains in the muscles and joints as well as a severe headache. Fatigue can be very prominent; many people can barely get out of bed.

The runny nose, sneezing, and sore throat that are so common with the common cold are much less likely with influenza. Instead of the sinus congestions and ear infections seen in colds, influenza can cause serious life-threatening pneumonias.

The people who are prone to get the more severe complications of pneumonia from influenza are those who are older and have a lower level of immunity. These are people who have chronic illnesses such as heart or lung disease, diabetes, kidney disease, or many other medical problems.

If you are over 65 or have a serious illness, consult your doctor to see if you need the immunization.

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Miscellaneous

DON'T FORGET to pick up your pictures or other related items that have been published in *The Enterprise*! 8-10(tfc)

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Crouch Rent-A-Storage, call 754-4712 or come by 504 Enterprise Street. 8-2(tfc)

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Police Beat

The information below is taken from reports on file with the Winters Police Department. Some of the information is provided to police by citizens, and in some cases, police have not finished investigating the reports. These reports make up a small percentage of the total calls the Department receives and responds to each week.

Winters Police Department reports received and/or investigated from Sunday, Dec. 14, 1997, through Saturday, Dec. 20, 1997. Winters Police Officers:

- received a report of a family disturbance in the 1000 block of N. Cryer. Separation was made and no charges were filed.
- received a report of a burglary of a habitation in the 400 block of S. Melwood. This case is still under investigation.
- received a report of a juvenile shoplifter in the 900 block of N. Main. A citation was issued and the juvenile was turned over to his parents. The juvenile was also given a criminal trespass warning.
- arrested John Marvin Traylor, 54, of Winters, for driving while license suspended after a traffic stop in the 700 block of N. Heights.
- arrested Joe Diaz Jr., 29, of Winters, for a county MTR warrant.
- arrested Welton Raymond Watson Jr., 22, of Coleman, for driving while license suspended after a traffic stop in the 200 block of N. Arlington.
- arrested Dell Melvin Drake, 49, of Winters, for a felony theft warrant out of Taylor County.
- received a report of a burglary of a motor vehicle in the 200 block of Sanders. This case is still under investigation.
- arrested Tomas Jose Lugo, 30, of Winters, for outstanding DPS warrants out of Abilene.

The Winters Police Department would like to remind everyone that beginning January 1st, 1998, a new law on tobacco use by minors takes effect. Any minor 17 years of age and younger caught with any tobacco products on their person or using any tobacco products will be issued a citation. If you have any questions about this, please feel free to contact the Winters Police Department.

Runnels County Crimestoppers offers a cash reward for information which leads to the grand jury indictment or conviction of offenders and the caller does not have to give his or her name. To give a Crimestopper's tip, call your local law enforcement agency at:

Winters Police Department—754-4121
Ballinger Police Department—365-3591
Runnels County Sheriff's Department—365-2121

Official Records

County Court
Criminal
December 11

Jose Gaitan Galindo, Ballinger, filed for driving while license suspended

December 15

Marshal Rister, Ballinger, filed for hindering a secured creditor

John Marvin Traylor, Jr., Winters, filed for driving while license suspended

Natasha Johnson, Winters, filed for theft of service by check

December 16

Wilton Raymond Watson, Jr., Coleman, filed for driving while license suspended

December 17

Patrick Garza, Ballinger, filed for driving while license suspended

Marriage Licenses
December 18

Tyrone Watkins and Judy Earline Herridge

District Court
Divorces Filed
December 19

Jane F. Holtman and Ray A. Holtman

World holiday customs

ENGLAND

• English children sometimes write lists of things they want. One custom is to throw the list into the back of a fireplace. If the paper goes up the chimney, the writer will get the gifts he or she asks for. If the paper burns, the children try again with another list.

• The children in England call their Santa "Father Christmas." He looks a lot like the American Santa Claus.

• The custom of sending Christmas cards started in England about 150 years ago. In 1843 the artist John Horsley painted and printed some cards and sold them to people wanting to send Christmas greetings. By 1860, printed Christmas cards were a popular item.

• The first weekday after Christmas is called "Boxing Day." The English give boxes with gifts inside to people such as the police officer or mail carrier who have helped them during the year.

• Christmas caroling started with the British. Professional musicians used to wander from place to place singing at the homes of the rich. Later, ordinary people went singing from door to door at Christmas in return for warm food and drink. Today people go caroling throughout December.

ITALY

• Most Italian families have a prize manger scene they bring out each Christmas Eve. They exchange some gifts on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day.

• Jan. 6 is the day children get most of their presents. Befana, an old fairy, brings gifts and fills the stockings. She carries a broom in one hand and a bell that she rings in the other. She comes down the chimney.

GERMANY

• Santa Claus is called "St. Nicholas" in Germany. He comes on the night before St. Nicholas' Feast Day, Dec. 6. Kids put out shoes filled with hay for his pony.

St. Nicholas takes the hay and leaves candy and other goodies. Kids also leave a list of presents they want to get on Christmas Eve. The gifts they get then are from "Christkindl," or the Christ child.

•The Christmas tree custom began in Germany more than 500 years ago.

The story goes that the religious leader Martin Luther was walking through a forest one snowy night at Christmastime. The trees shining in the moon and starlight were so lovely that he chopped one down. He took it home and put small candles on it to imitate what he saw in nature.

***

Tell me and I'll forget. Show me, and I may not remember. Involve me, and I'll understand.

—Native American Saying

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LAMAR-3 BR, 1 bath, w/ upstairs apt. *Good location.*

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Stenholm announces additional $10 million in funding for Texas' boll weevil program

For the second time this year, officials from USDA's Farm Service Agency were in Abilene to sign low-interest loans to assist the Texas boll weevil eradication effort, according to Congressman Charlie Stenholm.

During a ceremony at the Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation state headquarters, USDA officials signed low-interest loans in the amount of $10 million from the Boll Weevil Loan Program (BWLP) to assist with the statewide eradication effort.

"The Boll Weevil Loan Program is a perfect example of a partnership between the public and private sectors," said Stenholm. "I am encouraged by the potential this innovative program has for eradicating the boll weevil from Texas."

The Boll Weevil Eradication Program has traditionally operated on a 70/30 cost share basis, with producers contributing 70% of the cost. The USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) administers the program and contributes the remaining 30%.

Unfortunately, federal budget constraints have prevented the federal cost share from keeping pace with program expansion. Because APHIS does not have sufficient funds, the $10 million loans from the BWLP will help producers finance their share of the eradication effort.

"Texas producers have had to pay a higher cost-share than the traditional 70%, which is one of the reasons this program is so important," said Stenholm. "Without the BWLP, a comprehensive and coordinated eradication program would be too costly for producers."

Reindeer - the real story

by JIM WORD, Ector County Extension Agent-Agriculture

Contrary to the belief of some people, reindeer do actually exist. However, to my knowledge, I have only heard of eight that can fly and one that has a red nose. The flying I cannot explain. The red nose my be a genetic mutation, the results of chronic respiratory problems or an alcoholic reindeer.

In reality, reindeer, *Rangifer tarandus*, are herbivores indigenous to tundra and taiga lands of the far north. In further classification of these animals, they are ungulates (animals having hooves), and they are ruminants. Ruminants are even-toed mammals that chew cud and have a complex chambered stomach. This type of digestive system allows for the digestion of food with a high cellulose content.

Reindeer, as the name implies, are members of the deer family. Reindeer are unique to the deer family in that both sexes, including calves, produce antlers. Reindeer are closely related to the caribou differing mainly in disposition and body size. In fact, caribou are called "wild reindeer" in some parts of the world. Adult female reindeer (cows) weigh approximately 230 pounds and a typical male (bull) weighs 300 pounds. As within any species of animals, wide variations in body weight can occur. Some reindeer bulls can reach or exceed 450 pounds just before breeding season in the early fall.

I mentioned that the tundra is the native land of the reindeer. The tundra is a flat, treeless area that extends across the Arctic lowlands in North America, Europe and Asia. The tundra is mostly snow covered for about 10 months of the year. Most of the soil under the snow, except for a thin top layer about 2-4 inches deep, stays frozen all year. This frozen soil is called permafrost. When the snow and ice melt in the summer, the water cannot seep into the permafrost so numerous lakes and ponds are formed.

Summer on the tundra lasts from mid-June to mid-August. During these two months colorful, flowering plants mix with moss, lichens and other vegetation. This provides the major food supply to reindeer herds and many other animal species.

Reindeer numbers in the United States are limited for all practical considerations to Alaska. In Alaska reindeer are classified as domestic livestock and are found in the western coastal areas and on some offshore islands.

Reindeer are not indigenous to Alaska. They were transported to Alaska from Siberia to be used by the local population. Dr. Sheldon Jackson, a Presbyterian minister and general agent for education in Alaska, made a voyage to Alaska in the summer of 1890 and found people in need of meat and hides. Through his efforts and others, the first reindeer were transported from Siberia to Alaska in 1891. From 1892 to 1902, the government imported some 1,280 reindeer into Alaska from Siberia. In 1902, the Czarist government forbid any more exports of reindeer to Alaska. By 1901, 10 missions had been established in Alaska and many were associated with the newly established reindeer herds that had increased to a total of 4,164 animals. As part of the reindeer program, 67 Lapp, Finn and Norwegian families were brought to Alaska in 1898 to care for the herds and to serve as mail carriers and freighters.

From 1902, the reindeer population in Alaska grew rapidly with some reported interbreeding with caribou. In these early years of the industry, ownership of the reindeer was spread between Eskimos, Lapps, missionary societies, and the Bureau of Education. Eskimo apprentices served a five-year term learning the methods of herding in use at that time. They were given two female reindeer a year plus food and shelter. At the end of five years, the new herder was given enough additional reindeer to increase his heard to 50 head. The herder was under the supervision of his sponsor for an additional 20 years and could lose his herd at any time if he was found guilty of "intemperance or failure to care for his herd."

Rapid growth in numbers of reindeer continued with an estimated 47,266 animals being present by 1913 of which 65 percent belonged to native Eskimo herders. These native owners had herds averaging less than 40 head each. By 1929, there were an estimated 400,000 reindeer in western Alaska. In 1930, approximately 500,000 pounds of reindeer meat was exported from Alaska. From 1930 to 1937 was the period of greatest reindeer abundance. Peak numbers of 640,000 head started to drastically decrease to an estimated 250,000 head in 1940 and further decreased to an estimated 25,000 head in 1950. This decrease was thought to be the result of poor management, overstocked range, predation by bears and wolves, losses to migrating caribou and disease. Current populations are estimated at 33,000.

Merry Christmas



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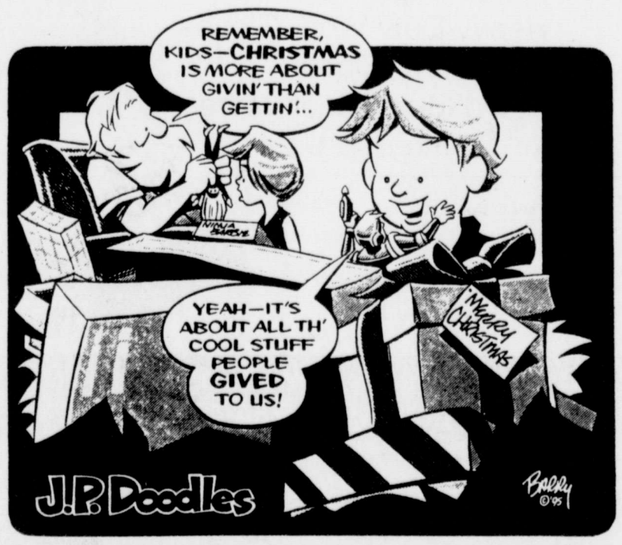


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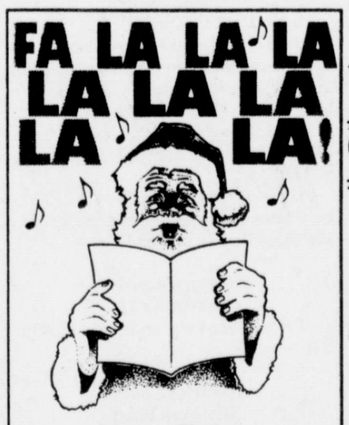


SEASON'S GREETINGS

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Winters Oilfield Supply





FA LA LA LA LA LA LA LA!

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Joyce Weems
Justice of the Peace
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