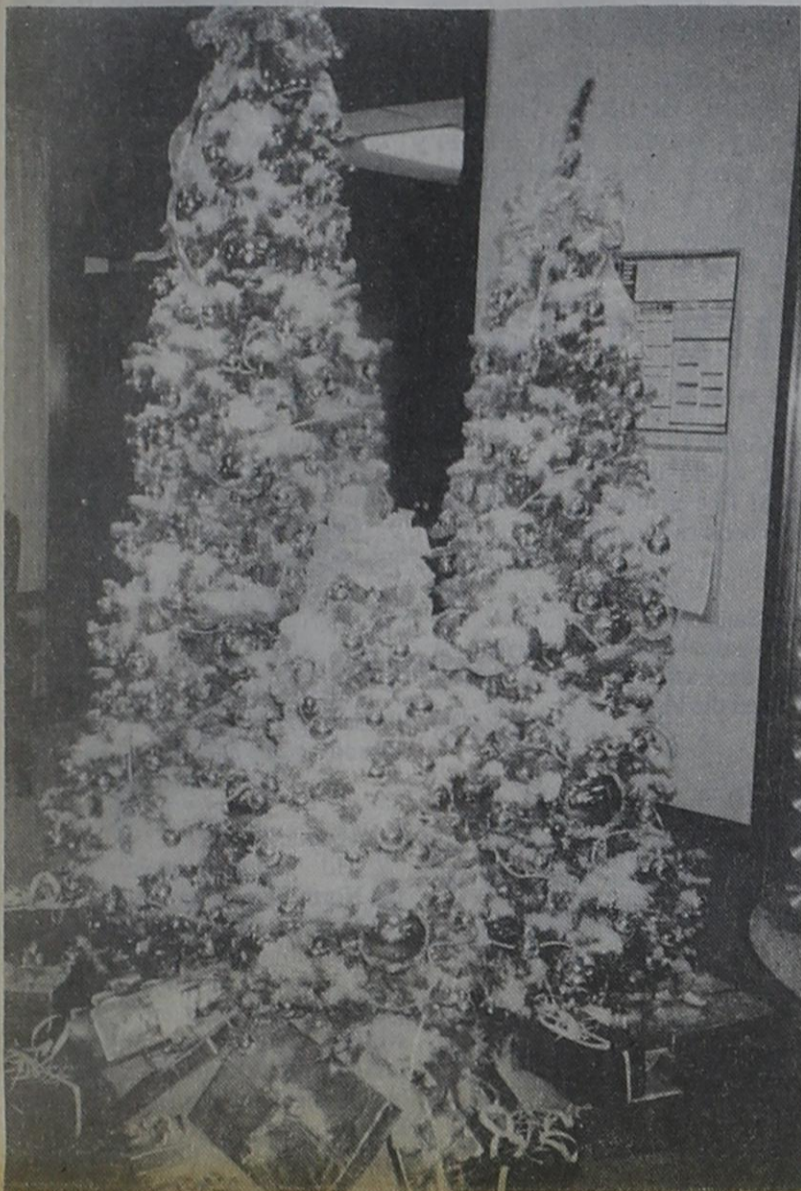


All aboard for some holiday cheer,
Rolling on ahead into high gear,
Get yourself ready, get yourself set,
To celebrate your best Christmas yet!

MERRY CHRISTMAS



TRIO OF TREES.....Again this year, First Bank had a beautiful lobby for Christmas with not one but three Christmas trees, complete with gold decorations and lots of snow.

I SAW CHRISTMAS

Geraldine M. Drumwright

I saw Christmas
In a stately church,
With its stained glass eyes aglow
On worshipers who found their way
By the lights of the twinkling snow.

*I saw Christmas
On the crowded streets,
In the push of the hurrying throng;
In faces flushed with the season's cheer
And hearts attuned to song.*

I saw Christmas
In the eyes of a child
At a Santa Claus parade,
When the jolly saint, with a loud ho, ho!
Tossed a toy that he had made.

*I saw Christmas
In a mother's touch
As she readied the stockings hung
For a waiting brood as they slept the sleep
Of only the trusting young.*

I saw Christmas
In an old man's gaze
As he sat by a glowing fire
And mused on Christmases of other days
When the workman was worthy of his hire.

*I saw Christmas
At a family feast
As they gathered from afar
To celebrate the joy-filled day
Born of the Bethlehem star.*



MERRY CHRISTMAS.....Danielle Cockerham makes sure Santa hears everything for Christmas morning's delivery.



EXCHANGING GIFTS....Corina Jasso and Miguel Salazar are shown exchanging gifts at the Ridgelea Christmas party.



BETTER BE GOOD.....Santa visited the elementary school with his helper, Jay Sherrill, and brought goodies to principal Darla Sealey and her students.



DECORATING THE TREE....Kimberly Hernandez and Yeslih Candia enjoyed helping to decorate the Christmas tree at the big Ridgelea Christmas party.



NO SNOW?.....Santa and his elves did have some good weather before the snow arrived at this festive residence on Ridgelea Dr.



GIFTS FOR ALL...First graders at Ridgelea School enjoyed a gift exchange at a Christmas party before school was out. Shown are Brett Anderson and Diana Salazar.

REFLECTIONS

...from the files of The Bovina Blade

40 Yrs Ago-Dec. 23, 1957
Local post office service was increased last week with the addition of 80 new boxes for patrons.

Mrs. O.W. Rhinehart received \$15 for first place in the Bovina Jaycee-sponsored home Christmas decoration contest.

35 Yrs Ago-Dec. 24, 1962
Mrs. Paul Jones is the winner of Bovina Lions Club 1962 Christmas Decorations Contest. Taking second place was Mrs. A.M. Wilson. Mrs. Buck Ellison won third.

Dear Santa; I want a bike for Christmas. Will you bring me a bike? I would like to have a bike very much. Thank you-Heidi Corn.

Dear Santa Claus: I am in the second grade. I am seven years old. Please bring me a B-B gun and a cannon. Thank you-Kim Rundell.

30 Yrs Ago-Dec. 27, 1967
Leroy Lance, accompanied by his wife, Shirley, will leave Saturday for Dallas and the 1968 Cotton Bowl when Texas A&M and Alabama clash in the major bowl game. Lance was the winner of the Bovina Businesses Cotton Bowl Football Contest.

25 Yrs Ago-Dec. 25, 1972
Dear Santa: How are you doing? How are you're reindeers doing? I am fine. I want some west and horses. Be sure to bring something for other boys and girls something too. Love, Jeffrey Von Steelman.

Dear Santa: I have been good this year. I would like a G.A.F. View-Master, basketball, Monday Night Football, Tractor and a wagon. I hope everybody is good this year. Your Friend, Doyle Garner.

20 Yrs Ago-Dec. 21, 1977
Dear Santa: I am in the first grade. I am 6 years old. I wish for a Easy Bake, dosin, drum set. Love, Penny Riley.

Dear Santa Claus: Please bring me a kissing doll and a camera where the pictures pop out. I have been good to my grandmother. Would you please bring her a new suit? Please bring my sister a jewelry box. I Love You, Connie Bermea.

15 Yrs Ago-Dec. 22, 1982
Dear Santa: I enjoyed the things you brought me last year. I want a great big bear, a E.T., Atari, and a E.T. ball. Mom and dad have already put some presents under the tree. Love, JoLinda Hodnett.

Dear Santa: How are you I am fine. How is Mrs. Claus. Thank you for the things you gave me last year. This year I want a Atari, telephone and a speak and spell. And please bring my sister Yvonne a Barbie and bring my brother Manuel a Dallas Cowboy rope. And how is Rudolph and the other reindeers. Love, Cindy Quintana.

10 Yrs Ago-Dec. 25, 1987
The first place winner in the Bovina Lions Club decorating contest was Luis Serna. He was awarded 480. Second place and \$60 went to Anita Guest. Third place and \$40 went to T-Bone Treinen and Sonny Roach received \$30 and fourth place.

5 Yrs Ago-Dec. 25, 1992
Dear Santa: This is what I would like for Christmas. I would like to see your

reindeer Rudolph, Prancer, Dancer, Comet, Blitzon and all the other reindeer. I would like to see Mrs. Claus and your elves. Would like to ride on your sleigh and help you deliver presents to the children. I need some new clothes, a couple of barbies, a puzzle of the United Sates and a Magic Copier. I would also like the game, Don't Wake Daddy. I want some books and so many scholarships as I can get. I want to be the smartest kid in the classroom. I want to try harder to make good grades. I would like some money. I would like everything but I already have enough stuff. I live in a white and purple house with three cars and one blue pickup. You might have to come in at the front door! Love, Christen Stowers



LUCKY LITTLE WINNER.....Daniel Silva, a 6-year-old kindergartner, was the lucky winner in First Bank's Christmas drawing. Daniel is presented his 19" color TV by Santa and Sherry Embry of First Bank. Daniel is the son of Silvino and Macaria Silva. When the bank called his home to tell him he won a TV he was, what else, watching TV.

Letters to Santa Claus

Dear Santa,
Last year I didn't get any presents. I hope I get some presents this Christmas. I want a waterbed, a rabbit and a big Barbie. I hope you have a Merry Christmas.
Love, Zulema Garcia

Dear Santa,
I have been good all year. For Christmas I would like a diary, a spray fx and hair bows and hair clips, jewelry and make up. There will be cookies and milk on the table for you.
Love, Hannah Miller

Dear Santa,
Hi! You must be very busy at the North Pole. I am getting ready for Christmas too. I have been kind to Elizabeth. What a good girl am I. Thank you for the sofas and house that went with my Barbie house last year. Please bring me a computer. I will put a cookie by my stocking for my favorite reindeer Rudolph. I will have a snack for you too.
Love and kisses, Claudia

Dear Santa,
I've been good all year. I want a horse. I want a toy truck. I want a toy tractor with real lights. I want a blood hound.
Love, Aaron

Dear Santa,
How are you doing Santa? How is Rudolph? Thank you for bringing a bike last year. Can you please bring me a Playstation, t.v. and a Green Bay helmet.
Love, Ignacio Gonzales

Dear Santa,
How are you? Are you ready for Christmas? Are the reindeer ready for the trip? Would you bring me a big Barney please? Thank you for the things you brought me last year.
Love, Christy Thatcher

Dear Santa,
I have been a good girl all year. For Christmas I would like a bike.
Love, Lerem

Dear Santa,
How are you feeling? I want a Jurassic Park, The Lost World trailers and a T-Rex. I want a Tighfighter. I want a Stegasaurs. Thank you for presents last year. Merry Christmas.
Love, Garret Trimmons

Dear Santa,
I have been good all year. For Christmas I would like a doll and a bike. I would like a Barbe.
Love, Kimberly

Dear Santa,
I have been good all year. For Christmas I would like a Casey doll.
Love, Monica

Dear Santa,
I would like a B.B. gun. I would like a motorcycle. I will leave cookies and milk.
Love, Noah

Dear Santa,
I have been good all year. I want the cassett to Moral Combat 123 and the loser.
Love, Ricardo

Dear Santa,
I want a game. I want a remote truck. I want a dinosaur and my sister wants a camera. I will leave cookies and milk.
Love, Oscar

Dear Santa,
I have been good all year. For Christmas I want a Nintendo 64 and a street fitere and video game.
Love, Dustin

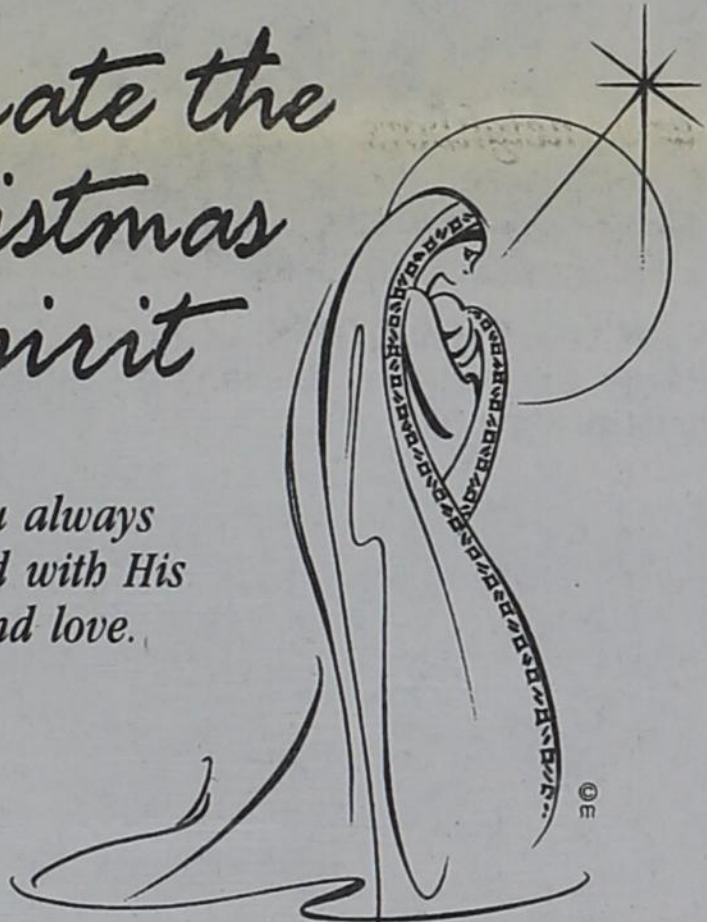
Dear Santa,
I have been good all year. For Christmas I would like a volcano blowouts. I would like a toy motorcycle.
Love, Sammy

Dear Santa,
I have been good all year. For Christmas I would like a Nintendo 64 and a game and a moral kumbak.
Love, Christian

Dear Santa,
Hi! You must be very busy at the North Pole. I am getting ready for Christmas too. I have been kind to Mrs. Holman. What a good boy am I. Thank you for the bike last year. Please bring me a bike. I will put a cookie and milk for my favorite reindeer, Rudolph. I will have a snack for you too. Love and kisses.
Love, Daniel V.

Celebrate the Christmas Spirit

May you always be blessed with His light and love.



St. Ann's Catholic Church

Durango

The All New Sport YOUtility from Dodge is Here Now!

- Available "King of the Hill" 245 horsepower magnum V8
- Largest-in-class GCWR at 12,200 lbs.
- Best-in-class towing capacity at 7,300 lbs.
- Highest-in-class ground clearance at 7.9 inches
- Available 8 passenger seating
- Longest-in-class wheelbase at 115.9 inches
- Largest-in-class cargo capacity at 88 cu. ft.



BENDER DODGE



3400 Mabry Drive • (505) 762-4511

May Your Dreams
be Merry
and Bright

Heartfelt wishes for a glowing Yuletide, overflowing with good cheer and happy days. We are thinking of you, our dear friends, and hoping all your wishes and dreams come true.

Thank you for giving us so much to celebrate!

PARMER COUNTY
SPRAYING SERVICE
225-4990

Christmas Blessings



These folks have joined together to wish their Bovina friends and neighbors a very Merry Christmas. Proceeds from the Annual Christmas Card Fund, sponsored by the Bovina Ambulance Service, will benefit the Bovina Ambulance Service and Bovina Volunteer Fire Department. Donations were received from:

Janice Richards
Les & Rose McCain
George & Pearl Cervantez
Obereta Sudderth
Mr. & Mrs. Buster Morgan
Ken, Terri, Sara, Jill & Sydney Sorley
Leon & Martha Schilling
Dean & Juanita Hastings
Carl & Erma Bradshaw Schrader
Jimmie & Barbara Cockerham
Jack & Ona Patterson
Sue Fowler
Helen Mazurek
Leonor & Patrick Lee Espinoza
Erith & Frances Hawkins
Anne Corn
Oakley & Yvonne Stevenson
Richard Carson
Thomas & Virginia Rhodes
Mr. & Mrs. H.F. Free

Gene & Vi Hutto
James & Sandra Clayton
Pat & Pat Kunselman
Frances Willard
Scott & Clara Gober
Leon & Charlene Grissom
Joe & Levene Black
Tom & Skeet Caldwell
H.J. Charles
Mr. & Mrs. J.T. Hammonds
Joe & Helen Pesch
Steve & Bobbie Pierson
Mr. & Mrs. R.G. Barron
Edna Scott
Emma Gene Calaway
Jerry Ware
Glendon & Janie Sudderth
Jeff, Kristi & Scott Steelman
Daryl & Karen Kirkpatrick
Alma (Sid) Lloyd
Harry Johnson

Kenneth Johnson
Bill & Joyce Read
Bessie Trimble
Sherry Embry
John & Jo Blackwell
Burry & Laverne Thatcher
Don & Gladys Spring
Billy & Doris Sides
Luis, Felicitas, Audelia, Elodia & Juanita Serna
Richard, Anita, Jimmy & Kolby Bonham
Bob & Sarah Owens
Don & Juanda Murphy
Mr. & Mrs. John Blackwell
Carlene Jones
Bret, Sherri, Megan & Colby Whitten
Earl & Norma Whitten
Gwen & Blake Clements
Gaylon & Shelby Rhodes
Jack Rains
Jon Lin & Brenda Riddle

FIRST BANK



BOVINA



MEMBER FDIC

101 Third Street

Phone 238-1442

SCOOTER'S SCOOPS

Christmas Letter Tells About Mysterious Lady

BY SCOOTER RUSSELL

Every year we receive Christmas cards with letters telling us about what has been happening to friends during the year and thought this one was worth sharing and perhaps some of us can relate to it.



SCOOTER RUSSELL

Dear Friends,

It is that time of the year when we sit down to write the annual Christmas letter to all of our friends and family and let them know what is going on in our lives and at our house.

A very weird thing has happened. A strange old lady has moved into my house. I have no idea who she is, where she comes from or how she got in. I certainly didn't invite her. All I know is that one day she wasn't there and the next day she was.

She's very clever. She manages to keep out of sight for the most part: but whenever I pass a mirror, I catch a glimpse of her there; and when I look into a mirror directly to check my appearance, suddenly she's hogging the whole thing, completely obliterating my gorgeous face and body.

It's very disconcerting. I've tried screaming at her to leave but she just screams back, grimacing horrible. She's really rather frightening.

If she is going to hang around the least she could do is offer to pay rent. But no. Every once in a while I do find a couple of dollar bills on the kitchen counter and some loose change on my bureau or on the floor or in the bottom of the washing machine, but that certainly isn't enough.

In fact, though I don't like to jump to conclusions, I think she steals money from me regularly. I go to the

ATM and withdraw a hundred dollars and a few days later it's gone.

I certainly don't go through it that fast, so I can only conclude that the old lady pilfers it. You'd think she'd spend some of it on wrinkle cream. Goodness knows, she needs it!

And the money isn't the only thing she's taking. Food seems to disappear at an alarming rate. Especially the good stuff—ice cream, cookies, candy—I just can't keep them in the house. She really has a sweet tooth. She should watch it; she's really putting on the pounds.

I think she realizes that, and to make herself feel better, I know she is tampering with my scale so I'll think that I'm gaining weight, too.

For a little old lady, she's really quite childish. She also gets into my closets when I'm not home and alters all my clothes. They're getting tighter every day.

Another thing; I wish she'd stop messing with my files and papers on my desk. I can't find a thing anymore. This is particularly hard to deal with because you know I'm extremely neat and organized; but she manages to jumble everything up so nothing is where it's supposed to be.

Furthermore, when I program my VCR to tape something important, she fiddles with it after I leave the room so it records the wrong channel or shuts off.

She finds innumerable, imaginative ways to irritate me. She gets in my newspapers, magazines, and mail before me—and reduces all the print so I have to have glasses to be able to read it.

She has done something sinister with the volume controls on my TV, radio and phone. Now all I hear are mumbles and whispers. She's also made my stairs steeper, my vacuum cleaner heavier, all my knobs and faucets hard to turn off and my bed higher and a real challenge to climb into and out of.

Furthermore, she gets to my groceries as soon as I shelve them and applies superglue to the tops of every jar and bottle so they're next to impossible to open. Is this any way to repay my hospitality? I don't even get any respite at night. More than once her snoring has awakened me. I don't know why she can't do something about that. It's very unattractive.

As if all this isn't bad enough, she is no longer confining her malevolence to the house. She's now found a way to sneak into my car with me and follow me wherever I go. I see her reflection in store windows as I pass, and she's taken all the fun out of clothes shopping because her penchant for monopolizing mirrors has extended to dressing rooms.

When I try something on, she dons the identical outfit—which looks ridiculous on her and then stands directly in front of me so I can't see how great it looks on me.

I thought she couldn't get any meaner than that, but yesterday she proved me wrong. She had the nerve to come with me when I went to have some passport pictures taken, and she actually stepped in front of the camera just as the shutter clicked. Disaster! I have never seen such a terrible picture.

How can I go abroad now? No customs officials are ever going to believe that crone scowling from my passport is me.

She's walking on very thin ice. If she keeps this up, I'll just put her in a home. On second thought, I shouldn't be too hasty. First, I think I'll check with the IRS and see if I can claim her as a dependent.

We hope you don't ever have a weird old lady move into your house with you.

Have a MERRY CHRISTMAS and a HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Bovinan Is Outstanding Tech Student

South Plains College has announced that Ezequiel Lara from Bovina has been named outstanding student in auto collision repair.

He is the 22-year-old son of Rosendo Lara and Hortencia Lara.

Lara was among 10 students majoring in programs from electronics service technology to welding who were named outstanding students in the Technical Division for December.

Selection is made by faculty in each program and is based on academic excellence, technical skills and creativity, and contributions to the classroom.

THANKS

FOR YOUR BUSINESS

With warm wishes for a sweet holiday season.

Serving you was a real treat for us!



Pappy Jack's

914 Main Street Friona
(Next to Friona Star)



Welcome Richard!

At Jones Pontiac GMC Buick, we are proud to announce the recent appointment of Richard Kelley as our new General Manager of Sales and Service. Richard brings over 35 years of automotive experience to the staff at Jones. We invite all of Richard's friends and customers to come on in for a cup of coffee or just to say howdy!



JONES
PONTIAC GMC BUICK
505-762-2986 3300 Mabry Dr.
jones@3leties.com Clovis, NM



TREMENDOUS SAVINGS AND GREAT VALUE

INTEREST RATES AS LOW AS 2.9% APR FOR 48 MONTHS* OR UP TO \$2500 REBATE. ENDS JAN. 5, 1998

ATTENTION
FFA
MEMBERS



You may qualify for an additional \$500 rebate toward the purchase of a new pickup truck. See dealer for details.



Bender's Family of Dealerships will pledge \$50 to the FFA Chapter of your choice for every new car or truck purchased at any of Benders three locations between now and Jan. 31, 1998



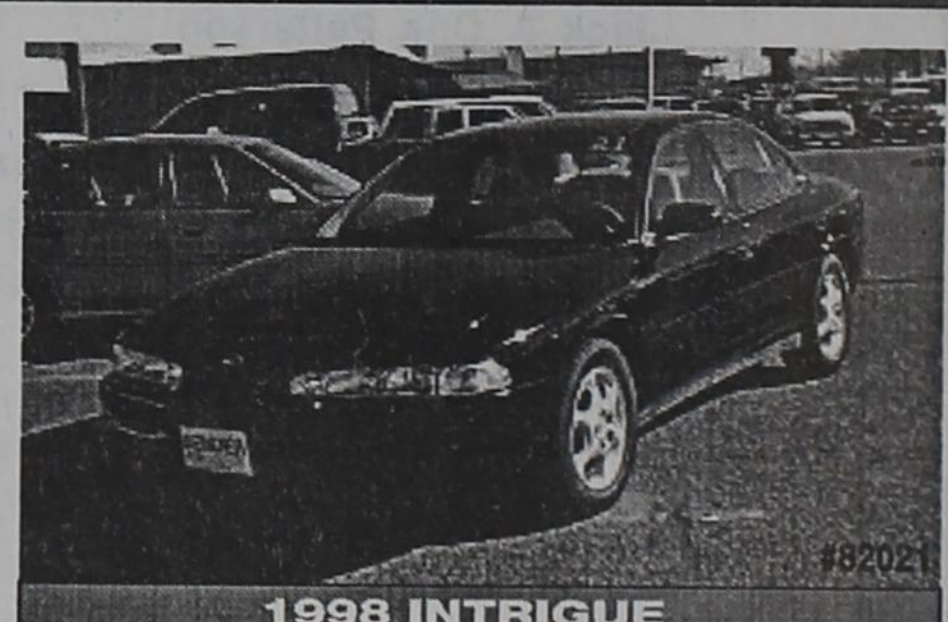
1997 CHEVROLET CAVALIER

Sale prices starting at **\$9950**
With 15 to select from



1998 S-10 PICKUP

\$179⁶⁷ Per Mo.
MSRP \$14,896. Total down \$1500 plus \$500 rebate and T, T & L 8.9% APR for 35 months and one final payment of \$8,192.80. Subject to lender's approval and prior sale.



1998 INTRIGUE

\$349⁹⁵ Per Mo.
MSRP \$21,975. Total down \$1776.59 due at signing plus T, T & L 9.25% APR for 35 months and one final payment of \$12,306. Subject to lender's approval and prior sale.

BENDER CHEVROLET

You're going to like our family

BENDER
CHEVROLET OLDSMOBILE CADILLAC
2500 Mabry Drive • (505) 763-4465

BENDER
CHRYSLER PLYMOUTH DODGE
3400 Mabry Drive • (505) 762-4511

BENDER
HONDA NISSAN
3000 Mabry Drive • (505) 762-3701

Owen Patton's Services Held Tuesday In Bovina

Funeral services for Owen Patton, 83, of Bovina, were held at 2 p.m. Tuesday, December 23, 1997 at the First Baptist Church in Bovina. Rev. Gary Morgan, pastor, and Rev. Neeley Landrum, pastor of the First United Methodist Church, officiated.

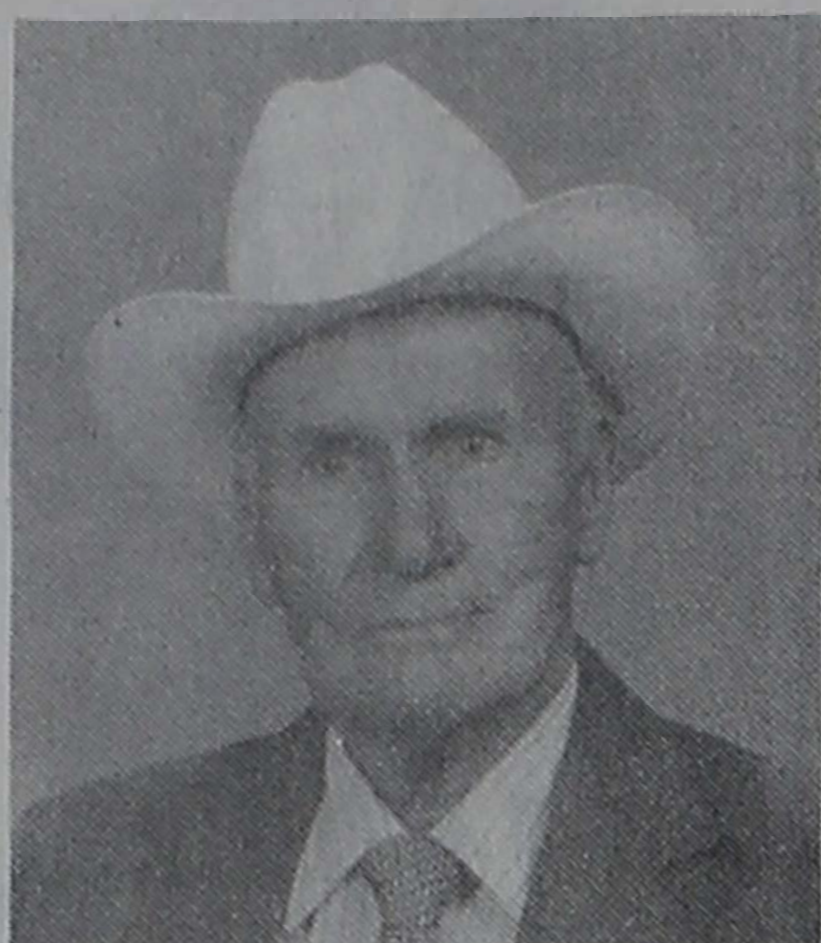
Burial was in Bovina Cemetery under the direction of Ellis-Blackwell Funeral Home.

Patton died December 21, 1997 at Parmer County Community Hospital.

He was born February 11, 1914 in Bryan County, Oklahoma and married June Snodgrass on April 18, 1936. She died on March 24, 1989. He married Arlene Hanks Hairgrove on December 26, 1989.

Patton had lived in Parmer County since 1943 moving from Chillicothe, Texas. He was a retired farmer, a life member of the Quarterhorse Association, former member of the Bovina Roping Club, a trustee at Kings High in Hardeman County and attended First Baptist Church in Bovina.

Survivors include his wife,

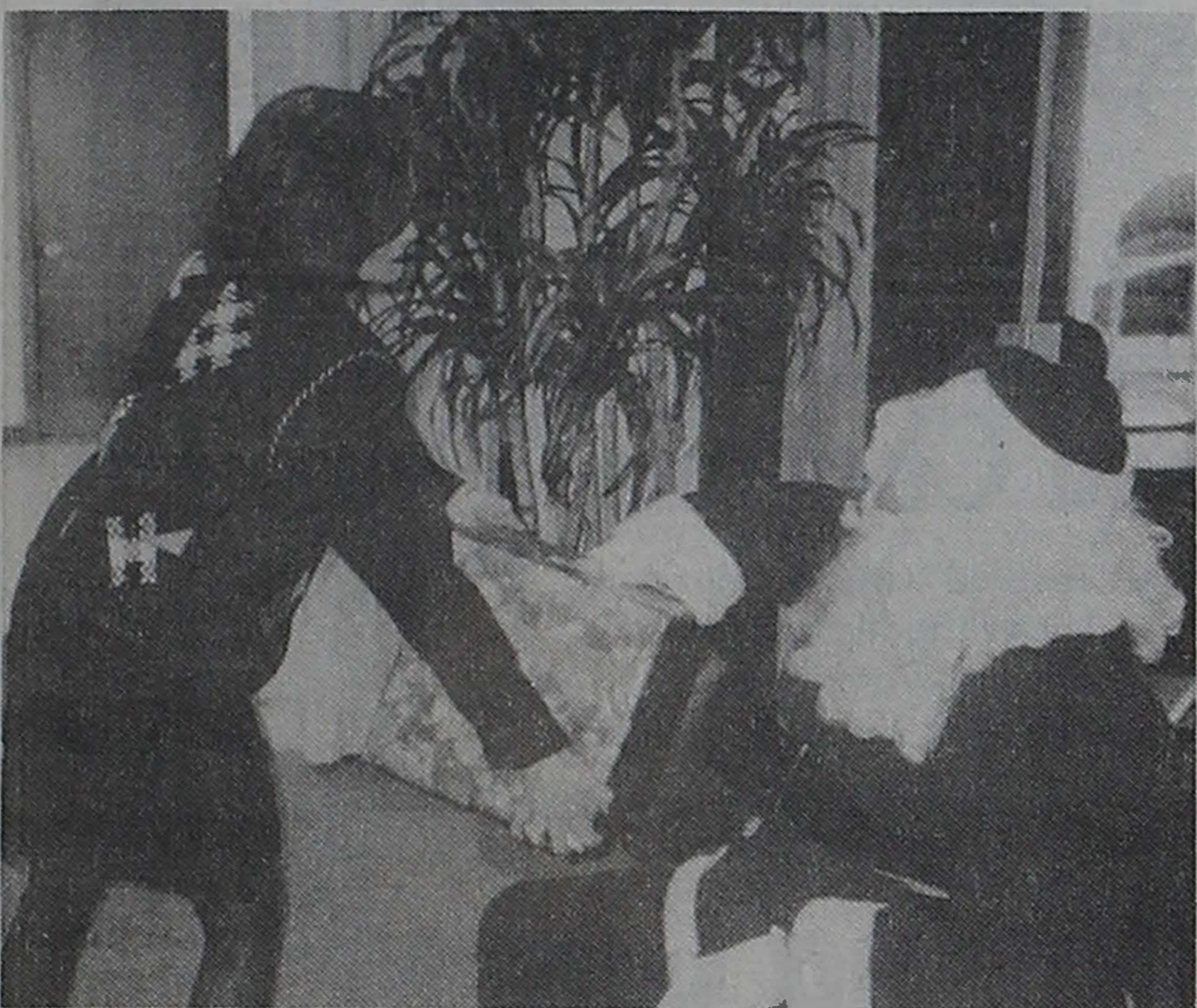


OWEN PATTON

Arlene, of Bovina; two daughters, Sandra Jones of Amarillo and Patricia Read of Dumas; seven grandchildren and eleven great-grandchildren.

Pallbearers were Erith Hawkins, Ken Sorley, Jon Lin Riddle, Jerry Roach, Shan Read and Randy Jones.

Honorary pallbearers were Sonny Roach, Grady Sorley, Howard Kelso, Billy Don Read, Robert Read, C.E. Trimble, Scott Gober and all old time friends and neighbors.



HERE'S THE WINNER.....Sherry Embry asked Santa to draw the lucky winner in First Bank's Christmas open house giveaway of a 19" color TV.

Letters to Santa Claus

Dear Santa,
I have been good all year. For Christmas I would like a kangaroo and a Nimaj toys.
Love, Chris

Dear Santa,
How are you in the North Pole? Are you ready for Christmas Eve? Do you like to say Ho Ho Ho? If you can, bring me a Barbie and a new trapper keeper.
Love, Kelsi Birdsong

Dear Santa,
I have been good all year. I want a new motorcycle and a helmet and a horse.
Love, Brett

Dear Santa,
Hi! You must be busy at the North Pole. I am getting ready for Christmas too. I have been a good boy. Thank you for the car last year. Please bring me a bike. I will have a snack for you too. Love and kisses.
Justin

Dear Santa,
I have been a very good girl this year. I would like a bicycle and also a Movin' Groovin' Barbie. And clothes please. Thank you for all my gifts last year. I will leave some cookies and milk for you.
Love always, Emilia Contrera

Dear Santa,
I want a Nintendo 64. I want a train. I want some roller blades. I want the Lost World of Jurassic Park trex the toy.
Love, Joshua

Dear Santa,
My name is Shaylee and I am three years old. I would like you to bring me a folding Barbie house and another Ken and Barbie. I am trying to be good, but it is hard--especially with two big brothers around!! Please bring them a present, too.
Love, Shaylee Anderson

Dear Santa,
For Christmas I would like big rabbit and a doll. I also would like a book.
Love, Yesenia

Dear Santa,
Are you doing fine? I'm thankful for last year because you brought me some things I wanted. Now I want a four speed bike. I hope you have a happy Christmas. Thank you Santa Claus.
Love, Peter Blutz

Dear Santa,
I have been good all year. For Christmas I would like a puppy and a Barbie.
Love, Kimberly

Hi! You must be very busy at the North Pole. I have been kind to Lucero Saucedo. What a good boy am I.
Love, Jose G.

Dear Santa,
I have been good all year. For Christmas I would like a sling shot and a bow and arrow.
Love, Miguel

Dear Santa,
How are you doing Santa? Are the reindeer doing good? I would like a Playstation or a Nintendo 64. I want a Dallas Cowboy helmet. Have a good Christmas.
Love, Dalton Cockerham

Dear Santa,
I have been good all year. For Christmas I would like a helmet. I want a pair of skates.
Love, Jesus

Dear Santa,
Hi! You must be busy at the North Pole. I'm getting ready for Christmas. I want a big screen t.v. for my room. I've been nice to my uncle.
Love, Jamie

Dear Santa,
I have been good all year. For Christmas I would like a ril talking bubu and a computer.
Luve, Denise

Dear Santa,
I would like a bike and a doll for Christmas. I will leave cookies and milk on the table.
From Diana

Dear Santa,
I have been good all year. For Christmas I would like a Nintendo 64 and a puppy.
Love, Peter

Dear Santa,
How are you feeling? Are you ready for Christmas Eve? I want a Nintendo 64 and a dinosaur book. Please give a doll house to my sister. Thank you for coming last year.
Love, Alonso Flores

Dear Santa,
How are you feeling? Are you ready for Christmas Eve? I want a go-cart if you can bring it to me. Are the elves feeling good? Thank you for the tractor you brought me last year. Merry Christmas.
Love, Mauricio Garcia

Dear Santa,
I have been good all year. For Christmas I would like a trampoline and a computer.
Love, Karina

I have been good all year. For Christmas I would like a teddy bear. I will leave cookies and milk.
Love, Audrie

Dear Santa,
I want a go cart and a real motorcycle and a really monster truck that is big and scary and a cat and a little dog and a big teddy bear.
Love, Alan

Dear Santa,
I have been good all year. For Christmas I would like a doll and a Barbie house.
Love, Gabriella

Dear Santa,
For Christmas I would like a doll and a dog. I love you.
Love, Nohemi

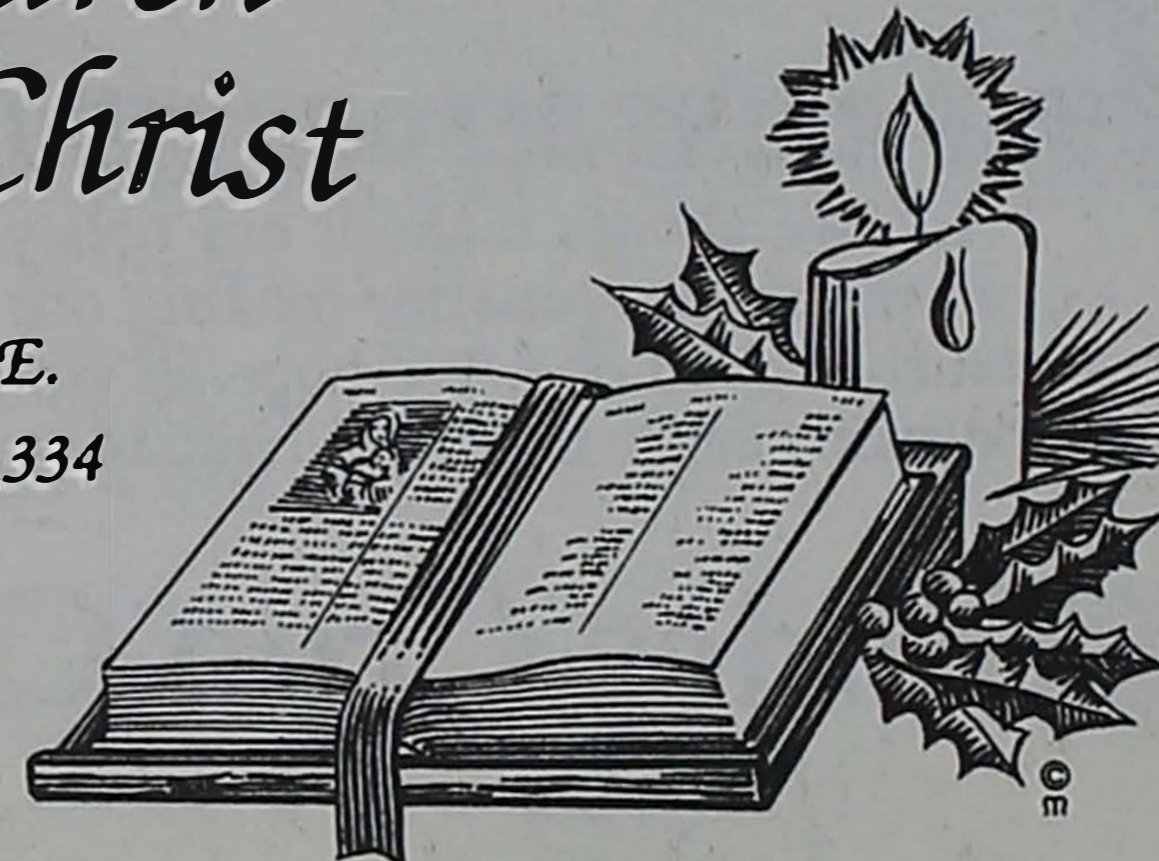
HOLY NIGHT WISH

"God is light, and in Him is no darkness at all."
— John 1:5

Wishing a bright and merry Christmas to all.

Bovina Church of Christ

500 Ave. E.
Ph. 238-1334



Happy Birthday Bovina

Birthdays for the dates of December 28, 1997-January 10, 1998.

Dec 28-Tammy Stormes, Francis Johnson.

Dec 29-Angie Riley, Scott Riley.

Dec 31-Michelle Stannberry, Joshua Parson.

Jan 1-Jody Wilburn, David Murphy.

Jan 3-Jerry Ward.

Jan 4-Judy Hromas, Brad Thomas, Peter Vanegas, Sandra Cockerham, Joe Black, Sr., Brandi Ventura.

Jan 5-Nora Fuentes, Charlise Eubanks, Ricky Jamerson.

Jan 6-Don Teague.

Jan 7-Wayne McClaran.

Jan 8-Belinda Dale, Ruben Serna.

Jan 9-Ricky Morgan, Galen Carson, Aaron Ramon.

Jan 10-Rocky Bartlett.

To correct a name or add a friend or relative to our birthday roster, call 238-1523 or write Drawer B, 79009.



Gather Round For CHRISTMAS

Here's hoping you have the best Christmas in creation!

Marie's Used Values

Elton & Marie Venable 238-1107



Jingle All The Way!

May the old-fashioned delights of Christmas, makes yours a wonderful holiday. Our sincere thanks for your kind patronage.

NORTHSIDE MOTORS
AUTO REPAIR

115 GARDNER

238-1555

Season's Greetings

May the beauty of Christmas and the splendor of God's many creations, be a source of inspiration to you at this joyous time of year.

With sincere thanks and best wishes to our many fine friends and neighbors.

Lowe's
Pay-N-Save

800 Hwy. 86 238-1324



THANKS SANTA.....Dalton Cockerham gets some peppermint candy from Santa at First Bank after he gave Santa his Christmas list.



WHOA, WHO'S THIS.....Antonio Tienda is learning all about Christmas since this will be his first one. He visited the old bearded one at First Bank.

TRADITIONAL HOLIDAY GREETINGS

May you celebrate a good old-fashioned holiday filled with joyous song and dance. Thank you ever so much for stepping in to see us this year.

Merry Christmas to all.

McCallum Agency
Agri-Plan
109 N. 3rd Bovina Ph. 238-1167

'T WAS RIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS...

And we always make it our policy to thank everyone for making our year such a good one. We hope all your dreams come true, this holiday season!

Rhodes Crop Care
Hwy 60 238-1331

Letters To Santa Claus

Dear Santa Clause,
My name is Gabe Garner and I live in Bovina, Texas. I am 5 years old and this year I've been good and love my kindergarten teacher, Mrs. Charles. I want for Christmas is a John Deere 4-wheel drive tractor. Please watch over the boys and girls that don't have a home. Be careful and I love you.
Thank you, Gabe

Dear Santa Clause,
I am 2 years old. My name is Matthew. I have tried to be good this year. All I want for Christmas is a small combine that can be my very own and I don't have to give back to my brothers when I get done playing with it. Thank you and be safe.
Matthew Garner

Dear Santa Clause,
I'm 3 but will be 4 in January. I have tried to be good this year. All I want for Christmas is a Walmart semi-truck. The big one. I will be sleeping under the Christmas tree waiting on you with my brothers. Be careful and thank you.
Mickey Garner

Dear Santa,
I have really tried to be good but it is really hard to do. Please bring me a big truck and a 4-wheeler. I will leave you some cookies.
Love, Jared Timms, Age 3

Dear Santa,
Why is your suit red? Would you please bring me a truck with a ship on the back, a John Deere train and a super ball. I think your a cool dude.
Love You, Chase Timms, Age 7

Dear Santa,
I want Diddy Kong racing and a Nintendo 64 lamborghini game for my daddy. I want a picture of you Santa. I want a go-cart and \$200.00. Please bring my little brother, Bailey, a spongy toy and I want a B-B gun. I also want the game star wars for my Nintendo 64 and a skate board. I love you Santa.
Corbin Holman

Old-Fashioned Christmas Greetings

The air is filled with anticipation,
Of the day of the big celebration,
With friends and family galore,
Just like back in the days of yore!

Have a good old time on Christmas!

Bovina Gin
238-1415

HAVE A Beautiful SEASON!

There's nothing better than being home with family and friends, during the holidays.

Fantasy Beauty Salon
107 3rd Street 238-1363

From Your County Officials

Merry Christmas

Jack Young
District Judge

Bonnie Clayton
County Judge

Bonnie Warren
County Clerk

Tom Ware
Commissioner

Anne Norton
County Treasurer

John Tannahill
Commissioner

Charles Aycock
County Attorney

Doris Herington
Tax Collector

Sandra Warren
District Clerk

Johnny Actkinson
District Attorney

Rex Williams
County Sheriff

Hearts are gladdened and faith is reaffirmed, as we celebrate His holy birth in a humble manger. May all the gifts of Christmas be yours to cherish throughout the season.

Bovina Pump Company
238-1596

Letters to Santa Claus

Dear Santa,
I have been good all year. For Christmas I would like a doll and a computer and dog.

Love, Yadira

Dear Santa,
I want a Nintendo 64. I want a train. I want some roller blades. I want The Lost World of Jurassic Park.

Love, Joshua

Dear Santa,
How are you doing? Santa would you bring elves. Thank you for the doll you gave me last year. You are my best friend. Please don't forget about Pady and my cousins. Bring my dad a Greyhound and my mom a red corvette.

Love, Haylee Hughes

Dear Santa,
I've been good all year. I want a Barbie house and a Barbie.

Love, Jasmine

Dear Santa,
Hi! You must be very busy at the North Pole. I am getting ready for Christmas too. I have been kind to Ruben. What a good boy am I. Thank you for the bike last year. Please bring me a t.v. I will put a cookie and milk by my stocking.

Hugs and kisses, Joe Angel

Dear Santa,
I have been good all year. For Christmas I would like a baby doll and a puppy.

Love, Yaniree

Dear Santa,
I want a bike for Christmas and a game for my Neetedle Mario Ninja Turtls.

From Delfino

Dear Santa,
How are you? Merry Christmas Santa Claus. I want a trapper keeper of basketball, a back pack of Miami Dolphins and a new jersey of Jaquars and a cap also. Thank you Santa Claus. Don't forget my sister's Barney.

Love, James Lara

Dear Santa,
I have been good all year. For Christmas I would like a Barbie and a doll.

Love, Cindy

Dear Santa,
Hi! You must be very busy at the North Pole. I am getting ready for Christmas too. I have been very kind to my brother. What a good boy am I. Thank you for the nice presents last year. I will leave cookies by my stocking for my favorite reindeer Readoff. I will have a snack for you too.

Love, Joses

Dear Santa,
I have been good all year. For Christmas I would like a balloon and a book.

Love, Lorena

Dear Santa,
How are you feeling? Will you bring me a Barney please. May I have a race car and some books? Thank you for the presents you brought last year.

Love, Josh Lucero

Dear Santa,
I've been good all year. For Christmas I would like a computer and a Nietendo 64.

Love, Robert

Dear Santa,
Hi! You must be very busy at the North Pole. I am getting ready for Christmas too. Please bring me a model car and a Sega and a toy and a Nintendo 64 and a computer. I will leave a snack for you.

Thanks, Daniel Segovia

Dear Santa,
I have been good all year. For Christmas I would like a computer.

Love, Zachary

Dear Santa,
How are you feeling? Are your elves working? Are you ready for Christmas? I will leave you a snack and coke. I want a Sega, gold car and a computer. Thank you for coming last year. Ho! Ho Ho

Love, Anahis Marine Larena

Dear Santa,
Hi! You must be very busy at the North Pole. I am getting ready for Christmas too. I have been kind to Jose Gutierrez. What a good girl am I! Thank you for all the quarters last year. Please bring me a bike. I will put cookies and milk by my stocking for my favorite reindeer Rudolph. I will leave a snack for you too.

Love, Lucero Saucedo

Dear Santa,
I have been good all year. For Christmas I would like a pair of skates and a pair of shoes.

Love, Jeremy

Dear Santa,
How are you feeling? I hope you are feeling ok. I want you to come to my house. Would you bring me three things. I want Oopie Daisy baby doll and a computer. Have a good Christmas please.

Love, Andrea Ortiz

Dear Santa,
I want a puppy. This is what I want, a t.v. This is what I want a Nintendo 64 and a play stashon. Thank you very much.

Love, Jacob Rivera

Dear Santa,
I have been good all year. For Christmas I would like a computer and a Bible.

Love, Felysha

Dear Santa,
I want a lot of T.shirts. One Green Bay hat and a Green Bay knife. I also want a Green Bay go-cart, a German Shepherd, a Bull Dog, a Dalmation, a t.v. for my room and a Nintendo 64, too. What a good boy I am. Thank you for the Learning Pat last year. Please bring me a go-cart. I will put a cookie by my stocking or my favorite reindeer Vixin. I will have a snack for you too.

Love, Joseph

Dear Santa,
I have been good all year. For Christmas I would like a Barbie car and a puppy.

Love, Diana

Dear Santa,
Hi! You must be very busy at the North Pole. I am getting ready for Christmas too. I have been kind to Ruben. What a good boy. Thank you for the bike last year. Please bring me a toy. I will put a cookie by my stocking for my favorite reindeer Rudolph. I will have a snack for you, too.

Love and kisses, Ruben

Dear Santa,
How are you feeling? Are you ready for Christmas Eve? Are your elves ready? I like my bike you gave me last year. This year I want a Tantram slammer, football and a t.v. Merry Christmas.

Love, Trent Quintana

Dear Santa,
Hi! You must be very busy at the North Pole. I am getting ready for Christmas too. I have been kind to my family. What a good girl am I. Thank you for the sofas last year. Please bring me a big bike. I will put cookies by my wanted a go-car and a Nintendo 64 and a big big big television.

Love, Jose Angel Salas

Dear Santa,
Hi! You must be very busy at the North Pole. I am getting ready for Christmas too. I have been kind to Mrs. Holman. What a good girl am I. Thank you for the Barbie jeep. I will put a cookie by my stocking for my favorite Raindeer Rudolph. I will have a snack for you too.

Love and kisses, Daena Carrillo

Dear Santa,
How's Rudolph? Are you o.k.? I'm just reminding you about toys. I want a television, trip to Kanakub and my own room. If you can't get me any of these it's fine.

Love, Bethany Rumph

Sheriff Williams Arrests Murder Suspect in Farwell

BY RON CARR

Parmer County Sheriff Rex Williams was in Friona when the call came.

Mid-Afternoon on Thursday, December 11, a tragic and bizarre murder occurred at Red Prather's Playorama fruit and flower shop in Texico, less than 100 feet from Texas' Parmer County line.

Williams feels that the incident could be a candidate for TV's Dumbest Criminals.

The youths who committed the unnecessary killing fled to a ramshackle trailer home on the eastern edge of Farwell where they had been staying.

The killer, 18-year-old Michael Treadway told his two male friends to go back to the Playorama and call 911 if Mr. Prather's body had not been discovered.

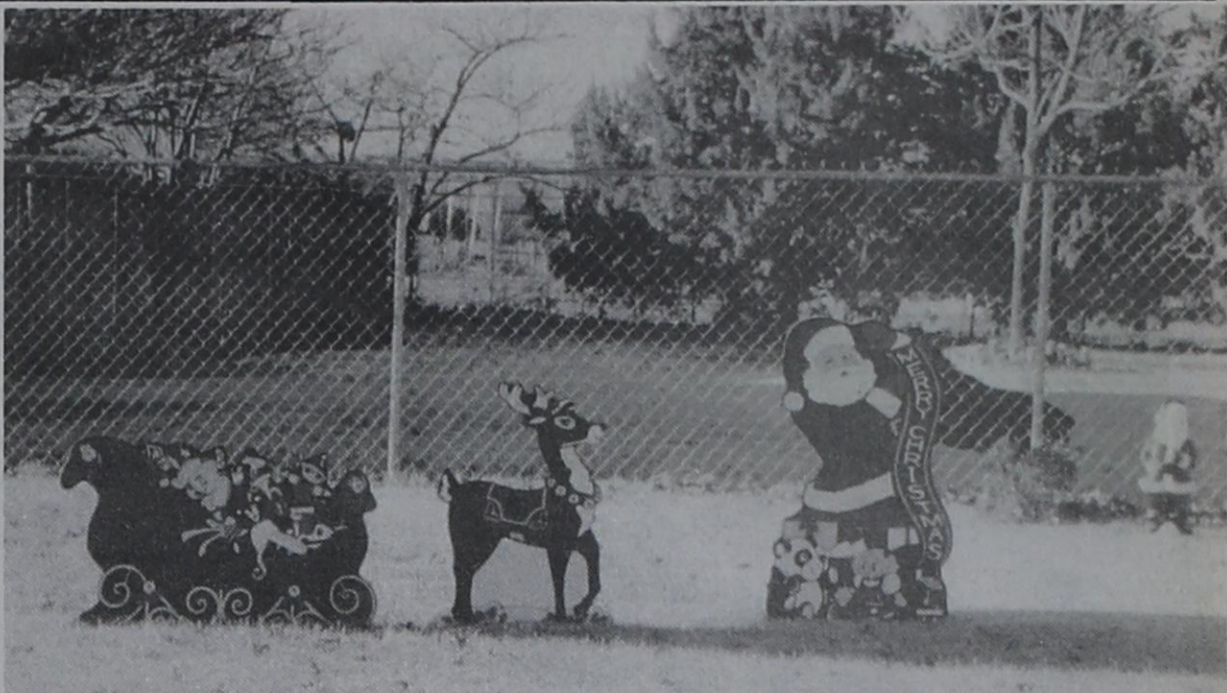
The two complied, called 911 from the adjacent Town & Country and then tried to convince the police that they were only witnesses.

As their story unraveled, Curry County officials discovered that Treadway was in Texas, in Rex Williams' Parmer County jurisdiction.

Summoned from Friona, Sheriff Williams, with deputies Bryan Thurmond and Keith Payne, plus a Texas State Trooper and several Curry County officers went to the trailer.

Sheriff Williams and a Curry County officer were met at the front door by 17-year-old Kirsten Amundson, Treadway's girlfriend. She told them he was not there and didn't know where he was.

However the officers observed him peeking out a window. Williams and the Curry County officer went inside where they arrested



SANTA AND HIS SLEIGH...This Santa and Rudolph were seen making a stop in the front yard of the Richard Bonham home. The Bonhams have many decorations this year celebrating Christmas.

Dear Santa,
I have been good all year. For Christmas I want a Dodge Ram. I want a toy snake.

How are you feeling? Are you ready for Christmas Eve? I hope the reindeer are ready for Christmas Eve too. Do you like to say Ho! Ho! Ho!? Thank you for the things that you gave me. Bring something to all of the children. I want a computer and bring my little brother a jeep. I hope Jesus has a happy birthday. I hope some people go to your birthday.

Love, Ruby Vela

Dear Santa,
I will be good all year because I want presents.

Love, Megan

Dear Santa,
How are you feeling? Are you ready for Christmas Eve? Santa I want a television and a big doll. I want a Nintendo 64 also. Thank you for all you have done for me.

Love, Jaqueline Sanchez

Dear Santa,
Hi! You must be very busy at the North Pole. I am getting ready for Christmas too. I wish for a monster truck with a remote. Thank you very much.

Abrian Terrones

Dear Santa,
Am I on the badist or the good list? I want a trampoline, a bunny, a Barbie truck that really works, a pair of skates, a t.v. with a remote. Thanks very much.

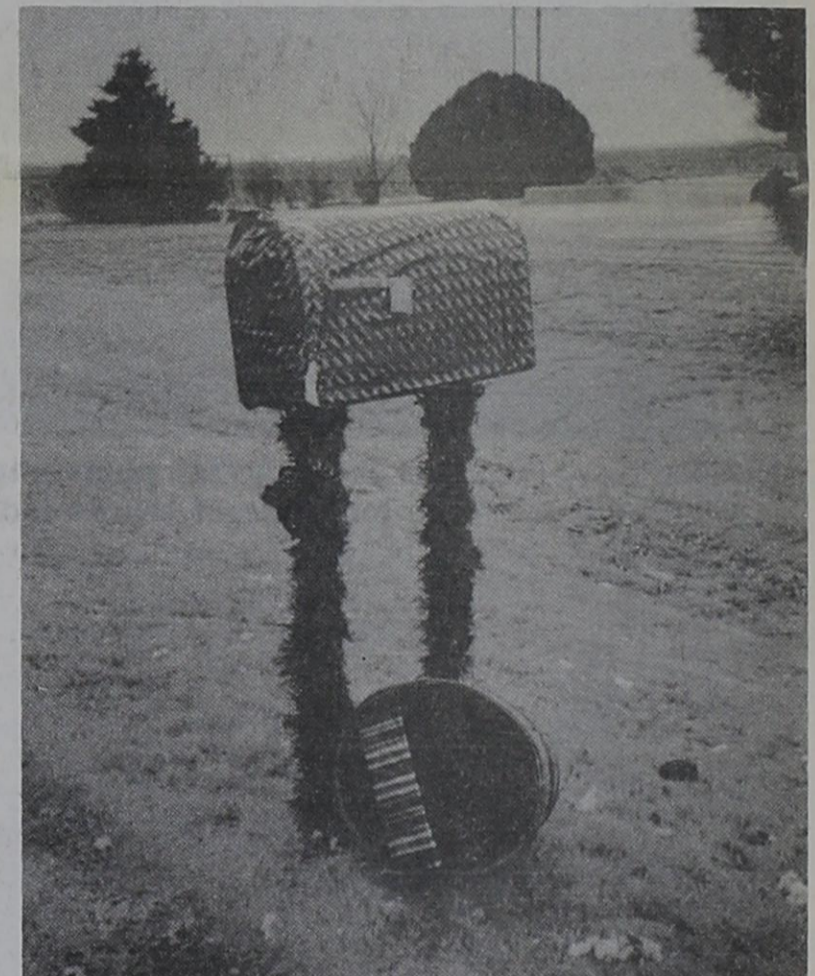
Samantha Calderon

Dear Santa,
I have been good all year. For Christmas I would like a bike and computer and a tape libry and a doll.

Love, Esmeralda



I BELIEVE TOO....Even the grownups still believe in Santa at First Bank as Linda Lutz from First Bank Muleshoe gives Santa a very long list and a big smile.



CHRISTMAS MAIL...The Steelman family on FM 1731 had their mailbox decorated for Christmas cards and letters to Santa.



HAVE
A JOLLY
GOOD
TIME!

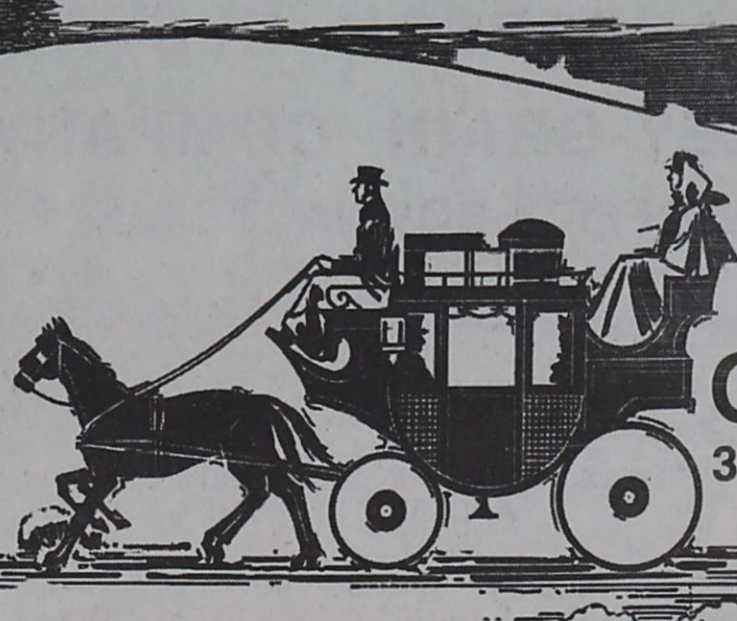
Here's hoping your holiday will be filled with all the wonderful things that spell **CHRISTMAS!** We're really thankful for all the good times we've shared with our friends and neighbors and look forward to serving you in the year ahead.

CHARLES OIL
& GAS, INC.

205 GARDNER 238-1284

Here Comes Christmas

...And we wouldn't want to miss this chance to say, "thanks"!

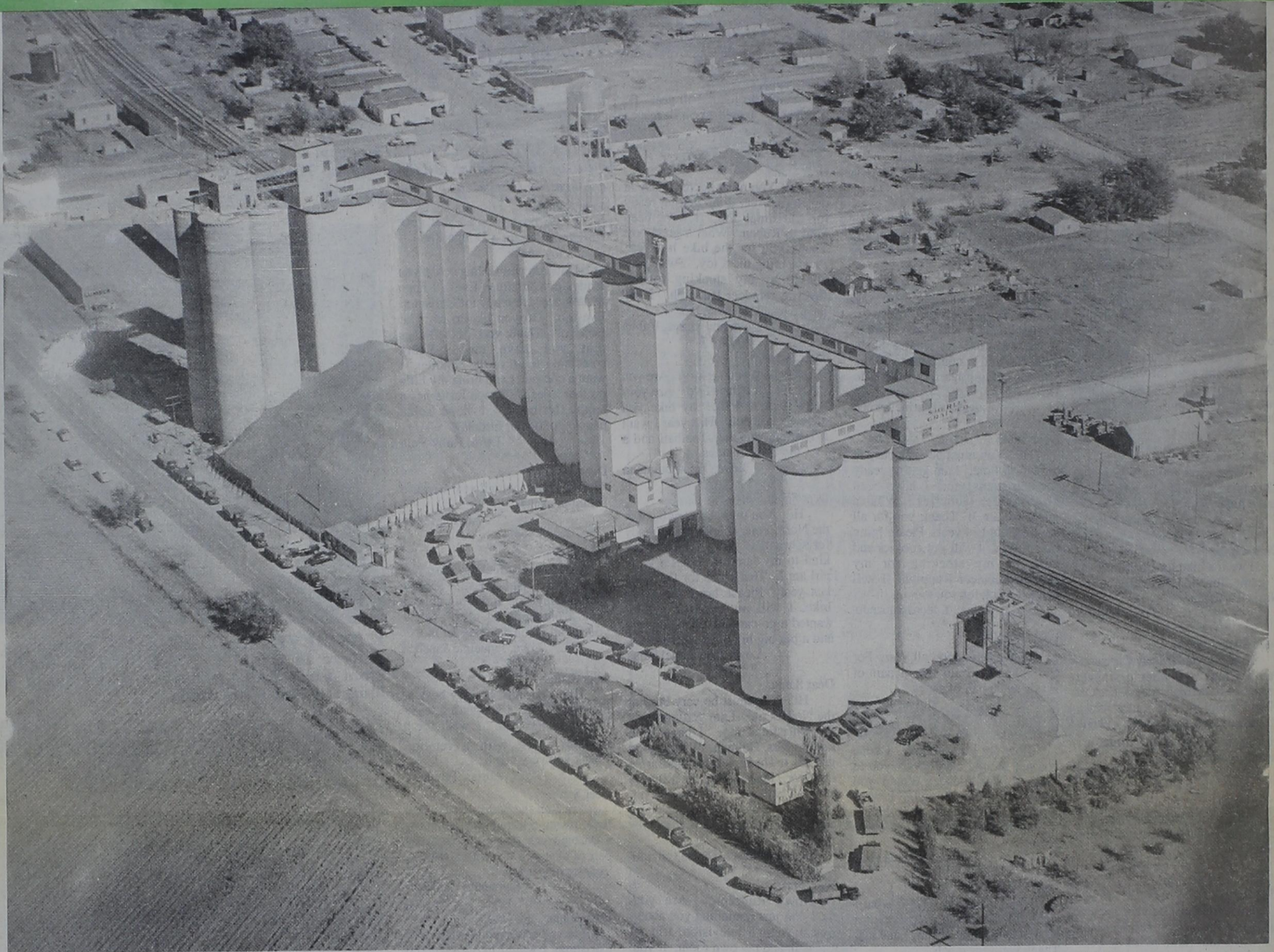


Charles
Pump
Company

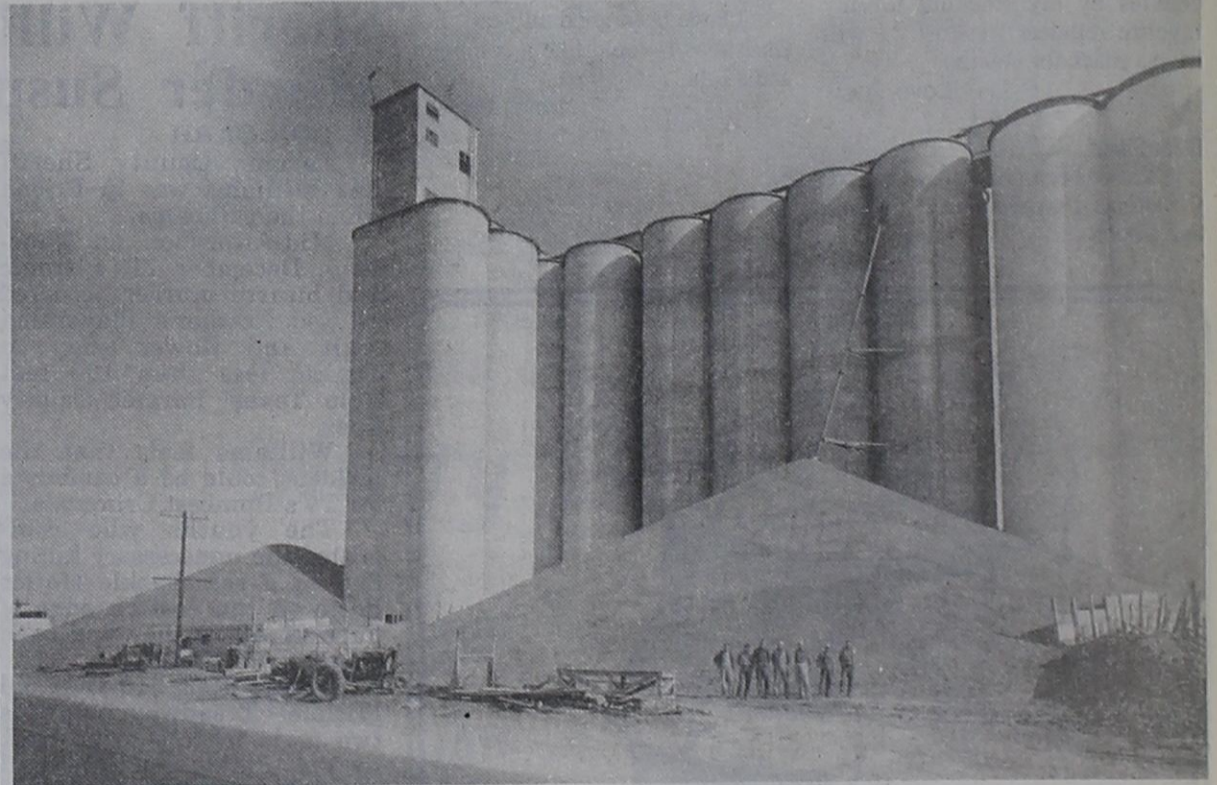
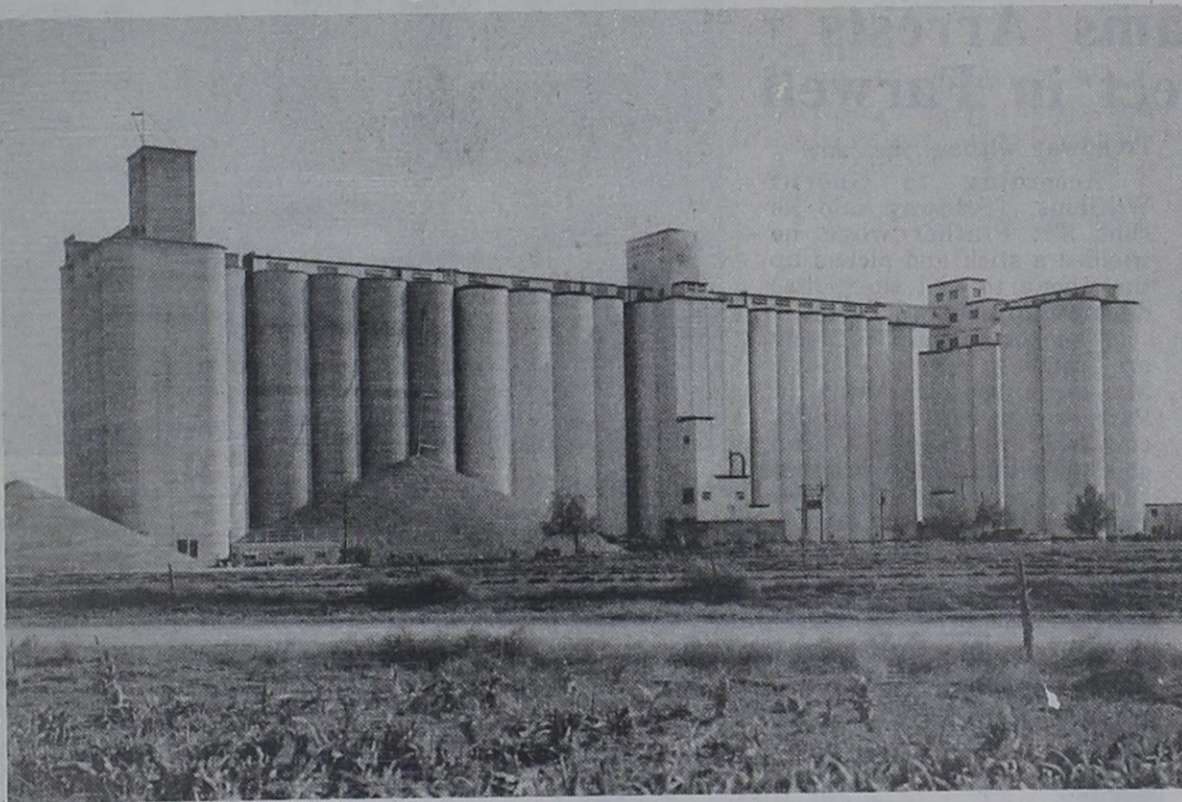
301 Gardner
238-1710

Season's Greetings

Serving Area Farmers Through The Years--
From 1947 To The Present!!

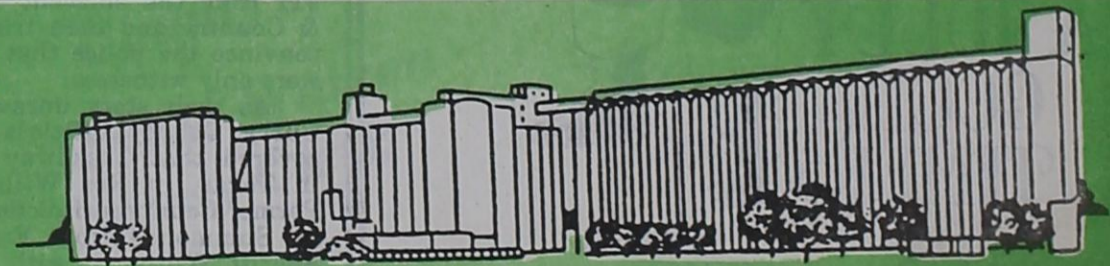


This is an aerial photograph of Sherley Grain-Bovina and the northern portion of town taken in 1955. The long line of trucks indicates that this photo was taken during the peak harvest season that fall.



These photos of Sherley Grain-Bovina were taken in 1954.

SHERLEY-ANDERSON ELEVATORS
SHERLEY-GRAIN COMPANY
MAIN OFFICE-BOVINA, TEXAS



(806) 238-1521 * BOVINA, TEXAS

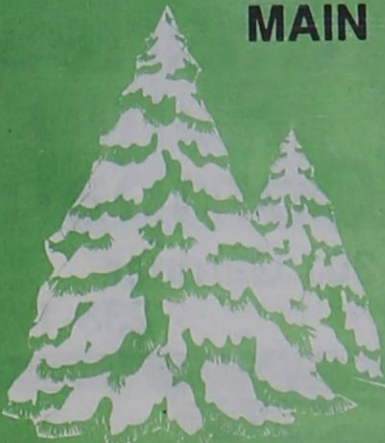
TAM ANNE and PLEASANT HILL COMMUNITIES

SHERLEY-ANDERSON LAZBUDDIE ELEVATOR
AND CLAY'S CORNER

SHERLEY-ANDERSON RHEA ELEVATOR
PH. PARMER 295-3505

SHERLEY-ANDERSON GRAIN COMPANY
PH. OKLA. LANE 825-2565, LARIAT, TEXAS

SHERLEY-ANDERSON-PITMAN, INC.
PH. 481-3343, FARWELL, TEXAS
and FARMERS CORNER



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It's A "Community Thing" With Friona EMS Volunteers

Answering the call can bring pain--and priceless rewards.

By JIM STEIERT

(From West Texas Rural Telephone's Co-Op Connection)

Emergency medical service to a 922-square-mile area of countryside and rural communities in Parmer County rests on the shoulders of seventeen Friona-area volunteers who share common concern for the well-being of their neighbors.

These trained volunteers staff Friona's Emergency Medical Service (EMS). They're in-the-flesh proof of the time-honored country tradition of "neighboring" that is at the heart of volunteer emergency services in rural communities like Friona.

Small-town budgets for fire and medical protection are tight. It's a long way to major medical facilities. Volunteer fire and ambulance services are proven rural life-support essentials.

Friona has fielded volunteer ambulance service since the late 1970s, but it's only in the last two years that Friona-based mobile intensive care ambulance service has been available. MICU service means full advanced care--comparable to a hospital's--given on-the-go by trained emergency medical volunteers.

Handling volunteer training and coordination in Friona is Dana Hendrix, a veteran of nearly twenty years in EMS, and Friona's EMS director for a year.

Dana came to Friona from Knox City, where she worked EMS in remote ranching country. Her EMS career began in 1978-79 at Brownwood, shortly after Texas took ambulance service away from funeral homes. She helped establish the North Lake Brownwood volunteer ambulance service, the first for that area.

She comes from a family tradition of rendering medical assistance. She lived with her grandmother, a "medicine woman" who tended neighbors and delivered babies, at Mudlark, Oklahoma.

"I got the idea that you are supposed to help people. You'll burn out fast on lights and sirens and adrenalin. Maybe those who stay in have a feeling for it--a calling. I get great fulfillment being in this job and helping when I can," she says.

Friona is a prime location for well-trained ambulance volunteers.

"We work a lot of trauma cases here because of Highway 60 and Highway 214, and people traveling them in all kinds of weather. We have railroad and packing industry-related accidents, and we have quite a few respiratory and cardiac cases due to our elderly population. We don't handle the volume of calls that some ambulance services get, but we take a high number of trauma calls," Dana explains.

Friona's volunteer ambulance personnel include two certified paramedics, three intermediates training in advanced care, twelve basic emergency medical technicians and one emergency care attendant in beginning training.

Basic EMTs are trained in respiratory administration and in assisting with other procedures. They also receive training in advanced first-aid, extricating auto accident victims and obstetrics and gynecology.

"Each volunteer is qualified and trained in (Continued on Page 2)



FRIONA EMS VOLUNTEERS...Like many rural communities, Friona fields a volunteer ambulance service to answer emergency medical calls in a 922 square-mile area. Among Parmer County residents who serve as volunteers with the ambulance service are: (front row, left to right) Randy Gerles, intermediate EMT; Sheila Clark, Cliff Daniel and Bryan Harris, basic EMTs; and Larry Martin and Donice Jones, intermediate EMTs. In the back row (left-right) are: Lynniss and Shain Clark, basic EMTs; Chuck Teague, emergency care attendant; and Dawn Widner, Rogelio Ortiz and Don Shepherdson, basic EMTs. WTRT subsidiary WT Services, Inc. recently donated eleven Motorola Keynote pagers to help Friona's EMS with a pressing need for more pagers that came with the growth of the ambulance service. (Photo by Jim Steiert)



Rejoice... A SAVIOUR IS BORN

As you observe Christmas with those near and dear to you, may you rejoice anew at the true, deep meaning of this most glorious time. And may the peace and joy of the season be an ever present blessing, to light the way for all men, everywhere.

WT Services Inc.

A Fully-Owned Subsidiary of
West Texas Rural Telephone Co-op

-Soon to be Serving Friona With
Local Telephone
And Cable Service!



STEADY TRAINING....Dana Hendrix, Friona EMS director, gives instruction in correct medical procedures to volunteers who staff the ambulance service operating out of Friona. Ambulance service volunteers meet regularly each month to keep current on their skills. While the overall number of ambulance calls isn't high for Friona's ambulance service, there are quite a few trauma cases that volunteers must respond to.

It's A "Community Thing".....

(Continued from Page 1)

certain areas. We have two crews on standby all the time. A crew is one advanced person with two basics, so that we can always provide advanced care. We rotate driving duties and everybody has taken a sixteen-hour offensive and defensive driving course in emergency vehicles.

"We're a team. We run everybody with a purpose and a set of skills. If we all perform our skills, we reduce our on-scene time at calls. Our average scene time for medical calls is fifteen minutes and our trauma time is under twenty minutes."

Members of Friona's volunteer ambulance service team are:

Donice Jones, dispatcher with the Friona Police Department, an intermediate EMT, will soon be certified as a paramedic.

Larry Martin is a Friona city employee and intermediate EMT.

Bryan Harris, a Friona resident who works at West Texas Tire, is a basic EMT.

Randy Gerles, Friona's chief of police, is an intermediate EMT.

Shain and Sheila Clark are WTRT members on the Hub exchange. Shain is employed at Friona Feed Yard and Sheila works at Farwell Convalescent Center. Both are basic EMTs.

Lynn Clark, who is Shain's mom, works at Sparkle Cleaners of Friona and is a basic EMT.

Rogelio Ortiz, a Friona resident and Excel employee, is a basic EMT.

Cliff Daniel, who works at Friona's Production Credit Association, is a basic EMT.

Chuck Teague, an employee of the City of Friona, is an emergency care attendant.

Don Shepherdson, an Excel employee, is a basic EMT.

Dawn Widner, an employee of Prairie Acres Nursing Home, is a basic EMT.

Rick Clayton, safety supervisor at the Friona Excel plant, is a paramedic.

Glen London, a WTRT customer on the Hub exchange and a cattleman, is a basic EMT.

Kathy Ortiz, who recently moved from Friona, served as a basic EMT.

"Friona is fortunate. Most places don't have this many people willing to give their time to a volunteer ambulance service. Very few communities have this many volunteers who are this well-educated in what they're doing. Volunteers in small rural communities like this have a lot of camaraderie," says Ms. Hendrix.

What motivates an individual to volunteer for the physically and emotionally demanding work of manning an ambulance?

"It's a community thing," says Donice Jones. "We care about the community, the people we know and love, and we want to take care of them. We've lived here all of our lives, and we know that there is a need."

Working on the ambulance crew with her son and daughter-in-law, Lynn Clark, says all three family members share a common motivation.

"When we started, Shain and Sheila thought this kind of training wouldn't be a bad idea, since they have a two-year-old daughter and an infant son at home. There's no denying that there's an adrenalin rush with this, but we've discovered it's nice to help people. We like it. All three of us are hoping to take the training and become paramedics."

Ms. Hendrix says volunteering for ambulance service in a rural community like Friona carries pain and pleasure.

"You're going to cry in this job—you just don't let anybody see you cry. It's difficult for a lot of people to deal with the things you see—the injuries you see."

"In a rural area, you know a lot of the people that you're working with. They're family and friends. A tragedy hits home harder—but it's also rewarding when you help somebody and they come back to you."

"I was on an ambulance call back in November and had to hand-off an eight-month-old baby that I didn't expect to make it. I saw her a few weeks ago. She was bouncing and healthy. Those kind of results make it all worthwhile."

Getting Rid Of Flubber

BY RON CARR

Maybe you have noticed that McDonald's is promoting Flubber these days. There is a new Flubber movie starring Robin Williams.

According to TIME Magazine, flubber was the subject of an original movie, The Absent-Minded Professor.

There was a toy version of the rubbery goo called flubber. It was manufactured in the early 1960s by Hasbro as a tie-in to the Absent-Minded Professor movie.

More than 4 million units of the bouncy stuff were sold nationwide before a bad rebound hit the company: the substance irritated immature hair follicles and caused minor rashes in some children.

Hasbro announced a recall of flubber. Then, faced with thousands of returned globs, it embarked on Operation Kill Flubber. How to get rid of it.

Hasbro executives first sent the substance to a city dump for burning but the material produced a huge black cloud.

The company then contacted the Coast Guard and received permission to weight down the goo for dumping at sea.

The next day though the Coast Guard called to say the globules had resurfaced and were floating all over Narragansett Bay.

With some help from local fishermen, the balls of flubber were rounded up and taken--Hasbro no longer remembers where.

Some say the flubber went to a landfill, but a story persists that it was buried under a parking lot at a company factory.

Wherever the old Flubber may lie, a new, modern, fully-tested version is now out. It is manufactured by Mattel who says, "We stand by our flubber."



DANA HENDRIX

WT Services Provides Pagers For Rescuers

Friona's volunteer emergency medical service technicians are all getting the call to action quickly and reliably now, thanks to the donation of eleven Motorola Keynote pagers to Friona EMS by WTRT subsidiary WT Services, Inc.

Friona's mobile intensive care unit ambulance service began with five volunteers two years ago. The crew has blossomed to seventeen volunteers under the supervision of full-time director Dana Hendrix.

While the original five volunteers each has their own pager, only one working and one semi-functioning pager were available to the remaining volunteers. Until recently, volunteers were passing those two pagers around as their shifts changed. Ms. Hendrix often had to phone to locate EMS volunteers.

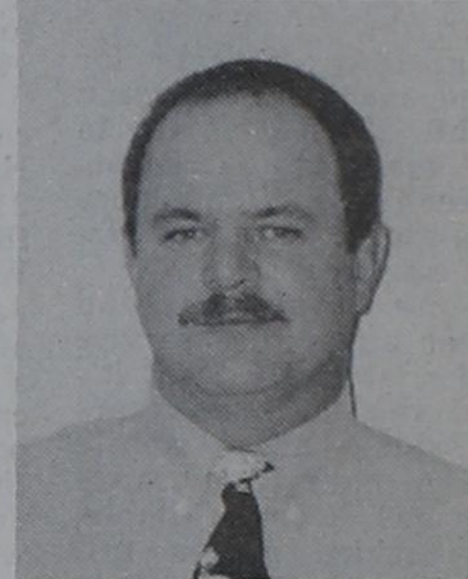
WTRT Manager Tom Hyer learned of the Friona EMS' pressing need for more pagers while attending a meeting of Friona's city commission. Ms. Hendrix told Friona city commissioners that most of her volunteers were making-do with "one-and-a-half" pagers.

Hyer spoke with Ms. Hendrix after the meeting and arranged to remedy the ambulance service's pager problem by giving eleven top-of-the-line units featuring both tone paging and voice message storage.

Thanks to the gift from WT Services, Inc., every Friona EMS volunteer now carries a pager--and can be reached immediately.

Congratulations

to Mitchell Smiley on Completing the Farm Bureau "Life School One"



MITCHELL SMILEY

Parmer County Farm Bureau sells and services all multi-line insurance.

*Life *Auto *Home *Agriculture

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



Life • Auto • Home

Southern Farm Bureau Life Insurance Co. • Texas Farm Bureau Underwriters
Southern Farm Bureau Casualty Insurance Co. • Texas Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Co.

PARMER COUNTY FARM BUREAU

(806) 247-3963

Season's Greetings From Deaf Smith Electric Cooperative

To make sure your celebrations are bright, warm and enjoyable, you can count on your cooperative employees to be on the job or at the ready for any emergency this holiday season.

When you plug in the Christmas tree, flip on the holiday lights or begin cooking your holiday specialties, rest assured your electric cooperative is working for you -- just as we are in all seasons of the year.

We extend our heartfelt best wishes to you and your family as you ring out the old year and welcome the new.

From the board of directors, manager and employees of Deaf Smith Electric Cooperative

- | | | | |
|----------------|--------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Sam Garrison | Dan Higgins | Duane Artho | Tom Dickerson |
| Steve Horrell | David Spain | Dorothy Bell | Robert Scott |
| Vick Christian | Helen Noyes | Mike Veazey | Marion Carter |
| Mike Bridges | Larry Pennington | Garlan McNutt | Greg Goyne |
| Steve Landers | Coby Lassiter | Joe Kerr | Bruce Johnson |
| Tommie Weemes | Pat Scott | Garre Lowrance | Clark Andrews |
| Mike Wilson | Carl Hollingsworth | Eva Romo | Ed Vaught |
| Edward Fuentes | Dean Reinart | Jerry Deckard | Nick Yosten |
| Steve Louder | Wayne Lady | Sandra Thomas | Don Rieves |
| Terry Hudson | Ada Smith | Bonnie Carlson | Paula Welty |
| Larry McNutt | Donald Wright | Sammy Davison | Justin McNeely |
| Harold Finch | Carolyn Hund | Jerry Koenig | George Bullard |
| Johnny Beltran | Jimmie Rose | Shirley Murray | Jimmy Holmes |
| Sandi Blevins | Ramon DeLa Cerda | Clarence Martin | Jerry Roberts |
| Randy Laing | Tony Acker | Bryan McGaw | Wayne Campbell |

OUT HERE--

by RON CARR



"SEASON'S GREETINGS"

This time of year, Season's Greetings is the quickest and fastest way to get your message out. Christmas cards arrive with "Season's Greetings" emblazoned on the front in all sorts of styles.

To me, "Season's Greetings" is a lazy way to wish someone well. Instead of saying Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, or trying to pick your favorite from Joy to the World, Peace On Earth, Good Will To Men, or Silent Night, we can just say "Season's Greetings" and cover everything in two words.

It is sort of a fast-food drive thru wish. A Long John Silver's Grab and Go greeting. A joyful Happy Meal with a Jesus toy for only 99 cents.

"Welcome to McChristmas, may we have your greeting please?"

"I'll just have a Season's Greetings."

"Would you like any 'joys' or 'peaces' with that?"

"No thanks."

"How about a Jesus's Birthday for only 99 cents?"

"Nope. Just Season's Greetings."

Selecting cards and greetings is just one of the pressures of the season.

Most of us want to send a generic card that will convey our message but not offend anyone. That is why a simple Happy Holidays or Season's Greetings is so popular.

And we sure don't want to get too heavy on the religion. Pray tell, they might think we are some kind of religious nut or something.

Every year as you read through the cards you receive it is obvious that some folks don't spend a lot of creative time picking out their annual greetings.

In addition to the greetings inside the cards there is usually an explanation on the back about what is on the front. The words on the back are not warm greetings, just facts.

For instance, my buddy Tommie Weemes at Deaf Smith Electric Cooperative sent out a very nice card this year. I'll critique it for you.

The picture on the front is of a buck and a doe standing in a snow-covered forest near sunset. The sun is glowing through the trees just before it sets behind the majestic mountains.

I wasn't sure what a couple of deers in the woods had to do with the season. But inside at the top of the card it said, "The light has come into the world. John 3:19."

A nice simple message that explains the bright sun reflection through the trees. (Sometimes you have to work at it to understand the true meaning of a friend's message.)

The main message on Tommie's card said "May this Christmas touch you with the light of Christ's peace and the wonder of God's love."

A nice message don't you think? Pointing out the "light" symbol again and the wonder of God's work in the buck and doe illustration.

Besides, Tommie signed the card himself. I like it when a card sender takes time to write something on the card. (By the way, Tommie's boss, Steve Louder signed the card too.)

It is a pretty card. It is so pretty in fact that in fine print on the back is a warning from the artist, Jeff Tift, who copyrighted this deer scene in 1993.

The picture is licensed by Seiffer & Associates, Inc., in Bethel, Connecticut for greeting card use only.

It says, "Please respect

our agreement with the artist which prohibits commercial (for resale) framing, tiling, decoupage, etc. The scripture quotation on this card is from The New King James Version."

The card itself is printed by Leaning Tree, Inc. of Boulder, Colorado on recycled paper. In the lower right hand corner is the number 3567.

See, Tommie's card has it's very own number in case you want some more copies from Leaning Tree. Instead of calling up and saying "do y'all have any more of them deer cards?", you can say "I wish to purchase a box of 3567s."

I was going to frame Tommie's deer card, and hang it in my living room near the stuffed pheasant I bought at a garage sale. Then next summer I had planned to sell them both at my own garage sale.

I know Tommie wouldn't mind if I sold his Christmas card at a garage sale, but the artist says I can't do that. Think I'll try it anyway.

We received another card here at the newspaper that said "Thank You for your friendship and may God give you a precious Christmas, etc. It was from "The Guidos."

No one here at the paper knows who the Guidos are, but thanks for remembering us.

The one from Texas Senator Teel Bivins was a nice burgandy color with silver printing. Inside was a picture of the Bivins children, Andrew, Katie and Will. It said "the Teel Bivins family."

On the back, in silver print at the bottom, it said "not printed or mailed at state expense." Aw man, for a minute there I thought I had found a scandal.

A friend sent me a small card that said "In my father's house are many mansions. I (Continued on Page 8-A)

NOEL! NOEL!



We're Singing His Praises

...(And Yours, Too!)

Merry Christmas!

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

From the Board of Directors and Employees of:

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HELLO!

RING IN THE JOY

This wonderful time of year gives us the opportunity to put aside the daily business routine and extend our heartfelt appreciation to you for bringing so much joy our way.

Merry Christmas and best wishes for a Happy New Year!



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NOVEMBER 24

Banquet Honors "Gold Star" Kids

Forty outstanding youth from across the South Plains were honored Monday night, November 24 at the 40th annual South Plains District Gold Star Banquet.

The Gold Star Award is the highest honor which can be earned by 4-H Club members at the county level. Four-H is the youth development program of the Texas Agricultural Extension Service, an arm of the Texas A&M University System.

The district banquet has been sponsored each year by eleven area electric cooperatives: Bailey County, Caprock, Deaf Smith, Dickens, Lamb County, Lea County, Lighthouse, Lyntegar, Midwest, South Plains and Swisher.

In those forty annual banquets, 1,560 winners have been honored with the Gold Star Award in the presence of more than 14,300 guests.

Joining the youths at the event at the Koko Palace were parents, government officials, Extension Service faculty, fellow 4-H'ers, educators and other community leaders.

In a special presentation, the Texas 4-H Foundation presented its Citation for Outstanding Service to 4-H to Speaker of the House James E. "Pete" Laney and his wife, Nelda, of Hale Center, for their many years as 4-H volunteer leaders and supporters. Presenting the award was Dr. Chester Fehilis, executive associate director of the Extension Service, and David Hicks, executive director of the foundation.

Dr. Marvin Cepica, executive associate dean of the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources at Texas Tech University, urged the youths to consider things which filled their lives to make them complete. Using a clear cylinder, he inserted rocks to

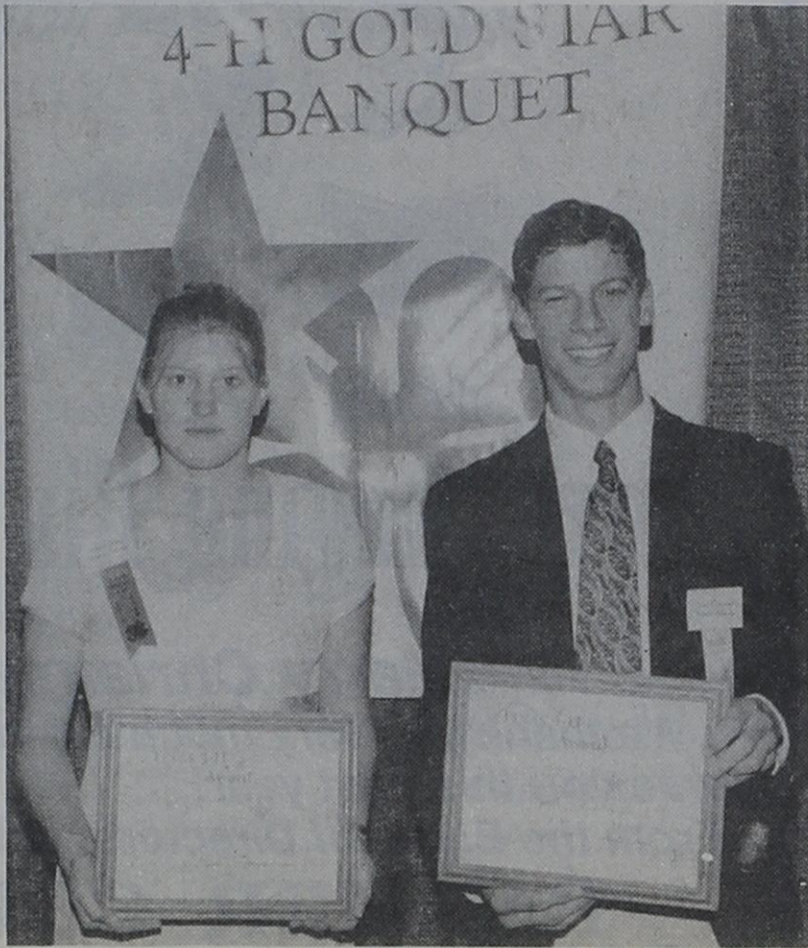
symbolize various elements in a "full life."

When the cylinder appeared full with such components as leadership, support of family and 4-H leaders, team work and community involvement, Cepica poured in sand to fill the gaps around the rocks. That, he said, represented hobbies, sleeping, eating and social time. "What would have happened if we'd put the sand in first?" he asked. "Always make room for the rocks in your life first," he cautioned.

Among those honored at the banquet were Clint Patterson and Ginger Sides of Farwell, Parmer County's Gold Star 4-H recipients.

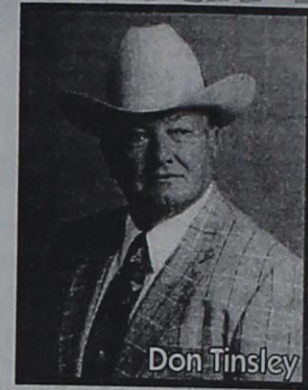


TOP PD EMPLOYEE....At the annual Friona EMS, Fire and Police Banquet last week, each group presented an award to its outstanding volunteer or employee. Friona Police Chief Randy Geries honored dispatcher Juanita Carrasco as employee-of-the-year. On November 20, 1997, Chief Geries said she had a 911 call from Bovina about a one-year-old baby choking. She was able to dispatch Bovina EMS and assist the panicked mother by instructing her on how to dislodge the object from the baby's throat. By the time the Bovina EMS arrived, the baby was breathing normal again.



GINGER SIDES and CLINT PATTERSON

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He's On His Way!

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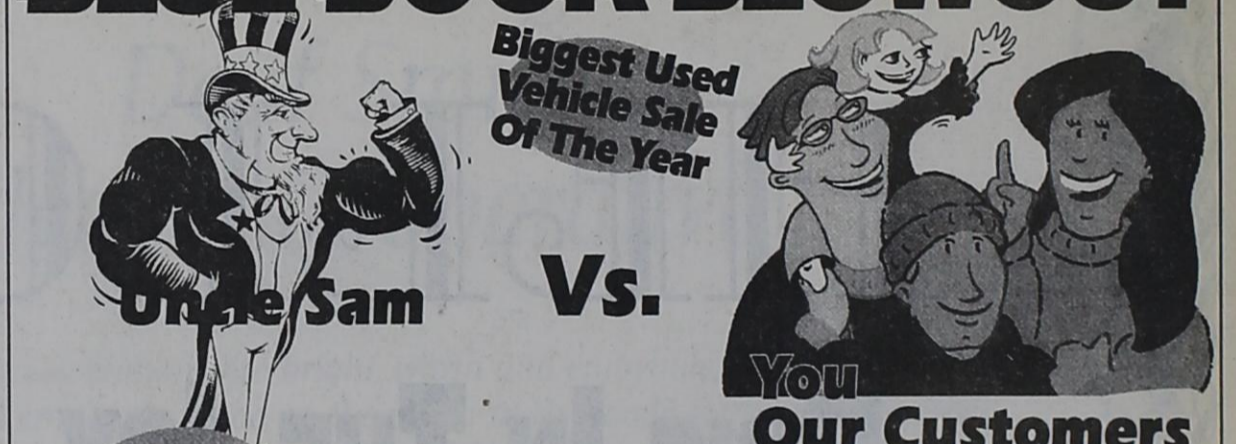
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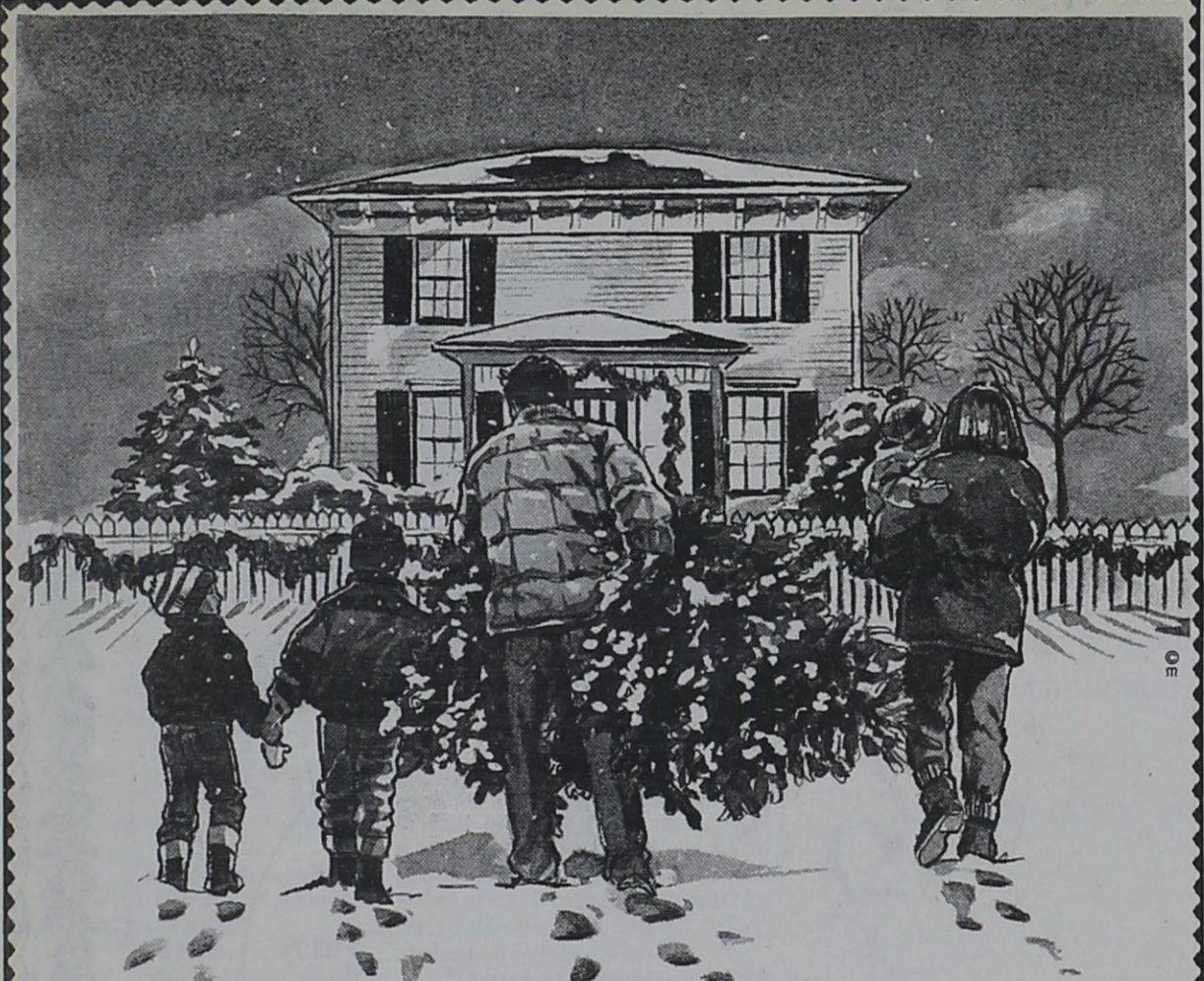
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<p>93 Ford Mustang Am/Fm Cassette, PS, A/C, #3730503</p> <p>10,995 9,400</p> <p>8,207 \$2,909</p>	<p>96 Ford Truck PS, PB, 5 Speed, A/C, Tilt Cruise, Am/Fm Cassette #2773401</p> <p>14,595 13,150</p> <p>10,650 \$4,145</p>	<p>91 GMC C2500 4x4 PS, PW, PB, PL, A/C, Tilt Cruise, Auto, Am/Fm Cassette #3783602</p> <p>12,995 10,975</p> <p>9,719 \$3,276</p>

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To get in high gear,
To spend with those dear,
To be of good cheer,
And express our appreciation,
Before starting the celebration!*

Many thanks and merry Christmas from our family to yours!

Holly Sugar Corporation

Hereford 364-2593

Eleven Nominated To Serve On Water Planning Board

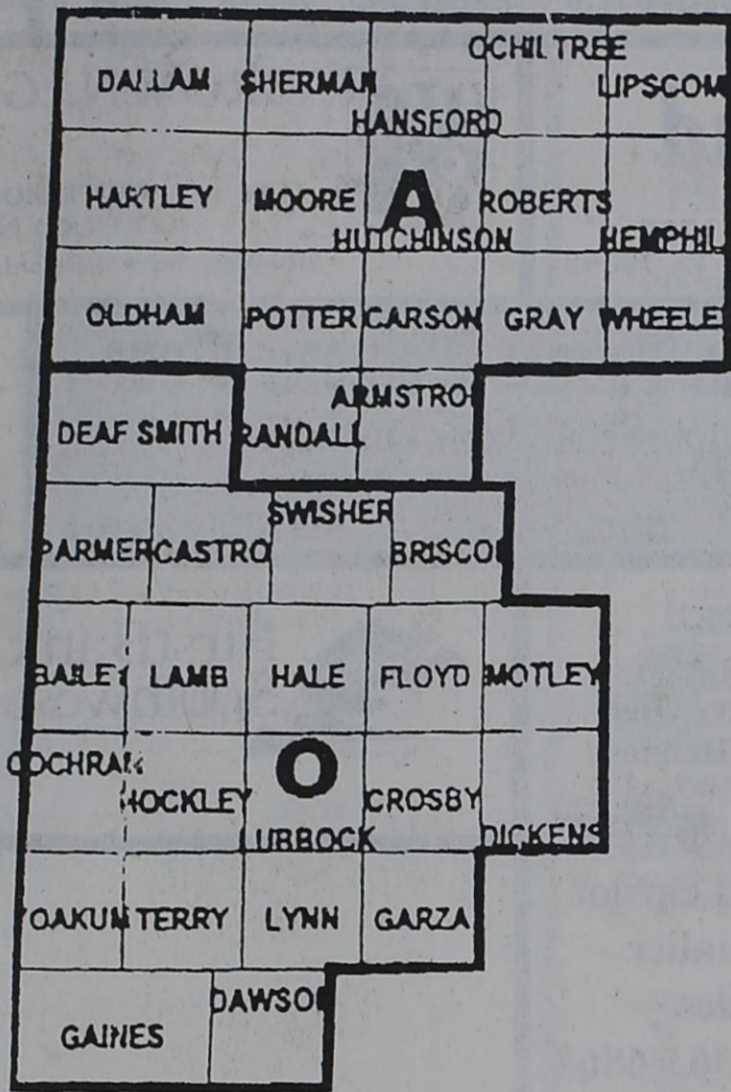
Eleven persons have been nominated to represent area water interest groups within a planning region created under Senate Bill 1, passed by the 75th Texas Legislature earlier this year.

Senate Bill 1 divides the state into at least sixteen separate water planning regions. Each region will have a coordinating body with at least one representative for each of the water interest groups as outlined by the legislation. Water management plans from each of the regions will ultimately be included in the Texas Water Plan, which addresses the development and conservation of state water resources.

The law requires that persons be nominated to serve as initial members of the regional planning groups by January 16, 1998. The Texas Water Development Board in Austin will name the initial members on February 19, 1998. Once appointed, the groups will have until September 1, 2000 to create a water management plan for the counties in each respective planning region.

Those nominated to serve on the initial coordinating body for Region "O" are: Dr. Lloyd Urban, Texas Tech University Water Resources Center, public sector; Yoakum County Judge Dallas Brewer, counties; Yoakum County Judge Dallas Brewer, counties; Ches Carthel, City of Plainview Public Works director, municipalities; Steve Perry of Austin, Altura Energy, industries; and Dr. John Abernathy, Dean of the Texas Tech College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources, agriculture.

Also, Jim Steiert of Hereford, environmental issues; Don McElroy of Muleshoe, Irrigation Pumps and Power, small business;



Bill Harbin of Floydada, Lighthouse Electric Cooperative board member, electric utilities; Kent Satterwhite of the Canadian River Municipal Water Authority, river authorities; A. Wayne Wyatt of the High Plains Underground Water Conservation District No. 1, water districts; and Bruce Blalock of the City of Lubbock Water Utilities, water utilities.

These nominations were made during the December 11 quarterly meeting of the High Plains Ogallala Area Regional Water Management

Plan's planning group in Plainview.

Planning Region "O" includes Bailey, Briscoe, Castro, Cochran, Crosby, Dawson, Deaf Smith, Dickens, Floyd, Gaines, Garza, Hale, Hockley, Lamb, Lubbock, Lynn, Motley, Parmer, Swisher, Terry and Yoakum counties.

Comments regarding these nominations may be directed to A. Wayne Wyatt, High Plains Underground Water Conservation District No. 1, 2930 Avenue Q, Lubbock, Texas 79405, or by calling (806)762-0181.

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!


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Happy holiday and heartfelt thanks.

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Here's hoping you and yours enjoy a really cool holiday!

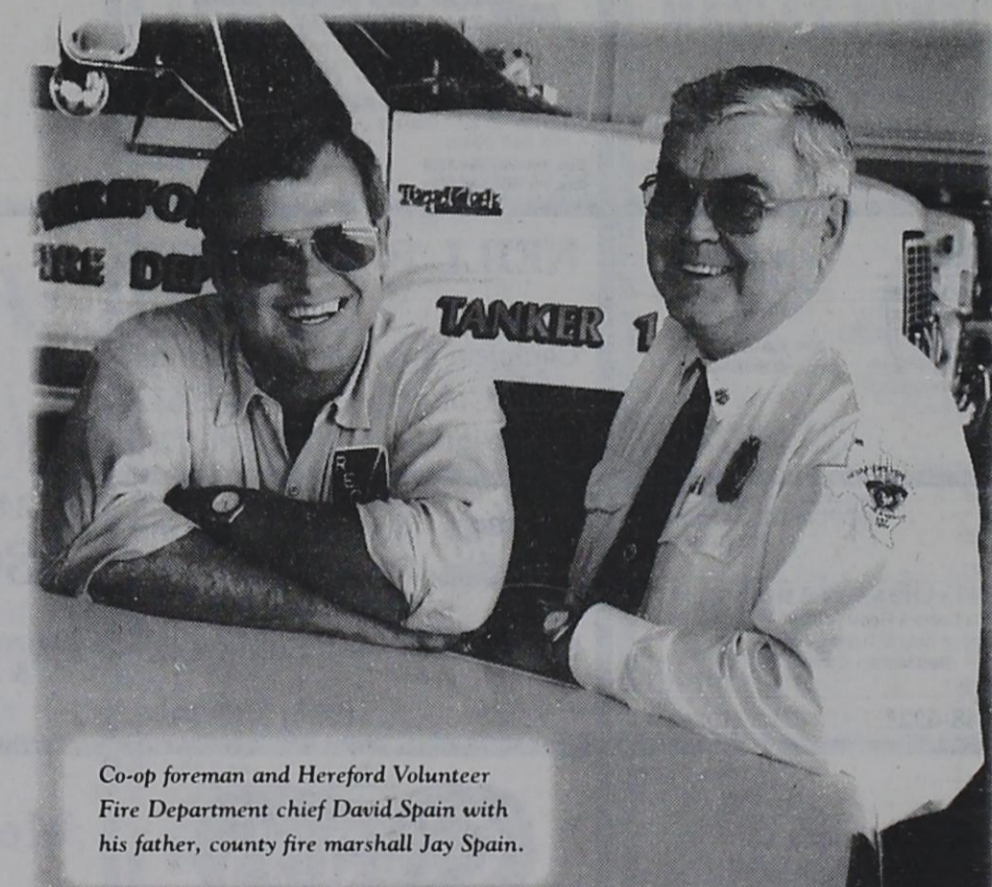


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Co-op foreman and Hereford Volunteer Fire Department chief David Spain with his father, county fire marshall Jay Spain.

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Many thanks to all who helped make our year one worth celebrating.

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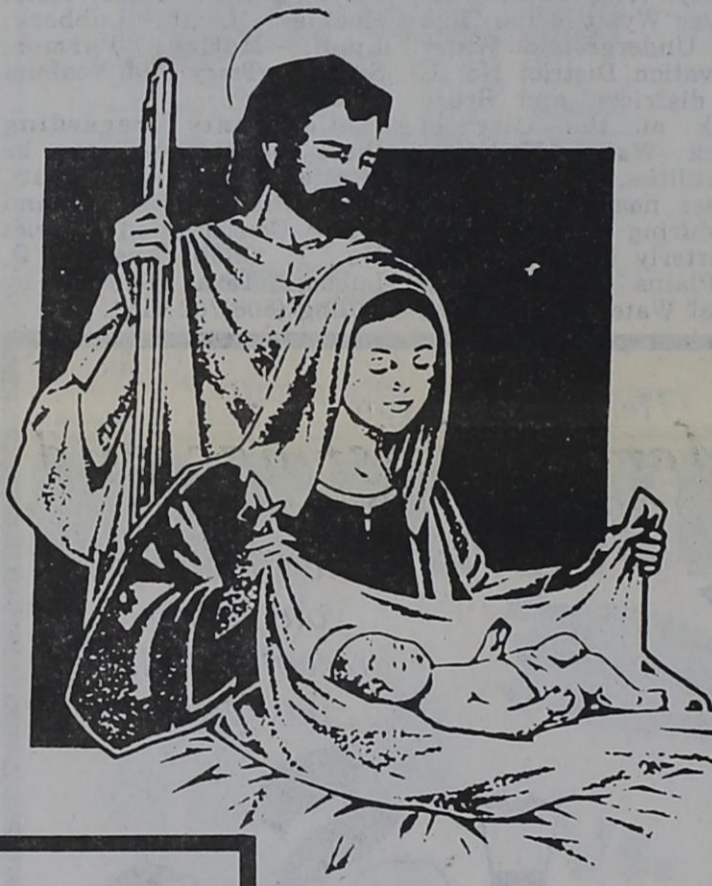
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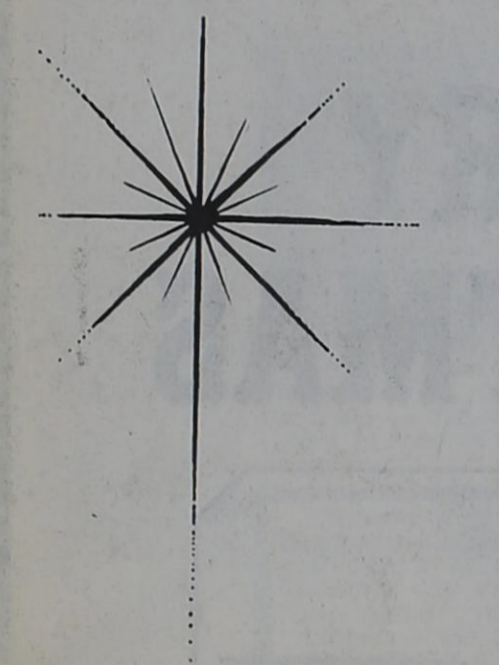
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Stallman Re-elected F.B. President

Bob Stallman was re-elected to his fifth one-year term as president of the Texas Farm Bureau during the closing session of the state's largest farm organization's 64th annual meeting in Arlington.

"It's been a privilege and a pleasure to serve the past four years," Stallman, a rice farmer from Columbus, said. "This is the best job in the world because I have the opportunity and the privilege to work with the best people of the world—the members of the Texas Farm Bureau."

Delegates restated opposition on the national level to the American Heritage Rivers Initiative on the final day. Pushed by the Clinton Administration, the initiative is attempting to restore rivers with historical significance with the goal of enhancing economic opportunities for communities along those rivers. Citing possible violations to private property rights, delegates voted to oppose any waters in Texas being designated to the initiative.

Also in the final session, delegates opposed giving USDA more power to close meat packing plants and opposed any new regulation by the Environmental Protection Agency that is not supported by scientific evidence, that is not necessary, or is not in the best interest of United States citizens. Also, because of its possible affect on agriculture, TFB delegates urged elimination of EPA funding for the Air Quality Control Program.

Stallman reviewed the historical significance of this convention, where candidates for lieutenant governor, agri-

culture commissioner, comptroller and land commissioner gathered to seek Texas Farm Bureau members' support.

"We heard from many candidates for statewide office," Stallman said. "I don't know of any other organization that has the respect to bring that many candidates together in one place. They want and need our support."

Also making appearances at the convention were Gov. George W. Bush, Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison, former chairman of the House Agriculture Committee Kika de la Garza, who received the organization's Meritorious Service Award, and U.S. Rep. Charles Stenholm.

Re-elected as vice president following the business session was Donald Patman of Waxahachie, District 4. Re-elected as secretary-treasurer was Delmas McCormick of Floydada, District 2.

Two new directors were elected to fill positions vacated by directors who had served three two-year terms, the maximum allowed by Texas Farm Bureau. Elected to District 7, replacing retiring director Leo Williams, was Regan Kirk. Elected to District 13, replacing retiring director David Krebs III, was Dale Jeske, Kirk, from San Saba, runs a cattle, meat goat and hunting operation. Jeske is a citrus producer from Alamo.

Also re-elected to their second two-year terms as directors were the following: David Noble, District 1; L.C. Harrison, District 3; James Maxton, District 5; Jim Smith, District 9; and Curt Mowery, District II.

Letters To Santa Claus

Dear Santa,
I want a nano fo Christmas. U aksi what star fairys. Mery Christmas to you! We Love you! I always loved Christmas!

Your Pal
Hollis

Dear Santa,
I want a new bike for christmas and some winter clothes. Thank you,
Monica Lynn Madrid

Dear Santa
Santa have a hape christmas I want a gigapet.
Love Cynthia

Dear Santa,
I was a good boy. I want a Hot Weels brag. I want a Matel Molder. I really want a gige pet.
From Alex Gurley

Dear Santa
Plee's breg my Mom a gift Plee's breg my Dad a gift. Plee's I like you Santa. Here I em agin a gift breg Dalton and me from Preston.

Dear Santa
How are you? I wnat the mermari Barie. I love Santa.
Vanessa Ortega

Dear Santa
I Bengood. I Like a gigapet.
Love Teresa

Dear Santa,
I have been good this yir. I wot a gigapet.
Love Heather

Out Here...

(Continued from Page 3)

hope yours is next to mine." Inside was the verse, ".....I will come and get you, so that you can always be with Me where I am." John 14:3. I really liked that card.

I especially liked one we received from Mary Katherine Cox. On the front was a snow scene with a tree and two redbirds sitting in it.

Inside she wrote "Wishing you a joyous Christmas. Thank you for sending me The Friona Star." You are sure welcome, Mrs. Cox. Thank you for remembering us.

In this modern age, we get all hung up on how bad (or good) all the retailers are doing during Christmas season. Thanks to television, we are often more concerned with finding a Giga Pet, Barbie's new outfit, or a snoring Ernie than remembering the reason for the season.

It is the season when we remember to do good for others less fortunate. I like the stories about the people who do good all year.

But no matter how you get the message, or what it says, it is always nice to be remembered. That is what the season is about. Remembering.

In this final column of 1997, I thank you all for reading. We will be back with our next Star issue on January 9.

Until then, here are my "Season's Greetings" to you from a card I found that says what I want to say this year. Remember:

Jesus Loves You.
He always has.
He always will.
His love for you never changes.
His care for you remains the same.

Wishing you the blessings of his love this Christmas and in the new year.

Greetings!



May the spirit of Christmas be always at your door.

just as you are always welcome at ours.

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

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Have a Safe, Sober Holiday



It's a great time of the year! Parties, family get-togethers, shopping... Just be sure that your holidays stay joyous. Remember to appoint a non-drinking designated driver if you plan to indulge in the egg nog or mulled wine. Keep your family safe...and be sure Christmas is always a happy memory.

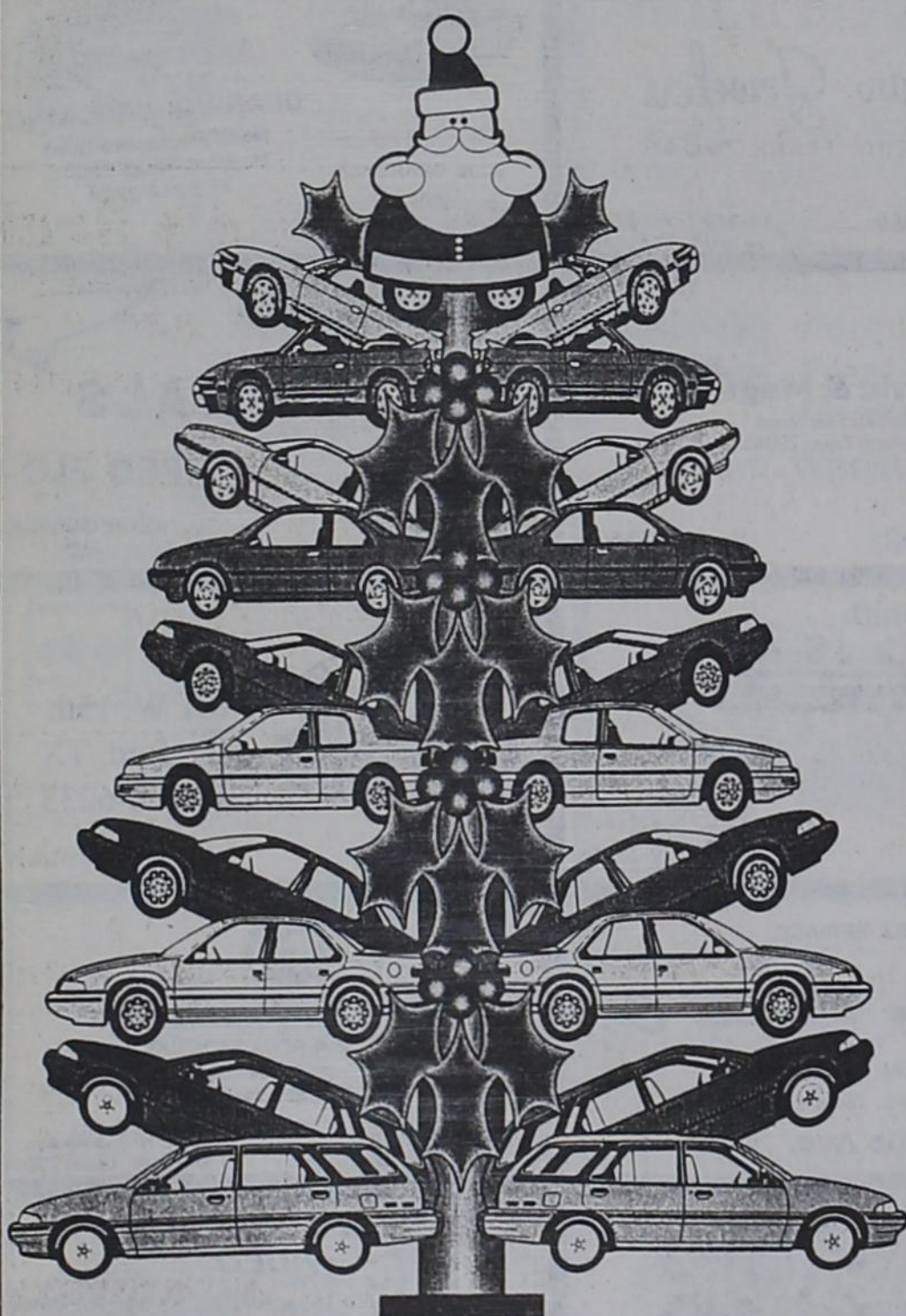
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FRIONA/BOVINA DEVOTIONAL PAGE

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This is a dramatized version of facts taken from the Book of Esther, intending to show some of the customs of these ancient and traditional times.

EVIL HAMAN

HAMAN HAS GATHERED HIS FRIENDS AND FAMILY TO TELL THEM HOW ALL HIS HONORS AND HIS RICHES MEAN NOTHING TO HIM AS LONG AS MORDECAI REMAINS ALIVE, NOW....

LET ME ADVISE YOU, MY HUSBAND....

WHAT WOULDST THOU TELL ME, ZERESH?

HAMAN'S WIFE, ZERESH, GIVES HER ADVICE....

BUILD A GALLOWS THIS NIGHT, AND TOMORROW GET THOU PERMISSION FROM THE KING TO HANG MORDECAI, IMMEDIATELY!

ALL THROUGH THE NIGHT BUILDERS WORK FEVERISHLY TO CONSTRUCT THE GALLOWS BY MORNING—WHILE, NOT FAR AWAY, A SINGLE LIGHT SHINES IN THE DARKENED PALACE....

...PERHAPS IT IS THE NOISE OF THE WORKMEN BUILDING THE GALLOWS—WHO CAN SAY? AT ALL EVENTS, THIS NIGHT THE KING CAN FIND NO REST—SO, RATHER THAN SPEND THE NIGHT TOSSEING AND TURNING IN HIS BED, HE DOES WHAT SO MANY OTHER SLEEPLESS VICTIMS HAVE DONE DOWN THROUGH THE AGES—SENDS FOR SOMETHING TO READ! IN THIS CASE, THE CHRONICLES AND REPORTS OF HIS COURT AND EMPIRE, FOR AHA-SUERUS IS A SERIOUS KING ABOUT RULING HIS PEOPLE!

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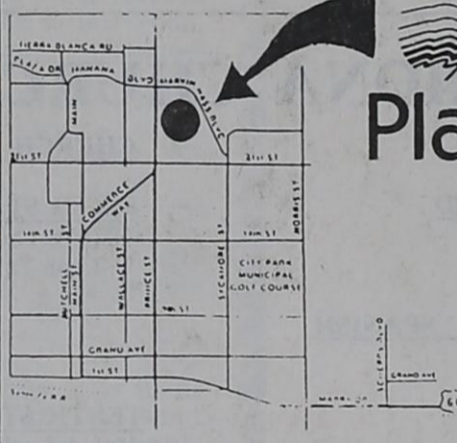
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SILENT NIGHT HOLY NIGHT

A guiding star.
A heavenly chorus.
The Wise Men's search.
The Shepherds' awe.
And, in the manger,
the newborn King.

As the sacred story is told anew, may the boundless blessings of Christmastide bring comfort and joy to you and your loved ones. Rejoicing too, we warmly send glad tidings and heartfelt thanks to all our neighbors. Noel!

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Sunday Closed
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With Best Wishes For a Happy Holiday



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

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

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