

# Letters to Santa inside!

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# Muleshoe Journal

Volume 85, No. 51

Muleshoe, Texas

50¢

December 23, 2004

## Letters for GIs remind us of what's important

Contributed story  
For the Journal

Carolyn Johnson, owner of Carolyn's Christmas Creations, has announced the winners of her "Operation GI Smile" competition.

The winners, both from Friona, are Dorothy Prudhomme in the adult division, and Edgar Grado in the youth division.

Mrs. Prudhomme is Grado's fourth grade writing teacher.

She gave her class the letter as an assignment and Grado's letter beat out more than 60 other entries in the youth division.

The winning entries are reprinted below. Youth division winner:

**Dear Soldier,**

My name is Edgar Grado. I have one brother and one sister. I live in Friona, Texas. I'm very sorry that you are not going to be able to see your family on one of the most important holidays of the year.

In a way, I understand how you feel and I know it's very hard. My father is also gone right now. He had to go to Denver, Colorado to work because he is a truck driver. I miss him very much, but I know he had to go work to give us the best he can just like you're in Iraq to give our country the best

you can by fighting for us.

I really appreciate what you're doing for our country. It takes courage to do what you're doing. Even though you are doing a very dangerous thing, you still stand strong and proud and continue fighting for our country. Since you are sad and lonely, I got a little joke for you to cheer you up: Who delivers presents to good little baby sharks at Christmas? "Santa Jaws."

I hope I at least made you smile. I wish you a Merry Christmas and hope that you will soon be with your loved ones.

Sincerely,  
Edgar Grado

Adult division winner:

**Dear Soldier,**

I write this letter to you to express what I have experienced as the mom of a soldier who spent not only last Christmas in Iraq, but also his 21st birthday there. There are no words to tell you what those two dates were like for me...just as I find no words to tell you now how much I empathize, knowing that your families will experience the Christmas holidays with you away from home.

I could tell you the usual phrases about

Continued on pg. 24

## Protect your cars, trucks throughout the holidays

The Grinch not only wants to steal Christmas, he wants to steal your car, too! Protect your vehicle this holiday season from Mr. Bah Humbug himself: The Auto Thief.

A car is stolen every 25 seconds in the United States, amounting to over 1.2 million vehicles stolen across the country last year alone. In 2003, Texas motor vehicle theft victims suffered losses totaling \$782,330,063, making auto theft the number one property crime in the state.

Sgt. Jerry Hataway with the Arlington Police Department warns, "Thieves are

Continued on pg. 23

## Local Weather

Thurs.. Light snow  
28-9

Fri. ....Scattered  
flurries ... 33-18

Sat. ....Sunny ...  
51-26

Sun. .... Sunny ...  
55-27

Mon..... Partly  
Cloudy .. 56-29

Tue..Partly  
Cloudy... 60-29

Wed ...Rain/snow  
showers ... 49-27

## Give It A Thought

Christ's Birth is the Reason for the Season! It's a Time for Forgiving and Giving Thanks and a Time for Family and Friends to Get Together and Do Good for Others. Have a Blessed and Loving Christmas and I Hope You Have a Healthy and Happy New Year, Too!  
Words to ponder from Beverly

Missed your paper?  
Call Yolanda Martinez at 272-4536, between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m.



Leah Bell

**Cute as a button** — Four-year-old Jasmine Sanchez and her pup Luda enjoy the sights at the annual Christmas parade held recently. She's the daughter of Sheila Marie Sanchez. Santa is expected to make Texas one of his first stops of the night according to a North Pole representative. See page 20.

## A CHRISTMAS STORY

The old man sat in his gas station on a cold Christmas Eve. He hadn't been anywhere in years since his wife passed away.

It was just another day to him. He didn't have Christmas, just couldn't find a reason to celebrate.

He was sitting there looking at the snow that had been falling for the last hour and wondering what it was all about when the door opened and a homeless man stepped through.

Instead of throwing the man out, Old George as he was known by his customers, told the man to come and sit by the heater and warm up. "Thank you, but I don't mean to intrude said the stranger. "I see you're busy, I'll just go." "Not without something hot in your belly," George said. He turned and opened a wide-mouth thermos and handed it to the stranger. "It ain't much, but it's hot and tasty. "Stew... made it myself. When you're done,

there's coffee and it's fresh."

Just at that moment he heard the "ding" of the driveway bell. "Excuse me, be right back," George said. There in the driveway was an old '53 Chevy. Steam was rolling out of the front. The driver was panicked. "Mister can you help me!" said the driver, with a deep Spanish accent. "My wife is with child and my car is broken." George opened the hood. It was bad. The block locked cracked from the cold, the car was dead. "You ain't going in this thing," George said as he turned away. "But Mister, please help..."

The door of the office closed behind George as he went inside. He went to the office wall and got the keys to his old truck, and went back outside. He walked around the building, opened the garage, started the truck and drove it around to where the couple was waiting.

Continued on pg. 2

## Full-day Pre-K working out well

By Davie Ann Browder  
For the Journal

editor@muleshoejournal.com

The first year of full-day pre-kindergarten has been an overwhelming success, Dillman Elementary Principal Todd Newberry told MISD trustees on Monday.

"In all categories, we are seeing gains over what we experienced last year," Newberry said, noting that last year pre-kindergarten students went to one-half day of classes. This year they're attending full-day classes, five days a week. And the MISD has measured where the kids were

last year in comparison to where they are this year.

"Limited English speakers are gaining a greater ability to communicate in English," Newberry said. "All students are improving in their ability to use describing words, positional words and a general increase in vocabulary has been experienced."

Some of the advances teachers have seen this year include the following:

- In math:
  - \* All students can rote count to 20 or higher.
  - \* Majority of students (80

Continued on pg. 23

## MJ will be closed Friday

The *Muleshoe Journal* will be closed Friday, Dec. 24, so its employees can celebrate Christmas with their friends and family. We hope everyone has a safe and a Merry Christmas.



Leah Bell

**Too, too cute** — Being a woman of her word, DeShazo Principal Debbie Gallman donned her pink tutu Monday, Dec. 20 to hold up her end of a "bet" with the kids in the Accelerated Reading Program that they couldn't accumulate 15,000 points before Christmas — they did and in doing so won the bet. She wore the handmade tutu on her head, stating no one ever said she had to wear it in the "traditional" way. Gallman makes this kind of "deal" with the students every semester and has tried a variety of stunts in response to their success, including eating pizza atop the school building.

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**FUMC sets Christmas Eve candlelight service**

The public is invited to the Christmas Eve candlelight service at First United Methodist Church at 6 p.m., Friday, Dec. 24.

**Judge's scholarship established**

The Texas Justice Court Judges Association (TJCJA) has created a scholarship in the name of Judge Herman Morrison who passed away unexpectedly. His memory is being honored with this educational subsidy. He had been a charter member of the organization and served as the regional director of TJCJA. To be eligible for the Judge Herman Morrison Memorial Scholarship, students must be related to a member of the Texas Justice Court Judges Association. For more information, contact Gayla Gear at Muleshoe High School 272-7304 or call the office of the Justice of the Peace at 272-4300.

**Christmas, from page 1**

"Here, take my truck," he said. "She ain't the best thing you ever looked at, but she runs real good." George helped put the woman in the truck and watched as it sped off into the night.

He turned and walked back inside the office. "Glad I gave 'em the truck, their tires were shot too. That 'ol truck has brand new ones..." George thought he was talking to the stranger, but the man had gone. The thermos was on the desk, empty, with a used coffee cup beside it. "Well, at least he got something in his belly," George thought.

George went back outside to see if the old Chevy would start. It cranked slowly, but it started. He pulled it into the garage where the truck had been. He thought he would tinker with it for something to do. Christmas Eve meant no customers. He discovered that the block hadn't cracked, it was just the bottom hose on the radiator. "Well, shoot, I can fix this," he so himself. So he put a new one on. "Those tires ain't gonna get 'em through the winter either. He took the snow treads off of his wife's old Lincoln. They were like new and he wasn't going to drive the car anyway.

As he was working, he heard shots being fired. He ran outside and beside a police car an officer lay on the cold ground. Bleeding from the left shoulder, the officer moaned, "Please help me." George helped the officer inside as he remembered the training he had received in the Army as a medic. He knew the wounded needed attention. "Pressure to stop the bleeding," he thought. The uniform company had been there that morning and had left clean shop towels. He used those and duct tape to bind the wound. "Hey, they say duct tape can fix anything," he said, trying to make the policeman feel at ease. "Something for pain," George thought. All he and was the pills he used for his back. "Those ought to work. You hang in there, I'm going to get you an ambulance." The phone was dead. "Maybe I can get one of your buddies on that there talk box out in your car." He went out only to find that a bullet had gone into the dashboard destroying the two way radio. He went back in to find the policeman sitting up. "Thanks," said the officer. "You could have left me there. They guy that shot me is still in the area." George sat down beside him, "I would never leave an injured man in the Army and I ain't gonna leave you." George pulled back the bandage to check for bleeding. "Looks worse than what it is. Bullet passed right through 'ya. Good thing it missed the important stuff though. I think with time your

gonna be right as rain." George got up and poured a cup of coffee. "How do you take it?" he asked. "None for me," said the officer. "Oh, yer gonna drink this. Best in he city. Too bad I ain't got no donuts." The officer laughed and winced at the same time.

The front door of the office flew open. In burst a young man with a gun. "Give me all your cash! Do it now!" the young man yelled. His hand was shaking and George could tell that he had never done anything like this before. "That's the guy that shot me!" exclaimed the officer. "Son, why are you doing this?" asked George, "You need to put the cannon away. Somebody else might get hurt." The young man was confused. "Shut up old man, or I'll shoot you, too. Now give me the cash!" The cop was reaching for his gun. "Put that thing away," George said to the cop, "we got one too many in here now." He turned his attention to the young man. "Son, it's Christmas Eve. If you need money, well then, here. It ain't much but it's all I got. Now put that pee-shooter away. George pulled \$150 out of his pocket and handed it to the young man, reaching for the barrel of the gun. The young man fell to his knees and began to cry. "I'm not very good at this am I? All I wanted was to buy something for my wife and son," he went on. "I've got a lot of my job, my rent is due, my car got repossessed last week..." George handed the gun to the cop. "Son, we all get in a bit of a squeeze now and then. The road gets hard sometimes, but we make it through the best we can." He got the young man to his feet, and sat him down on a chair across from the cop. "Sometimes we do stupid things." George handed the young man a cup of coffee. "Being stupid is one of the things that makes us humans. Comin' in here with a gun ain't the answer. Now sit there and get warm and we'll sort this thing out." The young man had stopped crying. He looked over to the cop. "Sorry I shot you. It just went off. I'm sorry officer."

"Shut up and drink your coffee," the cop said. George could hear the sounds of sirens outside. A police car and an ambulance skidded to a halt. Two cops came through the door, guns drawn, "Chuck! You OK?" one of the cops asked the wounded officer. "Not bad for a guy who took a bullet. How did you find me?" "GPS locator in the car. Best thing since sliced bread. Who did this?" the other cop asked as he approached the young man. Chuck answered him, "I don't know. The guy ran off into the dark. Just dropped his gun and ran." George and the young man both looked

**Estate Planning Seminar to be held**

The Texas Cooperative Extension is sponsoring four two-day Estate Planning Seminars Jan. 25-26, 2005 in Robstown. This seminar is designed to help families reduce their estate taxes and make effective estate planning decisions will be offered. They are scheduled from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. each day. There is a registration fee. For more information, call Sharon at (979) 845-2226 or e-mail her at s-wehring@tam.u.edu.

**'Wild at Heart' offering free oil changes to the elderly**

"Wild at Heart" men's ministry of New Covenant Church is offering free oil changes to the elderly, disabled and single mothers with children this holiday season. The ministry is designed to fulfill the gospel's call to take care of those less fortunate than ourselves.

To qualify, one must be over 60 years of age, be disabled or be a single mother with children living at home. The oil change will be provided by a local business and will be free. I

f you, or anyone you know of needs their vehicle services and meet the criteria, call (806) 965-2787 and a certificate will be sent to them.

**EMT class starts in January**

Bailey County EMS will be hosting an Emergency Medical Technician - Basic (EMT-B) class beginning in January. The class will cost \$400 plus the price of a text book, approximately \$65. The class must have a minimum of 10 students. Tuition assistance is available. Contact Chris Thompson at 272-4390 for more information.

puzzled at each other. "That guy work here? The young cop continued. "Yep," George said, "just hired him this morning. Boy lost his job."

The paramedics came in and loaded Chuck onto the stretcher. The young man leaned over the wounded cop and whispered, "Why?" Chuck just said, "Merry Christmas boy... and you too, George, and thanks for everything."

"Well, looks like you got one doozy of a break there. That ought to solve some of your problems."

George went into the back room and came out with a box. He pulled out a ring box. "Here you go, something for the little woman. I don't thing Martha would mind. She said it would come in handy some day." The young man looked inside to see the biggest diamond ring he ever saw. "I can't take this," said the young man, "It means something to you,"

Replied George. "I got my memories. That's all I need." George reached into the box again. An airplane, a car and a truck appeared next. They were toys that the oil company had left for him to sell. "Here's something for that little man of yours." The young man began to cry again as he handed back the \$150 that the old man had handed him earlier. "And what are you supposed to buy Christmas dinner with? You keep that too," George said, "Now get home to your family." The young man turned with tears streaming down his face, "I'll be here in the morning for work, if the job offer is still good."

"Nope. I'm closed Christmas day," George aid. "See ya the day after." George turned around to find that the stranger had returned. "Where'd you come from? I thought you left?"

"I have been here. I have always been here," said the stranger. "You say you don't celebrate Christmas. "Why?" "Well, after my wife passed away, I just couldn't see what all the bother was. Puttin' up a tree and all seemed a waste of a good pine tree. Bakin' cookies liked I used to with Martha just wasn't the same by myself and besides I was getting' a little chubby." The stranger put his hand on George's shoulder. "But you do celebrate the holiday, George. A) You gave me food and drink and warmed me when I was cold and hungry. B) The woman with child will bear a son and he will become a great doctor. C) The policeman you helped will go on to save 19 people from being killed by terrorists. D) The young man who tried to rob you will make you a rich man and not take any for himself.

"That is the spirit of the sea-

son and you keep it as good as any man."

George was taken aback by all this stranger had said. "And how do you know all this?" asked the old man. "Trust me, George, I have the inside track on this sort of thing. And when your days are done, you will be with Martha again."

The stranger moved toward the door. "If you will excuse me, George, I have to go now. I have to go home where there is a big celebration planned." George watched as the old leather jacket and the torn pants that the stranger was wearing turned into a white robe. A golden light began to fill the room. "You see, George... it's My birthday. Merry Christmas." George fell to his knees and replied, "Happy-Birthday, Lord."

**AUTHOR UNKNOWN**

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 Every Thursday at 304 W. Second, P.O. Box 449, Muleshoe, TX 79347.  
 Periodicals Postage paid at Muleshoe, TX.  
 POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the Muleshoe Journal, P.O. Box 449, Muleshoe, TX 79347.  
 We are qualified members of:  
 Panhandle Press Association, National Newspaper Association,  
 West Texas Press Association and Texas Press Association

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**OTHNIEL'S TRIUMPH**

HAVING REACHED THE TOP OF THE WALLS, OTHNIEL'S MEN ARE BESET UPON BY THE PIERCE GIANT DEFENDERS...

WE CANNOT LAST LONG - IF OTHNIEL HAS A PLAN, PRAY GOD HE PUTS IT TO USE!

DEATH TO THE ISRAELITES!

AND, UPON THE HEIGHTS OVERLOOKING THE CITY, THE MEN OTHNIEL PLACED THERE EAGERLY AWAIT HIS SIGNAL!

THE BATTLE IS JOINED - BUT WHERE IS OTHNIEL'S SIGNAL?!

NOW, YE MEN OF JUDAH, SEE MY SIGNAL!

AT OTHNIEL'S SIGNAL, THE BEARERS OF THE HIGHLY POLISHED BRAZEN SHIELDS SPRING INTO ACTION!

Next Week  
CONFUSION!

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# Sports

## Lady Mules enjoy success against Dimmitt, Morton

By Delton Wilhite  
Sports Writer

The Lady Mules dominated both Dimmitt and Morton this past week. The Lady Mules traveled to Dimmitt last Tuesday night and downed the Bobbies 46-32.

They played host to Morton on Friday night. The Lady Mules were not very cordial hosts as they hammered Morton 69-20.

The Lady Mules did not get off to a very fast start in

Dimmitt. The Lady Mules Controlled Chaos, defense held the Bobbies to only three points in the first period but the Lady Mules only got the ball through the hoop for seven.

The Lady Mules shots began to fall in the second period as they out ran Dimmitt 13-5 and took a 20-8 margin to the dressing room at the half. The Bobbies drained three 3-pointers in the third period to cut the

Lady Mule advantage to 31-23.

Kasey Wood scored on an in bound play to open the final period. Kelsey Friskup added a pair of free throws to give the Lady Mules a 35-25 margin.

K. Wood drove the lane as the Lady Mules ran the weave and was fouled shooting.

She made both charity tosses and the Lady Mules began to take the air out of

the ball. Friskup made back-to-back shots inside to extend the lead to 41-27. Dimmitt drained a trey and finished a break to trim points off the Lady Mule margin.

Lindsey Wood made three-of-four charity tosses in the final 22 seconds as Dimmitt fouled to try to get back in the game.

Friskup led the Lady Mules with 14 points and K. Wood added 12. L. Wood opened the game with a trey

and finished the night with eight points. Brandi

Wood dropped in six points, Kate Leopard four and Amber Cowart had two.

The Lady Mules pulled out all the stops against Morton. They out ran Morton 17-4 in the first period and followed that with a 24-2 second frame to take a 41-6 lead at the half.

The Lady Mules slowed down their scoring machine in the second half with back-to-back 14-7 periods.

Chelsi Hawkins, Madison Myers and Irma Torres joined the varsity since Morton did not have a JV team.

Friskup led the Lady Mules with 21 points and B. Wood added 13. Ashley

Dickson dropped in nine points and K. Wood and Leopard made six each. Torres and Cowart hit four points each, Myers three, Hawkins two and L. Wood chipped in one.

The Lady Mules made 13 of 16 charity tosses in the contest.

The Lady Mules traveled to Hereford on Tuesday to meet the Lady Whitefaces.

The Lady Mules take a short break and jump back into action in the Lubbock Caprock Holiday Tournament on Dec. 29-31.

The Lady Mules open the tournament against Lubbock High at 9 a.m., Dec. 29, in the Tiger Pit at Friendship ISD.

## JV Lady Mules rebound to down Dimmitt, 52-49

By Delton Wilhite  
Sports Writer

The Bobbies were able to hang closer to the JV Lady Mules on their home floor last Tuesday night. The Bobbies out scored the Lady Mules in the opening half 23-27. The Lady Mules regrouped at the intermission and used a 20-point third period to drop the Bobbies 52-49.

Hawkins cranked the Lady Mule offense with an eight-foot jumper as the period opened. She found Cholo Hernandez open on the blocks on the next possession. Hernandez turned in the lane for a short jumper to cut the Bobbie lead to 27-29.

Kyra Kimbrough exploded for all nine of her points in the third period. She opened with a charity toss and then canned a trey to put that put the Lady Mules on top 31-29. Hernandez dropped in a turn-around jumper in the lane before Gini Sheets invaded the Bobbies passing lane.

Sheets picked off the pass and drove coast-to-coast for the layup. Kimbrough added a layup and Shayla Hall finished a break. Kimbrough drained her second trey of the period from the top of the key on an in bound play.

The Lady Mules led 43-37 to start the final period. Hall lobbed over the defense to Hernandez in the lane. Dimmitt went on an eight-point run before Kimbrough drove the baseline and dished to Hernandez in the lane to put the Lady Mules on top to stay.

Hawkins ran to her favorite corner and the Lady Mules got her the ball. She pulled the trigger on a high arcing shot that bounced high off the rim before falling through for three points.

Dimmitt made two-of-four charity tosses in the final seconds to draw with in one point of the Lady Mules. Sheets sealed the deal for the Lady Mules with a pair of charity tosses. Dimmitt put up a desperation 3-pointer that banged off the iron.

Hawkins chased down the long carom and dribbled out the final seconds.

Hernandez led the Lady Mules with 16 points. Hawkins and Kimbrough added nine apiece and Sheets dropped in eight. Hall had four points and Ashley Grumbles, Britany Ambriz and Madison Meyers chipped in two each.

The Lady Mules traveled to Hereford on Tuesday night to meet the Hereford Whitefaces and then are off for the holidays. The Lady Mules return to action Jan. 4 in Friona.



Contributed photo

It's a winner: Sarah Furgeson hits the winning shot for Sudan against Seagraves in the Abernathy Shootout.

## Ninth-grade Lady Mules fall to Lubbock Cooper

By Delton Wilhite  
Sports Writer

The freshman Lady Mules could not get their offense cranked in the opening period Monday night against the Lubbock Cooper Lady Pirates. Cooper ran away from the Lady Mules 23-39 in the contest.

The Lady Mules trailed 5-19 at the intermission but got cranked up in the second half. Ashley Scolley drained a 12-foot jumper to answer a Cooper basket as

the second half began.

Caitlin Wills stuck back a rebound for points before DezRae Contreras finished a break to cut the Cooper margin to 11-22. Contreras added a charity toss for the Lady Mules final point of the period.

Contreras opened the final period with a basket before Cooper went on a nine-point run. Heather Barker and Contreras added a

Continued on pg. 8

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## Go Mules! Fight Mules! Win Mules! Go Mules! Fight Mules! Win Mules!

# Mules fall to Dimmitt, Morton; look to next tourney

By Delton Wilhite  
Sports Writer

The Mules could not put a basket in the concrete canyon the Dimmitt Bobcats call home. The Mules fell to Dimmitt 36-47.

Friday night the Mules played host to the highly ranked, Morton Indians. Morton's Johnson boys proved to be too much for the Mules as they lost 62-45.

Trevor Turnbow got the Mules off to a quick start with a trey before Dimmitt made back-to-back buckets. Landon Wilson hit from outside the arc to give the Mules a two-point lead. Kory Atwood was fouled finishing a break and made a charity toss.

Dimmitt scored to trail the Mules 7-6 at the quarter break. Dimmitt went on a scoring frenzy in the second period to take a 14-19 advantage by intermission. The Mules left their offense in the dressing room and only got two points in the third period as Dimmitt extended their margin to 16-31.

The Mules made a run at the Bobcats in the final quarter with Turnbow hitting a trey from the top of the key. He then picked a Bobcat's pocket and drove the floor for an easy bucket.

Dimmitt followed with a five-point run before Arsenio Geter was fouled shooting in the lane. He made a charity toss and Tyler Sheets put

back the rebound of Geter's miss. Brady Black spun in the lane for his patented scoop shot.

Wilson added a pair of free throws and Sheets dropped in a trey to cut the Dimmitt lead to 31-39. B. Black was fouled on a stick back and made one charity toss.

Dimmitt controlled the final two minutes of play with a 10-4 run.

Sheets and Turnbow led the Mules in scoring with seven points each. B. Black, Trent Black and Wilson added five points each and Myles James and Geter each made three and Atwood chipped in one.

Calvin Johnson, the shorter Johnson, had not shot well in the Abernathy tournament. He exploded for 31 points against the Mules. Kendrick Johnson used his 6-9-height advantage to control the lane and scored 16 against the Mules.

The Mules owned a 12-11 first period lead with Turnbow and Wilson each making a trey. Turnbow made all eight of the Mules second period points with two 3-pointers. The Mules trailed 20-23 at the intermis-

sion. The Johnsons made all 14 of Morton's points in the third period as the Indians pushed their lead to 37-28. The Mules increased their scoring in the final period. The Mules made 17 with James hitting a trey.

Morton's offense did not slow down in the final period

and poured in 25. C. Johnson saved the best to last and made 16 in the final frame.

B. Black paced the Mules with 12 points and Turnbow made 11. Wilson added five points and Geter and Atwood made four each. James dropped in three points and T. Black, Chris

Kindle and Sheets made two apiece.

The Mules traveled to Hereford on Tuesday. The Mules will take a short holiday break and then play in the Lubbock Caprock Holiday Tournament on Dec. 29-31. The Mules meet Plainview at noon Dec. 29 at Lubbock Estacado.

## JV Mules come back to edge Dimmitt, 47-46

By Delton Wilhite  
Sports Writer

The JV Mules fell behind the hot shooting Dimmitt Bobcats early in the contest. The Mules stepped up their defensive pressure in the final period to out score Dimmitt 12-4 and ease past the Bobcats 47-46.

Jarad Flores made a baseline running jumper with 15 seconds left in the game to put the Mules on top to stay. A Bobcat that had not missed from the charity line all night failed to make two free throws at the six-second mark. The Mules grabbed the rebound and drained the clock.

Dimmitt went on an eight-point run to open the contest. Flores drove from the wing and was fouled shooting. He made both charity tosses to get the Mules on the board. Rudy Gonzales interrupted a Dimmitt six-point scoring run with a put back. Eddie Alvarado hit from behind the arc in the corner to end the first period with the Mules trailing 12-19.

Garrett Riley pulled down a long defensive rebound and picked his way through the Dimmitt defenders on the way to a layup to start the second period. Flores sandwiched two charity tosses in a seven-point run by Dimmitt.

Cory Wallace made his second of five 3-pointers as the second period began to draw to a close. He made his third trey with 24 seconds left in the half.

Dimmitt owned a 22-31 advantage at the intermission. The Mules trimmed two off the Dimmitt lead in the third period. Kirby Kimbrough, Wallace and Alvarado all connected from behind the arc as the Mules out scored Dimmitt 13-11.

Flores and Wallace each made threes in the final frame as the Mules held Dimmitt to only four points.

Wallace paced the Mules with 15 points and Flores added nine. Gonzales and Alvarado each made six points. Riley four; Kimbrough three and TJ Brantley made two.

The Mules traveled to Hereford on Tuesday night to tangle with the Whitefaces and then take the holidays off. The Mules will host Friona on Jan. 4.

## Eighth-grade Lady Mules overcome Lubbock Cooper

By Delton Wilhite  
Sports Writer

The eighth grade Lady Mules used a 12-point final quarter to drop the Lubbock Cooper Lady Pirates 28-24 last Monday night. The Lady Mules had fallen behind 8-15 by the intermission.

Madison Smith finished a fast break to crank the Lady Mule offense in the third period and added a 12-foot jumper on the Lady Mules next possession.

The defense was fronting Kathryn Owens and Smith lobbed a pass over the top that Owens laid in the basket.

Cooper held a 16-19 margin as the final quarter began. Smith opened the period with a charity toss before Cooper added back-to-back buckets. Gabby Agundis found Smith on a backside cut for two points.

Amy Withrow drained an 18-foot baseline jumper to cut the Cooper lead to a single bucket. The Lady Mules trapped on defense and Smith ripped the ball free and drove to tie the game at 23-23 with two minutes left in the game.

Withrow made a charity toss that gave the Lady


**Continued on pg. 8**

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ICE CUBE SNOWMAN (\$30) - JESSICA LOPEZ OF MULESHOE  
FABRIC SNOWMAN (\$20) - MARIE SIMPSON OF FRIONA  
COWBOY/COWGIRL SET (\$45) - RICARDO ESTRADA OF FRIONA  
POPCORN SNOWMAN (\$20) - SYLVIA LIRA OF MULESHOE  
PIÑATA W/ GIFTS (\$50) - KIM LANGFORD OF MULESHOE  
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# Seventh-grade Lady Mules fall to Cooper

By Delton Wilhite  
Sports Writer

The seventh grade Lady Mules got off to a quick start against the Lubbock Cooper Lady Pirates Monday night. The Lady Pirates came storming back in the second half to defeat the Lady Mules 21-34.

Cooper scored the first bucket of the night but Breann Baca broke the ice for the Lady Mules with a free throw.

Sara Johnson gave the Lady Mules the lead with a give and go to Baca.

Ashley Cisneros stopped and popped for 12 feet before Johnson added a charity toss.

Johnson drove and drew the defense and dished off to Jessica Howard to put the Lady Mules up 8-2 with less than two minutes left in the

opening period.

Cooper scored back to back buckets to trail the Lady Mules by two as the second frame began. Johnson hit a 12-foot jumper as the second period began.

Cooper went on a six-point run before Johnson finished a fast break that ended the half with the game tied 12-12.

It was all Cooper in the second half and the Lady Pirates out scored the Lady Mules 9-22.

Johnson led the Lady Mules with 13 points and Cisneros had five. Howard made two points and Baca chipped in one.

The Lady Mules break for the holidays and return to action when they host the Littlefield Lady Wildcats to start the second round of district Jan. 10.



Courtesy photo

Girl Scout leaders and assistants: Leaders and assistants confer on the upcoming activities for the Girl Scouts at the Girl Scout Hut, Nov. 30. Clockwise, starting at far left, are Linda Harp, Jennifer DeLeon, Janette Kube, Martina Quintana, Nicci Rux, Carrie Morris and Crystal Castro.

## Girl Scout leaders meet, discuss cookie sales

By Nelda Merriott  
Muleshoe Service Unit Chairman

On Nov. 30, Girl Scout Leaders and assistants met at the Girl Scout Little Hut to discuss the upcoming Girl Scout cookie sales.

Martina Quintana, a seasoned Brownie leader and Cookie Chairman, presented the program. On Jan. 3, cookie sales will begin and cookie orders taken. On Feb. 8, the cookies will be delivered to the Muleshoe troops. However, booth sales will be held before individual deliveries are made.

The Girl Scout program in Muleshoe is very active, and involves some forty individuals, which includes Girl Scouts, Leaders and Assistants.

## Ladies Golf Assn. News

Fifteen members of the Muleshoe Country Club Ladies Association met at 4 p.m. Dec. 15 at the Muleshoe Country Club for their regular monthly meeting and an "Ornament Party."

New President Ann McElroy and Past President Lavern Winn hosted the party.

Those attending the event were: Winn, McElroy, Sheila Stevenson, Analita

Haley, Darlene Henry, Pam Miller, Dorothy St.Clair, Neets Foster, Jo Rempe, Jeannie Bamert, Marlene Martin, Helen Templeton, Pat Kirk, Kay Field and Elinor Yerby.

Yerby was able to select the ornament of her choice as she is celebrating a Dec. birthday.

### Ninth, from page 6

charity toss each to break the run. Wills added another put back and Contreras made the final four points of the game.

Contreras led the Lady Mules with 11 points and Wills added four. Barker made three points, Scolley and Kelsi Tipps had two points each and Jasmine Devenport chipped in one.

The Lady Mules will be on holiday until they host the Littlefield Lady Wildcats Jan. 10 to start the second round of district.

### Eighth, from pg. 7

Mules the lead for good. Withrow followed her shot and chased down the rebound. She dropped in a 10-foot jumper as the Lady Mules began to take over the game. Smith sealed the deal for the Lady Mules with a driving layup.

Smith set the scoring pace for the Lady Mules with

13 points. Withrow and Owens each added seven points and Gizell Vasquez chipped in one.

The Lady Mules break for the holidays and host the Littlefield Lady Wildcats on Jan. 10.

## God's Gift at Bethlehem Is the Best Gift of All

What we need most for God to do in our world and in our lives are the very things that we cannot possibly do. They are also quite often the things that we, in frequent fits of arrogance, are tempted to think we can.

God's people in first century Palestine were quite sure they needed the

Gift, absolutely holy and yet absolutely winsome, God sends to us at Bethlehem the very best Christmas gift, His own Son, to lift the fallen sons of Adam and daughters of Eve up to be the adopted sons and daughters of God and "joint heirs" with Christ of the very best blessings of the Father.

Ah, we could never have done that on our own! It's God's gift to us, and all we can do now is to accept it through faith as a gift—or not. It comes in no other way. It is a gift. And it can be received in no other way. While all of eternity is not long enough for us to adequately praise God for the gift He has given, how dare we even begin to think that, could we give them, a thousand years of our praises, our songs, our worship, our good deeds, our pious ritual, would ever be enough to in any way even begin pay God back for that wonderful Gift? And don't we realize that to refuse to accept a gift as a gift is to dishonor the Giver?

Yes, worship the Giver!

Yes, live to honor Him!

Yes, join the angels in singing His praises and proclaiming His salvation!

But do it with real joy because you have opened your hands and your heart to freely receive the Gift God gave at Bethlehem to do for you and for me what we could never do for ourselves.

*Curtis Shelburne is minister of the 16th & D Church of Christ in Muleshoe.*



**Focus On Faith**  
Curtis Shelburne

Romans thrown out of their country and excised from their lives. And so they fell prey not only to the Romans but to a succession of pseudo-saviors raising rebellion and multiplying misery.

Then, almost unnoticed except by a few shepherds out on the hills near Bethlehem and some animals cramped in their stable by the presence of a guy from Nazareth and his wife who'd managed to turn the place into a delivery room, God does something to truly save His people that the mightiest general and the strongest army on earth could never have done.

Because no one who has ever lived or who ever will live has been able to live a life completely grace-filled and sin-free, perfectly righteous and yet perfectly gen-

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# Obituaries

## NORMA JEANINE SEYMORE

Services for Norma Jeanine Seymore, 74, of Muleshoe were Friday, Dec. 17, 2004 at First Baptist Church in Muleshoe with Dr. Stacy Conner officiating. Burial was in Littlefield Memorial Park Cemetery, Littlefield.

Mrs. Seymore died Tuesday, Dec. 14, 2004 in a vehicle accident near Southland. She was born Aug. 6, 1930 in Rocky Ford. She married Melvin Leon Seymore in Amherst on May 18, 1945.

She moved to the Muleshoe area from Sudan in 1945. She was a retired farmer and a member of First Baptist Church of Muleshoe.

Survivors include her husband of Muleshoe; a son, David Seymore of Dodge City, Kan.; two daughters, Pamala Collins of Burleson and Kathryn Jahay of Floydada; and five grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to First Baptist Church Music Department, 202 W. Ave. E., Muleshoe, TX. 79347.

## MICHAEL DON MILLER

Services for Michael Don

Miller, 31, of Earth were Tuesday, Dec. 21, 2004 at First Baptist Church, Earth, with the Revs. Glenn Harlin of Springlake and Jeff Hucbey of Earth officiating. Burial was in Earth Memorial Cemetery, Earth.

Mr. Miller died Dec. 19, 2004. He was born Feb. 8, 1973 in Littlefield.

He was a lifelong resident of the Earth community and worked as head cattle doctor for the A-2 Cattle Company in Flagg.

Survivors include his father, Joe Miller of Sweetwater, Okla.; his mother, Veta Miller of Muleshoe; three brothers and their wives, Marlan Greg and Tony Miller of Springlake, Gregory Joe and Kara Miller and Scottie and Kaci Miller, all of Earth; and numerous aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews.

## J.A. 'ALDON' MULLINAX

Services for Aldon Mullinax, 94, were Monday, Dec. 20, 2004 at First Missionary Baptist Church in Morton with Bro. Bob Baldree officiating. Burial was in Morton Memorial Cemetery.

Mr. Mullinax died Satur-

day, Dec. 18, 2004 in Morton. He was born June 25, 1910 in Jack County, Perrin. He married Vertiz Miller on Sept. 13, 1930. She preceded him in death on March 25, 1995.

He worked at many different jobs until the early 40s when he went into farming. He farmed in Cochran County and raised his family.

He retired in 1976 and he and his wife traveled and went fishing with family and friends.

He was a member of First Missionary Baptist Church of Morton and was among those who helped build the rock portion of the church. He was the oldest of six boys and five girls.

The family moved several times, ending up in Cochran County in 1926.

He and his wife had seven children, losing one son and one daughter at birth.

Another daughter, Norma Jane Pool, preceded him in death in 1974 at the age of 38.

Survivors include a son, Jimmy Aldon Mullinax and his wife Delores of Morton; three daughters, Peggy Hodge and her husband

W.J. "Dub" of Borger, Brenda Akin and her husband Eddie of Morton and Teresa Lynn Smith and her husband, Jack, also of Morton; four brothers, Al Mullinax of Morton and Porter, Murvin and Cecil Mullinax, all of Yakima, Wash.; two sisters, Edith Stewart of Lancaster, Ore. and Hazel Carver of Portland, Ore.; 13 grandchildren; 27 great-grandchildren; and three great-great-grandchildren.

## Senior Center updates list of Pioneers

The Muleshoe Senior Center has updated their list of Pioneers. The following 79 Pioneers and 16 Sponsors are now mounted on the walls at the Senior Center. Project organizers appreciate all the willing sponsors and honorees who have made this project a success. The project planning committee is pleased with the progress of this project and is planning a completion date of Jan. 1, 2005. There are 24 remaining pioneers who have committed to the project.

The committee wishes to express special appreciation to Fred Clements and Joe Sowder who designed, built, painted and installed the frames for the pioneer displays.

Committed pioneers are: Gerald and Ethel Allison Lonnie and Dana Arnold Troy and Ruby Actkinson Ethal Ayers Carl and Cookie Bamert Seab and Lula Beller B.H. "Shorty" and Hattie Mae Bickel B.H. and Fannie Black Eugene and Gladys Black J.D. "Pete" and Ruth Black Ralph and Naomi Black Wiley and Dorothy Bowers Edjar Broyles Fred and Edith Bruns Buhrman Family Claunch Family Sheriff Dee Clements Fred Clements Parents Bill and Margaret Collins Jim and Ruby Cox Joe and Robbie Damron Cecil Davis J.E. and Lula Embry Carl Evans Sam and Vere Fox Gardner Family Ross and Ida Glaze, Sr. Dr. L.T. and Dorothy Green Ray and Hattie Griffiths Byron and Velma Gwyn Luther and Essie Hall Walter and Clara Harrison E.R. Hart Durward B. and Mildred Head Aubrey Heathington's parents Jim R. and Edna Irene Henderson Clyde and Nell Henry Andy and Cecelia Hicks Frank Hinkson Roy and Velma Hogan Clyde and Mary Frances Holt H.C. Holt Lester and Sadie Howard Horace and Rene Hutton Orby and Juanita Jarman Randy and Betty Johnson R.L. and Iva Ray Jones, Sr. Roy and Winona Jordan Harold King O.C. and Gertrude Kirk R.J. and Frances Klump Earl M., Sr. and Clemmie Ladd Bill and Edith Lambert Charles and Marie Lenau Dr. A.E. "Andy" and Mickey Lewis

Leon and Muriel Lewis Bill and Viv McAdams Morris and Laverne McKillip George and Clydetta Mitchell N.C. and Sammie Moore Arnold and Grace Morris Murrah Family Guy Nickels Jess and Grace Osborn J.C. "Carrell" and Edna Peason, Sr. Jeff and Jewel Peeler Myron and Bertha Pool, Jr. Blondie and Myrtle Puckett Charlie and Dora Phipps J.J. and Minnie Love Redwine Van and Kathrine Rogers Raymond and Katie Roubinek Bob and Kathrine Sanders Kathrine Sanders Parents Lewis and Zeffa Shafer Joe and Edna Shipman Henry Marcus and Alva Shofner M.L. and Pruda Smith Tom and Calie Smith W.R. and Eula Sowder Irvin and Naomi St. Clair Loyd and Irene Stephens Watt and Minnie Underdown Cecil Vance and Janet Wagon Elizabeth Watson James and Doris Wedel Theron and Leatha West T.R. and Marie White Vivian (Stevenson) White Conrad and Mildred Williams Judge Glen Williams Bay and Gladys Wilson

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List of Pioneers Awaiting Completion: Troy and Ruby Actkinson Stan Barrett Joe and Robbie Damron Cecil Davis Carl M. and Mary Elizabeth Evans Henry and Rose Hanover Heathingtons Jim R. and Edna Irene Henderson Frank Hinkson Horace and Rene Hutton Randy and Betty Johnson Harold King O.C. and Gertrude Kirk Eddie Lane Family Charles and Marie Lenau Leon and Muriel Lewis Guy Nickels

Continued on pg. 23

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**Chris**

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# LETTERS TO SANTA

## Santa Letter from Our Hometown

Dear Santa,  
My name is Cheyayne and I am nearly 3 years old. I have been really good this year. I would like a key board and Karyoke machine for Christmas. Please don't forget my grandparents in Wellington, TX and great-grandparents in Muleshoe and my grandpa too.

Love,  
Cheyayne Wilcox

## Kinder Korner Pre-School

Dear Santa,  
My name is Cambry and I am 2 years old. I have tried to be good most of the time. Would you please bring me a big Christmas tree, a present at my house and I what snoopy to come to my house to visit.

Thank you,  
Cambry King

Mrs. Brantley's PPCD Class

Dear Santa,  
Please bring me a Superman toy. I would like a Batman toy. Please bring Dakota a toy. Please bring Ethan a toy.

Love,  
Levi Berry

Dear Santa,  
Please bring me some Power Ranger toys. I would like a Sponge Bob. Please bring Aaron Power Ranger toys.

Love,  
Andrew Espinoza

Dear Santa,  
Please bring me a baseball bat. Please bring me a football. Mom and Dad need a phone.

Love,  
Christian Gonzalez

Dear Santa,  
I would like a baby doll. Please bring Brandon and Ivanna a present.

Love,  
Zara Rivas

Dear Santa,  
I would like a Pocahantis. Please bring me a horse. Please bring Ashlyn some puppets. Please bring Benjamin a new baby toy.

Love,  
Malie Rodriguez

Dear Santa,  
I would like a ball. Please bring me a baby doll. Please bring Felicity a baby doll. Colton would like a truck.

Love,  
Breonna Griswold

Dear Santa,  
Please bring me a doll and a teddy bear. Please bring Mom and Dad a present.

Love,  
Samantha

Dear Santa,  
Bring me a Little Pony and a car. Please bring Myria a present.

Love,  
Clarrissa Ruvalcaba

Dear Santa,  
Please bring me a computer. I would like a car. Please bring Brittney a Barbie.

Love,  
Ryan Wolfe

Dear Santa,  
Jordan wants a truck, I would like a tractor. I would like some horses. Mom and Dad would like some tools. Kayleigh would like a doll.

Love,  
Matthew Russell

## Dillman Pre-Kindergarten School

## Mrs. Agundiz Class

Querido Santo Clos,  
Mi nombre es Joel a mi me gustaria que me dieras un Tractor para quitar la pastura. Y uno para poner la pastura.

Gracias  
Joel Muniz

Querido Santo Clos,  
Mi nombre es Ziomara, a mi me gustaria que me dieras unos jugetes, unos globos, y un rompe cabezas.

Gracias,  
Xiomara Regalado

Querido Santo Clos,  
Mi nombre es Yavet a me me gustaria que me dieras un Scooter y un puzzle y tambien una bicicleta. Un tractor y un pelota.

Gracia,  
Yavet Elizalde

Santo Clos,  
Mi nombre es Jose, a mi me gustaria que me dieras un tractor con Spiderman y un troque.

Gracias,  
Jose Anchondo

Querido Santo Clos,  
Mi nombre es Bianca, a mi me gustaria que me dieras unos focitos, y una muneca, y una bacicleta. Tambien un cillon y un "Chucky" y un payaso malo.

Gracias,  
Bianca Chavarria

Querido Santo Clos,  
Mi nombre es Carolina, a mi me gustaria que me dieras unos jugetes y un tree (arbol) con adornos de monos. Tambien me gustaria unas silla para mi hermanito y una para mi. Tambien una para me Mama.

Gracias,  
Carolina Regalado

Querido Santo Clos,  
Me llamo Eduardo, y yo quiero un tractor con traila. Y para mi hermanita, quiero un bebe.

Eduardo Jose Lopez

Querido Santo Clos,  
Mi nombre es Isaac, a mi me gustaria un dinosaur, y un volcan y un puppy. Tambien unos colores y un pino y una taza. Eso es todo.

Gracias,  
Isaac Carreaga

Querido Santo Clos,  
Mi nombre es Ibeht, a mi me gustaria que me dieras una muneca y un arbol de navidad. Tambien quiero un oso y un venado y un conejo. Tambien un barco para jugar. Tambien quiero un Care Bear.

Gracias,  
Ibeht Benavides

Querido Santo Clos,  
Mi nombre es Luis y a mi me gustaria que me dieras un tren, y un barco, y una pelota de beisbol y tambien un osito. Me gustaria un tambor para tocar un unos caramelos.

Gracia,  
Luis Guerrero

Querido Santo Clos,  
Mi nombre es Kimberly, y a mi me gustaria una Barbie y una Bratz. Yo quiero mucho a Santa Clos y quiero mucho a mi Mama y tambien quiero a mi papa.

Gracia,  
Kimberly Lopez

Querido Santo Clos,  
Mi nombre es Giovanni, a mi me gustaria que me dieras un libro de Bat Man, y un libro de Spiderman y un juguete de Spiderman y un juguete de Batman.

Gracia,  
Giovani Torres

Querido Santa Clos,  
Mi nombre es Christopher, y yo quiero paletas, nieve, y un arbol de navidad. Y tambien quiero comida.

Gracia,  
Christopher Ramos

Querido Santo Clos,  
Mi nombre es Rosio, a mi me gustaria que me dieras un osito color de rosa.

Gracias,  
Rosio Diaz

Querido Santa Clos,  
Yo me llamo Anastasia, y yo quiero jugetes. Me gustaria un tren para me hermano Danny. Y quiero un a pelota para me hermano Lupito

Gracias,  
Anastasia Campos

Querido Sant Clos,  
Mi nombre es Cesar y a mi me gustaria que me dieras muchos jugetes. Tambien un traje, y una calabaza y unos libros de Spiderman. Y si puedes unas luces para me casa.

Gracias,  
Cesar Amador

Querido Santo Clos,  
Mi nombre ie Nayeli, a mi me gustaria que me dieras una computadora y un carito para poner a mis munecas. Y si puedes tambien me gustaria un "Bingo" (loteria).

Gracias,  
Nayeli Chavira

Querido Santo Clos,  
Mi nombre es Sofia, a mi me gustaria que me dieras una casa, una muneca, ropa y zapatas. Y un perro.

Gracias,  
Sofia Sianez

## Mrs. Whitworths Class

Dear Santa,  
I have been a good boy. Please bring my mommy a iron. Please bring my dad coloring book. Please bring my brother a big red toy. Please bring my sister a teddy bear. Please bring me a coloring book for Christmas.

Brett

Dear Santa,  
I have been a good girl. I play with my sister. Please bring my mom a carebear. Please bring my dad a cow. Please bring my sister a carebear. Please bring me a stroller for Christmas.

Brenda

Dear Santa,  
I have been a good girl. I help my mommy around the house. Please bring my mom a dolphin. Please bring my dad an eagle and wolf. Please bring my sister a soft pony. Please bring me a rocking horse and a swimming pool.

Yamileth



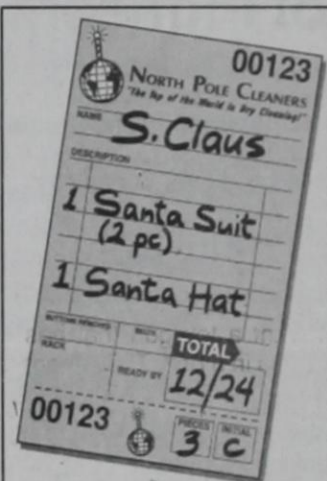
God bless your home

Wherever it is you call home, may His good graces reside with you and your loved ones this holiday season. We thank you ever so much for your kind patronage and look forward to serving you in 2005!



202 S. 1st St. • Muleshoe • 272-4515

Continued on pg. 11



Just In The Nick Of Time!

...Our very best wishes for a jolly holiday season to all our customers. We really appreciate your dropping in this year.

Lambert Cleaners  
123 Main • 272-4726



a round of good cheer ... and a chorus of thanks from all of us to all of you. Have a safe and happy holiday season.

From the employees of



**Ho...Ho...Hold The Press-It's Christmas!**

In the middle of all this hustle and bustle, we'd like to pause to wish you a very happy holiday season.

**BOB STOVALL PRINTING**  
Graphic Arts and Design Specialists  
221 East Avenue B • Muleshoe, Texas 79347  
806-272-3373

Merry Christmas

In the spirit of the season we offer you our sincere best wishes and deepest gratitude.

Of Muleshoe  
1315 W. American Blvd.  
1-866-YOUR-MCD  
Steve & Susan Credle

**PEACE ON EARTH**

May you and your loved ones rejoice in the splendor of all His creations during this beautiful and wondrous season. We thank you kindly for your valued business.

**Muleshoe Livestock Auction**  
The Myers Family & Employees

## LETTERS TO SANTA

Dear Santa,  
I have been good. I play with my sister at home. Please bring a chair for my mom. Please bring my dad a table. Please bring my sister a bear. Please bring me a bear also I also would like a horse.  
Milenia

Dear Santa,  
I have been good. I listen to my mom and dad and I go to sleep. Please bring my mom a Christmas barbie, Please bring my dad a bat. Please bring all three of my brothers footballs. Please bring my sisters barbies. Please bring me a spiderman web for Christmas.  
Jordan

Dear Santa,  
I have been a good boy. I help my mom clean the house Please bring my mom some chocolate. Please my dad some chocolate. Please bring my brothers some chocolate. Please bring me a lizard toy.  
Love,  
Ryan

Dear Santa,  
I have been good. I help my mom and dad make me a peanut butter and jelly sandwich. Please bring my mommy a new dress. Please bring my daddy a real gun. Please bring Trason a toy gun. Please bring me a deer target and a gun. I would also like a nunja turtle water bottle.  
Love,  
Trentor

Dear Santa,  
I have been good. I help clean my my toys and my clothes. Please bring my mom a new dress. Please bring my dad a horn. Please bring my sister a Barbie. Please bring my brother a drum. Please bring my other sister a bear. Please bring me a baseball bat, a baseball and two baseball gloves and for my brother and me.  
Joe

Dear Santa,  
I have been a nice girl. I do stuff for my mommy. I would like you to bring me a cake and Barbies. Please bring my mommy a ring. Please bring my dad some boy stuff.  
Alyssa

Dear Santa,  
I have been a good boy. I help my dad open presents. Please bring me a playstation and a robot. Please bring my dad a Spanish song and a playstation. Please bring my brothers a power ranger game.  
Tristan

Dear Santa,  
I would like you to bring my mom a cup she can drink from. Please bring my baby sister a baby toy. Please bring my brother some power rangers. Please bring me a baby with a bottle and some Barbies. I always help my mom.  
Kinze

Dear Santa,  
I have been good. I am still and go to sleep. Please bring my mom some lights for the house. Please bring my brother a kitty cat and a dog. Please bring Jeanette a doll and some flowers. Please bring me a horse and a spiderman toy. Please bring my dad some paints and some shirts.  
Love,  
Jaime

Dear Santa,  
I have been good at my house. I go to sleep at night. Please bring my mom a care bear. Please bring my dad some cars. Please bring Joseph a scooby doo water bottle. Please bring me a phone and a barbie and a big, big doll. I will put cookies out for you.  
Shayla

Dear Santa,  
I have been good. I help my dad work and build a little choo-choo train. Please bring my dad a big boat. Please bring my mom some flowers. Please bring Natalie a horn and a drum. Please bring Hailey a box of obuild a guitar. Please bring me a spiderman toy.  
Love,  
Michael

Dear Santa,  
I am a good girl. I listen to my mom. Please bring my mom some new toys. She would like a Dora toy. Please bring me a Barbie. Bring me a key to open my locker. I would like to be in Muleshoe for Christmas.  
Love,  
Marisol

Dear Santa,  
I have been good. I help my mom cook. I help my Dad go to work. Please bring my mom some flowers. Please bring my dad a gun. Please bring Shaddiah a dress. Please bring me a basketball.  
Love,  
Christian

### Mrs. Hamiltons Class

Dear Santa,  
I want some blue buckle shoes. I want a purple shirt, and some pants. I want a puzzle with Humpty Dumpty on it. I want a Barbie.  
Lisa Granados

Dear Santa,  
My brother Jose wants a baseball, football with a helmet and everything. I want a big truck with a trailer. My sister wants a dog. My dad wants a picture of him. My mom wants a new tree. I've been good.  
Isaac Mendoza

Dear Santa,  
I want a bike, a computer, and a cake. A puzzle, a water bottle, a drum, a dress, flowers, folders, balls, a birthday, a punkin, a castle, a flashlight, a big yo-yo and papers, a real cat. I want everything I say to you.  
Lizzie Morales

Dear Santa,  
I want a new drum. I want a T.V. video game - Dora. I want a new playhorse. Josh wants a those circe things that don't fall down (Weebles). I have been good. I like to stay up late to wait for you, then I'll go to bed.  
Elizabeth Fisher

Dear Santa,  
I want a real dog a little one, brown. A cat to play with the dog. Malie wants a doll house. Benjamin needs diapers.  
Ashlyn Rodriguez

Dear Santa,  
I want some purple skates. Bring my sister and brother a new toy. I want mom to have skates and Dad to have skates, too.  
Astyn Rodriguez

Dear Santa,  
I want a go-cart. My baby sister wants a play house. My brig brother wants a go-cart i

think. Leslie wants a trampoline and I want to give my dad some tools cause he doesn't have none. I want a baseball bat, a baseball with a thing that holds the bal. Mom needs some candles.  
Joe Zack Reyes

Dear Santa,  
I want a tent with a door so we can go inside and play. And an unbrrella. And a Strawberry Shortcake pet and some candy. Bailey wants an umbrella. Keifer wants a knife. Mccooy wants a gun. My littel sister wants a little puppy dog andl want a real puppy dog. Mommy needs make-up (me, too). Dad needs some more knives.  
Lani Canada

Dear Santa,  
I want a little toy puppy so I can play with it. A Barbie a real one that has clothes. My sister needs a Barbie bike. Mom and dad need keys to a new car. I am going to leave some pretend cookies and milk. I need a new water bottle. The Cat in the Hat.  
Cynthia Muniz

Dear Santa,  
I want a little baby that has its own bottles and diapers. And a jeep for me and my brother cause we lost the charger. My little brother needs his own bottles and diapers and all kinds of new shoes and toys. And I need a brand new bike.  
Xina Castillo

Dear Santa,  
My daddy wants a Dallas Cowboys clock. My mommy wants a football clock. I want a Spderman clock, A Texas Tech clock and a Dallas Cowboy clock and a Pittsburgh Steeler clock. Austin wants a Spiderman 2 game with Dr. Octopus.  
Alec Garza

Dear Santa,  
I want a toy gun that has two guns in a box. They shoot out bullets that stick to the door or wall. My mom and dad doesn't need nothing. Inez wants a 4 wheeler-go-cart-motorcycle all in one box. I think Chris wants a gun thats white and shoots out colored bullets. Jewel wants a teddy bear.  
Michael Lozano

Dear Santa,  
I want a go-cart and a new water bottle. And a little bell, and a box for all my toys. I want a little choo-choo train. My brother wants a Pittsburg Steelers clock. My big sister

wants a Barbie. My mom wants a real flower. My dad wants Steeler stuff, too. Sasha wants everything. I want a little baseball, a new water bottle.  
Sterling Chavez  
Dear Santa,  
I want a real dog for Christmas a little one. Daddy wants an elephant to sit down on it. Mommy wants green toys. Bring my brothers little babies. I want a football game. I have been good. I want a horse.  
Edgar Lopez

Dear Santa,  
For Christmas I want a toy car, a kite, and a guitar. I love you Santa.  
Jonathan Torres

Dear Santa,  
For Christmas I want a rock-ing horse, a car, a horn to play music. Thank you Santa and I love you.  
Daniel Torres

Dear Santa,  
I want a puppy and a kitty. A real baby for mama to take care of, so I can hold it. Meagan's getting a purse and a baby too. My brother is getting probably wants a baby. I think he want a a race car. I think he wants all cars.  
Haleigh Kennemer

### Mrs. Cains Class

Dear Santa, I ahve been good this year. I play with Logan. I want a Spiderman Superhero play set. I want Logan to get a play station. Maddie wants a doll. My mom wants shoes. My dad wants shoes.  
Love,  
Nikki

Dear Santa,  
I want Princess Peter. Michelle wants a radio. Brandon wants a race car. Heather wants a Barbie. Please give Mom a Barbie. Please give Daddyb a race car. I put my Barbie up when I play with them. I lost my Barbie. My mom picks me up at school. I love you, Santa Claus. Come see my big Christmas Tree and my little Christmas Tree.  
Love,

Laura

Dear Santa,  
I want some Barbie and some bears. My monny wants a bike. She wants a big Barbie bike. My dad wants a regular bike. James loves Mojo Jojo. Please bring him

one. Lillian likes bikes. Can she get it? I do good things. I am nice to my brother and sister and I give my mom a hug and my dad a kiss.  
Love,  
Madison

Continued on pg. 12

## Peace Be With You

May the Lord watch over you and your flock as together we celebrate the miracle of Christmas.



**Vasquez Lumber & Hardware**  
506 W. American Blvd. • 272-5601

*Thanks For Coming  
'Round This Year!*

May the coming season bring renewal, growth and good times to you and your loved ones, just as you have brought us so much joy this past year.

*Merry Christmas!*

**DECORATORS  
FLORAL & GIFTS**

316 S. 1st St. • 272-4340



## WISHES, MERRY & BRIGHT

At this beautiful time of year, we'd like to send our best wishes and gratitude to all the families we've had the privilege to serve all over the area. Your trust means a lot to us and we don't take it lightly! Merry Christmas!



**Bailey County Electric  
Co-Op Assn.**

305 E. Ave. B • Muleshoe • 272-4504

**Buster Says...  
Best Wishes For A  
Merry Christmas!**

*Our Greatest  
Gift This Year  
Has Been Your  
Friendship. It's  
Been a Ball!*

*Season's  
Greetings*  
Rejoice in  
the Season  
and God Bless  
Everyone!

**M-PYRE AUTO SALES, INC.**  
1112 W. American Blvd., Muleshoe • 272-7777

# LETTERS TO SANTA

Dear Santa,  
Please bring me a toy. I want a Batman. Jessica needs a dolly. Alex wants a Batman. Bring my mom a little ring. My dad needs Chap stick. I do good at school. I listen to Mrs. Cain.  
Matthew

Dear Santa,  
I listen to my Mommy. I listen to Daddy. I want a clown nose and for my sister a clown nose also. Could mom have a blanket? For my dad please bring a football. I could play football with my dad. I want my sister to get a Bratz dolphin. I want a power ranger a black one and a red one. I want one more thing for my sister. I want her to get a watch. It should be a dolphin watch. I guess that's it.  
Love,  
Joshua

Dear Santa,  
I play with cousin Marti, I want a Barbie car that you can drive in mud and grass. I want a Barbie flashlight. Please bring my mom a yellow car like my Barbie. My mom and I can race and drive fast. I will call my cousin Marti and he can come over and watch us. Grandma Rosemary needs a Barbie car too! Make it a pink one. Grandpa Roy need a candy. Make it a blue candy. Bring candy canes for Grandpa Roy. That's it!  
Love,  
Hailey

Dear Santa,  
I want a Barbie car. Make it pink. Please. I want a jeep. It should be pink. I want a flashlight, Barbie, pink. I want those things that goes on your ears. You hear some songs in them. I want a bike, Barbie bike, pink. My Mom wants dishes-Barbie dishes, blue with pink. My mom and my dad and my little sister and brother want some racers-car racers. I do good things. I play nice. I play outside. I go to lunch nice. I eat nice. I color nice. I Play nice on computer. I am nice.  
Love,  
Alexandria

Dear Santa,  
I want a talking grill. I want a motorcycle a toy one. I also want a real one. I want a Bible book. I want a bike the same as my size. I want a pencil with an eraser. I want a book you can write in. I want a flag and a hat. I want a puzzle that is easy. I want a video game-Dora. I want an elephant that squirts out butterflies and you catch them in a net. How about an airplane that has a thing that makes it go. I help put up the Christmas tree in Mrs. Cain's room. I help Mrs. Cain put up Sweet Dreams, out rest time puppet.  
Love,  
Julio

Dear Santa,  
I play with my brother. I am nice to him. I don't fight with him. I don't fight with my cousins. Would you please bring me a picture of my brother? I need a dog that I could give to my brother. My brother wants a Bob the Builder. I want a King toy.  
Love,  
Yvonne

Dear Santa,  
I fight with my brother. I take my watch off. I can't take a bath with it. Me and brother want a game boy. I want a Crash Bandicoot game with it. Clarissa wants a kitchen. Only boys and girls get presents. Don't bring my mom or dad anything they aren't a boy or girl.  
Love,  
JoJo

Dear Santa,  
I do lots of good things. I play with my baby sister. She's my cousin. She comes over to my house. I want you to bring me a Kallie girl. You can put earrings in her ears. I want some cracker-animal crackers. My mom doesn't want anything. My dad doesn't want anything either. In Mrs. Cain's room we are nice.  
Love,  
Katlyn

Dear Santa,  
I listen at school. I clean up at school. I want green presents. I want a Barbie Car-pink. I want a school bus I can play with. Bring my mom a school. Bring my grandma boys and girls. For my brother I want a house. I love you, Santa Claus.  
Love,  
Esmeralda

Dear Santa,  
I am a good girl. I am nice to Nivea, she pinches me. I pinch her back. I want you to bring me some Sponge bob things. Abigail wants Barbie stuff. I don't know what Tims wants.  
Love,  
Kandice

Dear Santa,  
I listen to Mrs. Cain at school. I want purple toys. I want purple sunglasses. My sister wants blue sunglasses. My mom wants purple sunglasses. We like sunglasses. My baby breaks sunglasses. Mrs. Cain's room is a happy place.  
Love,  
Maricela

Dear Santa,  
I am a very good girl. I ride the bus. I do the alphabet. We count. We read the calendar. I love you, Santa. Come to my house. Please bring lots of toys and presents. I want a toy horse. I want to play like a baby. Bring me a hat I can put on my head. I want you to bring the reindeer and make me fly on the couch.  
Love,  
Autumn

Dear Santa,  
I play outside with my sister. I play nice at school. Please bring me My Little Pony. I would like a Care Bear-the pink one because it has pointy hair. I need those gooey shushy things that my sister has that turn into sponges. I want an Easter easter. I want a tiger-one that talks and a bear that talks, too!  
Love,  
Sabina

Dear Santa,  
I do good at school. I nap at school. Mrs. Cain's room is fun! Please bring me a Dora bike with training wheels. I want a Barbie jeep. Could my baby brother have a pacifier and a new bottle? His is Bran-

don Lee. Anthony wants a bike. Destiny wants a Barbie bike.  
Love,  
Carmen

### Mrs. Gallmans Class

Dear Santa Clause,  
Santa should come to see me because I don't hit people. I want a tree for Christmas. Mom wants a new mirror. I will be good.  
Love,  
Justin

Dear Santa Clause,  
Santa Clause is going to buy me Dors's. He should come to see me because I share the toys. Mom and Dad want toothbrushes. My brother wants cookies, and sister likes basketball.  
Love,  
Nadia

Dear Santa Clause,  
Santa should come to see me because I be good, and being nice I want Dust the Vacuum Cleaner. Ethan wants everything. Mom wants a toy animal and she wants some stuff, and some angels. My daddy in Alaska want something to smoke and Mom wants him to stop.  
Love,  
Georgia

Dear Santa Clause,  
I have been good to my papa, grandma and mom. I want some roller skates. My mom wants some new clothes. Papa wants a new curtain for the bathtub and grandma wants some new shoes.  
Love,  
Christian

Dear Santa Clause,  
Santa should come to see me because I share toys. I want a dog. Mom wants a dog. Santa I like bugs.  
Love,  
Rigo

Dear Santa Clause,  
I was good when Santa was here. I want my own Barbie computer. My mommy wants a paperweight and a bunch of Care Bears. Santa I want my own room and my own stuff.  
Love,  
Alessandra

Dear Santa Clause,  
Santa should come see me because I have been good to my kitty. I want a Power Ranger, an incredible toy and a transformer.  
Love,  
Azton

Dear Santa Clause,  
Santa should come see me because I'm sharing the toys. I want a computer for Christmas, and a beanbag. Lucas wants some toys. Mom wants a bracelet and dad wants a watch. Santa I want a pair of clothes.  
Love,  
McKenzee

Dear Santa Clause,  
Santa should come see me because I am good, I want a box of donuts. Brother wants a Spiderman toy. Mom wants a doll and my dad wants a trampoline.  
Love,  
Julius

Dear Santa Clause,  
Santa should come see me because I play with my toys. I

want a trampoline. Mom wants a trampoline.  
Love,  
Patience

Dear Santa,  
Hi, how are you doing? Bring me a remote control with lights and a glow in the dark Nerf basketball set. Give Mrs. Clause a big hug for me.  
Love,  
Zackery

Dear Santa Clause,  
Santa Clause should come see me because I have been nice to him and I went to see him. He lives at the North Pole. My dad is going to get a motorcycle and I am going to have a little one. I already have headphones. Mom wants a pink pencil.  
Love,  
TJ

Dear Santa Clause,  
Santa should come see me because I am being good. I want a little dirt bike and a ramp. Mom wants apples and dad lik football. Both of my sisters want a doll. My brothers want a real big dirt bike. I also want a bunch of toys.  
Love,  
Raul

Dear Santa Clause,  
Santa should come see me because I am being a good boy and having fun. I really like Santa Clause. I want hot wheels and a white robot with a remote to it. I can't tell you what mom bot because it is already under the tree.  
Love,  
Bailey

Dear Santa Clause,  
Santa should come see me because I have been cleaning up my room. I want a pink bike for Christmas. Mom wants new shoes and dad wants a watch. My little sister wants a little bed. Santa I also want Brats.  
Love,  
Liliana

Dear Santa Clause,  
Santa should come see me because I am being good. I want a color football that is not hard but soft. I hope I have a football helmet so I can play tackle football when I grow up. Matthew want baby food and my mommy want a necklace that has Jesus on it. I hope Matthew feels better and I hope Santa gives him a toy he can hug.  
Love, Johnny Rey

Dear Santa Clause,  
Santa should come see you because I want I toy. I want

two Barbies and a teddy bear. Daddy wants a movie like this  
**Continued on pg. 13**



## PEACE ON EARTH

*It may be cold outside, but our hearts are warmed by thoughts of the many good people we've had the privilege to meet and serve. Merry Christmas and sincere thanks to all of you.*

**Henry Insurance Agency**  
"Serving You Since 1964"  
111 West Avenue B 272-4581 Muleshoe, TX


## EVERYONE'S IN THE SPIRIT



**We've got enough horse sense to know that we owe our success to great customers like you. May you enjoy the season with your loved ones. Please come see us again soon.**

**MULESHOE ANIMAL CLINIC** **MULESHOE VET SUPPLY**  
GENERAL PRACTICE 1430 US Hwy. 84 • Muleshoe • 272-3061

## With Our Thanks At The Holidays



*Another great season is in the bag, and we hope it's filled with good times for you and your family. We really appreciate your shopping with us this past year.*

## LOWE'S MARKETPLACE

401 W. American Blvd., Muleshoe • 272-4585



## ALL THE BEST!

We'd like to take the leap and say, "Have a happy holiday!" To all our good friends, near and "deere", we thank you all for shopping here!

**DENT & CO.**  
2800 W. American Blvd. • Muleshoe • 272-4296

## BANK ON A VERY GOOD SEASON

**...And know our best wishes are with you all the way!**

**Merry Christmas and sincere thanks to our customers and associates.**

HOME OWNED AND HOME OPERATED  
**MULESHOE STATE BANK**

Muleshoe Branch: 272-4561  
101 W. American Blvd.

Farwell Branch: 481-9580  
801 Ave. A

FDIC MEMBER

# LETTERS TO SANTA

and my mom wants a Barbie too. She also wants everything for me.  
Love, Brianna

**Dillman Elementary  
Kindergarden School  
Mrs. Wallaces Class**

Dear Santa,  
I love you. I want a Barbie and a Princess Feoria and a Shrek.  
Love,  
Victoria Villalobos

Dear Santa,  
How are you? I would like for you to bring me a Rolum car with buttons on top. I will leave you cookies and milk.  
Love,  
Blake Parker

Dear Santa,  
How are you? I would like for you to bring me a soft blanket and a baby doll.  
Love,  
Allie Bermea

Dear Santa,  
How are you? I would like for you to bring me a Star Wars ship. I would also like a space station. I have been good this year!  
Love,  
Tyler Newberry

Dear Santa,  
How are you? I would like for you to bring me a computer. I would also like a stricy hand. I will leave you cookies and milk.  
Love,  
Sydnie Sudduth

Dear Santa,  
How are you? I would like a web blaster. I have been good. I love you.  
Love,  
Mireya Ruvalcaba

Dear Santa,  
Please bring me a Sponge Bob toy. I would like a Dora toy. Please bring Mom and Dad a present.  
Love,  
Janell Velazquez

Dear Santa,  
Have you been sick? I would like a blanket and a book. I will leave you some cookies and milk  
Love,  
Amelia Symm

Dear Santa,  
How are you? I would like for you to bring me a Spiderman tou. I will leave you some cookies and milk.  
Love, Tre Villa

Dear Santa,  
How are you? I would like for you to bring a Gameboy and Incredibles game. I will leave chocolate chip cookies and milk.  
I love you, Adrian Vara

Dear Santa Claus,  
How are you? I would like for you to bring me a brown puppy that barks and runs.  
Love, Emily Precure

Dear Santa,  
I want a Starwars ship and a teddy bear. I have been a good boy.  
Love, Christopher Flores

Dear Santa,  
How are you? I would like for you to bring me a Barbie computer. I will leave you some milk and cookies.  
Love,  
Sadie Su duth

Dear Santa,  
How are you? I would like for you to bring me a black and gray puppy for Dixie. I will leave you chocolate chip cookies and white milk.  
Love, Treg Box

Dear Santa,  
I have been good. I want a Ninja Turtle and a Merry Christmas.  
Love,  
Jesse Leal

Dear Santa,  
How are you? Please bring me a computer.  
Love,  
Marisol Serrano

Dear Santa,  
I have been good. I want a Spiderman game that goes on my arm.  
Love,  
Darius Armijo

**Mrs. Ambrizs Class**

Dear Santa,  
Will you please get me a care bear? I also want a stuffed cat and dog. I want a play kitchen so that me and my sister can play and cook food together I would like a toy baby doll to play with.  
I love Santa,  
Brylee

Dear Santa,  
I would like a toy kitchen to play with. I could pretend I was calling somebody. I also would like to get a baby doll with a carrier, a diaper bag, a blanket and a crib. This would be fun to play with my little sister.  
I want a pink jeep to drive on the yard.  
Merry Christmas,  
Savannah

Dear Santa,  
I want tools so that I could fix things. I want a guitar and Power Rangers. I would share with Colton, Gilbert, Bryan and Veronica. We will play together all the time.  
Merry Christmas,  
Sean

Dear Santa,  
I want a real puppy. I would play with him. I also want a play kitchen. I can play all the time with my sister. I also want to get a baby doll with a carrier and a playpen to play with. A jeep car would be fun to have. The last thing I want is Strawberry Shortcake doll and her pony.  
Love, Crystal D.

Dear Santa,  
I would like a bike and videoe now. For my big sister, a laptop. For my little sister, a littel explores. For my mom, a watch. For my dad, a truck. I will leave you soem brownies on the table.  
Merry Christmas, Beto

Dear Santa,  
I would like a remote control car, airplane and some Power Rangers. For my sister a stuffed Shrek. For my brothers remote control cars. For my mom a heart necklace, shoes and clothes. For my dad a remote control car. I will leave some hash browns and cake on the table.  
Merry Christmas,  
Mario

Dear Santa,  
I would like a Transformer, Power Rangers and a basketball. For my brother, a Spiderman. For my sister, a Care Bear. For my mom, a van. For my dad, a truck. I will leave you some milk and cookies in the kitchen.  
Merry Christmas,  
Dominik

Dear Santa, I would like some puppies for Christmas, and a Teddy Bear. For my two brothers, a radio. For my sisters, some Barbie's. For my mom, a ring. And for my dad, a watch. I will leave you some milk and cookies on the table.  
Merry Christmas,  
Brittney

Dear Santa,  
For Chirstmas, I want a Care Bear, a doll and a piano. For my mom, a shirt. For my dad, some pants. I will leave some brownies on the table.  
Merry Christmas,  
Daisy

Dear Santa,  
I would like a remote control car, a stuffed Donkey and a Transformer. For my baby brother, a rattle. For my big

brother, a purple guitar. For my sister a Care Bear. For my mom, a ring. For my dad some clothes. I will leave you some milk and cookies under the tree.  
Merry Christmas,  
Noah

Dear Santa,  
I would like tools and a jeep to go in the mud. I want a fast remote control car. I want a tree house, a Spiderman movie and a Spiderman game. I also want Tonka toys so that I can play with my sister. Santa I like your reindeers.  
Merry Christmas,  
Leramy

Dear Santa,  
I would like to get Power Rangers "Dino Thunder", and a Ninja Turtel with a fort to play with. I also want Spiderman so my brother and me can play together. I also want a Transformer, a helicopter ti play with.  
Merry Christmas.  
Love,  
Israel

Dear Santa,  
I woul like a Care Bear and a Cabbage Patch doll. Could you bring my sister a Barbie doll? For my mom, some earrings. For my dad, a picture. I will leave you some milk and cookies on the table.  
Merry Christmas, Reagan

Dear Santa,  
I want a Power Ranger and a tractor so that I can play in the dirt  
Merry Christmas,  
Thank you, Diego

Dear Santa,  
I would like a; remote control car, a loader truck, a car for my sister and some ninja turtles for my brother. For my mom, a pretty dress and for my dad, a big truck. I will leave you some milk and cookies on the table.  
Merry Christmas,  
Marco

Merry Christmas,  
Hailey

**Ms. Strawns Class**

**Continued on pg. 14**

## Straight From The Hearth

... Our heartfelt best wishes & gratitude to all our loyal customers & friends.

**Merry Christmas!**

## Ronnie Holt Insurance

218 S. Main St.  
Muleshoe, Texas  
272-4271



## HAVE A JOLLY HOLIDAY!

Wherever you go, we hope it leaves you laughing all the way.

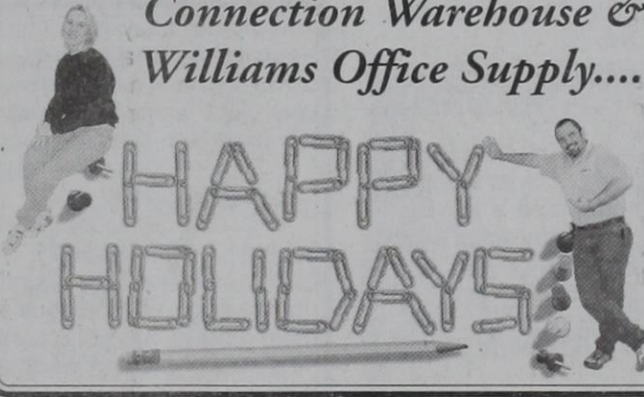


Thanks for your business!

## Dale Oil Co.

413 W. American Blvd. • Muleshoe • 272-5576

*From Tiny Terral, his babe Amy and all the employees of The Connection Warehouse & Williams Office Supply....*



The holidays are a time for feasting, gift-giving and merry-making. For us, they're also a time to say thanks for your continued loyalty.



**THANK YOU!**

1412 W. American Blvd.  
Muleshoe, Texas  
(806) 272-4213

## HOLIDAY GREETINGS

*Opportunity's knocking so we'd like to say, "Hope you enjoy a great holiday" And to our friends both far and near, Whenever you need us we'll always be here!*

## BAILEY CENTRAL APPRAISAL DISTRICT

302 Main St.  
272-5501



## Season's Greetings

As we get revved up for another holiday season, we're hoping yours runs smoothly all the way. It's been a pleasure serving you this past year.

Thanks, everyone!

## Muleshoe Body Shop

201 N. 1st St., Muleshoe • 272-4246  
Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!



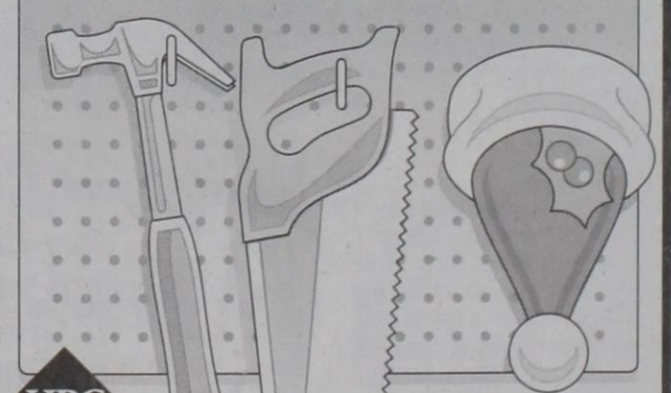
THE MOST PRECIOUS GIFT OF ALL IS THE GIFT OF FRIENDSHIP. WE THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR GIVING US YOURS.  
**BAILEY COUNTY PROPANE, INC.**  
Friona Highway in Muleshoe • 272-4678 or 3319

**We Never Get Tired Of Saying Thanks For Your Patronage!**

Happy Holidays!

## Muleshoe Tire

107 Main St. • Muleshoe • 272-4594



**HBC**  
**THE SPIRIT IS BUILDING!**

Christmas is on the way, along with our best wishes for a great holiday. Thank you for your generous support this past year.

**H B** Igginbotham-  
Bartlett co.  
Since 1916  
"Quality & Service At The Right Price!"

215 Main St.  
Muleshoe, Texas  
272-3351

# LETTERS TO SANTA

Dear Santa,  
How are your reindeer? I want for Christmas 3 puppies. Could you bring my mom a Chihuahua puppy. For my Dad a new hammer. I will leave you some milk and cookies under the tree.  
Love,  
Edith Castillo

Dear Santa,  
I like your reindeer. Could you please bring me a Barbie Blanket. Bring my sister a baby rattle. For me also bring me a Hello Kitty watch. For my mom a picture frame. For my dad some pants. I will leave you some milk and cookies on the table.  
Love,  
Andrea Castorena

Dear Santa,  
I've been a good girl. I want a teddy bear for Christmas. Could you bring my brother a car. Bring my mom a ring. For my dad a watch. I will leave you some milk on the kitchen table.  
Love,  
Itzel Corral

Dear Santa,  
Has it snowed at the North Pole? Could you please bring me a Video Noun. Please bring my mom a necklace. For my dad a watch. I will leave you some cookies on the bar.  
Love,  
Lyndsey Counterman

Dear Santa,  
I've been a good boy. Could you bring me a light. Bring my 3 brothers some toys. And for my sister some nice toy. And for my mom and dad bring them some nice shirts. I will leave you some cookies in the hall.  
Love,  
Carlos De La Rosa

Dear Santa,  
I've been a good boy. Could you bring me a 4-wheeler. For my dogs could you bring some bones. For my mm a picture. And for my dad a good driver to work. And could you bring me some colors and a book. I will leave you some milk and cookies on the kitchen table.  
Love,  
Rolando Estrada

Dear Santa,  
I've been a good boy. Please, bring me a motorcycle. For my 2 brothers and 2 sisters, could oyo bring some motorcycles. And bring my mom and dad a motorcycle, too. I will leave you some milk and cookies on the fireplace.  
Love,  
Michael Garcia

Dear Santa,  
I've been a good girl. Could you bring me a computer. For my 2 brothers could you bring some games. For my dog some bones. For my mom some shoes. For my dad some work for his truck. I will leave you some cookies on the kitchen.  
Love,  
Gaby Gonzalez

Dear Santa,  
I have been a good girl. I want a trampoline. Could you bring my sister Zoe a stuffed doll. For Jazzy some blocks. For Nadia some clothes. For my mom Vanessa some clothes. For my dad some clothes. I will leave come cookies on the table.  
Love,  
Kennedy Orozco

Dear Santa,  
I've been a good little boy. I want a cool toy with a guitar. I want a guitar for my little brother. For my mom a red dress. For my dad a black hat. And for myself a black hat, also and some sharp boots for myself and my brother. I will leave you some milk and cookies in the living room.  
Love,  
Enrique Saenz

Dear Santa,  
I have been a good boy. I want a toy car. For my 2 brothers could you bring some cars. For my sister could you bring a doll. Please, bring my mom a bottle for the baby. Bring my dad a fire truck. I will leave you some milk inside on the table.  
Love,  
Francisco Saucedo

Dear Santa,  
How are your reindeer? I want for Christmas a Rumpzelle Barbie. For my big brother a guitar. For my little brother Yu-Gi-Oh cards. For my sister a T.V. For my mom a preeety dress with sparkles. For my dad some new boots. I will leave yo some cookies on the kitchen table.  
Love,  
Kalli Sirkel

Dear Santa,  
How are the reindeer? I want a Playstation and games. I want a Playstation and games for my brother. For my sister a baby doll. For my mom a watch and a heart necklace. For my dad a guitar. I will leave you some cake in the fridge for you.  
Love,  
Jeremiah Smith

Dear Santa,  
I've been a good girl. Could you bring me a new Barbie. For my baby brother bring him a new bottle. For my mom a new cologne. I will bring some presents and leave them under the tree for you, Santa.  
Love,  
Brandy Valenzuela

Dear Santa,  
I've been a good boy. Could you please bring me a truck. For my brother a truck. For my sister a doll. For my mom a car. For my dad a pick-up. I will leave you some milk and cookies in the living room.  
Love,  
Dustyn Zimmerman

**Mrs. Nixs Class**

Dear Santa,  
Thank you for the toy. I want a ninja turtle and batman. I want power ranger hawk feet and robot walks. I like you.  
Justin Carrion

Dear Santa,  
I would like to have a motorcycle and a uh, a race car set and uh, a spiderman toy. I like your red coat. I would like to ask you if we can send you a present, too.  
Antonio Lopez

Dear Santa,  
Will you give me a gaem and a scooter? A spiderman toy and a Ninja toy. How do your reindeer fly? Thank you, Santa.  
Freddy Campos

Dear Santa,  
I want a toy reindeer and a Easybake oven and Juke box. I want a singing Care Bear. I want a Pauper and a Princess. How do your reindeer fly your sleigh? Say hi to Mrs. Claus.  
Sabrina Mendoza

Dear Santa,  
I want a short Barbie with a white princess dress. I want a red rocking chair. I want a locker for my baby and a tree. Hi to Mrs. Claus.  
Faith Carpenter.

Dear Santa, Can you buy me a game cube and motorcycle and Hulk game. Can I ride your sleigh someday? That's all.  
Aaron Sanchez

Dear Santa,  
To bring me a Barbie dress that is pink. I want you to bring

me pink sandals. Which color do you like? Bring me a baby doll. I would like to take a picture of you.  
Natalia Guerra

Dear Santa,  
I want a video game and I want a skateboard. I want a bicycle that is blue. I want a chalk board and new blue eans. I want a new teddy bear. I want a Credible Hulk sirt and some roller skates, a trampoline and a spiderman game. I want a superman costume. I love you.  
Javy Perez

Dear Santa,  
I want a blue Barbie. I want a Care Bear. I want a red bike. I want a teddy bear. Thank you.  
Griselda Chavira

I want a blue bike. That's all. I want to know all about the North Pole.  
Jerry Godinez

Dear Santa,  
I want a rocking horse, toy sword, a toy water gun and toy doctor kit.  
Ethan Taylor

Dear Santa,  
I want a motorcycle and a scooter and a bike and Ninja Turtles. Please and Thank you. I like the reindeer. I like your family.  
Love,  
Timothy Perez

Dear Santa,  
I wathn make-up for Christmas and a baby doll and a Bright Barbie. I want a glass Angel so I can set it on my window. I want a new make-up box. I want Rudolf for a pet.  
Love,  
Yasmine Devenport

Dear Santa,  
I want a Barbie, a baby doll and a reindeer. I want a red blanket, a mat and a computer. I want a big jacket and some shoes and clothes. Please bring skirts. I like earrings, a necklace a purse sunglasses.  
Love,  
Alexandria Salas

Dear Santa,  
I want a China game, Rudolf the reindeer and Winnie the Pooh. I want a monkey and a Garfield. I want a football.  
Love,  
Malachi Rodriguez

Dear Santa,  
I want a Pink Care Bear and a red bike. I want a dolly and toy money and a toy Bear. I want a Dora toy and a Brat toy.  
Love,  
Samantha Toscano

**Mrs. Morris Class**

Dear Santa,  
This year I would like for you to bring me a motorcycle and a dirt bike. I also want a remote control truck and a puppy. Please bring my sister a kitchen set. I will leave you some milk and cookies on hte table.  
Love,  
Cristian Flores

Dear Santa,  
This year I want you to bring me a Bratz game. I also want some new shoes and a dog. Please bring my brother some learning stuff. I will leave you some milk and cookies on the table.  
Love,  
Brittany Wolfe

Dear Santa,  
Thank you for my presents from last year. This year I would like for you to bring me

an Incredible game. Please bring my brother a toy Spiderman. I will leave you some chocolate cookeis and orange juice by the tree.  
Love,  
Austin Garza

Dear Santa,  
Hello Santa! This year I would like for you to bring me a hammer. I also want a tractor and a computer. Will you bring my mom a Hummer? I will leave you some chicken nuggets and Kool -aid on the table. Merry Christmas!  
Love,  
Justin Reyes

Dear Santa,  
I love you! I would like for you to bring me a dirt bike. I also want a motorcycle, a monster truck and a hammer. I want you to bring my mom a bracelet. I will leave you some cookies and rootbeer on the table. Merry Christmas!  
Love,  
Ezra Herrera

Dear Santa,  
I want you to bring me some presents! I want a Barbie Shop game, a fish and another bingo game. I would also like a kitchen set and a necklace. Please bring my mom a watch. I will leave you some cookies and milk on the kitchen table!  
Love,  
felicity Sena

Dear Santa,  
I woul like a new house for Christmas. I also want a dog and a cat. Please bring me a bird too! I will leave you some cake and milk on the counter. Merry Christmas.  
Love,  
Draven Devenport

Dear Santa,  
I want yo to come to my house and bring Rudolph. I would like for you to bring me a kitchen set and some make-up. I will leave you some milk and cookies. I love you Santa!  
Love,  
Natalie Camarena

Continued on pg. 15

Our hearts are filled with gratitude as we wish you and yours a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Thank you for your support this past year. We hope to see you again soon.

We will close early Christmas Eve and will reopen Monday, Dec. 27

**MULESHOE MOTOR CO.**

1125 W. American Blvd., Muleshoe  
272-4251 or 1-800-432-7617

Thanks For Your Friendship!

We're beary pleased to have you as a customer!

Happy Holidays!

LAURIE WINCHELL  
Local Agent

**FARMERS**

1602 W. American • Muleshoe • (806) 272-7548

We're probably not on your Christmas list. Most people might prefer not to think of a hospital over the holidays. But some will have to. There will be injuries and illnesses..... and babies will be born. And at this hospital, over the 24 hours of Christmas Day, some people will be doing just what we do every day, in case you need us. Some will celebrate Christmas with our own families early, some late, so we will be here if you need us. Most of you won't think about us at all, because you'll just know we're here. And that makes us very proud.

**MULESHOE AREA MEDICAL CENTER**  
272-4524 • 718 S. 1st • Muleshoe, Texas

May the richest blessings of heaven and earth be yours. From our home to yours....

God Bless & Happy Holidays!

Antiques • Collectibles • Furniture  
Appliances • Household Items • Candles

**JC's Thrift Store**

414 W. American Blvd., Muleshoe

# LETTERS TO SANTA

Dear Santa,  
This year for Christmas, I would like a new phone. I also want a Bratz game and a fake kitty cat. Please bring me a new Leap Frog game too! I am going to leave you some milk and cookies on my table. Merry Christmas Santa!  
Love,  
Jessie Babcock

Dear Santa,  
I would like for you to bring me a goldfish. I also want a Gameboy with some games. My baby brother wants a TV. I will leave you some milk and cookies. Merry Christmas!  
Love,  
Damian Ramirez

Dear Santa,  
I would like a Power Ranger costume. I also want a Spongebob movie and a Bob the Builder jacket and shirt. I will leave you some cookies and some pink milk. Thank you!  
Love,  
Eric Herrera

Dear Santa,  
I am going to leave you some cookies and milk. I want you to bring me a set table and a bike. I would also like some make-up. I have been very good this year! Merry Christmas!  
Love,  
Shadiah Gonzales

Dear Santa,  
This year for Christmas I want a Bratz game. I would also like a Swan Barbie Princess game and a Barbie. I am going to leave you some milk and cookies. Thank you!  
Love,  
Ashley Price

Dear Santa,  
I am going to leave some cookies, candy, milk and coke. I would like for you to bring me a Spiderman bed and a Spiderman pillow. I would also like a candle and a motorcycle. Thank you for my stuff! Merry Christmas!  
Love,  
Marcus Orozco

Dear Santa,  
I would like a can for Christmas this year. I also want a kitchen set and a trampoline. It would also be nice if you could bring me a swing. I will leave you some milk and cookies.  
Love,  
Libby Marrufo

### Mrs. Lowes Class

Dear Santa,  
How are you! I'm thankful for you. Please bring me a bike and some numbers to put in order. Please bring my mom a ring and my daddy some toos. He likes working and hunting. Bring my sister some play horses. She loves horses. I live in Needmore-way far! I will leave you some cookies!  
Love,  
Nikolas DeLeon

Dear Santa,  
I wish you would come everyday. Please bring me some Walkie Talkies. Bring my brother, Wyatt a ball. He really likes balls. Bring my mom

some new shoes. Bring my dad some new jeans because he gets them really dirty. I live near the road toward Portales. I will try to shake my mom up enough to make you some cookies.  
Love,  
Jayden Shearer

Dear Santa,  
How are you? Please bring me a Power Ranger and a Ninja Turtle. Bring my mom some new clothes. Bring my daddy a new hat. I live on Ave.K. I will leave you some cookies and milk.  
Love,  
Reese Orozco

Dear Santa,  
How are you? Please bring me a bike and a video game. Please bring my dog, Dallas a bone. Bring my sister a bby doll. Bring my brother a Spiderman. Bring my mom some earrings and flowers. Bring my dad some flowers too. I live by McDonalds. I will leave you some cookies.  
Love,  
Jason Flores

Dear Santa,  
How are you? Please bring me a motorcycle and a motor scooter. Bring my mom some food and my dad a TV. Bring my sisters some Barbie's. I live in a house by a car. I will leave you some milk and cookies on the table.  
Love,  
Donovan Gutierrez  
P.S. Bring my grandma a computer.

Dear Santa,  
Your are nice. Please bring a \$1000. Also, bring me a twain twister. Bring my mama a ring. Bring my daddy some tools. Bring my sister a Care Bear toy. Bring my brother some glasses to block the sun. I live in Muleshoe. I will leave you some coke and popcorn.  
Love,  
Kamreon Newberry  
P.S. Bring my teacher a present too! She needs some flowers.

Dear Santa,  
I love you. Please bring me a pet mouse with a cage. Bring me a teddy bear too. Please bring my sisters some make up. Bring my mama a new red car. Bring my daddy a tractor. I live out going towards the sale barn. I will leave you some money.  
Love,  
Leticia Loya  
P.S. Bring my grandma some hairspray.

Dear Santa,  
Hi, Santa! I wish I had a jump rope and a book. I wish would bring my mom a ring and my daddy something for his birthday like a watch. Please bring my sister a Dora the Explorer toy. I live on Elm Street. I will give you some things to give to others. I will leave you some cookies.  
Love,  
Abriana Espinoza

Dear Santa,  
Thank you for coming. Please bring me a Hummer. Bring me a game too. Bring my mom some clothes. Bring

my dad some books. Bring my brother, Isreal an Escalade Cadillac. I live pass the town and turn that way. I will leave you some milk and cookies.  
Love,  
Eric Rubio

Dear Santa,  
You are nice. Please bring me a real dog and a real cat. Bring my mom a dog. Bring my dad a cat. Bring my brothers some spiders. Bring my sister a doggy. I live by the new jail. I will leave you a dog house.  
Love,  
Madelynn Long

Dear Santa,  
How are you? Please bring me a bulldozer and some cowboy boots. Bring my mom an angel and my dad a cross. Bring my sisters new dresses. I live close to trees. I will leave you some chocolate milk.  
Love,  
MyKaylee Wilhite  
P.S. Bring my grandma some floss to clean my teeth.

Dear Santa,  
I love you. Please bring my a present. I would like a baby puppy and a hamster. Bring my mama an extra wheel in case she has a flat. Bring my daddy a light for his trailer. I live my Mrs. Low on the side by Keenan's. I will leave you some milk and brownies.  
Love,  
Mario DeHoyos  
P.S. Bring my grandma a new truck because a car crashed into hers.

Dear Santa,  
I wish that you could come to my house. Bring me a real puppy and a bike. Bring my mom a new car. Bring my dad a motorcycle. Bring my sister, Paige some new clothes. Bring Tessa some clothes too. I live in Muleshoe. I will leave you some cookies and milk.  
Love,  
Kyan Garner  
P.S. Bring my grandma a new fish.

Dear Santa,  
Happy Birthday! Please bring me a vampire costume. Also, bring me a doggy. Bring my mom a necklace. Bring my sister a princess, so she won't keep getting mine. I live across from the street from the school. Merry Christmas! I will leave you a Winnie the Pooh and Mickey Mouse.  
Love,  
Marilyn Melendez  
Dear Santa,  
Please bring me a present. Bring me a Christmas tree and a snowman. Bring my mom a tree. Bring my daddy some clothes. Bring my sisters some Dora Toys. Bring my brothers some Sponge Bob toys. I live over there by Tia Sheila's house. I will leave you a book.  
Love,  
Joniah Mendoza

Dear Santa,  
How are you doing? I want a Sony Walkman and A Game Boy Advance. Please bring my mom soething expensive like pretty glass stuff. Bring my big brother, Stuart cool stuff. Bring my sister, Madeleine fun stuff. I live in Muleshoe. I will leave you some milk and cookies.  
Love,  
Rachael Precure

Dear Santa,  
Where is Rudolph? Please

bring me a Game Boy and a Longhorn football suit. Bring my mom a shiny necklace. Bring my dad a new pistol. Bring my sister, McKenna a testing book. Bring my little sister Keely a little game. I live in Muleshoe. I will leave you some cookies and milk and a surprise like a little bell for your reindeer.  
Love,  
Dagen Dunham  
P.S. Bring my grandma a new ring.

### Mrs. Toscano's Class

Santa,  
Como Estas? Me puedes traer unos discos del Mintendo, una moto, y un trampoline porque el otro es de mi hermano, Julio. Para me hermano quiero una mochila para la escuela. Mi mama y papa quieren ropa para it a Clovis. Quiero un vestido pare mi mama y un pantalon azul para papa.  
Gracias,  
Jonathan Alvarez

Hola Santa,  
Gracias por los juguetes que me das. Este ano me tome una foto contigo. Te quiero mucho. te quiero dar comida y un beso y un abrazo. Me puedes traer un pary and una pinata de Power Rangers? Quiero otra mochila de Power Rangers. Te voy a dejar pastel, Bananas, y una pinata y un papel para que escribas y que dice que to quiero.  
Gracias Santa,  
Sergio Astorga

Buenos dias Santa,  
Como estas? Me puedes traer una cocina para jugar y una muneca. Me compras mucha ropa de Dora porque la quiero mucho. Mi mama quiere un vestido rosa. Le puedes traer dinero a mi papa que me compre juguetes? Te quiero Santa. Puedes venir a me casa si quieres.  
Gracias  
Lupita Barcenaz

Hola Santa,  
Por favor me puedes traer un perro blanco, un osito blanco, y unc cocina para mi cuarto. Voy a jugar con mi

hermano. Para mi mam quiero una casa chica y un carro azul para mi papa. Quiero una bicicleta para mi hermano Jonathan. Te quiero ver en Navidad cuando me das regalos.  
Gracias,  
Ilene Burrola

Santa,  
Hola! yo te quiero y tengo tu retrato en mi casa. Ya tenemos el arbol en la casa que tiene luces. Me puedes traer una moto y un carro que no estaba alli? Mi mama quiere un juguete de Barbie y mi papa quiere un carro de verdad nuevo.  
Gracias Santa,  
Aron Chacon

Hi Santa,  
I want a Care Bear Book and un mono de Care Bear y una pink blanket para dormir en mi cama. Pare mi mama quiero flores para su cuarto y para mi papa quiero unas botas y una camisa y una caiseta papa cuando vamos a Wal-Mart. Yo to quiero Santa porque eres muy bueno con las ninas y con los ninos.  
Thank you,  
Perlita Marrufo

Santa,  
Te quiero ver. Me puedes traer una Barbie? Nos puedes

Continued on pg. 16



*Lasting Impressions*  
wishes everyone a happy, healthy and prosperous new year. There's simply no more joyous time than Christmas. We know because we're surrounded by great friends like you!  
516 S. 1st • 272-4287



PEACE

*Joy To The World*  
...And thanks to all our loyal customers and friends for allowing us to serve you. Have a blessed Christmas & a prosperous New Year!  
CARQUEST  
**Mohawk Auto Parts**  
1701 W. American Blvd., Muleshoe • 272-4425

**Wishing You & Yours A Wonderful Holiday Season From Your Friends At Movie Gallery.**  
Come Take Advantage Of Our Great Savings Sure To Put A Smile On Any Face!

**MO>IE GALLERY**  
920 West American Blvd., Muleshoe • 272-7676

Thanks for your business!

*Happy Holidays & Thank You For Your Business!*  
Best wishes for a joyous holiday season.

**Germania Farm Mutual Insurance**  
Cindy Barnes, Agent  
222 Main St. • 272-3979

*Joy & Peace to all the world*  
May your faith be renewed by the messages of love and peace that are delivered by the Christmas story. May you share a most joyous Noel with those you hold dear. Merry Christmas!

**BRATCHER MOTOR SUPPLY**  
107 E. Ave. B. Muleshoe • 272-4288

**cell-a-brate the season**

As we get ready to ring in the holiday, we'd like to extend our thanks to all of the kind people who have called on us this year.  
**MERRY CHRISTMAS!**

**Five Area Systems**  
302 Uvalde Street  
Muleshoe, Texas  
272-7700 or 1-800-741-6925







# LETTERS TO SANTA

Mrs. Mardis Class

Tony Castillo

Dear Santa,  
I wot a red truck and a motorcycle. I liv at Muleshoe. I hav bin good and I wot a happy crimentmas.

Dear Santa,  
how are you I love you Santa. I what a bike and a stuff dog.

Love,  
Eduardo Martinez

Dear Santa,  
I would like. I wot a Fuball. And I wot a modtsisl. And I wot a scabrd. And I wot a Spidman. and I wot a sunmcrs. I luve rubof rades.

Mrs. Berrys Class

Dear Santa,  
I love you Santa I treddy my best to lissin I hop that you breg my a toy. My flame treddy there best to. I love youso much santa.

Dear Santa,  
I have been trying to be good I hope I made it your list Please bring me a Barbie jeep cinderala doll, new shoes, baby doll that talks.

Love,  
Vanessa Herrera

Dear Santa,  
I have been trying to be good I hope I made it your list Please bring me a Barbie jeep cinderala doll, new shoes, baby doll that talks.

Dear Santa,  
I wot a motorcycle and a x-box and a tanch of a ave. G See you Christmas.

Love,  
Sergio Salas

Dear Santa,  
I wont a remoet car, remoet mostertuck and a tanch of a bilo fish and a little fish. I wont a electric ell. I have bin god.

Love,  
Jesus Rodriguez

Dear Santa,  
I want a yiGeo crords. also I qant a X-boc. I live at the white house.

Love,  
Jose Gomez

Dear Santa,  
I love you Santa. What I want is a yigeo cards. I want a cpuootr that I can ware a wrand my nack.

Love,  
William Wauson

Dear Santa,  
I whut to se radof. I wut a morskic wab blaster I yot noe shos hmrr ah too bik skle

Love,  
Francisco Regalado

Dear Santa,  
I want a hummr, bilo fish, xbox. I lef on est anv. G. I haf been gud. I watn shus a morsack bike Chrismtusshre dog toy

Love,  
Joshua Lopez

Dear Santa,  
I love you and I would like a stawberry short cake radio and I would like to no hwo are you an your rainders doing to when I was writing this letter to you I felt like cyring becuss I miss you.

Love,  
Chasity Quezada

Dear Santa,  
I wunt a motrsikl Playdeguo

Love,  
Erick Tovar

Dear Santa,  
How are you reindeer Santa cause I love them reindeer and I no them name Dasher and Danser and pranser. Kristen carnes Elise sis

Dear Santa,  
I wot for your to brag sum torez Bekus I love you Santa

Dear Santa,  
I love you and I want to no how you are doing and how your reindeer ar doing and I would like a race car and a Dinosur.

Love,  
Cameron Hardwick

Dear Santa,  
I love dahser and vixen comet and cupit doner and blisin santa can you bring me a toys.

Dear Santa,  
I want a Barbie with wings and one Dora the Explorer for my sister.

Love,  
Wadet Hamden

Dear Santa,  
I have been a good boy this year. I would like to get a cd player. But most of all I want a hummer. I will leave you cookies and milk. Take care Santa. Say hi to Mrs. Claus.

Love,  
Alex Quezada

Dear Santa,  
I have been good this year. Please bring me a Dragonball Z toy if it's not to much trouble.. And brings my sister something too please.

Love,  
Joseph Sena

Mrs. Loveladys Class

Dear Santa,  
I want a bike and Rudolph is so cool and I lik Rudolph Nose.

Love,  
Daniel Campos

Dear Santa Claus,  
Merry christmas I wont a pink bedroom set. you lic you I wont klose for christmas I wont a penk badror.

Love,  
Samantha Cortez

Dear Santa,  
Merry Christmas I wot a Bick.

Love,  
Angelita Estrada

Dear Santa,  
Santa Claus u levt at the north por. Santa clause I luve Rudolph becoss he has a shiny nose I wont monster truck.

Love,  
Jesus Najera

Dear Santa,  
I wot a jep and baby and a crst I wish for a baby sister.

Love,  
Lisa Marie Martinez

Dear Santa Claus,  
I hope your ok. I hope your elfs areok jegll bells makup for mylips I wish you a merry Christmas C.D. player press toys kim poble toys power puff girls toys.

Love,  
Dakota Berry

Dear Santa claus,  
Santa claus can u brieg me a plastacha 3 Can u bre me a plastan 3 ples I like yor North Pole.

Love,  
Ahtziri Elizalde

Dear Santa Claus,  
I hope everybody get present to epin up and everybody get to see rudolph up in the err.

Love,  
Antonio Vasquez

Dear Santa,  
Santa can you bring me a Gam Boy and a X Box and the Simesins Game

Love,  
Tomas Guzman

Dear Santa,  
I hope you are all right. I want a kitten for Christmas. I want a pogo stik for Christmas. I love you Santa claus. Merry Christmas and Rudolph is nise.

Love,  
Taylor Winchell

Mrs. Prathers Class

Dear Santa,  
I have been good I love you. Thank you for the gifts. Please bring me Amachual Picup with a suich radeo

Dear Santa,  
I have been good I love you Thank you for the gifts. Please bring me a bike, trampolin, cd player, dog, Now Bed, toy car Apodaca and most of all peace on earth.

Love,  
Zoe

Dear Santa,  
I have been good I love you Thank you for the gifts Please bring me a video camera and a video now and also a swimming pool and a care bear that glows in the dark and mak-up and a little christmas tree.

Love,  
Rosa Munoz

Dear Santa,  
I have been good I love you Thank you for the gifts Please bring me I hnat a Spider-man

Continued on pg. 18

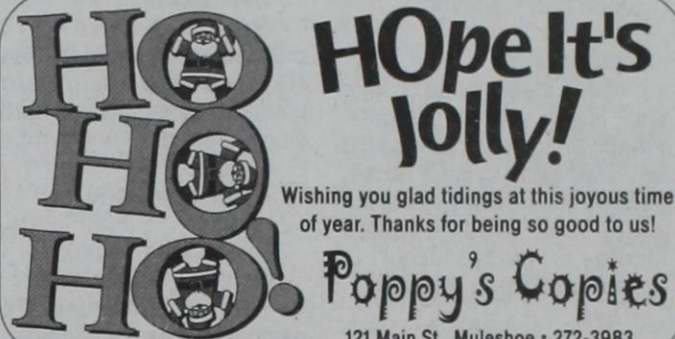


Thank you for your continued support and God bless you!

**Cebridge connections** SM  
cebridge.net

Happy Holidays from the staff of the Muleshoe office!

We cheerfully wish you a Merry Christmas with family & friends. Rejoice in the spirit of the season.



Wishing you glad tidings at this joyous time of year. Thanks for being so good to us!

**Poppy's Copies**  
121 Main St., Muleshoe • 272-3983

**AWAY IN A MANGER**

With sincere best wishes from our flock to yours this Christmas!

**The Honey Comb**  
120 W. Ave. C • 272-9108



**BRIGHT WISHES AT THE HOLIDAYS**

A chill is in the air but we're filled with warmth when we think of all the great people we've had the pleasure to serve this year. Merry Christmas, everyone!

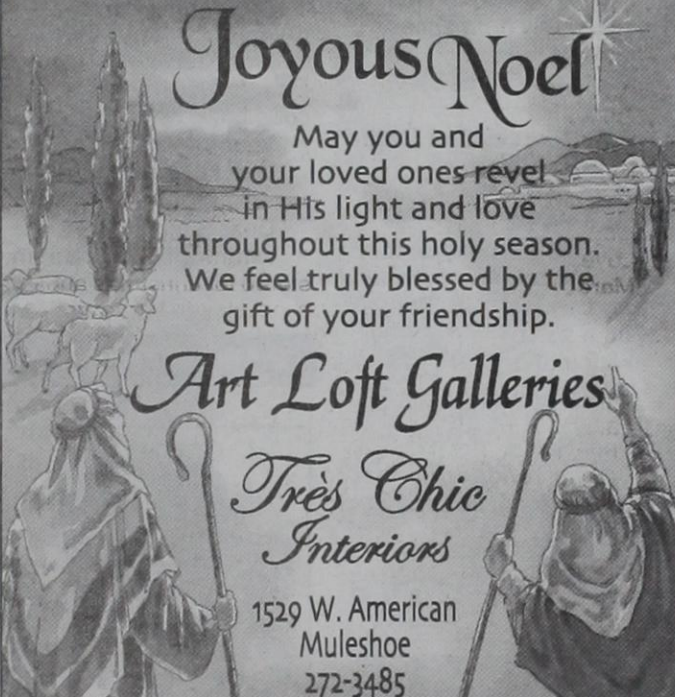
**Muleshoe Chamber of Commerce & Agriculture**  
Jan Thompson, Manager



**Joyous Noel**

May you and your loved ones revel in His light and love throughout this holy season. We feel truly blessed by the gift of your friendship.

**Art Loft Galleries**  
*Tres Chic Interiors*  
1529 W. American Muleshoe 272-3485



**Thanks For Visiting Us!**

Opportunity's knocking and we'd like to say, "Hope you enjoy a grand holiday!"

It's always a pleasure to serve you. Come see us again soon.

**Earl Ladd & Sons, Inc.**  
602 W. American Blvd., Muleshoe (806) 272-3308



**... And To All A Good Night!**

May all your dreams come true during this magical season. We couldn't have wished for better friends than you. Thanks for everything!

**LEO'S BLACKSMITH & MACHINE SHOP & MULESHOE METAL ART**

Merry Christmas!

310 West American Blvd. Muleshoe 272-4418

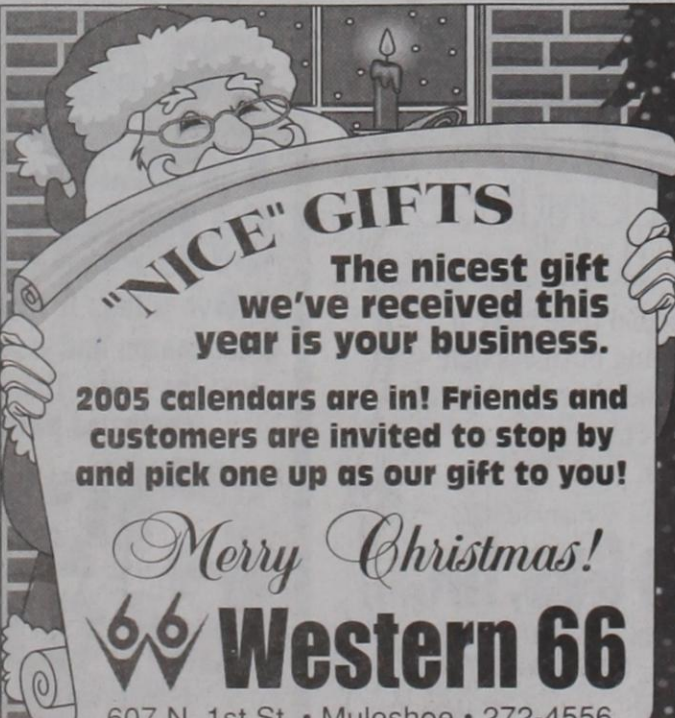


**"NICE" GIFTS**

The nicest gift we've received this year is your business.

2005 calendars are in! Friends and customers are invited to stop by and pick one up as our gift to you!

**Merry Christmas!**  
**66 Western 66**  
607 N. 1st St. • Muleshoe • 272-4556



To our friends and music lovers everywhere, go our very best wishes for a noteworthy holiday season. Your continued support is music to our ears!

**KMUL - AM 1380**  
¡Feliz Navidad from Noe & the staff!



**Season's Greetings**

Wishing you a festive season filled with good friends, good times and good tidings. We're grateful for the good will you've shown us this past year.

Best wishes from Roy Anzaldúa and the staff of

**Anzaldúa Bail Bonds**  
122 W. Ave. C, Muleshoe 272-4002

**MERRY CHRISTMAS**

With warm wishes from our family to yours for a joyous and bright holiday season. It's always a pleasure seeing you. Thanks!

**PRECURE ELECTRIC, INC.**  
424 N. 1st Street Muleshoe, Texas 272-4844 Cell: 946-7322

# LETTERS TO SANTA

toy for christmas.  
Love,  
Rosendo Tena

Dear Santa,  
I have been good. I love you Thank you for the gifts. Please bring mg dear Santa I want a new room dear Sant I waht a new earrings dear Santa I and a little sis went ater. dear Santa I mom and dad to I want barbie  
Luv,  
Denisse Ramirez

Dear Santa,  
I have ben good I love you thank you for the gifts thank you for bringing the family to gether remote controlled master truck plays to the xbox inten bod4 tak the staff of dreams real life motorcycle video now in color game boy add vance computer big screen tv book shelf free books tece will be for you on my table.  
Love  
Jonathan Cacaveo

Dear Santa,  
I have been good. I love you. Thank you for the gifts. Please bring me Spiderman 2 for Playstation cycle a horse, cowboy rop cowboy hat there wibe milk and cookies Mickey's twice upon a christmas DVD, a remote  
Love  
Troy Herrera

Dear Santa,  
I have geen good. I love you. Thank you for the giff please bring me I wanta a ninja turtle kite and a gameboy advance and a spiderman watch.  
Love,  
Markkus Tipton

Dear Santa,  
I have been good. I love you Thank you for the gift. please bring me a lot of clothes and a barbie house. My sister wants new pants. I love you Santa I love you  
Love,  
Tamra Lozano

Dear Santa,  
I have been good. I love you. Thank you for the gifts. Plese bring me motorcycle, clothes more wrestler and wrestling ring  
Kevin Devenport

Dear Santa,  
I have been good. I love you Thank you for the gifts. please brings me I want yu-gi-oh toys I want a toy motor cycle to ride on I want a wizard cards  
Love,  
Zach Duncan

Dear Santa,  
I have been good. I love you. Thank you for the gifts. Please bring me some cabbage Patchdolls some New care Bears and a New Barbie Please bring me a 4 wheeler with a helmet and gear and a Hillary Duff CD and stuff for my stock  
Love,  
Christian Cook

Dear Santa,  
I have been good. I love you for the gifts. Plese bring me I love you Santa and cud you bring me presents. I want a CD player  
Love,  
Alina Cadena

Dear Santa,  
I have been good I love you Thank you for the gifts. Please bring me low rider car with hydrolik  
Love,  
Bobby Flores

Dear Santa,  
I have been good. I love you. Thank you for the gifts. I want a flat screen tv with DvdD player. Game cube Games and cd's for my cd payer p.s. Send me a picture op ru and a medel dector.  
Love,  
Conner Harrison

Dear Santa,  
I want to do a letter to Santa and because I love you. Please bring me a Brat doll and I want two Teddy bears.  
Love,  
Mercedes Garza

Mrs. Reynas Class

Aprecible Santo Clos,

I como ha estado usted? Yo he sido un buen nino. Para navidad por favor traigeme muchos juguetes.  
Gracias,  
Julio Alvarez

Apreciable Santo Clos,  
Como ha estado usted? Yo he sido una buena nina. Para navidad por favor traigame un peluche de Dinosaurio y una pelota y unos 5 libros y para mi ermana quiero una muneca y para me ermano un caro.  
Gracias,  
Karen Barcenas

Aprciable Santo Clos,  
Como ha estado usted? Yo he sido una buena nina. Para navidad por favor traigame una Barbie, A mi hermana un regalo del mono de nive. Para mama un regalo de aretes y para papa un regalo de CD.  
Gracias,  
Vanessa Mojica

Dear Santa,  
como esta usted? Yo he sido una buena nina. Para Navidad favor de traerme pinturas y una moto de barbie y otra moto para mi hermana.  
Gracias,  
Alicia Montejano

Dear Santa,  
Como ha estado usted? Yo he sido un buen nino. Para navidad por gavor taigame un Xbox 2 y un motoh de targetas de Yugioh. Y unas aretes para me mama.  
Muchas Gracias,  
Jonathan Burrala

Apreciable Santo Clos,  
como ha estado usted? Yo he sido una buen nina para navidad por favor traigame unas pinturas y un motor scooter. Y a papa un patalon y a mama unos aretes al bebe un car sit.  
Gracias,  
Jacquelin Loya

Dear Santa,  
como ha estado usted? Yo he sido una buena nina. Para navidad por favor traigame una muneca Kelly girl y una bicicleta.  
Gracias  
Esmeralda Morales

Apreciable Santo Clos,

como ha estado usted? Yo he sido una buen nina. Para navidad por favor traigame unas pinturas y una moto de Barbi y una casa de Barbie y unos jugetes de canciones para me hermano. Para mama unos pantalones.  
Gracias,  
Ewmerald Cabrera

Dear Santa,  
Como ha estado usted? Me trais un motor scuter, y un x-box 2. Y a mi hermana trailde un pazol de llugio. Y a mi mama traes un falda y para mi papa un carro y un reloj.  
Eduardo Elizalde

Dear Santa,  
como ha estado? Yo he sido un buen nino. Para navidad yo quiero una bicicleta y un disfraz de power ranger. Unos aretes para mi tia y otros para mi mama.  
Tu Amigo  
Adrian

Apreciable Santo Clos,  
com ha estado usted? Yo he sido un como buen nino. Para navidad por favor traigame un cd de 2 fast 2 furies.  
Gracias,  
Gustavo Loya

Apreciable Santo Clos,  
como ha estado usted? Yo he sido un buen nino. Para navidad por favor traigame un CD se llama futbol americano. Y otro CD que se llama "saccer" y otro cd que se llama 2 fast 2 fear y otro CD que se llama bobes ponja'  
Kevin Mendoza

Apreciable San Clos,  
como ha estado usted? Yo he sido una buena nina. Para navidad por favor traigame una Barbie con al motocicleta y un carro de Barbie. Traigale jugetes a mis hermanitos.  
Gracias,  
Martha Cisneros

Mrs. Pierces 2nd Grade Class

Dear Santa,  
How did you become Santa Claus? Thank you fo getting my toy from last year. This year I want a horse.  
Your friend,  
Magen Cantrell

Dear Santa,  
Do the randeer fly fast? Thank you for it. I want a lot of

yi-gi-oh cards, a new bike and money for my mom.  
Your friend,  
Anson Castanon

Dear Santa,  
How are you? Thank you for last year toy and games. Are you working on my gifts? I want a playsash 2 and eye toy, and dune buggy.  
Your friend,  
Paul Castillo

Dear Santa,  
Why do you have to ride in a sleigh? Thank you for last years gift. I want a brat. I want a nan and popo. I want a remote control Hummer.  
Your friend,  
Jaymie Gable

Dear Santa,  
Thank you Santa for your presents. They were very cool and nice of you to bring my dad some and my mom some. Thank you very much Santa Claus. How are you doing at the North Pole? I want a BB gun, a work bench with tools and safety goggles, and a truck card game.  
Your friend,  
Bobby Guzman

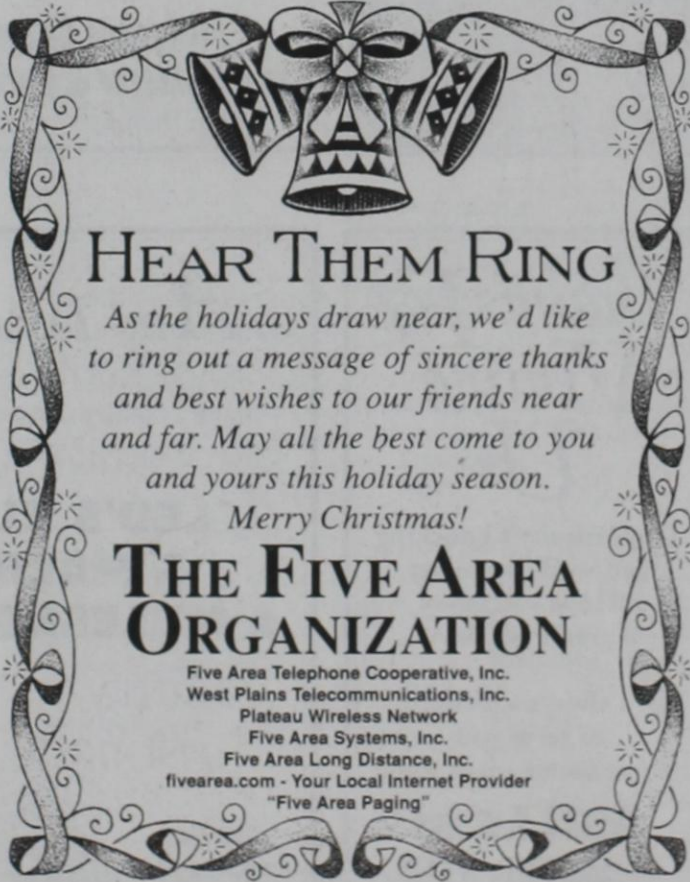
Dear Santa,  
What's your favorite color? Red? Thank you for last years present. This year I want a monster truck.  
Your friend,  
Jr. Guzman

Dear Santa,  
How do hte elves make the toys. And by the way thank you for last years gifts. This year gifts I want a Ninja Bike.  
Your friend,  
Bernardo Herrera

Dear Santa,  
How do the elves make toys? Thank you for the doeedisk last year. I want a Playstation 2, an X-box, and cube box.  
Your friend,  
Inez Lozano

Dear Santa,  
Why do you ride in a sleigh? Thank you for the gifts

Continued on pg. 19



**HEAR THEM RING**  
As the holidays draw near, we'd like to ring out a message of sincere thanks and best wishes to our friends near and far. May all the best come to you and yours this holiday season.  
Merry Christmas!


**THE FIVE AREA ORGANIZATION**  
Five Area Telephone Cooperative, Inc.  
West Plains Telecommunications, Inc.  
Plateau Wireless Network  
Five Area Systems, Inc.  
Five Area Long Distance, Inc.  
fivearea.com - Your Local Internet Provider  
"Five Area Paging"



**A Message Of Gratitude At The Holidays**  
At this joyous and special time of year, We thank you all for doing business here. And for your friendship and your loyalty, too, Because we couldn't have made it without all of you!

From All The Employees & Families Of  
**West Texas Gas, Inc.**  
GASCARD® North 1st St. Muleshoe TX  
(806) 272-3157  
Open: M-F 7:30 to 5:30  
Sat. 7:30 to Noon  
W19

**Friends Like You Are Just Our Style!**  
To all the beautiful people we've had the pleasure to serve this year go our heartfelt wishes for a fabulous holiday season. Thanks for your loyal support & Merry Christmas!




**The Shear Shack**  
208 Main St. • 272-3991

**TODAY'S SPECIALS: Warm Wishes & Gratitude**  
To all our valued patrons, we wish a very merry holiday season and we thank you for making every day special for us this year.



**EL JACALITO RESTAURANT**  
Richard & Alma Orusco & family and Alberto & Sabara Nicolas & family

**HAPPYHOLIDAYS**  
Here's hopin' you have a "hole" lot of Christmas cheer coming your way. Thanks for making our first Christmas in business a great success! God bless.



**Donut Hole**  
1106 W. American Blvd., Muleshoe  
(806) 272-3668 • Drive-thru or sit down service


**To Our Friends & Neighbors At The Holidays...**



This greeting is filled with a healthy measure of best wishes & gratitude. We hope your holiday is just what the doctor ordered!

**WESTERN DRUG & SOMETHING SPECIAL GIFTS**  
1411 W. American Blvd. • Muleshoe, Texas • 272-3106

**ANTIQUES**



Now In Stock: Our Best Wishes  
We're overflowing with warm wishes and thanks for our many valued customers. Here's hoping the holiday season has lots of good times in store for all of you! Merry Christmas.

**ANTIQUES & FINE THINGS**  
2104 W. AMERICAN BLVD. • MULESHOE • 272-4217



**MERRY CHRISTMAS, EVERYONE!**  
... And many thanks for your continued loyal patronage.



**MULESHOE VALLEY INC.**  
Hwy. 84 • 272-4266

**TO ALL OUR FRIENDS AT CHRISTMAS**  
Everyone here is fixin' to have a great season and we want to wish you the same. Thanks for your continued patronage!



**Ery & Cox INC.**  
401 S. 1st • Muleshoe • 272-4511 • Mon.-Sat. 8 am to 6 pm  
True Value  
Help is Just Around The Corner.

We will close early on Fri., Dec. 24 and will reopen Mon., Dec. 27.







Leah Bell

**Isn't it grand** — A new Chamber member, the local Edward Jones office, celebrated its grand reopening Monday, Dec. 20 in the same location once occupied by Katherine Schraeder on Main Street. Muleshoe's new Edward Jones Investment Representative is Wayne Pierson. Pictured at the ceremony are Chamber President Terral King, Vice President and office employee Heather Foley, Jo Pierson (Pierson's wife), Wayne Pierson and Chamber Manager Jan Thompson.

## Chamber holds After Hours drawing



Leah Bell

**Diggin' around** — The Connection Warehouse employee Ivan Esparza digs deep as he draws the winning names in the Chamber of Commerce's holiday promotion "Muleshoe After Hours" Tuesday morning. In total, 16 prizes were given away by local merchants. The final tally of tickets in the kitty was 4,124.

And the winners are:

- Lasting Impressions** — Amanda Shelton of Muleshoe
- Leal's Restaurant** — Horace Morgan of Muleshoe
- Art Loft/Trés Chic** — Sally Messenger of Muleshoe
- Muleshoe Motor Co.** — Zona Gatewood of Muleshoe

- Fry & Cox True Value** — Louise Allen of Muleshoe
- Williams General Store** — Darla Sandlin of Mansfield
- Alco** — Ernest Ammons of Muleshoe
- Antiques & Fine Things** — Cynthia Contreras of Muleshoe
- Connection Warehouse** — Richard Orozco of Muleshoe
- Higginbotham-Bartlett Co.** — Melody Hettinga of Muleshoe
- Carolyn's Christmas Creations** — Betty Stone of Muleshoe
- Mohawk Auto Parts** — Pam Miller of Muleshoe
- Muleshoe Metal Art** — Freddy Coleman of Muleshoe
- United Supermarket** — Ruby Ward of Muleshoe
- Sheree's Attic** — Janie Saldaña of Muleshoe
- Grand prize: 1000 Chamber Mule Bucks** — Darlene Smith of Clovis, NM



Leah Bell

**Tag, you're it** — Owner of Muleshoe Motor Lary Hooten (right) congratulates winner of the dealership's Elk Tag Drawing, Bruce Barrett. Barrett is looking forward to using the prize. "It should be fun!"

*Last Minute Shopper's Special!*

## BUY 4, GET 1 FREE!

Buy 4 of Pastor Jack Stone's latest CD "Footsteps" as Christmas gifts, and get another 1 FREE! Come by the church or call 272-3017. Available in tape or CD.

Jack Stone

**FACT: On average, Americans gain 8 lbs. during the holidays.**

## GET A JUMPSTART ON YOUR NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION!

**3-Days Free Guest Pass**

Present coupon. One coupon per person. Offer good through Dec. 22.

**\$100 Off Enrollment Fee**

Present coupon. One coupon per person. Offer good through Dec. 22.

## BODY & MORE

122 S. 1st St., Muleshoe • 272-4363

## Don't Get Caught Unprepared!

**Winter Service Special**

**\$19.95\*** plus tax

Includes: One gallon of antifreeze, pressure check on coolant/heating system, and hoses/belts check

\*If additional work is needed, appropriate parts and labor extra.

**Make an appointment with us to get your car winterized.**

1125 W. American Blvd.  
Muleshoe, Texas

**272-4251**

## South Plains pins grads

Pinning ceremonies for South Plains College's associate degree nursing program were Dec. 16.

A number of special awards were given, including one to Devin Carpenter from Muleshoe, president of the SPC chapter.

LaNell Harrison, guest speaker, told the students, "You've come this far; don't stop learning, continue to read journals and

articles. That will help in the safety of your patients."

Pins were presented to the graduates by Sue Ann Lopez, chairperson of the Nursing Department and di-

rector of associate degree nursing and vocational nursing, and Browne.

Student speakers were Melissa Rose and Kris Dennison.

## Introducing Wayne Pierson

One of the few professionals still making house calls.

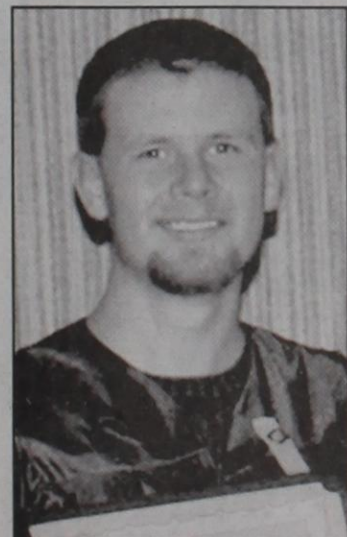
Wayne Pierson is one of 9,423 Edward Jones investment representatives serving individual investors in 50 states. Today, we have more branch offices than any other brokerage firm in the country, and serve more than 6 million individual investors nationwide. Wayne is



anxious to put his expertise and the extensive resources of Edward Jones to work for you. He'll meet with you at home or at any other convenient location that suits your needs.

Call Wayne Pierson today.  
(806) 272-4102

**Edward Jones**  
Serving Individual Investors Since 1871



**Award winner** — South Plains College's associate degree nursing program presented Muleshoe resident Devin Carpenter, president of the SPC chapter of the Texas Nursing Students Association, the TNSA Award during ceremonies held Thursday, Dec. 16.

# Clearance Shoe Sale

## POST-CHRISTMAS SAVINGS!

### Women's

Dress Shoes, Fashion Boots, Casuals, Clogs, Comfort & Athletic (Large Selection) Liz Flex, Naturalizers, Clarks, Born, Softwalk, Easy Street, Trotters, Hush Puppies, Eastland, Nike, New Balance, Adidas, K-Swiss & More

**20%-30% Off**

Entire Selection of Handbags

**20% Off**

### Children's

**GIRLS**  
Dress Shoes, Casuals, Boots & Athletic Shoes

**BOYS**  
Casuals, Hikers & Athletic Shoes

Jumping Jacks, Skechers, Hush Puppies, Nike, New Balance, K-Swiss & More (Large Selection)

**20%-30% Off**

### Men's

Dress Shoes & Casuals

Dexter, Clarks, Hush Puppies, Rockport, Born (Large Selection)

**20%-50% Off**

Men's Athletic Shoes Nike, New Balance, Adidas, K-Swiss...In Many Styles

**25% Off**

**RANDY'S & THE SHOE OUTLET WILL BE OPEN SUNDAY, DEC. 26TH FROM 1-5 PM (MT) FOR YOUR AFTER CHRISTMAS SHOPPING!**

# Randy's Shoes

410 Main in Downtown Clovis, NM • Open: M-Sat 9-5 (MT) • www.randysshoes.com



**Saying good-bye to a friend** — Employees of Lowe's Marketplace gathered last Thursday to wish Billie Harvey a fond farewell. Billie is retiring after 24 years and nine months service to the Lowe's/Pay 'N Save corporation. She plans to travel, run around, visit friends and help out at the Senior Center. Store manager Stephen Davidson told the Journal Billie will be "truly" missed. "We appreciate everything she's done for us throughout all her years with the company. Lowe's is losing a tremendous asset," he said.

Leah Bell

**★★★★ NEW ★★★★★  
BOOKKEEPING  
BUSINESS  
IN MULESHOE**

"Helping Small Businesses Stay On Top"

**PARKER PAYROLL - BOOKKEEPING  
AND TAX SERVICE**

Precision You Can Count On!

**Accurate • Cost Effective • Timely**

Computerized business and personal bookkeeping  
Specializing in complete payroll services - Full tax service

**CYNDI PARKER**  
**272-5683 or Cell: 946-9460**



Leah Bell

**A step up** — Tommy Gunstream, president of First Bank of Muleshoe, is pleased to announce the promotion of Ann Mount and Sue Bessire to assistant cashier. Bessire has been with the bank since April 1, 1999 in new accounts and CDs. Mount has been working at the bank since Jan. 1, 2001 as head teller.

**DISH NETWORK**  
**HOME OF THE LOWEST ALL-DIGITAL  
PRICE IN AMERICA...EVERY DAY!**

**SWITCHING HAS NEVER BEEN EASIER**

OVER 60 OF THE MOST POPULAR CHANNELS -

Including local channels (where available), Cartoon Network, Discovery Channel, ESPN.

TBS, Disney Channel, USA Network, Nickelodeon, TNT, Lifetime, History Channel and many more...

**SIGN UP AND GET  
A FREE 13" TV**



**Owned and  
operated by  
Danny & Susan  
Wilson**

**WILSON ELECTRONICS**

A RADIOSHACK DEALER

210 B Clubview Drive, Levelland, TX 79336 • 806.894.7686

Purchase must be made at a participating RadioShack between November 1, 2004 and January 31, 2005. Offer valid for new, first-time DISH Network subscribers only. Limit one television per person, household, or address. Send submission to: 13" Dish TV with DISH Activation Offer. Offer valid in the continental U.S. and Alaska only. Not where prohibited or restricted by law. RadioShack reserves the right to modify the specifications and terms of the offer without notice. Television may vary from one pictured in ad. Not responsible for lost, sale, availability or availability of merchandise. Offer is void where prohibited. Offer may vary by location. Contact Customer Service by calling 1-800-325-4188 between 6 AM and 9 PM Monday - Saturday and 7 AM and 7 PM Sunday MST.



Courtesy photo

**Preparing for Christmas Open House** — Student Community Action members Anna Symm, Charissa Conner, and Marcella Saxton decorate the Jane's ranch house Monday night in preparation for the upcoming Christmas Open House at the Heritage Center.



Larry Ayres

**Reading Is Fundamental** — Santa made a stop at the Kinder Steps/Head Start Christmas party Tuesday, Dec. 20 to give gifts to all the kids attending. Each child received a book in recognition of Reading Is Fundamental, a program supported by Head Start.

**15% Off  
All Toys  
And Apparel  
Going On Now!**

**Dent & Co.**   
2800 W. American Blvd. • Muleshoe • 272-4296

Don't Miss Carolyn's Annual  
**"BUCK IS  
ITCHIN' FOR THE  
LAKE SALE"**



**HUGE AFTER  
CHRISTMAS  
SALE**

Sunday, Dec. 26 (@1:00 pm) thru Friday, Dec. 31

<b>Every Christmas Item in the Store.... 50% OFF</b>	<b>All Purses &amp; Billfolds 50% OFF</b>
<b>All Collegiate &amp; Match Box Music Boxes... 50% OFF</b>	<b>All Furniture 25% OFF</b>
<b>All Bronzes... 25% OFF</b>	<b>All Jewelry (Excluding artist made) 50% OFF</b>
<b>All Oils, Prints &amp; Framed Art..... 25% OFF</b>	
<b>Large Selection! All Willow Tree Pieces..... 25% OFF</b>	

**THIS IS A SALE YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS!  
COME EARLY FOR BEST SELECTION.**

**Carolyn's  
Christmas Creations**

106 E. American Blvd., Muleshoe • 806-272-5911  
Cash, Personal Checks & Credit Cards accepted • No layaways



Letters from front page



Leah Bell

**The winners** — Dorothy Prudhomme and Edgar Grado, both of Friona, were the winners in the "Operation GI Smile" contest sponsored by Carolyn's Christmas Creations.

How much I appreciate what you do for me as an American and how you make America proud by our service, but if I think about my own son, those are not the words I would tell him, even though he knows I feel them deeply. They are all true statements about your service and sacrifice, but when has saying them ever filled the void a human feels when they are separated from the people they love and care for? So I will not overdo the thank-you's and the accolades for the noble actions you are performing. Those, you may rest assured, are indeed my deepest sentiments. I will share with you, however, what I would want my son to know about my thoughts of him as a soldier at Christmas or any other time he is away from all of us who love and miss him dearly.

I would say to him, as I do to you now: please know

that I am fully aware that I will NEVER know nor completely comprehend the personal sacrifice you are experiencing at this time...if I could trade places with you and save the burden of this sacrifice, I would do so in a heartbeat!

Remember that this experience is so personal that even another soldier will not have the same experience of Christmas you have...don't try to forget it or ignore it. It's your memory and your treasure. Perhaps that may sound strange, the idea that spending Christmas in Iraq is a treasure, but as an "old" lady speaking here, I will tell you that life would be ridiculous and shallow if all the experiences we had were the same, happy, never challenging events. These very personal, individual experiences are the crowning jewels of who we are! They influence the

paths we follow, the people we love, and the lives of the generations of children who come after us. You are making a personal history...far more important than what the rest of us will ever discern. Your future experiences of holidays will take on a whole new perspective.

I would tell you there is nothing wrong with experiencing the sadness of lost expectations through tears. And certainly no guilt in having a little fun and joy in the midst of much confusion and destruction. Peace comes in many forms...sometimes in the most surprising places! Which leads me to my next thought...

I would tell you to find something funny to do...my son said his group really DID find fun during the day. Sometimes just being silly can make a huge difference. One time I sent them a box of water balloons and they

had a big water balloon fight with some of the Iraqi children.

When we celebrated Christmas last year without him, I told my son on the phone his stocking would still be filled with goodies (much to his embarrassment...but probably, secretly, joy) and some of his presents would stay under the tree until he got home (we sent some, of course!). We made posters that said "We miss you!" and "Look at all the loot you have waiting!" then took pictures of it all and sent them to him. I think he got a chuckle or two...

I would tell you to think of all the worst parts of Christmas (like crowded stores, rude drivers, the hassle of putting up decorations, expensive gift buying, the billions of events you have to attend, the nagging moms who want help with everything, the sick feeling you have when you have severely overeaten, especially the sweet stuff!) and take a moment to be aware that you're missing the parts of Christmas that make all of us miss the MEANING of Christmas! You will have a true understanding of the spirit of giving and of the precious time we call life...the kind that really counts!

Will any of this change the lost time with family and friends? No.

Will it make you really feel any better? Maybe.

But I guess what I am trying to say is that one person is changed because of the experiences you and my son have had or will have...

Did I share all this with him last Christmas? No, actually, only some of it. I didn't really have the understanding that comes with experience last year...But, isn't it true we don't really "get it" until after we've experienced it?

So, some things he and I both have learned from this part of his life, and as I said, you just never know all the

ripple effects your life has on the lives of others.

His has done that for me and yours is doing that now for those who know and love you. It's the best Christmas present you could possibly give! Who would have thought that it would come from a very trying experience in a place called Iraq. You have my most heart-

felt wish for a VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Love,  
A very grateful soldier's mom,

**Dorothy Prudhomme**  
Friona Ind. School District

Mrs. Prudhomme won a \$100 Carolyn's gift certificate and Grado won a \$100 savings bond.

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