

THE STATE LINE

TRIBUNE

"Official Publication of Parmer County"

December 30, 2004 NUMBER 19 93rd YEAR 50 CENTS 10 PAGES

The Year in Review

Here's a look back at 2004 in the area:

January

The Texico City Council approved a drug-testing policy for city employees. Parmer County District Attorney Johnny Actkinson switched to the Republican party. Ronald Byrd and Michael Haseloff filed for the Farwell area county commissioner post. With state Sen. Teel Bivins getting an ambassador's job, a special election was called for to fill that post. Farwell junior livestock champions were Ray White, barrows; Tyler Cullison, lambs; Hayden Hadley, steers; and Matt Billingsley, goats. John Mars, John Tannahill and incumbent Kirk Frye filed for the Friona area county commissioner post. Lazbuddie junior livestock champions were Kolten Morris, lambs; Jarrod Jesko, goats; and Jared Timms, barrows. Kel Seliger and Kirk Edwards emerged from an election for state senator as the top two candidates, so another special election was set. Cesar Marquez was re-elected Bovina fire chief. Texico City Council began work on cemetery improvements. It was announced that the McCain Brothers would entertain at the Farwell Chamber of Commerce banquet.

February

Parmer County junior livestock show champions were Jason Berend, steers; Ryan Mason, goats; Jennifer DeLeon, barrows; and Kolten Morris, lambs. The State Line Tribune began coverage of the Bovina community, by adding the Bovina Page. Lazbuddie cheerleader Bethenie Sanchez performed at the Hula Bowl. Some students asked the Texico School Board to modify the student dress code, but the school board stayed with facial hair being off limits. The Farwell Steers and Lady Blue both made the state playoffs. Named Texico School science fair champions were Ricky Burns, Shay Anderson, Nikki Wallin and Gentry Doolittle. Bovina began drilling a new water well. Kel Seliger defeated Kirk Edwards for the state senate post. Curby Brantley was named chief Parmer County appraiser.

March

An open house was held for the new Parmer County jail. Texico voters elected Jerry Bradley and Sharon Askew to the city council, and okayed an increase in the gross receipts tax. Charles Aycock resigned as Parmer County attorney to become a member of the Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles. Jeff Actkinson filed for the open Parmer County attorney's post, and also was appointed to it by the county commissioners. Friona attorney Kathryn Gurley announced she would be a write-in candidate for the county attorney's post. Texico's Ricky Burns was named grand champion at the Eastern New Mexico Regional science fair. Michael Haseloff and Kirk Frye won their primary elections for county commissioner seats for the Farwell and Friona areas, respectively. Miss Texas spoke at the Bovina Chamber of Commerce banquet. Becky London was named as the State Line Tribune correspondent for the Bovina area. The Texico Wolverines' basketball team lost in the state quarter-final. Farwell's Tate Nichols sparked the Farwell boys' golf team to meet wins. The team advanced to regionals in March. A gunman was killed in a standoff with police in Friona after he commandeered a private home while trying to flee the police.. The Parmer County Commissioners approved a boundary change for EMS units from Bovina and Friona despite Bovina's pleas not to change it.

April

Bovina Chamber of Commerce awards went to: Les McCain, Heritage Award; Arlene Brozek, Woman of the Year; Billy Smith, Man of the Year; Christie Braksdale, Educator of the Year. A lack of EMS personnel was beginning to cause a major problem to Farwell. Other area EMS units began filling in on calls. Lazbuddie football coach Mark Osmus resigned. Farwell Band Director Bill Shelly was named as Border Town Days honorary parade marshal. The Texico dairy judging team won state and a trip to the nationals in Louisville, Ky. Members were Ricky Burns, Skyla Cockerham, Taryn Allen and Aaron Vaughan. Suzanna Gibbs was hired as the Parmer County extension agent for home economics by the county commissioners. Glenda Mosier retired as assistant city clerk for Texico after 23 years. Texico adopted an ordinance to regulate heavy vehicles. Bovina coach John Kennedy resigned. Discussions at the Farwell City Council indicated that a gas rate hike would be forthcoming later in the year. Parmer County shelled out \$50,000 as part of the payment over the infamous Tulia drug sting. Each county included in the area police agency had to pay out some money.

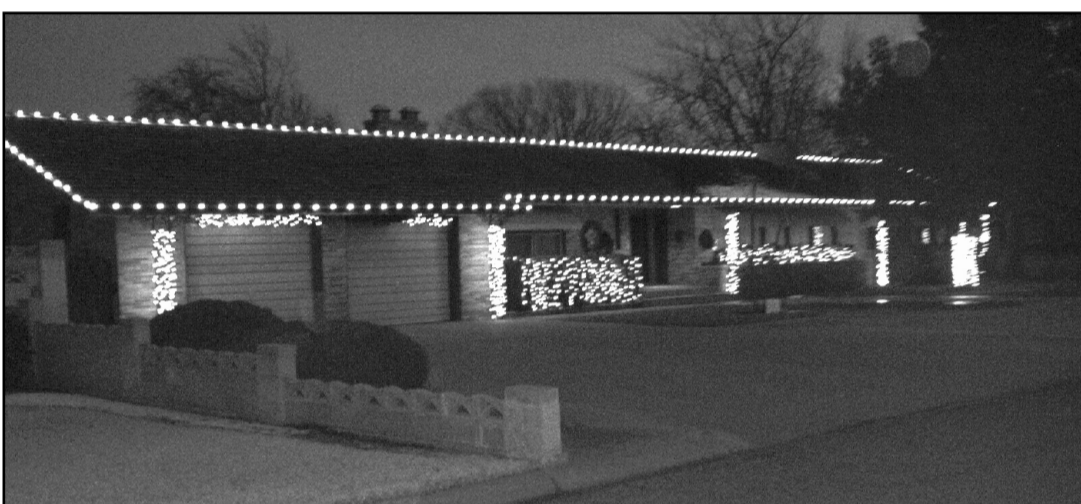
Farwell Chamber of Commerce honors went to: Greg Howard and Mark Howard, Agriculturalists of the Year; Patsy Camp, Teacher of the Year; Gary Patterson, Man of the Year; and Flo Davis, Woman of the Year.

Texico Public Works Supt. Clarence Smith resigned.

May

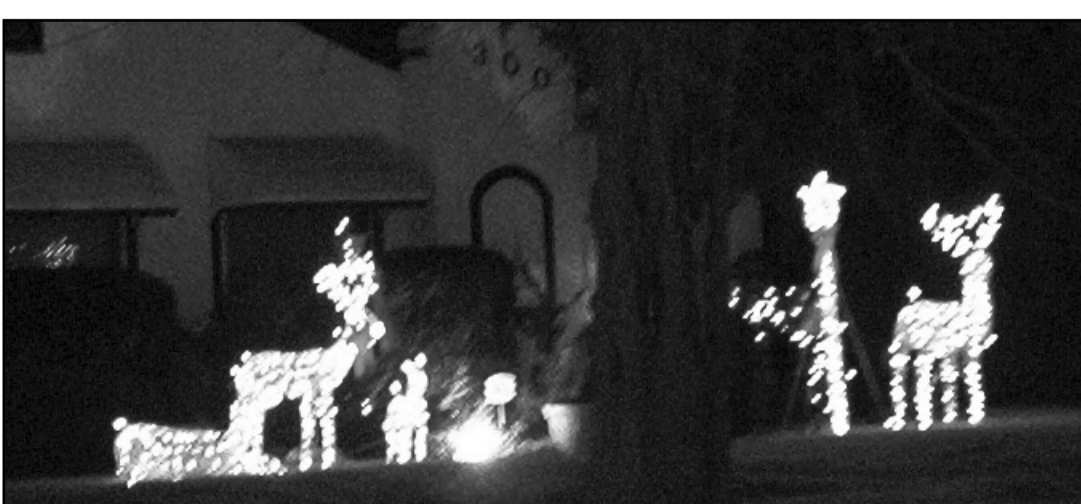
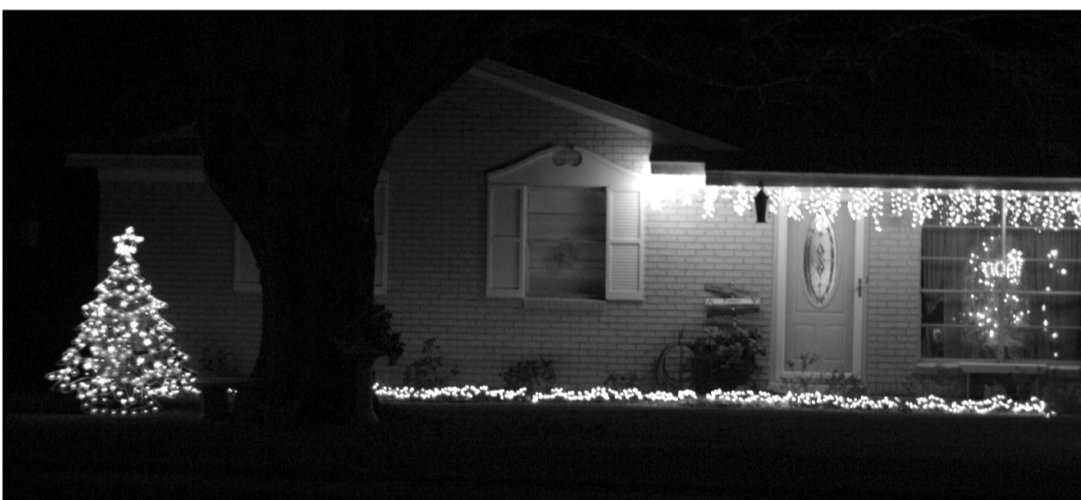
Bovina built a new dog pound. The Texico Wolverines baseball team lost in the regional semi-final. Texico FCCLA trio was picked to compete at the national contest -- Susy Trillo, Brenda Cardenas and Christina Rowton. Bryn Mayfield was valedictorian at Texico Junior High. Jared Curtis was valedictorian at Texico High. Alonzo Salas, of Bovina, was killed in a one-vehicle rollover on County Road Q. Top Texico FFA awards went to Mikayla Cherry, Star Greenhand, and Curtis Williams, Star Chapter Farmer. The Bovina School Board voted to approve random drug-testing in August. A \$1.3 million bombshell was dropped on Bovina -- a new sewer system would be needed.

Continued on Page 2



Christmas scenes from Farwell and Texico

Pictures from around the Twin Cities



Year in Review

From page 1

Jose Gomez, who had pled guilty to a capital murder charge involving Friona police officer Jose Herrera, was sentenced to life in prison.

The Texico School Board began discussing whether to take out-of-state students. Texico city clerk Teresa Harth resigned.

Flor Sanchez and Roger Martinez were named as Bovina's top athletes of the year. Lazbuddie Supt. Roy Baker indicated he would be resigning to take a post as superintendent at Wheeler, Texas.

Lazbuddie's Shawndee Nichols and Robbie Martin took 1st places at the state UIL academic meet.

Shelby Christian was named valedictorian at Farwell Junior High.

Khallie Foster was named valedictorian at Farwell High.

Shawndee Nichols was named valedictorian at Lazbuddie High.

Top Farwell athletes were named -- Grant Gregory and Kyra Christian.

Texico's top athletes were Bryce Bailey and Sissy Loper.

Top Lazbuddie FFA honors went to Rochelle Smith, Star Greenhand; and Dakota Pitcock, chapter farmer.

Farwell approved a street repair project.

Top Farwell band honors went to Matthew Ancira and Juan Crlos Vidaurri.

Texico police officer Wayne Atchley resigned.

Elected to the Farwell School Board were incumbent Sam Billingsley and Kendall Devault (write-in).

Elected to the Lazbuddie School Board were Scott Hicks and incumbent Terry Parham.

Elected to the Bovina City Council were Larry Hodnett and incumbent Jessie Stone.

Elected to the Bovina School Board were Richard Carson, Don Teague and incumbent George Villarreal.

Noting that the Texico School Board was looking at taking out-of-state students, the Farwell School Board said it would continue to honor its 1953 pact with Texico by not taking any students from New Mexico.

Top Farwell FFA honors went to Jordan Saylor, star greenhand, and Alishs Wauson, star chapter farmer.

Former Lazbuddie School Supt. Hardy Carlyle began serving as the school's interim superintendent until a new superintendent would be hired.

At Farwell High's graduation, Khallie Foster won the Loving Cup and Ashley Harzog was named the Carlos Nicolas Award recipient.

Kyra Kimbrough, Shawndee Nichols and Robbie Martin were named Lazbuddie's top athletes.

June

The High Plains Underground Water District moved its water well permit office from Bovina to Friona.

Daisy Swerczek was named new Texico city clerk.

Farwell School received a petition to start a baseball program.

The Texico School Board agreed not to change its out-of-district student acceptance policy.

Bovina planned to have its annual 4th of July celebration despite the fact that the holiday fell on a Sunday.

Bovina band directors Erin and Adrian Acevedo resigned.

Texico's Ricky Burns participated in the international science fair in Denver.

The old Farwell City hall property was sold to Jay Bowers construction.

July

Two new businesses opened in Farwell -- a tanning salon and a video rental store. Parmer County's surplus increased, according to the annual audit.

Winner's Touch got robbed by a gunman twice.

Texico got state funds for street repairs.

Farwell Schools began investigating the possibility of starting a baseball program. Complaints were raised at the Parmer County Commissioner's meeting about how county roads 145 and 1731 had been resurfaced.

Arrests were made in the armed robbery of the David Sides residence in Oklahoma Lane.

Shannon Shorter was picked as the new Bovina boys' basketball coach.

Former Texico football coach David Lynn was inducted into the state's Football Hall of Fame.

The 38th annual Border Town Days drew another huge turnout.

August

The Bovina School Board increased its tax rate 7 cents per \$100 assessed valuation.

The Border Town Days Committee voted to end candy throwing during the parade from moving vehicles.

The Parmer County Commissioners raised taxes about 3 cents per \$100 assessed valuation.

Bovina hiked its water and sewer rates.

Farwell and Bovina lowered their tax rates.

September

Hamlin Memorial United Methodist Church celebrated its 100th anniversary.

Top honors at the Parmer County 4-H banquet went to Ashley Hartzog and Alisha Wauson, Gold Star awards, and Patty Johnson, Leader of the Year.

Spencer Kube, of Texico, was killed in a one-vehicle accident near House, N.M.

Bovina School Board began discussing baseball field improvements for the school's new baseball team.

Texico began considering raising its water rates.

Texico volleyball coach Michael Littlejohn won his 400th victory.

Named as Lazbuddie homecoming King and Queen were Jose Beliz and Ana Hernandez.

Named as Farwell homecoming King and Queen were Chris Culver and Micah Christian.

Police were searching for a missing Vicky Lynn, formerly of Farwell and now living in Tularosa, N.M.

Huge amounts of moisture continued to fall on the area.

October

Heavy moisture continued during the month as area rain totals began heading to record highs.

Bovina revised its ordinance dealing with animal slaughter.

Bovina School Board okayed a budget for the baseball field.

Doyle Johnson resigned as Farwell Gin manager.

Tri County Tire was sold by Robert White to Mike Ratke, Billy May and Anthony Joplin.

City Cleaners was sold to Duke and Rhonda Kirkland.

A movie being made in Clovis included some scenes shot in the Farwell area. And Farwell's Hailey Grimes got a prominent part in the movie.

November

In the general election, Kathryn Gurley was elected Parmer County Attorney and Michael Haseloff won the race over Ronald Byrd for Farwell area county commissioner.

Texico's Lori Richardson was elected president of the Curry County 4-h Council.

Texico's dairy team took 11th place at the national contest in Louisville.

Bovina's Les McCain was the keynote speaker at the Farwell Veteran's Day program.

Bovina discussed whether to prohibit truck parking, and set a public hearing for December.

Texico raised its water rates, and began discussions on raising its garbage rates.

Farwell Schools excelled in the annual UIL academic district contests.

The Texico Wolverines football team won the state title.

Lazbuddie's robotics team competed at state.

Adrian Ancira won the Area Merchants football contest, including \$200 in cash and two tickets to the Dallas Cowboys - New Orleans Saints game.

December

Texico and Farwell were in discussions on how to better handle the area's stray animal problem.

It was agreed that the Oklahoma Lane reunions would be held every two years.

Farwell Schools declined to start a baseball program.

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Mike Pomper, president
DeeDee Pomper, vice president
Texas Press Association

Please attend church services	Oklahoma Lane Methodist Church Worship Service -- 9 a.m. Sunday School - 10 a.m.	Bovina Church of Christ Mike Prather, minister Worship - 10:45 a.m. & 6 p.m. Wed. - Bible class - 7:30 p.m.
Lazbuddie Methodist Church Rev. Randy Thomas Sunday School -- 9:30 a.m. Worship -- 10:30 a.m.	Church of God in Christ, Mennonite James Koehn - minister Sunday School - 10 a.m. Worship Service - 11 a.m.	First Baptist Church of Lazbuddie
First Baptist Church of Farwell Rev. Randy G. Mullin Sunday School - 9:45 a.m. Worship - 11 a.m. & 6 p.m. Wed. - Prayer meeting 7 p.m. Wed. - mission aux., 7:30 p.m. www.fcfarwell.org	First Baptist Church of Texico Rob Hollis - minister Sunday School - 9 a.m. Worship-10:15 a.m., 5:30 p.m. Wednesday - 7 p.m.	St. John Lutheran Church, Lariat David Symm - minister Worship Service - 9:30 a.m. Sunday School - 10:30 a.m. Wednesday - 7 p.m.
Hamlin Memorial United Methodist Church Rev. Scott Spitsberg Sunday School - 10 a.m. Worship - 11 a.m. & 6 p.m.	Pleasant Hill Baptist Church Jim Peabody - minister Sunday School - 9:30 a.m. Worship-10:30 a.m., 6:30 p.m. Wednesday - 6:30 p.m. winter 7:30 p.m. summer	San Jose Catholic Church, Texico Sunday Mass - Noon Religious Education - 1:15 - 2:15 p.m. Community Meal -- 1:15 p.m.
Lariat Church of Christ Sam Billingsley - minister Sunday School - 10 a.m. Worship - 10:45 a.m. & 6 p.m. Wednesday - 7 p.m. winter 8 p.m. summer	Church of Christ 110 Ninth St. Sunday School - 10 a.m. Worship - 11 a.m. & 6 p.m. Wednesday - 7 p.m. summer 8 p.m. winter	Farwell Church of Christ Phillip Steyn -- preacher Bible Class Sunday - 10 a.m. Worship ; 10:50 a.m. & 6 p.m. Wednesday - 7:30 p.m. In Search -- 7:30 -- Ch. 4 Sun.
Assembly of God Church, Texico Bob Burris - minister Sunday School - 9:15 a.m. Worship - 10:15 a.m. & 6 p.m. Wednesday - 6 p.m.	New Light Baptist Church Pastor Bryan K. Phillips, Sr. Sunday School - 9:00 a.m. mt. BTU - 9:45 a.m. mt Worship - 11 a.m. mt Wednesday - Bible Study 6:30 p.m. mt	Bovina United Methodist Church Rev. Quita Jones Sunday School - 9:45 Worship - 11 a.m. & 6 p.m. Wednesday study, 7 p.m.
St. Ann's Catholic Church Fr. David Contreras Sunday Mass: 9:30 a.m. in English; Noon in Spanish. CCD -- 10:30 a.m. Evening Mass: 6:30 p.m. Tuesday; 7 p.m. Wed. - Fri.	First Baptist Church Of Bovina Aaron Reed, pastor Sunday School - 9:45 a.m. Worship - 11 a.m. Wednesday worship & youth, 7 p.m.	Iglesia Bautista Hispana in Bovina Rafael Marin, pastor Sunday School - 9:45 a.m. Worship - 11 a.m. Wednesday worship, 7 p.m.
Farwell Convalescent Center Bill Bridwell -- chaplain Sunday services -- 9 a.m. Bible study - 9:30 a.m. Friday	Lazbuddie Church of Christ Mickey Chambiss - minister Sunday School -- 9:30 a.m. Worship - 10:20 a.m. & 5 p.m. Wednesday -- 7 p.m.	United Pentecostal Church of Texico Rev. Mickee Mounce Sunday School - 10 a.m. Worship - 11:15 a.m., 6:30 p.m. Wednesday - 8 p.m.

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United Supermarkets -- Muleshoe • Wes-Tex Feed Yards

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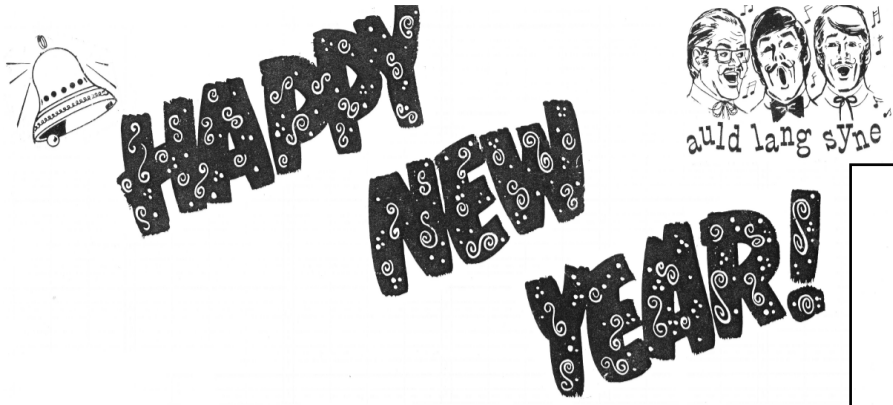
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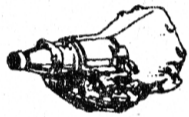
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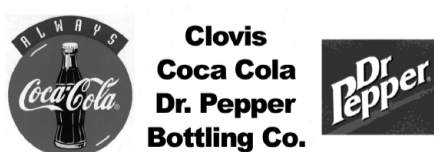
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Parmer County fire department reports given

Here's a look at the reports from the Parmer County volunteer fire departments from December 2003 through November 2004:

Farwell

November - West Camp Gin, burr fire; Hwy. 84, 2 miles east, gass fire.
 December - Hwy. 60 east, grass fire; Lunsford Wrecking Yard, electric wife - tires on fire.
 January - Hwy. 70, vehicle fire; Hwy. 84 4 miles east, truck fire.
 February - Paco Feed Yard, transformer; Farwell Gin, trash - burrs; 1045 CR B, tires in small storage building; house on south side of Hwy. 84 east of Farwell, trash next to trailer house; Wilbur Ellis on Hwy. 60, anhydrous ammonia truck spill (broken hose).
 June - 10 miles east on Hwy. 145 and _ mile south of CR 10, utility pole - chicken house; Hwy. 84 east of Lariat, truck hit concrete utility pole; Hwy. 84 at Bailey - Parmer county line, trash stubble near farm building.
 August - Hwy. 84, Lariat curve, Tahoe rollover with trailer.
 November - Hwy. 84 about 5 miles east, auto on fire under hood.
 December - Hwy. 145 east of 1731, cotton module on fire.

Bovina

November - 3333 1731, grass fire, owner Christians.
 December - Caprock Industries mill, highway 60, grin silo fire.
 January - Highway 86 underpass, west of Bovina, truck roll-over, owner Ginger Rodriguez.
 February -- intersection of Highways 86 and 60, 2 vehicle accident; 4 miles west of Bovina on 2290, vehicle roll-over.
 March - 3 miles east of Bovina on Highway 60, railroad property grass fire.
 April - 5 miles west of Bovina on Highway 60, railroad property grass fire.
 May - intersection of County Roads 7 and Q, vehicle roll-over; intersection of County Roads 13 and T, accident involving pickup owned by Terry Schilling and Bovina school bus; Parmerton Hill, railroad property grass fire.
 June - County Roads Q, 2290 and 2, lightning strike and fire, property owner Pat Ware (2 times); west of Bovina, at Roadside Park on Highway 60, grass fire on state-owned land.
 July - 3 miles east of Farwell on Highway 60, controlled burn on DeLeon property; 900 S 1731, grass fire on Bartlett property; 1 miles west of Caprock Industries on Highway 60, truck fire; 1 _ miles west of Bovina on Highway 60, vehicle accident; East Street, roll-off box, trash fire; _ mile south on CR 1731, care fire; East Street, roll-off box, trash fire.
 October - 1 _ miles east of Bovina on Highway 60, accident involving vehicle and cows.

Rhea-Hollene

March -- north of Rhea, mutual aid to Broadview, N.M. Grass fire - CRP, started by lightning.
 June -- southeast of FM2013 and FM1731, grass fire - pasture; started by lightning.

'Dear Santa...'

The Tribune received two "Dear Santa" letters at the North Pole after last week's issue was printed:

 Santa,
 It is Christmas time and I know you are going to be busy. I am going to be busy, too. My family is going to El Paso Christmas Eve. I was won-

dering if you will bring me my present early, please.
 Adreanna Blakes

 Santa,
 I want a pink Barbie karaoke boom box and a doll, please. How is Mrs. Claus doing? How is Rudolph? Hope to see you soon, Santa.
 Nikki Stover

Courthouse Notes

The Parmer County clerk's office last week recorded these warranty deeds:
 Santiago Pena - Francisco Sanchez, L1-2 B54 Friona.
 Vincent Mininger - Mary Watson, L2 NW 40' L3 B34 Bovina

Lazbuddie

February - Highway 214 and Paco Feeders, utility pole fire; 2 miles west of Clay's Corner on Highway 145, tree fire on Doyle Weir property (2 calls); CR CC, well house fire, owned by Hazel Waddell; and 1 mile west and 1 mile north of Lazbuddie, tractor fire, owned by Dennis Steinbock.
 March - 2 miles west and 8 miles south, residential fire, owned by Ike Wilcox (3 calls); Highway 214 and CR CC, grass/wheat field, owned by John Neil Agee; 3 miles east of Highway 303 on FM 145, hay bales, owned by Max Swinburn; 3 miles east of Clay's Corner on FM 145, wheat field, owned by Brandon Cox; 5 miles south of Clay's Corner and 2 miles east of Highway 214, grass field, owned by Mr. Redwine.
 June - CR 13 and Cr AA, lightning/grass fire, owned by Mr. Redwine (2 calls); Lazbuddie High School press box (2 calls); 1 _ miles east of Clay's Corner on FM 145, propane, owned by Eldon Page.
 July - 1604 CR BB, residential, owned by Mac Brown.
 August - FM 1172 and FM 145, residential, owned by Sugar Glaze.
 September - 2498 FM 145, AGP elevator explosion.
 November - 2 miles east and 1 _ miles north of Clay's Corner, 50 acres of CRP grass, owned by Clay Mimms.

Friona

December - 6 miles east on U.S. 60, grass fire, owned by Jim Roy Wells; Friona Cooperative Gin, cotton; Excel on Highway 60, car, owner unknown.
 January - Excel, bone mill room; 1172 and 86, vehicle accident; Highway 60 west, electrical, Santa Fe; Heritage Estates, false alarm; east on Highway 60, fire under train, Santa Fe; 3 miles east on 2397, vehicle accident.
 February - U.S. 60 and Excel, vehicle accident; 1111 Maple St., house fire, owner Wes Drake.
 March - 1300 Walnut, No. 17, trailer house; 5th and Woodland, vehicle accident; 904 W. 4th St.; 1 mile south on 214, grass fire, state property; 1200 block of 9th Street, stand-by, First Baptist Church.
 April - County Road 4 and E, house fire, owner D.T. King; Friona High School room 16, false alarm.
 May - Hwy. 60 and Main, vehicle accident; northeast half of Parmer County, weather watch; railroad crossing at Excel, vehicle accident; 703 Woodland, electrical, owner Janie Aguilar; 1405 W. 6th St., kitchen fire, owner James Proctor.
 June - 1100 block of Springfield and Etta, dumpster fire; 306 Summitt, house fire, owner Jairo Rocha; 214 CR M, wheat field afire, owners Teddy and Bill White; CR 23 and Q, vehicle accident; 703 Columbia, smoke smell - water heater, owner Roger Gee; Excel, rescue.
 July - CR 20 and D, cotton burrs, owner H.J. Wells; 1 mile east on 60, grass fire, state owned property; 1 mile east on 60, vehicle accident (with horse), owner unknown; west of Excel on dirt road, vehicle accident; 8 miles north on 214, car fire; Excel and U.S. 60, traffic control; south of U.S. 86 and CR 22.
 August - 1307 Cleveland, A/C compressor, owner Parmer County Community Hospital; 2397 - 1172, vehicle accident; U.S. 60 and Main Street, vehicle accident.
 September - 1300 Walnut #29, smoke/flash, owner Cottonwood Apartments; 1302 Columbia, rescue; 1101 Etta, gas leak, Energas; 709 Cleveland, dumpster; 3

miles north on 214, grass fire/line down, owner REC; U.S. 60, vehicle accident.
 October - 1 _ miles west on U.S. 60, car fire; 6 miles east on U.S. 60, vehicle accident; U.S. 60 and Etta, vehicle accident; U.S. 60 west 5 miles, grain truck fire.
 November - 4 miles east on 2397, trash fire, owner Terry Copley; 1200 block of White, power lines down, SPS; 611 Summit, travel trailer, owner J.B. Buske; County roads G and 19, one-car rollover; 1504 EW. 5th St., structure, owner Campbell Apartments; West Allsup's, diesel spill; 9.5 miles south on 214, trash and grass fire, owner Joe Bermea; 1105 Columbia, ambulance assistance; and 1302 W. 5th St., structure, owner Jose Chico.



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Texico city clerk resigns; garbage rates increased; third police officer hired

The Texico City Council on Tuesday raised garbage pickup rates for most residents 50 percent, effective Jan. 1.

Thus, the increases will be reflected in the January bills.

As was pointed out in previous Tribune articles, the city was running at a deficit in this area. By raising the rates 50 percent, the city hopes that no further rate hikes will be needed for several years.

Currently, the fee most residents are charged by the city for garbage pickup is \$8.50 a month. But Duncan Disposal has been charging the city \$9.71, with a supplemental 4 percent hike going into effect Jan. 1 to bring this total to \$10.10.

So here is the new rate schedule:

For the average customer, using 90 gallon service (338 customers), the rate goes to \$12.75 a month (from \$8.50).

For those using 1 yard containers (11 customers), the rate goes from \$26.30 to \$39.45 a month.

For those using 2 yard containers (2 customers), the rate goes from \$36.78

to \$55.17 a month.

For those using 3 yard containers (13 customers), the rate goes from \$41.56 to \$62.34 a month.

For those using 4 yard containers (2 customers), the rate goes from \$50.42 to \$75.63 a month.

In other business, the council:

-- Accepted the resignation of City Clerk Daisy Swerczek.

If anyone is interested in this position contact City Hall.

-- Heard that Ruth Reid, of Texico, who is Margie Crooks' mother, died Tuesday.

-- Heard City Clerk Daisy Swerczek report that in December, the recreation fund only received 56 cents in cigarette taxes.

She said it appears the rec fund will be getting a lot less money than expected so other sources of funding will be needed.

-- Heard that Jeff Gonzales, a former Tucumcari police officer, will become Texico's third police officer, effective Jan. 9.

-- Hired Robert Solano, of Clovis, to be the street department assistant, at \$8 an hour.

-- Plans to hire Herbert Bibbs, of Texico, to also work with the street department, at \$8 an hour,

when funds are found. His duties will include dog catcher and cemetery mowing.

Once Bibbs is hired, this will mean that Texico will have three fulltime street department employees, for what may be the first time in many years.

-- Passed a resolution seeking Community Development Block Grant funds to acquire water rights and build pipelines.

-- Received four bids for a mosquito fogger. This will be checked into further.

-- Will be moving two trash containers out of the alley between State Street and State Line Road near the swimming pool so that Duncan Disposal doesn't have to pick up trash there. The alley needs repairs.

The council is concerned about the trucks ripping up utility lines. Once the alley is repaired, the containers will be put back.

-- Will seek bids to buy 25 loads of fly ash for alley repairs -- 20 to use now and 5 for later.

-- Heard Fire Chief Lewis Cooper report that the state is looking at Hwy. 60-70-84 repairs but doesn't know what to do. He said they may take off some asphalt and re-lay it.



New Lazbuddie businesses

Two new businesses have recently opened at 2372 FM 145 in Lazbuddie. Keihm Smith (above) has started "Keihm's Technical Service" and his wife, Melissa, (left) has opened "Beach Bums Tanning Salon" Their phone number is 965-2686.

Obituary


Abigail Tamez

Funeral mass for Abigail Alexis Tamez, infant daughter of Nemesio Rodriguez and Stephanie Ann Tamez, of Bovina, was held on Dec. 23 at St. Ann's Catholic Church in Bovina with Fr. David Contreras as celebrant.

Burial was in Bovina Cemetery by Blackwell Funeral Home.

She died Dec. 20 in Amarillo.

Surviving are her parents; and grandparents, Claude Jr. and Blanca Tamez, of Bovina, and Nemesio Sr. and Maria Rodriguez, of Bovina.



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Meet Farwell's Class of 2017




Mallory Schilling is a Farwell kindergartener. His birthday is Oct. 8. Parents are Todd and Lisa Schilling. Siblings are Olivia and Gabrielle. Grandparents are Leon and Martha Schilling.

She likes to play Barbies and with toys. Her favorite foods are Italian food, steak, BBQ, pizza and mashed potatoes. Her favorite color is red.

She doesn't like mean people, cobwebs and bangs in her eyes.

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Meet Texico's Class of 2017



Andrea Loera is a Texico kindergartener. Her birthday is May 15. Parents are Manuel and Hilda Loera. She has a brother, Manuel Jr. Grandparents are Refugio Espinoza, Manuel Loera and Guadalupe Perez.

Hobbies are playing with her brother, and playing soccer. Her favorite food is pizza. Her favorite color is purple. She doesn't like to clean her room.

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Farwell JV girls

Kaylyn Meyer, Jacque Caporusso, Haylee Fulcher, Hayley Fowler, Lauren Beaubien, Jourdan Kirkland, Lindsey Mullin, Morgan Bickel, Brenda Cano, Kaci Leatherwood, Shelby Christian, Chanel Castillo, Cindy Quezada, Trish Robertson.

The Latest

This year's Tribune coloring contest was a very difficult one to judge, with 20 youths entering.

Here's who the winners were, with 1st placers getting \$15 and 2nd placers getting \$10:

Ages 4-6: Jessica Hardisty, 1st; and Romeo Reyes, 2nd.

Ages 7-9, Kristyn Arce, 1st; and Tyler Bridges, 2nd.

Ages 10-12, Josh Olivas, 1st; and tied for 2nd were Haleigh Bird and Colby Whitten.

After awhile without moisture, the skies opened again on the Twin Cities in the middle of last week, with from 2 to 4 inches of snow.

A "Secret Santa" team from Clovis, led by a radio personality, surprised several area families with Christmas presents a couple of days before Christmas.

They said their list included the Ismael and Maricela Vega family of Texico, who received about \$2,000 worth of gifts.

Texas State Police report that Isabel Garcia, 19, of Friona, died after losing control of her vehicle on ice and snow on U.S. Highway 385, near Channing, Texas, on Dec. 22.

She had a collision with a tractor-trailer.

Her passenger, Daniel Santiago, 23, of Friona, suffered minor injuries.

Dec. 21 was the sign-up day for the Texico School Board.

One incumbent, Randy Cain, chose not to seek reelection.

Thus, the final signups were:

Position 4 -- Ted Richardson, incumbent.

Position 5 - Charles Vannatta.

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Marriage Licenses

The Parmer County clerk's office issued marriage licenses last week to: Christopher Villalobos and Loretta Flores; and Fidel Rodriguez and Susana Sanchez.

Word has been received of the death of Viola Wiggs, 90, of Amarillo. She was born Nov. 25, 1914, in New Mexico and attended Texico Schools.

Texico police again report all quiet last week.

Sheriff's Report

Here is the weekly report from Parmer County Sheriff Randy Geries:

About 8:40 p.m. on Dec. 21, Burlington Northern Santa Fe train personnel reported seeing a body between the track about two miles west of Friona.

The man was identified as Robert Eugene Davis, 46, last known address Waco, Texas.

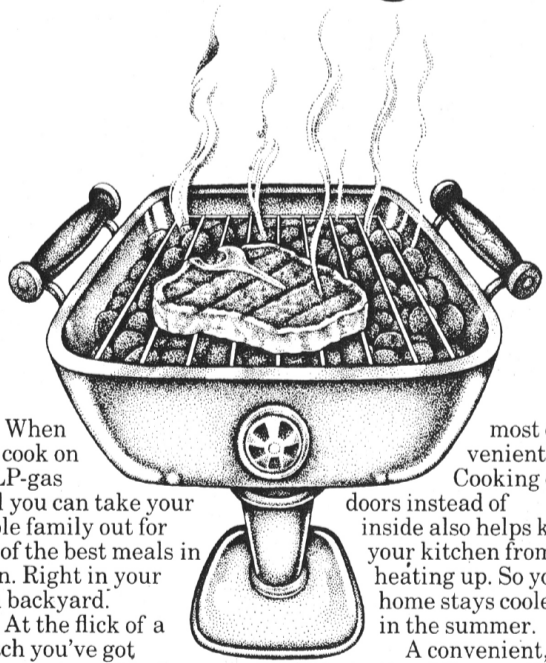
Geries said he appeared to have fallen from a train. The autopsy showed that no foul play was involved.

In other police reports: On Dec. 26, Michael Delossantos, 44, of Lovington, N.M., was arrested by Texas Highway Patrol on charges of possession of a controlled substance, pending before the grand jury; and possession of marijuana under 2 ounces, pending in county court.

On Dec. 25, Gregory Scott, 43, of Littlefield, was arrested by Texas Highway Patrol on a charge of DWI. Case pending in county court.

On Dec. 25, Charles Regalado, 37, of Clovis, was arrested by the sheriff's office on a warrant from Curry County (distribution of a controlled substance). He is pending transport.

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Offers received for Puckett property

The Parmer County Commissioners on Dec. 22 heard Ronald Byrd, of Byrd Realty, report on the seized Ronnie Puckett property in Lazbuddie.

Byrd was picked by the commissioners to sell the property, that was ordered forfeited to the state in 2003 by 287th District Court Judge Gordon Green as the result of a marijuana seizure there in 2001.

The State Supreme Court recently upheld Judge Green's decision.

The half section is about 1 1/2 miles from Lazbuddie School. Byrd is only listing a quarter-section for sale. The other quarter-section is going to the Federal Land Bank, the first lien holder.

Byrd said he has received some offers for the quarter-section.

In other business, the commissioners:

-- Agreed to have Kirkland, Kirkland CPA, of Farwell, handle the 2004 audit.

-- Reviewed the 2004 rural fire reports from the

Parmer County volunteer fire departments, and made their payments. The reports are listed elsewhere in today's Tribune.

-- Agreed to sell a few feet of property behind the old theater building to Jay Bowers Construction. The

land, on the property rolls, already has gotten sale okay from the Farwell City Council and Farwell School Board, too.

-- Discussed county investment policy with county treasurer Altha Herington.

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Upcoming Sports
A look at upcoming sports:
The Lazbuddie varsity teams host Springlake-Earth on Jan. 4 starting at 6:30 p.m.
The Farwell varsity and JV teams host Whiteface on Dec. 31, Then the varsity tams host Tulia on Jan. 4.
The Texico JV and varsity teams host Jal on Dec. 30. Then Texico hosts the EPAC tournament Jan. 4-8

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Border Banter

--Mike Pomper

Swami Mike's predictions continue

This is Part 2 of the Swami Mike predictions.

Last week, I noted how my 2003 predictions turned out. I got almost all of them right except for the sports titlists (way to go, Cubbies).

I always enjoy noting how my picks work out. You see all these other columnists make predictions -- and they never fess up to how they did.

Chickens. But I don't blame them. They are usually way off base, anyway.

Thus, it's time to get out the crystal ball and look ahead to 2005 (my, how the years shoot by as you get older).

Normally, I predict who will win the NBA title. Not this year.

I simply don't follow pro basketball anymore.

I used to love it in the days of the old Boston Celtics and St. Louis Hawks. And then came Magic Johnson and Larry Bird. And Michael Jordan.

Now, all you have is a bunch of overpaid, immature athletes. I have no idea on why anyone would pay money to go to see them play. Unless you want to get into a fist fight...

And I already have given you my pick for Super Bowl champion -- the Philadelphia Eagles. I made that pick last month and hold to it, despite the loss of Terrell Owens due to injury in the Dallas game.

The big story, obviously, is how terrorism will impact on us.

I believe the Iraqi elections will go forth as planned, but the U.S. military will stay in that nation throughout the year, as the

body count grows. The cost of rebuilding Iraq, and the U.S. expenditures involved, will be a major story.

The day of financial reckoning will eventually come. It's just a matter of when. And today's politicians are hoping that it will occur after they retire.

I'm not going to start hollering again about our stupidity on disbanding the Iraqi Army. What's done is done, and we all have to suffer because of it. I don't foresee any big terrorist attacks on our nation in 2005, since Iraq will be a focal point.

But that's not to say the terrorists are not planning to do us a lot of harm. They will achieve some success, but not next year. That type of big planning takes more time.

Our efforts at providing more "homeland security" seem pitiful. How can we have "homeland security" when both our northern and southern borders are porous. You tell me. Thus, this could be a big story next year, too.

Europe will continue to become more estranged from the U.S. This is not because of who the American president is (yeah, we know they hate Bush), but because the European leading nations (France, England and

Germany) like to steer their own course.

So you can watch for major economic issues to emerge between the U.S. and Europe.

Times are changing. When we used to talk about "war," we imagined two armies confronting each other on the battlefield.

Then came terrorism, and a new kind of war.

Well, economic war is about to enter the picture.

It will be interesting in years ahead to see how our nation-states become more company-states. Remember that movie "Rollerball"? Well, the premise of corporations using sports teams to fight the wars of the future have a lot of merit.

But we are just seeing the beginning of this type of war. Major changes normally don't take effect overnight (except for what 9/11 did). But you can watch the headlines as our economic struggles vis a

vis Europe and China commence.

There was an interesting play in the recent Texico Wolverines basketball game against Sudan that needs some explaining.

An offensive foul was called against Texico but the basket counted and fans wondered why.

Here's how Coach Richard Luscombe explained it:

The ref called the foul, but didn't report it immediately to the scorer's table.

So Mike Prokop, working at the scorer's table, immediately blew his horn to stop play and hollered at the ref to find out who the foul was called on.

The ref couldn't remember.

Thus, according to state rules, there is no foul ... and the basket counted.

Rumor of the Week:
A Family Dollar store coming to Farwell?

Cotton harvest slows again

With yet another round of wintry cold weather in the area last week, and a fresh layer of snow, the 2004 cotton harvest has been sidetracked once again.

The sudden change in the weather was not welcomed by producers struggling to get the crop into the relative production of modules, reports Plains Cotton Growers.

Over the past couple of weeks, area cotton fields had begun to look like they were supposed to at this time of year. The area is probably a little shy of the 75 percent harvested mark. If that is true, Christmas passed with as many as a million bales of cotton still on the stalk.

With High Plains production expected to top 4.5 million bales, many area gins still have 60 or more days of "around the clock" work ahead of them -- just with the cotton harvested to date.

Once the balance of the crop is stripped, some area gins would see their season extended even further.

Gins most likely to have long runs are those that serve a broad area with a high number of dryland acres as well as a solid base of irrigated cotton.

In other words, while some gins may be finished by mid-January, others expect to have the longest runs in their history and may not finish until March.

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Minsa has several positions available in our Production facility.
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If interested, please come to the Work Source Office at 201 S. Main in Muleshoe and fill out application. EOE

NOW HIRING!
Minsa is accepting applications for three full time positions in the Maintenance Department.
Some previous maintenance or welding experience is preferred.
If interested, please come to the Work Source Office at 201 S. Main in Muleshoe and fill out application. EOE

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JUST LISTED - 305 irrigated acres west of Bovina on highway, 2 irrigation wells and 2 sprinklers, lays good *****

JUST LISTED - 2 bedroom, 1 bath home in good neighborhood in Farwell. *****

JUST LISTED - Nice 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath brick home east of Farwell on 4 acres. *****

Farwell - 3 bedroom, 1 bath home on grass street from school. *****

JUST LISTED - 48 acres, 16" electric sprinkler system. Good water area. *****

640 acres of irrigated land, 4 sprinklers, 7 wells, with nice country home, east of Farwell. *****

Just Listed - 2 bedroom, 1 bath home priced to sell. Good location. *****

Just Listed - 240 acres NW of Clovis, 1 irrigation well on highway. *****

HORSE TRAINING FACILITY -- 150x160 insulated metal barn with living quarters on 320 acres, pasture land, fully fenced, south of Farwell. Barn has indoor stalls & training area. *****

Commercial building in Bovina . *****

640 acres irrigated south of Bovina on FM 1731, 5 irrigation wells, 3 sprinklers. *****

400 acres on the east of Farwell, 2 irrigation wells. Some grassland. Also has valley sprinkler. *****

Beautiful 4 bedroom, 2 bath, 2,800 plus sq. ft., brick home on 1.2 acres south of Farwell. Beautiful view overlooking draw. Has city water. *****

East of Laria, 100 acres, well, 1/2 mile. *****

East of Laria, 160 acres, 1/2 mile, 1/2 mile, 1/2 mile. *****

JUST LISTED - 320 acres irrigated, 3 wells, 1 circle sprinkler. Lays excellent. East of Pleasant Hill. *****

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- S. OF FARWELL - 4-3-2 Brick Home, 69.6 acre tract, cent. A&H, built-ins, 4560' lv. area, 350' basement w/vault, 2940' garage / workshop, 1000' loft over garage, 6" well, barns, & corral !! MORE !! \$339K !!

Vic Coker Land Co. AGRICULTURAL REAL ESTATE

Parmer County -- Lazbuddie area: 1595 acres, 3 half-mile pivots, all electric wells, good allotments, best soil

Lazbuddie area - Modern 2 bedroom brick home, 2 bath, fireplace, acreage, 2 buildings, on county road. **Sold**

Muleshoe area - 156 acres of C.R.P. \$38.00 per acre. 3 years. **Sold**

Cochran County - 50 Acres, MULE DEER. 146 Acres in C.R.P. Balance is **Sold**

Bailey County - 195 acres on Pavement. 2 wells make 700 g.p.m. Near Parmer County line. **Sold**

Parmer - Castro County line near Lazbuddie - 320 acres, 2 sprinklers, 2 wells, good livestock farm.

Bailey County - 361 acres on pavement. Two circles, four well, 235 allotted acres, 64 acres of CRP. Good set of working pens. A GOOD LIVESTOCK FARM! \$450 per acre.

Lamb County -- 1077 acres, 13 wells, 9 center pivots. Soils suitable for peanuts and potatoes. Nice home, shop and other outbuildings.

Parmer County - 152 acres northwest of Lazbuddie. 1 well, sprinkler. Very good **Sold**

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Farwell, Texas

Crista Bass
Sales Associate

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Toll Free: 1-888-999-3846
308 Third St., Farwell

New Listing - very nice 4 bedroom 3 bath brick home, re-fridgerated air, central heat, built-ins, lots of storage space. 2 car garage, fenced back yard, all on corner lot. **In Contract**

NEW LISTING - 160 acres in Lazbuddie area. Call for details. Would make great cattle outfit.

Just Listed - 100 acres, 10" electric sprinkler system. Reasonably priced. Oklahoma Lane area. **In Contract**

2 bedroom, 1 bath home with fenced back yard, central heat, refrig. air, 2 storage buildings, carport. Great starter home.

Very nice 3 bedroom, 1 bathroom home, refrigerated air, central heat, stove, dishwasher, storage building, fenced back yard. Ready to move in. Call for more details.

In country, 2,000 sq. ft., 1 bedroom, 2 bath home on 10 acres. Highway frontage. **In Contract**

Lazbuddie nice 3 bedroom 2 3/4 bath, brick home, built-ins, re-fridgerated air, central heat, sprinkler system, nice large 2 car garage, patio decking, hot tub, swimming pool, 40x50 insulated metal shop, all on approximately 7 acres. **In Contract**

Nice large 2 bedroom, 1 3/4 bath home, refrigerated air, central heat, built-ins, new carpet, fenced back yard, single car garage. Call for more details.

168 acres -- dryland, priced at \$250 per acre.

2 Acre Horse Facility, joins Farwell city limits, city water, tac room, 6-enclosed stalls, 1 - covered stall, 4 - open stalls. Reasonably Priced!

320 acres northeast of Muleshoe -- 2 sprinkler systems, 4 wells, mobile home. Priced for immediate sale! Call for details.

320 acres south of Farwell -- 2 electric sprinklers, 4 wells, lays well, highway frontage.

THE CLASSIFIEDS

Applications are currently being accepted for secretary in the Parmer County Extension Office. Office is located on the 3rd floor in the Parmer County Courthouse, 401 Third St., Farwell.

Job requires organizational and computer skills. Also, applicants need to be self motivated and enjoy working with youth and adults. Applications taken until position is filled. For more information, contact the Parmer County Extension Office at (806) 481-3619.

DARE TO CARE

Come join our awesome TEAM at Muleshoe Area Medical Center. RN and LVN positions available. Contact Margaret Heathington, DON, at 708 S. First St., Muleshoe, Texas 79347. Phone: (806) 272-4524

BOX OFFICE VIDEO

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Next Tuesday's New Releases

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Garden State

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412 Commerce Way, Clovis. (505)763-4814, Open Monday - Friday, 9 - 5; Saturday, 9-1.

MC/Visa accepted. We also take CASH!!

HELP WANTED: An experienced sprinkler worker, with farm experience, is needed at a Farwell area farm. House & benefits are provided. Call (806) 825-2828.

Bass wins national grain sorghum contest

Parmer County extension agent Monti Vandier (IPM) reports that Chris Bass won the 2004 Conventional Till Irrigated National Grain Sorghum Yield and Management Contest.

The winning grain sorghum was produced in northwestern Bailey County under sprinkler irrigation.

Contestants were awarded points based on yield and county average.

Bass' winning yield was 206.83 bushels per acre, accumulating 136.13 points.

Bass and other contest winners will be recognized at an awards banquet in Reno, Nev., on Feb. 22.

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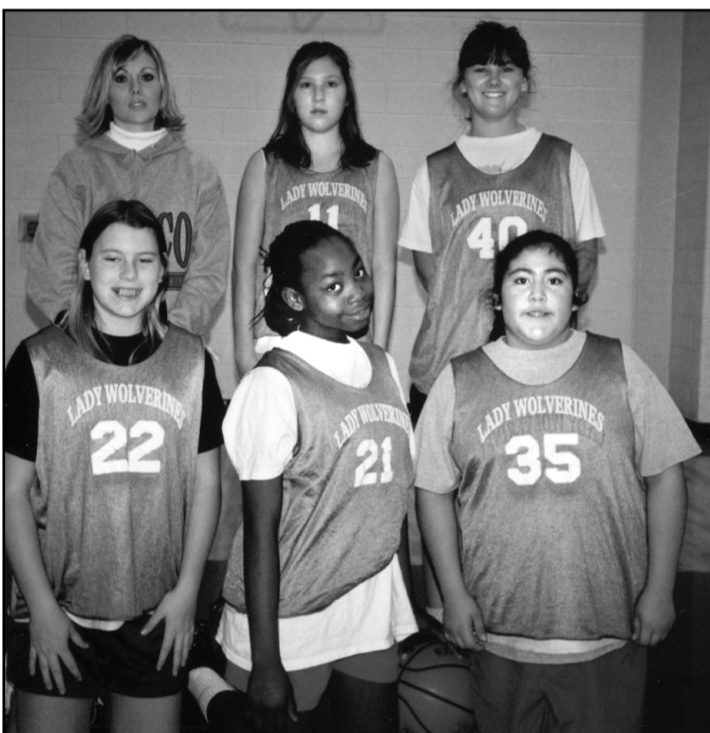
We are truly grateful to the good friends and neighbors who did so much for us during our recent sorrow. May we take this means of saying thank you for the lovely flowers, delicious food and comforting expressions of your friendship and affection. Our thanks, also, to Katie's Floral as well as all the other florists.

The Frank J. Doshier family



Texico Junior High 7th Girls

Lisa Vidal, Victoria Richards, Shelby Cockerham, Kambrie Reid, Shay Anderson, Jennifer Shirley, Kaitlin Luscombe, Brittini Rivers, Christy Herrington, Monique Pena, Aysia Hunter, Summer Price, Crystal Tarango, and manager Jessica Bare.



Parmer County businesses report higher sales

Parmer County has received its 2nd quarter 2004 state sales and use tax analysis report from the state, and business is going well here.

In the Retail Trade Division, with 76 county outlets reporting, gross sales were \$8,140,000.

This compares to the 2003 2nd quarter of 86 county outlets reporting gross sales of \$6,939,000.

In the "For All Industries" category, with 136 outlets reporting for the 2nd quarter of this year, gross sales were \$50,156,000.

This compares to the 2nd quarter of 2003 with 151 outlets reporting -- gross sales were \$43,725.

Thus, sales were up 14.7 percent.

Becky's Banter

From page 10

Lubbock Heart Hospital. All of her children have been by her side through the Christmas holiday. They are Deborah Goldsmith of Dimmitt, Karla Withrow of Littlefield and Kara Fulcher of Lorenzo.

Polly is a really sweet lady who always has a smile for you when you visit First Bank. We wish her a quick recovery.

Sandra Johnson's mother, Mrs. Lucille Hart, 90, of Clovis, passed away on Dec. 10.

She was buried at the National Cemetery in Santa Fe by her husband, Charles S. "Pete" Hart.

Also surviving Mrs. Hart are 3 grandchildren, Scott Johnson (and wife, Patti) and Sharlet Wilkes (Doug), all of Bovina, and Charles Johnson (Michelle) of Amarillo; and great-grandchildren, Drew, Abby, Jill, Cari, Josh and Kelsea Johnson, and Levi and Chase Wilkes.

Our condolences to Sandra and her family.

Congratulations to Colby Whitten, one of the winners of this year's Tribune coloring contest.

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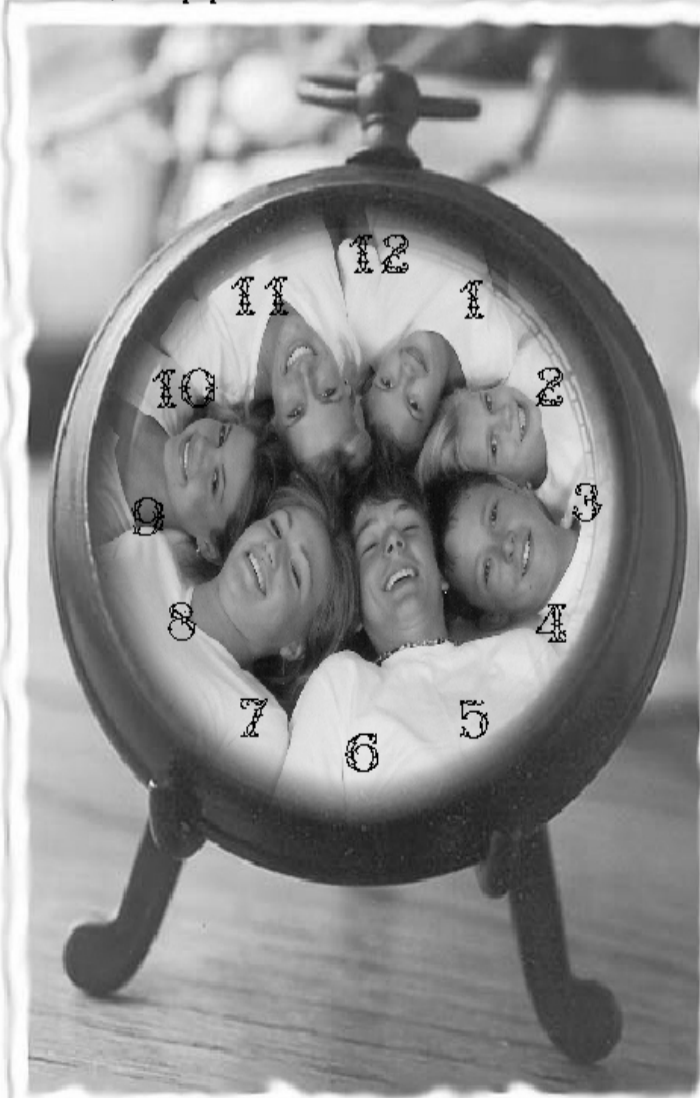
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Horse Feathers

May you have the gift of faith, the blessing of hope and the peace of His love throughout the New Year.

May God grant you His grace.

With sincere appreciation to our customers for your patronage.

Barbara, Lisa Jo & Marti

824 Parkland, Clovis, NM

BOVINA



Proud Home of the Mustangs & Fillies



Bovina 7th grade girls

Kim Casas, Jeanette Varela, Yoshi Rueda, Michy Lara, Alicia Lopez, Daniela Flores, Cheyenne Dutton, Amanda Cervantes and manager Gabby Castro.

Becky's Bovina Banter

Becky London - 251-1164

The varsity teams play in the Lubbock Caprock Tournament Dec. 29-31. Then the varsity and JV boys teams play at Olton on Jan. 7.

Although the livestock part of the ag program at Bovina Schools has been dropped, Parmer County Extension Service Agent Cody Hill moved to the forefront to make sure a show would be held.

After meeting with several Bovina parents, he said that a junior livestock show will be held at 1 p.m. on Jan. 15 at the Bovina Show Barn.

Polly Mills was taken by ambulance to the hospital Dec. 20 with what doctors first thought was a heart attack. However, her daughter, Patti Gencarelli of La Porte, Texas, reports that her mother was suffering from a severe case of pneumonia.

Polly is currently in the cardiac care unit of the Continued on Page 9

See Bovina's fire department report for 2004 elsewhere in today's Tribune



HOLIDAY SCENES FROM BOVINA



Bovina Junior High boys

Omar Flores, Isaias Castillo, Juan Navarro, Jesse Rodriguez, Ricky Sanchez, Jason Sheena, Jesus Anaya, Chris Pena, Jorge Roque, Aaron Ramon, Francisco Guevara, Jesus Rocha, Robert Knoll and Oscar Rodriguez.



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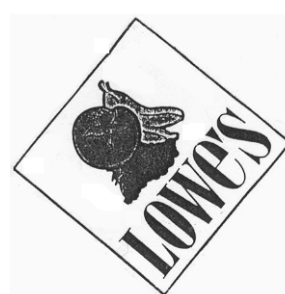
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