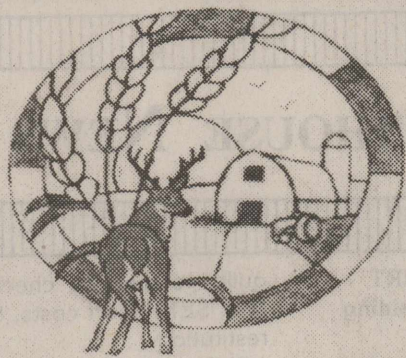


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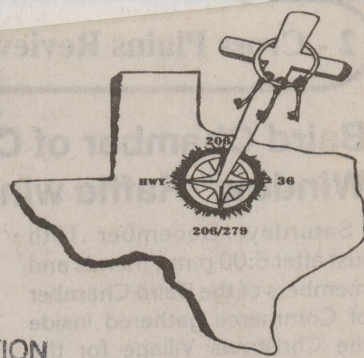


Cross Plains Review

"Cross Plains' Oldest Business Institution"

"A Caring Community"

THURSDAY, December 30, 2004



Keys to our Past,
Present and Future
Hinge on the Cross

Rich in Agriculture
Abundant in Wildlife

Masthead Designed by Deborah Lowitzer

SOUTHWEST COLLECTION
Texas Tech University
LUBBOCK, TEXAS 79409

96TH YEAR

CROSS PLAINS, CALLAHAN COUNTY, TEXAS 76443

PRICE 50¢

NUMBER 41

DOWN HOME

EDITOR'S NOTE: The recommendation in the following story seems so appropriate for yet another NEW YEAR! If you haven't tried looking above, now is the perfect time. Many folks feel like they are walking around with a huge hole in their lives, yet they have never turned to the Lord. Why not take a leap of FAITH and find joy and contentment???? Here's wishing you the most wonderful year in 2005!!!! **Vanda Anderson**

"Look UP"

If you put a buzzard in a pen that is 6 feet by 8 feet and is entirely open at the top, the bird, in spite of its ability to fly, will be an absolute prisoner.

The reason is that the buzzard always begins a flight from the ground with a run of 10 to 12 feet. Without space to run, as is its habit, it will not even attempt to fly, but will remain a prisoner for life in a small jail with no top.

The ordinary bat that flies around at night, a remarkably nimble creature in the air, cannot take off from a level place. If it is placed on the floor or flat ground, all it can do is shuffle about helplessly and, no doubt, painfully, until it reaches some slight elevation from which it can throw itself into the air. Then, at once, it takes off like a flash.

A bumblebee, if dropped in an open tumbler, will be there until it dies, unless it is taken out. It never sees the means of escape at the top, but persists in trying to find some way out through the sides, near the bottom. It will

See **Down Home** Page 2

Christian Mens Fellowship Breakfast

The first Fellowship Breakfast of 2005 will be held on Saturday, New Years Day, at 8 a.m. in the Believers Fellowship parking lot. Breakfast will be cooked and served cowboy style.

Start your New Year off with prayer, praise, fellowship and food with other Christian men of the community. It will be held every other Saturday morning. Come join, it is time for all Christian men to unite and stand strong together with prayer and praise.

For more information call H.D. Hopkins (254) 725-6355 or Matt McGowen (254) 725-4599.

For as many as are led by the spirit of God, they are the sons of God.

Taylor Electric Cooperative hosts contest for trip to Washington

Taylor Electric would like to invite all area high school students to enter our annual Youth Tour contest. The contest is an oratorical contest and the contestants will be required to give a 5 to 7 minute speech on the topic "The Cooperative Difference".

You will explain before a panel of local Judges, the differences between Investor Owned Utility groups (IOU's) and member



STAFF SERGEANT JOHNNY HERRIDGE

Former Cross Plains Graduate Comes Home for the Holidays

Staff Sergeant Johnny Herridge with the United States Marine Corps was home in Cross Plains and Cottonwood for the holidays.

Sgt. Herridge is with the 0369 Infantry Unit Leader, Meridian, Mississippi.

Johnny graduated at Cross Plains in 1991 and joined the Marines soon after. He trained in California and has been stationed in Hawaii (twice), Korea (once) and served in Bosnia. His family is thankful he hasn't had to go the Iraq.

Sales & use tax totals down in second quarter of 2004

The Texas sales and use tax analysis for Callahan County has been reported for the second quarter of 2004 by State Comptroller Carole Keeton Strayhorn's office on Monday, December 27.

Strayhorn reported gross sales, for all industries in Callahan County, for the second quarter of 2004 at \$16,722,956 which was 4.2 percent lower than the gross sales of \$17,449,389 reported during the second quarter of 2003. Gross sales are the total amount of all sales, leases and rentals of tangible personal property and all labor and service charges made during the reporting period.

Use tax purchases for the second quarter of 2004 for all industries in Callahan County amounted to \$158,514. Use tax purchases are the cost of all taxable items removed from inventory for personal or business use and all purchases on which no Texas sales tax was paid or use tax accrued.

The amount subject to state sales and use tax in the second quarter of 2004 in Callahan County was \$7,153,909. The

amount subject to state sales and use tax is calculated by taking taxable sales and adding use tax purchases.

The number of business locations in Callahan County, with a sales and use tax permit which filed a return, was 256. There were 264 permits issued during the same quarter the previous year.

The gross sales for the retail trade division in Callahan County for the second quarter of 2004 was \$10,852,686 which is 0/3 percent lower than the 2003 first quarter gross sales of \$10,880,739.

The use tax purchases for the retail trade division in Callahan County for the second quarter of 2003 was \$17,341.

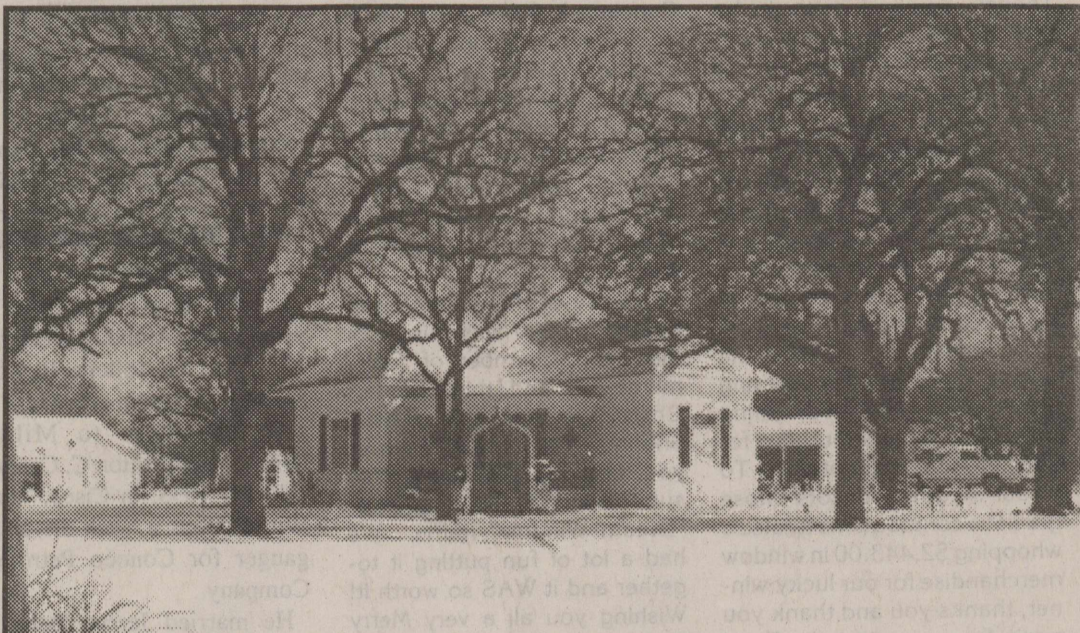
The amount subject to state sales and use tax for the second quarter of 2004 was \$5,302,447 for the retail trade division in Callahan County.

The number of reporting outlets in the retail trade division in Callahan County totalled 132 for the second quarter of 2004. There were 137 reporting outlets during the same quarter in 2003.

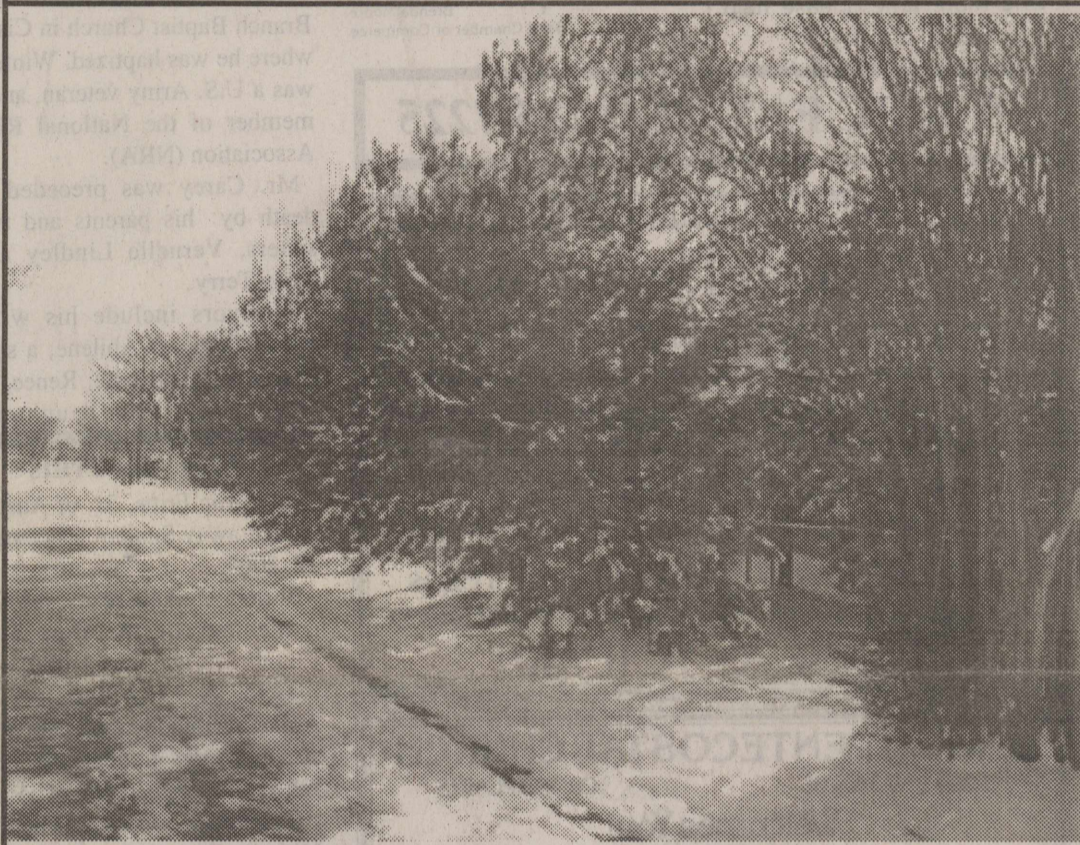
Owned Electric Cooperatives such as Taylor Electric, and make a choice on which you would select and why.

The contest date is January 20th at 7:00 p.m. at The Ambassador Suites in Abilene. Two winners will go on an eight day, all expense paid trip to Washington, D.C. in June 2005 along with several hundred other winning students from across the Southwest.

Enter now - and challenge yourself to participate in our contest; the entry deadline is January 15th. Entry packets are available in your High school counselor's office. You may also request information by calling Taylor Electric at 1-800-992-0086 and we will drop one in the mail to you or email connections@taylorecr.com and request one.



A CHRISTMAS CARD GREETING—Home of Arvin and Sarah Brashear.



WINTER WONDERLAND—Pine trees at the Lois Beathard home in Cross Plains.

A "White Christmas" Came to Our Hometown

By Vanda Anderson
Editor

Christmas season in 2004 was extraordinarily beautiful due to the winter storm that arrived early Wednesday morning, December 22nd. A thick blanket of snow, approximately 6-8 inches, covered our entire community. The first day of winter was Tuesday, December 21st, so we really got off with a freezing blast—temperatures dipped into the teens.

It looked like a blizzard at times, and the snow stung your face it was blowing so hard.

I loved the way it made the landscape look so clean and white. The snow later froze and stayed with us until Sunday, December 27th. Most folks can't remember this much snow and ice since the severe winter of 1983. It seems Cross Plains was exceptionally blessed with the white covering. Traveling other directions the layering seemed to digress.

The frozen snow created some driving hazards and walking was pretty treacherous too. There wasn't a lot of people out during

the frosty days.

I drove around town Thursday and took photos of various house, etc. to capture the moment. I wished I had gone a day earlier when the snow was a little heavier.

The cold was really bitter, especially at night. Frozen water lines, etc. were prevalent.

Of course, the pavement thawed first and it seemed strange to be able to drive, while the yards, fields, etc. remained draped in white. However the center stripe was still coated in snow and ice and passing was impossible. Everyone appeared to be creeping cautiously around.

Five of my six little grandchildren saw their first snow and they were delighted. They said, "Let's go play in the no (snow)." Sunday they were able to play outside in the sunshine without even a coat, while they made snowballs to throw. It was wonderful and they had such a memorable time. Actually my sons-in-law had just as much fun playing with the kids. They even chunked a few snowballs at me through the window and in the back door. You know "boys will

be boys".

Now the snow has just about all melted, but it took some of it a good while, as drifts were sometimes 3 feet deep.

The snow provides chemical elements to the earth that will be utilized for spring plantings. Isn't it amazing how God makes everything work together?

How long has it been since you had a "White Christmas"? This year will be long remembered by residents of the area.

Texas
Heritage
Bank

"We're Proud of Our Local Heritage"

MEMBER
FDIC

Presents:
"What's Inside"

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City Council Minutes	Page 4
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Obits	Page 2
Personal	Page 3
Quips, Clips & Comments	Page 3
Rising Star Nursing News	Page 3
Rural Heroes	Page 4

The Cross Plains Review

Will Be Closed
Friday, December 31st

Will Reopen
Monday, January 3rd

Baird Chamber of Commerce "Dream Window" Raffle winner announced

Saturday, December 18th just after 6:00 p.m., friends and members of the Baird Chamber of Commerce gathered inside the Christmas Village for the official "Dream Window" raffle drawing. Children gathered around as Santa drew out the winning name...Theda Gandy of Rising Star! If the name sounds familiar, it should! She works for the Texas Department of Public Safety issuing and renewing drivers licenses here in Baird. Yea...that Theda! You just gotta go by and tell her "congratulations!" (She's so excited!) No, I didn't sell the winning ticket Missy over at The Baggage House did. Way to go Missy!

To Kyle and Nancy Etheredge and Market Street Mall, thank you one last time for allowing us to use your lighted display window; to all those who eagerly sold the tickets and to all those who excitedly purchased the tickets, thank you for believing in this project and for investing not only your time but also for your monetary donations. To all our window sponsors whose gracious contributions totaled a whopping \$2,443.00 in window merchandise for our lucky winner, thanks you and thank you again for supporting the Baird community.

One more time, please help

me thank our "Dream Window" contributors: Western Rustic Elegance/The Decorating Trend, North Carolina Furniture Manufacturing, Happy Trails, Hamilton Supply Company, Cowboy Country Gallery & Framing, Abilene Billiard Connection, Abilene Winnelson, Henson's Antiques, Battles Home Improvement, Texas Stampede, Sanford Lighting Warehouse, Market Street Mall, Academy Sports & Outdoors, Abilene Monument/Concepts In Stone, West Texas Spas & pools, Unique Statuary, Brigham Antiques & Livery Stable, Grumpe's Specialties, Plaza Corner, K-Mark, Sam's Club, Crack Potts, Creations by Collene, Marsha Blackstock Avon Representative, Tractor Supply, City Lumber, and Rags and Riches.

Because of this united effort around \$1,700 was raised for the Baird Chamber of Commerce. Oh, and I think Theda's Christmas just got a little brighter, too! Thank each of you for being involved and so supportive of this first ever "Dream Window" Raffle. We had a lot of fun putting it together and it WAS so worth it! Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a safe and wonderful New Year.

Brenda Moore
Baird Chamber of Commerce

PUBLIC FAX (254) 725-7225

CHURCH DIRECTORY

CROSS PLAINS COWBOY CHURCH
Pastor: **LEN SMITH**

Join Us On Sunday Mornings At 10:00 a.m.
16075 CR 459 Cross Plains, Texas
For Information Call 254-725-6446 or 254-725-6329
COME AS YOU ARE!

UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH
209 S.W. Hwy 36 CROSSPLAINS

Welcomes You!

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Sun. 6:30 p.m. Worship & Word *** Wed. 7:00 p.m. Bible Study
"An Apostolic Church"

PASTOR, Phillip R. Schaefer (254) 725-7140

Living Water Ministries Fellowship
Full Gospel ~ Prophetic ~ Apostolic
"Restoring And Equipping The Saints"

Sunday 10 am * Monday Prayer 7pm * Wednesday 6:30 pm

Pastors: Max Evans & Colleen Anderson

For Information Call (254) 725-4884

Union Center Baptist Church

"Service to God Through Service to Man"

Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship Service 11:00 a.m.
Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

5 miles north of Rising Star - 1/2 mile east of Hwy 183 on CR 292

Jerry Eckhart, Pastor (254) 643-1027

COTTONWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday School.....9:45 A.M.
Morning Worship.....11:00 A.M.
Evening Service.....6:00 P.M.
Wednesday Bible Study & Prayer Time.....7:00

Matt McGowen, Pastor (254) 725-4599

Church (254) 725-6266

Friendly Church

Bible Teaching

ROWDEN BAPTIST CHURCH

Hwy. 36 at Rowden - 12 Miles West of Cross Plains

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP.....11:00 A.M.

Pastor: Carl Mauldin

Come Worship With Us!

NIMROD BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday School.....10:00 A.M.
Sunday Morning Worship.....11:00 A.M.
Sunday Evening Worship.....6:00 P.M.

Bill Armstrong - Pastor

OBITUARIES

Jeffrey Lynn Yates

Jeffrey Lynn Yates, age 22, of Cross Plains, passed away December 21, 2004, in Eastland County. Funeral services were held at 2:00 p.m. Sunday, December 26, 2004, at Higginbotham Funeral Chapel with Matt McGowen officiating. Burial was in the Burkett Cemetery in Coleman County.

Jeff was born April 14, 1982 in Eastland, Texas to Jerry and Caroline Yates. He attended school in Cross Plains. Jeff was employed as a roughneck in the oil fields in Texas and Colorado. He was a hunter and fisherman and enjoyed the outdoors.

Survivors include his fiancé, Chastity Goains of Cross Plains; two daughters, Kaylee Michelle

Yates of Lott and Katie Marie Yates of Cross Plains; his mother,

Caroline Yates of Rising Star; a brother, Chris Yates and wife, Marcie, of Abilene; a sister, Lauren Truelove of San Angelo; grandmothers, Joyce Berten and Bettie Cavanaugh, both of Rising Star; one nephew, five nieces, as well as aunts, uncles and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his father, Jerry Yates; grandfathers, David Berten and Morris Cavanaugh, and a niece, Christa Yates.

Pallbearers were Lonnie Petrey, Raymond Damer, Jody Pancake, Randy Pancake, Shay Whitehead and Kevin Wilson. Honorary pallbearers were Nikki Wilson, Jackie Pancake, Clarence Tension and Sammy Gardner.

Winford Carey

Milton Winford Carey, 71, passed away Monday, December 27, 2004, at Abilene Regional Medical Center in Abilene.

He was born to Mildred (Brown) and Milton C. Carey on July 24, 1933, in Cisco, Texas. Winford was a truck driver and gauger for Conoco Petroleum Company.

He married Jerrye Deike on February 20, 1960, in Winters Texas. He was a member of Bluff Branch Baptist Church in Cisco, where he was baptized. Winford was a U.S. Army veteran, and a member of the National Rifle Association (NRA).

Mr. Carey was preceded in death by his parents and two sisters, Vernelle Lindley and Patsy Terry.

Survivors include his wife, Jerrye Carey of Abilene; a son, Clay Carey and wife, Renee, of Sweetwater; four daughters,

Janet Rogers and husband, Butch, of Buda, Janice Phillips and husband, Allen, of Cross Plains, Cathy Hillin and husband, Freddy, of Eula, and Debra Gorton and husband, Randal, of China Spring; twelve grandchildren, Kali Phillips, Krista Phillips, Logan Phillips, Cassi Hillin, Ashley Hillin, Daric Gorton, Cara Gorton, Emily Carey, Jackie Carey, Cody Carey, Lesli Rogers, and Courtney Rogers. He is also survived by four brothers, Don Carey, Edwin Carey and Ronald Carey, all of Baytown, and Gayle Carey of Caddo; a sister, Dyanne Conway of Baytown; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held at 10:00 a.m. Wednesday at Elliott-Hamil Funeral Home Chapel of Memories, 542 Hickory, with Rev. Stan Allcorn officiating. Burial followed in Potosi Cemetery.

Julie Ann Fritts

Julie Ann Fritts, 51, of Austin, passed away Sunday, December 12, 2004.

Born in Merkel, Texas, she was a member of the Episcopal Church of the Resurrection in Austin. A 1971 alumna of Abilene High School, she was also an honors graduate of Texas A&M University, class of 1974.

A graveside service was held at Midway Cemetery in Hodges at 1:00 p.m. Saturday, December 18. Arrangements by Weed-Corley-Fish Funeral Home in Austin.

She was preceded in death by her mother, Betty Harp of

Abilene.

Survivors include here sons, Mike Fritts of Austin; her father, J.B. Harp of Abilene; her brother, Danny Harp, and sister-in-law, Kathi of Austin; as well as nephews, Chris, Erik, Blake and Kevin Harp. She is survived by many aunts and uncles: Deverele and Nancy Harp of Cross Plains, Doug and Betty Britton of Hodges, and Hugh and Peggy Bolick of Hickory, North Carolina; and numerous cousins.

In lieu of flowers, please make donations to the Episcopal Church of the Resurrection, 2200 Justin Lane, Austin, Texas 78757.

Altha N. Reese

CLYDE - Altha N. Reese, 94 of Clyde, died Thursday, December 23, 2004 in an Abilene care facility.

Services were held at 1:00 p.m. Monday at the Bailey Funeral Chapel with Rev. Larry Hooper officiating. Burial was in the Scranton Cemetery under the direction of Bailey Funeral Home.

Mrs. Reese was born August 28, 1920 in Sabano community in Eastland County to Guy Thomas and Annie Melissa (Morrow) Brashear. She attended school in Atwell. She was the widow of Orville Reese whom she married

December 21, 1930 in Putnam. They moved to Clyde from Bakersfield, TX in 1978. She was a homemaker and member of McCamey First Baptist Church.

Survivors include two daughters, Roma Fikes and husband Chester of Clyde and Melba Harvey and husband Kenneth of Webster; four grandchildren, Dianne Pence and Dennis Boland both of Clyde, Susan Abel of Webster and Karen Amos of Friendswood; one brother, Paul Brashear of Cisco; one sister, Ruby Ezzell of Rising Star; seven great-grandchildren; ten great-great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

Martha Katherine Champion

Martha Katherine Champion was born at home to Frank and Maggie Coffey Champion on August 21, 1916 in Cottonwood, Callahan County, Texas. She was the youngest of seven children. One sister, Lucille Bush, survives her.

She married Marion Rutledge in Baird on December 31, 1935, and they celebrated 41 years of marriage. He preceded her in death on January 15, 1977.

Katherine worked as a salesperson for Gibson's, White's and Cox's. She was active in several bowling leagues, winning many trophies. She was an officer in the local AARP chapter and traveled extensively with the First Ladies and Triple L of Hewitt First Baptist Church. She made two trips to Hawaii, traveled to California, Alaska, New York City At Christmas time, Canada, Europe and the Caribbean, plus many trip throughout Texas.

She was also preceded in death by her parents; three brothers, Carl, Archie and Herbert, and two sisters, Thelma and Bernice.

Surviving Katherine are sons, Donald of Budd Lake, New Jersey and Harold of Woodway; daughters, Barbara (Roger) Jones of Hewitt and Glenda (Larry) Wright of Plano; ten grandchildren, Terry Jones of Waco, Robbie (Rhonda) Jones of Hewitt, Randy (Melanie) Jones of Austin and Donnie (Susan) Jones of Plano, Debra (Tim) Tumlin of Rosebud, Kathryn (James) Meyer of College Station, Anna Rutledge (fiance Thomas) of New Jersey, Mark Rutledge of Woodway, Lance (Angie) Wright of Dallas and Wes Wright (fiance Jenny) of Columbia, South Carolina; and thirteen great-grandchildren.

Rev. Roy Marshall, pastor of Hewitt First Baptist Church officiated the funeral services. Burial was in Waco Memorial Park.

COURTHOUSE NEWS

COUNTY COURT
Roger Corn, Presiding

Misdemeanor Minutes

Quentin B. Williams, plea of guilty to no driver's license, fine, court costs and restitution paid.

End of term order discharging defendant under deferred adjudication; Jeremiah Brown, Kendra Hall, Dick R. Jackson, Travis Rister.

Christopher Webster, judgment revoking probation granted.

Zachery S. Warren, plea of guilty to reckless driving, 6 month probation, \$250 fine, \$323 court costs.

Ubaldo Gomez, plea of guilty to driving while intoxicated (DWI), 2 year probation, \$400 fine, \$343 court costs.

Byron W. Pyburn, plea of

guilty to theft by check, \$50 fine, \$210 court costs, \$56.49 restitution.

Clifford Covington, motion to revoke probation granted.

Terri L. Melton, aka Terri L. Peterson, plea of guilty to DWI - 2nd, 2 year probation, \$1200 fine, \$343 court costs.

Marriage Licenses

Lee Eric Adams of Clyde and Tammy Jane Lambert of Baird. Ernest Jay Hall and Laquita Lynn Sammons, both of Clyde.

42ND DISTRICT COURT
John Weeks, presiding

Civil Filings

Samuel Wayne Drummond and Clovia Ruth Drummond, divorce.

FINDING YOUR PURPOSE

Have you ever wondered,

"What on earth am I here for?"

Join First Baptist Church for "40 DAYS OF PURPOSE" and find out! This great study will begin on Sunday, January 9, at 6:30 p.m., First Baptist Church, Cross Plains.

Come learn these life-changing principles as they study Rick Warren's best seller, "The Purpose Driven Life".

Down Home

seek a way where none exists, until it completely destroys itself.

In many ways, there are lots of people like the buzzard, the bat, and the bumblebee. They are struggling about with all their problems and frustrations, not ever realizing that they merely have to look UP...the answer is always ABOVE.

Look up, say a little prayer and take off.

WE BUY PECANS

PAPERSHELL 80¢ LB.
NATIVE 70¢ LB.

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* PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE *

CROSS PLAINS REVIEW

(USPS 138-660)
DON TABOR, PUBLISHER
VANDA ANDERSON, EDITOR
CROSS PLAINS REVIEW

MEMBER 2004
TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

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Remember Why He Came?

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Van Service Available - Call (254) 725-7694

N. Main (Hwy. 206)

Cross Plains, Texas

Sunday School - 9:30 a.m.

Worship - 10:45 a.m.

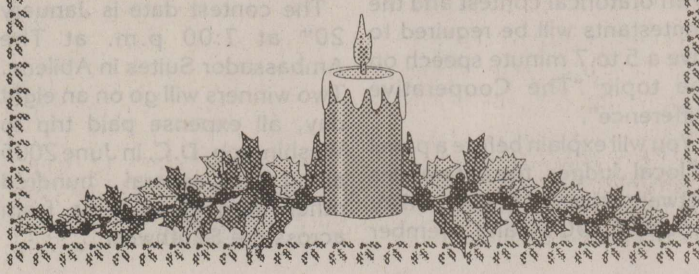
Rev. C. Michael Redd, Pastor

First Baptist Church

3rd & Main, Cross Plains, TX Ronnie B White, Pastor

9:45 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Worship
7:00 p.m. Evening Worship
7:00 p.m. Wed. Prayer Meeting

"HAPPY HOLIDAYS"



COTTONWOOD NEWS

BY WALLACE BENNETT

Cottonwood Quilting Club Schedule Announced

The Cottonwood Quilting Club will meet on January 6, 13, 20 and 27th. Quilters, Sue Bennett, Isla Stroud, Jan Marsh and Jean Draper, recently attended the Quilter's Luncheon in Abilene and delivered Cottonwood's 2005 quilt which will be auctioned off at the West Texas Rehabilitation telethon over the KTAB-TV Station on January 22, 2005. Upon making a report to the Quilting Club, Isla Stroud remarked, "I have never seen so many beautiful quilts in all my life." So, look for a photo of the Cottonwood entry soon. And look for and support the auction.

Cottonwood Fire Unit General Meeting Told

The Cottonwood Volunteer Fire Unit will meet for its annual General Meeting at the Community Center on Saturday, January 22, at 7:00 p.m. The

purpose of the meeting is to elect new officers and conduct other necessary business. This is a general meeting and all members are urged to attend.

Cottonwood Connections

Pauline Lawson, Rodney and Barbara Callaway and Tommy and Susie Rogers all met at the Rogers' place for Christmas dinner.

Teri Brown and Gilbert Ibera, from Houston, visited in the home of Beverly Brown over the Christmas holidays.

Mrs. Kaaikala Brendon and Bryce of Lanai City, Hawaii and Mr. Valetta Brown of Abilene visited with Beverly Brown Monday, December 27th, in Cottonwood.

Visiting Pauline Lawson this week will be, Rick and Samantha Coats, her nephew and wife, and their baby, Samuel.

Those visiting Dena Nickerson's home this past week-

end were Bill and Annette Nickerson, Kevin and Jessica Nickerson and Haley, Mary Ella Weaver, Billie Kelly, and Charley Rogers, all of Cottonwood; Willie Nickerson III, Jenny and Autumn, Connie Potter, Porcious and Kara Potter, Kaitlyn, Trent and Alana, Gerald Brown, Rickie Jo Braxton, Christine and Junior, all of Cross Plains; Glynn Nickerson, Matt, Blake and Chase, and Terri Delgado of San Antonio, Randal and Kathy Franke and Jeremy, all of Clyde; Amando and Amie Felan, Jeffery Hines, Trina and Madison, all of Abilene; Curtis Hines, Dena Jo and Julie of Denton; and Mary Jo Nickerson and Joseph Pennington of Stephenville.

(Please contact Wallace Bennett (254) 725-7474 for news or personal items for this column. E-mail csb5@airmail.net. Snail mail is 11093 CR 440, Cross Plains, Texas 76443.

LIBRARY NOTES

Check It Out!

Behind The Books

The challenge of making those New Year's resolutions is upon us. The great ideas abound — redecorate a room, try more new recipes, change your landscaping, make wiser investments, read a different line of books, learn to use the computer, take a cruise, research that scary tsumani phenomenon, etc. Our library is a super place to get you started on all your resolutions. Did you know that you can access the Internet for free in our library? Did you know that if you don't have a computer, you can set-up a free e-mail at the library and check it daily? Aside from the technology, you can access the same information through the good ole' hardback books.

Just think how much money you can save by using our Public Library!! Well, gee - then you could donate some of your "saved money" to the library so we could make more resources available to everybody. Now that's a good resolution in itself.

CU-BW

PERSONAL

Terry Harris, of the Rowden Community, is temporarily residing at Kent County Nursing Center in Jayton following his discharge from Hendrick Health System in Abilene.

If you would like to send him a card, etc. his address is: Kent County Nursing Center, Room 105, North Main Street, Jayton, Texas 79528.

QUIPS, CLIPS & COMMENTS

BY KAY MOSLEY

Note: Apple Orchard Annie sez she received e-mail recently. A friend from her school days is moving to an orchard near to the orchard Annie calls home. Her friend's name is "Perfectly Pretty Peach". She will arrive with peach season.

"Life After the Holidays"

Now that the holidays have come and gone, it's time to look around and see what's to be done during the waning days of winter. There is all those pecans you picked up from your yard, which need to be shelled. That's a task just made for dad, the boys and grandfather.

For mom, the great auntie and grandmothers, there are socks to be darned and lingerie to be mended. Also there are hems to be repaired. My mother and some of my aunts used to make rag rugs on cold winter nights while sitting around the fire. They tore long strips of material of fabrics such as silk, rayon and wool. Then they took a very large wooden crochet hook and made a type of crochet stitch which made a hooked rug. Many a long winter's day was spent on these tasks.

Fathers and brothers must keep busy also, to while away the time on those long winter evenings by the fire. Usually there are lamps which need repairing or rewiring, chairs with a loose leg or wobbly

seat, or maybe needing a coat of paint or re-staining or varnishing.

Now is a good time for boys and young men to build bird feeders or bird houses. Perhaps your sisters and younger brothers would like to paint and decorate them. A good place for painting them would be in the mudroom or a screened in porch away from the fire.

Cold winter afternoons are also a good time for the ladies and young women to get ahead on some baking. Other than popcorn and hot chocolate, nothing tastes better than molasses laced hot gingerbread and melted butter.

The baking of breads, cookies and cake is an art in itself. Usually, dinner rolls and loaves of bread were made with yeast dough. Also sometimes made, were rye bread, as well as potato bread, Irish soda bread and your classic sough dough bread. One of my children's favorites was the bear claws, made with yeast rising dough and stuffed with bits of prunes, nuts and sugar. No Easter was ever complete without hot cross buns. Then of course, there's millions of pies to be made including Mama's "Brown Betty", longtime favorites like rice pudding, cold or (cottage) pudding, apple dumplings and beans and some creamy onion soup for supper.

Meanwhile, stay warm and have lots of fun staying busy, and enjoy the warmth.

To get your name on the Birthday Column, send your name and date of birth to *The Cross Plains Review*, P.O. Box 519, Cross Plains, Texas 76443. There is no charge for this service. To delete a name due to death or other reason send name and birth date (Month and Day) or Call (254) 725-6111.

RISING STAR NURSING CENTER

BY LINDA MERRITT

The residents' Christmas Party was a success. We had a large number of family members present, in which we greatly appreciate their attendance. Everyone seemed to enjoy visiting, eating, and opening gifts.

We also had a door decorating contest in which employees chose a door they wished to decorate. There were some very cute and unique doors created. First place and \$30.00 went to

Maria Maldonado; second place and \$20 to Darla Moore; and third place and \$10 to Don Pawlowski and Rikki Bennett. Our judges were Kay Fraley from Star Grocery and Teri Damon from Teri's Treasures. These ladies did a fine job in judging this, as it was not an easy task. We appreciate you both so much for doing this for us.

Thoughts and prayers for John Cooper who is in the hospital. Friday afternoon we will be

having a New Year's Eves party. Black-eyed peas and cornbread will be served, and hats and horns will be provided to bring in the New Year.

Our appreciation to Gold Star EMS for the gift basket of goodies and to Ruby Murdock's family for the large can of cookies.

As another year draws to a close, we would like to say "thank you" to all our family members for their friendship, support and good will. We sincerely wish you all the happiness that a prosperous and successful New Year can bring!!!!!!

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!!!!!

SENIOR CITIZENS MENU

JANUARY 3 - 7

MONDAY - Ham, Blackeyed Peas, Turnip Greens, Baked Apples, Cornbread, Milk
TUESDAY - Chicken Spagetti, Green Beans, Buttered Corn, Mixed Fruit, Bread, Milk
WEDNESDAY - Beef-A-Roni, Pea Salad, Cauliflower,

Chocolate Cake, Bread, Milk
THURSDAY - Pork Chops w/Gravy, Au gratin Potatoes, Broccoli, Peaches, Bread, Milk
FRIDAY - Beef Stew, Coleslaw, Pears w/Cottage Cheese, Cornbread, Milk

2nd & 4th Tuesdays Domino Night (42 & 84) Begins at 5:00 p.m.

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BREAKTHRU

By Bob Pipes
Cross Plains Church of Christ
433 N. Main
(254) 725-6117



With a new year beginning Saturday, you may be thinking of new beginnings — "new year's resolutions" — you know, the ones we made about this time last year and failed to keep! But perhaps you broke the mold and kept some of them, at least worked toward improving in some areas. Regardless, it's fine to try again — but let's try harder and more sincerely this time...

When Nicodemus came to Jesus, Jesus knowing Nicodemus' heart, He cut through all the periphery and said to Nicodemus, in essence, "What you need is a new beginning!" — "unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God" (John 3:3). And then Jesus talked to him about the new birth, clarifying Nicodemus' confusion.

This kind of "new beginning" is needed by many in Cross Plains and the surrounding communities — yea, throughout the world! It's why Jesus came, "to seek and save the lost" (Luke 19:10). He wasn't talking about finding ones who were physically lost, rather those who needed "salvation to come to their house" (v. 9), like Zacchaeus. He was talking about being "born of the water and the Spirit" (John 3:5).

Paul assures that "if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old is gone, the new has come" (II Corinthians 5:17)! — and that those who have put on Christ, and are thus in Him, are those who have been baptized into Him (Galatians 3:27).

Now that is a **real new beginning!** Make that your resolution — and don't even wait for the New Year to do so, to begin so...

Sunday Morning Bible Class...9:45a.m. Sunday Evening Worship...6:00p.m.
Sunday Morning Worship...10:45a.m. Wed. Evening Bible Study...7:00p.m.
Friends & Neighbors Caring In Jesus

Barb's Cues

By Barbara Holmes Worcester

Helpful Hands in Clyde
There were a lot of helping hands during the Holidays in Clyde, America.

Organizations were busy. The Golden K Kiwanis Club had Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners prepared and delivered to the Meals on Wheels patrons who might have missed a meal during the holiday schedule. The meals were festive and included turkey and dressing, vegetables, rolls, and dessert.

The Goodfellows have also been busy. They have supplied food, gifts, Christmas stockings, and have met other needs in the community.

Kathy Cook of "Good Morning Shop" has supplied sweet rolls and donuts to folks she learned were alone, as well as taking sweets to the Senior Citizens Center.

Churches were also active, giving spiritual food as well as tangible nourishment. There was a live manger scene done by First Baptist Church. First Baptist Church also had a car wash for single parents which included a certificate for an oil change.

If we but knew, there were many more holiday heart warmers during our cold snap and the

holidays. IF you know of good deeds done please let me know and I will have a second column.

Could we plan to carry on good deeds all during the year? If we want to do this, planning helps. "Plan to Please" could be our motto. Another handy tool for planning is a calendar. We could jot down one helpful deed in each week during 2005. We can decide on the recipients later.

Some of our good deeds can be happy surprises. I was surprised by two groups of carolers. One group was from the Girl Scouts and one group was from Cherry Heights Baptist Church. They were a bright spot in my day. The Cherry Heights group gifted me with a dear little hand made tree ornament.

An important part of good wishes can be our prayers. We can "lift" a silent prayer for everyone we meet during the day. They probably need the prayer and we need the practice.

As we make our New Year's Resolutions for 2005, let's put "Doing Good For Others" at the top of the list. It would be a way to make our coming year a fulfilling one. PLAN TO PLEASE and HAVE A HAPPY NEW YEAR!

BHW

MILLIONS OF PEOPLE
HAVE DISCOVERED THEIR
PURPOSE IN LIFE
HAVE YOU?

You're Invited to Join Us!
beginning
Sun., Jan. 9 6:30 pm

Study the New York Times bestseller
"The Purpose Driven Life" by Rick Warren

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SCHOOL LUNCH MENU

JANUARY 3 - 7

BREAKFAST

MONDAY - STAFF WORK DAY

TUESDAY - Waffle, Sausage, Assorted Juice

WEDNESDAY - Breakfast Pizza, Assorted Juice

THURSDAY - Cereal, Toast, Assorted Juice

FRIDAY - Breakfast Bread, Assorted Juice

LUNCH

MONDAY - STAFF WORK DAY

TUESDAY - Salisbury Steak w/Brown Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Peas & Carrots, Rolls, Peaches

WEDNESDAY - Chicken Fajita, Salad, Corn, Pudding

THURSDAY - Spaghetti w/Meat Sauce, Cheese Stick, Broccoli, Texas Toast, Mixed Fruit

FRIDAY - Hamburger, Lettuce, Tomato, Pickles, Fries, Cookie

Ten Star New Years Driving Resolutions Announced

Applications are now being evaluated for The Ten Star All Star Summer Basketball Camp. The Camp is by Invitation Only.

Boys and girls ages 10-19 are eligible to apply.

Past participants include: Michael Jordan, Tim Duncan, Vince Carter, Jerry Stackhouse, Grant Hill and Antawn Jamison. Players from 50 states and 17 foreign countries attended the 2004 camp.

College basketball scholarships are possible for players selected to the All-American Team.

Camp locations include: Commerce, Texas, Prescott, AZ, Belmont, CA, Thousand Oaks, CA, Sterling, CO, Bridgeport, CT, Babson Park, FL, Atlanta, GA, Carlinville, IL, Macomb, IL, Greencastle, IN, Atchison, KS, Baltimore, MD, Ypsilanti, MI, Hickory, NC, Schenectady, NY, Bluffton, OH, Doylestown, PA, Lebanon, TN, Blacksburg, VA, Lyndonville, VT and Beloit, WI. For a free brochure, call (704) 373-0873 ANYTIME.

While you're making your New Year's resolutions, DPS has a suggestion: add "Improve Driving Habits" to your list. Driving can be one of the most dangerous activities you engage in during the day so taking a few moments to think about your driving is a good idea.

Here are some good driving habits to employ:

- Make sure everyone is buckled up.
- Drive sober.
- Use your turn signals.
- Do not tailgate.
- Obey the speed limit.
- Do not speed up, block lanes, slam or tap on brakes.
- Report extreme cases of reckless driving to the appropriate authorities.
- Do not retaliate, gesture or make eye contact.

During the New Year's weekend, DPS will have all available troopers on Texas roadways. Troopers will be looking for speeders, seat belt violators, reckless drivers and drunk drivers from New Year's Eve through midnight on January 2.

"Please resolve to drive responsibly this year," said Col. Thomas A. Davis, Jr., director of the DPS. "Wearing seatbelts and obeying the speed limit can save lives. And anyone planning to consume alcoholic beverages should have someone else—who hasn't been drinking—drive them home."

Sparky Dean, Senior Trooper
Texas Highway Patrol
Education Unit
Abilene, TX 79605

City Council Minutes

This was a regular meeting of the Cross Plains City Council. All members of the council were present. Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as read.

Don Gosnell gave the monthly police report. He reported 107 calls for service, 4 criminal mischiefs, 1 theft, 2 accidents, 4 disorderly conducts, 4 assists to other agencies, 5 assaults, 3 suspicious persons, 1 public intoxication, 1 making alcohol available to a minor, 1 MIP, 2 trespassing, 1 gas drive-off, 1 firearm violation, 5 owner/renter disputes, 4 reckless driving, 52 warnings, and 73 citations. By general consent the council approved the report as presented.

Bob Hill presented the monthly Judge's report. He reported 73 citations for October with 31 remaining outstanding. There were 12 citations outstanding for September and 11 remaining outstanding for August. He reported that Debbie sent out 3 failure to pay letters, 6 failure to appear letters and 1 defensive driving reminder. Collections for October were \$7,415.50. By general consent the council approved the report as presented.

Mayor Purvis opened the bids on the sale of the 1979 dump truck. Bids submitted were as follows:

Monty Richards	\$1,701.01
Wes Castleman	\$1,150.00
Robert Simons	\$ 500.00
Kenneth Sowell	\$ 450.00

Edwin Weiss moved to accept the bid from Monty Richards in the amount of \$1,701.01. Gene Dillard seconded and motion carried.

Mayor Purvis opened the bids received on the sale of the 1989 Case Backhoe. Bids were submitted as follows:

R.O. McCarty	\$9,460.00
H.D. Hopkins	\$8,125.00
Southwest Gas Systems	\$8,600.00
Rex or Glen Maxwell	\$8,125.00
C.P. Equipment	\$5,001.00

Jerry Cassle moved to reject all bids received for the backhoe. Edwin Weiss seconded and motion carried with all voting for and James Nichols voting nay.

Scott Childress was on the agenda to discuss financial help

for the installation of internet equipment for the Library. The matter was tabled due to Mr. Childress not being present.

Discussion was held at length concerning clean-up. Debbie informed the council that the cars tagged at the John Ivie residence were moved. She also advised the council that they had received complaints about the goats at the residence and that she would advise the Ivies they must move all the goats that are not show animals, and that the pens must be kept clean and in a sanitary condition or they will have to move the show animals. Debbie also advised the council that several other junked vehicles have been tagged and will be towed if not removed by the owner by the allotted time period.

Discussion was held at length concerning the Sanitary Easements required by TCEQ on the city's water wells located next to the adjacent land owners. Debbie advised the council that the City's engineers currently have the needed information and are working on the easements.

Debbie advised the council that she has sent in the agreement between the City of Cross Plains and OMNI concerning the collection of outstanding citations. She also advised the council as soon as the software is received, they will begin reporting all outstanding citations.

Gene Dillard moved to pay the bills. Edwin Weiss seconded and motion carried.

December 7, 2004

This was a regular meeting of the Cross Plains City Council. All members of the council were present. Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as read.

Don Gosnell gave the monthly police report. He reported 109 calls for service, 1 child abuse, 3 criminal mischiefs, 2 thefts, 2 disorderly conducts, 3 assists to other agencies, 3 suspicious persons, 3 security alarms, 1 vehicle theft, 4 warrants served, 1 prowler, 1 terroristic threat, 2 loud music complaints, 2 family disturbances, 50 warnings, and

71 citations. By general consent the council approved the report as presented.

Mayor Purvis presented the monthly Judge's report. He reported 71 citations for November with 28 remaining outstanding. There were 19 citations outstanding for October and 9 remaining outstanding for September. He reported that Debbie sent out two failure to pay letters, 7 failure to appear letters and 4 defensive driving reminders. Collections of October were \$7,725.50. By general consent the council approved the report as presented.

Scott Childress was on the agenda to discuss financial help for the installation of internet equipment for the Library. Mr. Childress asked the council for \$600.00 one-time fee for help for the installation of the equipment. Discussion was held at length concerning the city's help and by general consent the council tabled the discussion until the next meeting to allow Debbie time to see where the funds can be taken from.

Discussion was held concerning the fact that the Ivies have moved from their home and Jim Walters will be taking possession of the property. Terry Lichty moved to follow up with a letter to Jim Walters as per City Attorney Heath Hemphill's suggestion. James Nichols seconded and motion carried.

Discussion was held concerning comp time. James Nichols moved to pay each employee up to 100 hours for any employee who would like to sell their hours. Gene Dillard seconded and motion carried.

The mural at the Senior Citizens' Center was discussed. James Nichols moved to have the city employees remove the mural, fill the holes and paint. Edwin Weiss seconded and motion carried.

Terry Lichty moved to pay the bills. Jerry Cassle seconded and motion carried.

Edwin Weiss moved to adjourn. Jerry Cassle seconded and motion carried.

Boer goat breeders find better animals

Until now, the old adage, "beauty is only skin-deep" has been woefully true for meat goat producers trying to pick breeding animals on something other than looks.

To help breeders find animals with the right genetics, the American Boer Goat Association and the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station initiated the Boer Goat Improvement Network or "BGIN" (pronounced "begin") a year ago.

Dr. Dan Waldron, Texas Agricultural Experiment Station geneticist at San Angelo, is the lead scientist on the project. He worked closely with the association to adapt the testing procedures used in other species to meat goats. He said BGIN is the first program of its kind within the U.S. meat goat industry.

The goal of BGIN is to provide breeders with the information needed to select breeding stock that will lead to an improvement in economically important traits. The procedures were adapted from the National Sheep Improvement Program through a \$35,000 grant from the National Sheep Industry Improvement Center.

Expected Progeny Differences or EPDs have been available within several cattle breeds for years. They give prospective buyers measurable estimates of the genetic value of an animal as a parent.

With some modifications they are now conducting similar work with meat goats. The Boer goat

association's initial evaluation resulted in Expected Progeny Differences on more than 1,300 animals for the seven traits evaluated. The traits are: direct genetic effects for birth weight, 90-day weaning weight, 150-day post-weaning weight, and number of kids born. Also, predicted were maternal genetic effects for birth weight, weaning weight, and a combined maternal plus growth evaluation for weaning weight.

The BGIN has the potential to impact the entire meat goat industry and is expected that we will soon see buyers of breeding stock asking for documentation of the genetic merit of animals before making an investment. Buyers will be drawn to those breeders that have documented evidence of superior performance.

BGIN-tested breeding animals and their offspring are already on the market, and it will be only a matter of time before they start making a positive impact on the meat goat industry. Commercial producers will also benefit from the program because they can now buy bucks that will produce predictable results in the coming year's kid crop.

For more information contact Waldron at (325) 653-4576 or Robert Swize through the American Boer Goat Association of Texas in San Angelo at (325) 486-2242.

Sincerely,
Robert Pritz
County Extension Agent-Ag

Cross Plains Review

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December 30, 2004

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Nominate for Rural Hero

AUSTIN—Agriculture Commissioner Susan Combs announced that Feb. 2, 2005, is the deadline for nominations for the Texas Department of Agriculture's 2004 Rural Heroism Award.

Candidates must have performed a heroic, lifesaving act within Texas during 2004. The heroic deed should be related to farming or ranching and occur in a rural area. Automobile acci-

dents or accidents caused by negligence will not be considered.

Nominations should include a written account of the incident and the names, addresses and telephone numbers of everyone involved. If available, newspaper clippings and photographs should accompany all nominations.

Nominations must be post-marked by Feb. 2, 2005, and

mailed to Lola Lemmon, TDA safety coordinator, Texas Department of Agriculture, P.O. Box 12847, Austin, Texas 78711. For additional information on qualifications, you can contact Lemmon at (512) 475-1611.

The 2004 recipient will be announced March 21 at the Texas Safety Association's Conference and Exposition in San Antonio.

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New Year's Eve

Friday, December 31st

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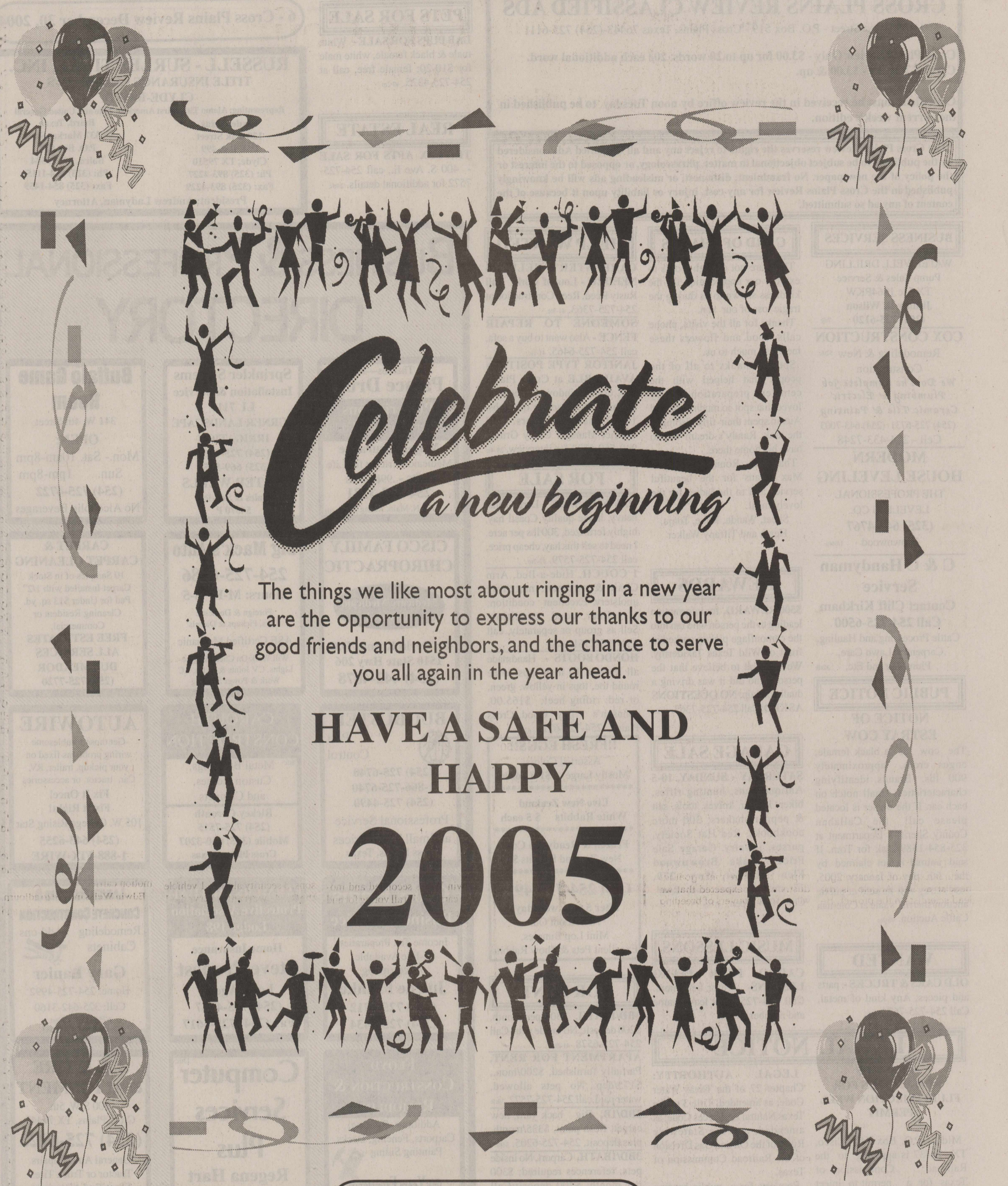
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**HAVE A SAFE AND
HAPPY
2005**

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Cross Plains Review Only - \$3.00 for up to 20 words. 20¢ each additional word.
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PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF ESTRAY COW

The cow is a black female, angus cross, approximately 900 lbs. Brands, identifying characteristics: small notch on each ear. If the owner is located please call the Callahan County Sheriff's Department at 325-854-1589 ask for Tom. If said animal is not claimed by the 5th day of January, 2005, said estray will be sold at public auction/sherriff's sale at Coleman Cattle Auction. ^{40-21c}

WANTED

OLD CARS & TRUCKS - parts and pieces; Any kind of metal, Call 254-725-7671. ^{816c}

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR FLUID INJECTION WELL PERMIT

Midsco-P.O. Box 743- Cisco, TX 76437 is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a permit to inject fluid into a formation which is productive of oil or gas.

The applicant proposes to inject fluid into the Crosscut, E. R. Battle Lease, Well Numbers #1 and #3. The proposed injection well is located 1 mile NW of Scranton in the Scranton Field, in Callahan County. Fluid will be injected into strata in the subsurface depth interval from 1637 - 1642 and to 1616 - 1630 feet.

CARD OF THANKS

There are not enough words to express our appreciation for the kindness shown to us during the tragic loss of our son.

Thanks for all the visits, phone calls, food and flowers these meant so much to us.

Special thanks to all of the people that helped with the cemetery preparation. Randy loved that spot so much as he and Austin spent their time fishing at the tank. Randy's dream was to have his home there.

Thanks to Ronnie White and Max Evans for the beautiful service and to the ladies for the lovely meal.

Skeet, Wanda, Mike, Tonja, Heath and Tiffany Walker

REWARDS

\$500 REWARD, for information leading to the person who ran into the camouflage pickup parked in front of Wild Texas Taxidermy. We are lead to believe that the person who did it was driving a dually pickup; NO QUESTIONS ASKED; Call 254-725-7363. ^{41-21c}

GARAGE SALE

SATURDAY - SUNDAY, 10-5
Antique guns, hunting rifles, biker leather, knives, tools, salt & pepper shakers, 300 more cookbooks, Red Hat Society, purses, jewelry. Garage Sale Prices, Lake Brownwood Flea Market, Hwy 279, 17 miles to State Park Road. Cafe Now Open. ^{41-51p}

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CADDO PEAK PIANO LESSONS- Prefer beginners. Call 254-725-6569 leave name and number. ^{916c}

HELP WANTED

CARPENTER'S HELPERS NEEDED - Lots of work. Call Rusty Reed, Reed Construction at 254-725-7363. ^{41-31c}

SOMEONE TO REPAIR FENCE - Also want to buy a sofa, call 254-725-6465. ^{41-11c}

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NEW LISTING--1.75/A & 2BD/1B farm house in Callahan Co., 1,206 sq. ft., on county road, water well, barn, North West of Cross Plains. \$42,000

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* 93.85/A with 2,624 sq. ft. Brick home, Central H/A, fireplace, wood stove, glassed in sun porch, large trees, on pavement, guest house, 3 barns, creek, new fences, pond, some Coastal, good hunting. Western Eastland Co. \$280,000.

* 100/A with 2/1 brick home, large trees, stock pond with fish, creek, good hunting, approximately 20/A of coastal Bermuda, excellent underground water, 20 X 40 shop building. 7 miles north of Cross Plains. \$225,000

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NEW LISTING--160/A located 8 miles from Cross Plains, lots of trees including Live Oak & Oak, front entrance lined with Live Oak, one tank, spring fed creek, nice metal entrance, 4 water wells, 2 windmills, paved road frontage FM 880 & CR, 1/4 minerals, good hunting (deer, turkey), 2 trailer houses to be conveyed with property. \$352,000

* 341/A Paradise, super hunting, secluded, healthy wildlife cover, spring, ponds, excellent underground water, new 1,344 sq. ft. 2 story house, large fireplace. 32' X 30 ft. barn with 30' X 12' shed, new storm cellar, Eastland County. \$1,400 Firm.

NEW LISTING--400/A with 3bd/2bth home, 2 car garage, central H/A, rolling to hilly terrain, ponds, fenced, excellent hunting and fishing, turkey, deer, dove, quail, working pens, water wells, Oak, Live Oak, Cedar, Mesquite, 50% minerals. \$480,000

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RESIDENTIAL:

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NEW LISTING--2BD/1B in Cross Plains. 1,000 sq. ft. home, close to school, good neighborhood. \$15,000

NEW LISTING--3BD/2B 2,093 sq. ft. home in Cross Plains. Covered carport, large shop bldg. behind house, fruit trees, landscaped. \$42,000.

NEW LISTING--3BD/1B in Rising Star. City sewer & gas, water well, living & dining combo, utility room, carport, on 3 3/4 acres. \$22,500. **Call Stella for appt. 254-643-7022.**

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* 2/1 home in Cottonwood. Newly remodeled. Most appliances stay. Out building. \$49,500

* 4bd/3.5 bath, Brick 3,083 sq. ft., Formal dining room, fireplace, C H/A, landscaped, on 3/A, 2 car garage. Nearly new and extremely nice, Cross Plains. **\$195,000**

* 3bd/2b, 2,400 sq. ft. frame house in Cross Plains. Water well. Lots of trees. **REDUCED, \$35,000.**

* large residential lot in the Tom Bryant addition to Cross Plains, trees, prime home building location.

* Fixer upper, 2bd/2 bath, frame, good landscaping, on paved street in Cross Plains, \$15,000

BUSINESS:

NEW LISTING--CAR WASH, 3 bay coin operated car wash in Cross Plains - 2 car bays & one truck bay. Each bay has separate systems & 3,000 PSI pump. Has degreaser, wax, vinyl cleaner, tire cleaner, water softener, hot water heater, bill changer, 2 vacuums. 1/2 block from Hwy 36 & Hwy 206 intersection. Selling due to bad health. \$75,000.

FOR MORE LISTINGS GO TO: www.crossplains.com

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Urgent news for people who took **VIOXX** BEXTRA, or CELEBREX. Many VIOXX users suffered strokes, heart attacks, heart failure, blood clots and even death. If you took BEXTRA, or CELEBREX, you might also have been at risk for a serious cardiovascular health problem. If you or a loved one had any of these problems, call us now toll free at 1-800-THE-EAGLE for a free consultation. We practice law only in Arizona but associate with lawyers throughout the U.S.

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100 X 140 lot in Cross Plains - Large shade trees, beautiful building site, near school & downtown 6,000
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141 NW 3rd - Spacious 2 BR home with large w/openers 79,900
117 Cypress - 4BR-2.5B, brick w/ new roof, paint, & carpet. Many extras & large lot ready to enjoy 149,500
10 Ac. - Highway frontage, water well, electricity, good home site, mostly open 20,000

HUNTING & RECREATIONAL PROPERTY

20 Ac. - Scattered brush, 2 water draws, good deer, quail, & dove hunting 35,000
40 Ac. - 4BR/3B brick home, covered patio, mesquite, oak, deer & dove 195,000
42.69 Ac. - Very pretty home site, live oaks, 1 tank, paved road, deer, turkey and dove 59,766
50 +/- Ac. - Pretty building site with coastal & large oaks, good water well 1,500/Ac
64.5 Ac. - Good pastures, spring fed tank, nice oaks, coastal & native grass, Good hunting 77,500
72 Ac. - Nice oak pasture with hills and seasonal creek, nice building sites 98,825
75 Ac. - 1 tank, rural water, electricity, oak trees, good hunting, Stephens County 123,000
97 Ac. - 5 tanks, post oak, hay barns, 4BR-2B stone home, deer, quail, dove 450,000
146 Ac. - Beautiful 3BR-2B brick home, quality construction, rolling hills, barn, 2 tanks, hunting 399,900
151 Ac. - 6 water wells, 3 tanks, good fences & cross fences, beautiful large oaks highlight building site 197,600
164 Ac. - 2 tanks, beautiful place, remote, rolling hills, great hunting 288,900
168 Ac. - Rolling hills, with great deer hunting, pecan, live oak, & post oak, N of Eastland 275,000
183 Ac. - Large oak pasture, 2 tanks, rolling to rugged, good hunting 251,175
255 Ac. - 4 large stocked tanks, coastal, oak pasture, hunting-even has a cabin, Great get away place 350,000

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ACREAGE:

* 90/A Eastland Co. Easy access to hwy. Some cultivation balance grassland, 2 ponds, large trees. \$135,000. Call Pauline.

* 156/A m/l, Callahan Co., fronts on FM 2287, west of Cross Plains, 1 tank, very fertile, would make excellent coastal field. Coleman Co. water available. \$800/A. **SELLER MOTIVATED, MAKE OFFER.**

* 340/A m/l, Brown Co., approximately 3 mi. east of Cross Cut on FM 2940. Excellent hunting, good pastureland, Oak and Mesquite, 5 tanks, good pens. \$1,200/A. **SELLER MOTIVATED, MAKE OFFER.**

NEW LISTING--500/A Eastland County, mostly coastal, fenced, cross-fenced, hwy frontage excellent cattle place. \$1,150/A.

ACREAGE WITH HOME:

* Large 3BD/2B on 2 1/2/A. 2 water wells & city water. Large trees. \$150,000. Call Pauline.

* Very attractive Victorian style home on 3 3/4 +/- 3BR/2B downstairs, 1 lg. room upstairs could be 4thBR or game room etc. **PRICE REDUCED \$85,000.**

* 2BR/1B brick home, CH/A, metal roof, on 40/A m/l very productive coastal, 2 tanks, 2 wells, horse stall, tack rm, fronts on Hwy 36E near Cross Plains. \$105,000.

BUSINESS:

* Brick home, 3BR/2B, CH/A, privacy fence, corner lot, metal shop building. Owner finance with approved credit. Seller motivated, Bring offer. **Will consider dividing. PRICE REDUCED FOR QUICK SALE. \$80,000.**

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Grand Ole Oplin invites everyone to attend New Year's Eve Dance

The Grand Ole Oplin will be here to help bring in the New Year by playing all of your favorite dancing tunes. The music begins at 8:00 p.m., and ends shortly after midnight with admission to our New Year's dance being \$6.00 per person. Everyone is invited to bring a snack to be enjoyed by all during our band's break. Black-eyed peas will also be served in hopes of bringing us all a little bit of luck in the New Year.

The Grand Ole Oplin is located at the intersection of F.M. 604 S. and F.M. 2926. Our dances along with all of our functions are alcohol and smoke free.

So gather the family and all your friends and come on out and celebrate the New Year at the Grand Ole Oplin. The Grand Ole Oplin wishes everyone a safe and Happy New Year.

Submitted by: Pam Rumfield

TAB unveils "a prescription for progress" healthcare reforms to aid Texas system

TAB UNVEILS "A PRESCRIPTION FOR PROGRESS"

Far-reaching health care reforms a commitment to improve health quality, access and affordability

AUSTIN - The Texas Association of Business (TAB) on Monday unveiled "A Prescription for Progress" to improve the state's health care system for consumers. TAB's proposal features a package of far-reaching reforms it will be encouraging the Texas Legislature to pass when it convenes in Austin in January.

"Texas' health care system is ailing, and drastic changes are necessary to keep it off the critical list," said TAB President and CEO Bill Hammond. "If the business community, consumers and legislators don't work together to find solutions, our health care system will continue to decline and become increasingly mired in waste, fraud and incompetence."

Such a health care system is not only harmful for consumers, but it also stalls economic growth through a loss of businesses and jobs, Hammond said. Factors considered by employers looking to expand or relocate include the quality, accessibility and affordability of health care, he said.

"I believe that Texans are ready to embrace bold initiatives to directly address the root causes of diminished access, inconsistent quality and accelerating costs that plague our health care system," Hammond said. "Both government and the private sector must make a commitment to meet the needs and expectations of health care consumers, regardless of health, socioeconomic status or other circumstances."

TAB's "A Prescription for Progress" features three components - empowering consumers with information on pricing and quality, giving consumers

more choices in health care coverage, and punishing fraudulent practices by physicians and hospitals.

Building on these components, the statewide business group is supporting passage of the following measures:

A PRESCRIPTION FOR PROGRESS

A commitment to improve health quality, access and affordability

•Consumer Right to Know Act to require disclosure of information regarding the cost and quality of quality of health care services. Consumers would receive full, advance disclosure of all treatment costs and be assessed only reasonable charges for health care services and supplies provided by a hospital.

•Patient Safety Act to modify the state's medical reporting law. Hospitals would be required to submit reports on each medical error to the Texas Department of Health, which would issue an annual report detailing each reported medical error, as well as an individual root cause analysis and action plan. The report would protect patient privacy but fully disclose the identity of all physicians and hospitals involved. Providers would be protected from liability.

•Texas Consumer Choice Act to cut regulations that keep insurance carriers from offering consumers more health plans. It would allow for creation of Exclusive Provider Organizations (EPO) that would offer no out-of-network coverage except in emergencies or in areas without network providers. In addition, HMOs would be allowed to impose limitations on time and cost of services.

•Unprofessional Conduct Act to crack down on abuses by health care professionals. Such blatant abuse TAB advocates banning include "balance billing" and a waiver of patient in-

urance co-payments for services. In "balance billing," health care providers attempt to bill a patient for services in excess of the negotiated charges. Waiving a patient's insurance co-payment entices patients to go outside their network for more expensive treatments, which drain insurers and circumvent managed care's basic cost-control concepts.

•Self Referral Prohibition Act to ban the growing practice by health care providers of referring a patient for a medical treatment or procedure at a facility in which the provider has a financial stake. Studies on the effect of self-referral on overall insurance costs have shown conclusively that patients are referred much more often for expensive procedures when a doctor's profit margin stands to increase. "If consumers gain these rights in Texas, our state will be at the forefront in the ongoing battle to improve the delivery of health care services and lower health care costs," Hammond said.

The reforms proposed by TAB are the result of a report the Association released in September, "Texas Health Care in Crisis: No Easy Cure." The report found that Texas' health insurance crisis is a problem for all employers and employees, regardless of income, because of ever-increasing health care costs. The report can be found on TAB's Web site at www.txbiz.org.

According to a 2003 report by the National Academy of Sciences, 4.8 million Texans (about 26 percent of the population) are without health insurance - 300,000 more now than in 2002. Texas leads the nation in the percentage of uninsured citizens.

The Texas Association of Business represents 140,000 small and large businesses across the state.

Cross Plains Review

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December 30, 2004

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Cattle raisers expand horse protection program

FORT WORTH—Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association is putting the finishing touches on its expanded Horse Identification Program (HIP) prior to its official launch on January 1, 2005.

HIP is a one-of-a-kind, Web-based theft prevention and horse identification program developed by TSCRA's law enforcement division. It provides numerous benefits to horse owners. Most noteworthy is the ability to identify and record information on individual horses and put that data to work should an enrolled horse be stolen.

When activated, HIP's unique Stolen Horse Action Plan systematically distributes the animal's electronic file to target areas across the country to initiate the search.

"The key to recovering many stolen or missing horses is getting accurate information delivered to the right people as soon as possible," says HIP Director Todd McCartney. "That's what HIP does best. In a short time, HIP can alert specific authorities and law enforcement personnel, wherever they are located, and provide them with vital horse

ID information."

HIP's secure and confidential database will house electronic files for each horse containing detailed descriptions, multiple color photographs, microchip data and extensive owner contact records.

The hub of the new program is the interactive Web site at www.hippogram.org. Here, subscribers can enter their horses directly into the program by submitting the required information, photos and payment.

Once a horse's individual files are in the system, subscribers can easily access them on-line to update the information and use the site's other unique features.

These include helpful on-line record-keeping tools to aid in daily management. Subscribers can add personal records on medical information and notes on feeding, shoeing and training for each horse they have in the program, all from their home computer.

The Web site is up and running and can be accessed now to find out more about HIP and how to subscribe.

HIP subscriptions are available nationwide and TSCRA membership is not required. The initial setup and enrollment fee is \$30 per horse for two years of protection and program benefits. After two years, the renewal rate drops to \$10 per horse per year.

When the program is activated in January, HIP subscribers will be able to purchase microchips and, freeze-branding product to further identify their horses.

HIP signs and decals will also be available to warn potential thieves that the subscriber's horses are electronically protected and identified with a law enforcement agency.

"The advanced communication technologies available today and TSCRA's collaborative efforts with other law enforcement authorities across the country will make HIP the most comprehensive horse theft prevention and ID program available anywhere," emphasizes McCartney.

Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association is a 127-year-old trade organization whose 12,500 members manage approximately 5.4 million cattle on 70.3 million acres of range and pasture land, primarily in Texas and Oklahoma.

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